

Progress in Family Planning: Did the Millennium Development Goals Make a Difference?

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Evolution of Millennium Development Goal 5

- 2000: UN Millennium Declaration adopted, but lacked a family planning indicator
- 2005: MDG 5 (improve maternal health) included:
 - 5.3 Contraceptive Prevalence
 - 5.6 Unmet need
- 2015: MDG Report stated that “Contraceptive prevalence among women aged 15 to 49, married or in a union, increased from 55 per cent in 1990 worldwide to 64 per cent in 2015... Yet even in 2015 12 per cent want to delay or avoid pregnancy but are not using any method of contraception”



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What more do we know now - than was known in 2015 - about progress in family planning at the end of the MDGs?

Has progress in family planning accelerated since 2005, when Target 5.B was included in the MDGs?



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Data and Methods

- Data compiled from nationally representative household surveys (UN 2019a)
- Bayesian hierarchical model used to produce national, regional, and global probabilistic estimates and projections of contraceptive prevalence and unmet need, MW 15-49, 1970-2030 (Alkema et al. 2013) – published once a year, “2019 Revision” (UN 2019b).
- Medians, 80% and 90% uncertainty intervals are reported
- Compare “2019 Revision” against pre-2005 “historic scenario”

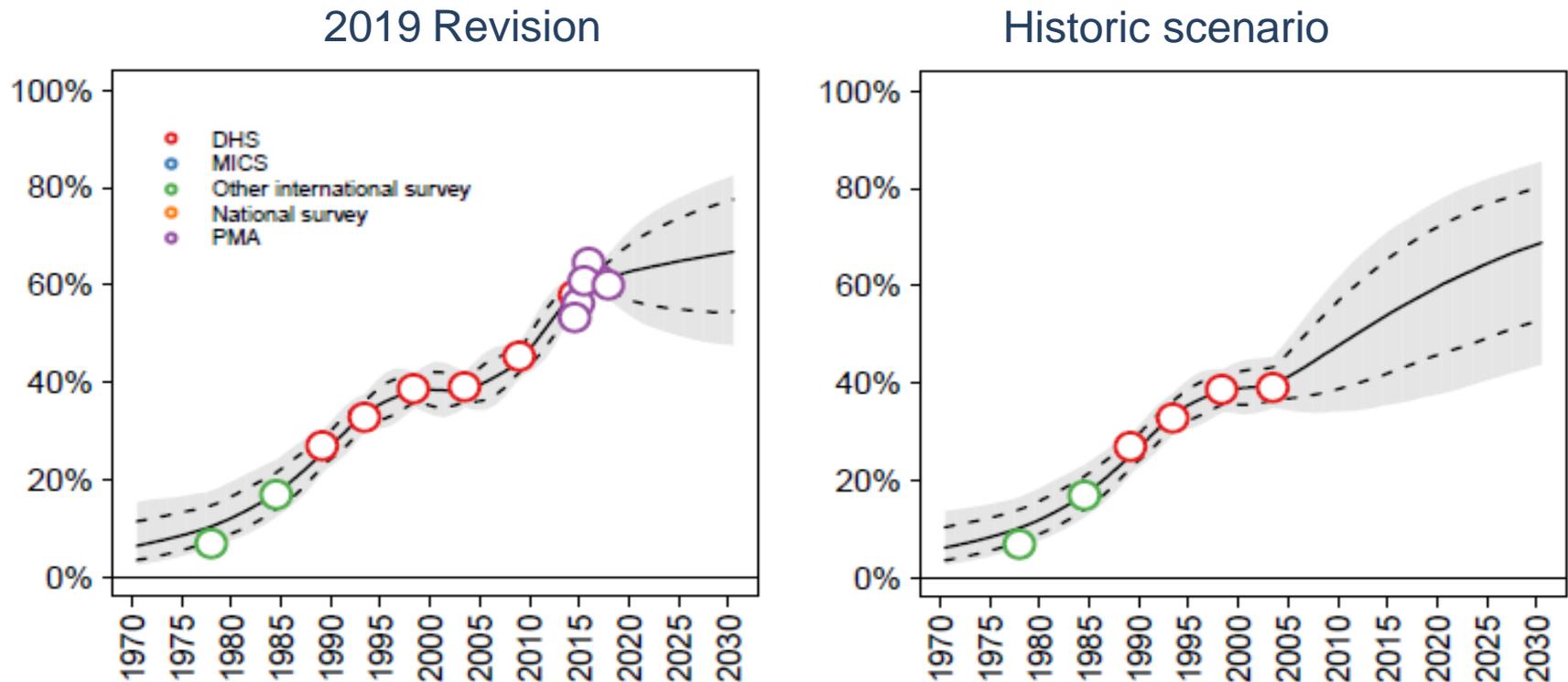


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Compared 2019 Revision (full-data) against historic scenario (pre-2005 data)



