

REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

ANNEX B

COUNTRY PROFILES

TOTAL POPULATION^I **2,836,790**

POPULATION 24 YEARS OR YOUNGER^I

29.38%

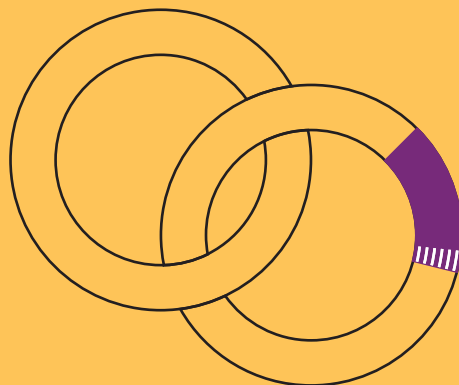
WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE (15-49 years)^I

657,490

POPULATION 15-24 YEARS (male + female)^I

377,170

WOMEN (20-24 years) WHO WERE FIRST MARRIED OR IN UNION^{II}



BEFORE AGE 18
11.8%

BEFORE AGE 15
1.4%

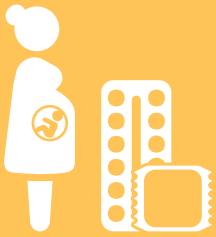
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO **15**
(per 100,000 live births)^{II} **100,000**



TOTAL FERTILITY RATE^I (births per woman)
1.38



ADOLESCENT BIRTH RATE^I (15-19 years) (births per 1,000 girls)
14.03



11.9% UNMET NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING (all women) ^{III}

