



HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

An analysis from Census 2022



Maldives Bureau of Statistics
Ministry of Housing, Land & Urban Development





Household Characteristics

An analysis from Census 2022



Maldives Bureau of Statistics (MBS) is the National Statistical Office of the Maldives and we provide the public with reliable and timely statistics and cater to all data demands nationally and internationally.

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Written by:	Ms. Aishath Sobaha
Checked by:	Professor Lakshman Dissanayake
Proof Read by:	Professor Lakshman Dissanayake
Layout design by:	Ms. Aminath Musfiqa Ibrahim
Photography:	Blinx Media Group

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FOREWORD

The Population and Housing Census of Maldives stands as the most extensive national statistical undertaking, offering a highly comprehensive source of data on the population and households. Maldives has been conducting censuses since 1911 with the first modern census conducted in 1977. Censuses were conducted every five years since between 1985 and 2000. The 2005 census was postponed to 2006 due to tsunami of 2004, resulting in an eight-year gap between the last two censuses. The 2022 represents a significant milestone as the 30th census conducted in the Maldives owing to a gap of 8 years.

This series of statistical releases aim to provide an in-depth view of what is behind the census figures, shedding light on the fundamental population issues that underlie them. It is our goal to enhance the understanding of population and development issues within the country, providing a comprehensive view of the data. Additionally, the census plays a crucial role in reporting on numerous SDG indicators by providing essential updates and with necessary disaggregation of data.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all individuals and organisations whose contributions made it possible for us to present the census findings to the public. Special thanks are due to United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) for providing financial support throughout the process and for facilitating the technical input from consultants, whose expertise and guidance were invaluable in successfully completing these releases. I would like to start by thanking Mr. Andreas Kutka and Mr. Peter Bruekmann for the continuous support they provided our team for the implementation of the census, from designing stage to the release of census preliminary results. My thanks go out to Professor Lakshman Dissanayake and Dr. Liwan Liyanage, for overseeing the progress of each chapter, and guiding the chapter writers and enhancing their capacities throughout the process. Lastly, the success of this census releases owes much to the tireless effort and dedication of the Maldives Bureau of Statistics staff, and I take this moment to express my sincere appreciation to each and every one of them.

This information is accessible through our website www.statisticsmaldives.gov.mv. We believe in the dissemination of reliable statistics in an unbiased manner to the general public. We encourage data users to utilize the Census results effectively, promoting a culture of decision-making in the country.

I am hopeful that the information in this Release and other subsequent census related publications, would be very useful for evidence-based decision-making and formulation of policies and plans. Both the national and local level could use the census information to define service areas, identify current requirement of services and infrastructure, and future demands. Further, it would serve as the basis for measuring progress towards the achievement of key national targets as well as other time-bound targets of the country as we undergo a new phase in administration.

Aishath Hassan
Chief Statistician
Maldives Bureau of Statistics
Ministry of Housing, Land and Urban Development

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The conduct of the 2022 Population and Housing Census of Maldives entailed nationwide coordination and collaboration. The Maldives Bureau of Statistics (MBS), would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to all the agencies and individuals who contributed immensely to the success of the Census.

We are truly indebted to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for the immense support provided throughout the process, from census planning stage to the publication of these census Releases. We would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to UNICEF, UNDP, ADB, World Bank, PARIS21 and IOM for their support in the implementation of a successful census. Our sincere appreciation also goes to Ministries, Agencies, CSOs for their cooperation and contribution to complete the census operation across the country. We are indeed grateful to City Councils, Atoll Councils, Island Councils, Atoll Census Managers, island census focal points for their support and leadership in ensuring the successful completion of census in their respective communities. We would like to convey our sincere appreciation to the government for funding and providing other financial support when needed. We would like to thank Maldives Police Services for arranging security services during the entire enumeration process, MTCC for transport arrangement and local media for their coverage and dissemination of census announcements in a timely manner.

We also wish to acknowledge and earnestly thank the 3,974 enumerators and supervisors for their hard work and sincerity. Supervisors and enumerators worked from the early hours of the morning till late in the evening during the census enumeration period. The commitment and dedication shown by the supervisors and enumerators are exemplary and inspiring. We would like to sincerely thank the general public for the unprecedented support and cooperation extended to the census supervisors and enumerators during the enumeration. The support and enthusiasm displayed by the general public were heartfelt and gratifying.

This series of statistical releases would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of the following MBS staff.

Statistical Release 1: Population dynamics in the Maldives

Ms. Fathimath Yania

Statistical Release 2: Population movement and migration dynamics

Ms. Fathimath Riyaza

Statistical Release 3: Education status of the population

Ms. Ashiyath Shazna

Statistical Release 4: Disability in the Maldives

Ms. Fathimath Riyaza

Statistical Release 5: Mapping the Employment Landscape: A Comprehensive Analysis of the situation in the Maldives

Ms. Aishath Hassan

Statistical Release 6: Improving Labor Market Dynamics: Understanding Unemployment and Workforce Inactivity

Ms. Aishath Shahuda

Statistical Release 7: In-depth analysis of informality and informal employment in the Maldives

Ms. Lizama Faheem

Statistical Release 8: Nuptiality and Fertility in The Maldives

Ms. Mariyam Shadeena

Statistical Release 9: Household Characteristics

Ms. Aishath Sobaha

Finally, special thanks, appreciation and gratitude to all staff of Maldives Bureau of Statistics for overseeing the whole processes, from planning, organisation, implementation, cleaning and having the results published.

GLOSSARY

A **household** refers to a unit where people live within the same arrangement, usually sharing the same living space, live and eat together.

A **dwelling** is an apartment, flat/ room which is a structurally separate and independent space within a structure that can be accessed separately (through a common stairway, hallway) and is used for residential purposes.

A **housing unit** is a dwelling intended for habitation by a single/multiple household, or one not intended but occupied as a living quarter by a household at the time of the census. Housing units include:

1. **House/flat/apartments:** Specifically includes traditional residential structures like houses, flats (apartments), and other self-contained living spaces designed for single households.
2. **Boats and other mobile units:** Includes living units that are not fixed and can be mobile, such as boats or other mobile housing arrangements.
3. **Buildings not intended for human habitation:** These are living spaces within structures originally designed for people to live in, often temporary or makeshift housing.
4. **Other types of housing units:** Include housing units that do not fit into the previous categories, and it encompasses a variety of less common or specialized living arrangements.

Collective living quarters include structurally separate and independent places of abode intended for habitation large groups of individuals or households. Such quarters usually have certain common facilities such as cooking and toilet installations, baths, lounge rooms or dormitories, which are shared by the occupants. In local context, these also include housing units/rooms occupied by groups of Labourer's, self-arranged and occupants maybe less than employer arranged labour quarters. Collective living quarters comprise of unrelated individuals and as such, there is no household head as in regular households. CLQs include:

- a. **Labour quarters:** Specifically, these are living quarters provided for labourers or workers, often on or near their place of employment.
- b. **Other collective living quarters:** Includes collective living arrangements that do not fit into the "labour quarters" category, which could include communal or shared housing for other purposes.

Maldivian Households: A Maldivian household is defined as a residential unit where the identified head of the household is a Maldivian.

Other households: An “Other Household” refers to any residential unit that does not meet the criteria for being categorized as a Maldivian household.

Maale: Includes the 4 wards of Maale (Henveiru, Galolhu, Machchangoalhi, Maafannu), Hulumaale, Villimaale, and K.Hulhule with harbour of these areas.

Atolls: Includes administrative islands and non-administrative islands

Administrative islands (Admin islands): These are islands with islands/city councils

Non-administrative islands (Non-admin islands): Includes resorts, industrial islands, and other islands. Industrial islands and other islands: includes resorts under development, islands leased out for agricultural, fisheries purpose, etc. These islands are included if anyone lives and sleep there. It also includes Thilafushi and Gulheefalhu

Industrial islands and other islands: includes resorts under development, islands leased out for agricultural, fisheries purpose, etc. These islands are included if anyone lives and sleep there. It also includes Thilafushi and Gulheefalhu.

INTRODUCTION

A household refers to a unit where people live within the same arrangement, usually sharing the same living space, live and eat together. The criteria used in counting members of the household, when they do not have a common arrangement for living and eating, preference was given to the household where people sleep. Household members typically include family members, such as parents and children, but can also include non-family individuals who live together and jointly manage their living expenses and responsibilities.

This chapter of the statistical release presents data focusing on household-related aspects. This encompasses information on average size, headship, living conditions, sanitation, access to safe water, and available assets and amenities. The analysis specifically considers resident households, with questions not asked to certain living quarters based on applicability. Some parts of this analysis also focus on the comparability of the data from the 2022 Census with that of the 2014 Census.

Categorization of Households

In certain parts of this analysis, households are categorized into “Maldivian households” and “Other households.”

A Maldivian household is a residential unit where the identified head of the household is a Maldivian. In instances where there is no designated head of the household, as is the case for collective living quarters, the household classify as a Maldivian household if all its members are Maldivians.

On the other hand, “Other households” include those headed by a foreigner. In situations where there is no designated head of the household, such as in collective living quarters, the household categorize as “Other households” if all its members are foreigners, or if there is a combination of both foreigners and Maldivian members in the household.

1 OVERVIEW

1. OVERVIEW

As of 2022, the Republic of Maldives comprises 94,424 households (this includes 29 households (39 people) reported as homeless).

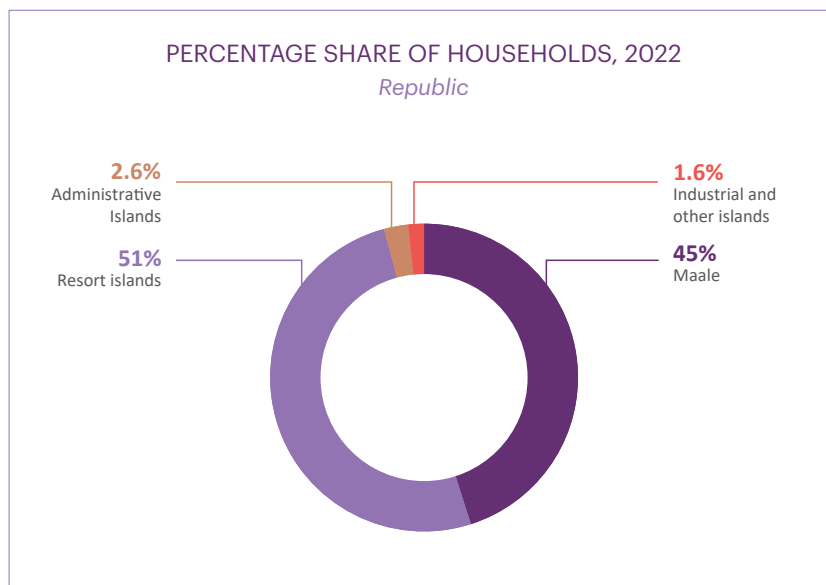


Figure 1: Percentage share of households, Census 2022

Figure 1 shows percentage share of households with the majority of households residing in Administrative Islands, constituting 51 percent of the total, with 47,888 households. However, Maale has the largest concentration with 45 percent share, totaling to 42,571 households. Resort Islands and Industrial/Other Islands have smaller percentages, 2.6 percent and 1.6 percent respectively, totaling 3,965 households.

