



Statistical Report

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BASOTHO WOMEN AND MEN 2010—2012



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Mission: To coordinate the National Statistical System (NSS) and produce accurate, timely and reliable culturally relevant and internationally comparable statistical data for evidence-based planning, decision making, research, policy, program formulation and monitoring and evaluation to satisfy the needs of users and producers.

PREFACE

This booklet is the seventh in a series of booklets compiled and published by the Bureau of Statistics (BOS). The aim of this booklet is to present statistics on women, men, girls and boys in Lesotho based on the data from Population and Housing censuses and Demographic surveys, Government Departments and Ministries.

It has been prepared and compiled by the Population Statistics Division of the Bureau of Statistics. It is hoped that the statistics will enlighten users, policy makers, researchers and public in general to the rising need in reducing the gender disparities in Lesotho.

It is the aim of the Ministry of Development Planning through its Department of Bureau of Statistics to provide information that will help in effective monitoring and evaluation of Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 3; which is to “promote gender equality & empower women”.

L. Lefosa

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Director of Bureau of Statistics,
Ministry of Development Planning.

ACRONYMS

BOS	Bureau of Statistics
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CHAL	Christian Health Association of Lesotho
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
LDS	Lesotho Demographic Survey
LDHS	Lesotho Demographic Health Survey
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Mid-decade Indicator Cluster Survey
SADC	South African Development Corporation
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
WHO	World Health Organization

READER'S GUIDE

The data used in this publication is secondary data based from Population censuses, Lesotho Demographic Survey (LDS) and information from Government Ministries. For each table, figure and graph displayed, the sources are given.

The tables and graphs show proportions or absolute numbers of persons with certain attributes in a specific area. A proportion has been used to show distribution of sexes within a certain group or to show male and female population with certain characteristics.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Gender is a social construction and codification of differences between the sexes and social relationships between girls and boys, women and men. The social identity of gender depends on ideological, historical, cultural, religious, ethnic and economic factors and can be changed by political, economic and cultural influences.

Lesotho has ratified most regional and international agreements promoting the rights of women, including the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (1979); the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action (1995); the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development (1997); and the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development (2008). Many of the key elements of these agreements have been customised in Lesotho in the Gender Policy, which was adopted in 2003 and is currently under review.

In 2011, Lesotho adopted a National Action Plan to end violence against women, and Domestic Violence bill is in progress. Also, the *National Gender and Development Policy* provides a rights-based approach to development to address the challenges of gender inequalities, poverty, increased spread of HIV and AIDS as well as unemployment. Despite this progress, women still face major constraints. Men dominate in the sectors of industry, mining, public administration, electricity, private enterprise, construction, transportation, and communications – sectors where economic and political power is concentrated. Female ambassadors across a wide spectrum of sectors are relatively few.

2. POPULATION, FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS

The major aim of this section is to discuss population distribution by variables such as administrative districts, age and sex, families and households in order to describe the status of men, women, girls and boys in Lesotho. The indicators help in assessing the needs of the population as a whole and of specific age groups, such as care for pre-school children, education for the young children, employment for adolescents and working age adults, and social security benefits for the elderly.

2.1 Population Distribution in Districts

Lesotho is divided into ten administrative districts namely; Botha-Bothe, Leribe, Berea, Maseru, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Quthing, Qacha's Nek, Mokhotlong, and Thaba-Tseka. All these districts differ from one another in population size. Maseru district has the largest population than any other district and is also the capital city.

Table 2.1.1: Percentage Distribution of *De Jure* Population by District and Sex

District	Male	Female	Total	Total
Botha-Bothe	48.9	51.1	100.0	105,403
Leribe	49.7	50.3	100.0	331,117
Berea	48.4	51.6	100.0	273,832
Maseru	48.3	51.7	100.0	389,627
Mafeteng	50.9	49.1	100.0	183,507
Mohale's Hoek	49.8	50.2	100.0	181,196
Quthing	49.9	50.1	100.0	129,533
Qacha's Nek	49.4	50.6	100.0	63,910
Mokhotlong	49.8	50.2	100.0	105,538
Thaba-Tseka	49.9	50.1	100.0	130,532

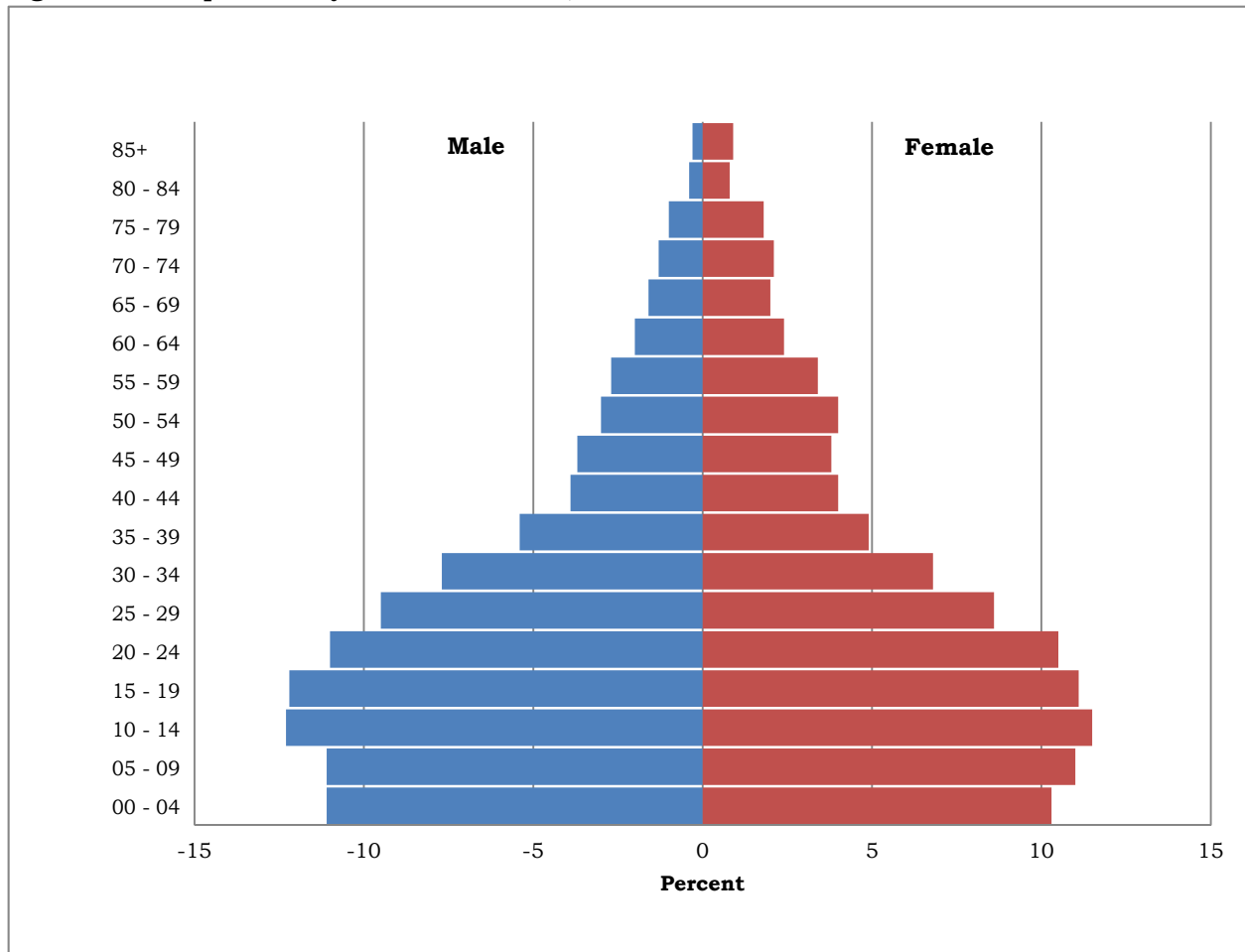
Source: 2011 LDS

Table 2.1.1 shows there are more female population than male population in almost all districts, except in Mafeteng district where the proportion of male population account for 50.9 percent of the total population and female population constitute 49.1 percent. Moreover, Maseru had 48.3 percent of males which was the lowest representation of male population among all districts. This could be attributed to the textile industry that mostly absorbs females.

2.2 Age and Sex Composition of Population

Data on age and sex are essential and useful in estimating population change, economic dependency, social relationships and others factors. There are several ways of illustrating the population structure among which population pyramid is the mostly used tool. The pyramid is a good measure of illustrating whether the population is young or old.

Figure 2.2.1: Population Pyramid for Lesotho, LDS 2011



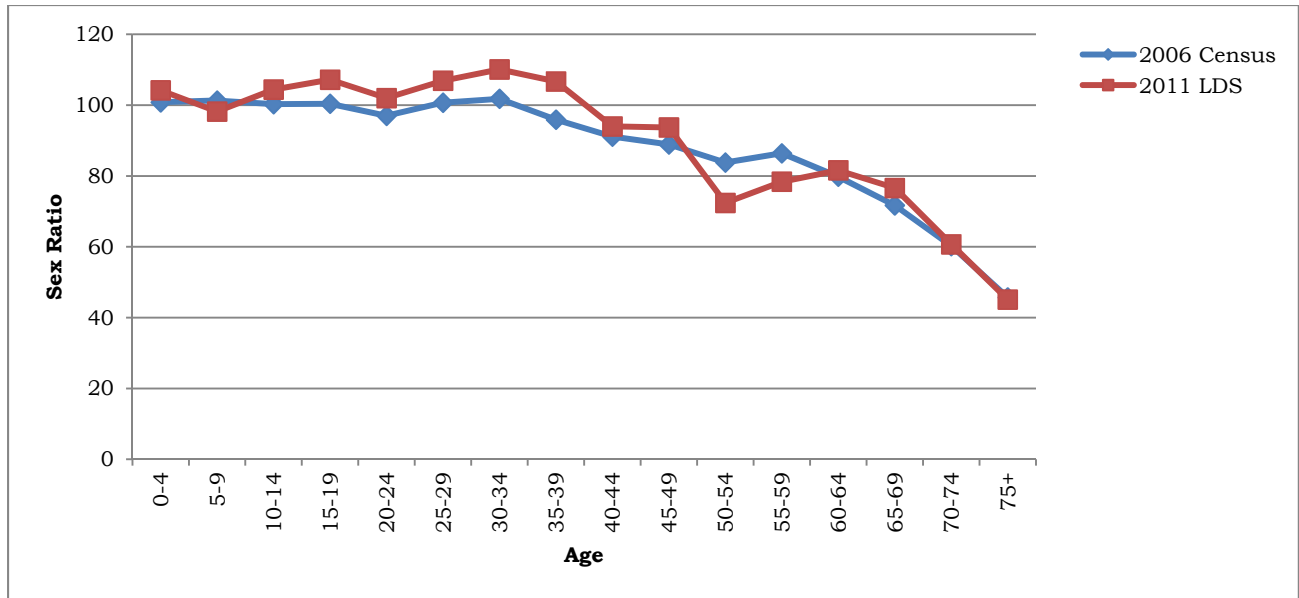
Source: 2011 LDS

Figure 2.2.1 above reflects a broad based pyramid that tapers at the apex. This suggests that the population of Lesotho is considered to be young because of the wide base observed.

