REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Marked polarization



Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) ECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49 (%)		Value		
\rightarrow	Afghanistan (47)	52	Ш	14	П			33	1. Evo re-esc rate of Minor regres slight This ra (2009	
\rightarrow	Albania (96)	81	- 11	100	ш			91	Evolus cal scal scal of v nor the nor the point	
\rightarrow	Algeria (96)	79	п	95	п			87	ating ating ariating	
\rightarrow	Angola (58)			45	п			45	thos thos are signal sizes; Lon are signal sizes; Loss; Loss	
\rightarrow	Antigua and Barbuda (94)			100	п			100	utior e vall mong <i>pnific</i> <i>een</i> - <i>arge</i> led fr	
\rightarrow	Argentina (98)			99	11			99	n of ir ues r y the ant r 1 and 1 and r thai om t	
\rightarrow	Armenia (95)	93.2	11	98	п			96	ndicat esulti esulti follov egres 11:s 15:s 15:s	
H .	Australia (99)			100	П			100	tors (ing fri ving i ssion, tagna ignifi illowii	
←	Azerbaijan (96)	70	Ш	97	П	51.1	\leftarrow	73	1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative react of variation among the following ranks: Minor than -5 significant regression: Between -5 and -1: regression: Between -1 and :1: stagnant: Between 1 a 5: slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress; Signt progress; Larger than 5: significant progress. This rate is obtained from the following operation: (2009 value - 2008 value) *100	
11	Bahamas (99)			99	11			99	ned by ne rel	
11	Bahrain (99)			99	п			99	y ative -5 a en 1 ress. on:	
←	Bangladesh (56)	48.7	11	20	п	55.8	\leftarrow	42	nd -1 a 5:	
\rightarrow	Barbados (98)	89	- 11	100	п			95	.7	
\rightarrow	Belarus (100)			100	п			100		
H .	Belgium (98)			99	п			99	2. V addi divide pres pres 9. S evol 200	
←	Belize (92)			91	п	34.3	\leftarrow	63	2. Value reache adding the value dividing the result dividing the result of value presenting data. 3. Stagnant Eve evolution in all to updating, bei	
H .	Benin (77)	88	- 11	74	п	17	←	60	reac le val he re g dat g dat in al in al	
\rightarrow	Bhutan (79)			51	11	35.4	\rightarrow	43	2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data. 3. Stagmant Fvolution: In those indicators showing stagmant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.	
\rightarrow	Bolivia (79)	79.1	- 11	60.8	п			70	y the alcul alcul oy the oy the on: I r valu repro	
\rightarrow	Bosnia and Herzegovina (98)	99	- 11	100	п			100	ated ated total n thousand n thousand the duce	
\rightarrow	Botswana (90)	99	п	99	п			99	ex: T for e. I nur said e id tho	
\rightarrow	Brazil (90)			97	п			97	he va ach d nber ndicat volut vose va	
H .	Brunei Darussalam (99)			100	п			100	llue r limer of di tors s iton r alues	
\rightarrow	Bulgaria (97)			99	п			99	esulti ision mens show espo regis	
\rightarrow	Burkina Faso (71)	72.8	11	54	п			63	s fror and sions ing s: nds t nds t	
\rightarrow	Burma/Myanmar (73)			68	п			68	n tagna o lac d in	
\rightarrow	Burundi (61)	93	11	34	п			64	~ ‡	
\rightarrow	Cambodia (66)	69.3	п	43.8	п			57	20	
\rightarrow	Cameroon (77)	83.3	11	63	п			73	Women aged 15 Global Health Att Global Health Att Births attended Health Indicators and Research, W for (+) Demogra (www.measured Contraceptive u aged 15-49: Wc	
H .	Canada (99)			100	п			100	Heal Heal atter atter Indicesear Dem Dem acept	
\rightarrow	Cape Verde (93)			89	п			89	ed 15 th Atl ided actors ch, W cogra sured ive u 3: Wc	
\rightarrow	Central African Republic (65)			54	П			54		
\rightarrow	Chad (44)	42.6	П	15	Ш			29	illed base www and H mong ank (
←	Chile (99)			100	- 11	58.4	←	79	heal beginners heal Deplication who lealth cess:	
←	China (95)			98	п	84.6	\leftarrow	91	as, WHO (www.who.int/ as, WHO (www.who.int/ by skilled health persort Database, Department HHO (www.who.int/repro- phic and Health Surveys hs.com/accesssurveys) se among currently in a rid Bank (www.worldba	
\rightarrow	Colombia (94)	93.5	п	96	- 11			95	st on .int/G.rsonrento.prodeprodeprodeprodeprodeprodeprodeprode	
\rightarrow	Comoros (79)			62	П			62	ce du ilobal nel: R f Rep luctiv STA1 sTA1	
\rightarrow	Congo DR (68)			61	П			61	VAtlas leprourodureheal r com	
←	Congo, Rep. (76)	86.8	п	83	п	20.6	\leftarrow	63	pregit). ductive ctive hth/). I	
11	Cook Islands (98)			100	п			100	ve Healt Excer	
←	Costa Rica (93)			94	п			94	ğ. 🗗 🐕	