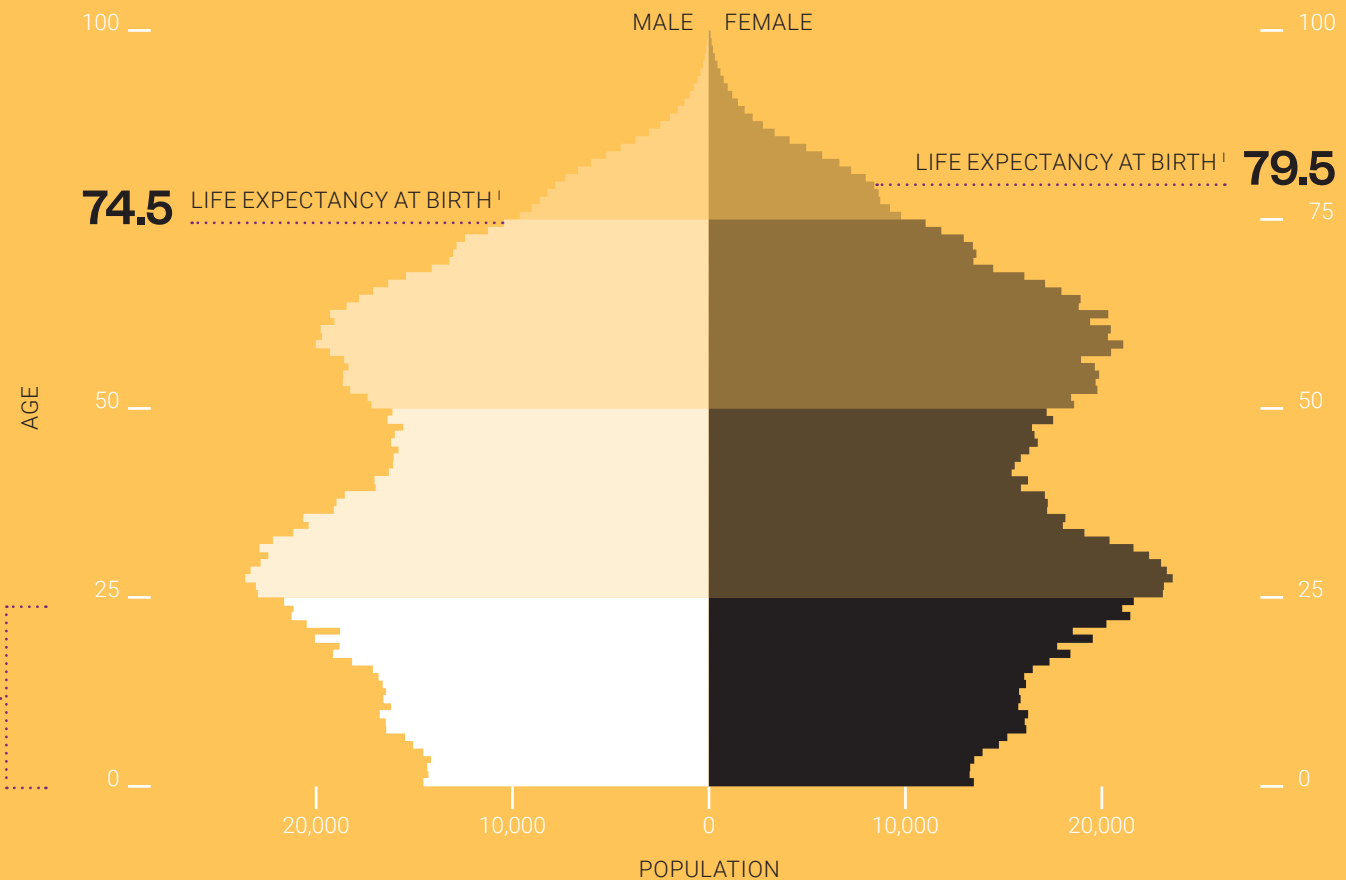


10.5% DEMAND FOR FAMILY PLANNING SATISFIED WITH MODERN METHODS (all women) ^{III}



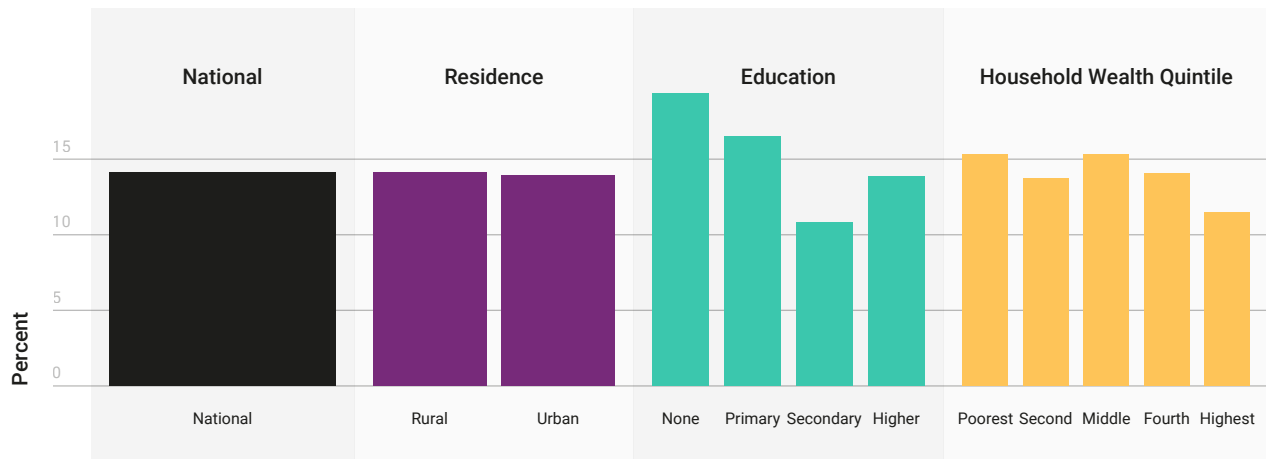
99.8% DELIVERIES ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL ^{II}

As part of its ICPD25 commitments, the Republic of Albania has committed to **ending** unmet need for family planning and ending preventable maternal deaths, as well as an **increase in financing** for reproductive, maternal and adolescent health.



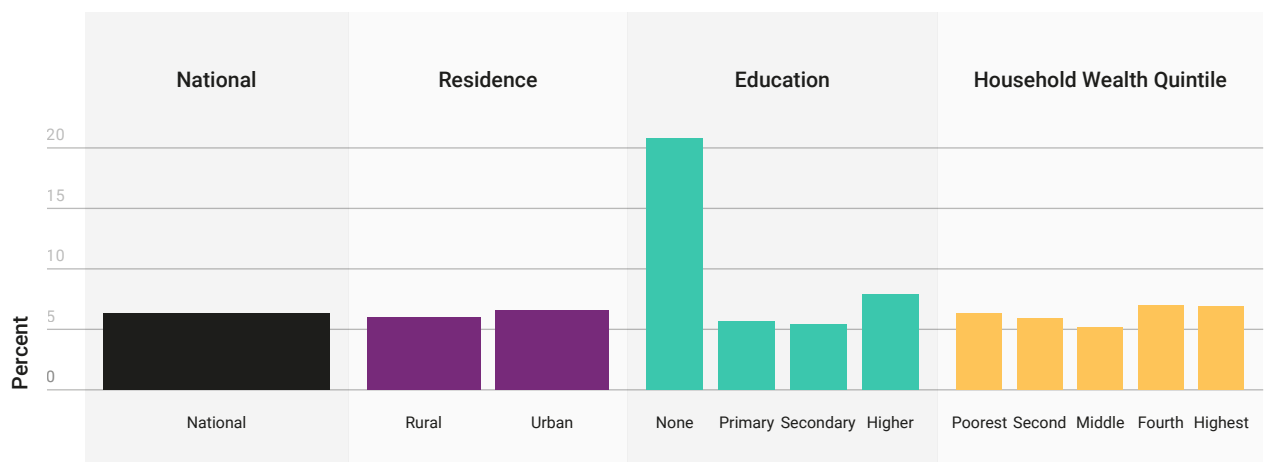
Albania's total fertility rate (TFR) – the number of children that would be born to a woman if she were to live to the end of her childbearing years is 1.38. In Albania, traditional methods account for the majority of contraceptive use. Unmet need for family planning is relatively the same in urban and rural areas, but is highest among women with no education and women from the poorest households. Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods is highest among women with no education, with traditional method use being more common among women with higher education.