Kenya contraceptive prevalence (any method) among married/in-union women age 15-49

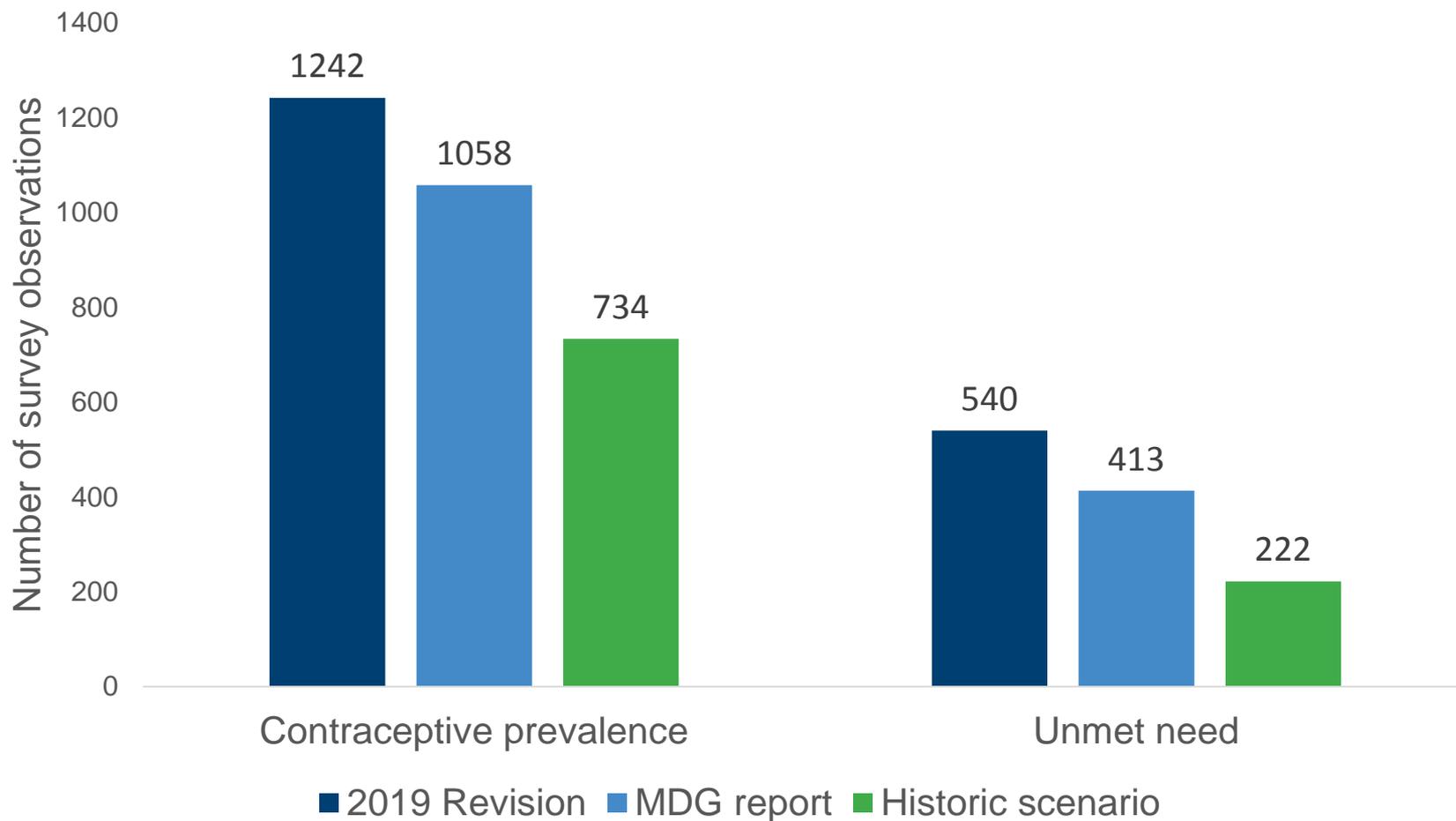


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Data availability

