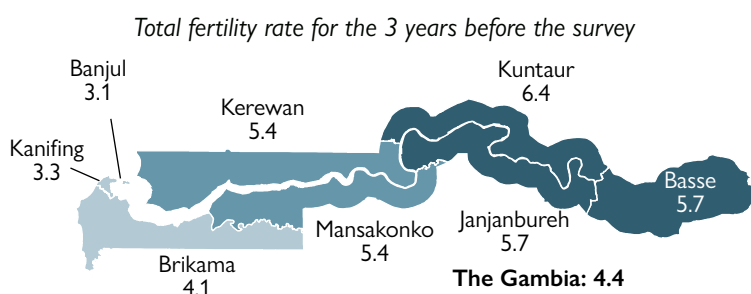


# Reproductive Health, Nutrition, Malaria, and HIV in The Gambia

11,865 women age 15-49 and 4,636 men age 15-59 were interviewed during the 2019-20 Gambia Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS). The survey also included height and weight measurements for over 3,900 children under age five, anaemia testing for over 3,400 children age 6-59 months and over 5,800 women age 15-49, and malaria testing via rapid diagnostic test for over 3,400 children age 6-59 months.

## Reproductive Health

Women in The Gambia have an average of **4.4 children**.

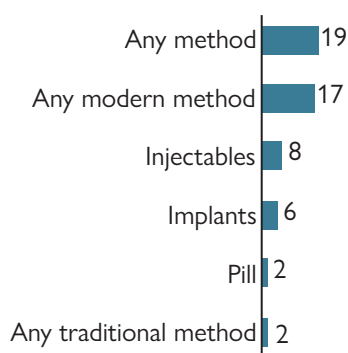


Women in Kuntaur have twice as many children (**6.4**) as women in Banjul (**3.1**).

Among women age 20-24:  
**6%** were married by age 15,  
**23%** were married by age 18, and  
**14%** gave birth by age 18.



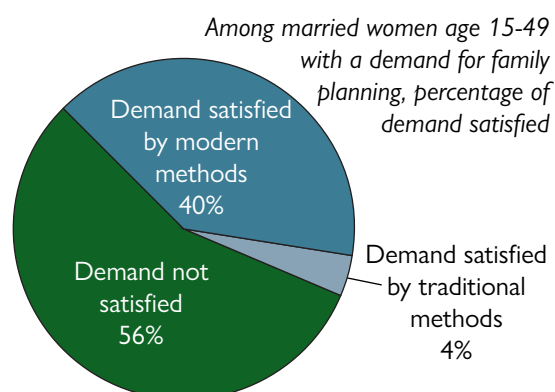
Percent of married women age 15-49 using family planning



Married women's use of family planning doubled from **9%** in 2013 to **19%** in 2019-20.

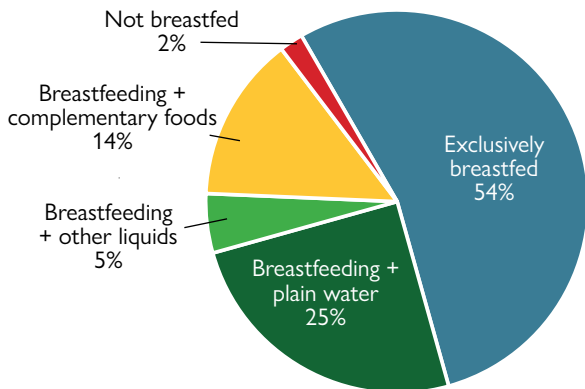
Modern methods of family planning like **injectables** and **implants** are the most popular.

**40%** of the demand for family planning among married women is satisfied by modern methods and **4%** is satisfied by traditional methods.



# Nutrition

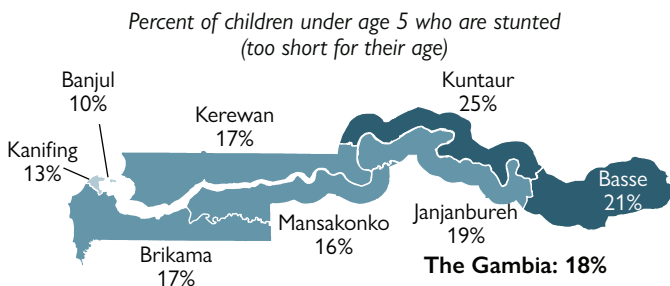
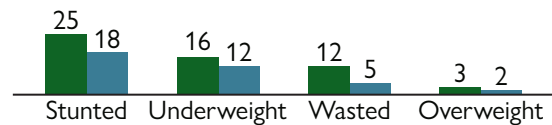
Breastfeeding status of youngest children under age 6 months



**54%** of children under 6 months are exclusively breastfed, a practice recommended by the WHO, The Gambia Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and The Gambia National Nutrition Agency.

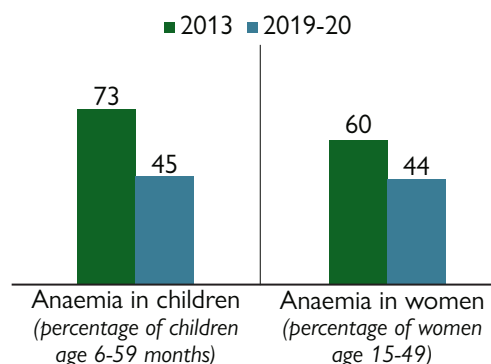
**18%** of children under age 5 in The Gambia are stunted (too short for their age).

