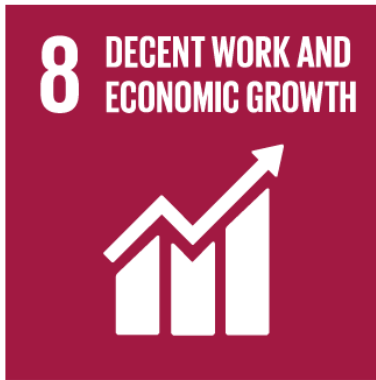




Proportion of women of reproductive age who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods: SDG Indicator 3.7.1

Population Division | Department of Economic and Social Affairs | United Nations



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



TARGET

3.7



UNIVERSAL ACCESS
TO SEXUAL AND
REPRODUCTIVE CARE,
FAMILY PLANNING AND
EDUCATION

INDICATOR

3.7.1

PROPORTION OF WOMEN
OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE
(AGED 15-49) WHO HAVE
THEIR NEED FOR FAMILY
PLANNING SATISFIED BY
MODERN METHODS

Rationale

Assess overall levels
of coverage for family
planning programmes
and services

Achieve universal
access to sexual and
reproductive health-
care services

Enable women and
their partners to
exercise their rights to
decide freely and
responsibly the
number and spacing
of their children and
to have the
information,
education and means
to do so

Improve maternal and
child health and well-
being and prevent
unintended
pregnancies



Definition

The percentage of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) who desire either to have no (additional) children or to postpone the next child and who are currently using a modern method of contraception.

Ideally, the indicator should be disaggregated by geography (urban/rural), education, income groups, and other relevant characteristics to ensure no one is left behind.

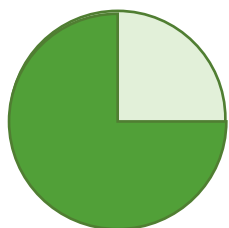
What is a high proportion of need for family planning satisfied by modern methods?

100% is most likely an unrealistic target, as many women choose not to use modern contraceptive methods for a variety of reasons, including:

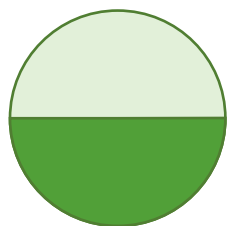
- Conflict with religious beliefs; Inconvenience or discomfort; Preference for traditional methods, Previously experiencing or fear of side-effects

The region with the highest proportion of demand satisfied by modern methods in 2020 is Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (86.2%)