Unmet Need for Family Planning, All Women



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

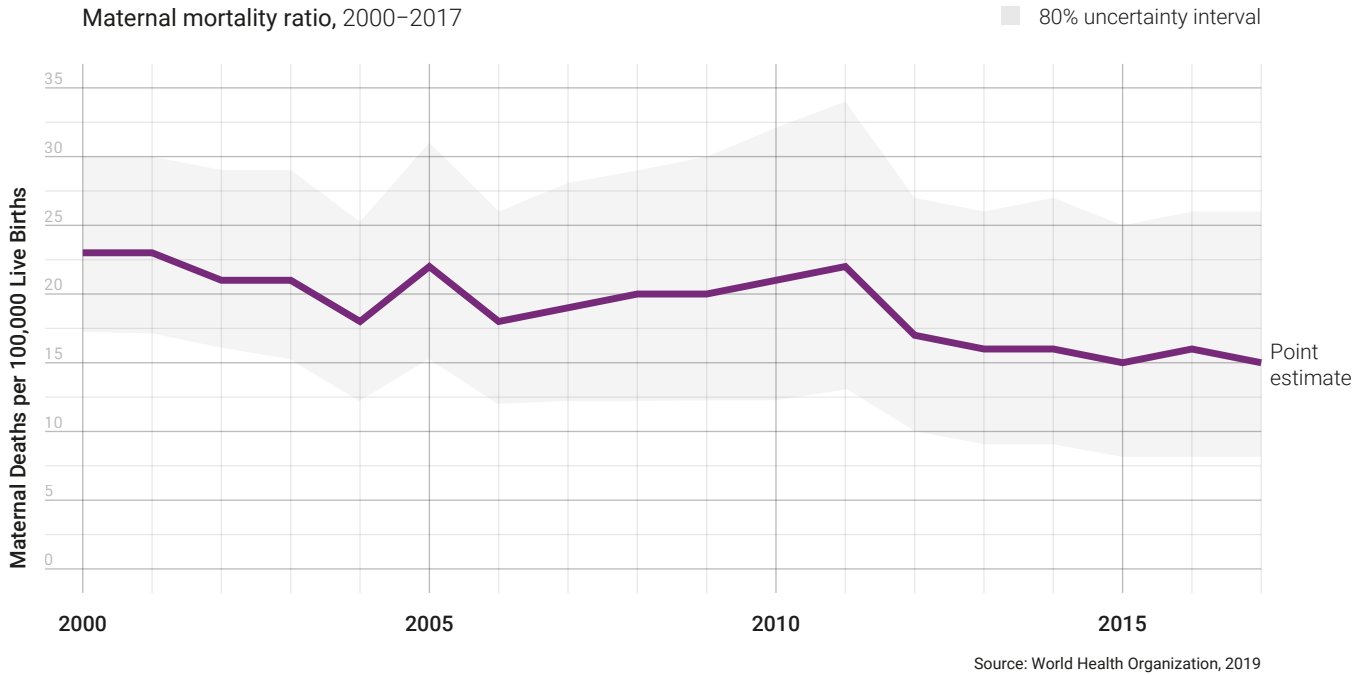
Demand for Family Planning Satisfied with Modern Methods, All Women



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

Albania's maternal mortality ratio declined from 2000 to 2017, the year in which it was estimated to be 15 deaths per 100,000 live births. Recognizing the impact of unsafe abortion on maternal deaths, Nairobi Summit Commitment 3 highlights the integration of "a comprehensive package of sexual and reproductive health interventions, including access to safe abortion to the full extent of the law, measures for preventing and avoiding unsafe abortions, and the provision of post-abortion care into national UHC strategies, policies and programmes, and the need to protect and ensure all individuals' right to bodily integrity, autonomy and reproductive rights, and to provide access to essential services in support of these rights". Abortion is permitted in Albania.

Maternal mortality ratio, 2000–2017



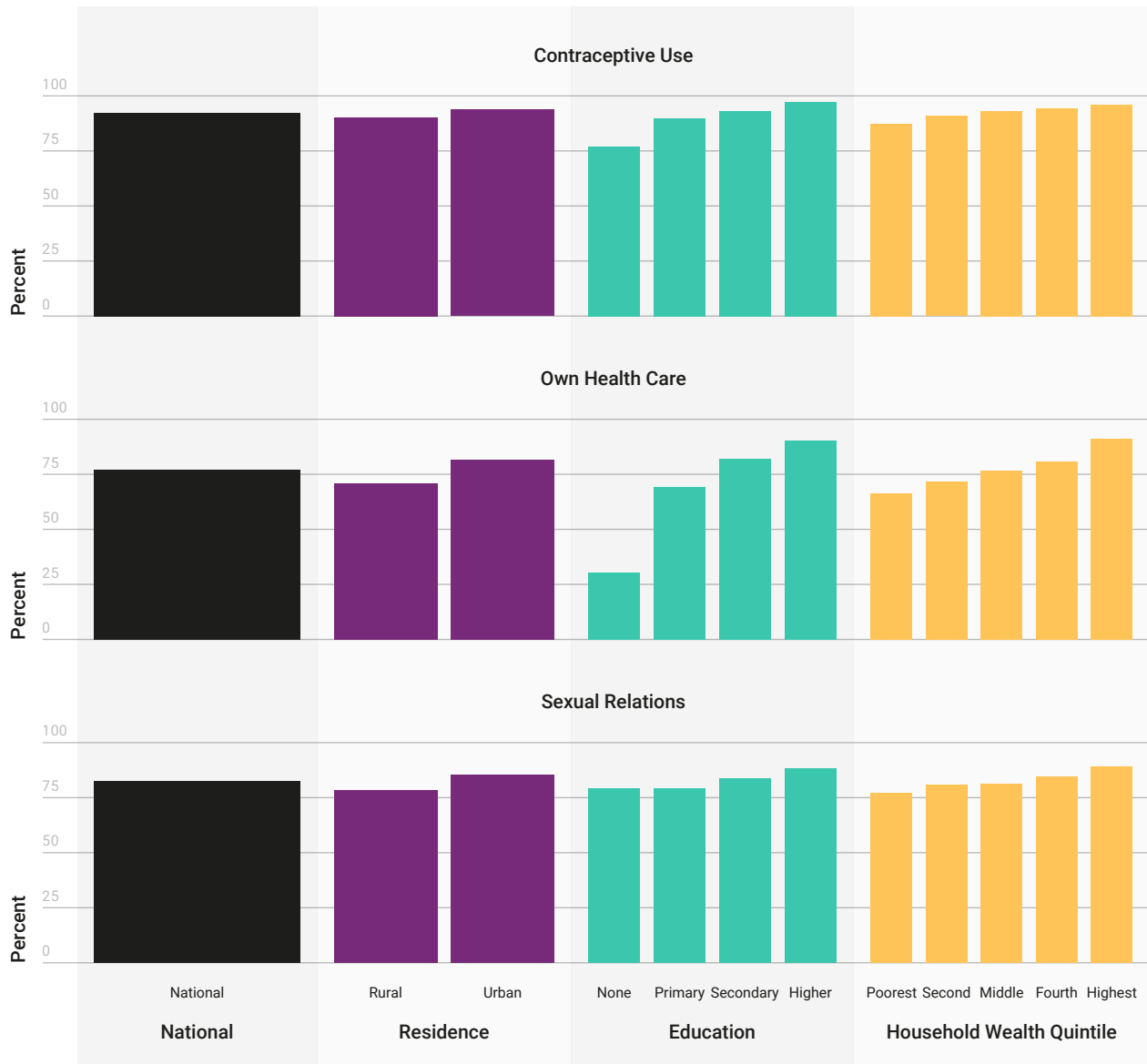
In Albania, 93% of married or in-union women aged 15 to 49 make their own decisions regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights. 84% of married or in-union women have autonomy in deciding to use contraception, and 84% can say no to sex. The percentages are slightly lower among women with no education and women in the poorest households. SDG 5.6.2 reflects the extent to which prevailing laws enable or disable women and men's full and equal access to health and rights. Albania has achieved 86% of enabling laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men to maternity care, and 100% to contraceptive and family planning services, and sexuality education.