2.2.1 Sex Ratios

Sex ratio is a demographic concept that measures the proportion of male to female in a given population. It is usually measured as the number of males per 100 females. The sex ratio at birth is usually estimated around 104. The expected normal pattern would be a gradual decline with an increase in age. If there could be an observed major deviation from a smooth pattern, this could be attributed to some fluctuations in demographic components such as mortality and migration, fluctuations in sex ratio at birth and age misreporting or incomplete age reporting for males and females for different ages.

Figure 2.2.1.1: Age specific sex ratios for 2006 Census and 2011 LDS



Source: 2006 Census report and 2011 LDS

Figure 2.2.1.1 demonstrates the pattern of sex ratio by 5 year age groups. The curve presented for 2006 census shows an almost expected pattern of smooth declining trend except for an observable hump at ages 30-34 years. The pattern for 2011 is slightly assuming the expected shape even though there are fluctuations at other age groups and the hump at ages 20-39 years simply illustrating the mortality that is greatly affecting female population. There is also a noticeable error in age reporting at ages 5-9 years and 50-54 years illustrating possible intentional age shifting by enumerators in order to avoid asking eligible children questions on economic activity and female respondents about fertility and family planning.

Table 2.2.1.1: Sex Ratios by Age-group and Residence

Age-Group	Sex Ratios	
	Urban	Rural
00 - 04	98.5	105.7
05 - 09	93.9	99.2
10 - 14	97.8	106.1
15 - 19	82.8	115.9
20 - 24	77.2	112.2
25 - 29	80.4	120.3
30 - 34	94.6	118.4
35 - 39	97.5	111.1
40 - 44	88.6	96.3
45 - 49	94.5	93.3
50 - 54	71.3	72.8
55 - 59	84.2	77.0
60 - 64	87.7	80.4
65 - 69	66.1	78.9
70 - 74	49.8	62.6
75 - 79	49.0	51.3
80 - 84	31.9	48.4
85+	30.4	33.0
Total	87.0	100.9

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 2.2.1.1 demonstrates that the sex ratio decreased with an increase in age in both urban and rural areas. The sex ratio for urban areas was estimated at 87.0 reflecting that there were 87 males for every 100 females, while the sex ratio for rural areas was found to be 100.9 which translate into 101 males for every 100 females. The ratio was less than 100 in urban areas, and this means that there were more females than males throughout the age-groups, meaning that the sex ratio in rural areas is greater than that of urban areas.

Table 2.2.2: De Jure Population by Age Group and Sex

Age Group	Both Sexes	Male	Female
00 - 04	199,012	101,864	97,148
05 - 09	208,119	103,275	104,844
10 - 14	222,706	113,750	108,956
15 - 19	214,150	110,835	103,315
20 - 24	184,345	91,174	93,171
25 - 29	146,923	72,789	74,134
30 - 34	116,117	57,748	58,369
35 - 39	81,435	39,203	42,232
40 - 44	62,590	27,608	34,982
45 - 49	59,574	26,615	32,959
50 - 54	56,753	21,518	35,235
55 - 59	52,085	21,586	30,499
60 - 64	39,706	17,397	22,309
65 - 69	32,779	14,084	18,695
70 - 74	31,806	12,028	19,778
75 - 79	25,990	8,813	17,177
80 - 84	11,555	3,635	7,920
85+	11,656	2,863	8,793
Total (N)	1,894,194	934,357	959,837

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 2.2.2 shows a *De Jure*¹ population by five- year age groups and sex. According to the 2011 LDS, Lesotho had a total population of 1,894,194. From the population, 959,837 were female population and 934,357 were male population. The majority (222,706 people) were persons in age group 10 – 14 years.

Table 2.2.3: Percentage Distribution of Population Aged 60 years and over by District and Sex

District	Total	Male	Female	Total
Botha-Bothe	9,573	37.5	62.6	100.0
Leribe	24,308	40.8	59.2	100.0
Berea	22,852	38.2	61.8	100.0
Maseru	28,992	39.0	61.0	100.0
Mafeteng	18,446	39.3	60.7	100.0
Mohale's Hoek	16,820	38.0	62.0	100.0
Quthing	12,639	39.1	60.9	100.0
Qacha's Nek	5,764	33.3	66.7	100.0
Mokhotlong	7,238	38.4	61.6	100.0
Thaba-Tseka	11,052	39.0	61.0	100.0
Total	157,685	38.8	61.2	100.0

Source: 2011 LDS

¹ *De Jure Population*- refers to the usual residents of the country who are both staying inside and outside the country.

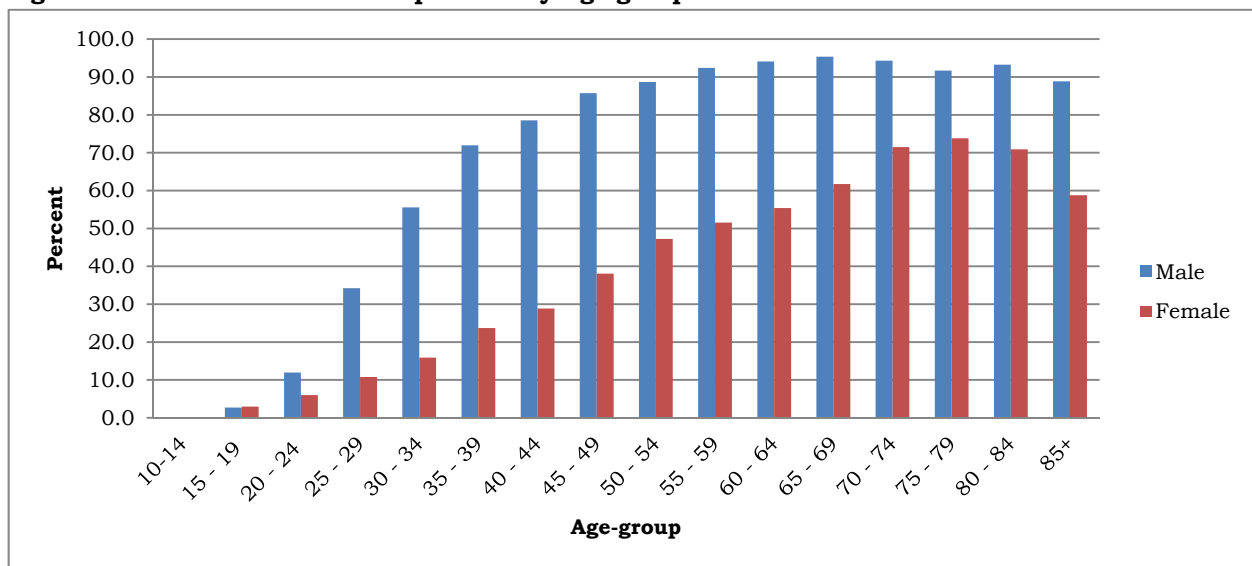
The distribution of elderly population by sex and district is shown in Table 2.2.3. It has been estimated that in all the districts of Lesotho female population proportions were higher than those of male population. The lowest female proportions were observed in Leribe district with 59.2 percent.

2.3 Household and Family Composition

The characteristics of the household population constitute very important aspect of population analysis hence households and family composition will constitute the main focus of this section.

A ‘household’ was defined as one person or a group of persons who live together and have common catering arrangements, whether or not they are related by blood or marriage. A ‘family’ was defined as the members of a household under one roof sharing most of the facilities and having a common head of the household and the ‘household head’ was the person considered by members of the household as the main decision maker and takes responsibility of the daily running of the household (2011 LDS). The headship proportions may differ by age and sex and it is very important to analyze these proportions using the mentioned variables in order to examine the disparity among sexes and ages in the country.

Figure 2.3.1: Household Headship Ratios by Age-group and Sex



Source: 2011 LDS

Figure 2.3.1 indicates that in Lesotho, the headship commences at ages 15 to 19 years due to increasing orphan hood. The figure illustrates that as age increases the more likely it is for a person to become head of the household. Moreover, the majority of households are headed by males in all age groups. This might be attributed to the social structures prevailing in Lesotho.

Table 2.3.1: Percentage Distribution of the Household Population Aged 10 Years and Over who were Household Heads, by Age-group, Urban-rural Residence and Sex

Age group	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
10-14	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.1
15 - 19	2.7	2.9	5.6	5.6	2.0	2.0
20 - 24	12.0	6.0	22.0	13.3	9.1	3.0
25 - 29	34.2	10.8	56.0	20.5	26.9	5.9
30 - 34	55.6	15.9	74.3	26.9	47.6	10.0
35 - 39	72.0	23.7	84.4	34.2	66.7	18.6
40 - 44	78.6	28.9	88.1	38.1	74.6	24.7
45 - 49	85.7	38.1	91.5	43.4	83.5	36.0
50 - 54	88.7	47.2	92.2	50.1	87.6	46.3
55 - 59	92.4	51.6	95.4	56.2	91.6	50.5
60 - 64	94.1	55.4	92.3	65.0	94.5	53.4
65 - 69	95.4	61.7	91.1	60.6	96.1	62.0
70 - 74	94.3	71.5	90.9	66.9	94.8	72.3
75 - 79	91.7	73.8	94.5	68.1	91.4	74.5
80 - 84	93.3	70.9	94.8	66.5	93.1	71.6
85+	88.9	58.8	74.9	54.9	91.5	59.6
Average	67.5	38.6	71.8	41.9	65.7	36.9
Total (N)	285,352	162,496	85,229	49,585	200,123	112,884

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 2.3.1 reflects that generally, the household headship was high for both male population and female population in urban areas than in rural areas especially for age-groups in the range of 10-59 years.

3. WORK AND THE ECONOMY

The work of women contributes substantially to the well being of families, communities and the nation. However, much of the work of women is done within the household and is inadequately measured, even when it is economic.

3.1 Economic Participation and Unemployment

The economic activity status classifies the population into persons who are economically active and inactive. Economic activity is any type of work undertaken by an individual to earn a living while unemployment refers to the situation where people are without jobs and have actively been looking for work within the reference period and are readily available (LDS, 2011).

