

# State of Palestine 2019 - 2020



## Adolescents

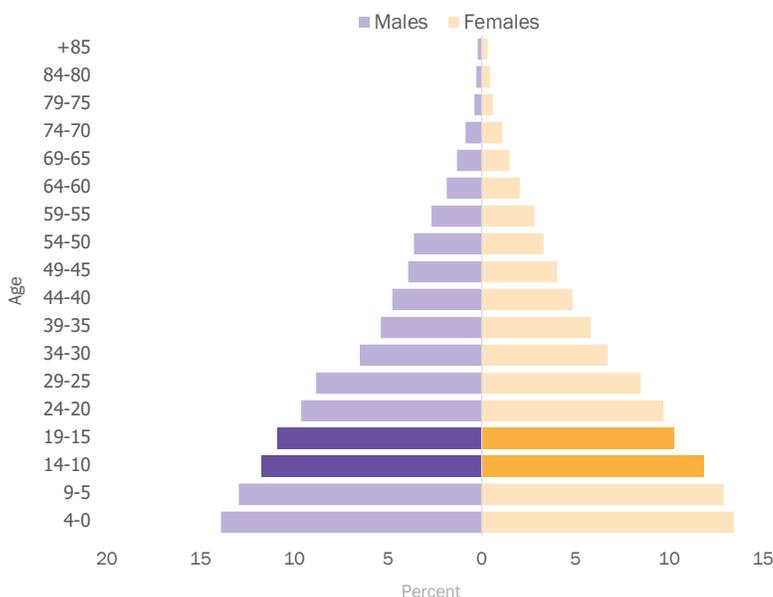
Multiple Indicator  
Cluster Surveys

### The Adolescent Population: Age 10-19

Palestinian Central  
Bureau of Statistics



#### Distribution of Household Population by Age & Sex



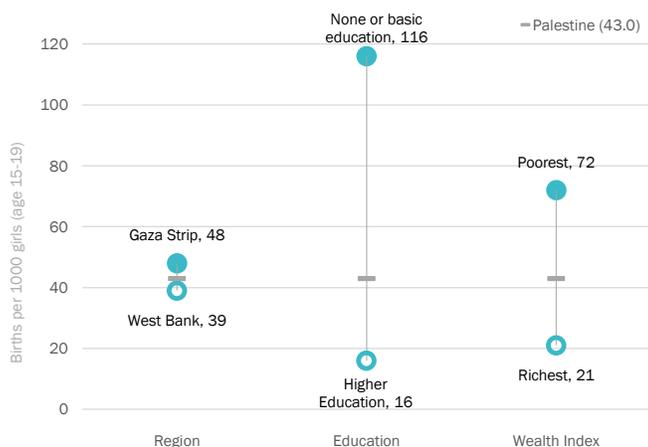
This snapshot of adolescent well-being is organized around key priority areas for adolescents:

- Every adolescent survives and thrives
- Every adolescent learns
- Every adolescent is protected from violence and exploitation
- Every adolescent lives in a safe and clean environment
- Every adolescent has an equitable chance in life

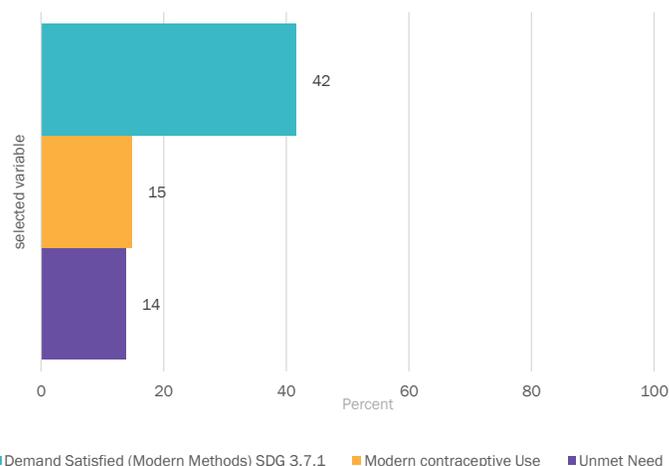
### Every Adolescent Survives & Thrives

Adolescence is by some measures the healthiest period in the life-course, yet it can also mark the first manifestations of issues which can have lifelong effects on health and wellbeing, such as unsafe sexual behavior, early childbearing and substance misuse. Nevertheless, health interventions during this period are shown to have long-lasting effects. Access to appropriate contraceptive methods is critical to prevent adolescent pregnancy and its related consequences, allowing adolescents to transition into adulthood with the ability to plan their pregnancies and live healthy and productive lives.

