The Faces of Unmet Need

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.



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



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.





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.



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.*