Georgia
2018

Family Planning & Informed Decision

Desired Number of Children by Number of Living Children

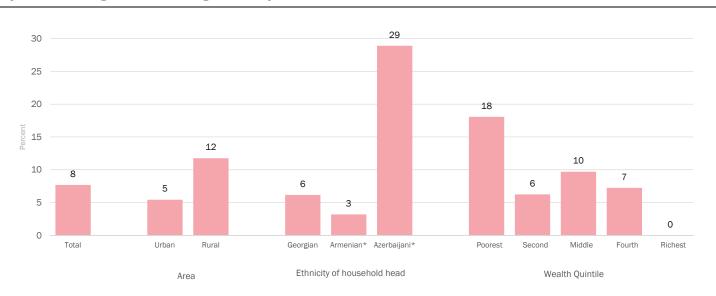Legend: 0 (None) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5+ | Other answer

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 years by desired number of children before the first childbirth (in their whole life) and number of living children

Average Desired Number of Children before the First Childbirth

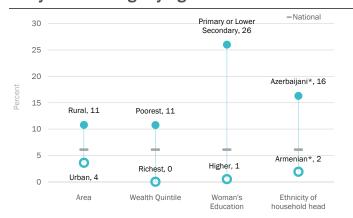|	
Total	2.8
Rural	2.8
Urban	2.8
Georgian	2.8
Azerbaijani	2.7
Armenian	2.5
15-19 years	2.4
20-24 years	2.8
25-49 years	2.8

Average desired number of children before the first childbirth among women age 15-49 years

Early Childbearing for Women Age 15-19 years

Percentage of women age 15-19 years who have had a live birth or are pregnant with first child
*Data for ethnicity categories "Armenian" and "Azerbaijani" is based on 25-49 unweighted cases
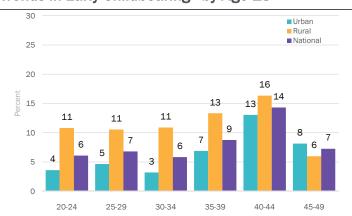
Early Childbearing - by Age 18

Percent

30
25
20
15
10
5
0

Primary or Lower Secondary, 26

Azerbaijani*, 16

National

Rural, 11   Poorest, 11

Higher, 1

Armenian*, 2

Urban, 4   Richest, 0

Area   Wealth Quintile   Woman's Education   Ethnicity of household head

Percentage of women age 20-24 years who have had a live birth before age 18, by background characteristics
*Data for ethnicity categories "Armenian" and "Azerbaijani" is based on 25-49 unweighted cases
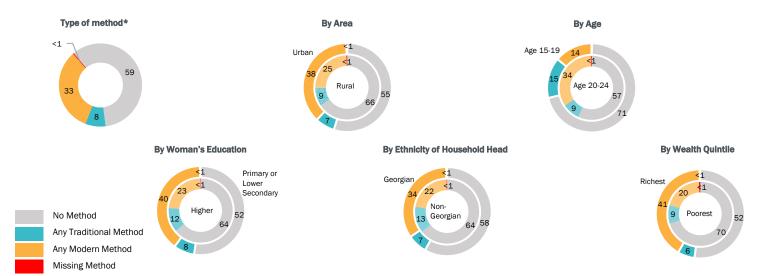
Trends in Early Childbearing - by Age 18

Percent

30
25
20
15
10
5
0

Urban
Rural
National

Age	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49
Urban	4	5	3	7	13	8
Rural	11	11	11	13	16	6
National	6	7	6	9	14	7

Percentage of women age 20-49 years who have had a live birth before age 18

Family Planning

Method of Family Planning by Various Characteristics

Type of method*

<1
33
8
59

By Area

Urban
<1
38 25 <1
9
7
Rural
66
55

By Age

Age 15-19
14 <1
15 34
9
Age 20-24
57
71

By Woman's Education

<1
40 23 <1
12
Higher
8
64
Primary or Lower Secondary
52

By Ethnicity of Household Head

Georgian
<1
34 22 <1
13
7
Non-Georgian
64 58

By Wealth Quintile

Richest
<1
41 20 <1
9
Poorest
6
70 52

Legend:
- No Method (grey)
- Any Traditional Method (teal)
- Any Modern Method (orange)
- Missing Method (red)

Percentage of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union who are using (or whose partner is using) a contraceptive method
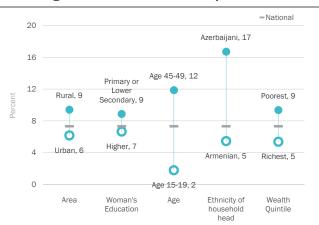*Modern Methods include female sterilization, male sterilization, IUD, injectables, implants, pills, male condom, female condom, diaphragm, foam, jelly and candles; Traditional methods refer to periodic abstinence, withdrawal and other methods.