Rule of thumb

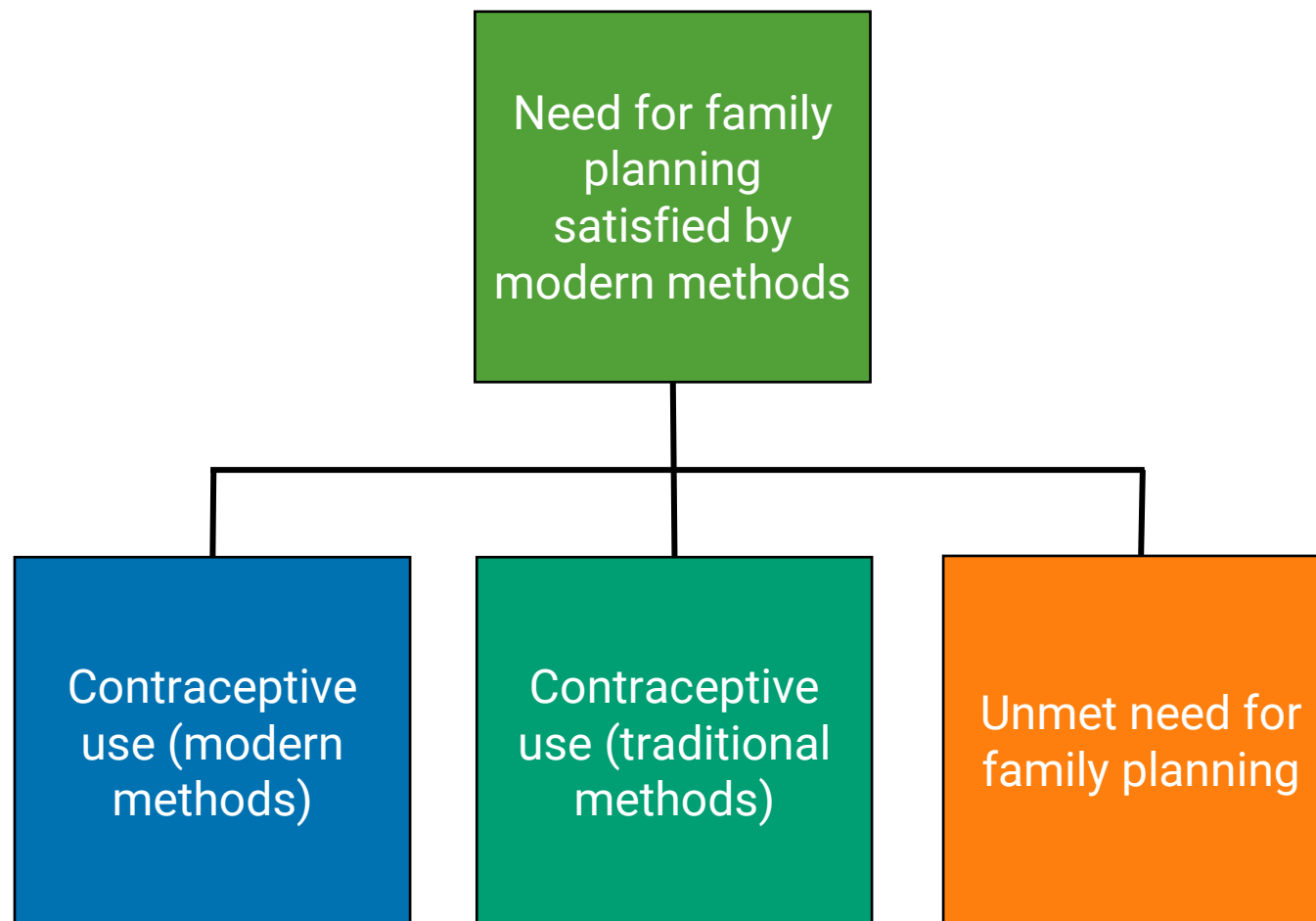


> 75% high level of need satisfied by modern methods

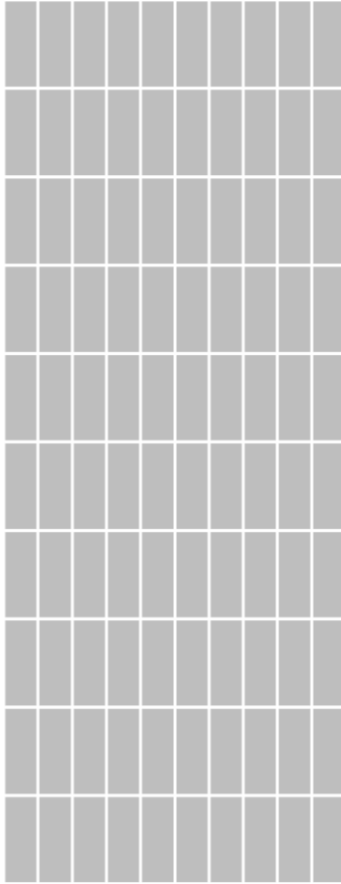


< 50% low level of need satisfied by modern methods

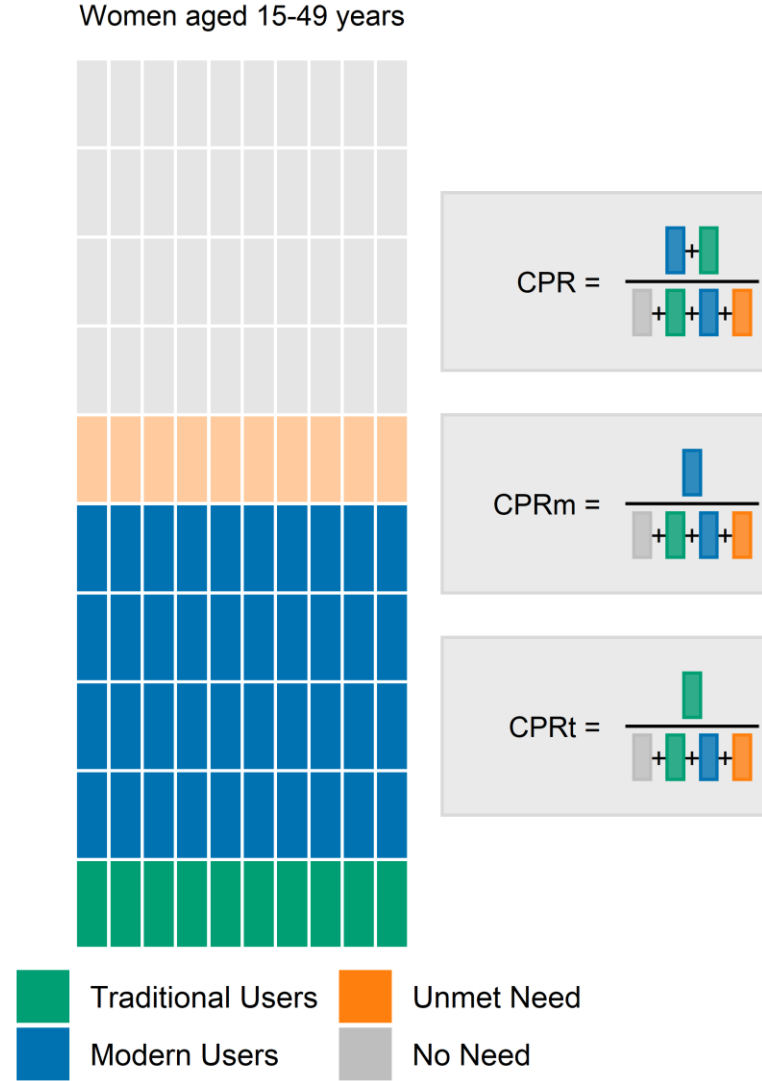
Components for computation



Women aged 15-49 years



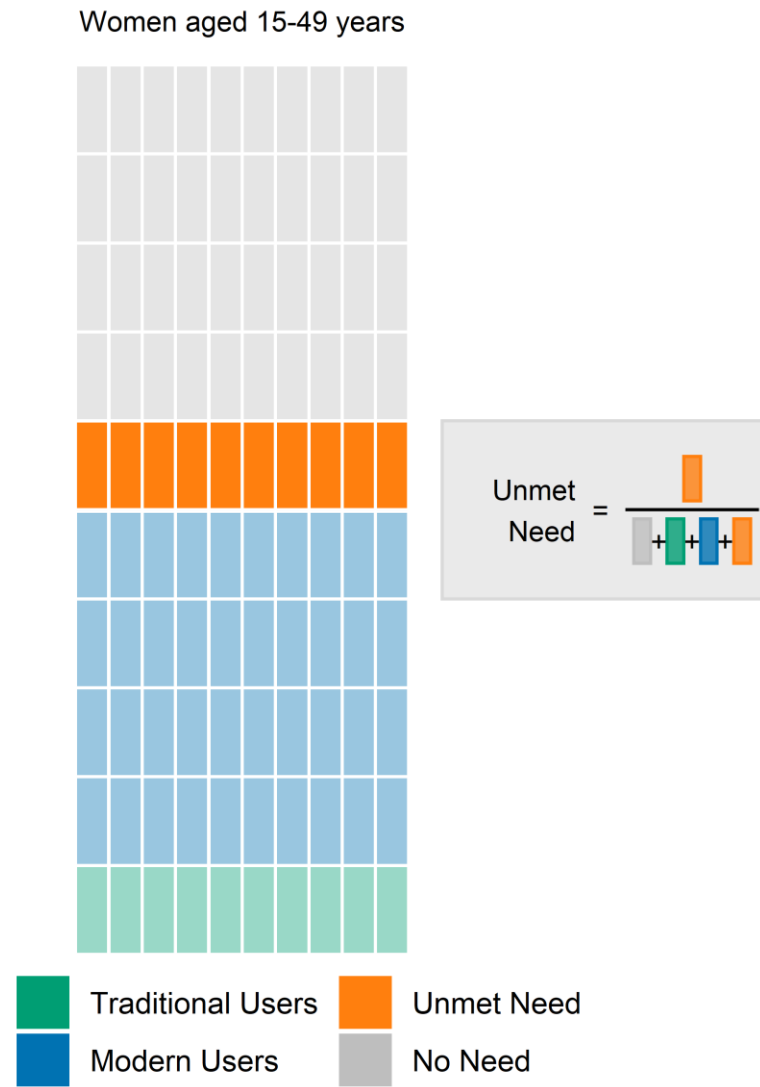