Extent to which Albania has laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education



Source: United Nations Population Fund, 2022

Proportion of married women who make their own informed decisions regarding reproductive health care, contraceptive use, and sexual relations



Source: Demographics and Health Survey, 2017

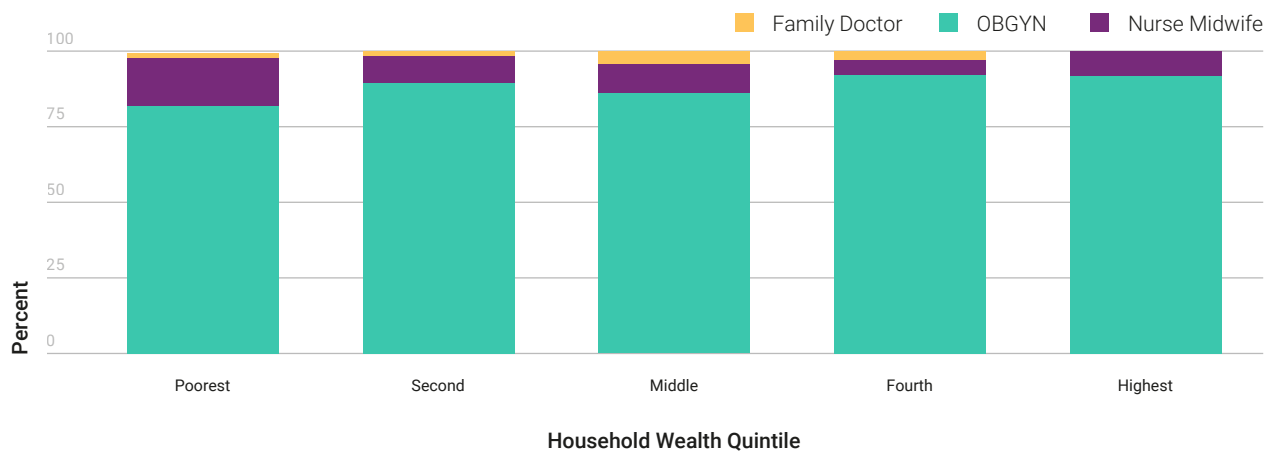
In Albania, nearly all deliveries among married women 15-49 years who had a live birth in the last two years are assisted by a skilled attendant. The percentage of deliveries assisted by a skilled attendant is the same among women in urban rural areas, as well as among education level and household wealth. In Albania, the majority of births are attended by Ob/gyns, with only a slightly larger percent of births attended by Nurse Midwives among women living in the poorest households.

Births with Skilled Attendant



Source: Demographics and Health Survey, 2017

Skilled Birth Providers by Wealth Quintile

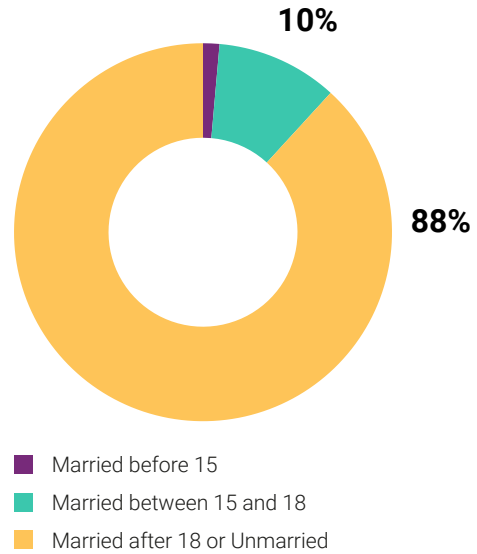


Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

At the Nairobi Summit, Albania has committed to scaling up and implementing comprehensive sexuality education nationally by 2022.

