Adolescent contraceptive use

DATA FROM L’ENQUÊTE DÉMOGRAPHIQUE ET DE SANTÉ ET À INDICATEURS MULTIPLES DU BURKINA FASO (EDSBF-MICS), 2010

Adolescent population: who are they?

In Burkina Faso, there are 4.3 million adolescents aged 10–19 years – 23.9% of the country’s total population. Most adolescents live in rural areas, 68.4% of adolescent girls and 69.0% of adolescent boys.

By age 19, the mean number of years of schooling attended by adolescent girls is 2.5, while for adolescent boys it is 4.4. Among adolescents who become parents before age 20, the average age at which Burkinabe adolescent girls have their first baby is 17.0 years, while the average age at which adolescent boys first become fathers is 18.0.

Sexual activity and marital status

Analysis of data from the EDSBF-MICS shows that nearly 545,000 Burkinabe aged 15–19 are currently sexually active – they are either unmarried and have had sex in the last three months or they are in a union (i.e. married or living together). On average, among adolescents who had sex before age 20, adolescent girls first have sexual intercourse at age 16.4 years and adolescent boys at 17.3 years.

Among unmarried adolescents, 18.6% of adolescent girls report ever having sex and 11.9% are currently sexually active; among adolescent boys, 18.0% report ever having sex, while 10.8% are currently sexually active.

Among all Burkinabe adolescents, 31.5% of adolescent girls and 1.6% of adolescent boys are in a union. Among these adolescents, the mean age of the first union is 16.4 years for adolescent girls and 18.0 for adolescent boys.

What can be done to support Burkinabe adolescents to prevent unintended pregnancy?

Plan for how, when and where different groups of sexually active adolescents (married and unmarried, boys and girls, rural and urban) use and do not use contraception.

Learn the reasons why adolescents are not using contraception, and develop policies and programmes to better address their needs.

Understand that adolescents may get contraception from a variety of sources and ensure that each of these sources can provide high quality services for adolescents.
Contraceptive use and non-use among adolescent girls

Unmarried, sexually active

According to the EDSBF-MICS\textsuperscript{i}, 58.3\% of unmarried, sexually active adolescent girls report not wanting a child in the next two years, yet only 52.7\% of them are currently using any method to prevent pregnancy. The main reasons these adolescents report for not using a contraceptive method include:

- not married (36.5\%)
- infrequent sex (34.3\%)
- fear of side-effects or health concerns (12.1\%)

Among all unmarried, sexually active adolescent girls aged 15–19, over half (54.5\%) are not using a method of contraception. Male condoms are the most common modern method used (38.7\% of these adolescent girls), while implants, which are considered to be one of the most effective methods, are used by less than 0.4\% (see Figure 1).

**FIGURE 1.** Use and non-use of contraception: unmarried sexually active adolescent girls, aged 15–19 years (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Users</th>
<th>Non-users</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not using</td>
<td>Periodic abstinence</td>
<td>Female condom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: analysis of EDSBF-MICS 2010\textsuperscript{ii}

Unmarried, sexually active adolescents who are using a modern method most often get it from a shop (58.5\%) or a pharmacy (22.3\%).

In union

According to EDSBF-MICS\textsuperscript{ii} analyses, 51.1\% of adolescent girls in a union report not wanting a child in the next two years, yet only 8.5\% of them are currently using any method to prevent pregnancy. The main reasons these adolescents report for not using a contraceptive method include:

- breastfeeding (29.7\%)
- menses has not returned after giving birth (26.3\%)
- not having sex (12.4\%)

Among all adolescent girls in a union aged 15–19, 93.4\% are not using a method of contraception. Male condoms are the most common modern method used (2.8\% of these adolescent girls), and 0.6\% are using implants. Periodic abstinence, a traditional method, is used by 0.4\% (see Figure 2).

**FIGURE 2.** Use and non-use of contraception: adolescent girls in union, aged 15–19 years (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Users</th>
<th>Non-users</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not using</td>
<td>Periodic abstinence</td>
<td>Male condom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: analysis of EDSBF-MICS 2010\textsuperscript{ii}

Adolescents in a union who are using a modern method most often get it from a government facility (47.7\%) or a shop (29.1\%).

LEARN MORE AT who.int/reproductivehealth/adol-contraceptive-use


## Adolescent Contraceptive Use

**Burkina Faso**

### Use and Non-use of Contraception

- **Among adolescents who had sex before age 20, the average age at first sex is**
  - **16.4 years** for adolescent girls
  - **17.3 years** for adolescent boys

- **Among adolescents who become parents before age 20, the average age at first birth is**
  - **17.0 years** for adolescent girls
  - **18.0 years** for adolescent boys

### What can be done to support Burkinabe adolescents to prevent unintended pregnancy?

- **Plan for how, when, and where different groups of adolescents use or don’t use contraception.**
- **Learn the reasons why adolescents are not using contraception.**
- **Understand that adolescents may get modern contraception from a variety of sources.**

### Use and Non-use of Contraception: Adolescent Girls Aged 15-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Sexually Active, Unmarried</th>
<th>In Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Using</td>
<td>54.5%</td>
<td>93.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodic Abstinence</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Condom</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Condom</td>
<td>38.7%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pill</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injectable Contraceptives</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implants</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Main Reasons for Not Using Contraception

**Sexually Active, Unmarried**
- **36.5%** not married
- **34.3%** infrequent sex
- **12.1%** fear of side-effects or health concerns

**In Union**
- **29.7%** breastfeeding
- **26.3%** menses has not returned after giving birth
- **12.4%** not having sex

### Access Modern Contraception

- **58.5%** from a shop
- **22.3%** from a pharmacy
- **47.7%** from a government facility
- **29.1%** from a shop

**Learn more at [who.int/reproductivehealth/adol-contraceptive-use](http://who.int/reproductivehealth/adol-contraceptive-use)**
**METHODS:**
- Not using
- Withdrawal
- Periodic abstinence
- Rhythm/calendar
- Female condom
- Male condom
- Standard days/cycle beads
- Pill
- Injectable contraceptives
- Lactational amenorrhea (LAM)
- Implants
- IUD
- Male sterilization
- Female sterilization

**REASONS FOR NON-USE:**
- Not married
- Not having sex
- Infrequent sex
- Menses has not returned after birth
- Breastfeeding
- Fatalistic (up to god)
- She is opposed
- Husband/partner is opposed
- Religious prohibition
- Knows no method
- Knows no source
- Fear of side effects/health concerns
- Inconvenient to use
- Others opposed
- Lack of access/too far

**SOURCE OF METHOD:**
- Government facility
- Private facility
- Pharmacy
- Shop
- Friends or parents
- Other
- Community Health Worker

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