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Have We Forgotten Anyone?

Women of advanced maternal age?

Women of high parity?

Limiters of any age or parity?

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Purpose:

- To highlight the rationale and need for proactive outreach, counseling, and services for women of high parity, advanced maternal age, and women wishing to limit
- To highlight programmatic actions which may accelerate reductions in maternal mortality by offering FP / PPF to these women.



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Healthy times for a pregnancy over the reproductive life course

- After age 18
- At least 24 months after a live birth
(approximately 3 years between births)

- Before age 34

- Up to parity 4



Family planning helps ensure that pregnancies occur at the healthiest times of a woman's life.

Why does this matter?

Family Planning Saves Mother's Lives

- ❖ Reducing the number high-risk births, especially high parity births, reduces the number of times a women is exposed to the risk of mortality
- ❖ Access to voluntary family planning could reduce maternal deaths by 25-40%
- ❖ In one year, family planning prevented more than 272,000 maternal deaths, a 44% reduction
- ❖ If all needs for family planning were met, an additional 104,000 maternal deaths could be prevented annually



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High Parity – What's the Situation?

Total and Wanted Fertility

In all of USAID's 24 priority countries total fertility is **GREATER** than wanted fertility.

Women have 0.5-2.5 more children than they want

Births 4th Order or Higher

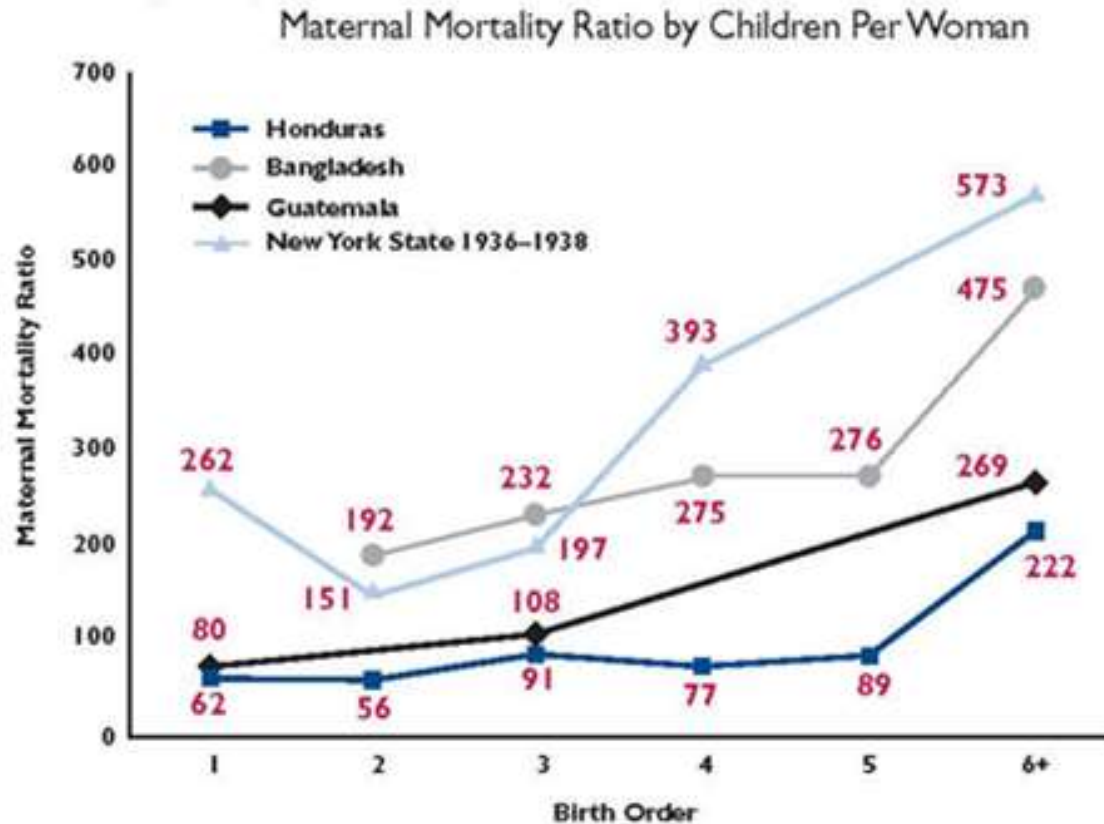
Among USAID's 24 priority countries, the proportion of births that are **4th order or higher**

Africa	1/3 – 1/2
Asia	1/5 – 1/3
LAC	1/4 – 1/3



Why does parity matter?