#### Adolescent Birth Rate (15-19 years) : SDG 3.7.2



#### Modern Contraceptive Use, Unmet Need & Demand Satisfied for Modern Methods: SDG 3.7.1

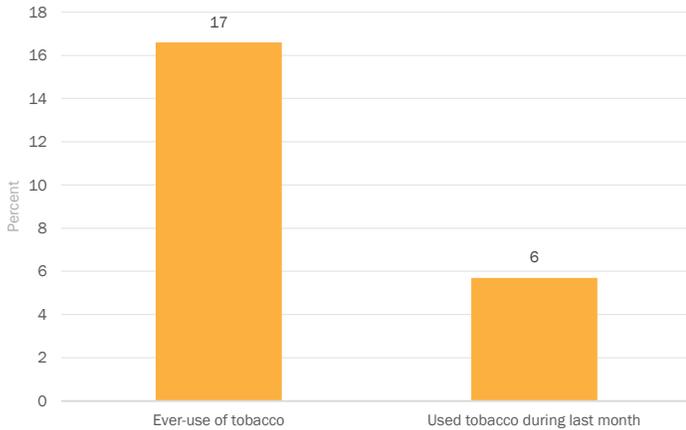


Age-specific fertility rate for females age 15-19 years: the number of live births in the last 3 years, divided by the average number of women in that age group during the same period, expressed per 1,000 women

Percentage of women age 15-19 years who are currently married, using (or their husbands use) a modern contraceptive method, percentage with an unmet need for contraception and percent of demand for modern methods of family planning satisfied

# Every Adolescent Survives & Thrives

## Tobacco Use Between Females Adolescent \*

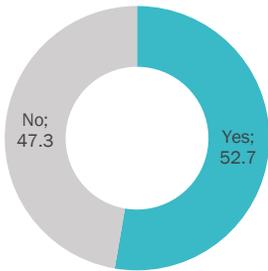


Adolescence is an experimental time in an individual's life during which he seeks to highlight his personality and dependence on himself, and to experience experiences that have dangerous repercussions on his future life, such as tobacco use. However, adolescence is also an opportunity to promote healthy behaviors that will last into adulthood.

Percentage of adolescent female age 15-19 who have ever used tobacco  
 Percentage of adolescent female age 15-19 who have used tobacco in the last 1 month  
 \*Tobacco use in last month among adolescents is an age disaggregate of SDG 3.a.1  
 Note: The survey form did not include smoking model for male.

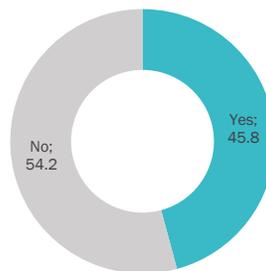
# Every Adolescent Learns

## Foundational Reading Skills SDG 4.1.1.(a) (i: reading)



Percentage of children age 7-14 who can 1) read 90% of words in a story correctly, 2) Answer three literal comprehension questions, 3) Answer two inferential comprehension questions

## Foundational Numeracy Skills SDG 4.1.1.(a) (ii: numeracy)

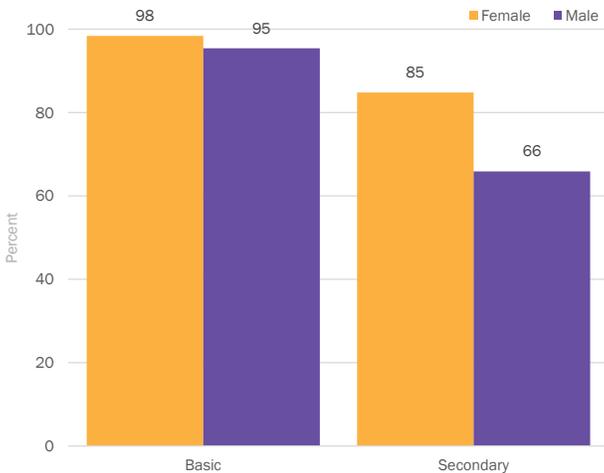


Percentage of children age 7-14 who can successfully perform 1) a number reading task, 2) a number discrimination task, 3) an addition task and 4) a pattern recognition and completion task

Quality education and experiences at school positively affect physical and mental health, safety, civic engagement and social development. Adolescents, however, can also face the risk of school drop-out, early marriage or pregnancy, or being pulled into the workforce prematurely.

