

Adolescent contraceptive use

DATA FROM THE ARMENIA DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY (ADHS), 2010

Adolescent population: who are they?

In the Republic of Armenia, there over **385 000** adolescents aged 10–19 years – **12.9%** of the country's total population.ⁱ The majority of adolescents live in urban areas, **56.8%** of adolescents girls and **56.5%** of adolescent boys.ⁱ

By age 19, the mean number of years of schooling attended by adolescent girls and boys is **11.5**, while for adolescent boys it is **11.2**.ⁱⁱ Among adolescents who become parents before age 20, the average age at which Armenian girls have their first baby is **18.4** years.ⁱⁱ

Sexual activity and marital status

Analysis of data from the ADHSⁱⁱ shows that over **20 000** Armenians 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 **18.0** years and adolescent boys at **17.5** years.

Among unmarried adolescents, **0.5%** of adolescent girls report ever having sex and **0.3%** are currently sexually active; among adolescent boys, **19.3%** report ever having sex, while **11.3%** are currently sexually active.

Among all Armenian adolescents, **7.9%** of adolescent girls and **1.0%** of adolescent boys are in a union. Among these adolescents, the mean age of the first union is **18.0** years for adolescent girls and **18.4** for adolescent boys.

What can be done to support Armenian 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

In union

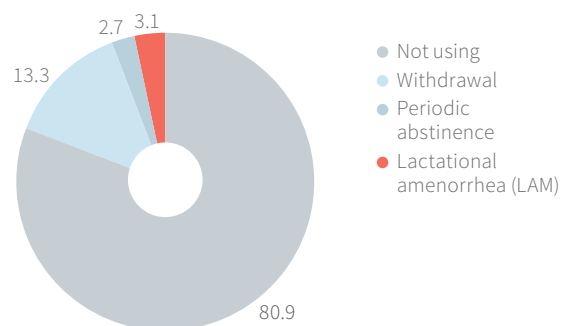
According to ADHSⁱⁱ analyses, **38.3%** of adolescent girls in a union report not wanting a child in the next two years, yet only **39.3%** of them are currently using any method to prevent pregnancy.

The main reasons these adolescents report for not using a contraceptive method include:

- **menses has not returned after giving birth (35.5%)**
- **not having sex (26.4%)**
- **breastfeeding (21.2%)**

Among all adolescent girls in a union aged 15–19, **80.9%** are not using a method of contraception. Among users, lactational amenorrhea (LAM) is the only modern method used (**3.1%** of these adolescent girls). Traditional methods, withdrawal or periodic abstinence, are used by **16.0%** (see Figure 1).

FIGURE 1. Use and non-use of contraception: adolescent girls in union, aged 15–19 years (%)



Source: analysis of ADHS 2010ⁱⁱ

LISTED FROM LEAST EFFECTIVE TO MOST EFFECTIVE

Adolescents in a union who are using a modern method most often get it from an **other source (66.7%)** or a **government facility (33.3%)**.

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

ⁱ Urban and rural population by age and sex, 1980–2015 [online database]. New York (USA): United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division; 2014 (<https://esa.un.org/unpd/popdev/urpas/urpas2014.aspx>, accessed 4 November 2016).

ⁱⁱ National Statistics Service [Armenia], Ministry of Health [Armenia], ICF International. Armenia Demographic and Health Survey 2010 [Datasets]. AMIR61.DTA and AMMR61.DTA. Calverton (MD): ICF International; 2012 http://dhsprogram.com/data/dataset/Armenia_Standard-DHS_2010.cfm?flag=0, accessed 4 November 2016).

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ANALYSIS OF THE ARMENIA DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY, 2010



Among adolescents who had sex before age 20, the average age at first sex is



18.0 years
for adolescent girls



17.5 years
for adolescent boys

REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA



0.4

million
adolescents
ages 10-19

Among adolescents who become parents before age 20, the average age at first birth is

18.4

for adolescent girls

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

Plan for how, when, and where different groups of adolescents use or don't use contraception.

Use and non-use of contraception adolescent girls, aged 15-19

Method	In union
Not using	80.9%
Withdrawal	13.3%
Periodic abstinence	2.7%
Lactational amenorrhea (LAM)	3.1%

Learn the reasons why adolescents are not using contraception.

Report not wanting a child in the next two years

38.3%

adolescent
girls
in union

Main reasons for not using contraception

In union

- 35.5% menses has not returned after giving birth
- 26.4% not having sex
- 21.2% breastfeeding

Understand that adolescents may get modern contraception from a variety of sources.



66.7%

other



33.3%
















from a
government
facility

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
















National Statistics Service [Armenia], Ministry of Health [Armenia], ICF International. Armenia Demographic and Health Survey 2010 [Datasets]. AMIR61.DTA and AMMR61.DTA. Calverton (MD): ICF International; 2012 (http://dhsprogram.com/data/dataset/Armenia_Standard-DHS_2010.cfm?flag=0, accessed 4 November 2016).
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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
-  Spermicides

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