- All family planning indicators are calculated for women of reproductive age (15-49 years)
- Depending on survey methodologies, indicators are generally calculated either for married/in-union women, all women or ever-married women within these ages



- Contraceptive prevalence rate
 - Percentage of women of reproductive age using any form of contraception

Concept

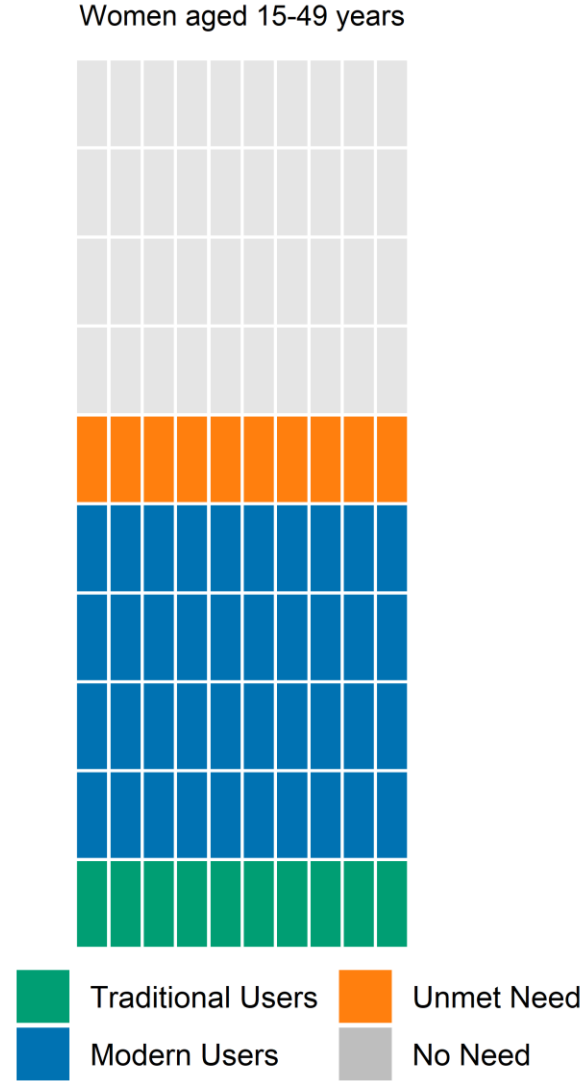
- Can be calculated separately for modern and traditional methods
- Modern methods include condoms, IUDs, implants, pill, etc.
- Traditional methods include withdrawal, rhythm, other folk methods



- Unmet need for family planning
 - Percentage of women of reproductive age who want to avoid pregnancy, but are not using any form of contraception