Data on reading and numeracy skills are collected in MICS through a direct assessment method. The Foundational Learning module captures information on children's early learning in reading and mathematics at the level of Grade 2 in basic education.

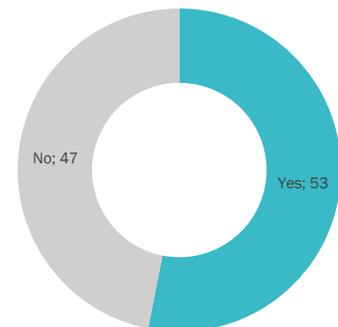
## School Attendance Ratios



Adjusted net attendance ratio, by level of education and by gender

## Information & Communications Technology (ICT) Skills\*

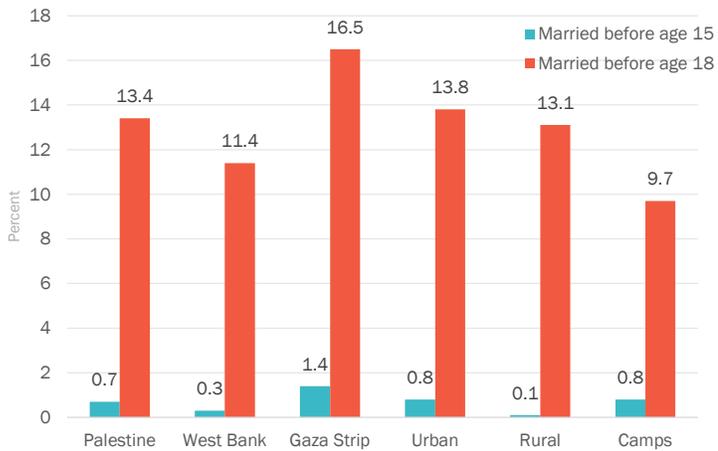
### Females



Percentage of females age 15-19 who can perform at least one of the nine listed computer related activities  
 \*Age disaggregate of SDG 4.4.1: Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills

# Every Adolescent is Protected from Violence & Exploitation

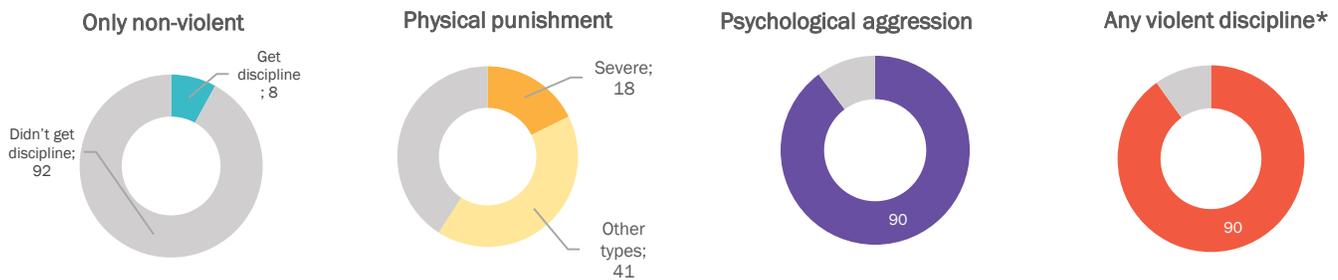
## Child Marriage: SDG 5.3.1



Adolescence is a period of heightened risk to certain forms of violence and exploitation. The onset of puberty marks an important transition in females' and males' lives whereby gender, sexuality and sexual identity begin to assume greater importance, increasing vulnerability to particular forms of violence, particularly for adolescent females. Certain harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage, often take place at the onset of puberty. At the same time, as children enter adolescence, they begin to spend more time outside their homes and interact more intimately with a wider range of people, including peers and romantic partners. This change in social worlds is beneficial in many respects, but also exposes adolescents to new forms of violence.

Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were first married before age 15 and before age 18, by Region, and locality type.