Percent of children under age 5 who are:  
■ 2013 ■ 2019-20



Childhood stunting has decreased from **25%** in 2013 to **18%** in 2019-20. Childhood underweight has declined from **16%** to **12%** and childhood wasting has also declined from **12%** to **5%** during the same period.

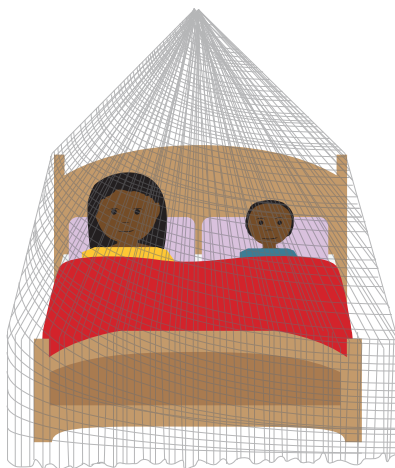
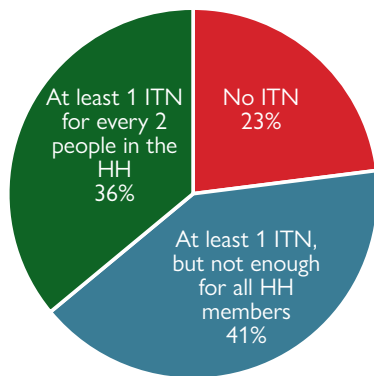
Anaemia in children has decreased from **73%** in 2013 to **45%** in 2019-20.



Anaemia in women has decreased from **60%** in 2013 to **44%** in 2019-20.

# Malaria

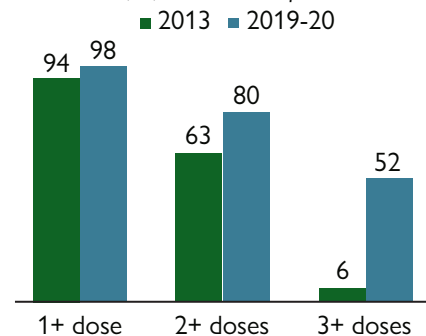
Percent distribution of households (HH)



**44%** of children under five and pregnant women (each) slept under an ITN the night before the survey.

**36%** of households in The Gambia have at least one insecticide treated net (ITN) for every two people in the household and **41%** of households have at least one ITN, but not enough for all household members.

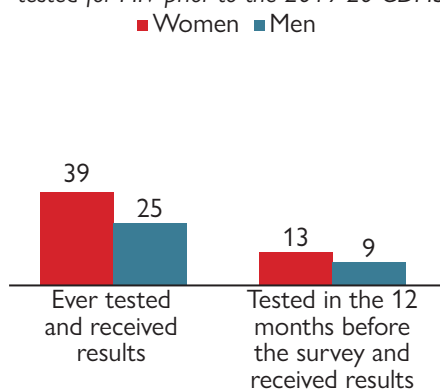
Percent of women with a live birth who received at least 1, 2, or 3 doses of SP/Fansidar



Almost all pregnant women (**98%**) took at least one dose of SP/Fansidar or intermittent preventive treatment during pregnancy (IPTp). **52%** took three or more doses of IPTp, a marked increase from 6% in 2013.

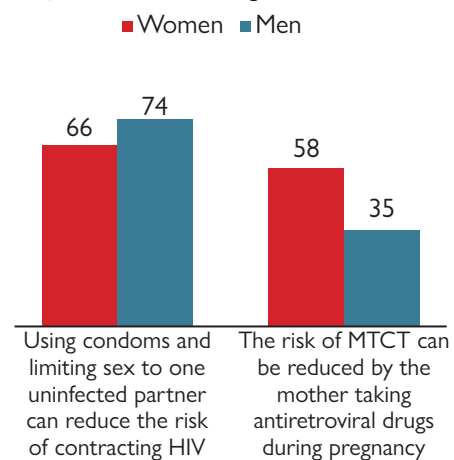
# HIV

Percent of women and men age 15-49 who were tested for HIV prior to the 2019-20 GDHS



**13%** of women and **9%** of men age 15-49 were tested for HIV and received their results in the 12 months before the survey.

Percent of women and men age 15-49 who know that:



**58%** of women and **35%** of men age 15-49 know that the risk of mother to child transmission (MTCT) of HIV can be reduced by the mother taking antiretroviral drugs during pregnancy.



The 2019-20 Gambia Demographic and Health Survey (2019-20 GDHS) was implemented by the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS). The funding for the GDHS was provided by United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), ActionAid International The Gambia, the Network Against Gender Based Violence, the National Nutrition Agency (NaNA), and The Government of the Republic of The Gambia. ICF provided technical assistance through The DHS Program. The contents of this fact sheet are the sole responsibility of GBoS and ICF and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID, the United States Government, or other donor agencies.