Table 3.1.1: Percentage Distribution of Population 10 Years and Over by Urban/Rural Residence, Age, Economic Activity Status and Sex

Urban/Rural Residence Age- group	Economically active				Total	Not economically active		Total
	Employed		Unemployed			Male	Female	
	Male	Female	Male	Female				
10 - 14	1.8	0.2	0.5	1.1	1.2	30.8	20.2	24.4
15 - 19	9.3	3.6	7.6	12.9	7.4	22.6	17.8	19.7
20 - 24	13.8	11.2	28.2	32.7	14.3	13.1	13.4	13.3
25 - 29	16.5	17.3	23.0	23.4	17.4	7.0	8.3	7.8
30 - 34	15.0	16.4	17.1	12.4	15.5	4.3	5.8	5.2
35 - 39	10.7	11.9	10.2	5.6	10.9	2.9	4.3	3.7
40 - 44	7.8	9.2	5.0	4.9	8.0	2.3	3.6	3.1
45 - 49	7.5	8.7	4.2	2.6	7.6	2.1	3.6	3.0
50 - 54	5.7	8.2	2.1	1.9	6.2	2.2	4.1	3.3
55 - 59	4.7	5.6	1.1	1.3	4.7	2.6	4.0	3.4
60 - 64	2.8	3.1	0.7	0.5	2.7	2.5	3.1	2.9
65+	4.4	4.8	0.3	0.7	4.2	7.7	11.8	10.2
Total (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total (N)	342,661	193,868	31,696	18,061	586,286	352,596	542,770	895,366
Urban								
10 - 14	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.2	29.5	19.9	23.7
15 - 19	2.5	3.0	5.9	8.5	3.0	27.4	22.0	24.2
20 - 24	9.1	10.9	28.5	35.9	11.5	17.0	16.4	16.6
25 - 29	18.8	19.2	21.8	24.0	19.3	6.2	9.8	8.4
30 - 34	20.2	19.4	17.4	13.5	19.5	3.8	5.7	5.0
35 - 39	14.6	13.2	8.9	6.2	13.5	2.4	4.0	3.4
40 - 44	10.2	10.1	6.1	4.9	9.8	1.7	3.1	2.6
45 - 49	9.1	8.2	6.0	3.9	8.4	1.8	3.0	2.5
50 - 54	6.3	7.4	2.6	1.4	6.5	1.5	3.1	2.5
55 - 59	4.5	4.3	1.2	0.2	4.2	1.8	2.5	2.2
60 - 64	2.3	1.8	0.8	0.0	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.1
65+	2.2	2.3	0.9	0.0	2.1	4.9	8.2	6.9
Total (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total (N)	86,392	79,723	7,039	5,440	178,594	74,812	113,792	188,603
Rural								
10 - 14	2.3	0.3	0.7	0.9	1.6	31.2	20.3	24.6
15 - 19	11.6	4.0	8.1	14.8	9.4	21.2	16.7	18.5
20 - 24	15.4	11.4	28.1	31.4	15.5	12.0	12.6	12.4
25 - 29	15.8	15.9	23.4	23.2	16.5	7.3	7.9	7.7
30 - 34	13.2	14.2	17.0	12.0	13.7	4.4	5.8	5.2
35 - 39	9.4	10.9	10.6	5.3	9.8	3.1	4.3	3.8

40 - 44	6.9	8.5	4.7	4.9	7.2	2.4	3.8	3.3
45 - 49	6.9	9.0	3.7	2.0	7.2	2.2	3.7	3.1
50 - 54	5.5	8.7	2.0	2.1	6.1	2.3	4.4	3.6
55 - 59	4.8	6.4	1.0	1.7	4.9	2.8	4.4	3.7
60 - 64	3.0	4.0	0.7	0.7	3.1	2.7	3.4	3.1
65+	5.2	6.5	0.1	1.1	5.1	8.4	12.8	11.1
Total (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total (N)	256,269	114,146	24,656	12,621	407,692	277,784	428,979	706,763

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 3.1.1 demonstrates the size of economically active (employed and unemployed) and inactive population. The table depicts that a higher proportion (32.7 percent) of unemployed was observed for female population in the age group 20-24 years whereas in the case of employed persons the age group of females who were mostly employed were between 25-29 years. Boys (1.8 percent) were mostly employed than girls (0.2 percent) for children aged between 10-14 years.

The highest proportion of inactive populations was observed in the age-groups 10-29 years showing a decreasing rate as age increased. These are younger age-groups that comprise the majority of persons who are still in school. The distribution by sex presents higher proportion of 73.5 percent (sum of proportions from age group 10-29 years) for inactive male population than female population with 59.8 percent in the same age-groups. There is a change of pattern beyond the age-group 25-29 years, where inactive females present higher percentages relative to their male counterparts.

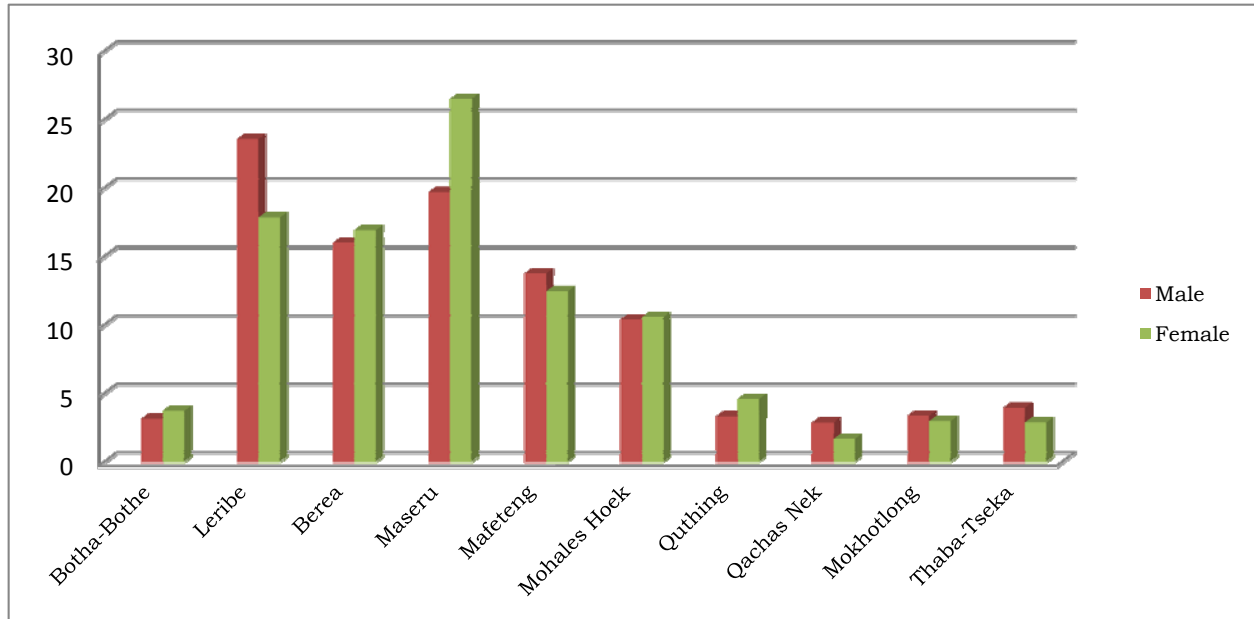
Table 3.1.2: Percentage Distribution of Unemployed Population by Sex and Marital Status

Marital Status	Male	Female	Total
Never married	37.2	24.2	32.5
Currently married	55.8	47.6	52.9
Previously married	7.0	28.1	14.6
Total (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 3.1.2 suggests that currently male married category constituted the highest share (55.8 percent) of unemployed persons compared to other marital status categories. The previously married males had the lowest share (7.0 percent) which included those who were divorced, separated and widowed.

Figure 3.1.1: Percentage Distribution of Unemployed Population by Sex and District



Source: 2011 LDS

Figure 3.1.1 shows that Maseru district has the highest proportion of unemployed female population being followed by Leribe and Berea districts respectively. Regarding male population, the highest proportion of unemployed population was found in the Leribe district followed by Maseru district.

3.2 Employment Status

Employment status refers to the status of economically active persons with respect to their employment.

Table 3.2.1: Percentage Distribution of the Population Aged 10 Years and Above by Sex, Urban/Rural

Main Activity status	Residence and Main Activity Status								
	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Employer Own account worker	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Regular wage/salary earner	8.0	10.7	5.4	8.6	10.8	6.8	7.8	10.6	4.9
Casual worker	20.8	25.0	16.9	32.4	34.9	30.2	17.0	22.0	12.1
Unpaid Family worker	2.9	4.3	1.6	2.7	4.0	1.7	3.0	4.4	1.6
Job Seeking	3.8	6.9	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.4	4.8	8.6	1.0
Job seeking for the first time	1.8	2.5	1.2	1.9	2.5	1.4	1.8	2.6	1.1
Homemaker	1.5	1.8	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.9	1.2
Housewife	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.3	1.1	0.8	0.5	1.0
Retired	32.4	20.8	43.6	21.1	12.8	28.2	36.1	23.2	49.1
Student	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
Other	27.4	26.9	27.9	29.3	30.4	28.4	26.8	25.9	27.7
	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Total (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total (N)	1,481,652	726,953	754,699	367,197	168,243	198,954	1,114,455	558,709	555,746

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 3.2.1 depicts that majority of people who engaged in economic activities were regular wage or salary earners (25.0 percent) for male population and 16.9 percent for female population. The proportion of people working as, 'employers and other' constituted the smallest (0.1 percent) part of the economically active population.