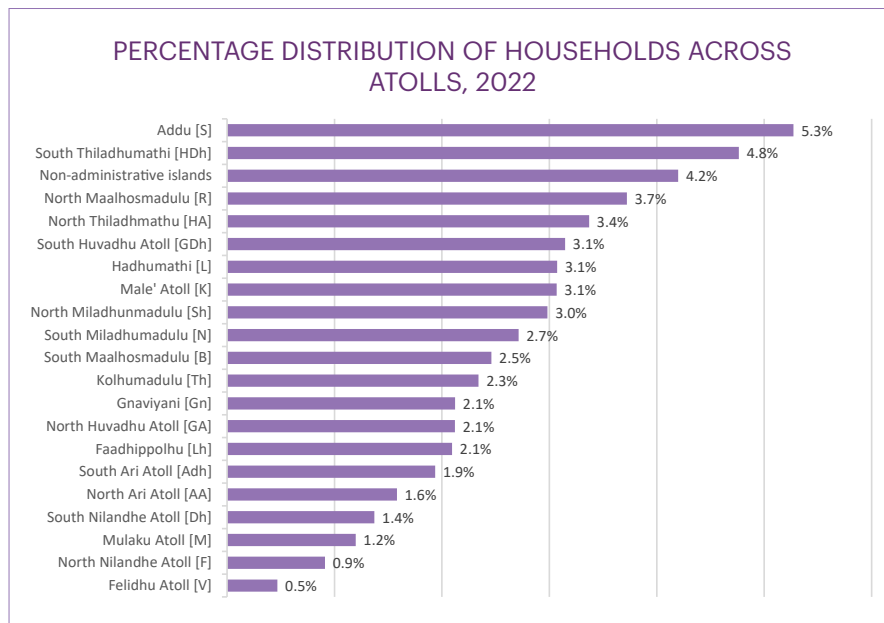


Figure 2: Percentage distribution of households across atolls, Census 2022

Figure 2 illustrates the percentage distribution of households across atolls. Addu exhibits the highest share at 5.3 percent when comparing the atolls. Following closely is South Thiladhumathi (HDh) with a share of 4.8 percent. In contrast, Felidhu Atoll (V) and North Nilandhe Atoll (F) have relatively low shares at 0.5 percent and 0.9 percent, indicating a smaller number of households in these atolls. Atolls such as Mulaku (M), South Nilandhe (Dh), North Ari (AA), and South Ari (Adh) present moderate shares ranging from 1.2 percent to 1.9 percent, indicating a modest number of households in these regions. Non-administrative islands hold a notable share of 4.2 percent, constituting resorts and industrial islands.

Type of Living quarters

Living quarters are structurally separate and independent places of abode and equivalent to dwelling. They may

- a) have been constructed, built, converted or arranged for human habitation
- b) although not intended for habitation but used for such a purpose at the time of the census

According to census term, this is dwelling which are places used for residential purpose. The types of living quarters are divided into 2 main categories, which are housing units and collective living quarters.

	Number of households			
	Republic	Maale	Administrative islands	Non-Administrative islands
All types of living quarters	94,424	42,571	47,888	3,965
All types of housing unit	83,965	38,644	44,681	640
House/flat/apartment	81,744	37,852	43,859	33
boats & other mobile units	869	397	393	79
in buildings not intended for human habitation	1,056	290	302	464
Other Housing units	296	105	127	64
All types of collective living quarters	10,459	3,927	3,207	3,325
labour quarters	10,099	3,815	2,975	3,309
Other collective living quarters	360	112	232	16

Table 1: Number of households by types of living quarter and locality, Census 2022

Table 1 provides insights into the distribution of households across different localities and their respective types of living quarters within the Republic. The Republic is home to a total of 94,424 households, with Maale and Administrative Islands emerging as the largest locality, housing 42,571 and 47,888 households, respectively.

The majority of households in the Republic primarily reside in houses, flats, or apartments, accounting for 81,744 households. Relatively fewer households occupy alternative types of housing units, such as boats, mobile units, or units located in buildings not originally intended for human habitation.

Collective living quarters, including both labour quarters and other collective living quarters are occupied with 10,459 households. Non-administrative islands constitute of resorts and industrial islands notably accommodating a significant number of households in collective living quarters.

Household Characteristics

	Number of households					
	1990	1995	2000	2006	2014	2022
Republic	29,823	35,241	41,177	46,194	68,249	94,424
Maale	5,613	7,298	9,886	14,107	26,739	42,571
Atolls	24,210	27,943	31,291	32,087	41,510	51,853

Table 2: Number of households over time (1990 – 2022)

As shown in the table 2, over the period from 1990 to 2022 in the Republic, there has been significant growth in the number of households. In 1990, the Republic had 29,823 households, and by 2022, this had risen to 94,424 households, indicating a significant increase in the population.

The capital city, Maale, shows a notable increase in households, growing from 5,613 in 1990 to 42,571 in 2022, indicating a substantial population increase. Additionally, in 1990, atolls had 24,210 households, which had increased to 51,853 households by 2022, suggesting population growth across Atolls. Overall, the data consistently reveals a significant and continuous increase in households over the 32-year period.

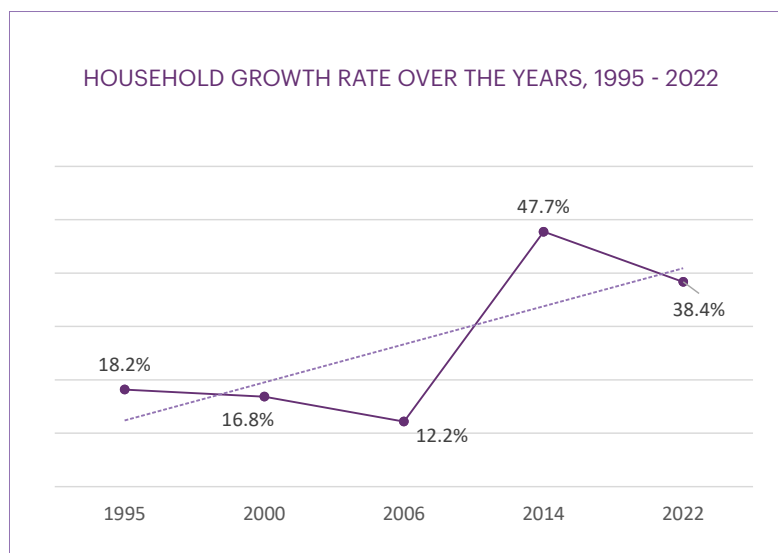


Figure 3: Household growth rate over the years

Figure 3 shows household growth rate over the years. Between 2000 and 2006, a deceleration in the growth rate is evident registering a 12.2 percent increase. This suggests a potential slowdown in demographic or economic factors that contribute to population growth. However, from 2006 to 2014, there was a surge in household growth rate, marked by a substantial 47.7 percent increase. This period likely experienced significant demographic, economic, or developmental changes that contributed to rapid expansion. While the growth rate remained positive from 2014 to 2022, the pace slightly moderated to 38.4 percent. Throughout the entire period, there is a consistent pattern of growth in the number of households, indicating a general expansion.

2

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

2 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

2.1 Household Headship

This refers to the person within a household who serves as the primary decision-maker and is typically responsible for the management and well-being of the household.

- a) Female-headed households: These are households where a female serves as the primary decision-maker or head of the household.
- b) Male-headed households: These are households where a male serves as the primary decision-maker or head of the household.

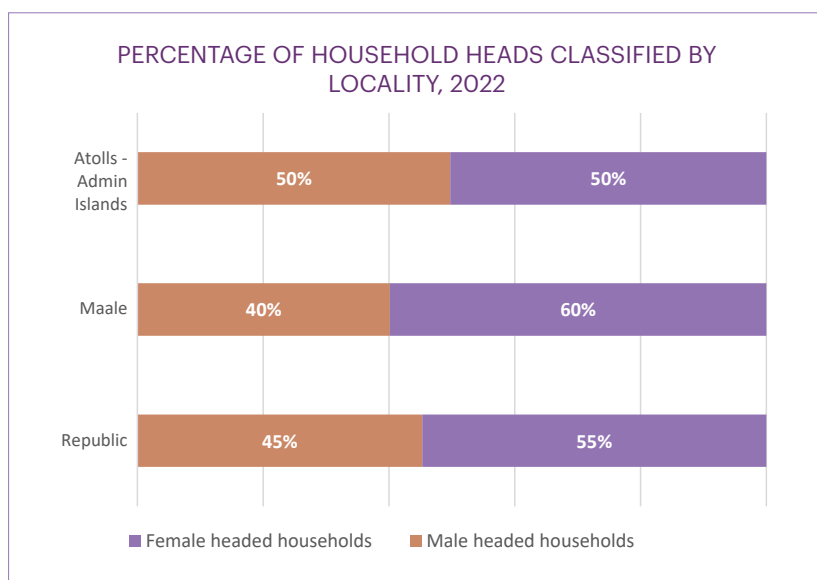


Figure 4: Percentage of household heads classified by locality, Census 2022

Figure 4 depicts the percentage of households within the administrative islands of atolls and Maale, categorized by the type of household head. The comparison is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

Across the Republic, 55 percent of households are male-headed, while 45 percent are female-headed households.

In Maale, a higher proportion of 60 percent households are male-headed compared to 40 percent female-headed households. Conversely, in the atolls, there is an equal distribution of 50 percent female-headed households and 50 percent male-headed households.

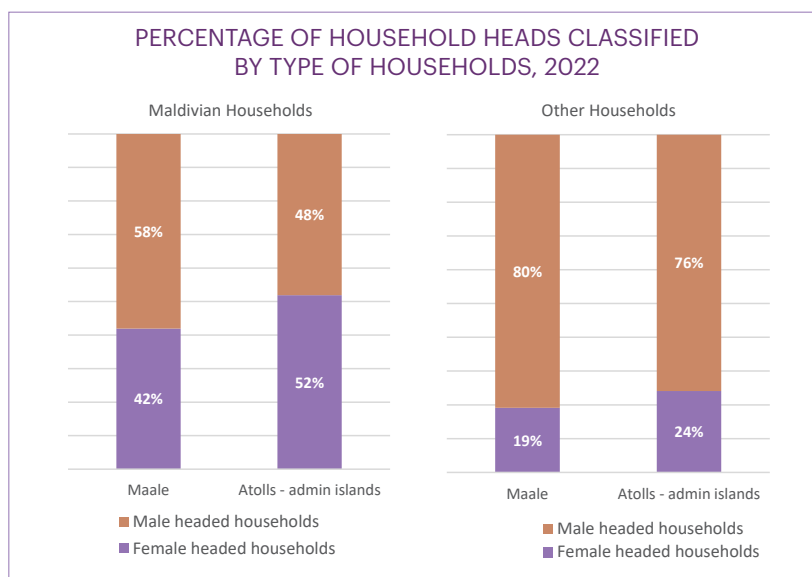


Figure 5: Percentage of Household heads classified by type of households, Census 2022

Figure 5 depicts the percentage of households within the administrative islands of atolls and Maale, categorized by the type of household head. The comparison is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

In Maale, a higher proportion of 58 percent households are male-headed compared to 42 percent female-headed households within the category of “Maldivian households.” Conversely, in Atolls, there is a higher percentage of female-headed households at 52 percent compared to male-headed households at 48 percent.

In “Other households,” the percentage of male-headed households is higher than that of female-headed households in both Maale and the Atolls, with less than 1 percent not specifying the type of household head.

2.2 Household size

Household size refers to the average number of individuals who live together in a single household. It represents the typical number of people residing in a particular living arrangement, such as a house, apartment, mobile unit, or collective living quarters.

	Size of households			
	Republic	Maale	Atolls (administrative islands)	Non_ administrative islands
All types of living quarters	5.5	5.0	4.9	16.7
All types of housing unit	4.7	4.5	4.8	3.3
House/flat/apartment	4.7	4.5	4.8	8.1
boats & other mobile units	4.8	3.9	5.6	4.8
in buildings not intended for human habitation	3.8	5.6	4.0	2.6
Other Housing units	3.8	5.1	2.5	4.3
All types of collective living quarters	11.7	9.4	6.7	19.3
labour quarters	11.8	9.4	6.5	19.4
Other collective living quarters	9.2	10.7	8.5	8.5

Table 3: Average household size by types of living quarter and locality, Census 2022

Table 3 provides insights into the average household sizes in different localities based on types of living quarters.

