



SPECIAL RELEASE

FERTILITY AND FAMILY PLANNING AMONG WOMEN IN WESTERN VISAYAS

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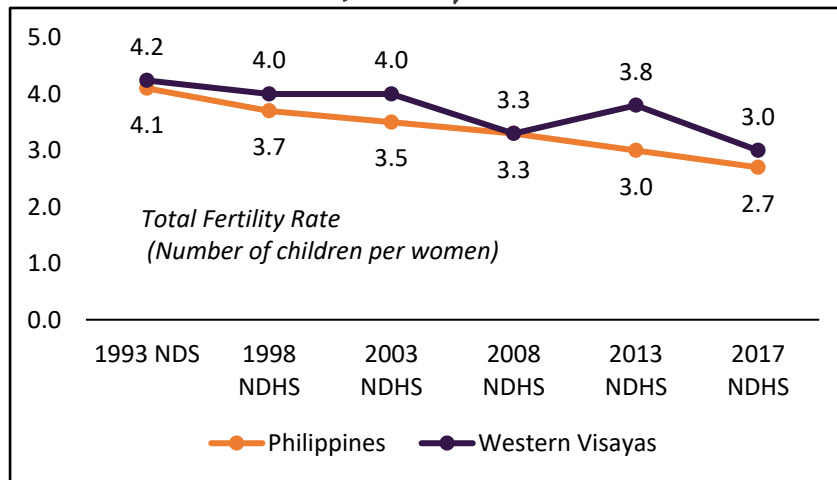
Explanatory Notes:

This special release presents key indicators on fertility and family planning in Western Visayas. Findings in this special release are taken from the results of 2017 National Demographic and Health Survey.

Total Fertility decreased to 3.0 in 2017

Fertility rate in the Western Visayas showed erratic trend. The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in 15 years from 1993 to 2008 showed a decline from 4.2 to 3.3. In five-year period from 2008 to 2013, TFR increased by 0.5 and declined by 0.8 in 2017. TFR of Western Visayas is higher than the national TFR of 2.7.

Trends in Fertility: 1993 to 2017



Childbearing among teenagers and youth is 5.3 percent

About 5.3% of teenage women age 15-19 have begun childbearing, 4.9% have had a live birth, and 0.5% are pregnant with their first child. The region ranked third from among the 17 regions nationwide in the least percentage of teenage women who have begun childbearing.



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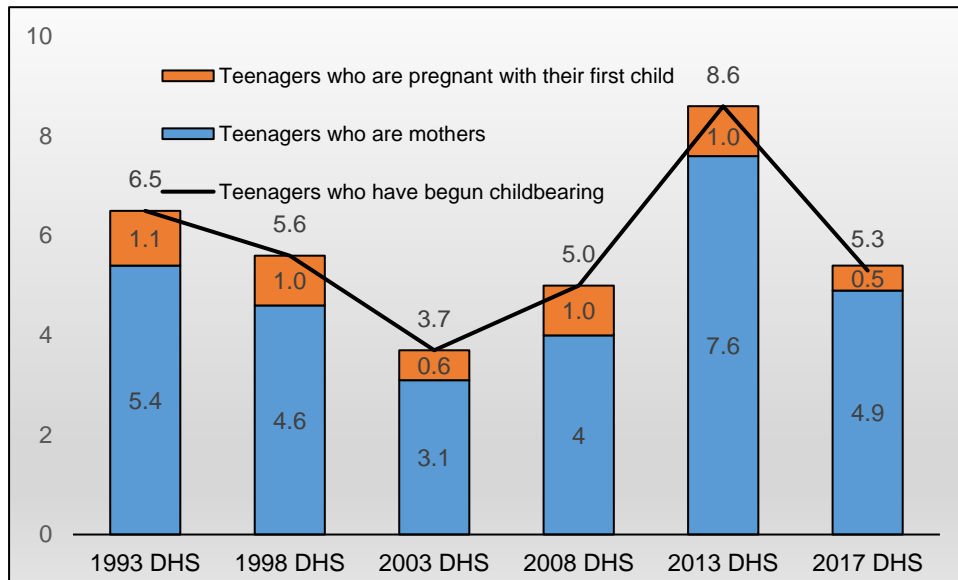


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Percentage of teenage women age 15-19 who have begun childbearing decreased by 3.3 percentage points in 5 years

Over-all the percentage of women age 15-19 who have begun childbearing fluctuated over time. In ten (10) years from 1993 to 2003, percentage of teenage women who have begun childbearing decreased from 6.5% to 3.7%, increased by 4.9 percentage points from 2003 to 2013, and decreased by 3.3 percentage points from 2013 to 2017.



