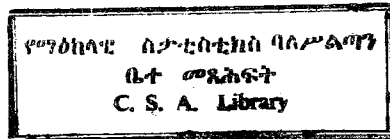


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TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT  
OF ETHIOPIA  
CENTRAL STATISTICAL AUTHORITY  
POPULATION ANALYSIS AND STUDIES CENTER

THE 1990 NATIONAL FAMILY AND  
FERTILITY SURVEY REPORT



JUNE 1993  
ADDIS ABABA

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C.S

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## P R E F A C E

The 1990 National Family and Fertility Survey is the first of its kind ever conducted in the country. This survey, among other information, attempted to collect data on basic socio-economic characteristics of the population in the sample households; detailed data on fertility levels and determinants (socio-economic characteristics of women 15-49, current and retrospective fertility performance or birth history; marriage history; health and breastfeeding practices; knowledge, attitude and practice concerning family planning; ... etc.); fertility preference; woman's work history; husband's background characteristics; sexual practices; ... etc.

The report is based on the data compiled from the analyses of the women's questionnaire. The report consists of ten chapters:

Chapter I - briefly discusses the history of demographic data collection in the country and presents the objectives of the survey. It also discusses the sample design and procedures; development of data collection instruments and quality control measures adopted in data collection and data management.

Chapter II - investigates the quality of the data collected during the survey.

Chapter III - briefly treats the background characteristics of the survey women such as age, marital status, literacy status, school attendance, work status ethnic and religious composition.

Chapter IV - describes the nuptiality pattern of the population and the attitudes about ideal ages at marriage.

Chapter V - deals with the fertility levels, patterns and differential and presents estimates of fertility levels.

Chapter VI - presents the levels and patterns of breast-feeding, post partum ammenorrhea and abstinence.

Chapter VII - deals with contraceptive knowledge and use, ever and current use of contraception, socio-economic differentials in the use of contraceptives and intention to use contraception in future.

Chapter VIII - treats family size preferences of women including number of children desired, additional number of children and preference for the sex of children.

Chapter IX - deals with Child health care and survival and investigates the levels and trends in infant and child mortality.

Chapter X - presents the summary of major findings and in conclusins it briefly points out the policy implications of the findings.

Appendix I - treats the methodology for calculation of sampling errors and presents estimates of sampling errors for selected variables.

The 1990 National family and fertility survey was undertaken with the assistance of many individuals and organizations. The survey would not have been successfully completed without the help of the 8,757 women aged 15-49 who have fully cooperated in giving responses to the numerous, difficult and at times too personal questions. The excellent contributions of the headquarters' staff and the regional office staff towards the success of the survey are recognized and highly appreciated. Also, the sincere efforts of the field staff (enumerators, field editors and supervisors) who have discharged their responsibilities in collecting the data under very difficult situations are deeply appreciated.

This report of the survey is mainly prepared by the staff of Population Analyses and Studies Center of Central Statistical Authority and their contributions are highly appreciated. Also, the Methodology Department of Central Statistical Authority, in addition to the preparation of "sample design and procedures" part of Chapter I and the sampling errors section presented in appendix I of this report, was involved in designing and drawing the sample for the survey. Their contributions are well recognized.

The technical assistance provided by the National Household Survey Capability Programme (NHSCP) of the United Nations Statistical Office and Population Branch of the United Nations Department of Technical Cooperation for Development (UNDTCD) are gratefully appreciated.

The survey was carried out with substantial financial assistance from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). The assistance obtained from the UNFPA was very important in undertaking the project and their contributions are highly appreciated. The staff of the UNFPA office in Addis Ababa have given unreserved support in facilitating the procurement of equipment and supplies required for the project. As a matter of fact, without the active cooperation of these individuals it would have not been easy to carry out the survey on time and their contributions are well recognized.

Finally, the staff of Central Statistical Authority in general and Population Analyses and Studies Center in particular deserve heartfelt congratulations for successfully conducting the survey and preparing this report.

Abdulahi Hasen (Ph.D.)  
Haed, Population Analyses  
And Studies Center  
And  
Acting General Manager  
Central Statistical Authority