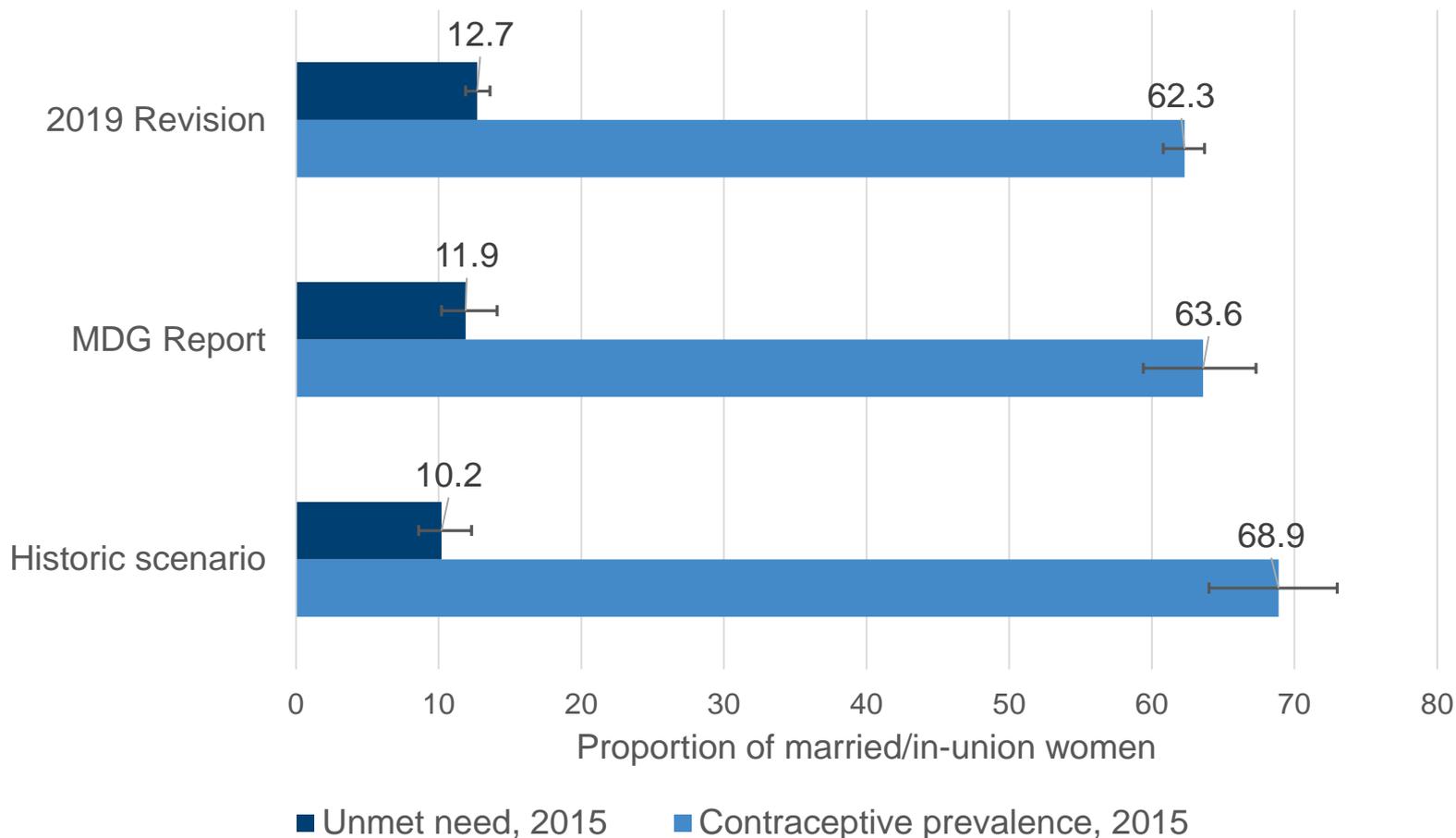


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Global Contraceptive Prevalence and Unmet Need Estimates in 2015

