More than 220 million women in the developing world, at different stages of their reproductive lives, have an unmet need for family planning.

12 out of 16 sub-Saharan African countries reported central store stockouts of one or more contraceptives over a 12-month period.

In sub-Saharan Africa, 1 in 3 women with unmet need want to stop having children, and many do not have access to long-term or permanent methods of family planning.

About 1 in 6 women in Africa believes, often incorrectly, that breastfeeding women cannot get pregnant.

In the 3 regions with the highest unmet need, 2 out of 3 women younger than 20 who want to avoid a pregnancy have an unmet need.

1 out of 4 women in Asia report concerns about side effects as a reason for not using modern contraceptives.

In some Latin American countries, unmet need is twice as high among the poorest as the wealthiest.

Sources: Guttmacher Institute, Contraceptive Technologies: Responding to Women’s Needs; USAID DELIVER Project, Contraceptive Security Indicators Data 2010; Cleland et al., Family planning: the unfinished agenda.