

# Adolescent Data Available from The DHS Program

Adolescence is a period of great change and opportunity. Investments in promoting adolescent health and wellbeing can have far reaching effects for individuals and communities, positively impacting a country's ability to develop and thrive.

Since 1984, the USAID-funded Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Program has collected, analyzed, and disseminated nationally representative data on population, health, HIV, and nutrition through more than 300 surveys in 90 countries.

**Adolescent data are widely available in The DHS Program surveys.** Women (and often men) age 15-49 are interviewed on a wide variety of topics. Key data are available about the adolescent age group of 15-19 including:

- Education
- Employment
- Sexual Activity
- Family Planning
- Nutrition
- HIV
- Maternal Mortality
- Domestic Violence
- Tobacco Use
- Literacy
- Marriage
- Fertility
- Maternal Health Care
- Malaria
- Adult Mortality
- Women's Empowerment
- Female Genital Cutting
- Noncommunicable Diseases

**Data are available about adolescents age 10-14.** Though The DHS Program interviews respondents that are at least age 15, survey data can provide a glimpse into the lives of adolescents younger than age 15 through retrospective questions, birth histories, and reproductive calendars. Some examples of indicators that can be produced for younger age groups include:

- Age-specific fertility rates for age 10-14
- History of family planning use for age 10-14
- History of pregnancies and births for age 10-14
- Age at sexual debut
- Age at first marriage
- Age at first birth

**There are many ways to access The DHS Program data on adolescents:**

**DHSprogram.com** - Free publications including final reports, model questionnaires, tabulation plans, and analysis reports. Register for and download free datasets to conduct additional analyses.

**STATcompiler.com** - Create custom tables and visualize DHS data.

**Mobile App** - 125 indicators, free for iOS and Android devices.

**User Forum** - Get help with DHS data-related questions.

**API** - Aggregated DHS indicator data for software developers.

**Spatial Data Repository** - Geographically linked DHS data for mapping in a GIS.

**blog.DHSprogram.com** - Behind the scenes look at DHS data and activities.

**Social Media** -



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## Selected Adolescent Data for Ages 10-19 from The DHS Program

Indicators	2012 Haiti DHS	2012 Niger DHS	2012-13 Mali DHS <sup>1</sup>	2013 Nigeria DHS	2013 Sierra Leone DHS	2014 Bangladesh DHS	2014 Cambodia DHS	2014 Kenya DHS	2015 Afghanistan DHS	2015-16 Malawi DHS
Female household members age 10-14 with no education (%)	6	51	44	26	16	3	2	4	41	2
Male household members age 10-14 with no education (%)	6	40	38	21	19	6	3	4	16	2
Women age 15-19 who experienced sexual violence before age 15 (%)	2	na <sup>2</sup>	<1	3	1	na <sup>2</sup>	<1	4	<1	1
Women age 15-19 whose first sex was before age 15 (%)	14	23	20	16	19	15	1	11	2	13
Men age 15-19 whose first sex was before age 15 (%)	36	1	4	3	10	na <sup>3</sup>	<1	20	<1	22
Women age 15-19 married before age 15 (%)	3	24	19	12	6	16	1	2	3	4
Men age 15-19 married before age 15 (%)	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	na <sup>3</sup>	<1	<1	<1	<1
Women age 15-19 who gave birth before age 15 (%)	1	5	8	2	4	4	<1	1	1	1
Age-specific fertility rate among women age 10-14 <sup>4</sup>	2	9	17	4	6	9	<1	2	1	3
Women age 15-19 who ever used any method of family planning in the five years preceding the survey while age 10-14 (%)	na <sup>5</sup>	1	1	1	4	19	<1	1	1	2
Women age 15-19 currently using any method of family planning (%)	9	4	6	6	22	51 <sup>3</sup>	5	10	8 <sup>6</sup>	15
Women age 15-19 currently using any modern method of family planning (%)	8	4	6	5	21	47 <sup>3</sup>	3	9	6 <sup>6</sup>	15
Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods among all women age 15-19 (%)	36	29	27	39	54	68 <sup>3</sup>	45	54	21 <sup>6</sup>	58

NB: The indicators presented in this table can be calculated for other age groups. 1. The three northern regions of Mali (Gao, Tombouctou, and Kidal) were not surveyed in the 2012-13 Mali DHS. 2. Data on domestic violence were not collected in the 2012 Niger DHS or the 2014 Bangladesh DHS. 3. The 2014 Bangladesh DHS interviewed ever-married women age 15-49 and did not interview men. Current use of any method of family planning, current use of any modern method of family planning, and demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods are presented for currently married women age 15-19, rather than all women age 15-19. 4. Age-specific fertility rate for the five years preceding the survey, expressed per 1,000 women-years. 5. This indicator could not be calculated for the 2012 Haiti DHS. 6. The 2015 Afghanistan DHS interviewed ever-married women age 15-49. Current use of any method of family planning, current use of any modern method of family planning, and demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods are presented for ever-married women age 15-19, rather than all women age 15-19.