Contraception Awareness for Modern Methods

Percent

100
98
96
94
92
90

National

Urban, 99   Higher, 99   Age 40-44, 99   Georgian, 99   Richest, 100

Rural, 97

Primary or Lower Secondary, 96   Azerbaijani, 95   Poorest, 96

Age 15-19, 91

Area   Woman's Education   Age   Ethnicity of household head   Wealth Quintile
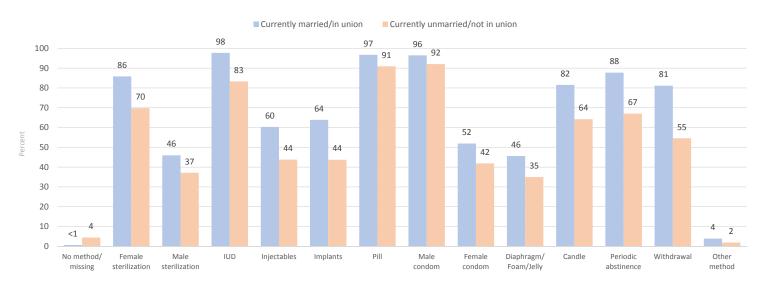
Percentage of women age 15–49 years who have heard any modern contraception methods, by background characteristics

Knowledge of Traditional Contraception Effectiveness

Percent

20
16
12
8
4
0

National

Azerbaijani, 17

Age 45-49, 12

Rural, 9   Primary or Lower Secondary, 9   Poorest, 9

Urban, 6   Higher, 7   Armenian, 5   Richest, 5

Age 15-19, 2

Area   Woman's Education   Age   Ethnicity of household head   Wealth Quintile
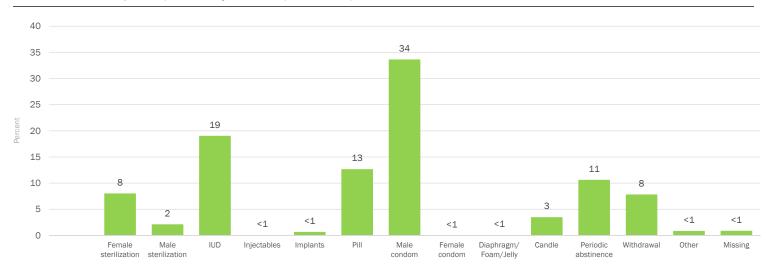
Percentage of women age 15-49 years who perceive any traditional contraception methods as the most effective, by background characteristics
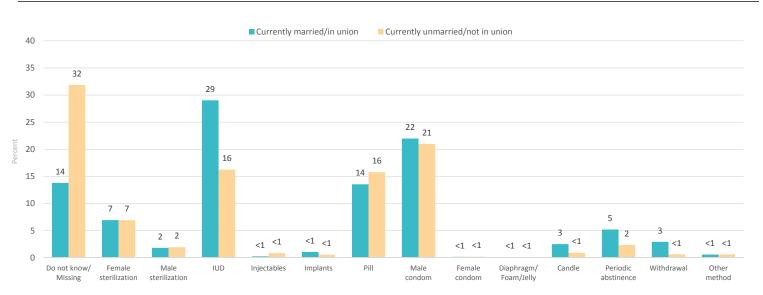
Contraception Awareness (women)

■ Currently married/in union ■ Currently unmarried/not in union

Method	Currently married/in union	Currently unmarried/not in union
No method/missing	<1	4
Female sterilization	86	70
Male sterilization	46	37
IUD	98	83
Injectables	60	44
Implants	64	44
Pill	97	91
Male condom	96	92
Female condom	52	42
Diaphragm/Foam/Jelly	46	35
Candle	82	64
Periodic abstinence	88	67
Withdrawal	81	55
Other method	4	2

Percentage of women age 15–49 years who have heard of any contraception methods

Use of Contraception (Currently Married/In Union)

Method	Percent
Female sterilization	8
Male sterilization	2
IUD	19
Injectables	<1
Implants	<1
Pill	13
Male condom	34
Female condom	<1
Diaphragm/Foam/Jelly	<1
Candle	3
Periodic abstinence	11
Withdrawal	8
Other	<1
Missing	<1

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union who are using (or whose partner is using) a contraceptive method
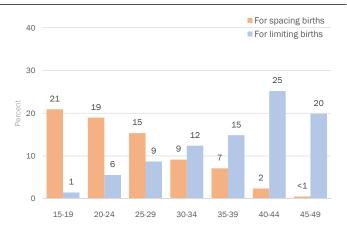
Knowledge of Contraception Effectiveness (women)