One in every five women age 15-24 in Western Visayas are early mothers



About 21.4% of women age 15-24 have begun childbearing, 19.5% have had a live birth and 1.9% are pregnant with their first child.



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The gap between first sex and first birth is 1.9 years while first birth and first marriage is 1.0 year.

Age at first sex, marriage and first birth are fertility indicators in determining the exposure of women to the risk of pregnancy. In Western Visayas, among women age 25-49,

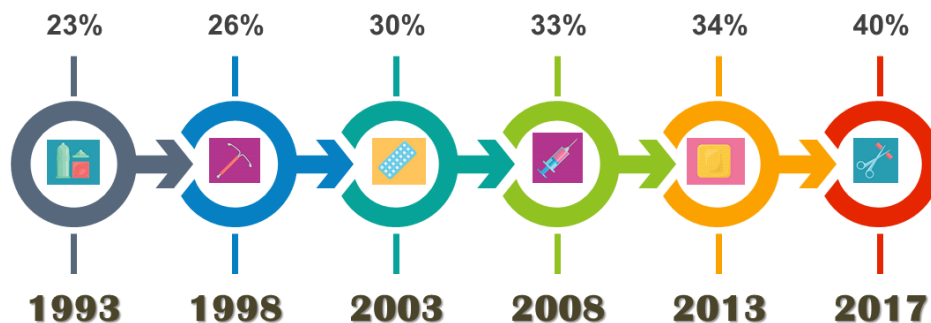
21.2 *is the median age at first sex*

22.5 *is the median age at first marriage*

23.5 *is the median age at first birth*

(median age – age by which half of respondents have had first sexual intercourse, first marriage and first birth.)

One in every four currently married women age 15-49 currently use modern contraceptive method



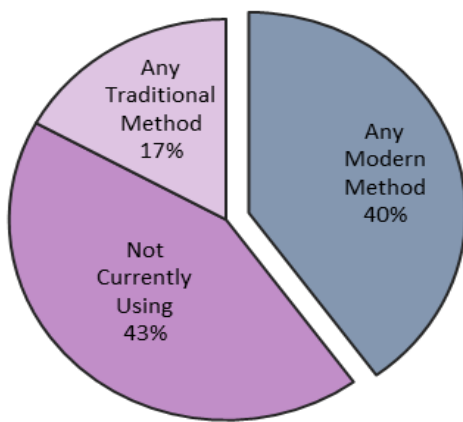
Of all the methods of family planning in use of women in Western Visayas, modern contraception usage among married women increased from 26% in 1998 to 40% in 2017.



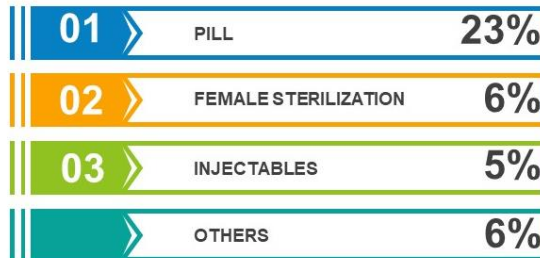
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There are more modern method users than those practicing traditional methods

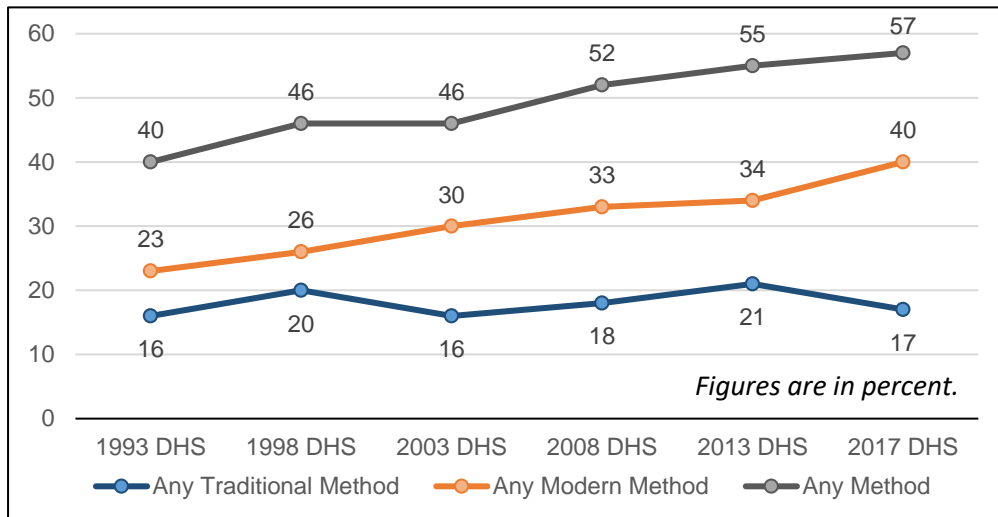
Six out of ten married women in Western Visayas in 2017 are currently using any method of contraception. Of these, four (4) are currently using any modern method while two (2) are using traditional methods. The remaining four of the ten married women are not currently using any contraception method.



