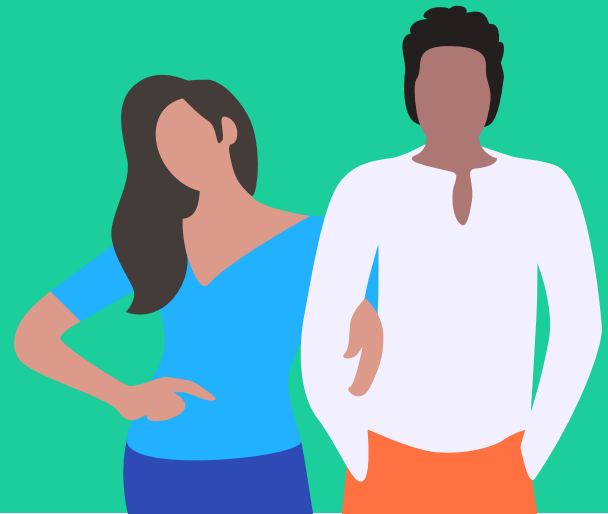


Measuring Progress on Meeting the Contraceptive Needs of Adolescents and Youth



From its inception in 2012, FP2020 has been committed to leading a transformation in the monitoring and evaluation of family planning. FP2020's measurement framework was designed to produce high-quality annual data to inform decision-making, with core indicators that are comparable across countries. Over the past eight years, FP2020 and its measurement partners have worked to harmonize and align reporting, improve indicators and methodologies, and enhance the infrastructure and capacity to generate and use robust data. In this FP2020 Measurement Learning Series, we explore the successes, challenges, and lessons of FP2020's measurement agenda, and discuss the implications for the post-2020 family planning partnership.

MEETING THE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH NEEDS OF ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTHS

To meet its goals, FP2030 partners must promote and protect the rights of adolescents and youths to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, including contraception. Strong commitments that prioritize adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health and rights (AYSRHR) send a clear message about the vital importance of improving adolescent and youth SRH knowledge, fostering their agency and ability to make informed decisions, facilitating their access to high-quality SRH services responsive to their needs, and ensuring a supportive policy and social environment. Actionable commitments will include rights-based and evidence-informed strategies that assist adolescents and youths to improve their understanding of SRHR, correct myths and misinformation around sexuality and contraception, develop skills that support positive behaviors and decision-making, and emphasize the importance of voluntary choice in the use of contraception.



What is FP2030? Family Planning 2030 (FP2030) (formerly FP2020) is a global partnership to empower women and girls by investing in rights-based family planning. Founded at the London Family Planning Summit in 2012, the platform FP2030 has built is resilient, inclusive, and effective.



What is Track20? The Track20 Project, implemented by Avenir Health, monitored progress toward achieving the goals of FP2020 and will continue to support countries as they set new goals for 2030 and further strengthen FP monitoring and data use. Track20 works directly with governments in participating FP2030 countries to build internal capacity in data collection, analysis, and use to monitor progress annually in family planning and support data-based family planning strategies and plans.

REVIEWING DATA TO UNDERSTAND AYSRHR ISSUES AND NEEDS

A thorough analysis of available data is a critical step in identifying solutions to complex AYSRHR challenges. While data can help decision-makers better understand AYSRHR and family planning priorities and develop targeted programs, no single indicator can fully capture the status of AYSRHR. It is useful to consider the influence on the available data of social, cultural, and economic factors, many of which are far removed from health sector programs and services.

While the adolescent birthrate is an important indicator under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Every Woman Every Child, and has been among the FP2020 core indicators, more data is needed on AYSRHR and family planning to determine programmatic priorities and monitor progress. The adolescent birthrate can be affected by changes in age at marriage, sexual activity, contraceptive use, and more, and thus is insufficient on its own for determining priorities and assessing progress. In 2018, after consultation with partners, including FP2020 youth focal points and the PME Working Group, FP2020 began aggregating a set of supplemental AYSRHR indicators on demographics, key life events, and contraceptive practices among adolescents and youths. These supplemental AYSRHR indicators will become a part of regular reporting in the FP2030 measurement framework.

CHALLENGES OF MONITORING PROGRESS AMONG ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH

Monitoring progress toward meeting AYSRHR and family planning needs remains a challenge even with annual reporting of adolescent birthrate and supplemental indicators. Current data sources and global indicators are designed to capture data for all women of reproductive age. Detecting statistically significant change in AYSRHR indicators may be difficult with the small number of adolescent girls who report being sexually active. Thus, commitments monitoring should also draw upon other data sources that may be available from service statistics and special surveys. Health management information system (HMIS) from public and private sector partners may be used to assess client volume or services