Concept

- Measures women and couples' non-use of contraception when they want to limit or delay childbirth
- Includes pregnant or post-partum women whose last pregnancy was either mistimed or unintended
- Based on the DHS 2012 definition: <https://dhsprogram.com/publications/publication-as25-analytical-studies.cfm>



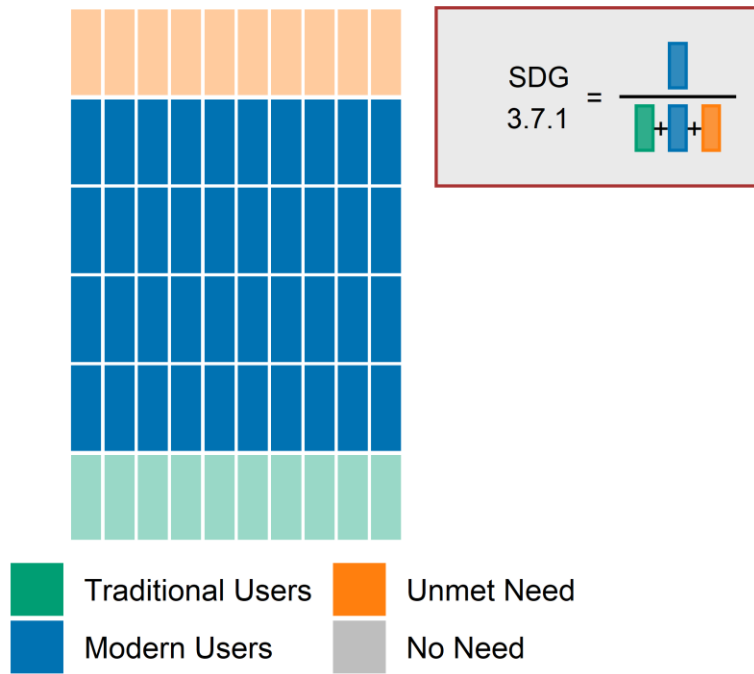
- Total need for family planning

- The percentage of all women of reproductive age who want to avoid pregnancy

Concept

- Includes those using contraception *and* those with an unmet need for family planning

Women aged 15-49 years



- Need for family planning satisfied by modern methods (SDG 3.7.1)

- Percentage of women who are using a modern contraceptive method among women who want to avoid pregnancy