In the Republic, the average household size for all types of living quarters is 5.5 persons per household. Maale shows an average household size of 5.0, while in the Atolls, it is slightly smaller, at 4.9 person per household.

The average household size remains relatively consistent across houses, flats, or apartments, with Maale having an average of 4.5 persons per household and the Atolls averaging 4.8 persons per household. However, non-administrative islands, exhibit a smaller average household size of 3.3 persons.

Conversely, collective living quarters on non-administrative islands have a significantly larger average household size of 19.3 persons per household, surpassing both Maale and administrative islands in the Atolls. In Maale and the administrative islands, collective living arrangements also have larger average household sizes, reaching 9.4 persons in Maale and 6.7 persons in the Atolls. This indicates variations in household sizes or number of people within a household, based on living conditions and geographical locations, with collective living quarters typically having larger household sizes.

Household Characteristics

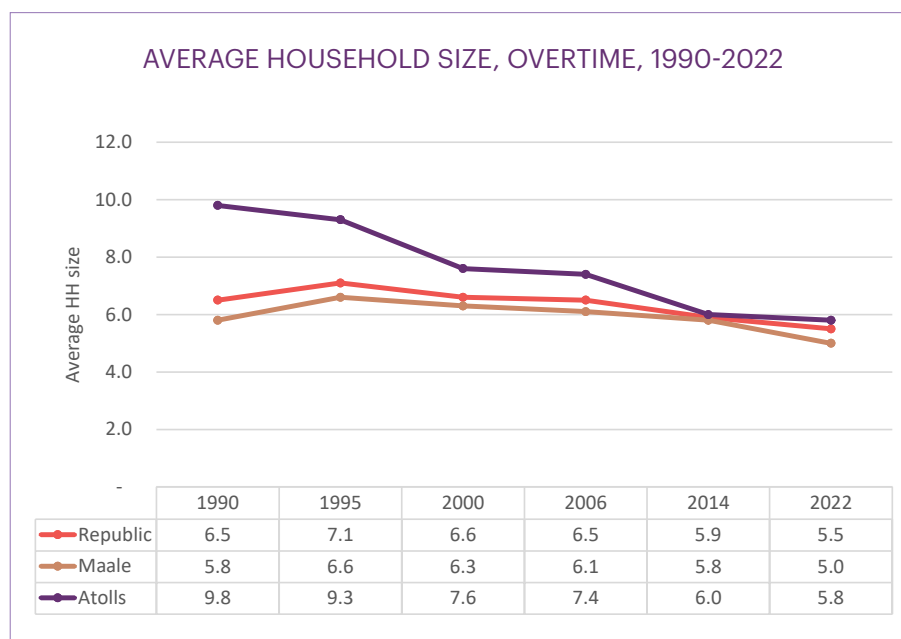


Figure 6: Average household size, overtime (1990-2022)

Figure 6 offers a valuable insight into the shifting dynamics of household sizes or number of people in the household over the years, notably indicating a trend of declining household sizes across the Republic. In 1990, the Republic displayed an average household size of 6.5, with Maale having a slightly smaller average size of 5.8, while the Atolls exhibited notably larger households with an average size of 9.8. However, by 1995, Male witnessed an increase in household size, with an average of 6.6, and the Atolls displayed an average size of 9.3. The year 2000 saw Maale average household size decrease to 6.3, while the Atolls saw a reduction to 7.6. This trend continued in 2006, with Maale average size at 6.1 and the Atolls at 7.4. By 2014, both Maale and the Atolls showed a decrease in household sizes, with Maale averaging 5.8 and the Atolls at 6.0. In 2022, the trend of diminishing household sizes persisted, with Maale at 5.0 and the Atolls at 5.8. Notably, the Atolls consistently maintained larger household sizes than Maale. Overall, from 1995 to 2022, there was a consistent trend of decreasing household sizes across both localities, with some occasional fluctuations.

The average household size in the Republic has generally decreased over the years. The most significant decline occurred from 2006 to 2014. By 2022, the average household size stands at 5.5, reflecting a trend toward smaller households.

2.3 Number of rooms used for sleeping

In the 2022 Census, 94,424 households were enumerated, with a total of 220,875 rooms designated for sleeping.

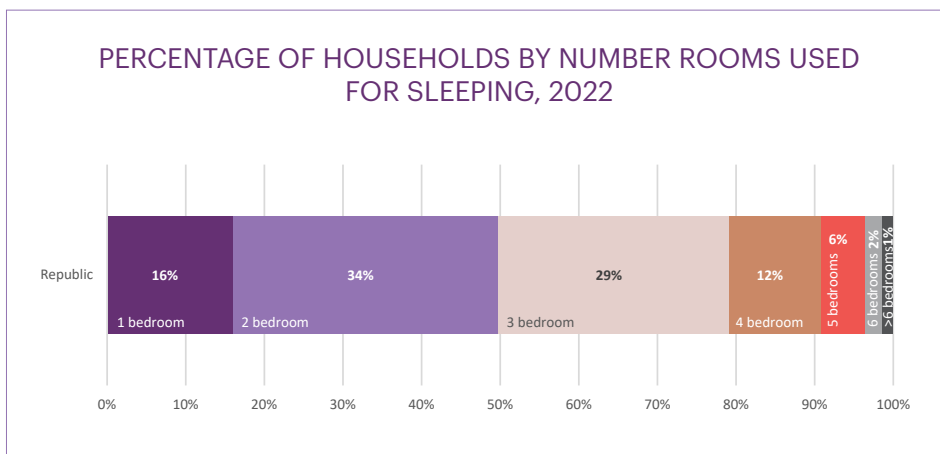


Figure 7: Percentage of households by number rooms used for sleeping, Census 2022

Figure 7 depicts the percentage of households across republic, categorized based on the number of bedrooms used for sleeping. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

The majority of Republic occupy 2-bedroom residences with a share of 34 percent households. 3-bedroom households also have a notable presence, accounting for 29 percent. Households with 5 or more bedrooms (6 percent, 2 percent, 1 percent) collectively represent a smaller percentage, indicating a relatively limited prevalence of large residences. The distribution across different bedroom categories highlights a diversity in household sizes and structures.

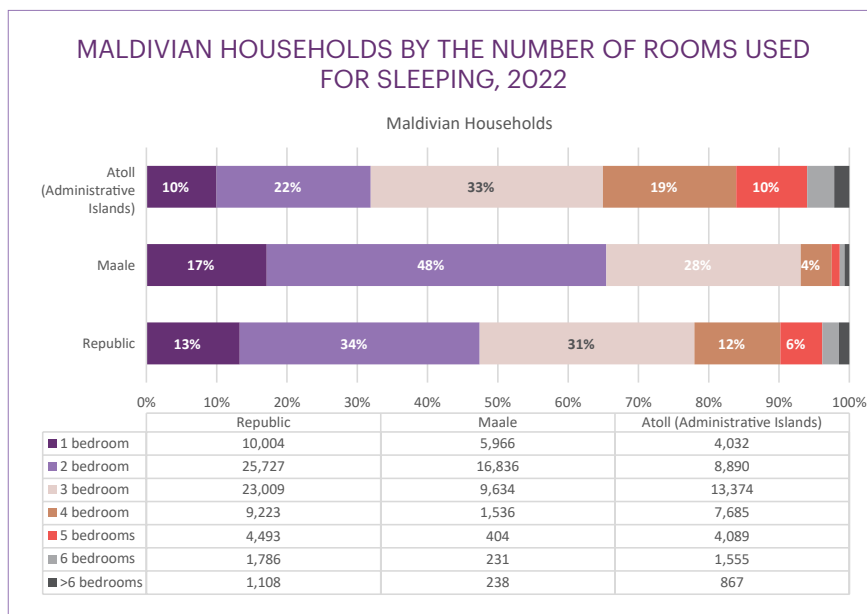


Figure 8: Maldivian households by the number of rooms used for sleeping, Census 2022

Figure 8 depicts number of households categorize based on number of rooms used for sleeping by Maldivian households residing in house/flat/apartment; primary residence for all Maldivian households.

Within this category, Maale shows that majority of households designates two rooms for sleeping, accounting for 48 percent. Following, 28 percent of households opt for three rooms. In contrast, atolls portray a higher preference for three rooms followed by two rooms with 33 percent and 22 percent respectively.

Noteworthy portion of 13 percent households utilizes one room for sleeping in the Republic. Subsequently, the percentage gradually decreases as the number of room increases, with only 1,108 of households in the Republic using more than six rooms for sleeping.

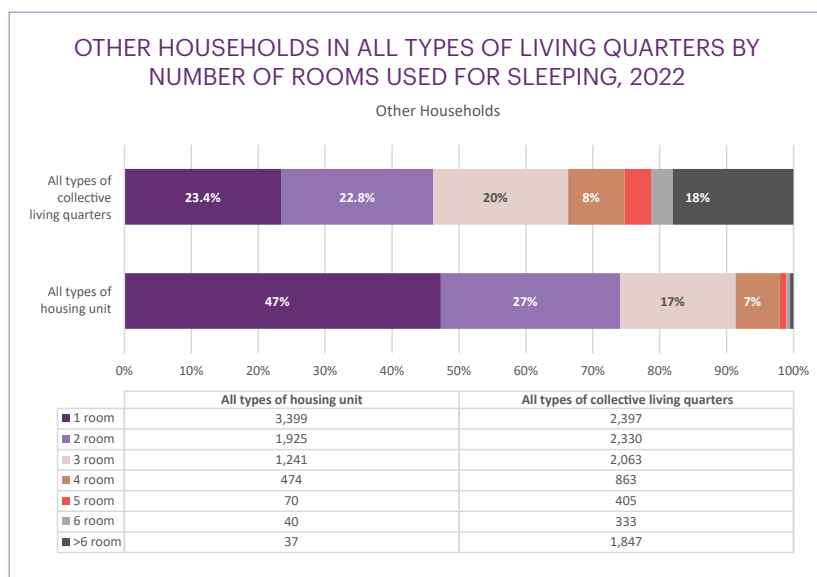


Figure 9: Other Households in all types of living quarters by number of rooms used for sleeping, Census 2022

Figure 9 depicts the number of households categorized based on the number of rooms used for sleeping by “Other households” residing in all types of living quarters within the Republic.

Notably, 3,399 households living in housing units opt for single-room sleeping arrangements, representing 47 percent. Following, residences with two sleeping rooms total to 1,925 households, accounting for 27 percent. As the number of rooms increases, the percentages progressively decrease, indicating a prevailing trend towards smaller living spaces. A mere one percent of households utilize more than six rooms for sleeping, emphasizing the rarity of larger living arrangements within “Other households” residing in housing units.

A significant percentage of 23.4 percent, involving 2,397 households in collective living quarters using only one room for sleeping. Furthermore, a higher percentage for households using more than six rooms, at 18 percent in collective living quarters, highlights a greater diversity of living arrangements potentially influenced by shared communal dynamics.

2.4 Housing quality

These are the standards, and features of a residential structure that determine its suitability and safety for habitation. This section includes construction materials used for Outer walls, Flooring and Roofing of the dwelling or living quarter.