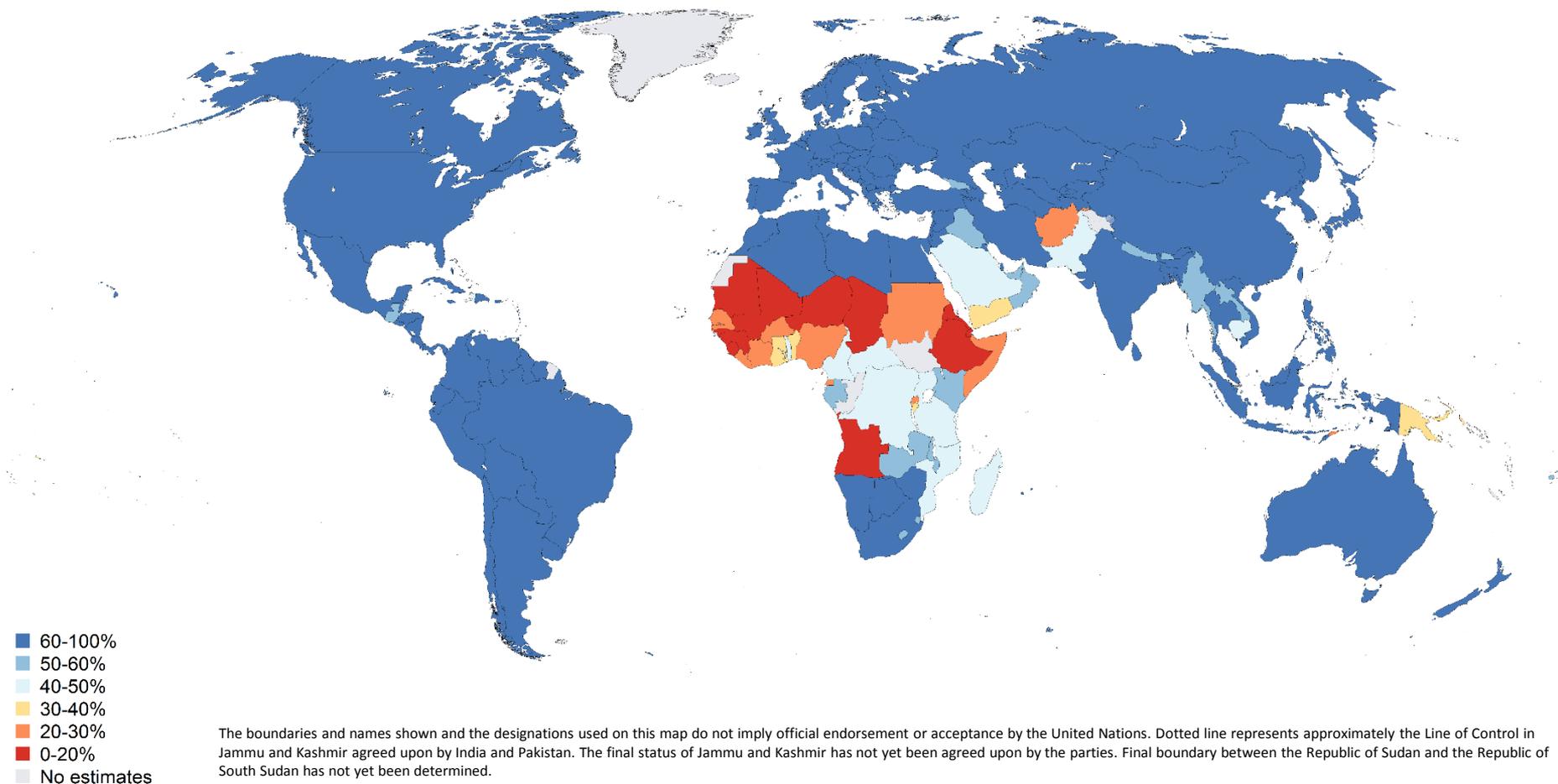


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Contraceptive prevalence (any method) in 2015 among married/in-union women - Historic Scenario

