

BRIEF







The world is poised to make important strides toward gender equality and universal access to reproductive health. But we can only get there if we take decisive action now to expand on the progress of the past ten years.

The 2012 London Summit on Family Planning was a pivotal moment for reproductive health and rights. Leaders from around the world gathered to affirm a woman's fundamental right to shape her own life, plan her own future, and decide for herself whether and when to have children. They recognized that family planning is transformational, with the power to unlock human potential, break the cycle of poverty, and promote gender equality. They resolved that every person, no matter where they live—in a rich country or poor—should be able to enjoy the benefits of lifesaving, life-changing modern contraception. And they set out to make that vision a reality.



Ten years later, the goal is within reach. The work that flowed from the London Summit has borne fruit in a thousand ways: better family planning programs, more supportive policies, a wider range of contraceptive methods, stronger supply chains, greater clarity on financing, the codification of rights-based approaches, and a revolution in data capabilities. The number of modern contraceptive users in low-and lower-middle income countries has increased by a third overall, and in some countries has more than doubled. Although significant challenges remain, more people than ever before are taking charge of their reproductive health and choosing to use family planning. If we build on this groundwork and redouble our efforts—focusing on country-led, sustainably financed progress that is inclusive of all people and responsive to their needs—we can finally close the gap on universal access to contraception.

But the world in 2022 is facing another pivotal moment. Gender equality and reproductive health and rights are under attack. The recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health imperils not only abortion access but also the right to contraception, the right to make personal medical decisions, and potentially the right of LGBTI individuals to marry and have children. This shocking reversal of progress echoes regressive movements around the world that seek to deprive people of bodily autonomy and reproductive freedom.

The global development agenda is also at an inflection point. The world is emerging from the COVID pandemic into a new era of inflation and lagging economic growth. Financial instability, the war in Ukraine and the refugee crisis, disruptions to global agriculture and supply chains, and the accelerating threat of climate change all contribute to an uncertain outlook for governments and donors. To ensure that the world stays on track for the Sustainable Development Goals—including the interlinked goals of gender equality, health, and prosperity—investments in family planning must be safeguarded and strengthened.

If we don't act now, the hard-won gains of the last ten years could slip away.

The global community can meet this moment by choosing, once again, the path toward freedom and progress. Now is the time to recommit boldly to reproductive health and rights—for everyone, everywhere. The promise of the London Summit still beckons.





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Family Planning 2030

Modern Contraceptive Use in 2022



More than one billion women and girls of reproductive age (15-49) live in low- and lower-middle income countries. An estimated 371 million of those women are now using a modern method of family planning—87 million more than just a decade ago. Their use of contraception averted more than 141 million unintended pregnancies, 29 million unsafe abortions, and almost 150,000 maternal deaths in the last year alone.

With this year's FP2030 Measurement Report, we can now assess trends over a full decade of data. One fact emerges clearly: women are demanding and using modern contraception in ever greater numbers, in every region, despite every obstacle. Even in the face of COVID-19—which caused enormous disruptions to health systems—the demand for modern contraception has continued to grow.

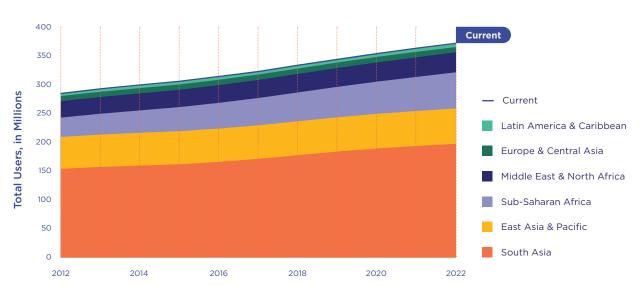
million more women and girls are using a modern method of family planning than a decade ago.



FIGURE 1

Total Modern Contraceptive Users 2012–2022 (All Women) in Lowand Lower-Middle Income Countries





In fact, disruptions are nothing new. While the scale of the pandemic is unprecedented, in the past ten years health systems have been buffeted by natural disasters, violent conflicts, epidemics of Ebola and Zika, political shifts, and changing economic conditions. But despite these challenges, the number of women seeking modern methods of contraception has continued to climb.

FIGURE 2

Growth in Modern Contraceptive Prevalence for Low- and Lower-Middle Income Countries by Region

	Modern Contraceptive Prevalence		Percentage Point Increase 2012-2022
	2012	2022	
East Asia & Pacific	38.0%	39.2%	1.2%
Europe & Central Asia	38.4%	41.6%	3.2%
Latin America & Caribbean	36.3%	40.9%	4.6%
Middle East & North Africa	34.9%	38.2%	3.3%
South Asia	36.0%	39.8%	3.8%
Sub-Saharan Africa	16.8%	23.0%	6.2%

In low- and lower middle-income countries, contraceptive prevalence among all women has increased from 31.9% to over 35% in the past decade. This means that one in three women of reproductive age is now choosing to use modern contraception. The sharpest growth has been in Sub-Saharan Africa, but all regions have seen an increase.

These numbers will continue to rise. As more and more young people enter their reproductive years, and as more and more women seek greater access to a wide range of methods, the demand for family planning services will continue to grow. If this rising demand is not met by supply, it will be a missed opportunity for millions of women—and for our collective futures.



Women are demanding and using modern contraception in ever greater numbers, in every region, despite every obstacle.



More than 40 country governments have finalized or are in the process of finalizing their new FP2030 commitments, highlighting increased political and financial support by government leaders.