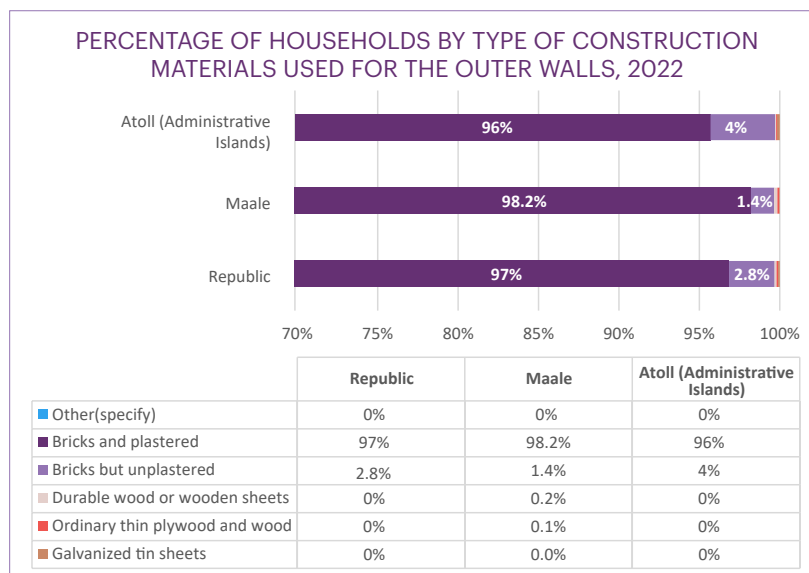


Figure 10: Percentage of households by type of construction materials used for the outer walls, Census 2022

Figure 10 depicts the percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale, categorized based on the construction material used for outer walls. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

The widespread use of bricks with plastered outer walls throughout the Republic, accounting to 97 percent, underscores a clear preference for construction materials that are both durable and sturdy. While bricks without plaster, accounting for 2.8 percent, are less common, they still represent a notable choice for outer wall construction. The use of durable wood or wooden sheets, ordinary thin plywood, and galvanized tin sheets, accounting for less than one percent, suggests a limited usage of various construction materials.

In summary, the breakdown indicates a significant inclination towards robust materials, particularly bricks with plaster, in the construction of outer walls, with limited use of alternative materials such as wood, tin sheets, and others.

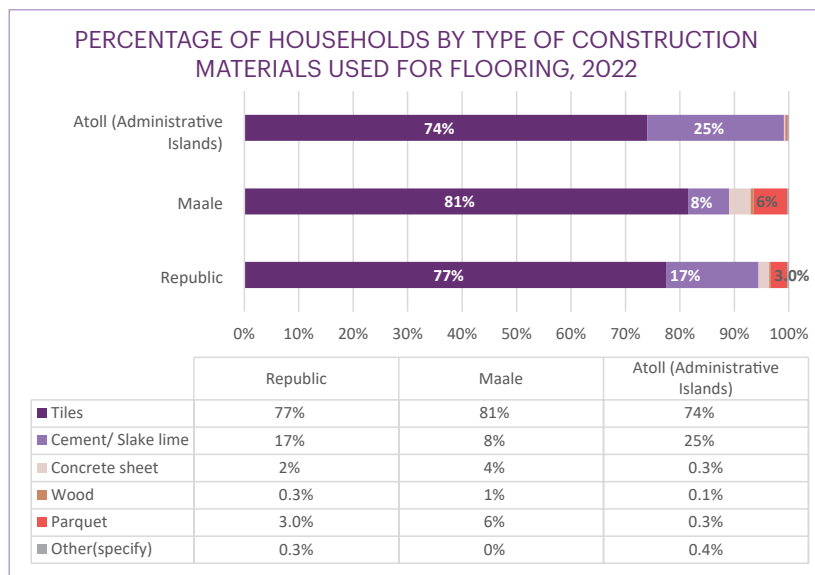


Figure 11: Percentage of households by type of construction materials used for flooring, Census 2022

Figure 11 illustrates the percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale, categorized based on the construction material used for flooring. The comparison is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

Tiles emerge as the dominant choice for flooring, capturing a vast majority with 77 percent of households opting for this material across the Republic. Cement or slaked lime, chosen by a notable but smaller percentage, 17 percent, serves as a noteworthy alternative to tiles. Less common choices include concrete sheets and parquet, each selected by a modest percentage of households, accounting for 2.0 percent and 3.0 percent, respectively. Wood and other materials are the least preferred options for flooring, with minimal percentages of 0.3 percent, consistent for both.

In summary, the data indicates a strong preference for tiles as the primary flooring material, with other options such as cement, concrete sheets, parquet, wood, and other materials chosen by smaller proportions of households.

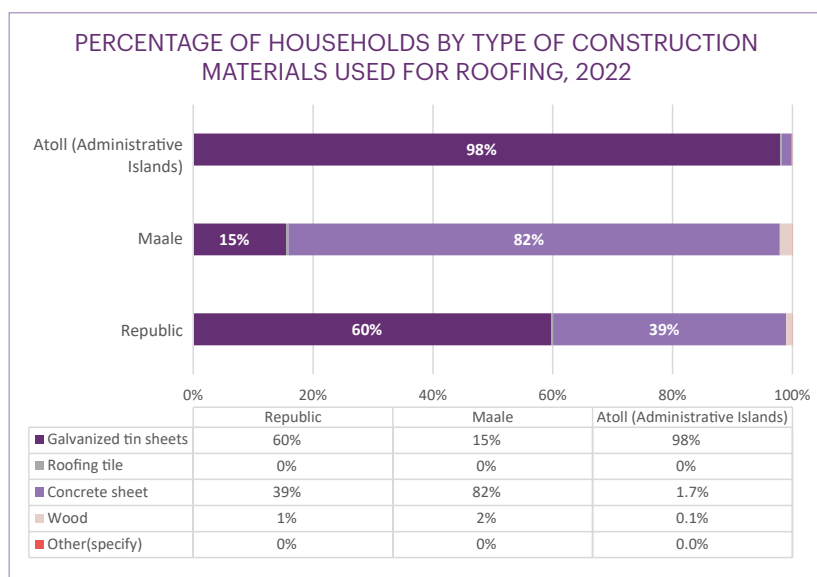


Figure 12: Percentage of households by type of construction materials used for roofing, Census 2022

Figure 12 illustrates the percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale, categorized based on the construction material used for roofing. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

As depicted in the figure provided, galvanized tin sheets are the preferred roofing material for the vast majority of households, constituting 98 percent households across the atolls. In contrast, concrete sheets emerge as a notable option, favored by 82 percent of households in Maale, primarily because of the prevalence of multi-floor residences. Wood is chosen by a modest percentage in both Maale and atolls, accounting for 2.0 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively. Roofing tiles represent a less common choice with small percentages observed across different localities. The 'Other' category is negligible at 0.0 percent, indicating no utilization of alternative construction materials for roofing.



3

GENERAL FACILITIES USED BY THE HOUSEHOLD

3. General Facilities Used by the Household

“General Facilities Used by the Household” refers to essential amenities and services that individuals and families within a residential unit rely on for their daily living. These facilities encompass a range of elements crucial for maintaining a certain standard of living, including access to clean drinking water, kitchen infrastructure, cooking resources, sanitation facilities, and ownership of key assets.

3.1 Source of drinking water

	Population				Bottled water
	Desalinated water-piped into dwelling	Desalinated water-public tap/standpipe	Rainwater- tank incompound	Rain water-publicor community tank	
Republic	128,388	5,087	126,083	5,142	250,432
Maale	59,275	-	251	-	152,382
Administrative islands	34,687	4,551	123,487	5,128	69,058
Resorts	30,004	-	760	-	21,718
Industrial islands	4,422	536	1,585	14	7,274

Table 4: Population classified by type of water used for drinking, Census 2022

Table 4 shows population categorized by type of water used for drinking across the Republic and localities. Bottled water is the most common type of water used for drinking totaling 250,432 people in the Republic. In addition, a significant portion of the population uses desalinated water piped into dwellings, especially in the Maale accounting for 59,275 people. Rainwater collected in tanks in compounds is a common source in Atolls with 123,487 people in Administrative Islands.

Resorts primarily rely on desalinated water piped into dwellings with 30,004 people and bottled water with 21,718 people. Industrial Islands use a variety of water sources, with a preference for bottled water use for drinking by 7,274 people. The use of desalinated water from public tap/standpipe and Rainwater – public community tank is limited and accounts for fewer people.

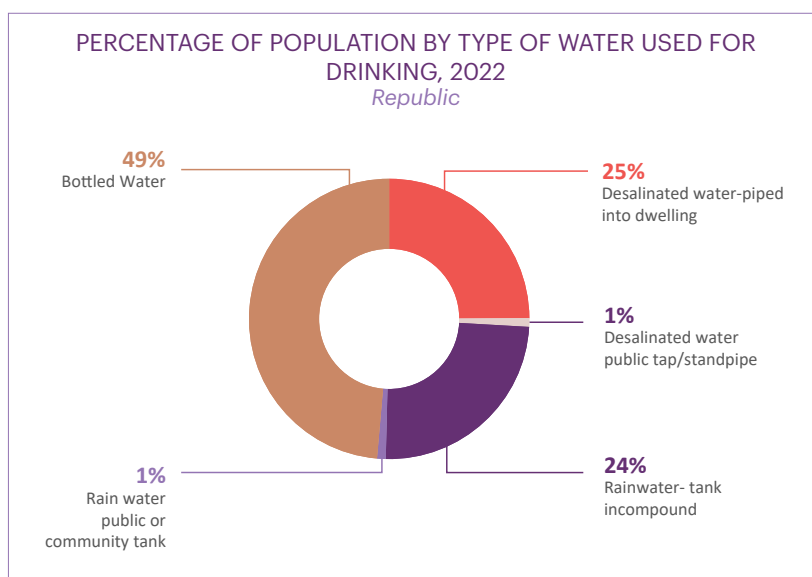


Figure 13: Percentage of population by type of water used for drinking, Census 2022

As shown in figure 13 nearly half of population, or approximately 49 percent, prefers bottled water for drinking, making it the most popular choice in the Republic. Bottled water is the most widely used source, followed by desalinated water piped into dwellings and rainwater collected in compounds, both of which have similar usage percentages of 25 percent and 24 respectively. The usage of desalinated water from public tap/standpipe and rainwater from public or community tanks is relatively lower, each accounting for 1.0 percent of the population.

	Population %					
	Treated / Safe		Untreated / unsafe		Not Stated	
	Census 2022	Census 2014	Census 2022	Census 2014	Census 2022	Census 2014
Republic	75.9	46.7	24.1	51.9		1.4
Male	99.9	97.3	0.1	1.0		1.7
Atolls	59.1	14.5	40.9	84.3		1.2
Resorts	98.6	94.2	1.4	0.0		5.8
Industrial islands	90.7	74.7	9.3	17.6		7.7

Table 5: Population percentage classified by type of water used for drinking, Census 2014 and Census 2022

Table 5 shows the percentage of the population classified by treated/safe or untreated/unsafe water used for drinking in two different years: Census 2014 and Census 2022.

In Census 2022, 75.9 percent of the population has access to treated/safe water, a significant increase from 46.7 percent in 2014.

Maale has almost universal access to treated/safe water; with 99.9 percent in 2022 and 97.3 percent in 2014. The percentage of the population, using untreated/unsafe water is minimal, with 0.1 percent in 2022 and 1.0 percent in 2014.

The percentage of the population with access to treated/safe water across the atolls has notably increased to 59.1 percent in 2022 compared to 14.5 percent in 2014.

Resorts have high percentage of the population with access to treated/safe water, with 98.6 percent in 2022 and 94.2 percent in 2014.

Industrial islands also show an increase in the percentage of the population with access to treated/safe water in 2022 compared to 2014.

Overall, the data indicates significant improvements in access to treated/safe water and a reduction in the percentage of the population using untreated/unsafe water in most regions between the two census years. It is essential progress towards ensuring safe drinking water for the population.