Maternal Mortality is Lower among Women who Have Fewer Children



Source: J. Stover and J. Ross, 2010

Advanced Maternal Age Pregnancies (≥ 35 years) – What's the Situation?

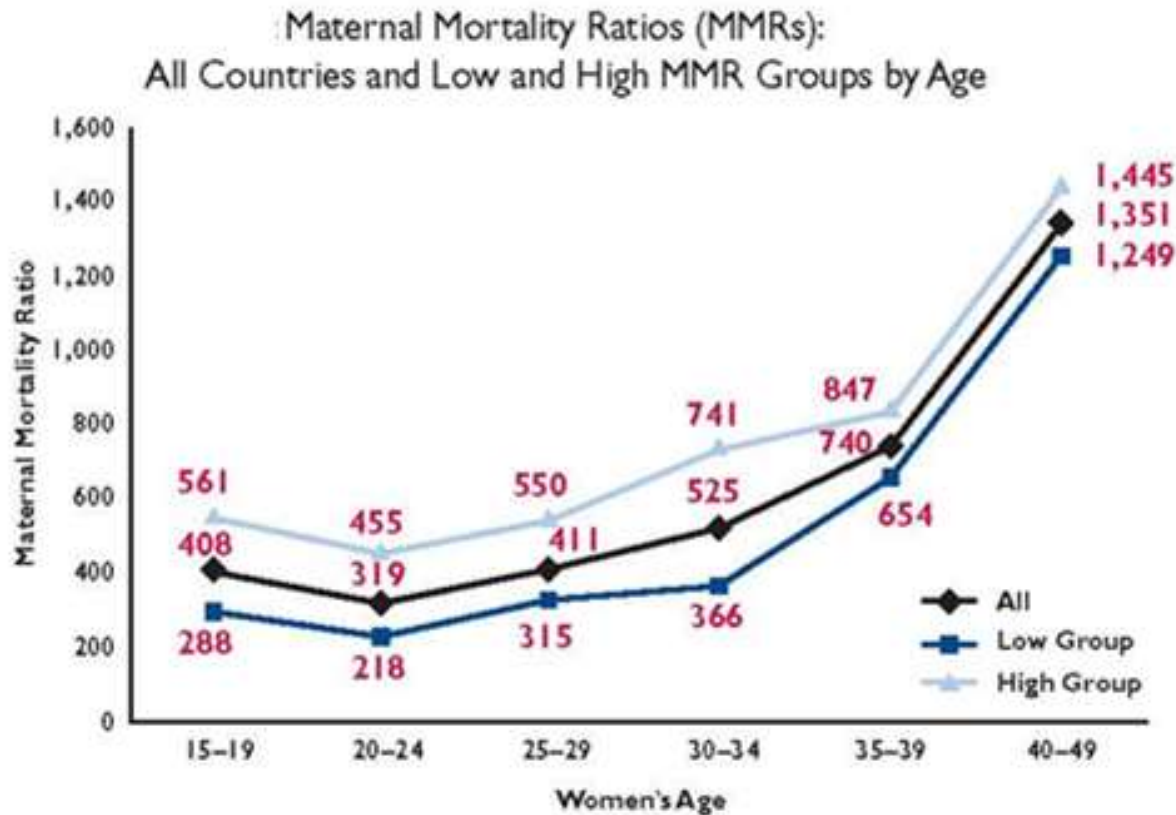
Among USAID's 24 priority countries, the proportion of births that are to **women ≥ 35 years**:

- Africa 12 – 18%
- Asia 4 – 17%
- LAC 17%



Why does maternal age matter?

Maternal Mortality is Lower among Women who Become Pregnant Before Age 34



The Demand for Limiting

Among USAID's 24 priority countries:

- East Africa: the demand for limiting is high, and growing. In 4 of 9 countries, demand for limiting exceeds the demand for spacing.
- Asia & LAC: the demand for limiting far exceeds the demand for spacing.
- West Africa: the demand for limiting is consistently low and unchanged.