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN 15-49 AT AT LE ONCE DI PREGNAI SKILLED PERSONN	TENDED AST URING NCY BY HEALTH	ATTE BY SM HEA PERS	THS NDED (ILLED ALTH ONNEL %)	CONTRACEPT USE AMON CURRENTL IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-4 (%)	G Y	Value	
\rightarrow	Côte d'Ivoire (74)	84	Ш	57	п			71	th N
\rightarrow	Croatia (100)			100	п			100	NOTE: 1. Evol those v the follow Minor: regress slight t Slight t This rat (2009)
\rightarrow	Cuba (99)			100	П	77.1	→	89	ution alues owing than sion; orogn te is o
H	Cyprus (100)			100	п			100	NOTE: 1. Evolution: Evolution: Evolution: Evolution: Evolution: Tesultithose values resultithe following tranks: Minor than -5: sign Minor than -5: sign Minor than 5: sign Minor than -5: sign Minor than -5
\rightarrow	Czech Republic (99)			100	п			100	lution Iting 1 Iting 1
\rightarrow	Dijibouti (90)			93	Ш			93	of in rom t ant re and than than om th
\rightarrow	Dominica (96)			99	п			99	dicato the re gress 1: sta 5: sia ne foll
\rightarrow	Dominican Republic (87)	98.3	Ш	96	Ш	72.9	→	89	NOTE: Note: Levolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks: Minor than -5: significant regression: Between -5 and -1: regression: Between 1 and 1: stepnant. Between 1 a 5: slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress. Slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress. This rate is obtained from the following operation: (2009 value – 2008 value/2008 value)*100
	Ecuador (86)	56	ш	80	11			68	taine rate c Setwe t; Bet ant p g ope
\rightarrow	Egypt (89)	71.3	Ш	74				73	d by I of var een ween rogre ratior
→	El Salvador (80)			69	11			69	e-esc lation 5 and 1 1 a 5 ss.
11	Equatorial Guinea (58)	70.0		63	11			63	alatir amoi '-1:
→	Eritrea (60)	70.3	Ш	28				49	g
—————————————————————————————————————	Estonia (99)	28	ш	100	11			100	
	Ethiopia (53) Fiji (93)	20	-"	99	"			99	
II II	Finland (100)			100				100	
—————————————————————————————————————	France (99)			99				99	calcof do of do repr
\rightarrow	Gabon (82)	94	ш	86				90	Value Sulate Ilimen Stagn Il thei
\rightarrow	Gambia (73)	92	11	57	11			75	reacld for sions ant Er valued the
\rightarrow	Georgia (96)	91	П	92	11			92	hed beach pres volutions, some volutions of the contract of th
11	Germany (99)			100	п			100	y the dimer enting enting ion: Ir
\rightarrow	Ghana (76)	91.9	п	50	п			71	2. Value reached by the index: The value recalculated for each dimension and dividing of dimensions presenting data. 3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators in all their values, said evolution responds to reproduced those values registered in 2008.
\rightarrow	Grenada (92)			100	п			100	x: Th and a. se inc on res
\rightarrow	Guatemala (68)	86	п	41	п			64	e valu dividi licato spono l in 20