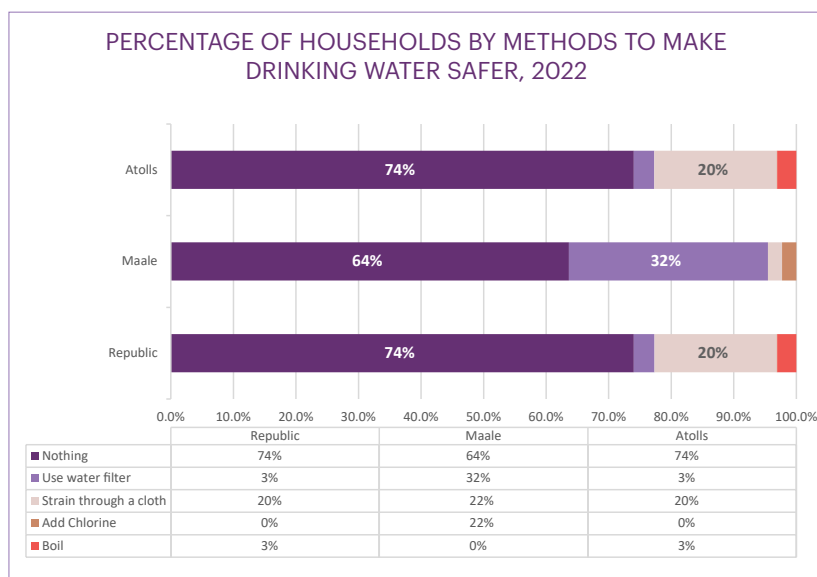


Figure 14: Percentage of Households by methods to make drinking water safer, Census 2022

Figure 14 depicts the percentage of households categorized by the methods employed to ensure the safety of drinking water. In order to consider rainwater and well water to be safe, it needs to be treated by either cooking, chlorinating or filtering. Whereas desalinated and bottled/mineral water was considered safe without any further purification or treatment.

The majority of households in both Maale and the Atolls do not employ any methods to enhance the safety of drinking water, with 64 percent and 74 percent, respectively. In Maale, the primary method for ensuring drinking water safety is through use of water filters, accounting for 32 percent. Boiling or adding chlorine are rarely used. Straining through a cloth is a common practice in the Atolls, at 20 percent, while using water a filter, boiling or adding chlorine are less common

3.2 Kitchen facility

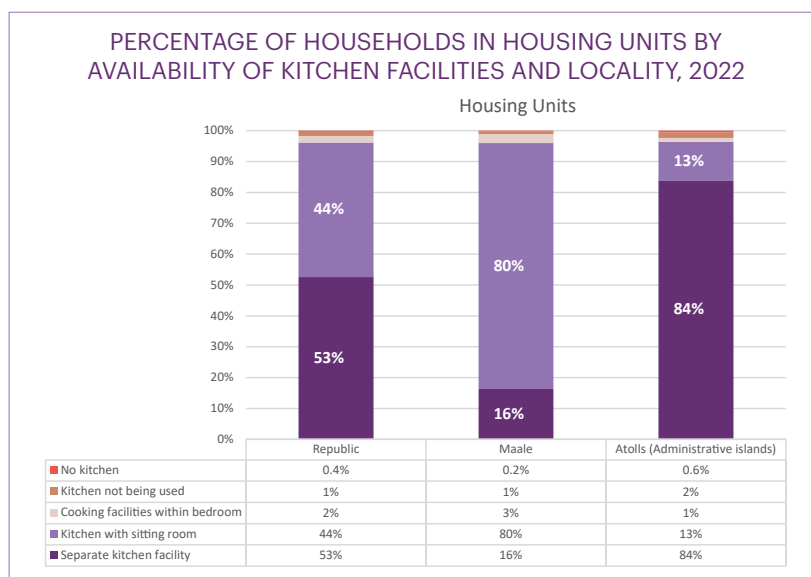


Figure 14: Percentage of households in housing units by availability of kitchen facilities and locality, Census 2022

Figure 15 illustrates the percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale, categorized based on the availability of kitchen facility. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments of the housing units.

As depicted in the figure, nearly all households in Maale and the atolls have kitchen facility, with only 0.2 percent and 0.6 percent of households lacking this amenity, respectively. In Maale, 80 percent of households primarily feature kitchens with sitting rooms, followed by those with separate kitchen facility at 16 percent. Conversely, in the Atolls, 84 percent of households have separate kitchen facilities, with kitchens featuring sitting rooms at 13 percent.

In summary, a majority of households in Maale show a preference for integrated kitchens with sitting rooms, whereas in the Atolls, a higher percentage prefer having separate kitchen facilities.

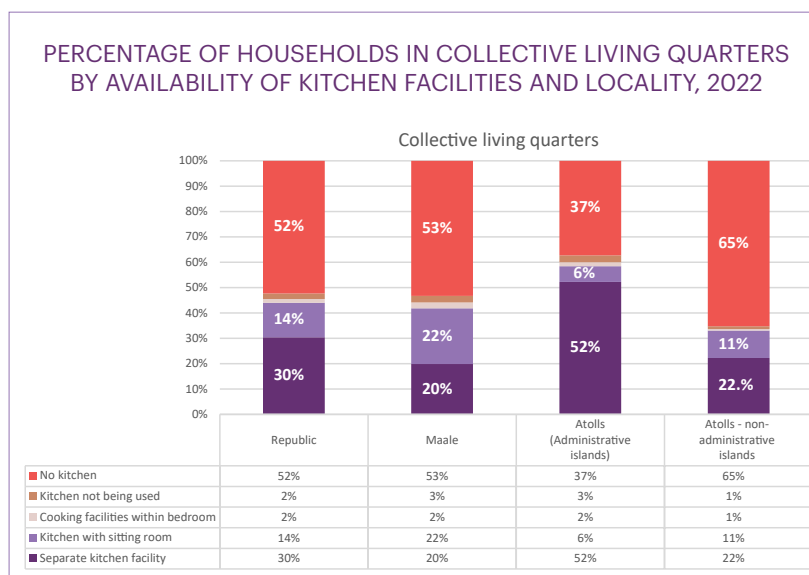


Figure 16: Percentage of households in collective living quarters by availability of kitchen facility, Census 2022

Figure 16 illustrates the percentage of households across localities, categorized based on the availability of kitchen facility. The evaluation is among all households residing in all type of collective labor quarters.

As shown in the figure, in Maale, 53 percent of households in collective labor quarters lack kitchen facilities, with 22 percent having kitchens integrated with sitting rooms, and 20 percent having separate kitchen facility. Additionally, households in non-administrative islands reveal a significant 65 percent lacking kitchen facility, potentially due to communal food and beverage services for staff at resorts or industrial islands. Conversely, in collective labor quarters across administrative islands of atolls, the majority, accounting for 52 percent, have access to separate kitchen facility, and a smaller percentage, 6 percent, have integrated kitchens with sitting rooms. Nevertheless, a significant proportion, 37 percent, lacks kitchen facility.

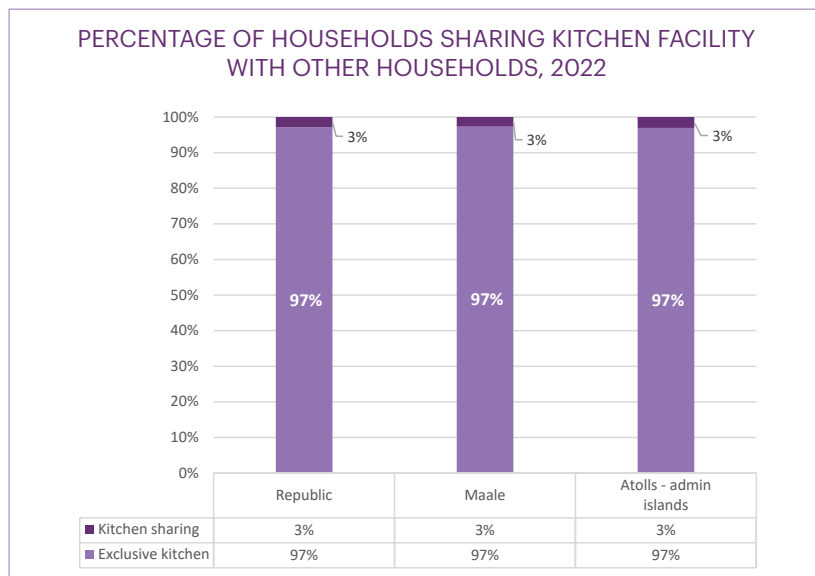


Figure 17: Percentage of households sharing kitchen facility with other households, Census 2022

Figure 16 presents the percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale, sharing kitchen facility with other households. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

Maale and the administrative islands of the atolls exhibit a higher prevalence of households with exclusive kitchen facility, at an equal percentage of 97 percent.

In summary, the data underline minimal instances of households sharing kitchens in Maale and administrative islands.

3.3 Type of water used for cooking

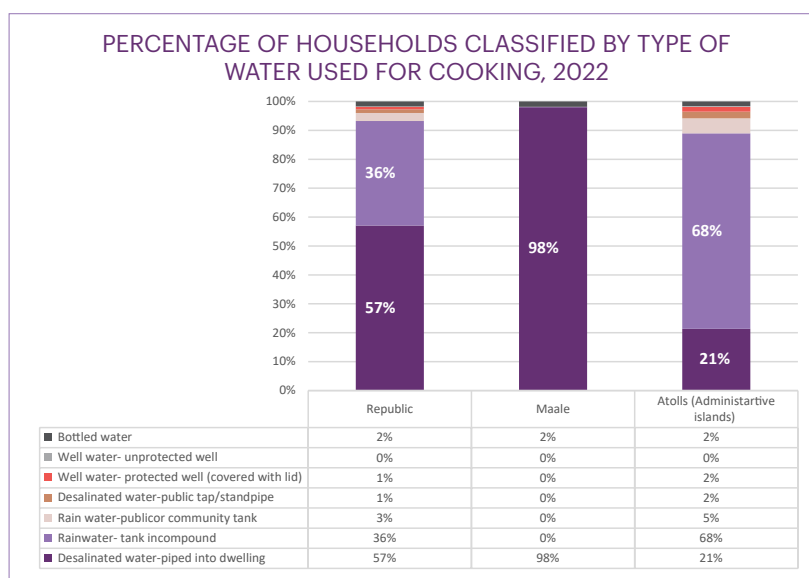


Figure 18: Percentage of Households classified by type of water used for cooking, Census 2022

Figure 18 presents percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale categorized by the type of water used for cooking. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

As shown, in Maale, a predominant 98 percent of households rely on desalinated water piped into their dwellings, with only 2 percent using bottled water. Conversely, in the administrative islands across the atolls, 68 percent of households commonly use rainwater from tanks within their compounds for cooking, and 21 percent use desalinated water from dwelling pipes. These statistics highlight the diverse sources of water used for cooking in different locations, with the majority of households in Maale relying on desalinated water piped into dwelling water, while in the Atolls, rainwater from compound tanks is the most common source.

3.4 Type of cooking fuel

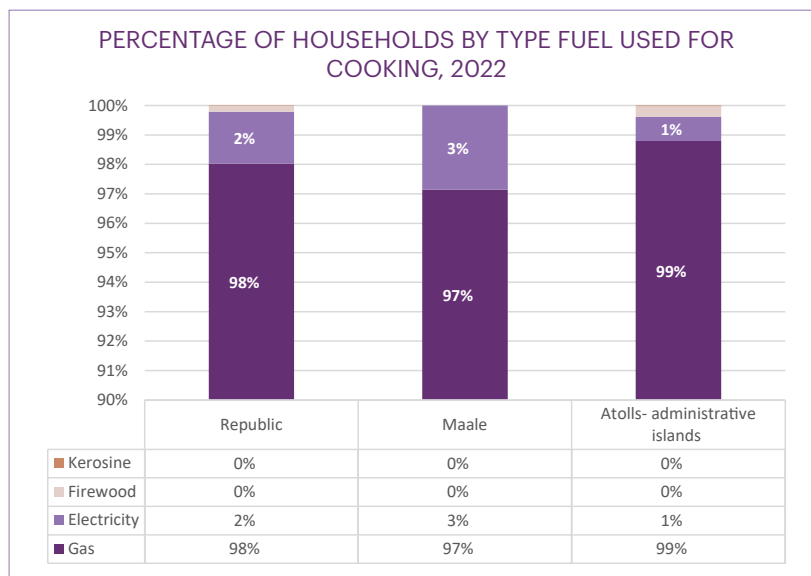


Figure 19: Percentage of households by type of fuel used for cooking, Census 2022

Figure 19 presents percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale categorized by the type of fuel used for cooking. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

In the Republic, gas is the primary fuel choice for cooking, with 98 percent of households relying on it. A small proportion, 2 percent, uses electricity for cooking, and the use of firewood and kerosene is negligible.