■ Currently married/in union ■ Currently unmarried/not in union

Method	Currently married/in union	Currently unmarried/not in union
Do not know/Missing	14	32
Female sterilization	7	7
Male sterilization	2	2
IUD	29	16
Injectables	<1	<1
Implants	<1	<1
Pill	14	16
Male condom	22	21
Female condom	<1	<1
Diaphragm/Foam/Jelly	<1	<1
Candle	3	<1
Periodic abstinence	5	2
Withdrawal	3	<1
Other method	<1	<1

Percent distribution of women age 15-49 years who perceive the contraception methods as the most effective

Unmet Need for Family Planning

National

Percent

- Rural, 25
- Urban, 22
- Upper Secondary, 26
- Higher, 21
- Armenian, 28
- Azerbaijani, 22
- Poorest, 26
- Richest, 20

Area | Woman's Education | Ethnicity of household head | Wealth Quintile

Percentage of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union with an unmet need for family planning, by background characteristics
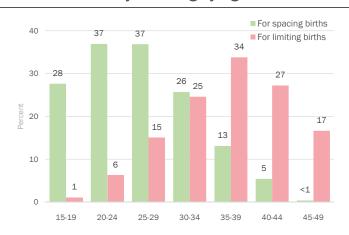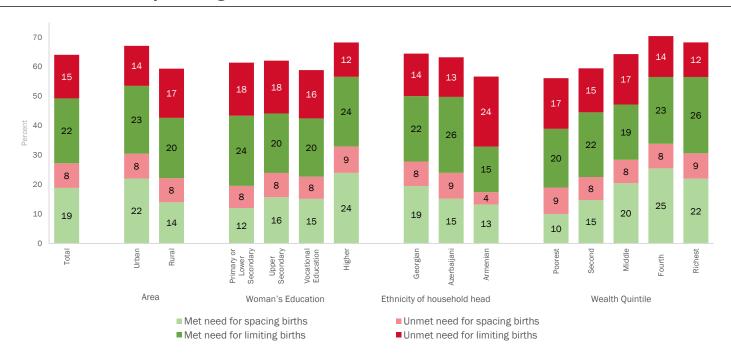
Met Need for Family Planning

National

Percent

- Urban, 45
- Rural, 34
- Higher, 48
- Vocational Education, 35
- Georgian, 42
- Armenian, 29
- Fourth, 48
- Poorest, 30

Area | Woman's Education | Ethnicity of household head | Wealth Quintile

Percentage of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union with a met need (currently using contraception) for family planning, by background characteristics

Unmet Need for Family Planning by Age

For spacing births
For limiting births

Percent

Age	For spacing births	For limiting births
15-19	21	1
20-24	19	6
25-29	15	9
30-34	9	12
35-39	7	15
40-44	2	25
45-49	<1	20

Percentage of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union with an unmet need for family planning for limiting & spacing, by background characteristics

Met Need for Family Planning by Age

For spacing births
For limiting births

Percent

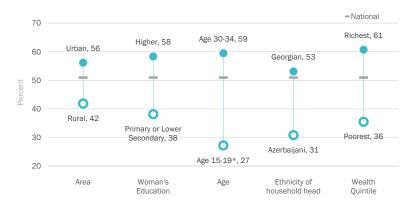| Age	For spacing births	For limiting births
15-19	28	1
20-24	37	6
25-29	37	15
30-34	26	25
35-39	13	34
40-44	5	27
45-49	<1	17

Percentage of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union with a met need (currently using contraception) for family planning for limiting & spacing, by background characteristics

Total Demand for Family Planning

Percent

Category	Met need for spacing births	Unmet need for spacing births	Met need for limiting births	Unmet need for limiting births
Total	19	8	22	15
Urban	22	8	23	14
Rural	14	8	20	17
Primary or Lower Secondary	12	8	24	18
Upper Secondary	16	8	20	18
Vocational Education	15	8	20	16
Higher	24	9	24	12
Georgian	19	8	22	14
Azerbaijani	15	9	26	13
Armenian	13	4	15	24
Poorest	10	9	20	17
Second	15	8	22	15
Middle	20	8	19	17
Fourth	25	8	23	14
Richest	22	9	26	12

Area | Woman's Education | Ethnicity of household head | Wealth Quintile

Met need for spacing births
Met need for limiting births
Unmet need for spacing births
Unmet need for limiting births

Percentage of women age 15-49 years who are currently married or in union with demand for family planning that is sum of met and unmet need for family planning, by background characteristics
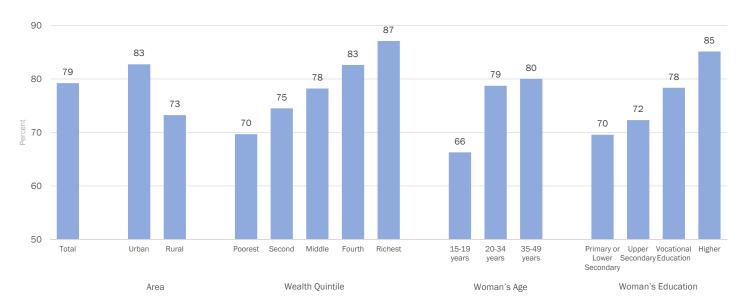
Percentage of Demand for Family Planning Satisfied with Modern Methods

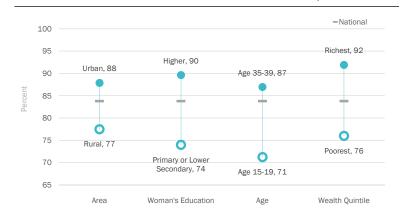*Data for age category "Age 15-19" is based on 25-49 unweighted cases.