\rightarrow	Guinea (68)	82.2	п	38	п			60	ng th ng th rs sh s to 908.
\rightarrow	Guinea-Bissau (58)	89	п	39	п			64	2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data. 3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.
H H	Guyana (84)	88	п	94	п	34.2	←	72	ult by ult by g stag of upd
\rightarrow	Haiti (48)	84.5	п	26	п			55	adding the t mant lating
H .	Honduras (82)	91.7	П	67	п	65	11	75	g the otal n evolu
H .	Hungary (99)			100	п			100	value iumbi ition ig
11	India (68)	65	П	47	П			56	er ss
\rightarrow	Indonesia (85)	91.5	Ш	66	- 11	61.4 -	→	73	
\rightarrow	Iraq (88)			89	ш			89	SOURCES: Women agad 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy: Global Health Momen agad 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy: Global Health Atlas, WHO (www.who.int/GlobalAtlas). Births attended by skilled health personnel: Reproductive Health Indicators Database, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, WHO (www.who.int/reproductivehealth). Except for (+) Demographic and Health Surveys - STAT compiler (www.meas.uredhs.com/accesssurveys). Contraceptive use among currently in union women aged 15-49: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).
\rightarrow	Iran (95)			97	ш			97	SOURCES: Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy: Global Health Attas, WHO (www.who.int/GlobalAttas), Attas, WHO (www.who.int/GlobalAttas), Births attended by skilled health personnel: Reproductive Health Indicators Database, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, WHO (www.who.nufreproductivehealth/). Except for (+) Demographic and Health Surveys - TAT compiler (www.measuredhs.com/accesssurveys). Contraceptive use among currently in union women aged 15-49: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).
	Ireland (100)			100				100	ed 15) (www nded) Depart ctiveh iler (v
\rightarrow	Italy (100)			99				99	by ski tment tmealth/ vww.r
-→	Jamaica (95)			97				97	illed I b.int/(b.int/(b.int/(b.int/(b.int/(c.int/
	Japan (99)	00.6		100		57.1		100	ed at Blobal Blobal Pealth Pprodu Pprodu Pept fo Perodu Prod
	Jordan (99)	98.6		100		57.1 —	7	85	least Atlas pers uctive or (+) or (s.com s.com ntly in
\rightarrow	Kazakhstan (99)	82 88.1	11	100 42	11			91 65	once). ionne i Heat i Demo n/acce
\rightarrow	Kenya (71) Kiribati (89)	00.1	"	90	"			90	l: Rep th and ograp sssur
$\overset{\longrightarrow}{\longrightarrow}$	Kiribati (89) Korea, DPR (87)	98	ш	90	"			98	ng pre produ d Res, ihic ar rveys;
\rightarrow	Korea, Rep. (100)	30	"	100	"			100	egnar ctive ctive earch nd He).
\rightarrow	Kuwait (100)			100	"			100	ncy: G Health , WHI alth S
\rightarrow	Kyrgyzstan (95)	88	п	98				93	ilobal n India O (ww Surve,
11	Lao PDR (58)	44		19				32	Healt cator: vw.wh
	Latvia (99)			100				100	70. ° h