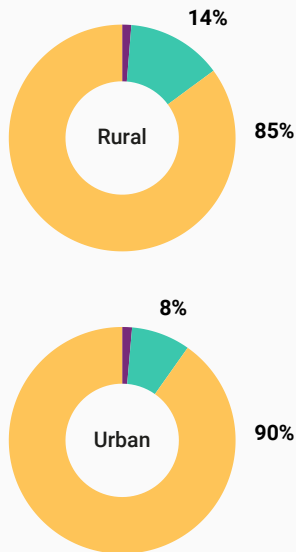
In Albania 11.8% of women aged 20-24 years were married before age 18, with 1.4% of women were married before age 15 – one of the highest in the region. Marriage before age 18 is highest among women with only primary education, and those in the poorest and middle-income households.

Age of Marriage Distribution, Women 20–24

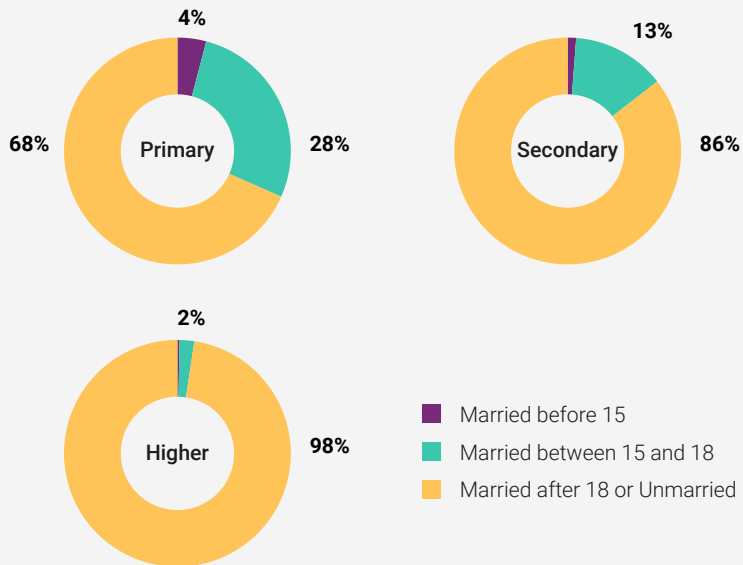


Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

Age of Marriage Distribution by Residence, Women 20–24

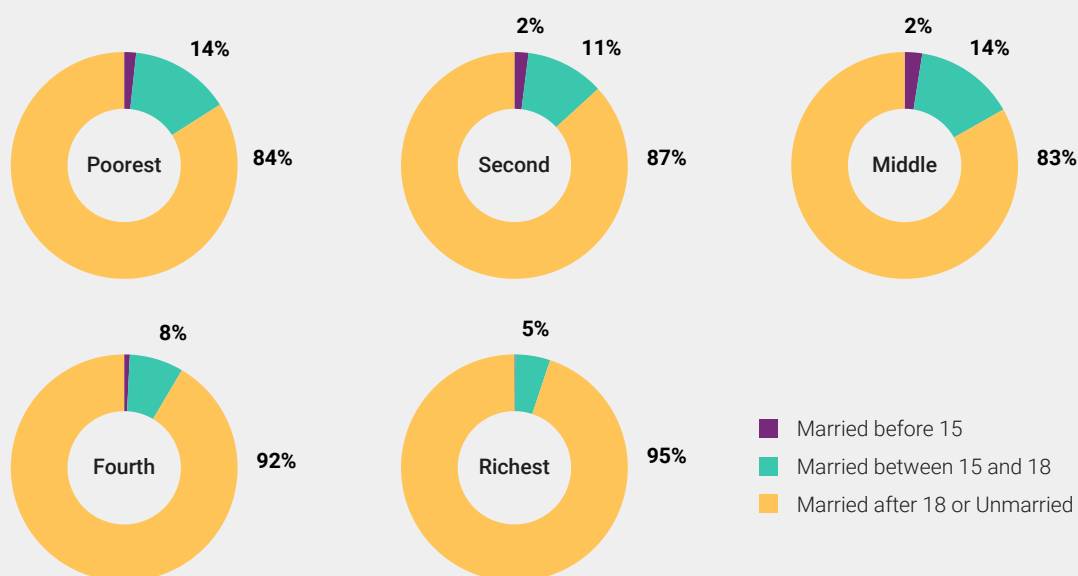


Age of Marriage Distribution by Level of Education, Women 20–24



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

Age of Marriage Distribution by Household Wealth Quintile, Women 20–24