Common Modern Contraceptive Methods Currently Used



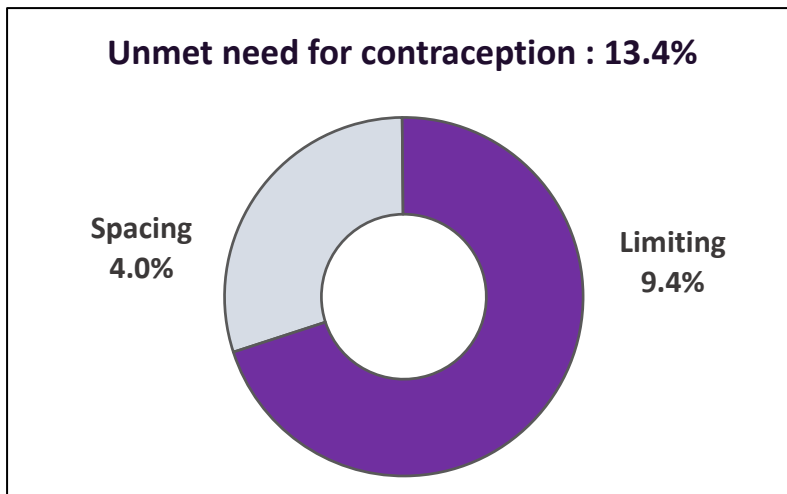
The gap between percentage of married women currently using any modern method and any traditional method widened from 13 percentage points in 2013 to 23 percentage points in 2017.



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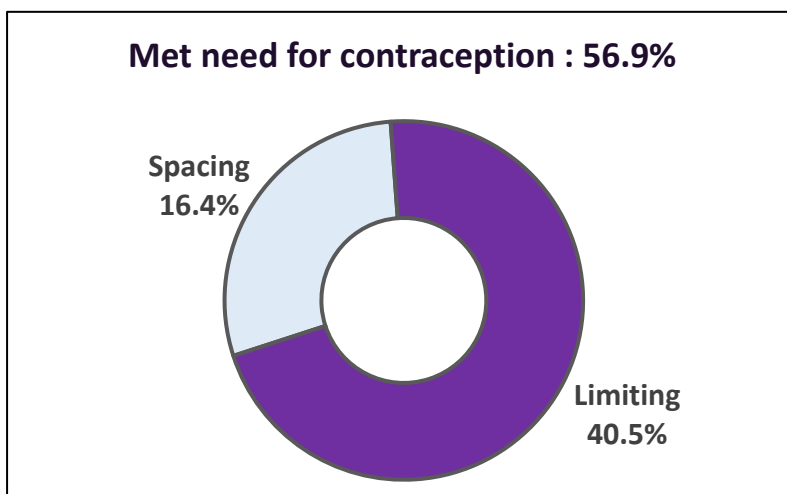
Unmet need for contraception is 13%

Unmet need for contraception among currently married women in Western Visayas in 2017 posted at 13%. Among them, 9% want to stop childbearing while 4% want to delay their next birth but were not using any method.



Six in every ten currently married women met their needs for contraception

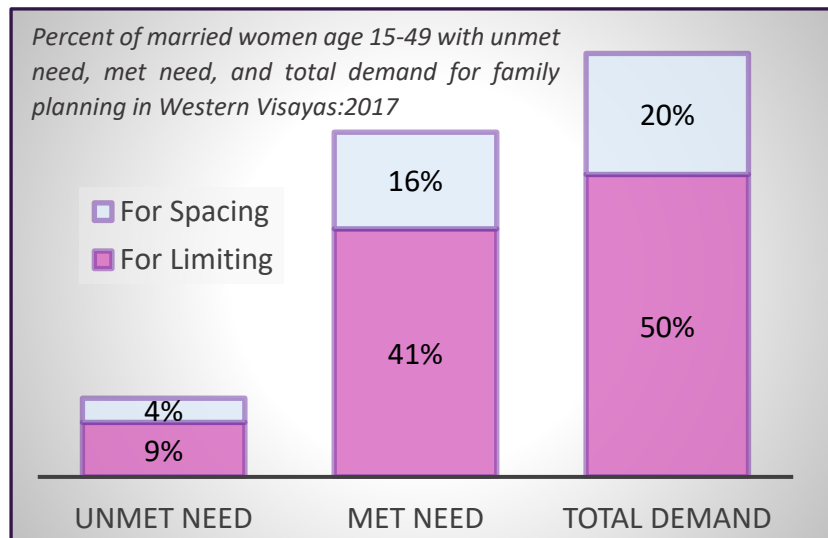
Among currently married women, the met need for contraception is 56.9%. The met needs for married women who want to delay their childbearing is 16.4% while women who want to limit their pregnancies is 40.5%.



