

Adolescent contraceptive use

DATA FROM THE BANGLADESH DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY (BDHS), 2011

Adolescent population: who are they?

In Bangladesh, there over **32.2 million** adolescents aged 10–19 years – **20.1%** of the country's total population.ⁱ Over two thirds of all adolescents live in rural areas, **67.5%** of adolescent girls and **67.3%** of adolescent boys.ⁱ

By age 19, the mean number of years of schooling attended by married adolescent girls is **6.2**.ⁱⁱ Among married adolescents who become parents before age 20, the average age at which Bangladeshi girls have their first baby is **16.6** years.ⁱⁱ

Sexual activity and marital status

Analysis of data from the BDHSⁱⁱ finds that, on average, among married adolescent girls who had sex before age 20, they first have sexual intercourse at age **15.4** years. Among married Bangladeshi adolescent girls, the mean age of the first marriage is **15.4** years.

What can be done to support married Bangladeshi adolescents to prevent unintended pregnancy?

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

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

Understand that married 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

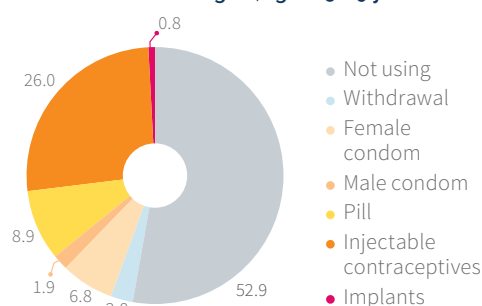
Married

According to BDHSⁱⁱ analyses, **64.9%** of married adolescent girls report not wanting a child in the next two years, yet only **55.3%** 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 (45.8%)**
- **not having sex (19.0%)**
- **infrequent sex (19.0%)**

Among all married adolescent girls aged 15–19, **52.9%** are not using a method of contraception. Injectable contraceptives and pills are the most common modern methods used (**26.0%** and **8.9%** of these adolescent girls, respectively). Female condoms are used by **6.8%** while **0.8%** are using implants, which are considered to be one of the most effective methods. Withdrawal, a traditional method, is used by **2.8%** (see Figure 1).

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



Source: analysis of BDHS 2011ⁱⁱ

LISTED FROM LEAST EFFECTIVE TO MOST EFFECTIVE

Married adolescents who are using a modern method most often get it from a **private facility (60.0%)** or a **government facility (31.5%)**.

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ⁱUrban 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).

ⁱⁱNational Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT) [Bangladesh], Mitra and Associates [Bangladesh], ICF International. Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey 2011 [Datasets]. BDIR61.DTA. Calverton (MD): ICF International; 2013 (http://dhsprogram.com/data/dataset/Bangladesh_Standard-DHS_2011.cfm?flag=0, accessed 4 November 2016).

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ANALYSIS OF THE BANGLADESH DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY, 2011



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



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH



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



What can be done to support married Bangladeshi adolescents to prevent unintended pregnancy?

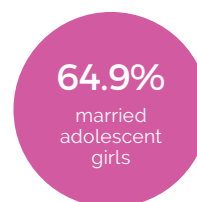
Plan for how, when, and where different groups of adolescents use or don't use contraception.

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

Method	Married
Not using	52.9%
Withdrawal	2.8%
Female condom	6.8%
Male condom	1.9%
Pill	8.9%
Injectable contraceptives	26.0%
Implants	0.8%

Learn the reasons why married adolescents are not using contraception.

Report not wanting a child in the next two years



Main reasons for not using contraception

- Married**
- 45.8% menses has not returned after giving birth
 - 19.0% not having sex
 - 19.0% infrequent sex

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

Married



60.0%
from a private facility


















31.5%
from a government facility
















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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
-  Spermicide

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