Table 3.2.2 : Percentage Distribution of the Population Aged 10 Years and Over, by Employment Status, Sex and District of Residence

Main Activity status	Total	Botha-Bothe	Leribe	Berea	Maseru	Mafeteng	Mohale's Hoek	Quthing	Qacha's Nek	Mokhotlong	Thaba-Tseka
Male											
Employer	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Own account worker	10.7	10.7	10.5	11.0	9.3	8.8	8.0	10.9	10.2	19.7	14.2
Regular wage/salary earner	25.0	25.1	24.0	28.0	29.5	23.1	25.3	21.6	25.1	17.4	18.5
Casual worker	4.3	5.3	4.8	2.9	3.4	4.4	3.9	9.5	5.0	4.4	2.4
Unpaid Family worker	6.9	6.8	6.4	4.6	4.6	9.0	7.1	6.4	5.7	14.0	12.0
Job Seeking	2.5	1.5	3.7	1.8	2.8	2.6	3.2	1.7	3.3	1.8	1.2
Job seeking for the first time	1.8	1.0	2.3	3.0	1.4	3.4	1.5	0.4	0.5	1.0	1.4
Homemaker	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4
Housewife	20.8	24.3	19.4	17.1	19.8	23.0	25.6	23.7	17.9	18.6	23.3
Retired	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.6
Student	26.9	23.9	28.0	30.0	27.8	25.2	24.3	25.4	32.0	22.6	25.8
Other	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number of persons	726,953	40,561	126,252	106,462	150,126	72,517	69,811	50,406	23,945	38,392	48,481
Female											
Employer	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Own account worker	5.4	6.0	4.2	4.3	5.5	4.9	5.4	7.1	7.2	9.3	5.1
Regular wage/salary earner	16.9	12.5	20.0	20.5	24.4	12.0	11.5	10.7	13.0	9.1	7.8
Casual worker	1.6	1.9	1.2	1.2	1.4	2.7	1.4	4.0	1.8	1.7	0.3
Unpaid Family worker	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.2	1.6	3.1	1.7
Job Seeking	1.2	1.0	1.2	0.9	1.7	1.4	1.4	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.5
Job seeking for the first time	1.2	0.6	1.3	1.8	1.3	1.8	1.3	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.6
Homemaker	1.0	1.7	0.8	0.5	1.1	0.6	1.4	1.4	0.9	2.3	0.8
Housewife	43.6	48.4	41.7	41.8	35.9	49.8	51.8	46.0	44.7	41.6	52.1
Retired	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.4
Student	27.9	26.5	28.6	28.1	27.8	25.9	25.0	27.6	29.3	31.5	30.7
Other	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number of persons	754,699	41,978	131,338	113,186	162,798	71,557	71,073	50,404	24,714	38,583	49,069

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 3.2.2 above reveals that, the “student” category was the largest (26.9 percent) among the male population. In Mokhotlong district, male population were mostly engaged as ‘own account workers’. The table further indicate that, contrary to male population the females had the highest proportion (43.6 percent) for the housewife category. The proportion of female housewives was high (52.1 percent) in Thaba-Tseka district.

Table 3.2.3: Percentage Distribution of the Employed Labour Force by Sex, Urban-Rural Residence and Type of Employer

Employer	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Government	10	7.5	14.4	16.4	15.2	17.8	7.1	4.8	12.1
Parastatal	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.9	2.2	1.6	0.8	0.7	0.9
Private	16	17	14.2	26.1	31.6	20.1	11.4	12.1	10.1
Manufacturing	6.7	2.6	14	13.6	5.4	22.7	3.6	1.7	7.9
Self-employed	20.3	19.8	21.3	19	20.5	17.5	20.9	19.6	23.9
Private household	28.1	31.8	21.4	13.8	12.5	15.1	34.5	38.4	25.8
RSA	17.6	20.1	13.3	8.8	12.3	4.9	21.6	22.7	19.2
Other	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2
Total(%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total(N)	546,584	350,006	196,578	169,465	88,603	80,862	377,119	261,402	115,717

Table 3.2.3 depicts that the majority of people (28.1 percent) were employed in private household sector. The second leading sector was self employed with 20.3 percent. The majority (21.4 percent) of female population were predominantly employed in the private household than in any other sector. The results further demonstrate that female population were mainly (22.7 percent) engaged in manufacturing sector while male population were mostly (31.6 percent) employed in the private sector in urban areas. In rural areas, the leading employment sector (38.4 percent) was private household for males whereas females comprised 25.8 percent.

Table 3.2.4 : Percentage Distribution of Working Population Inside Lesotho by Occupation and Sex

Occupations	Male	Female	Total
Legislators and Senior Officials and Managers	2.6	2.8	2.7
Professionals	1.9	3.5	2.5
Technicians and Associates Professionals	1.4	4.8	2.6
Office Clerks	2.7	7.5	4.5
Service Workers and Sales Workers	9.0	15.7	11.5
Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers	48.2	15.1	35.9
Craft and Related Workers	14.0	18.6	15.7
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	7.1	2.6	5.4
Elementary Occupations	12.6	29.3	18.8
Armed Forces	0.5	0.1	0.4
Total (N)	277,600	163,617	441,217

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 3.2.4 shows that Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers category had the highest percentage share of 35.9 percent out of the total working population. Elementary Occupations were dominated by females with a proportional share of 29.3 percent while males dominated in skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers. The females had the lowest share (0.1 percent) in the category of Armed Forces.

Table 3.2.5: Percentage Distribution of Employed Population by Industry and Sex

Industry	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture	51.6	16.3	38.4
Fishing and aquaculture	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mining and Quarrying	3.3	0.4	2.2
Manufacturing and Processing	5.2	22.5	11.7
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.4	0.1	0.3
Water supply, waste management and remediation activities	0.5	0.2	0.4
Construction	10.5	1.9	7.3
Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	7.9	16.1	11.0
Transport, storage and Communication	5.4	0.5	3.6
Accommodation and food service activities	0.5	1.9	1.0
Information and communication	0.8	0.8	0.8
Financial and Insurance activities	0.5	0.9	0.7
Real estate activities	0.0	0.0	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical activities	0.6	0.9	0.7
Administrative and support service activities	3.4	2.8	3.2
Public administration and defense, compulsory social security	3.3	2.8	3.1
Education	2.2	9.9	5.1
Human health and social work activities	1.5	4.2	2.5
Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.2	0.3	0.3
Other service activities	0.7	1.9	1.2
Activities of households as employers, undifferentiated goods- and services- producing activities of households for own use	1.4	15.2	6.5
Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total (N)	271,413	161,094	432,508

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 3.2.5 reveals that with the exclusion of Agriculture males dominate females in Construction while female population dominate in Education, Human health and social work activities. The lowest proportions in categories whereby both sexes had contributed less than any other categories were Arts, Entertainment and recreation and Activities of extra territorial organisations & bodies.

3.3 Labour Force Participation Rate

Labour force participation rate is a widely used measure of economic activity.

Table 3.3.1.: Percentage of the Population 10 Years and Over by Age, Sex and Urban/Rural Residence

Labour force participation rates (a)									
Age-group	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
10 - 14	3.1	5.5	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.5	3.7	6.6	0.5
15 - 19	19.8	30.1	8.8	10.7	11.2	10.2	22.6	34.9	8.3
20 - 24	41.4	55.0	27.5	39.6	43.8	36.3	42.0	58.1	23.9
25 - 29	59.2	72.1	45.5	68.5	79.4	59.8	55.4	69.6	38.3
30 - 34	66.2	79.0	52.1	78.9	86.8	71.4	60.1	75.7	41.7
35 - 39	65.6	79.3	51.0	79.2	88.2	70.5	59.4	75.6	41.5
40 - 44	62.8	77.9	48.6	78.5	87.9	70.2	56.0	73.7	38.9
45 - 49	62.3	78.6	47.2	75.8	85.8	66.4	57.1	75.7	39.7
50 - 54	54.9	72.5	42.1	71.3	83.2	62.8	49.5	69.0	35.3
55 - 59	47.4	64.5	34.0	64.2	74.6	55.4	43.2	61.9	28.8
60 - 64	38.2	52.7	26.5	46.5	57.5	36.8	36.5	51.6	24.3
65+	21.3	36.2	12.8	22.4	34.4	16.3	21.2	36.4	12.2
Total	39.6	51.5	28.1	48.6	55.5	42.8	36.6	50.3	22.8
Employed labour force participation rates (b)									
10 - 14	2.9	5.4	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.2	3.5	6.4	0.4
15 - 19	17.7	28.0	6.6	8.9	9.4	8.6	20.3	32.7	5.9
20 - 24	34.1	46.2	21.6	31.9	34.9	29.6	34.8	49.5	18.3
25 - 29	52.5	63.9	40.4	62.9	72.6	55.1	48.3	60.9	33.0
30 - 34	60.6	71.4	48.6	74.5	81.1	68.1	54.0	67.3	38.2
35 - 39	61.3	72.9	48.8	76.0	84.0	68.3	54.5	68.1	39.4
40 - 44	59.5	73.5	46.3	75.4	83.9	67.9	52.6	69.3	36.6
45 - 49	59.8	74.7	45.9	72.6	81.4	64.3	54.8	72.0	38.8
50 - 54	53.4	70.1	41.2	69.7	80.6	62.0	48.0	66.7	34.4
55 - 59	46.4	63.2	33.3	63.4	73.0	55.2	42.2	60.6	28.0
60 - 64	37.5	51.5	26.1	45.7	55.8	36.8	35.7	50.5	23.8
65+	21.2	36.0	12.6	22.0	33.2	16.3	21.0	36.4	11.9
Total	34.6	45.0	24.5	45.2	51.3	40.1	33.2	45.9	20.5

Source: 2011 LDS

The bulk of the labour force was in the age-groups 20 to 39 years for both employed male counterparts and female counterparts. Data further shows that, the majority of employed population increases with age and reaches the peak at age-group 25 to 29 years with 16.5 and 17.3 percent for males and females respectively. The same pattern emerged in the rural areas. However, the difference was observed in urban areas

where the population in the labour force reached a peak at age-group 30 to 34 years with 20.2 and 19.4 percent representation for both males and females respectively.

