

PMA2020 - GHANA

ADOLESCENTS & YOUNG ADULTS HEALTH BRIEF

September-November 2017



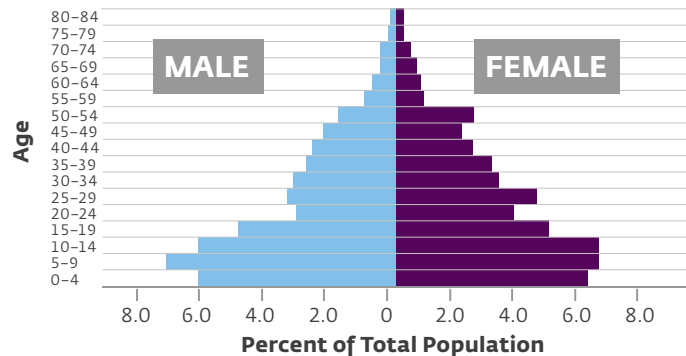
Photo: 2016 Michelle Dowling/SickKids CGCH, Courtesy of Photoshare

KEY MESSAGES

- Ghana has a large adolescent and youth population.
- Most women age 15-19 have attended middle school.
- Rural and urban women begin using contraception at the same age, but rural women are one year younger when they first have sex.
- Young unmarried women use more short-acting methods than young women in union.
- Unmarried users are less likely than users in union to report being counseled on other methods or side effects.

Ghana has a large youth population

Population Age-Sex Pyramid



More than half of Ghanaians (55%) are under 24 years of age. More than 1 in 5 (22%) are adolescents (age 10-19 years).

More young women live in rural areas, and the majority attend at least some middle school

Distribution of Female Youth Population (%)

AGE	15-19	20-24	TOTAL
	n=811	n=691	n=1,502
RESIDENCE			
Urban	44.4	48.0	46.0
Rural	55.6	52.0	54.0
EDUCATION*			
Never or Primary	17.7	22.5	19.8
Middle/Junior Secondary School	54.9	37.8	47.4
Secondary +	27.4	39.7	32.8

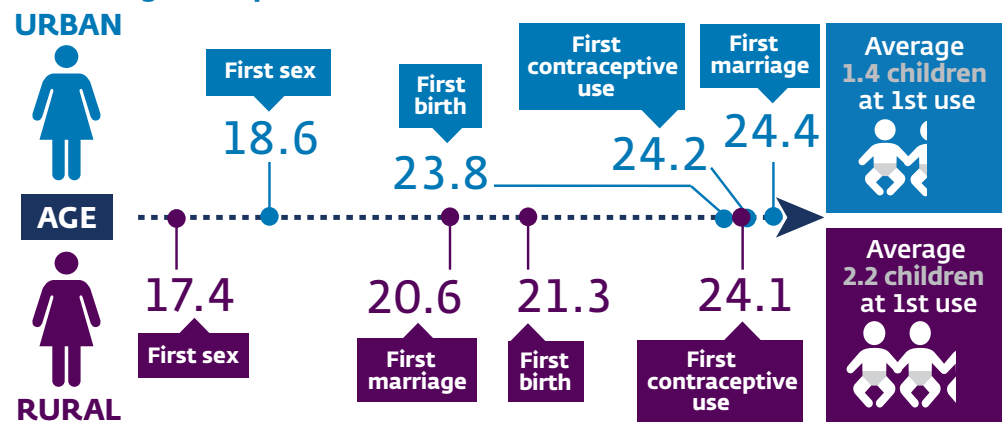
*Education defined as ever attended

Women start using contraception many years after first sex

The gap between first sex and first contraceptive use among rural women is 6.7 years and 5.6 years for urban women.

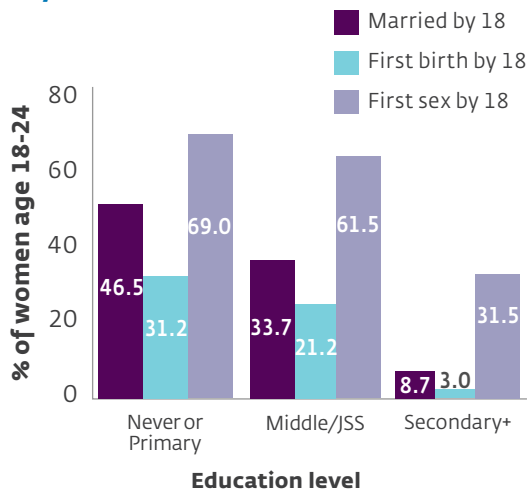
**Median ages are calculated among women age 25-49 to reduce censoring
First sex, first contraceptive use: 15-49 years; first marriage, first birth: 25-49 years