Concept

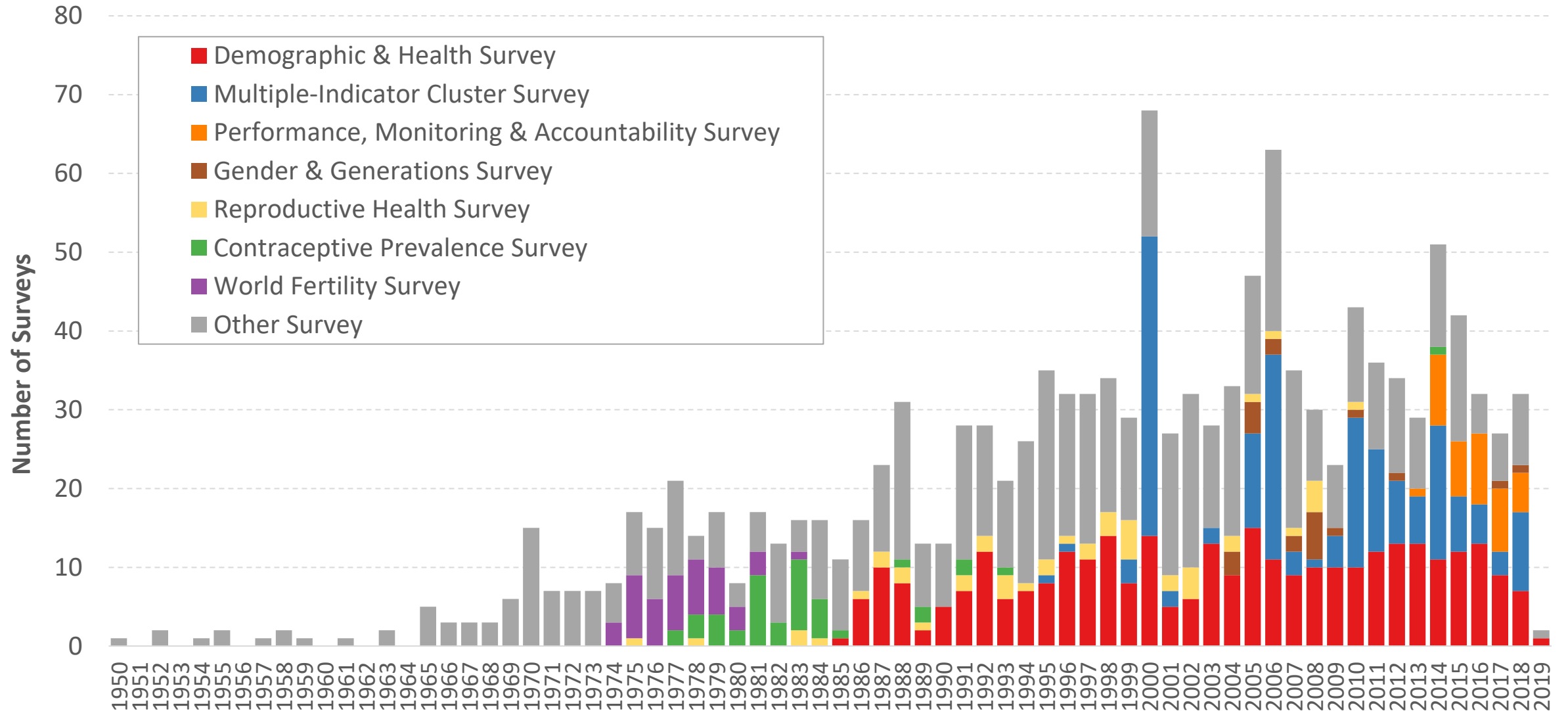
- Differs from modern contraceptive prevalence rate because it does not include women without a need for contraception

Data availability for global monitoring

World Contraceptive Use dataset

- Survey-based observations of contraceptive use and unmet need for family planning
- Released annually in March
- More than 1,300 surveys from 1950 to 2018
- 195 countries or areas
- SDG 3.7.1. – country data for 130 countries
- More information available:
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/themes/family-planning>

Data sources



Source: Based on United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2020). World Contraceptive Use 2020. New York: United Nations.

Comparability issues

Sample representativeness.

- Some surveys target populations other than all women aged 15–49, e.g.:
 - Age groups (e.g. 18-44)
 - Geography (e.g. not all regions of a country included)
 - Union status (e.g. only married women asked about family planning)

Questionnaire issues.

- Sensitive nature of asking questions about sexual and reproductive health
- **Contraceptive prevalence**
 - Sterilization excluded from modern method use or included for non-contraceptive reasons.
 - Omission of probing questions to prompt reporting of traditional method use.
- **Unmet need for family planning**
 - Large number of questions need to compute unmet need
 - Inconsistencies across time and across surveys in unmet need measurement



