### Indicators

**Adolescent birth rate**
Number of births per 1,000 girls aged 15-19.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

**Child marriage**
Percentage of women aged 20-24 years old who were first married or in union before they were 15 years old.

*UNFPA, Adolescents and Youth Report: Africa and Central Asia 2018*

**Female genital mutilation (FGM) among adolescents aged 15-19**
Percentage of women aged 15 to 19 who have experienced FGM.

*UNFPA, Adolescents and Youth Report: Africa and Central Asia 2018*

**Not in education, employment or training**
Percentage of adolescents aged 15-19 not in education, employment or training.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

**Adolescent knowledge of fertile period**
Percentage of women aged 15-49 who know the correct location of the fertile period during the ovulatory cycle.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

**Child marriage**
Percentage of women aged 20-24 years old who were first married or in union before they were 15 years old.

*UNFPA, Adolescents and Youth Report: Africa and Central Asia 2018*

**Female genital mutilation (FGM) among adolescents aged 15-19**
Percentage of women aged 15 to 19 who have experienced FGM.

*UNFPA, Adolescents and Youth Report: Africa and Central Asia 2018*

**Not in education, employment or training**
Percentage of adolescents aged 15-19 not in education, employment or training.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

**School completion rates - primary education**
Number of children or young people aged 3-5 years above the intended age for the last grade of primary education.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

**School completion rates - lower secondary education**
Number of children or young people aged 3-5 years above the intended age for the last grade of lower secondary education.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

**School completion rates - upper secondary education**
Number of children or young people aged 3-5 years above the intended age for the last grade of upper secondary education.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

**First intercourse by age 15 among people aged 15-24**
Percentage of young women and young men aged 15-24 who had their first intercourse by exact age of 15.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

**Adolescent justification of wife beating among girls and boys aged 15-19**
Percentage of girls and boys 15-19 years old who consider a husband to be justified in hitting or beating his wife for at least one of the specified reasons, i.e., if his wife burns the food, argues with him, goes out without telling him, neglects the children or refuses sexual relations.

*UNICEF, State of the World’s Children 2019 Statistical Tables*

The data presented here has been collected by:
- demographic and health surveys;
- education management and information systems;
- UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNESCO Institute for Statistics and WHO surveys.
These are national, official and country-validated data collected between 2010 and 2019.

These surveys are available on the following websites:

Countries may not appear on specific charts because of unavailable data.

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**Technical Working Group members**


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**West and Central Africa Commitment for educated, healthy, and thriving adolescents and young people**

With the support of:

[Logos of supporting organizations]

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Adolescent birth rate

Percentage

WCA has the highest adolescent birth rate in the world

Child marriage

In WCA, more than 1 in 7 girls are married at the age of 14 or younger. In some countries, it is as high as 3 in 10 girls.

Not in education, employment or training

In WCA, nearly 1 in 5 adolescent girls and... ...do not receive any formal education or training.

Primary school completion rates

BOYS 69% GIRLS 65%

Lower secondary school completion rates

BOYS 54% GIRLS 46%

Upper secondary school completion rates

BOYS 41% GIRLS 33%

First intercourse by age 15 among young people aged 15-24

In most countries, between 5 and 25% of young girls have had sexual intercourse by the age of 15. The percentage for girls is either similar to or significantly higher than that for boys.

Knowledge of fertile period

There are only two countries in WCA where more than half of women have correct knowledge of their fertile period.

Alcohol among adolescents aged 15-19

On average, in WCA more than 1 in 4 adolescents consumes alcohol.

Female genital mutilation (FGM)

The percentage of adolescent girls aged 15-19 who experience FGM varies from less than 1% to more than 90% across the region.

Comprehensive knowledge of HIV among adolescents age 15-19

HIV and AIDS knowledge levels remain exceedingly low in sub-Saharan Africa among adolescent boys and girls.

Demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods

Only 2 in 5 women aged 15-49 in WCA have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods of contraception.

Adolescent justification of wife beating

In WCA, almost half of adolescent girls and more than a third of adolescent boys will attempt to justify wife-beating.

New HIV infections among young people aged 15-24

Adolescent girls and young women in WCA have a higher risk of acquiring HIV than their male counterparts.