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		CONTRACEP USE AMON CURRENTI IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-4 (%)	NG LY N	alue	
\rightarrow	Lebanon (96)			98	ш			98	2 ± 2 ≥ + + + 1 ×
\rightarrow	Lesotho (72)	90.4	Ш	55	п			73	NOTE: 1. Evo those \the foll Minor regres slight This ra (2009
\rightarrow	Liberia (61)			51	ш	11.4 -	\rightarrow	31	lutior values owing than sion; progr te is value
H H	Libya (99)			100	п			100	NOTE: 1. Evolution: E
H H	Lithuania (99)			100	П		-	100	lutior Iting: Iting: (s: gnific een - een - arge ned fr
H H	Luxembourg (100)			100	п			100	n of in from ant re than the than than than than than than than than
\rightarrow	Macedonia (—)			98	П			98	NOTE: 1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks: Minor than -5: significant regression: Between -5 and -1: regression: Between 1 a 5: significant progress. Sight progress: Larger than 5: significant progress. This rate is obtained from the following operation: (2009 value – 2008 value/ 2008 value)**100
\rightarrow	Madagascar (59)	79.9	II	45	П			62	ors ot lative lative sion; gnific gnific value, value, value,
\rightarrow	Malawi (62)	93.1	Ш	54	П			74	ntaine rate rate Betw nt; Be nant p ant p
H.	Malaysia (97)			100	П			100	d by of var een -
\rightarrow	Maldives (91)	98	II	84	Ш			91	re-escitation fation fanc fanc fanc fas. ss.
11	Mali (67)	53	II	41	Ш	8.2 -	→	34	calatii amo - 1: 5:
	Malta (99)			100	П			100	gn
\rightarrow	Marshall Islands (93)	00		95	11			95	
\rightarrow	Mauritania (68) Mauritius (99)	63	Ш	53 99				58 99	
\rightarrow	Mexico (95)			94	11			94	
$\stackrel{\longrightarrow}{\longrightarrow}$	Micronesia (89)			88				88	2. V calc of d of d in a repr
$\stackrel{\longrightarrow}{\longrightarrow}$	Moldova (—)	98	ш	100				99	 Value reached by the index: The value recalculated for each dimension and dividing to dimensions presenting data. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators in all their values, said evolution responds to reproduced those values registered in 2008
\rightarrow	Mongolia (93)	30		99				99	reac d for sions amt E art valued the
ıı ,	Montenegro (94)			99				99	hed t each pres volut vose v
\rightarrow	Morocco (81)	67.8	п	63	п			65	y the dime entinion: I
\rightarrow	Mozambique (66)	84.5	п	48	п			66	inde nsion g dat g dat n tho /oluti regis
\rightarrow	Namibia (89)	85	п	76	п	55.1	\rightarrow	72	x: Th and a. se inc on re sterec
H II	Nauru (76)			100	п			100	e valu dividi dicato spono d in 20
←	Nepal (58)	69.7	Ш	19	ш			44	 Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.
\rightarrow	Netherlands (100)			100	п			100	ults f e resi owing lack c
H .	New Zealand (98)			95	п			95	rom a ult by stag of upd
\rightarrow	Nicaragua (70)	85	Ш	67	п	72.4 -	\rightarrow	75	adding the t
\rightarrow	Niger (55)	46.1	Ш	18	П			32	g the otal n evolu , beir
\rightarrow	Nigeria (56)	61	П	35	п			48	value iumbi ition
H H	Niue (98)			100	П			100	Si is
\rightarrow	Oman (98)			98	П			98	
\rightarrow	Pakistan (71)			54	П	29.6	→	42	SOURCES: Women ag Women ag Atlas, WHC Births attee Database, I int/reprodu STAT comp Contracept World Ban
\rightarrow	Palau (99)			100	п			100	SOURCES: Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy: Global Health Momen of the Women of the W
II .	Panama (93)			91	Ш			91	ed 15 Ided I Depart Ctiveh iller (with the us ive us ive us
\rightarrow	Papua New Guinea (62)			38	Ш			38	w.who
\rightarrow	Paraguay (95)	0.5		100		74.0		100	ttendo b.int/G bled h of Re of Re). Exc measu nong or
	Peru (88)	85 97.6		73		71.3		76	ed at alobal produsprodusept fo redhal curren nk.org
	Philippines (78)	87.6	11	60		50.6		66	least Atlas) Atlas uctive ur (+) s.com ntly ir
	Poland (99) Portugal (99)			100 100				100 100	once onnel Healt Demo
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	Romania (96)	89	"	98				94	ig pre roduc I Rese hic an veys)
\rightarrow	Russia (99)	96		100				98	ignani itive F sarch, ad Hea
\rightarrow	Rwanda (53)	94.3		28				61	cy: GI Health WHO Ith Su
\rightarrow	Samoa (97)	33		100				100	Indic Indic I (www urvey:
\rightarrow	São Tomé and Príncipe (83)	91	п	81	П			86	Health ators w.who
\rightarrow	Saudi Arabia (95)			93	п			93	o -

