

THE TREND OF REMAINING SINGLE AMONG THAI WOMEN DURING 1960-2000

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to investigate the trend of remaining single among Thai women and the regional differentials of this trend during 1960-2000. The data used in the construction of the "single index" are from the 1960-2000 Census. The index is calculated from various indicators such as the average age of the first marriage, the proportion of single women in reproductive ages (15-49 years), and the proportion of women who remain single after reproductive ages (50-59 years).

The study finds that during 1960-2000, there is an evidence of delaying marriage among Thai women (the proportion of single women and the proportion of women remaining single have increased). Women residing in Bangkok are found to delay their married longer than those in other regions. Both the proportion of single women and the proportion of women remaining single were the highest in Bangkok area.