



January 2009

Age and sex distribution at Kersa Demographic Surveillance and Health Research Center field site.

This briefs the age and sex distribution of population in the study site. The result is based on census conducted in July 2007 in kersa District, Eastern Hararge, Eastern Ethiopia.

Introduction

Magnitude, frequency and distribution of public health problems can be depicted by geographical areas and population groups affected by the problem

Age distribution of the population helps to understand the population composition. Recognizing of the population composition helps to identify public service for target population like health and education services.

The study was conducted on 48,192 residents of the study site. The highest population count was recorded in Adele Key Key kebele and the lowest in Kersa town which is 6053 and 1811 respectively. The average household size is 4.7, urban 4.2 and rural 4.8 persons per households.

Table 1 Number of households in each kebele of Kersa District, Eastern Hararge, Eastern Ethiopia, July 2007

Name of Kebele	Total population	%
Kersa town	1811	3.8
Meteqoma	4604	9.6
Yabeta lencha	4441	9.2
Ifa jalela	4769	9.9
Mede odda	4020	8.3
Weter town	3427	7.1
Handhura kossum	4031	8.4
Tolla	4146	8.6
Gola belina	3937	8.2
Bereka	2550	5.3
Welteha bilisuma	4403	9.1
Adele key key	6053	12.5
Total	48,192	100

The population indicates that the active age group (15-64 years of age) is 51.6 % while the dependent (pre and post reproductive age group) comprise 48.4 %. The pre-reproductive age group is 46.5 % indicting a potential of high fertility in the future.

Females of child bearing age group account for 22.5 % (10,827) of the total population. Males constitute 51.1 % of the total population. Result of he finding indicates an overall sex ratio of 104.5 males per 100 females.

Table 2 shows Population structure by age and sex in Kersa District, Eastern Hararge, Eastern Ethiopia, in 2007

Age	Female		Male		Total	
		49.57		50.43		
0-4	3737	49.32	3802	50.68	7539	15.65
5-9	3942	47.58	4051	52.42	7993	16.59
10-14	3277	46.48	3611	53.52	6888	14.3
15-19	2240	52.67	2579	47.33	4819	10
20-24	1883	58.08	1692	41.92	3575	7.42
25-29	1959	51.78	1414	48.22	3373	7
30-34	1858	50.47	1730	49.53	3588	7.45
35-39	1230	41.13	1207	58.87	2437	5.05
40-44	1088	44.84	1557	55.16	2645	5.49
45-49	569	46.47	700	53.53	1269	2.63
50-54	711	40.53	819	59.47	1530	3.18
55-59	169	40.78	248	59.22	417	0.86
60-64	500	45.13	726	54.87	1226	2.54
65+	403		490		893	1.85
Total	23566	48.90	24626	51.10	48192	100

Conclusion

The population structure reveals a large proportion of the young age group indicating a potential of high fertility in the future. The sex ratio indicates higher proportion of males compared to female below the age of 20 and reversed up to the age of 40 then afterwards similar pattern of male dominance in number observed, this probably suggests that males above the of

20 might be migrating nearby bigger cities Dire Dawa and Harar for education or employment.

Recommendation

Family planning and contraceptive health services should be accessible to the population. In addition to this health service focusing to the under five should also not be undermined.

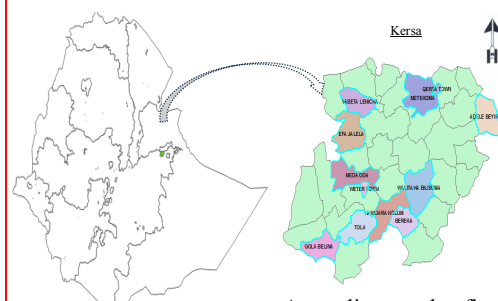
Kersa Demographic Surveillance and Health

Research Center (KDS-HRC),

Haramaya University:

The surveillance site was established in September 2007 in Kersa district, Eastern Hararge of Oromia region, East Ethiopia with aim of tracking demographic changes like death, birth, migration and marital status change. The surveillance activities further extended by adding surveys in Nutrition, Reproductive Health, Environmental Health, HIV/AIDS, Morbidity/health seeking behavior and health care utilization during the month of January-March 2008.

The surveillance activity is instituted in 12 kebeles (the smallest administrative unit in Ethiopia with approximate population Size of 4-5 thousand). Two of the kebeles are semi urban and the remaining 10 are rural kebeles.



According to the first census there were 10,256 households and 53,482 people in the study site with an average household size of 5.2 and sex ratio of 104.5. In the study area the crude birth and death rates were 26.8 and 9.2 per 1000 population. Infant and under five mortality rates were 44.9 and 108.2 per 1000 live births respectively.

The activities of the surveillance are lead by a coordinator and a group of six staff members from the College of Health and Medical Sciences.