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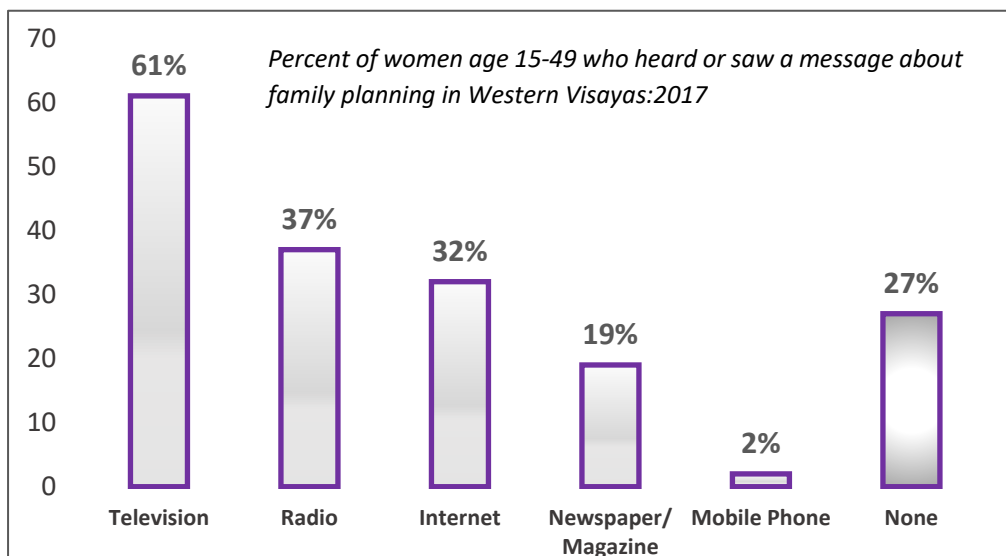
The total demand for family planning among married women is 70%

Seven (7) out of ten (10) married women age 15-49 demand for family planning. Of the 7 women, 5 wanted to limit births while the 2 would like to delay their next birth.



Television is the main source of information on family planning

About 61% of women in Western Visayas heard or saw a message about family planning in television while 27% women have no exposure to family planning messages from any of the major media sources.





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Scope and Coverage

All eligible women age 15-49 in the sample households from each 17 regions were interviewed.

Source of Information

Data are taken from the 2017 National Demographic and Health Survey collected by PSA field personnel.

Limitations:

1. In the rare situation where a housing unit contained one to three households, no more than three households were interviewed.
2. No replacements and no changes of the pre-selected housing units were allowed in the implementing stage in order to prevent bias.

Definition of Terms:

2017 National Demographic and Health Survey - The sixth DHS survey to be conducted in the Philippines in collaboration with the worldwide Demographic and Health (DHS) Program and the 11th national DHS overall.

Median age at first sex – Age by which half of respondents have had sexual intercourse.

Median age at first marriage – Age by which half of respondents have been married.

Median age at first birth - Age by which half of women have had their first child.

Early Childbearing – Percentage of women age 15-49 who have given birth or are pregnant with their first child.

Modern Methods – include male and female sterilization, injectables, intra uterine devices (IUDs), contraceptive pills, implants, the patch, female and male condoms, emergency contraception, the standard days method (SDM), mucus/Billings/ovulation, basal body temperature, symptothermal, and the lactational amenorrhea method (LAM).



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Unmet Need for Family Planning – Proportion of women who (1) are not pregnant and not postpartum amenorrheic and are considered fecund and want to postpone their next birth for 2 or more years or stop childbearing altogether but are not using a contraceptive method, (2) have a mistimed or unwanted current pregnancy, or (3) are postpartum amenorrheic and their last birth in the last 2 years was mistimed or unwanted.

Source: PSA, 2017 NDHS



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