REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

TOTAL POPULATION

116,451,700

POPULATION 24 YEARS OR YOUNGER

48.51%

WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE (15-49 years)

29,862,490

POPULATION 15-24 YEARS (male + female)

21,359,950

TOTAL FERTILITY RATE (births per woman)

2.72

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO (per 100,000 live births)

121

WOMEN (20-24 years) WHO WERE FIRST MARRIED OR IN UNION

BEFORE AGE 18

16.5%

BEFORE AGE 15

2.2%

1. World Population Prospects 2022

II. SDG
As part of its ICPD25 commitments, the Republic of the Philippines has committed to actualizing and sustaining the Promise of ICPD and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and to **fully implement** responsible reproductive health care and universal health care laws to reduce unmet need for modern family planning and adolescent pregnancy.
The Philippines is one of eight countries where more than half of the projected increase in the global population up to 2050 will be concentrated. In 2022, Philippine’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 2.72. Unmet need for family planning is higher among rural women than urban women, and is almost 1.5 times higher among women with no education compared with women with higher education. It is also highest among women in the poorest households, and decreases with household income. Based on the latest available data, 40.4% of married and in-union women were using a modern contraceptive method, and the percent of demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods was 56.9%, with demand being slightly higher in rural areas than in urban areas, among women with no education or primary education, and among women in poorer households.

Unmet Need for Family Planning, All Women

Demand for Family Planning Satisfied with Modern Methods, All Women

Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

World Population Prospects 2022
The maternal mortality ratio in the Philippines decreased from 2000 to 2017 and was estimated to be 121 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2017, the year for which the most recent data is available. 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 not permitted in the Philippines.

In the Philippines, 97% of married or in-union women make decisions on their health care; 94% have the autonomy in deciding to use contraception; 88% can say no to sex. This is higher among women who have more than primary education than among women with no education. Overall, 81% of married or in-union women aged 15 to 49 in Philippines make their own decisions regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights, including deciding on their own health care, deciding on the use of contraception, and can say no to sex. 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. On average, the Philippines has achieved 71% of enabling laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men to maternity care, and 60% to contraceptive and family planning services, and 100% to sexuality education.

Extent to which Philippines 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

---

Source: World Health Organization, 2019
Proportion of married women who make their own informed decisions regarding reproductive health care, contraceptive use, and sexual relations

Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017
In 2017, the most recent year for which data is available, the proportion of births in the Philippines that were attended by skilled health personnel was 84.4%. Among married women 15-49 years who had a live birth in the last two years, deliveries assisted by a skilled attendant were higher among women in urban areas, among women with secondary and higher education, and among women in households the middle and higher incomes. As household wealth increases, so does the proportion of births attended by doctors compared with midwives and nurses. Women in the poorest households had their deliveries attended mostly by midwives followed by doctors and nurses, while in the richest households, births were mostly attended by doctors.

Births with Skilled Attendant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National</th>
<th>Residence</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Household Wealth Quintile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Primary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Secondary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Poorest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Middle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fourth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Highest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Skilled Birth Providers by Wealth Quintile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Wealth Quintile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017
At the Nairobi Summit, the Philippines has committed to accelerating efforts to reach and optimize the demographic dividend.

In the Philippines, 16% of women aged 20-24 were married before age 18, with 2% of women were married before age 15. The percentage of girls married before age 15 is almost four times higher among girls with no education compared with those with secondary education and higher, and almost ten times higher among girls in the poorest households compared with those in the wealthiest households. Births among those women before age 18 are 11 times higher among women in the poorest households compared with those in the wealthiest households.

Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017
The Philippines have been following up to the ICPD25 commitments made. A post-Nairobi Summit consultation meeting was organized by the Philippines Commission on Population and Development (POPCOM) in 2020 and a report on the implementation of the Nairobi Summit Action Plan was drafted and adopted by the Government in 2021. The country has advocated for initiatives related to Nairobi commitments, such as demographic dividend-related policies and the reduction of adolescent pregnancies, including budget-related advocacy in Congress.
The adolescent birth rate for the Philippines has decreased slightly from 1990 to 2020; it is nine times higher among adolescents with only primary education compared with those with higher education, and 7.5 times higher among teenagers who live in the poorest households compared to those in the wealthiest households.
Among girls 20-24 years, births before age 18 are higher among girls who live in rural areas, those with primary education, and those girls from the poorest households. The percent of women from the poorest households who have a birth before age 18 is nearly four times higher than those from the wealthiest households.

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

![Birth Before Age 15 and 18, Women 20–24 Years](image)

Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2017

Amid the exacerbation of child rights issues due to the COVID-19 pandemic, compounded by the onslaught caused by Typhoon Odette (Rai), a major recent milestone has been the passage of the "Prohibition of Child Marriage Law at the start of 2022." The phenomenon of child marriage has been seen to have been practiced in indigenous and Muslim communities in the country. Globally, the Philippines ranks 12th in the absolute number of child marriages. While these communities have been trying to address this issue through community-based programmes, passing a legislation strengthens the legal framework and protection of adolescent girls in line with Global Commitment 5.

The female literacy rate in the Philippines is generally high in all age groups.

Female Literacy Rate by Age

![Female Literacy Rate by Age](image)

Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2008
Employment trends (i.e., those currently working and who have worked in the last 12 months) for women have remained relatively the same in the Philippines from 2001 to 2016. 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 the Philippines, the percent of female youth not in education, employment or training has been decreasing, while that for males has remained approximately the same.

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

![Employment Trends Graph](image)

Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 1998–2017

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

![Percent of Youth Graph](image)

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 the Philippines is the third highest in the region (SDG 16.17.1).

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union, 2022