

SELECTION OF THE ISLANDS

ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS:

Maldives is divided into 5 administrative regions: North, North central, Central, South central and South

IN THIS STUDY:

1. **North** is north and north central (Population of 129,049) - 7 Atolls with 86 islands
2. **Central** (Population of 20,972) – 4 Atolls with 33 islands
3. **South** is south and south central (Population of 129,071) – 9 Atolls with 66 islands

**Note: Central consists of Kaafu Atoll with a population of 78,474 including Male' (population of 65,667). Male' is excluded from the study. Male' is the only island that provides primary healthcare from tertiary healthcare facilities. Therefore, the situation is different to other rural islands.*

SELECTION OF ATOLLS AND ISLANDS:

North:

1. **South Thiladhunmathi (HDh) - 13 islands** with a population of 25,834 (1 regional hospital and 12 island health centres)
2. **North Thiladhunmathi (HA) -14 islands** with a population of 21,647 (1 atoll hospital and 13 island health centres)

Central:

1. **South Ari Atoll (ADh) - 10 islands** with a population of 10,649 (1 atoll hospital and 9 island health centres)

South:

1. **Addu Atoll (S) - 5 islands** with a population of 32,057 (1 regional hospital and 4 island health centres)
2. **Kolhumadulu (Th) - 13 islands** with a population of 15,455 (1 atoll hospital and 12 island health centres)

ATOLLS AND ISLANDS ARE SELECTED BASED ON:

1. Population density of the atoll:

- a. Highest populated atoll with a regional hospital in the region
- b. Highest populated atoll with an atoll hospital in the region

2. Type of healthcare facility in the island:

- a. Regional hospital (Note – 1 regional hospital for each region)
- b. Atoll hospital (Note – 1 Atoll hospital for each region)
- c. Island healthcare facilities (Note 20% of the total hospital units in each atoll will be selected randomly)