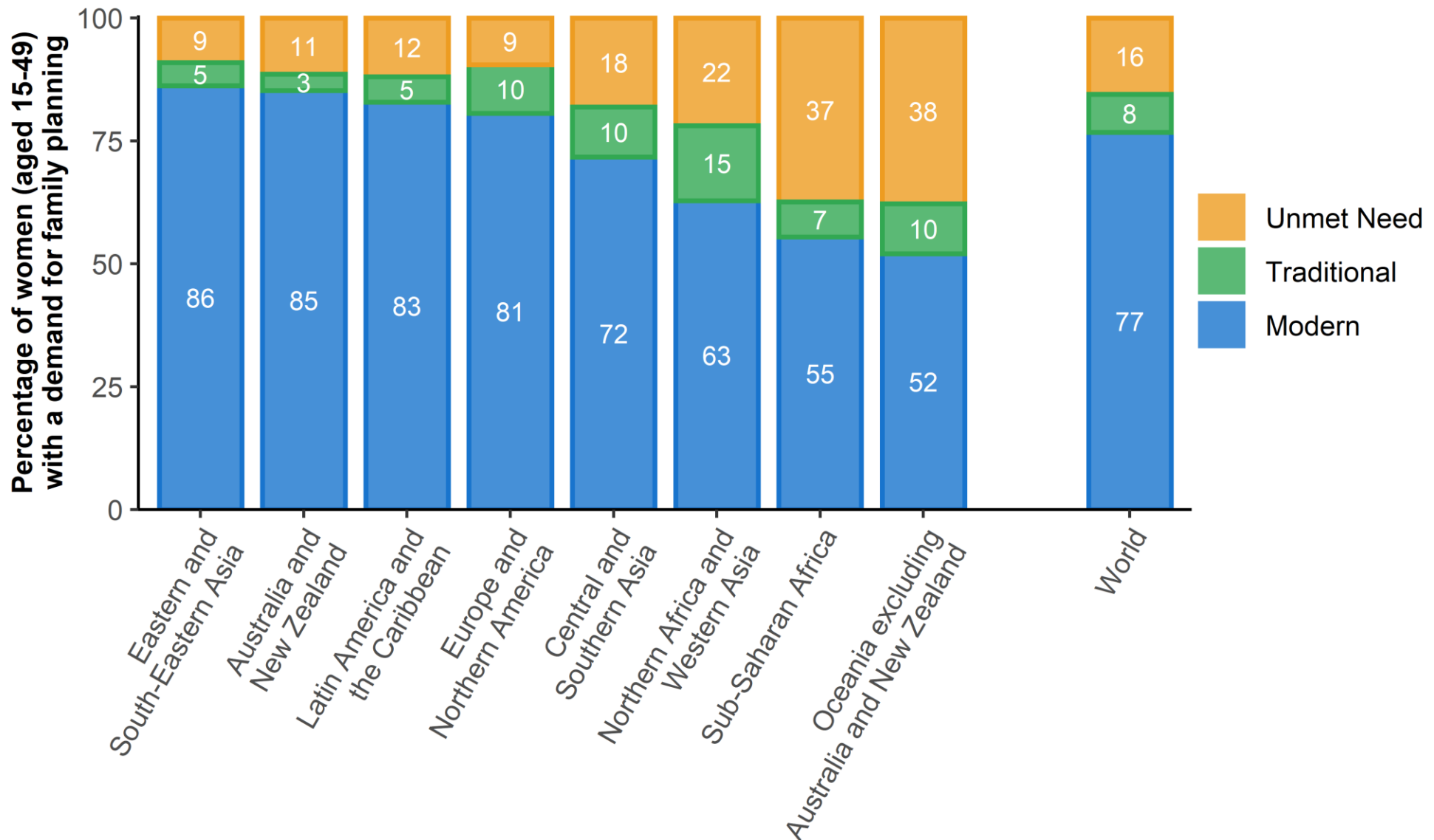
Global monitoring

- Estimates and projections from statistical model
 - Model estimates fill in gaps where no survey data are available
 - Annual data from 1990 to 2030
 - 185 countries or areas
 - Model estimates standardized improving comparability across countries and time
 - Available at: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/themes/family-planning>
- Global and regional estimates used in SDG reporting
- Country estimates for SDG reporting from survey observation

Online Family Planning Estimation Tool from Track20

- Allows running the model for one country
- Allows adding additional data
- http://www.track20.org/pages/data_analysis/publications/methodological/family_planning_estimation_tool.php

Global picture of SDG 3.7.1 in 2020



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2020). Family Planning Highlights 2020. New York: United Nations.



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