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The Mean Age at Which Demand for Limiting in Africa Meets or Exceeds the Demand for Spacing Births

In a Dozen African Countries, the Mean Age Ranges from 23 – 34 years

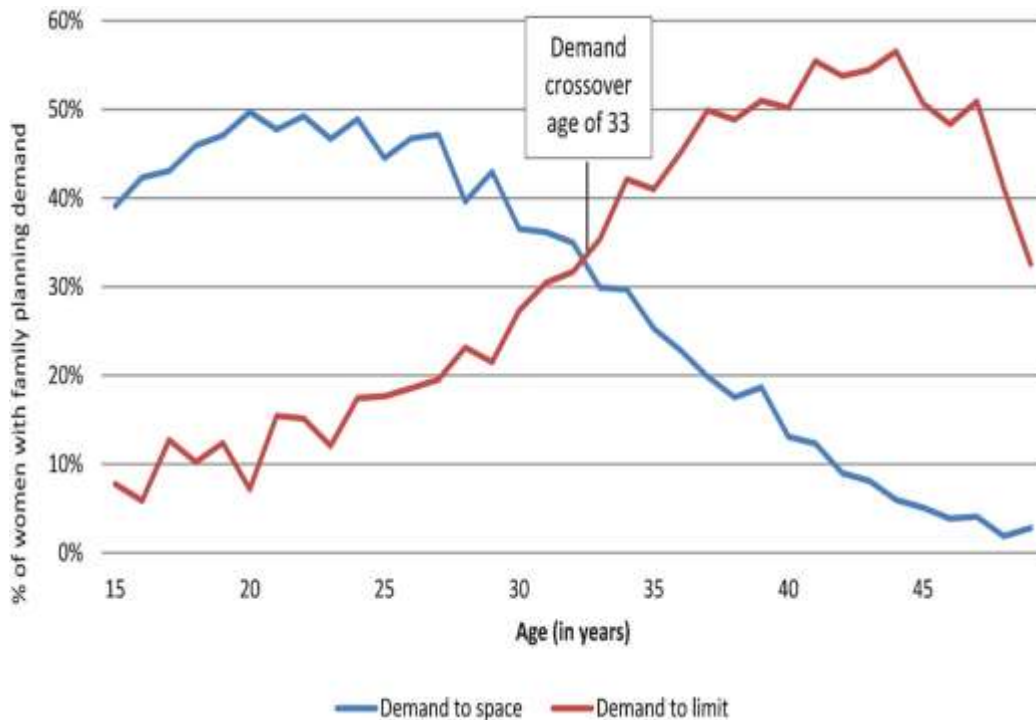


TABLE 2. Demand Crossover Age: Mean Age at Which Demand for Limiting Future Births Meets or Exceeds Demand for Spacing Births

Country	Age
Swaziland	23
Lesotho	24
Namibia	28
Malawi	29
Kenya	31
Madagascar	31
Rwanda	31
Ethiopia	32
Zimbabwe	32
Uganda	33
Benin	34
Tanzania	34
Cameroon	35
Zambia	35
Ghana	36
Nigeria	36
Democratic Republic of Congo	38
Senegal	38



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**What can be done,
programmatically,
to reach and to meet
the FP needs of these women?**



Expand Access to Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives (LARCs)

Access to IUDs and Implants is low, but growing

- **Implants Access Program**
- **Introduce LNG-IUD (coming soon)**
- **Integration with ANC/birth**
- **Integration with PNC, home visits**
- **Integration with immunization**
- **Integration with nutrition**
- **Mobile Outreach**
- **Event Days**
- **Dedicated Providers**
- **Task Shifting**
- **Price Reduction**
- **Vouchers**



Revitalize and Expand Access to Voluntary Permanent Methods

- Generally very low use of **female sterilization**, with declines in most countries, despite increases in demand for limiting.
- Very, very low use of **vasectomy**, with limited or no services in many countries
- Demand for limiting **≠** demand for permanent methods
 - **Mobile outreach**
 - **Task sharing**
 - **Integration with birth**
 - **Enabling environment**
 - **Scheduled sessions**
 - **Dedicated providers**
 - **Integration with gender**
 - **Social norms/demand creation**



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SBCC Materials

1. Counseling and assessment guide
2. Program managers guide
3. Info-graphic
4. Guide for research
5. Guide for radio journalists
6. Poster
7. Client brochure



PPFP Programming Strategies

Ask about the FP needs of women with AMA, HP, and limiters of all ages and parity in PPFP programs!