Table 3.3.2 : Labour Force Participation Rates for Population Aged 10 Years and Over by Current Marital Status and Sex

Marital status	Participation rates		Number of persons	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Never married	35.1	16.9	139,183	51,365
Currently married	73.4	34.3	208,989	100,956
Previously married	57.2	38.2	26,182	59,612
Total	51.5	28.1	374,354	211,933

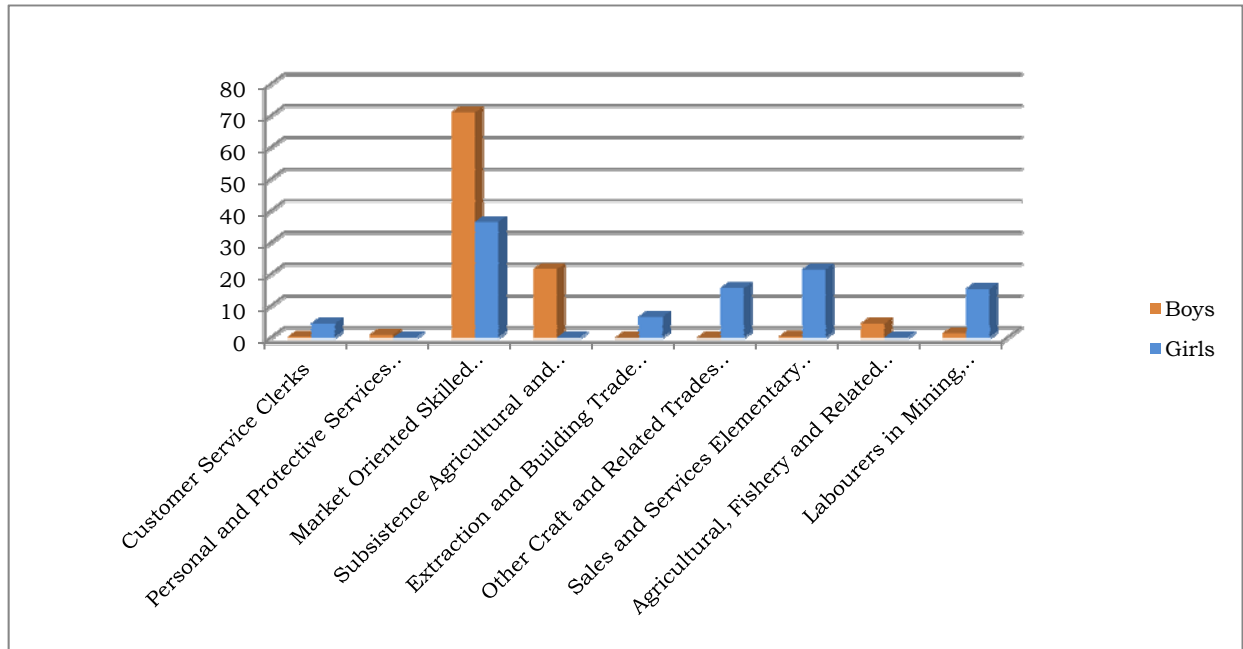
Source: 2011 LDS

Table 3.3.2 above indicates that marital status seems to have an influence on the labour force participation. The table demonstrates that the highest participation rates (73.4 percent) were observed for the currently married males while the lowest participation rates (35.1 and 16.9 percent) were seen for the categories of never married males and females respectively.

3.4 Child Labour

Child labour refers to the participation of children in a wide variety of work situation, on a more or regular basis, to earn a livelihood for themselves and for others. (ILO-IPEC: 2008).

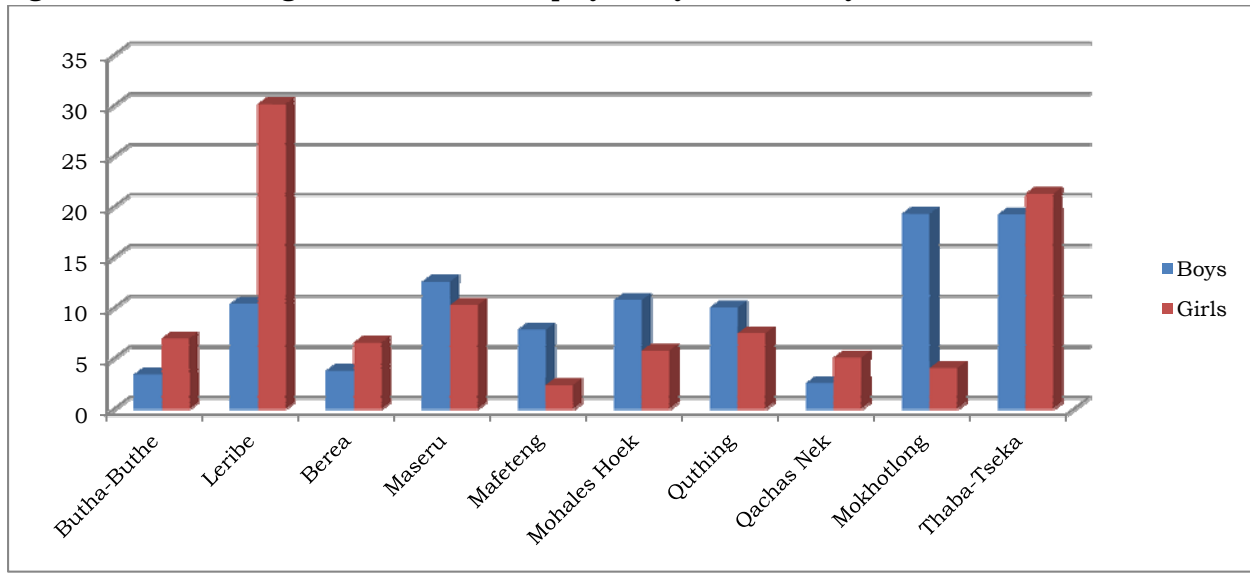
Figure 3.4.1: Percentage Distribution of Employed Boys and Girls by Sex and Occupation



Source: 2011 LDS

Figure 3.4.1 presents the employed boys and girls aged 10 to 14 years by occupation and sex. The results show that boys were mostly participating in economic activities than girls. It is further observed from the figure that the highest proportion of employed children was absorbed in Market Oriented Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers industry. The least proportion of children was engaged in Personal and Protective Services.

Figure 3.4.2: Percentage Distribution of Employed Boys and Girls by Sex and District of Residence



Source: 2011 LDS

Figure 3.4.2 indicates that the majority of the employed girls were in the district of Leribe. The data further demonstrated that the highest proportion of employed boys was reported in the district of Mokhotlong whilst Thaba-Tseka district had the second highest proportion. Berea, Botha-Bothe and Qacha's Nek districts reported the lowest proportions of employed boys. Mafeteng district had the least share of employed girls .

Child labour does exist although not often pronounced. The results in table 3.1.1 under Section 3.1 indicated that employed children aged 10 to 14 years constituted 1.8 and 0.2 percent for boys and girls respectively. Child labour could also be linked with parental unemployment and poverty, resulting in difficulty for parents to financially support their children. More often these children are forced to leave school to seek employment. In essence, the labour force participation rates were higher for male than female children.

4. EDUCATION

Education is a key characteristic that determines entry into labour market, among others and acts as a major instrument for achieving gender equality.

4.1 Literacy Rate

Literacy is a vital skill by which individuals can expect to fulfil the social, economic and political demands of life and to cope with basic routines of contemporary society. The main source of information for this section is 2006 Population and Housing census and 2011 Lesotho Demographic survey. According to LDS (2011), literacy has been apportioned into two groups which are those who knew how to read and write in Sesotho or English or both with ease and these were classified under Literacy 1. The second group consisted of those who knew how to either read or write Sesotho only or English only, or can either read or write Sesotho and English or both with difficulty and were classified under Literacy 2. Those who did not know how to read and write in Sesotho or English at all were classified under the category of Illiteracy.

Table 4.1.1: Percentage Distribution of Population Aged 15 Years and Above by Literacy Status, Urban/Rural Residence and Sex

Literacy status	Urban			Rural		
	Male	Female	Both Sexes	Male	Female	Both Sexes
Literacy 1	43.6	56.4	279,753	42.5	57.5	613,191
Literacy 2	49.0	51.0	27,003	54.6	45.4	178,740
Illiterate	70.1	29.9	15,461	75.8	24.2	142,281
Total	45.3	54.7	322,217	49.9	50.1	934,213

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 4.1.1 shows the distribution of population in the urban area for the three levels of literacy status by sex. The table indicates that the majority (56.4 and 57.5 percent) of females were in the category of Literacy 1 while males registered lower figures (43.6 and 42.5 percent) in both urban and rural areas respectively. Illiteracy seems to be much more pronounced (70.1 and 75.8 percent) for males in both urban and rural areas respectively in comparison with their female counterparts.

Table 4.1.2. : Percentage Distribution of Population Aged 15 Years and above by Age Group, Literacy Status and Sex

Age group	Literacy 1			Literacy 2			Illiteracy		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
15 - 19	19.9	21.1	18.9	14.8	20.2	8.5	7.7	8.9	3.9
20 - 24	18.2	19.0	17.6	12.2	15.2	8.7	9.4	10.8	5.3

25 - 29	14.8	15.7	14.2	10.9	12.9	8.4	10.6	12.1	6.3
30 - 34	11.8	12.7	11.1	8.5	9.6	7.1	9.2	10.6	5.2
35 - 39	7.9	8.1	7.8	7.2	8.4	5.8	7.4	8.4	4.2
40 - 44	6.0	5.7	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.7	6.2	6.9	4.0
45 - 49	5.4	5.1	5.6	6.3	5.8	6.9	6.4	7.1	4.2
50 - 54	4.7	3.7	5.4	6.6	5.1	8.4	6.8	6.6	7.2
55 - 59	3.7	3.0	4.2	6.4	5.2	7.9	7.4	6.9	8.9
60 - 64	2.5	2.2	2.8	5.0	3.7	6.5	5.8	5.4	6.7
65 - 69	1.9	1.5	2.2	4.4	3.0	6.2	5.2	4.8	6.3
70 - 74	1.5	1.1	1.8	4.4	2.3	6.9	6.0	4.6	10.3
75 - 79	0.9	0.6	1.2	4.0	1.6	6.8	6.4	4.2	12.9
80 - 84	0.4	0.3	0.5	1.7	0.7	2.8	2.7	1.5	6.4
85+	0.3	0.1	0.5	1.9	0.7	3.3	2.9	1.3	7.9
Total (N)	892,944	382,425	510,519	205,743	110,859	94,884	157,743	118,636	39,107

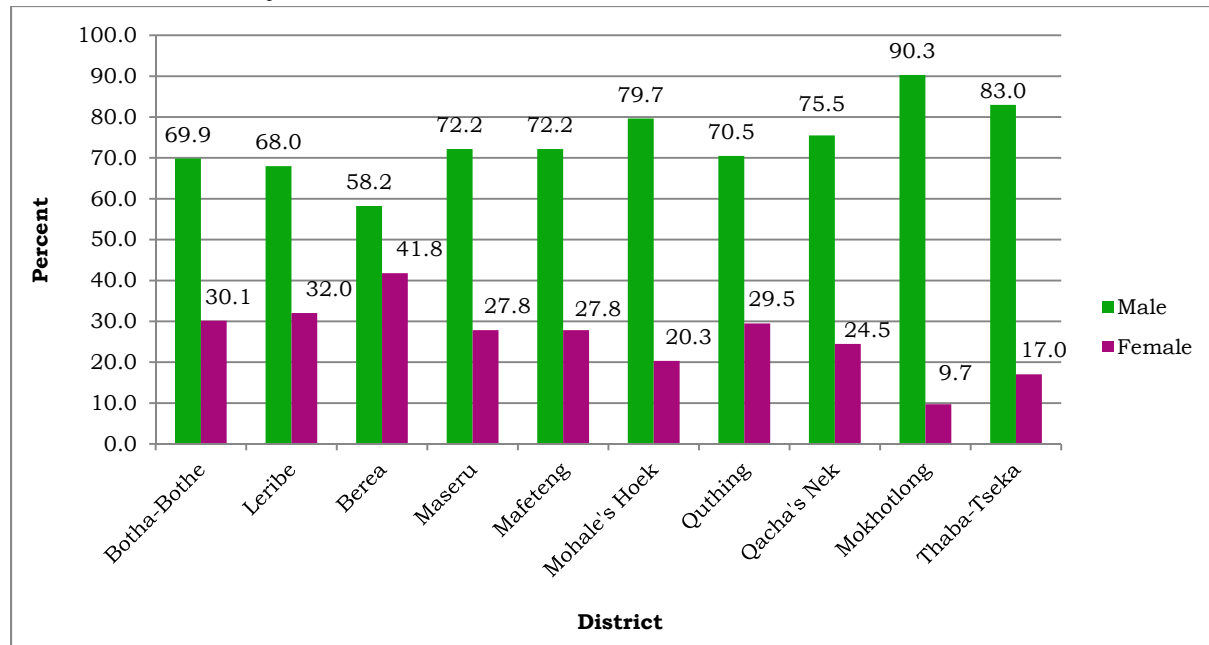
Source: 2011 LDS

Under Literacy 1 the proportions for both males and females were highest in age groups of 15 to 34 years. The proportions of illiterate females were comparatively low across the age groups indicating that there is a favourable trend in literacy for girls. This however, signals a need that has to be attached in educating boys in Lesotho. Data also revealed that the majority of illiterate population was observed in the age group 25 to 29 years while a small proportion of population with Literacy 1 and 2 were for the ages 75 years and above.