→ Senegal (68)	Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN 15-49 AT AT LE ONCE D PREGNA SKILLED PERSONI	TENDED AST URING NCY BY HEALTH	BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)		USE A CURF In U Wo Aged	ACEPTIVE AMONG RENTLY INION IMEN 0 15-49	Value	
100	\rightarrow	Senegal (68)	87.4	ш	52	ш			70	0 T 8 7 A # # 1 N
100	\rightarrow	Serbia (98)			99	п			99	. Evo
100	\rightarrow	Sierra Leone (57)	82	ш	43	п			63	lution value lowin than sion; progr progr te is
100	\rightarrow	Singapore (92)			100	П			100	n: Evo s resu g ran -5: si Betw Betw obtai
100	H H	Slovakia (99)			100	П			100	olutio Ilting ks: ignifii veen - Large Large
100	H H	Slovenia (99)			100	п			100	n of i from cant i -1 an er tha rom
100	\rightarrow	Solomon Islands (—)			43	П			43	ndica the i the i egre: d 1: s n 5: s the fc
100	\rightarrow	Somalia (48)			33	п			33	tors celative elatives signit signit signit signit signit value
100	\rightarrow	South Africa (89)	89	п	92	11			91	obtair e rat e rat; ; Bet ant; E icant icant ng ol e)*1
100	←	Sri Lanka (96)			97	П	68	←	83	ned by a of veen hetwe progration
→ Sudan (70)	\rightarrow	St Kitts and Nevis (95)			100	П			100	y re-e ariati -5 a en 1 ress.
→ Sudan (70)	11	St Lucia (98)			100	П			100	scala on an nd -1 a 5:
→ Suriname (82) 91 11 71 11 81 → Swaziland (80) 74 11 50.6 → 62 11 Switzerland (97) 100 11 100 → Syria (95) 93 11 93 11 Tajikistan (89) 75 11 83 11 38.3 → 65 → Tanzania (73) 94.3 11 46 11 70 → Thailand (96) 97 11 19.8 → 19 → Tonga (96) 78 11 62 11 70 → Trinidad and Tobago (95) 96 11 98 11 97 → Turkey (92) 67 11 83 11 75 → Turkey (92) 67 11 83 11 75 → Turkey (92) 67 11 83 11 75 → Turkey (92) 67 11 42 11 66.7 → 86 11 Uldraine (99) 94.1 11 42 11 66.7 → 86 12 United Arab Emirates (100) 100 11 100 → United Kingdom (99) 99 11 100 11 100 → United States of America (98) 100 11 100 → United States of America (98) 100 11 100 → Venezuela (94) 95 11 95 → Venezuela (94) 93.3 11 43 11 68 Swaziland (80) 70 11 88 11 79 Tytich (95) 34 11 20 11 27.7 → 27 Zambia (71) 93.3 11 43 11 68 Swaziland (80) 75 100	\rightarrow	` '				П				ting
→ Swaziland (80)	\rightarrow					Ш				
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Turkmenistan (88)	\rightarrow					Ш	50.6	\rightarrow		Value value value value value sult be
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Turkmenistan (88)	H .						38.3	\rightarrow		by the deficient ted for num ition: she wall sprod
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Turkmenistan (88)	\rightarrow	, ,					19.8	\rightarrow		The v nensi ensic ndica evolu e val
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Diganda (59) 94.1 1		` '	87	-"						
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DEFINITION OF INDICATORS:

Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%): Percentage of women aged 15-49 years attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

Births attended by skilled health personnel (%): Percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

Methodological notes and guidelines at the end of the section.

Contraceptive use among women currently in union aged 15-49 (%): Percentage of women in union aged 15-49 years currently using contraception.

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Marked polarization

The term "reproductive health" was used for the first time at the United Nations Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994. It refers to a situation of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all the functions and processes connected with reproduction.

According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), every minute, somewhere in the world, one woman dies from avoidable causes during childbirth, and for every woman who dies under these circumstances there are 20 or more whose health is permanently damaged through delivery-related complications. This adds up to more than half a million women a year who lose their lives and more than ten million whose chances of leading a full and healthy life are seriously impaired. The situation is extremely worrying in the poor countries, which have the highest rates of involuntary pregnancy, abortions under bad conditions, HIV / AIDS infection, and maternal death and permanent injury.

Prevention is geared to avoiding teenage pregnancy, the start of sexual relations and the use of contraception. Attention, on the other hand, deals with sexually transmitted diseases, particularly HIV / AIDS, skilled health care during pregnancy and delivery, and follow-up on birth complications among women and newborn babies.

Global evolution

In the reproductive health dimension in 2008, more than a fifth of countries (23.8%) remained stagnant and some 70.7% made progress. In the latter group 6.6% made slight progress and the majority (64.1%) made significant progress. On the other hand, 8 countries regressed slightly (4.4%), and in two more (1.1%) this was severe, so in total only 5.5% of countries regressed (Table 1). All in all the overall balance is positive, but we should put this into perspective by examining the average levels in the countries at the two ends of the spectrum (Table 2).1

The indicator for "Women aged 15 to 49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%)" did not register changes but evolution in reproductive health was still favourable. This is because the proportion of women (with partners) in this age bracket who use contraception and the proportion of deliveries attended by skilled health personnel did increase (in 2008 the rates were

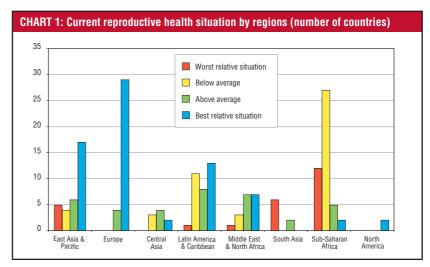


TABLE 1. Current situation according to evolution in reproductive health									
	←	←	п	\rightarrow	\rightarrow	Total			
Worse relative situation		2	3	3	17	25			
Below average	2	3	6	7	30	48			
Above average		3	4	2	27	36			
Better relative situation			30		42	72			
Total	2	8	43	12	116	181			

TABLE 2. Reproductive health: averages by indicator of countries in worse and better situations									
		Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%)	Use of contraception by women (with partners) aged 15 to 49 (%)	Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)					
Worse relative	Average	48.0	15.4	32.4					
situation	Number of countries	11	5	30					
Better relative	Average	94.3	72.3	99.6					
situation	Number of countries	27	8	80					
Total	Average	80.7	47.9	79.6					
	Number of countries	79	27	181					

80.7%, 44.9% and 79.1%, respectively, and in 2009 80.7%, 47.9% and 79.6%, respectively).

However, this overall progress obscures the significant polarization that took place. In the countries in the worse relative situation all the average values of the indicators fell (from 67.2%, 17.1% and 37.9% in 2008 to 48%, 15.4% and 32.4% in 2009, respectively). On the other hand, the opposite occurred in the countries in the better relative situation; all the average values of these indicators increased (93.9%, 64.5% and 98.9% in 2008 and 94.3%, 72.3% and 99.6%, respectively).

The situation by regions

No country in Europe or North America is below the average; the overwhelming majority are in the better relative situation (87.9% and 100%, respectively).

In Central Asia most of the countries are positioned around the average (33.3% are below and 44.4% are above). There are no countries in the worse relative situation and two are in the better relative situation (22.2%).

In East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East and North Africa region, most of the countries are above the average (18.8%, 24.4% and 38.9%, respectively) or in the better relative situation group (53.1%, 39.4% and 38.9%, respectively). However, there are also some countries below the average (12.5%, 33.3% and 16.7%, respectively) and some in a worse relative situation (15.6%, 3% and 5.6%, respectively).

South Asia is the most polarised region. Three quarters of the countries (75%) are in a worse relative situation and a quarter (25%) are above the average. There are no countries in the better relative situation, and nor are there any slightly below average.

Lastly, the most disadvantaged region is sub-Saharan Africa. Nearly nine tenths (84.8%) of these countries is in the worse relative situation or below the average (26.1% and 58.7%, respectively), one in ten are above the average (10.9%) and only 4.3% are in the better relative situation group.

¹ As regards methodology, countries are classified using two different procedures, and in this case the two are combined. Regression or progress refer to differences in the relative growth rate, but relative position is established by standardisation based on the quotient between the differences with the measures and the standard deviation of the distribution. For this, progress or regression in growth rate can correspond to different relative positions. Therefore a country that is very well positioned but from one year to the next registers a fall in the values of its indicators could figure among the countries in the better relative situation and at the same time be in the severe regression group.