In Maale, gas is the primary cooking fuel for 97 percent of households, with only 3 percent utilizing electricity. Across the atolls, the proportion of households using electricity for cooking is even lower, standing at 1 percent in compared Maale. These figures indicate a significant reliance on gas for cooking across all regions, with minimal use of electricity and no use of firewood or kerosene.

3.5 Shower facility and Sanitation

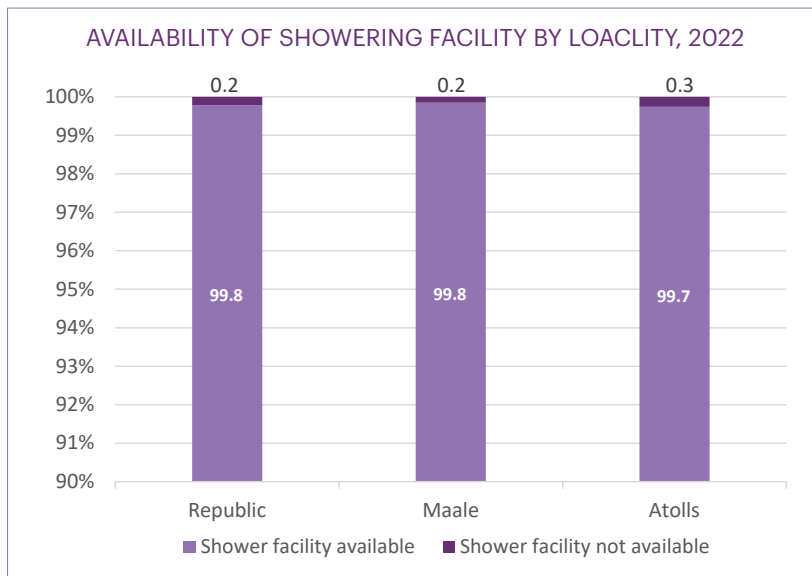


Figure 20: Availability of showering facility by locality, Census 2022

Figure 20 presents the information on the availability of showering facility across the Republic. This data excludes housing units under construction, boats, tents, or vacant structures.

Almost all households, accounting for 99.8 percent, have access to showering facility across the Republic, with only a very small percentage of 0.2 percent lacking such access.

The majority of households in both Maale and the Atolls, with percentages of 99.8 percent and 99.7 percent respectively, have access to showering facility. However, a slightly higher percentage of 0.3 percent of households in the atolls lack access to showering facility compared to 0.2 percent in Maale.

In summary, the data indicates a widespread availability of showering facility for households throughout the Republic, with the majority having access and only a small percentage lacking access.

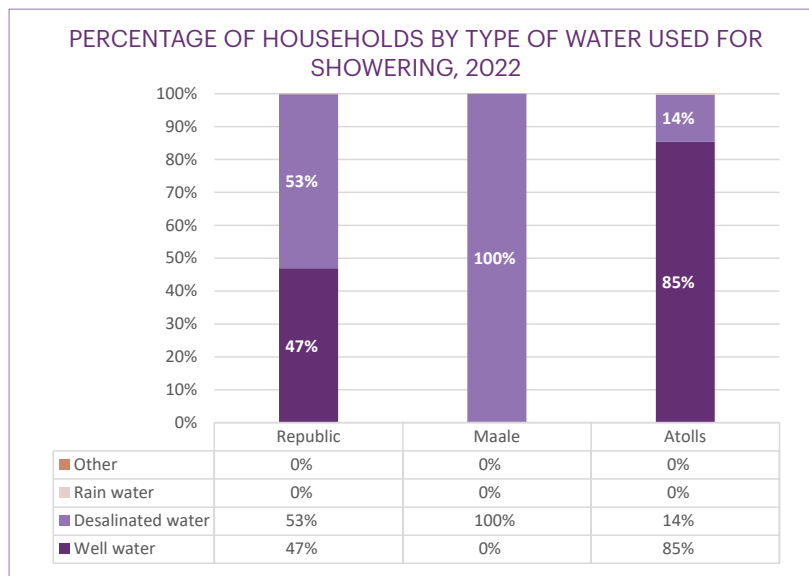


Figure 21: Percentage of households by type of water used for showering, Census 2022

Figure 21 shows percentage of households in the Republic categorized based on the type of water used for showering. This data excludes housing units under construction, boats, tents, or vacant structures.

The majority of households in the Republic, representing 53 percent, rely on desalinated water for showering. This is mainly due to the exclusive usage of desalinated water within Maale for showering. In contrast, in the atolls, only 14 percent of households use desalinated water for showering. On the other hand, 47 percent of households in the Republic use well water for showering, with the majority contributed by the high percentage of 85 percent of households across the atolls using well water for this purpose.

Household Characteristics



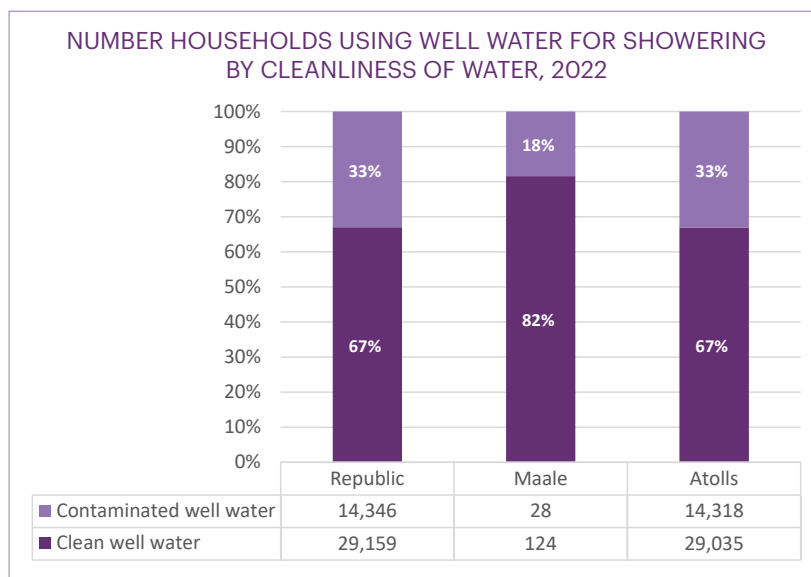


Figure 22: Households using well water for showering by cleanliness of water, Census 2022

Figure 22 illustrates the number and percentage of households using well water for showering, categorized by the cleanliness of the well water. This data excludes housing units under construction, boats, tents, or vacant structures. The identification of contaminated well water is based on factors such as smell, taste, colour, or materials.

In the Atolls, a significant number of households, totalling 43,353, rely on well water for showering. Among these, 67 percent households have cleaned well water, while a notable portion, 33 percent, utilizes well water categorized as contaminated. In Maale the utilization of well water is notably minimal when compared with the Atolls, and the predominance of clean well water exceeds that of its contaminated counterpart. While substantial percentage favors clean well water, the existence of contaminated well water highlights potential water quality challenges mainly within atoll households.



Figure 23: Percentage of households classified by availability of toilet facility, Census 2022

Figure 22 illustrates the percentage of households classified by availability of toilet facility across localities. This data excludes housing units under construction, boats, tents, or vacant structures.

Overwhelming majority of 99.9 percent, households in Republic, have access to toilet facility, indicating a high level of sanitation infrastructure. However, Atolls display 0.1 percent of households without toilet facility. The almost complete absence of reported households without toilet facility across the Republic suggests a comprehensive provision of sanitation amenities.

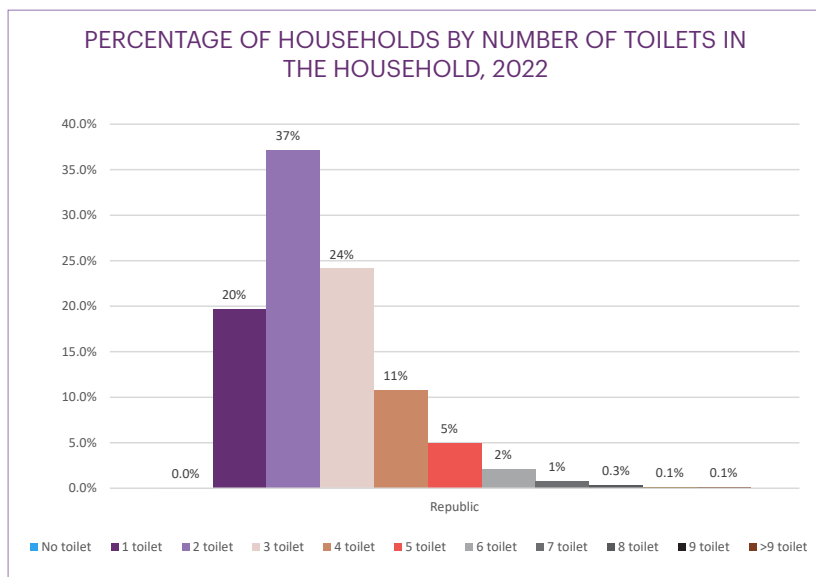


Figure 24: Percentage of households by number of toilets in the household, Census 2022

Figure 24 presents percentage of households categorized by number of toilets in the household across the Republic. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

The distribution of toilets across the Republic shows a diverse pattern, with the majority of households, comprising 37 percent, equipped with two toilets, followed by 24 percent of households having three toilets. Additionally, 20 percent households in the Republic have a single toilet, while 11 percent have four toilets. The percentage progressively decreases with an increase in the number of toilets.

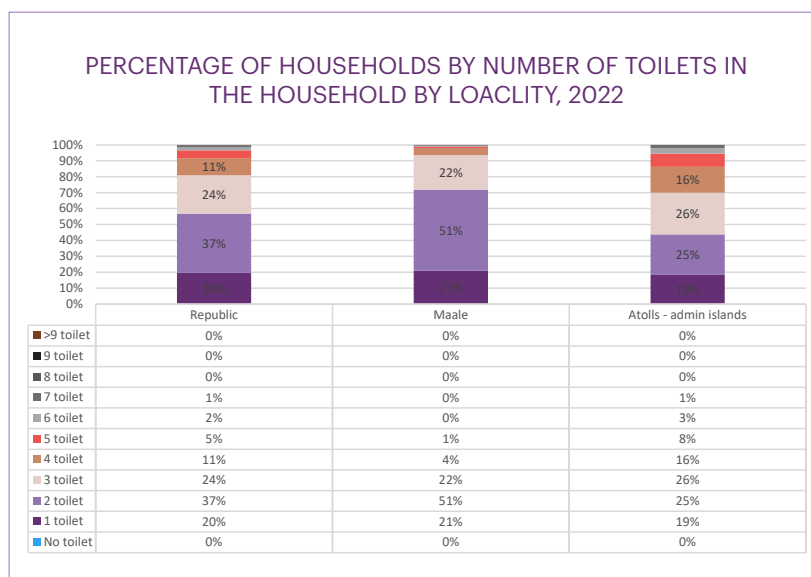


Figure 25: Percentage of households by number of toilets in the household, Census 2022

Figure 25 presents percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale categorized by the number of toilets in the household. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

Across the Republic, the majority of households have either two or three toilets, indicating near-universal access to toilet facilities across all localities.

In Maale, the highest proportion of households, accounting for 51 percent, have two toilets, followed by 22 percent with three toilets. Among the administrative islands, a majority of households, comprising 26 percent, are equipped with three toilets, closely followed by 25 percent households having 2 toilets.