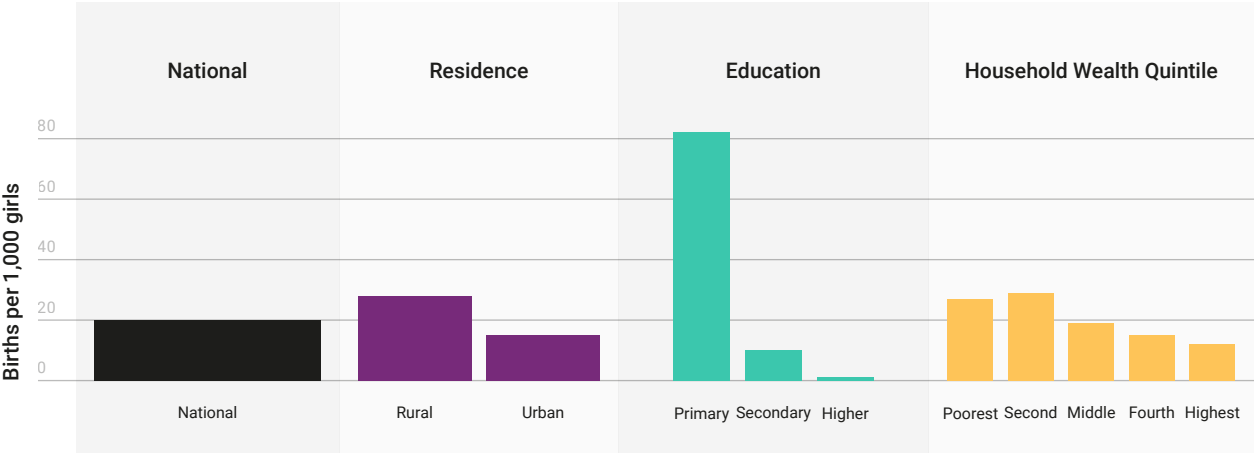


Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

Since the Nairobi Summit, forums on sustainable development, sexual and reproductive health and prevention of gender-based violence were utilized to advance advocacy for the ICPD agenda and the Nairobi commitments and strengthen the cooperation of stakeholders.

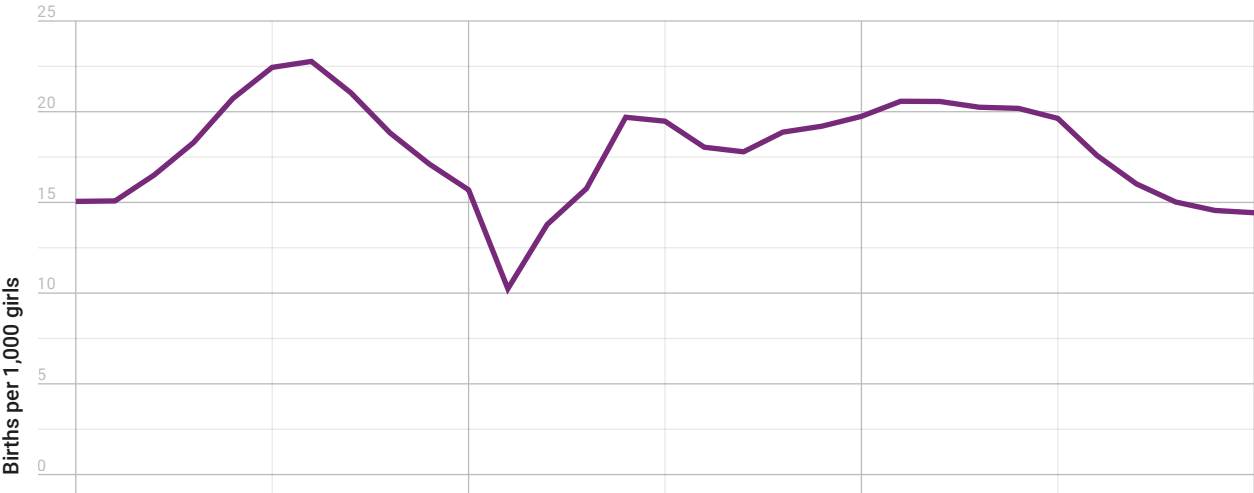
Albania's adolescent birth rate in 2020 remains approximately the same as it was in 1990. It is highest among girls with only primary education, and higher in rural areas than urban areas of the country. The adolescent birth rate among girls in the poorest households is two times higher than the rate in the wealthiest households.