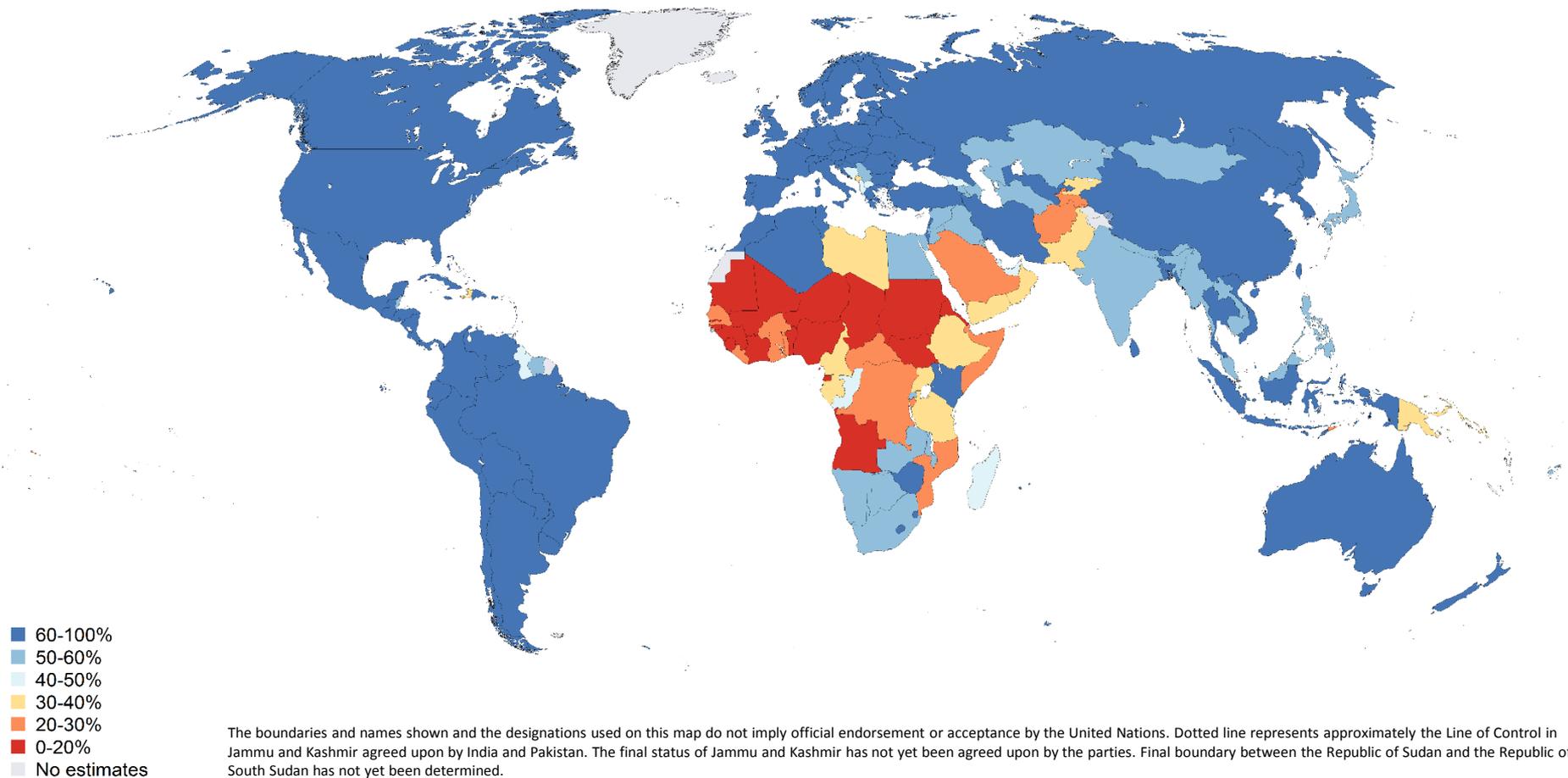


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Contraceptive prevalence (any method) in 2015 among married/in-union women – 2019 Revision



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Conclusion

- We recommend conducting this type of analysis several years after the conclusion of an initiative.
- Despite the efforts of the MDGs, the world, most sub-regions, and many countries did not perform as well in 2015 as what would have been expected in 2005.
- The approach taken here could be used to provide insights into progress in family planning during the time-frame of other initiatives, e.g. SDGs and FP2020.
- Uncertainty intervals can help to set future targets



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