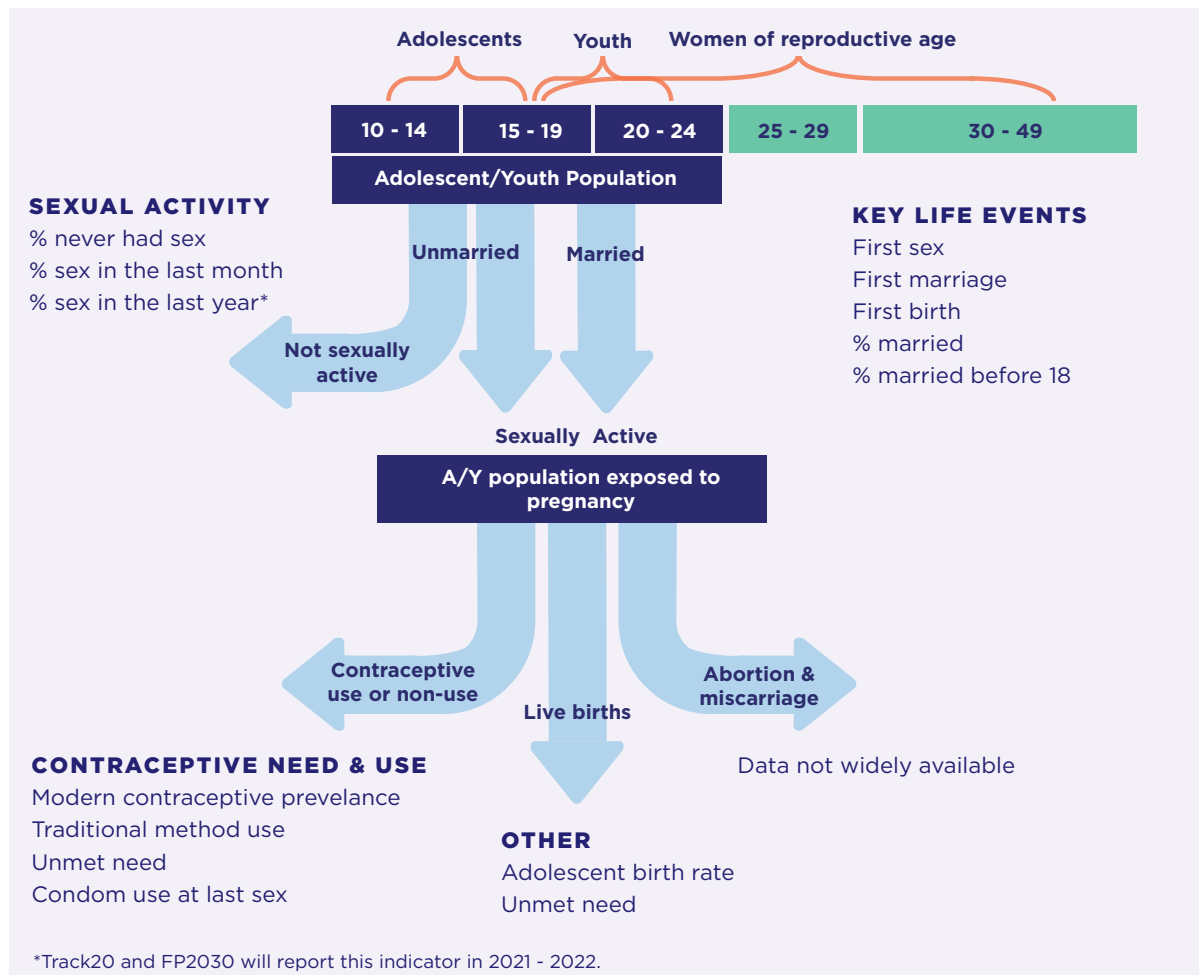
SUPPLEMENTAL ADOLESCENT & YOUTH INDICATORS

TOPIC	INDICATOR	AGE	MARTITAL STATUS
Population	Population size	10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 15-24, 15-49	
Life Events	Median age at first marriage	25-29	
	Median age at first sex	25-29	
	Median age at first birth	25-29	
	% who are married	15-19, 20-24, 15-24	
	% who were married before 18	20-24, 25-29	
Contraceptive Need and Use	% of women who have never had intercourse	15-19, 20-24	
	% of women who were sexually active in the four weeks preceding the survey	15-19, 20-24	Unmarried
	% of women who were sexually active in the year preceding the survey	15-19, 20-24	Unmarried
	% using a traditional method	15-19, 20-24	Married, unmarried
		15-24, 15-49	Married
	Modern contraceptive prevalence	15-19, 20-24	Married, unmarried
		15-24, 20-24	Married
	Unmet need	15-19, 20-24, 15-24, 15-49	Married, unmarried
Condom use during last sex	15-24		

distributed to those younger than 20 years old.¹ Special surveys may be used to focus on AYSRHR issues and may capture more diverse information than large-scale national surveys, but they should be interpreted with caution as they may not be nationally representative.

ADOLESCENT AND YOUTH INDICATORS IN CONTEXT

The contraceptive needs and use of adolescents and youth change over time, as they move through different life phases. Understanding this population requires contextualizing data.



LOOKING AHEAD

While the FP2020 partnership has made considerable gains in understanding AYSRH needs through annual reporting of adolescent birth rate and conducting special analyses on this sub-population, FP2030 along with other data partners such as Track20 and the WHO are committed to advancing AYSRHR measurement and improving the understanding of adolescent- and youth-specific SRH needs through data.

Track20 will continue to annually update briefs on potential opportunities for modern contraceptive use growth among adolescents and youth. Recently, WHO also released AYSRHR country profiles which include data on an expansive list of indicators from socio-demographic characteristics of adolescents and youth to their use of contraceptives and sexual activity. In addition to the annual reporting of adolescent birth rate and supplemental indicators, FP2030 launched an interactive tool that visually displays country-specific data from the supplemental indicators file.

The work to understand and meet AYSRHR needs continues and will remain critical to the work of FP2030.

1. Service partners who have experience collecting age data among adolescents have suggested caution in collecting detailed age data for every client. Two issues include poor data quality and ethical and privacy concerns regarding asking a young client's age. Monitoring contraceptive services provided to adolescents, while protecting provider and client privacy, may be as simple as noting whether a client is under the age of 20.