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Emerging Social Issues Division
Social Policy and Population Section

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Article **The Onset of a Fertility Decline in Nepal?**

Author *Jayanti M. Tuladhar*

Abstract The Nepal Fertility and Family Planning Survey 1986 is the most recent nationally representative demographic sample survey of Nepal. The survey indicates that, compared with earlier periods (i.e. 1980-1985) when the total fertility rate (TFR) was around 5.6 per woman, TFR seems to have declined by 9 per cent during the past decade, with the main decline occurring during the last five years. Although not stated with certainty because of the difficulty of obtaining accurate survey data in a largely illiterate population, the best assessment of this study is that the 1986 survey indicates the onset of a fertility decline in Nepal.

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