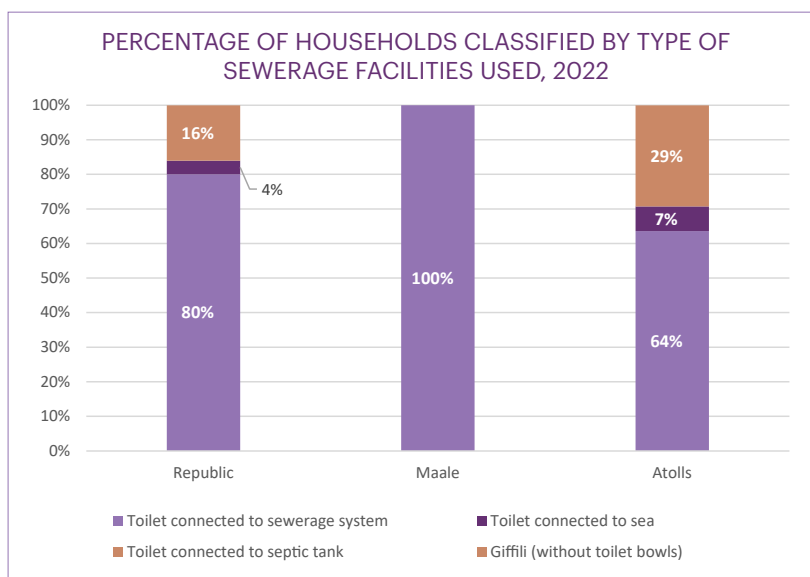


Figure 26: Percentage of households classified by type of sewerage facilities used, Census 2022

Figure 26 illustrates the percentage of households, categorized by the type of sewerage facility used across localities. This data excludes any households living in police and government structures, homeless households, regular guests in hotels, institutionalized individuals and if there are no toilets in residence.

In the Republic, a predominant 80 percent of households have toilets connected to the sewerage system. Within Maale, every household is equipped with toilets connected to the sewerage system, displaying a robust and comprehensive sanitation infrastructure. In the Atolls, a majority of 64 percent households have toilets connected to the sewerage system. However, there is a higher reliance on septic tanks, at 29 percent. A small percentage of 7 percent households have toilets connected to the sea. The significant proportion of toilets connected to the sewerage system in both Maale and the Atolls underscores a commitment to advanced sanitation infrastructure.

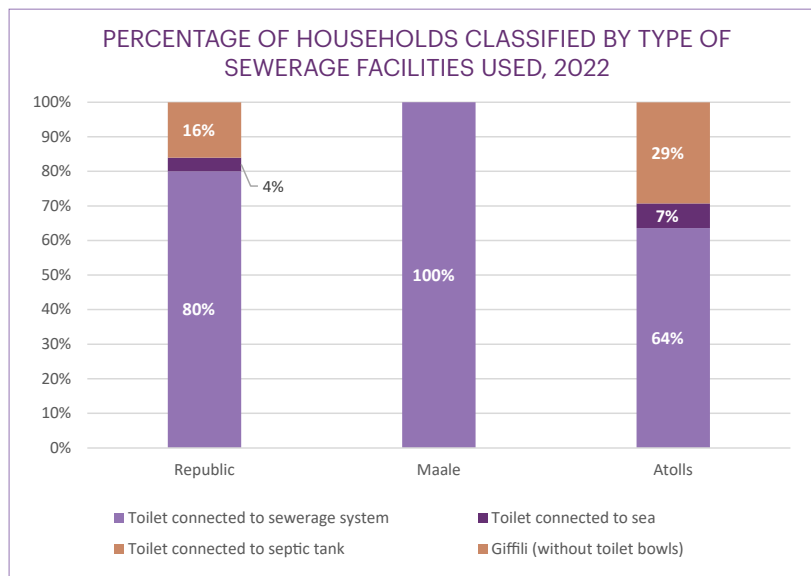


Figure 27: Percentage of households by waste disposal mechanism used, Census 2022

Figure 27 illustrates the percentage of households, categorized based on waste disposal methods used across the atolls. As depicted, the predominant method for garbage disposal is through formal channels like WAMCO or the Island Council, constituting a substantial 78 percent of households within the Republic. A noteworthy practice observed, particularly within atoll islands, is the utilization of garbage compounds or designated waste disposal sites, which accounts for 20 percent of households.

In Male, garbage collection is exclusively managed by WAMCO. However, in the atolls, there is an even distribution between opting for garbage collection and utilizing garbage compounds. Among the atolls, Addu (S) and Gnaviyan (Gn) atoll stand out with the highest percentage of relying on garbage collection by WAMCO or the Island Council, at 92 percent and 89 percent, respectively. In contrast, Felidhu Atoll (V) and Mulaku Atoll (M) atoll rely on garbage compounds as their primary method for garbage disposal, with percentages of 98 percent and 81 percent, respectively.

Unfavorable methods, such as dumping in beach areas or burning in housing units, show very low percentages, use of land reclamation sites, throwing into the bushes, burying in housing units, using waste disposal machines, and throwing into the sea are minimal, all accounting for less than 2 percent of households. The majority of households opt for formal and regulated garbage collection methods, contributing to organized waste management.

3.6 Assets ownership

	Percentage of households								
Republic	99.9%	99.9%	87.5%	85.1%	100.0%	100.0%	98.2%	29.5%	71.6%
Maale	100.0%	100.0%	92.9%	83.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	8.1%	82.1%
Atolls - Administrative islands	99.9%	99.9%	82.9%	87.0%	100.0%	100.0%	96.6%	48.0%	62.5%

Table 6: Percentage of households having access to Consumer durables, Census 2022

Table 6 present the percentage of households with access to consumer durables among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments across administrative islands of the atolls and Maale.

The data provided in the table above indicates the widespread presence of essential household items such as fans, irons, refrigerators, and washing machines across the Republic, with nearly all households having access to them in most cases. Access to air conditioners is slightly lower across the atolls but still substantial, at 82.9 percent of households. Water pumps are widely owned by households, exceeding 90 percent in all regions. Bicycles are more prevalent in the Atolls, with 48 percent of households having them, compared to 8.1 percent in Maale. Motorcycles are widely accessible to households across the Republic, with 82.1 percent in Maale and 62.5 percent in Atolls.

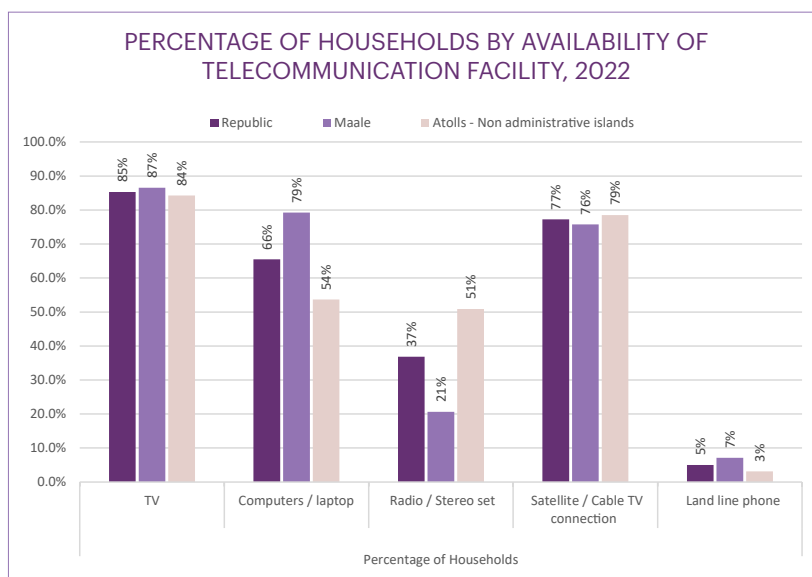


Figure 28: Percentage of households by availability of telecommunication facility, Census 2022

Figure 28 presents percentage of households across administrative islands of the atolls and Maale, categorized by availability of telecommunication and information facility. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

Televisions are widely available in households across the Republic, with a prevalence of 85 percent. Computers/laptops are notably more common in Maale, where 79 percent of households have access, compared to the atolls, where it is 54 percent. In the atolls, 51 percent of households own a radio/stereo set, whereas in Maale, only 21 percent of households do. Satellite/cable TV connections are widely used across the Republic, with a prevalence of 77 percent. Landline phone usage among households is relatively modest across the regions, with the highest percentage noted in Maale at 7 percent. The high prevalence of televisions, computers/laptops, and satellite/cable TV connections suggests broad access to digital entertainment and information.

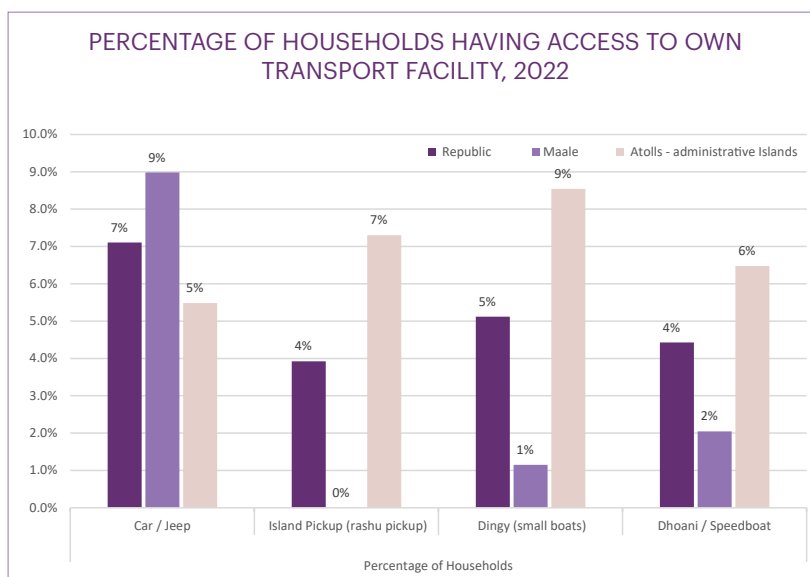


Figure 29: Percentage of Households having access to transport facility, Census 2022

Figure 29 presents percentage of households across administrative islands of the atolls and Maale, having access to transport facility. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

In Maale, households have the higher accessibility to cars/jeeps, with 9 percent of households, contrasting with the Atolls where the figure is lower at 5 percent. Island pickup (Rashu Pickup) usage is prevalent in the Atolls, with 7 percent of households having access, while it is absent in Maale. In the Atolls, Dingy (small boats) are accessible to 9 percent of households, representing a substantial contrast with Maale, where the rate is lower at 1 percent. Dhoani/speedboat usage is relatively modest in the Atolls, with a higher percentage of households having access, at 6 percent, compared to Maale, which stands at 2 percent.

Accessibility to Car/jeep is comparatively higher in Maale, whereas Island pickup (Rashu Pickup) is more common in the Atolls due to geographical reasons. In addition, Dingy (small boats) and dhoani/speedboats are more prevalent in the Atolls, reflecting the reliance on water-based transportation in that region.

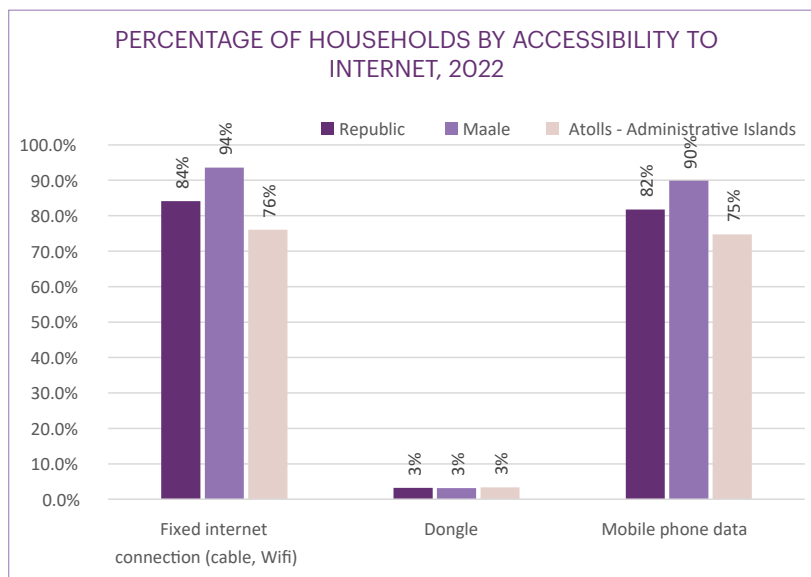


Figure 30: Percentage of households by accessibility to internet, Census 2022

Figure 30 presents percentage of households across administrative islands of the atolls and Maale, categorized by accessibility to internet connections. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

In Maale, a higher proportion of households, at 94 percent, have fixed internet connections, indicating widespread availability and utilization of cable or Wi-Fi connections. The Atolls follow with a moderately high percentage of 76 percent.