4.2 School Enrolment and Retention

Enrolment data offer an easy way to compare numbers of girls and boys registered in schools each year. The enrolment ratios of girls and boys indicate the accuracy of educational resources to achieve the goal of universal education for both girls and boys. Data on School enrolment and retention are mainly derived from 2011 LDS whereby the respondents were asked whether members of the households had ever attended school. The pre-coded responses were categorized into those who never attended school, those who were still attending and those that left school.

Figure 4.2.1: Percentage Distribution of Population 6 to 24 Years who had Never Attended School by District and Sex



Source: 2011 LDS

Figure 4.2.1 highlights that the majority (90.3 and 83.0 percent) of male population that never attended school reside in the districts of Mokhotlong and Thaba-Tseka. The low percentage (58.2 percent) of male population who never attended school was observed in Berea district. Contrarily, Berea district had a high proportion (41.8 percent) of female respondents that never attended school. The least proportion of girls who never attended school was observed in Mokhotlong district. There seems to be a prominent gap between males and females' proportion that currently attends school.

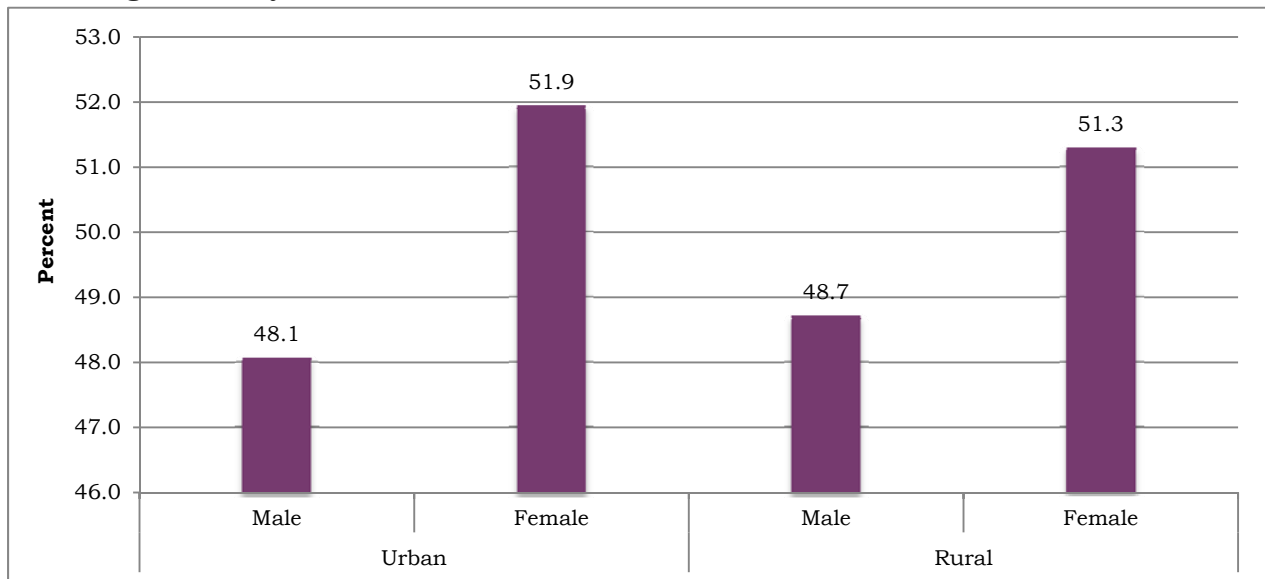
Table 4.2.2: Percentage Distribution of Population 6 - 24 Years who were Still Attending School by District and Sex

District	Male	Female	Total
Botha-Bothe	46.1	53.9	28,630
Leribe	49.8	50.2	99,497
Berea	49.8	50.2	82,729
Maseru	48.7	51.3	109,246
Mafeteng	49.9	50.1	51,906
Mohale's Hoek	48.5	51.5	48,599
Quthing	48.1	51.9	37,027
Qacha's Nek	51.1	48.9	20,769
Mokhotlong	43.2	56.8	30,720
Thaba-Tseka	46.0	54.0	39,137
Total (%)	48.6	51.4	100.0
Total (N)	266,332	281,928	548,260

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 4.2.2 above highlights that the female population that were still attending school in all the districts accounted for higher percentages of over 50 as compared to those of males with the exception of Qacha's Nek district. The majority of males (51.1 percent) in Qacha's Nek district were reported to be still attending school.

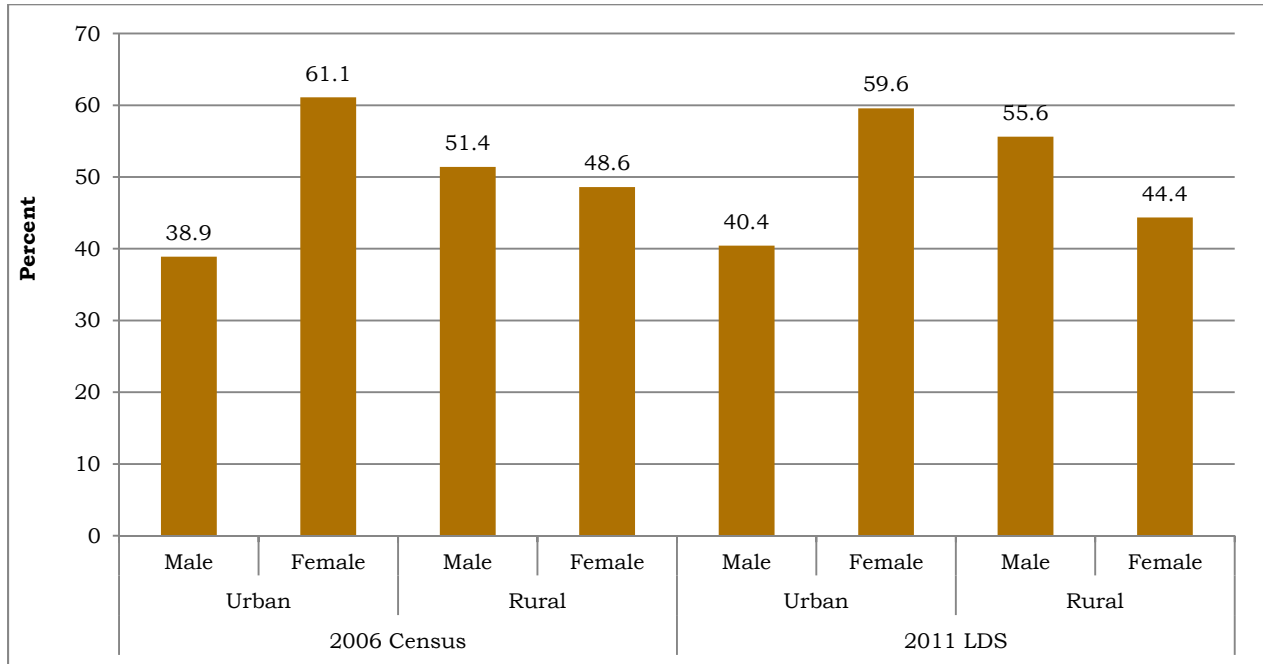
Figure 4.2.2: Percentage Distribution of Population Aged 6 to 24 Years who were Still Attending School by Urban/Rural Residence



Source: 2011 LDS

Figure 4.2.2 illustrates that females residing in the urban area who were still attending school had highest percentage of 51.9 compared to their male counterparts with 48.1 percent. The same pattern was observed for rural females with 51.3 percent while males constituted 48.7 percent.

Figure 4.2.3: Percentage Distribution of Population Aged 6 to 24 Years who had Left School by Residence and Sex