New FP2030 Commitments

Commitments are the lifeblood of the FP2030 partnership: formal pledges by countries, donors, and other partners to expand access to voluntary, rights-based, high-quality family planning. The commitments are specific statements of intent, outlining what actions the commitment makers will undertake, what objectives they will pursue, what policy changes they will seek, and how much money they will invest. As such, they function as a blueprint for collaboration, providing partners with a shared agenda and measurable goals.

In the year since FP2030 was launched, more than 40 country governments have finalized or started work on their FP2030 commitments. New FP2030 commitment makers also include 77 non-government partners: civil society organizations, private sector providers, youth-led organizations, and others who are committed to strengthening family planning through sub-national, national, regional, and global efforts.

A new FP2030 architecture, based on regional hubs, is being built to support these commitments. Each hub will work with countries and partners in that region to help them achieve their rights-based family planning objectives, with staff liaisons for country engagement, youth partnerships, advocacy and accountability, high impact family planning practices, as well as fundraising and communications.

PHOTO BY Jonathan Torgovnik/Getty Images/Images of Empowerment

Regional Analysis: Commitment Makers in Sub-Saharan Africa

In the 2021 Measurement Report, we marked the transition from FP2020 to FP2030 with a broad overview of regional family planning data and trends in Africa, Asia & the Pacific, and Latin America & the Caribbean. In this year's report we take a narrower approach, focusing on only one region—Sub-Saharan Africa—and the 15 countries in that region that finalized their FP2030 commitments by August 2022.

Six of the countries are in East & Southern Africa (Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda) and nine are in West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo). The population in these countries skews young, and unmet need for modern contraception remains high. In most of the countries, more than one in five sexually active young women have an unmet need for contraception. More than one in ten women of reproductive age are postpartum in any given year, and the majority (except in Rwanda) are not using modern family planning, despite the importance of birth spacing for the health of the mother and newborn.

more than

1 in 5

sexually active young women have an unmet need for contraception

Our analysis delves into these and other data trends to explore how the country commitments match up with opportunities to improve sexual and reproductive health outcomes.

The 15 countries share many common priorities:



improving service delivery for young people



increasing domestic financing



scaling up postpartum family planning



strengthening supply chains

We provide a detailed look at the data on adolescent and youth contraceptive use, including the method mix and source of methods, and examine the potential demand for postpartum contraception.

As more countries finalize their FP2030 commitments, we will undertake similar profiles for other regions.







The focus for the next decade must be on achieving sustainable financing for family planning.

Family Planning Financing

To meet the ever-growing demand for modern contraception and reach their development goals, countries will need to develop reliable, resilient financing for their family planning programs. The focus for the next decade must be on achieving sustainability, with a combination of country-led domestic resource mobilization, broadly supported universal health schemes, greater private sector involvement, co-financing development opportunities, cross-sectoral partnerships, and donor funding for the neediest countries and programs.

FP2030 builds on the work of the FP2020 partnership in tracking resource flows across the sector, including donor disbursements, domestic expenditures, and total spending on family planning. This year's report presents the most recent findings from these efforts.

Preliminary estimates indicate that donor government funding for family planning activities totaled approximately US\$1.39 billion in 2021: essentially flat compared to 2020, but well below the peak achieved in 2019 (US\$1.52 billion).

From 2020 to 2021, among the ten donor governments that account for the majority of family planning funding:

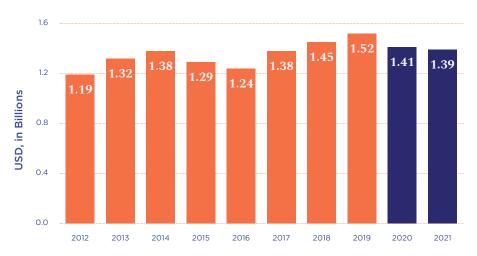
- » Most increased their disbursements: Australia, Denmark, Germany, Norway, and Sweden
- » Two remained flat: Canada and the US
- » Two declined:
 Netherlands and the UK

Note: At the time of publication, data from France were not available. France's prior year amount was used as a temporary estimate to calculate the overall donor government total in 2021.

PHOTO BY The Gender Spectrum Collection

FIGURE 3

Donor Government Bilateral Assistance for Family Planning, 2012–2021



Note: Figures based on Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of donor government funding for family planning.

Funding in 2021 from most donors does not seem to have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, the economic repercussions of COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine, including inflation and energy prices, could have an impact on future year disbursements by donors for family planning.

\$1.39 billion USD in donor government funding for family planning

Estimates for domestic government expenditures and an updated look at total expenditures on family planning are included in the full report.



FP2030 Measurement Report 2022

AS OF JULY 2022

371

MILLION women and girls are using modern contraception in low- and lower-middle income countries

IN 2021, DONOR GOVERNMENTS PROVIDED

\$1.39

BILLION USD in bilateral funding for family planning

AS A RESULT OF MODERN CONTRACEPTIVE USE

from July 2021 to July 2022

141

MILLION unintended pregnancies were averted

29

MILLION unsafe abortions were averted

148

THOUSAND maternal deaths were averted

More in the digital report

The FP2020 Measurement Report 2022 will be published in December 2022, and will feature:

- » Regional analysis for Sub-Saharan Africa
- » Domestic government expenditures
- » Total expenditures on family planning
- » Interactive graphics for family planning indicators

The report will also contain updated links to the multitude of online resources available through FP2030 and Track20, including estimate tables, Track20 country indicator summaries, the adolescent/youth data file and app, uncertainty estimates, and the data dashboard.



View the digital report and other family planning data resources at fp2030.org/progress.