Median Age at Reproductive Events**

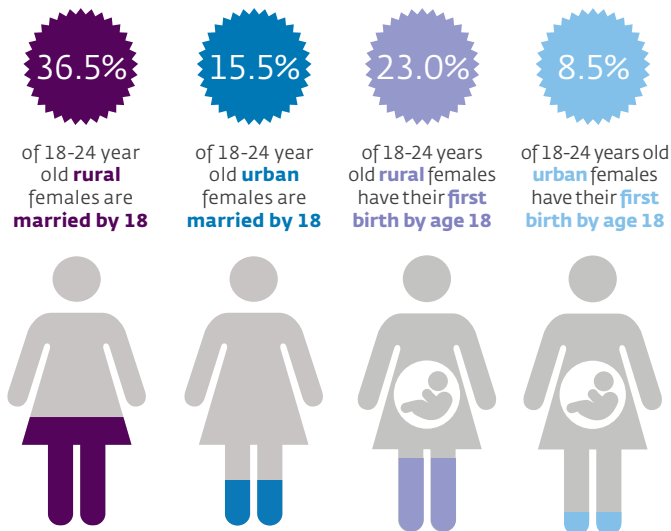


Marked differences in patterns of early marriage and childbearing exist among young women age 18-24

Marriage and childbearing by 18, by education

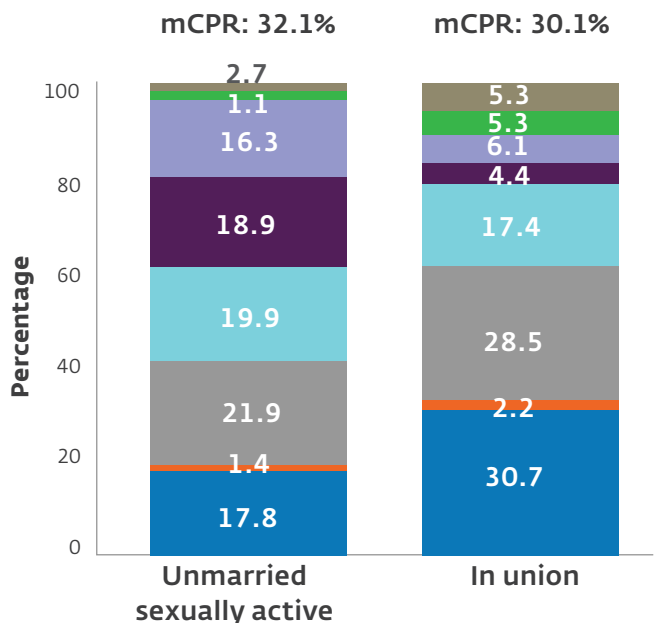


Young women with a secondary or higher level of education are less likely than women with no or only primary education to be married, have first birth, or first sex by 18.



Unmarried sexually active women are less likely to use highly effective contraceptive methods

Method mix among modern users age 15-24, by marital status



Young unmarried contraceptive users are less likely than married contraceptive users to access methods from public facilities and to receive counseling services

Source of contraceptives and counseling among modern contraceptive users age 15-24 by marital status

	Unmarried	In Union
SOURCE OF CURRENT CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD	%	%
Obtained method from public facility	38.2	59.2
COUNSELING	%	%
Counseled on other contraceptive methods	39.7	63.4
Counseled on possible side effects	45.2	61.6
Counseled on what to do if experiencing side effects	78.7	84.7

SAMPLE DESIGN

PMA2017/Ghana-R6 survey, the sixth round of data collection in Ghana, used a two-stage cluster design with urban and rural, major ecological zones as the strata. A sample of 100 enumeration areas (EAs) was drawn by the Ghana Statistical Service from its master sampling frame. In each EA, 42 households were randomly selected using a random number generator. Households were surveyed and occupants enumerated. All eligible females age 15 to 49 were contacted and consented for interviews. The final sample included 4,100 households (98.0% response rate), 4,154 females (98.1% response rate), including 1,502 females age 15-24 (response rate 97.9%), and 179 SDPs (91.3% response rate). Data collection was conducted between September and November 2017.