Source: 2011 LDS

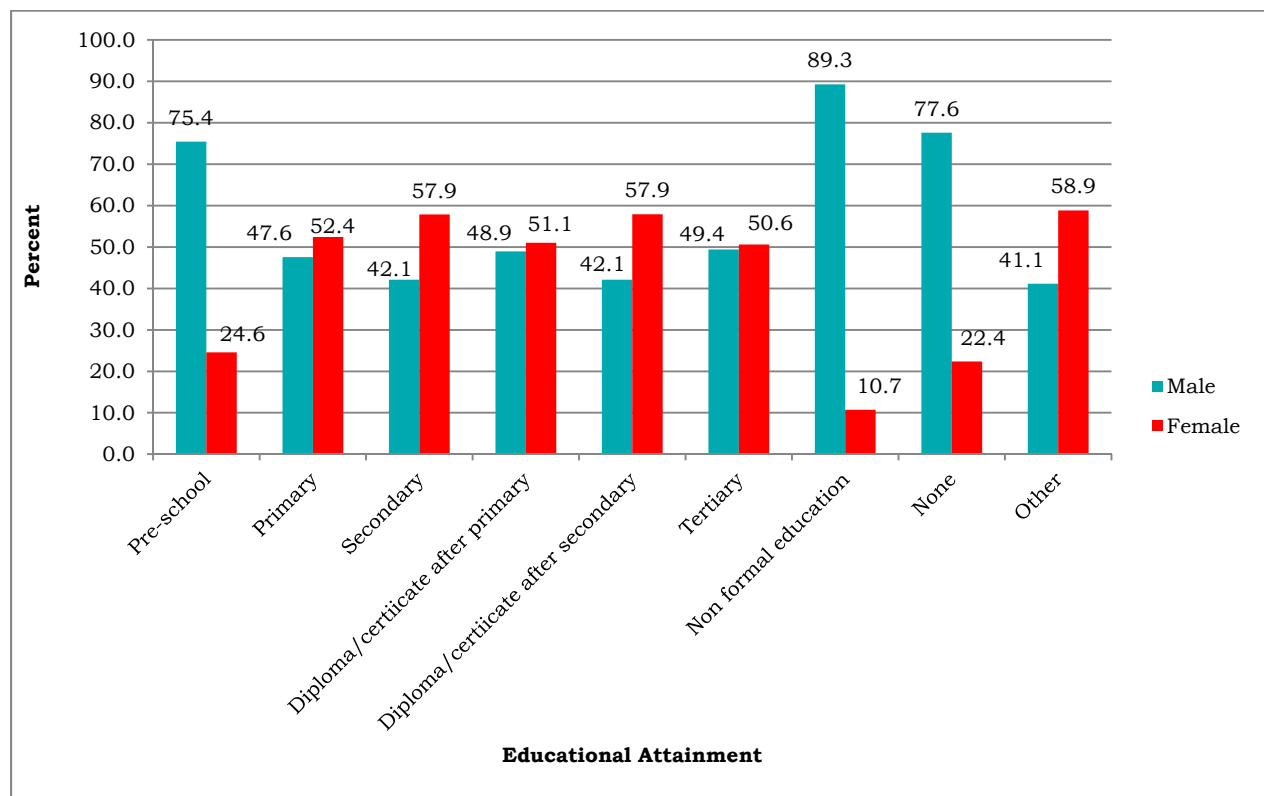
Figure 4.2.3 demonstrates that, the female population who were residing in the urban areas that had left school displayed higher percentages of 61.1 in 2006 Census and less percentage which is 59.6 during 2011 LDS. This implies that female population that left school in the urban areas declined by 1.5 percent, while male population increased by the same proportion. In rural areas, males who had left school increased (51.4 to 55.6 percent) while the females decreased (48.6 to 44.4) for those who had left school.

High levels of drop-outs are a serious obstacle to the attainment of national goals such as universal primary education, eradication of illiteracy and equality of educational opportunities.

4.3 Educational Attainment

Education opens up specific opportunities and changes values. The educational attainment levels of the population give an overview of the distribution of skills. An indication of the competitiveness of women as compared with men for access to specialised training and jobs is observed in differences in their levels of educational attainment.

Figure 4.3.1: Percentage Distribution of Population 15 Years and above by Educational Attainment and Sex



Source: 2011 LDS

The 2011 LDS respondents were asked about the highest level of education they had completed to get estimates on educational attainment of the population. Figure 4.3.1 point out that there were more boys (75.4 percent) than girls (24.6 percent) that had completed Pre-school. The figure also shows that males engage in non formal education than females with percentage distribution of 89.3 and 10.7 respectively.

Table 4.3.1 : Percentage Distribution of Population Aged 15 Years and Above by Educational Attainment, Urban/Rural Residence and Sex

Educational attainment	Urban			Rural		
	Male	Female	Total (N)	Male	Female	Total (N)
Pre-school	91.8	8.2	60	74.1	25.9	759
Primary	45.6	54.4	105,594	47.9	52.1	549,954
Secondary	42.9	57.1	166,193	41.6	58.4	251,423
Diploma/certificate after primary	51.7	48.3	872	47.2	52.8	1,427
Diploma/certificate after secondary	43.3	56.7	19,004	40.3	59.7	12,871
Tertiary	48.8	51.2	17,657	51.1	48.9	5,815
Non formal education	75.8	24.2	667	91.4	8.6	4,272
None	71.2	28.8	12,153	78.3	21.7	107,623
Other	0.0	100.0	17	51.3	48.7	69
Total (%)	45.3	54.7	100.0	49.9	50.1	100.0
Total (N)	146,000	176,217	322,217	465,920	468,293	934,213

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 4.3.1 demonstrates that, the majority of persons who reported to have attained primary as their highest level of Education, females constitute 54.4 percent whereas the males constitute 45.6 percent in urban areas. The same pattern prevails in rural areas where females dominate males with percentage distribution of 52.1 and 47.9 respectively at the same level. A considerable proportion of 51.2 percent of urban females is reported to have attained tertiary as their highest level of Education as opposed to urban males who accounted for 48.8 percent. The opposite was observed with rural males because 51.1 percent had attained tertiary as their highest level of education; a higher percentage than the rural females with an estimate of 48.9 percent.

In summary, the data suggest that, in various aspects girls and women in urban areas had attained higher levels of education than boys and men in rural areas.

5. HEALTH

5.1 Life Expectancy

Life expectancy is an estimate of an average number of additional years a person is expected to live if the age specific death rates for a given year prevailed for the rest of his or her life (Arthur Haupt and Thomas.T.Kane: 2004).

Table 5.1.1: Mortality Indicators Estimated from Life Table Based on Deaths that Occurred in Households in the Past 12 months.

Indicator	Total	Male	Female
Infant mortality rate	95.23	130.85	84.09
Life expectancy at birth	41.84	39.41	45.33

Source: 2011 LDS

The life expectancy at birth for Lesotho according to Table 5.1.1 is 41.8 years. The life expectancy is higher for females (45.3) than for males (39.4).

5.2 Infant and Child Mortality

Infant mortality rate is considered a good indicator of the nation's health status and is useful for comparing the health status of a population over time. Child mortality data also are important for evaluating and monitoring progress of Governments on child survival targets and intervention measures as indicated in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Goal no 5 which is to '*reduce child mortality*' and the target which is to '*cut infant mortality by two thirds between 1990 and 2015*'.

Table 5.2.1: Infant, Child and Under-five Mortality Rates Using Data on Children Ever Born and Children Surviving' (Coale and Demeny North Model) -

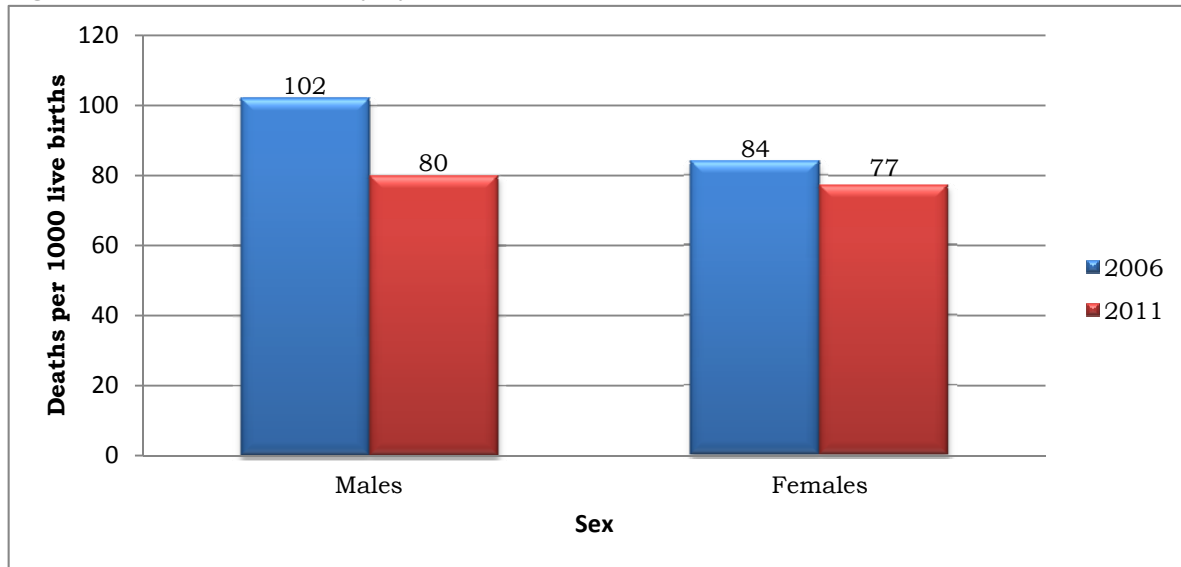
Age group	Reference Period	Both sexes			Males			Females		
		IMR	CMR	U5MR	IMR	CMR	U5MR	IMR	CMR	U5MR
20 - 24	2008.9	82	36	36	58	18	75	24	50	29
25 - 29	2006.8	71	29	29	71	26	96	65	29	93
30 - 34	2004.2	68	27	93	90	37	124	68	32	98
35 - 39	2001.5	65	25	93	70	37	93	71	34	103

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 5.2.1 shows that, male children experienced higher mortality before they celebrate their first birthday than their female counterparts. A similar pattern is

observed where there is high mortality for males than females who died before reaching their fifth birthday. Child mortality estimates show lower mortality for boys than girls with 18 and 50 deaths per 1,000 live births respectively.

Figure 5.2.2: Infant Mortality by Sex of the Child



Source: 2011 LDS

Figure 5.2.2 illustrates that, mortality affecting boys was higher than that of girls at early ages. It was observed that in 2006 there were 102 male deaths compared to 84 female deaths that occurred before they reached age one. The 2011 LDS also, estimated 80 deaths for male infants who died before completing their first birthday while there were 77 female infants who died before completing their first birthday.