Adolescent birth rate



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

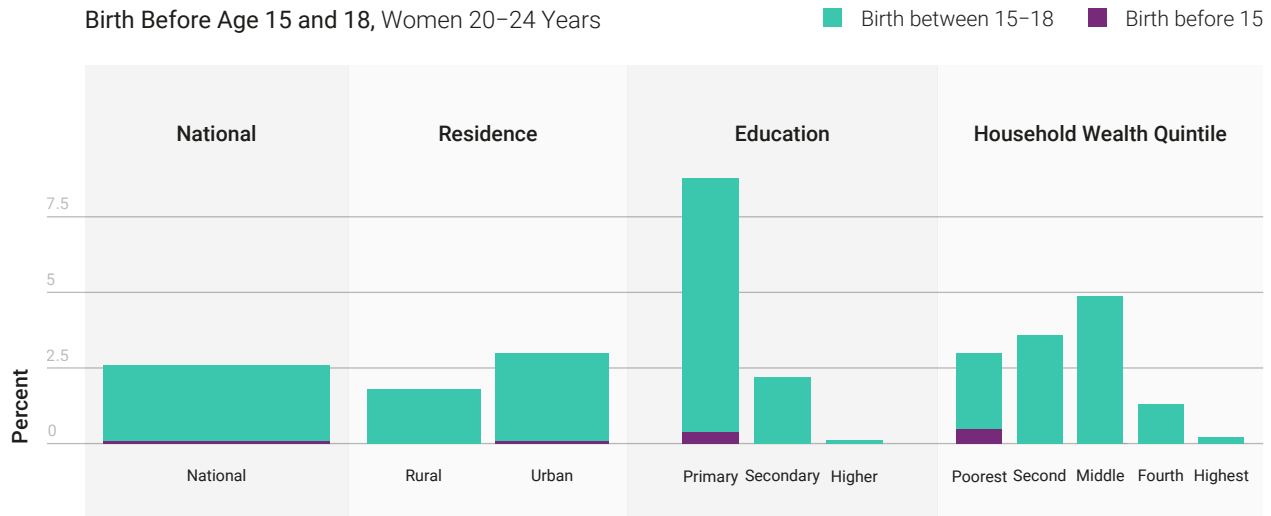
Adolescent birth rate, 1990–2020



Source: World Population Prospects, 2022

2.6% of women aged 20-24 years in Albania gave birth before age 18. Most births occur among women who have only primary education, and those women in middle income households.

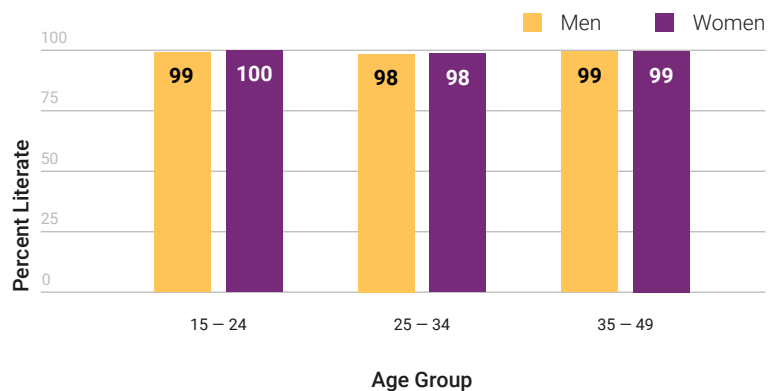
Birth Before Age 15 and 18, Women 20-24 Years



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

Albania's literacy rate is extremely high among all age groups and sex. Secondary education completes the provision of basic education that began at the primary level and aims at laying the foundations for lifelong learning and human development, by offering more subject- or skill-oriented instruction using more specialized teachers. In 2018, the latest year for which data is available, Albania's secondary school net attendance ratio^{IV} was 87.

Literacy Rate by Age and Sex

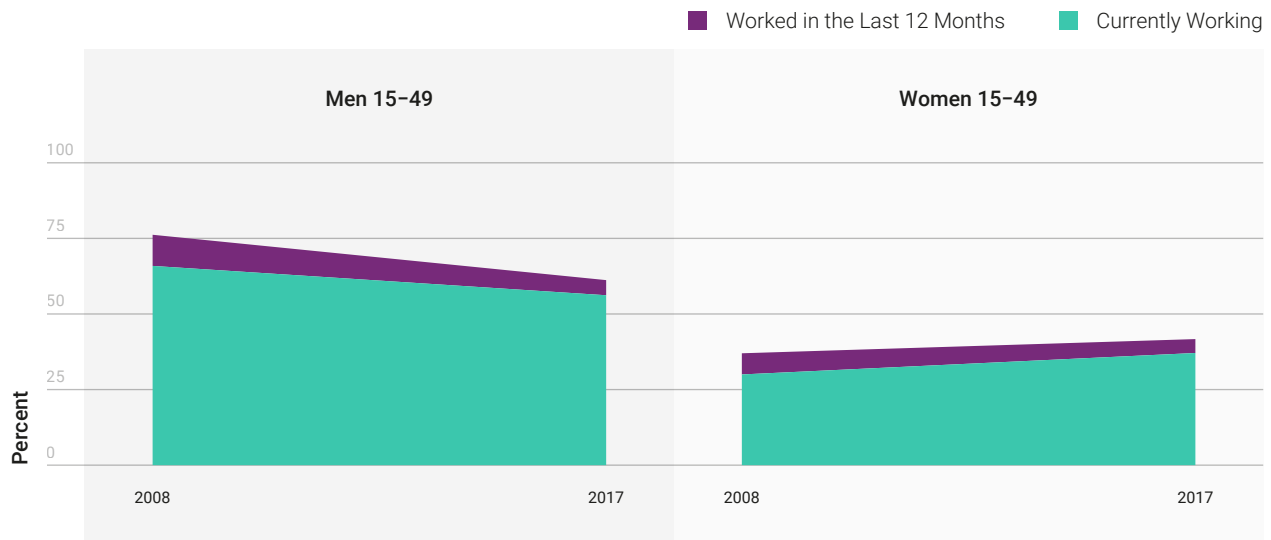


Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

IV Ratio of children of official school age who are enrolled in school to the population of the corresponding official school age.