The proportion of demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods is useful in assessing overall levels of coverage for family planning programmes and services. Access to and use of an effective means to prevent pregnancy helps enable women and their partners to exercise their rights to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so. Meeting demand for family planning with modern methods also contributes to maternal and child health by preventing unintended pregnancies and closely spaced pregnancies, which are at higher risk for poor obstetrical outcomes.

Informed Decision on Reproductive Health Care - SDG indicator 5.6.1

Percentage of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and health care

Decision on Sexual Intercourse with the Husband/Partner

Percentage of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union who can say "no" to the husband/partner if she does not want to have sexual intercourse

The percentage of women age 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and health care (SDG indicator 5.6.1) is useful in assessing overall levels of family planning and reproductive rights. "The ability of women and girls to exercise their basic human rights, including their right to sexual and reproductive health, is a prerequisite for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Women and girls who can make choices and control their reproductive lives are better able to get quality education, find decent work, and make free and informed decisions in all spheres of life."

SDG Indicators 5.6.1 is derived from the following three component questions: A woman is considered to have autonomy in reproductive health decision making and to be empowered to exercise her reproductive rights if she: can say "NO' to sex with her husband/partner if she does not want to, decides on use/ non-use of contraception and decides on health care for herself. Only women who provide a "yes" answer to all three components are considered as women who make their own decisions regarding sexual relations and health care.

Regional Data on Family Planning & Informed Decision

Region	Childbearing before 18*	Contraception awareness of any method	Knowledge of contraception effectiveness**	Contraception Use of modern method among married / in-union women	Contraception Use of any method among married / in-union women	Demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods among married / in-union women	Average desired number of children before the first childbirth
National	6	98	74	33	41	51	2.8
Tbilisi	1	100	81	39	47	57	2.8
Adjara A.R	3	95	71	26	31	45	2.8
Guria	7	99	76	25	35	43	2.8
Imereti, Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti	8	98	73	32	36	55	2.9
Khakheti	23	99	71	32	41	49	2.9
Mtkheta-Mtianeti	6	99	75	27	40	44	2.9
Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti	10	99	70	32	37	52	2.6
Samtskhe-Javakheti	2	95	51	18	21	33	2.7
Kvemo Kartli	10	97	63	26	43	41	2.8
Shida Kartli	16	97	72	38	49	55	2.7

*Percentage of women age 20-24 years who have had a live birth before age 18
**Percentage of women age 15-49 years who perceive any modern contraception methods as the most effective

Key Messages

- The highest percentage of women age 15-19 years, who have had a live birth or were pregnant with a first child, was in the poorest wealth quintile - 18%, while country level is only 8%.
- Almost all respondents (98%) had heard of at least one modern method —particularly the condom, pill and IUD, regardless of marital status, residence, age or education.
- Overall, 7% of women stated that the traditional methods are the most effective. Belief in the high effectiveness of traditional methods is, in fact, the predominant view among Azerbaijani women (up to 17%); and those in lowest wealthy quintiles (9%).
- For each contraceptive method, there is a considerable gap between awareness of the method and knowledge of effectiveness. Perceptions of method

reliability are confused, and involve serious misunderstandings that tend to increase unplanned pregnancies and abortions.
- The contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) for married women is 41%. As expected, urban women were more likely than their rural counterparts to be current users of contraceptives – 45% vs 34%. In the urban areas, condoms were the most commonly used method of contraception, surpassing rural use by almost 3 times.
- Among current users (41%), 8% use traditional methods, which are subject to high failure rates and consequent abortions. When these are added to the unmet need group (23%), the total unmet need for modern methods is 31%, that is almost a third of all married women.
- Unmet need rises with rural residence, low education and poor wealth quintiles. Most

unmet need is for limiting rather than spacing, almost in a 2 to 1 ratio.
- Almost two-thirds (64%) of married women have potential demand for contraception (i.e. have an unmet need for some contraceptive method (23%) or currently use any contraception (41%)).
- Around 79% of married women in Georgia make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and health care.
- Higher Women empowerment to exercise their reproductive rights is closely related with higher education level, higher wealth and residence (urban); less related with age except women age 15-19 years.