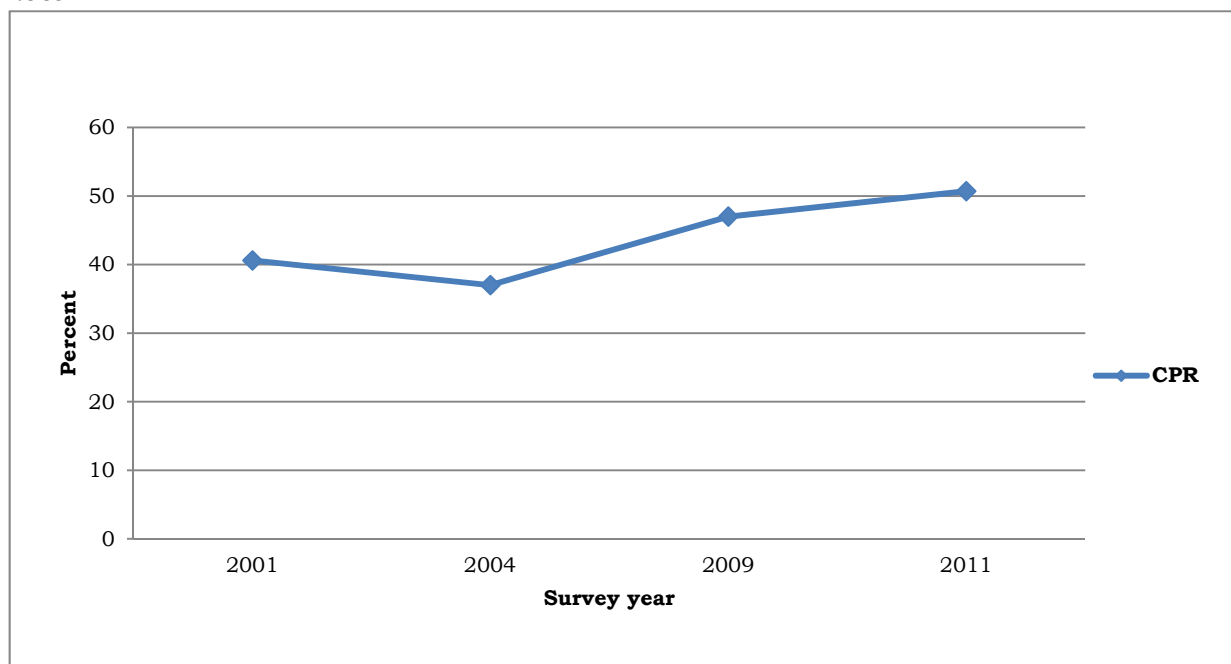
5.5 Use of Contraceptive Methods

Contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) is defined as the proportion of women of reproductive age who are using (or whose partners are using) a contraceptive method at a given point in time. The CPR is an indicator for health, population, Development and women's empowerment. It also serves as a proxy measure of access to reproductive health services that are essential for achieving many of the Millennium Development Goals, especially those related to child mortality, maternal health, HIV and AIDS, and gender equality (WHO, 2008).

Information on current use of contraceptive methods for the 2011 LDS was asked from all females aged 12-49 years irrespective of their marital status. The CPR in 2011 LDS is therefore estimated as 50.7 percent, indicating an increase of 3.7 percent from 47 percent estimated in 2009 LDHS. Moreover, the 2001 LDS estimate of CPR was 40.6

percent of currently married women who were using contraceptives showing that there has been a considerable increase in use observed over time.

Figure 5.5.1: Trend on Contraceptive Prevalence Rate for the 2001 and 2011 LDS and 2004 and 2009 LDHS



Source: 2001&2011LDS, 2004& 2009 LDHS

Figure 5.5.1 illustrates the trend on CPR that was estimated in the 2001 and 2011 LDS and 2004 and 2009 LDHS. For the year 2001 the CPR was estimated as 40.6 percent, while in the 2004 LDHS the CPR was 37.0 percent reflecting a decline of 3.6 percentage points. Between the years 2004 and 2009 LDHSs, the contraceptive prevalence rate increased by 10.0 percent from 37 to 47 percent.

Table 5.5.1: Percentage Distribution of Females Aged 12-49 years by Contraceptive Method Used and Age-group.

Contraceptive Method	Age-group							
	12-14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 - 39	40 - 44	45 - 49
Pill	1.0	9.8	22.4	22.2	17.8	12.0	8.6	6.2
Condoms	0.4	4.7	17.6	24.9	20.2	14.8	10.6	6.8
Loop	0.0	0.6	5.0	13.5	13.4	21.9	20.7	25.0
Norplant	0.0	8.9	21.8	19.1	18.1	19.2	11.6	1.5
Injection	0.3	4.3	20.4	25.2	20.6	13.1	9.7	6.4
Male Vasectomy	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Female Sterilisation	0.0	0.0	2.0	7.2	17.3	20.9	30.3	22.3
Diaphragm/Jelly/Foam	17.3	0.0	17.3	0.0	25.3	21.3	17.3	0.0
Calendar	1.1	9.6	22.1	9.6	8.4	17.0	15.7	16.4

Natural F.P.	0.0	8.1	30.8	20.7	19.0	11.8	2.5	7.1
Withdrawal	0.4	5.4	28.1	21.6	18.5	12.8	6.7	6.4
Other Methods	0.0	60.0	42.0	21.0	32.9	11.4	15.5	17.0

Source: 2011 LDS

Table 5.5.1 shows that Diaphragm/Jelly/Foam was the most popular method used by the majority of females in age-group 12 to 14 years, followed by Calendar and Pill in the same age-group. The table further shows that among all age groups, the Pill was commonly (22.4 percent) used by females aged 20 to 24 years with, followed by those aged 25 to 29 years with 22.2 percent. Moreover, Loop (25.0 percent), Female sterilization (22.3 percent) and Calendar (16.4 percent) methods were the most popular among females aged 45 to 49 years. The table also indicates that of all females who were asked about the contraceptive methods they or their partners used, Male Vasectomy was mainly used by males whose female partners were aged 25 to 29 years.

In conclusion, the use of contraceptive methods among females of reproductive ages is increasing. This could be attributed to easily available contraceptive methods in Christian Health Association of Lesotho (CHAL), private health centres and Government health centres, where they are offered free of charge.

6. PUBLIC LIFE AND LEADERSHIP

In every social setting, there are power relations between men and women. These relations are observable within the family as well as in many other places in the community (labour market, political arena, community life, etc.) Persons that are engaged in law fraternity (Judges, lawyers, the police, prison guards and other administrative personnel) have an imperative role in advancing gender equality. Judges and lawyers affect the development and interpretation of gender sensitive legislation, and the police and other administrative personnel affect the treatment of victims, particularly women who are the victims of violence.

6.1 Crime

Crimes involve both offenders and victims. The prevalence of crime and violence restricts the freedom of individuals in society and infringes on their standard of living. The problem is compounded when the violence is perpetrated by members of the victim's family, as in the case of spouse abuse, childhood sexual abuse, etc.

Table 6.1.1 :Percentage Distribution of Cases of Crime by Institution and Sex

Correctional Services Institution	Offence against Person			Offence against Property			Other Offences		
	Male	Female	Total	Total		Total	Male	Female	Total
				Male	Female				
Botha-Bothe	5.2	2.9	5.1	5	4.3	4.9	5.2	1.9	4.9
Leribe	15.1	23.5	15.3	11.2	11.4	11.2	10.4	9.3	10.3
Berea	14.1	7.4	13.9	9.9	4.3	9.6	18.8	24.1	19.3
Maseru									
Central	22.3	0	21.7	35.8	0	34	21.4	0	19.3
Female	0	27.9	0.8	0	60	3	0	44.4	4.3
Juvenile	0.9	0	0.9	2.5	0	2.4	0.2	0	0.2
Mafeteng	13.1	17.6	13.3	11.5	18.6	11.9	7.4	14.8	8.1
Mohale's Hoek	7.7	0	7.5	5.8	0	5.5	5.4	0	4.9
Quthing	5.2	4.4	5.2	4.5	0	4.3	6	1.9	5.6
Qacha's Nek	5	0	4.9	4.1	0	3.9	5.8	0	5.2
Mokhotlong	5	8.8	5.1	2.8	1.4	2.7	5.6	1.9	5.2
Thaba- Tseka	6.3	7.4	6.4	7	0	6.6	13.8	1.9	12.6
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Department of Correctional Services, 2010

Table 6.1.1 depicts the cases of crime by Correctional Service Institutions and sex. The table indicates that offences against a person in the following institutions (Leribe, Mafeteng, Thaba-Tseka and Mokhotlong) are dominated by females. Moreover, in Leribe and Mafeteng females are taking a lead in relation to offences against property. Regarding other offences in almost all correctional service institutions, with the exception of Berea the males exceed females. The table also highlights that Maseru is the only place which has correctional services for only males at Central, Female centre for female offenders and Juvenile centre for children. It is observed from the table that boys engage mostly in offences against property relative to offences against a person and other offences.

Table 6.1.2 Percentage Distribution of Types of Offences by Sex

Offence	Sex			Percent		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Robbery	318	9	327	97.2	2.8	100
Murder	1102	32	1134	97.2	2.8	100
Sexual offence	696	5	701	93.3	6.7	100
Assault	437	14	451	96.9	3.1	100
House breaking	478	23	501	95.4	4.6	100
Road Traffic Accident(RTA)	124	0	124	100	0	100
Car theft	25	1	26	96.2	3.8	100
Stock theft	227	4	231	98.3	1.7	100
Other	372	51	423	87.9	12.1	100
Infanticide	0	12	12	0	100	100
Injury to property	38	0	38	100	0	100
Internal security	123	3	126	97.6	2.4	100
Common theft	135	33	168	80.4	19.6	100
Dagga proclamation	5	0	5	100	0	100
Culpable homicide	35	5	40	87.5	12.5	100

Source: Department of Correctional Services, 2010

Table 6.1.2 indicates the different types of reported offences disaggregated by sex. Offences committed mostly include, murder, sexual offence, assault and house breaking. In general, males exceeded females in all different types of offences. The table illustrates that the majority (1, 102) of males committed murder. During the year 2010 only 1 female was reported to have committed car theft offence as opposed to 25 males. Moreover, 227 (approximately 98 percent) males committed a stock theft crime relative to 4 (approximately 2 percent) female counterparts.

6.2 Leadership

The positions of top Government officials include ministers, deputy ministers, principal secretaries and their deputies, commissioners, judges and etc. An equal sharing of jobs among women and men in government is important in order to achieve gender equality and empowerment of women.

Table 6.2.1 Representation of Women and Men in Decision- Making Positions in 2012

Position	Male	Female	Total
Ministers	17	5	22
Deputy Ministers	4	3	7
Members of Parliament	87	33	120
Members of Senate	25	10	35
Principal Secretaries	19	8	27
Public Service Commissioners	4	1	5
Judges	7	5	12
Senior Magistrates	0	2	2

Source: Department of Information, Public Service Commission, High Court of Lesotho

Table 6.2.1 shows that males dominated females in all levels with the exception of senior magistrates. The dominant members of parliament are males. There is no huge difference between females and males in composition regarding deputy ministers.

Table 6.2.2 Appointees to Senior Level Positions in 2010-2012

Level of Government	Number			Percent	
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Senate	25	10	35	71.4	28.6
National Assembly	87	33	120	72.5	27.5
Cabinet	23	8	31	74.2	25.8
Ambassadors	11	4	15	73.3	26.7

Source: www.gov.ls

Table 6.2.2 indicates senior level Government appointees in Lesotho. The senior appointees in this context include senior citizens employed in the Parliament, Senate, National Assembly and Cabinet members as well as the civil servants deployed internationally in various countries as Ambassadors. Generally the appointments were mostly offered to males as opposed to females. This is despite the fact that approximately 70 percent of males were granted senior level appointments in Government positions; hence empowerment of women still needs to be pursued in Lesotho.