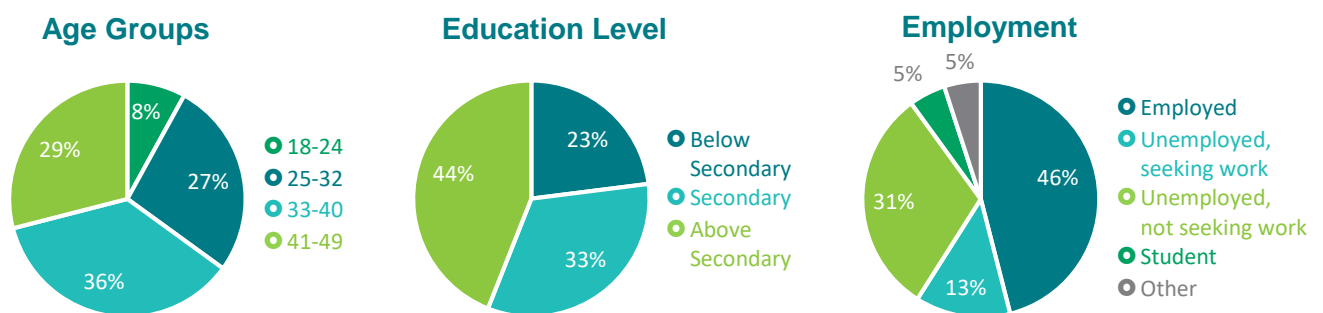


Fertility Transitions: Implications for Future Demographic Trends in the State of Qatar

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In the State of Qatar, while demographic transitions have been widely studied, little has been said about the effects of Qatari women’s sociodemographic characteristics on the prevalence of family planning methods and their relationship to fertility transitions in Qatar society. In this regard, the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI) at Qatar University conducted a fertility survey project in 2018. The data were collected via a computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) system using a questionnaire, with a random sample of 607 respondents.

Sample’s Demographics



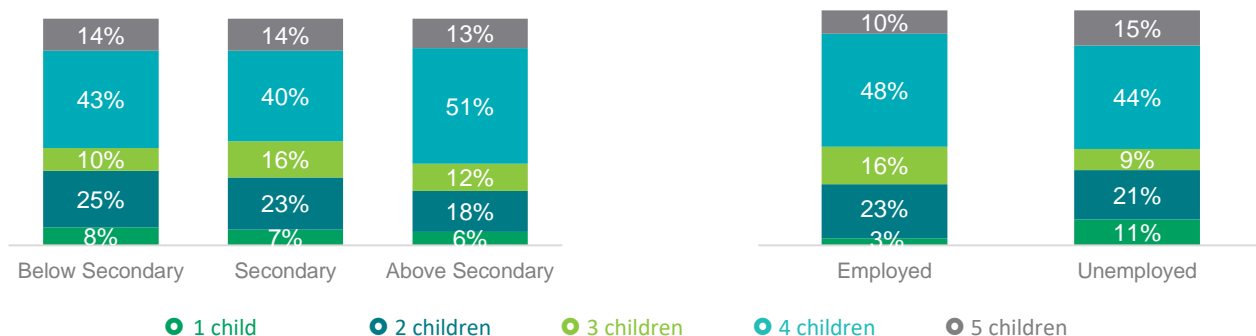
A Qatari woman’s **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)*** is 3.2, with women in 20-29 age group having the highest fertility rates

Fertility and Education

The results showed that half the Qatari women with education ‘above secondary’ have a higher age-specific fertility rate (ASFR). This indicates that education does not decrease a woman’s ASFR.

Fertility and Employment Status

Interestingly, the ASFR of employed Qatari women was higher than that of non-working Qatari women. This indicates that participation of a Qatari woman in the job market has no effect on her ASFR.



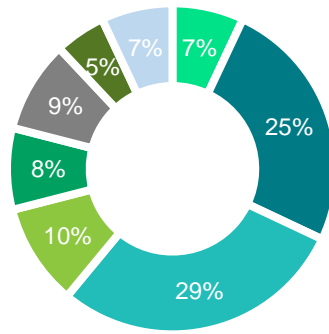
Women’s **education and employment status** are not factors influencing ASFR

*Total Fertility Rate (TFR): The average number of children a woman would have if she lives through the ages of 15-49 years while having children at the observed age-specific rates

Contraceptive Methods used by Qataris

48%

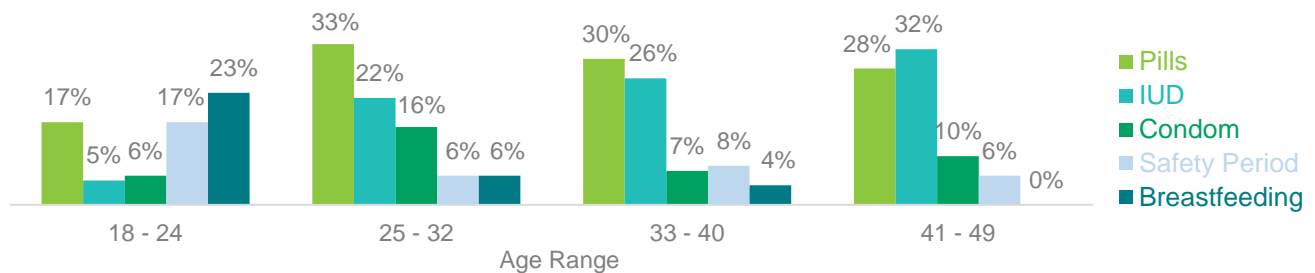
of the sample reported currently using contraception



Qatari women are well aware of various contraceptive methods, but **Pills (29%)** are the most common method currently used

Contraceptive Methods by Age Group

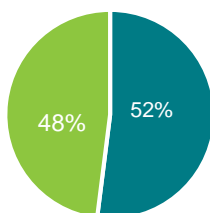
The results showed that the use of contraception was more prevalent among older Qatari women who have had more children than younger Qatari women with less children.



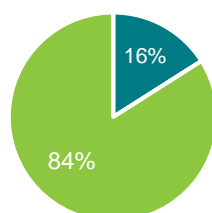
Family Planning Methods: when to use them?

Appropriateness of family planning methods:

After the first birth



Before the first birth



Most women do not support use of family planning methods before a woman's first pregnancy. Almost half (52%) of the women of all age groups sampled, supported the use of family planning methods after the first birth, compared to 16% who supported the use of family planning methods before the first pregnancy.

Recommendations

A) Amendments to the National provisions in "Human Resources Law of 2016 and Labor Law of 2004":

- Grant paid maternity leave for at least 7 months.
- Offer on-site childcare facilities.
- Offer part-time jobs, working at home options.
- Provide financial allowances to new-borns.

B) Provide supporting programs to increase the Total Fertility Rates (TFR) and childbearing rates among Qatari women, and provide high-quality services for family planning.