The usage of dongles (portable devices for internet connection) is relatively low across the Republic, with approximately 3 percent of households.

In summary, Maale tends to have higher percentages of households with fixed internet connections and mobile phone data usage compared to the Atolls. The Atolls generally have lower percentages, indicating disparities in access to internet services compared to Maale, primarily due to geographical characteristics.

	Percentage of Households					
	Rented		Owned by HH member		Others	
	Census 2014	Census 2022	Census 2014	Census 2022	Census 2014	Census 2022
Republic	28%	27%	61%	59%	11%	14%
Maale	59%	49%	30%	31%	11%	20%
Atolls - Administrative Islands	8%	8%	82%	83%	11%	9%

Table 7: Home ownership percentage by locality, Census 2014 and 2022

Table 7 presents comparison between Census 2014 and Census 2022 data across administrative islands of atolls and Maale, based on percentage of households categorized by home ownership status. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

When comparing Census years 2014 and 2022, Maale shows a reduction in the proportion of rented households, declining from 59 percent to 49 percent. Alongside, there was a modest 1 percent increase in home ownership by household members. An observable change occurred in other housing arrangements, suggesting a notable shift in housing dynamics within Maale during this period.

In the Atolls, a consistent percentage of rented households, remaining steady at 8 percent between 2014 and 2022. Notably, there is a 1 percent increase in home ownership by household members. In contrast to Maale, there is a decline of 1 percent in other housing arrangements in the Atolls.

In summary, these shifts in home ownership patterns suggest evolving trends in housing preferences and arrangements between the years 2014 and 2022, reflecting changes in housing dynamics in Maale and the Administrative islands of atolls.

4 RENT



4. Rent

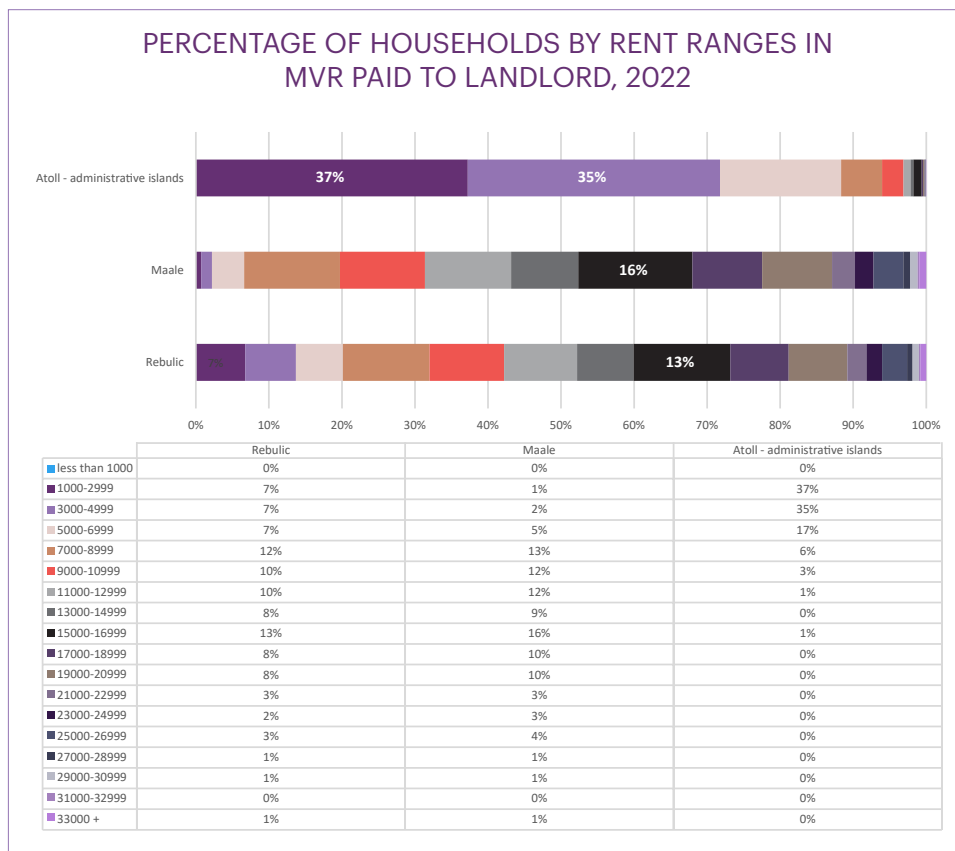


Figure 31: Percentage of households by rent ranges in MVR, Census 2022

Figure 31 displays the percentage of households across administrative islands of atolls and Maale, categorized based on rent ranges (in MVR) paid to the landlord. The evaluation is among all households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

The majority of households in the Republic fall into the rent range of 15,000 to 16,999 MVR, constituting to 13 percent.

Maale exhibits a higher concentration of households in mid rent ranges, with the majority falling into the 15,000-16,999 MVR range at 16 percent. Atolls show a different pattern with a larger percentage of households falling into the lower rent ranges, particularly the 1000-2999 MVR range at 37 percent. The overall distribution provides insights into the affordability and cost of living variations across localities within the Republic.

Household Characteristics

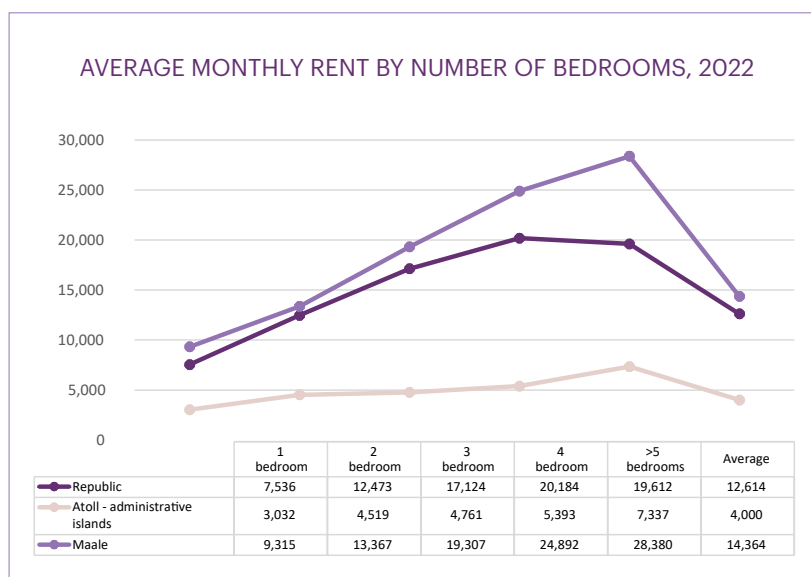


Figure 32: Average monthly rent by number of bedrooms, Census 2022

Figure 32 displays the average monthly rent across administrative islands of atolls and Maale based on the number of bedrooms. The estimates are based on rent paid by households residing in houses, flats, or apartments.

In the Republic, the average monthly rent stands at 12,614 MVR, with an upward trend in average rent as the number of rooms increases, except for residences with five or more bedrooms.

In Maale, the average monthly rent is higher at 14,364 MVR, with the highest reported average rent for residences with five or more bedrooms, reaching 28,380 MVR.

Atolls report a lower average monthly rent of 4,000 MVR. Across all bedroom categories, residences in the Atolls generally have lower average monthly rents compared to those in Maale. The lowest average rent is found for residences with one bedroom at 3,032 MVR, while the highest is for residences with five or more bedrooms at 7,337 MVR.

Overall, the Atolls consistently exhibit lower average rents, indicating potential disparities in the cost of living and housing affordability across different localities.

5

OVERCROWDING

5. Overcrowding

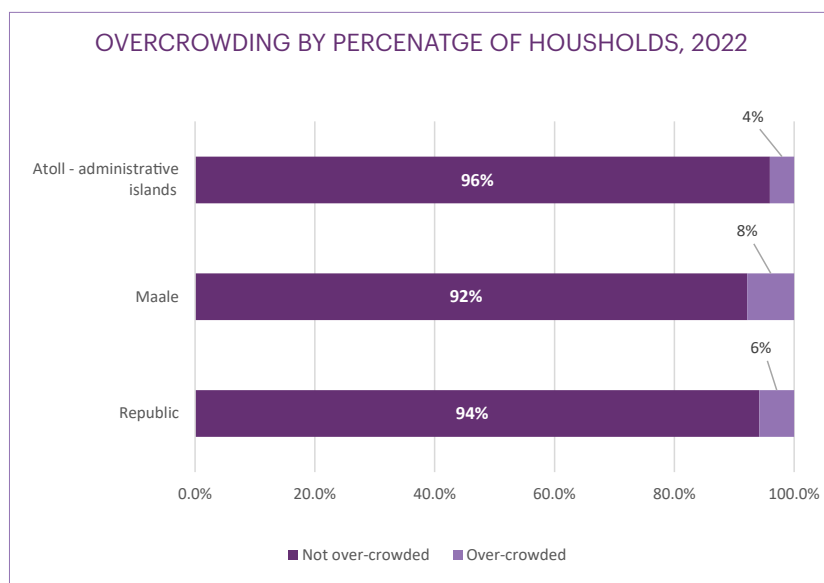


Figure 33: Overcrowding classified by percentatge of housholds, Census 2022

Figure 33 illustrates the percentage of households living in houses, flats, or apartments across the administrative islands of the atolls and Maale, based on overcrowding criteria. A household is considered overcrowded if more than three individuals are sleeping in a single bedroom.

In the Republic, 6 percent of households are considered overcrowded, indicating that 6 percent of households have more than three individuals sleeping in a single bedroom. In Maale, 8% of households are categorized as overcrowded, while in the Atolls, this rate is lower at 4 percent. In summary, there are noticeable variations in overcrowding rates between Maale and administrative islands, with administrative islands experiencing lower levels of overcrowding.

6

CONCLUSION

6. Conclusion

The Republic has 94,424 households, with the largest concentration in Male', accounting for 45 percent of the total. Over the period from 1990 to 2022, there has been significant growth in the number of households, with Male' experiencing the largest increase. The growth rate has remained positive from 2000 to 2006, with a 12.2% increase between 2000 and 2006. However, from 2006 to 2014, there was a 47.7% increase, likely due to demographic, economic, or developmental changes. The growth rate remained positive from 2014 to 2022, with a moderated pace to 38.4%.

The study of housing characteristics in the Maldives is crucial due to its unique socio-environmental context and high population density. Understanding housing characteristics is essential for informed urban planning, climate change resilience and sustainable development.



MALDIVES BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Ministry of Housing, Land and Urban development
Dharul Eman Building (7, 8, 9th Floor),
Majeedhee Magu,
Maafannu,
Male 20345,
Republic of Maldives

info@stats.gov.mv
<http://statisticsmaldives.gov.mv>



statsmaldives



UNFPA Maldives Country Office

Shinetree Building,
3rd Floor,
Boduthakurufaanu Magu,
Maafannu,
Male' 20184,
Republic of Maldives

maldives.office@unfpa.org
<http://maldivesunfpa.org>



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