

Assessing Opportunities for Family Planning Programming among Adolescents and Youth in Mauritania

(%) of WRA who are 15-24 (2023)

500,000 (41% of WRA)

Married Adolescent/Youth Population (2023)

197,000

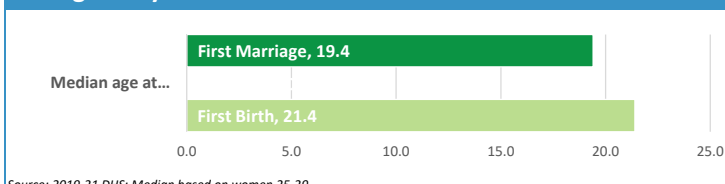
Unmarried Sexually Active Adolescent/Youth Population (2023)

No Data

Unmarried Adolescent/Youth Population (No Data on Sexual Activity) (2023)

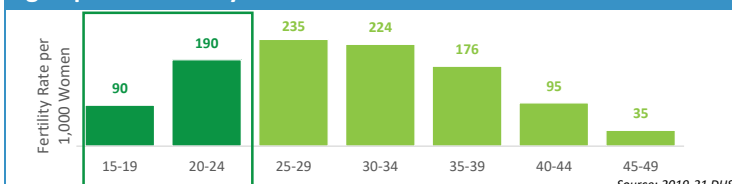
303,000

Timing of Key Life Events



Source: 2019-21 DHS; Median based on women 25-29

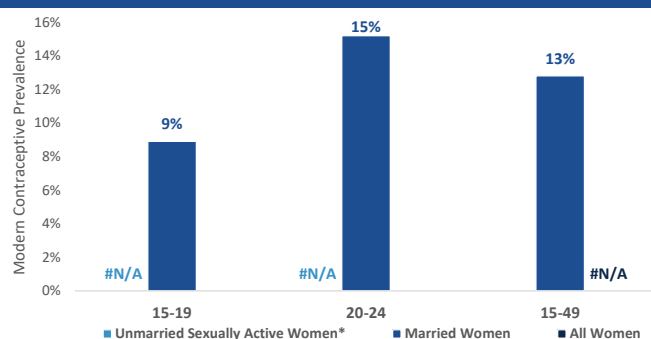
Age-Specific Fertility Rates



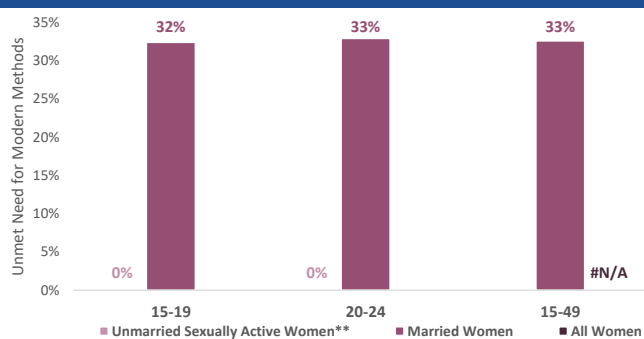
Source: 2019-21 DHS

Contraceptive Use and Need among Adolescents (15-19) and Youth (20-24)

Modern Contraceptive Use among Adolescents, Youth, and WRA



Unmet Need (Modern) among Adolescents, Youth and WRA



The graphs above show modern contraceptive use and need among married and unmarried sexually active women ages 15-19 and 20-24, and among married and all women of reproductive age (15-49), allowing for comparison between these groups. However, the overall size of these groups can vary widely based on norms around age at marriage, first sexual intercourse, and the occurrence of sex outside of marriage. Understanding the size of the population that falls into each age and marital status group, shown in the graphs below, is key to understanding the potential reach and impact of adolescent- and youth-focused programming.

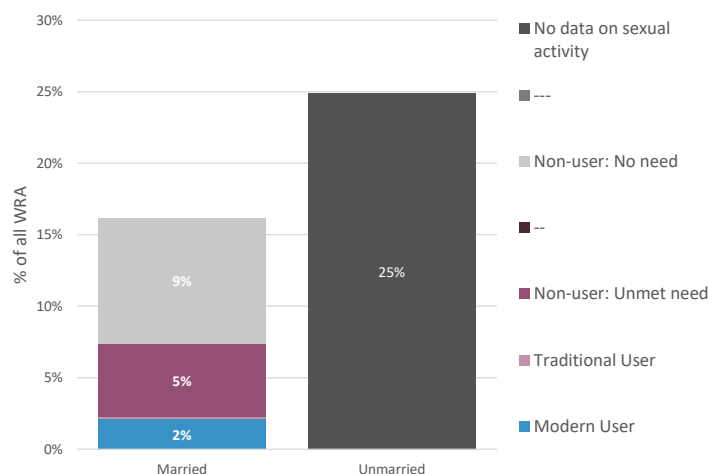
Opportunities for Reaching Adolescents and Youth with Modern Contraception

Of all the women of reproductive age (WRA) in the country, 41% are adolescents and youth (15-24). Of these, 303,000 (or 25% of WRA) are unmarried, with no data available on their sexual activity. While interventions on this population may impact current and future contraceptive use, limited data may make it difficult to estimate the potential impact. For the rest of the adolescent and youth population, it is important to consider how contraceptive use and need vary by age and marital status in order to determine where to focus programmatic efforts.

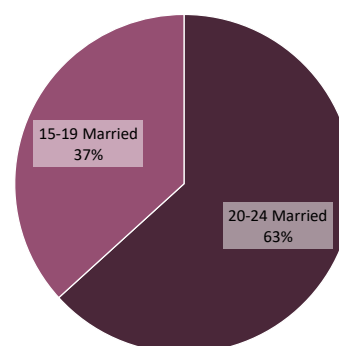
Adolescent and Youth Contraceptive Use and Need, as a % of WRA

In Mauritania, around 2% of all women are adolescents/youth using a modern method of contraception (sum of blue segments), while around 5.3% are adolescents/youth with an unmet need for modern methods (sum of purple segments).

No data was available on unmarried adolescents/youth.



Adolescents and Youth with an Unmet Need for Modern Contraception



Among married adolescents/youth with an unmet need for modern contraception, the largest group is made up of married youth (20-24) who comprise 3% of WRA.

Note: no data available on unmet need among unmarried adolescents/youth.