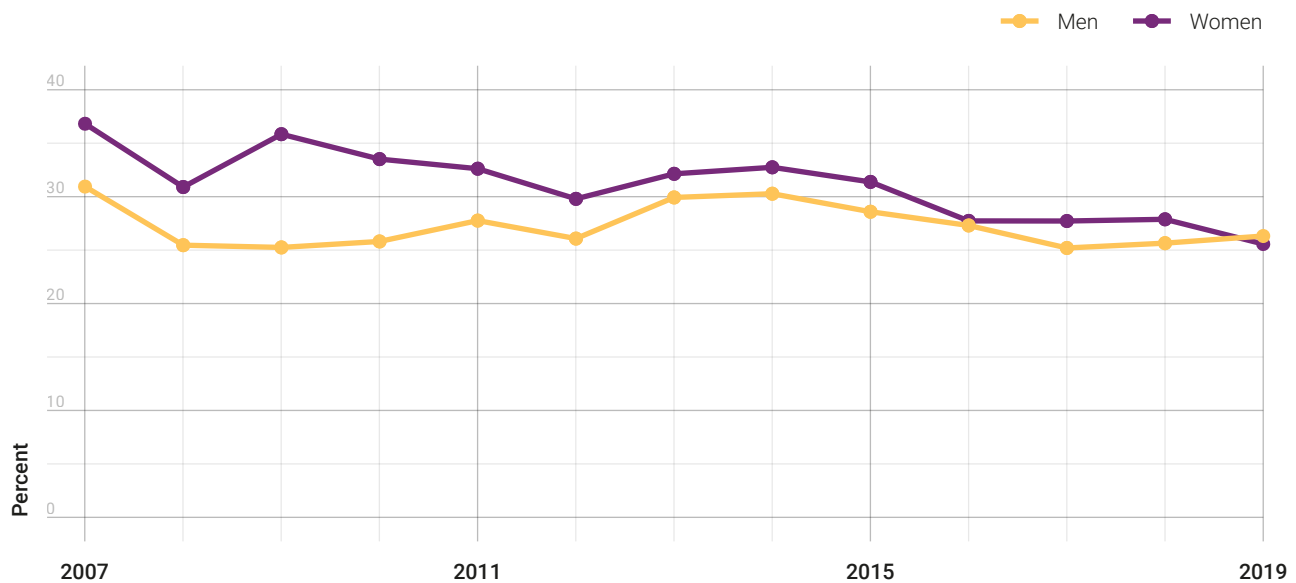
Employment trends for men declined in Albania from 2001 to 2016, while they increased for women during this period, during this time the proportion of men who worked in the last 12 months decreased, while the proportion for women remained the same. Young people who are not in education, employment or training (i.e., the NEET population) quantifies the proportion of young people who find themselves outside of the educational system and without work. In Albania, the percentage of youth not in education, employment or training has been decreasing among women, and in 2019 it is relatively the same for men and women.

Employment Trends (Currently Working and Worked in the Last 12 Months), by Sex



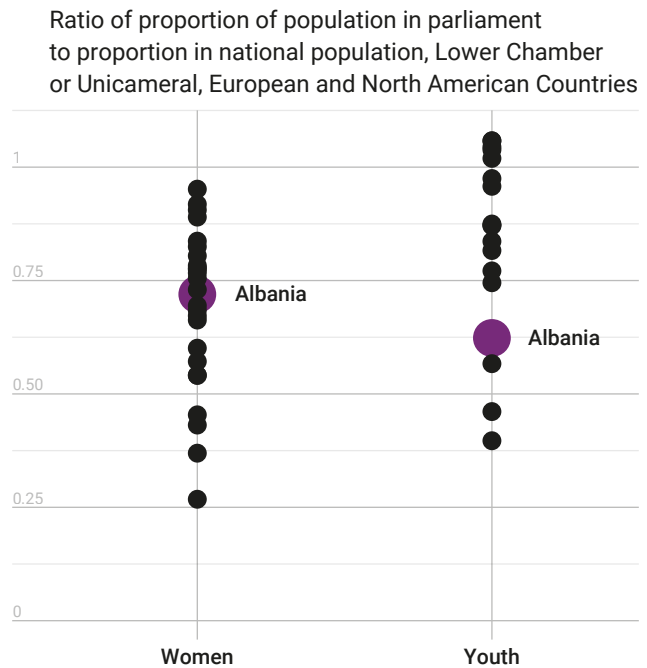
Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2008–2017

Percent of Youth (15–24) Not in Education, Employment, or Training, by Sex



Source: Labour Force Survey, 2007–2019

SDG Goal 16 seeks to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, to provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. One component of this is ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels. The ratio of the proportion of female Members of Parliament in Albania is near the median compared with those in the region, while the ratio of the proportion of young Members of Parliament is the fourth lowest in the region (SDG 16.17.1).



Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2022

With a rapidly ageing population and continual out-migration, Albania is facing an imminent challenge to ensure access to affordable and quality care services for all elderly in need. Between 2020 and 2050, the population aged 65 or above will increase from 420,000 to 623,000, and its share in the total population will increase from 15% to 26%^V. As part of its ICPD25 commitments, Albania committed to implement the National Action Plan for Elderly 2020-2025, by allocating respective budget and monitoring its implementation step by step and making the necessary legal provisions by 2023. Since the Nairobi Summit, the National Action Plan on Ageing 2020-2024 was drafted and adopted.

To advance ICPD25 commitments, in April 2020, Albania's Ministry of Health and Social Protection created a protocol that ensured women's shelters in the country would function uninterrupted among the COVID-19 pandemic. This protocol designated the shelters for domestic violence protection as essential services.

Further to the ICPD25 commitments and in regards the major gaps and challenges for achievement of SDG 3, "ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health services, in line with EU human and reproductive rights policies" is noted as a priority in the Government of Albania - United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026.

^V International Labour Organization, https://www.ilo.org/budapest/whats-new/WCMS_847680/lang-en/index.htm