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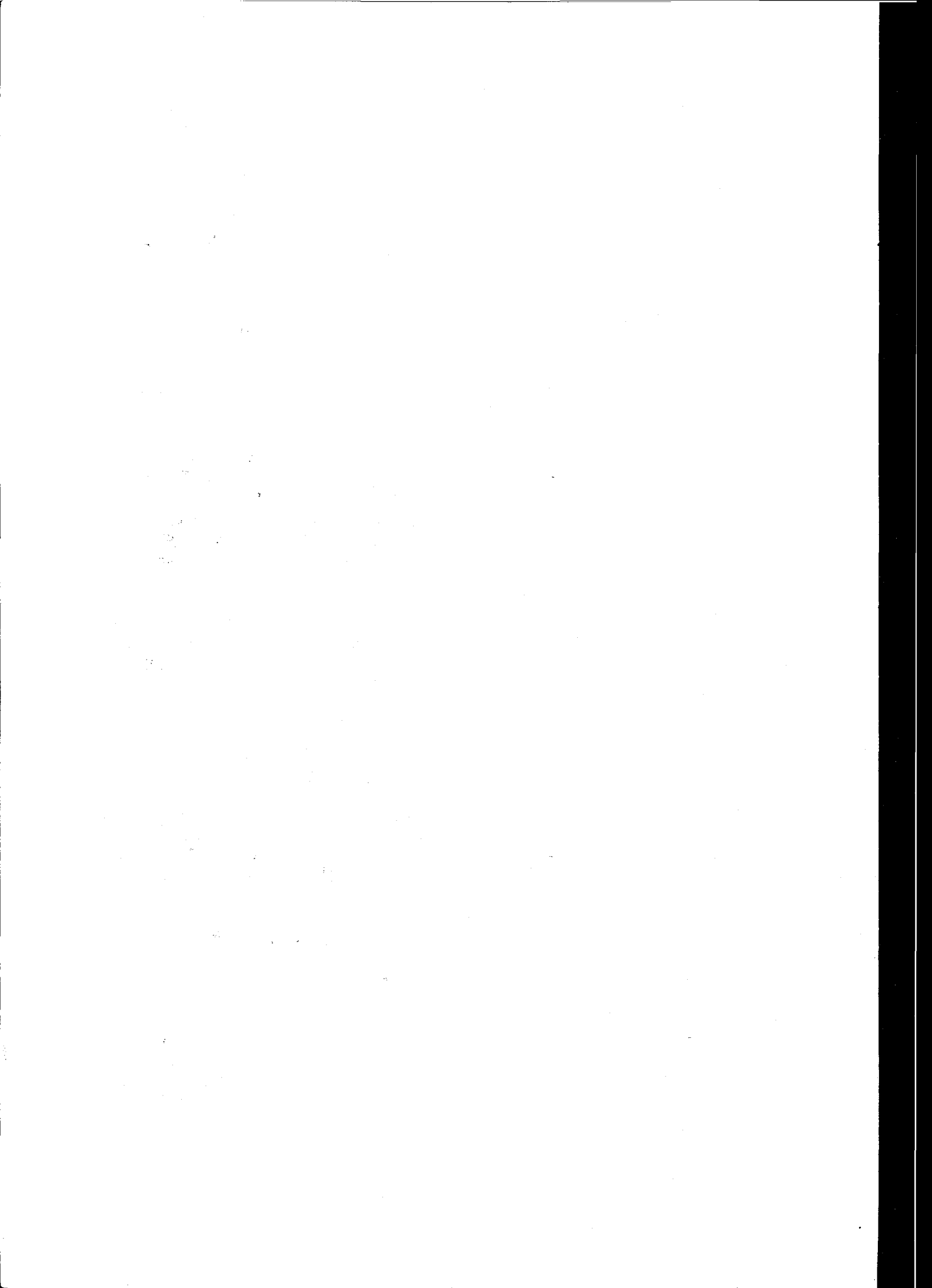
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CHAPTER I  
ORGANIZATION OF THE 1990 NATIONAL FAMILY  
AND FERTILITY SURVEY

1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 History of Demographic Data Collection

Demographic data collection in Ethiopia began with the establishment of Central Statistical Office\* (CSO) in 1960. The first ever involvement of CSO in the collection of socio-demographic data were the population and housing census of Addis Ababa and Asmara cities in 1961 and 1963 respectively. These censuses were conducted by respective city authorities under the technical guidance of CSO. In these operations, basic demographic data on fertility, mortality and migration have been collected (Municipality of Addis Ababa, 1961 and CSO, 1971: 54). Following these two operations, CSO launched the first-round of multi-purpose National Sample Survey in 1964. The operations of these surveys continued only for four years, i.e., 1964-1967. These surveys covered the settled rural population of all the regions (except Eritrea and Bale) and 195 urban centers (CSO, 1971a:1). The second round of the National Sample Survey was conducted during 1969-1970 and covered the settled rural population in all the regions (except Eritrea) and 91 major urban centers (CSO, 1974:3). Both the first and the second rounds multi-purpose National Sample Surveys covered various topics such as agriculture (crop and livestock

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\* Currently Central Statistical Authority.

production, size of landholding, land tenure, utilization of land ... etc), demography, indebtedness,...etc.

In 1976 CSO carried out a Manpower and Housing Survey in Addis Ababa. Similar surveys were conducted by the Office (CSO) in 17 other major urban centers of the country in 1978. Further, the Office undertook a demographic survey of the capital city, Addis Ababa in 1978. These surveys collected basic demographic data including data on fertility, mortality and migration (CSO, 1980 and CSO, 1979).

At the beginning of the 1980's, due to the fundamental socio-economic changes in the country, there was a great need for statistical information for the preparation of socio-economic plans, and for monitoring and evaluation of development programs. The demand for data further increased with the launching of the national socio-economic development campaigns and the preparation of the medium and long term development plans for the country. To meet this data need, CSO in 1980 conceived a National Integrated Household Survey Program to collect socio-economic data on a continuous basis. Under this program, the Office (CSO) has carried out surveys on agriculture; demography; manpower; health; nutrition; household income, consumption and expenditure; prices; and community level variables. The 1981 demographic survey that was carried out under this program covered the settled rural population of all the regions (except Eritrea and Tigray).