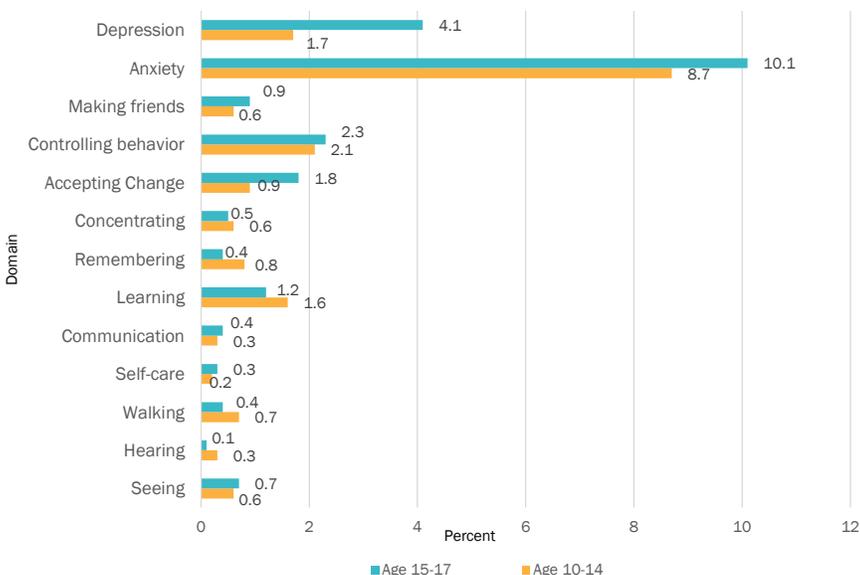
## Child Discipline



Percentage of children age 10 to 14 years who experienced any discipline in the past month, by type  
\*Age disaggregate of SDG 16.2.1

# Every Adolescent has an Equitable Chance in Life

## Functioning Difficulties in Adolescents



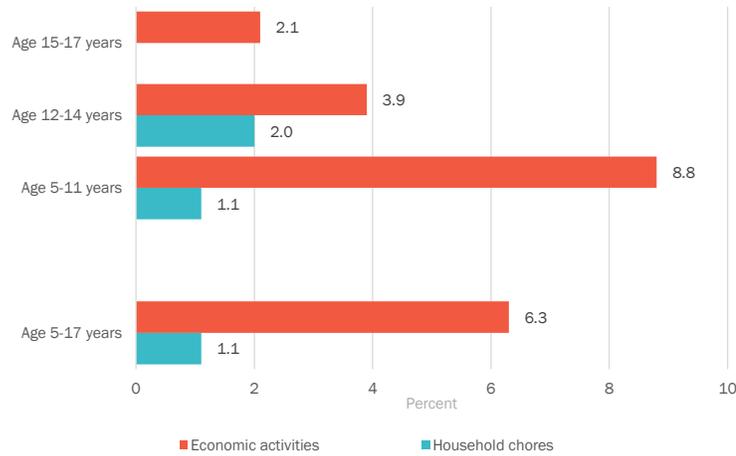
Percentage of adolescents who have a functioning difficulty, by domain and age

Achieving sustainable progress and results with regard to equity demands a human rights-based approach. At the core of international human rights legal framework is the principle of non-discrimination, with instruments to combat specific forms of discrimination, including against women, indigenous peoples, migrants, minorities, people with disabilities, and discrimination based on race and religion, or sexual orientation and gender identity. As adolescents begin to form more of an individual identity, discrimination can often become more pronounced, taking form in harassment, bullying, or exclusion from certain activities. At the same time, research has shown that discrimination during adolescence has a particularly strong effect on stress hormones, potentially leading to life-long mental or physical health side effects.

Children and adolescents with disabilities are one of the most marginalized groups in society. Facing daily discrimination in the form of negative attitudes, lack of adequate policies and legislation, adolescents with disabilities are effectively barred from realizing their rights to health, education, and even survival.

# Every Adolescent is Protected from Violence & Exploitation

## Child Labour: SDG 8.7.1\*



Percentage of adolescents age 5-17 years engaged in child labour, by type of activity and by age  
 \*: The estimates taken from the child labor model in the MICS differ from the estimates provided in the SDGs database for target 8.7.1, as this database excludes hazardous work and applies a 21-hour limit for housework for children in the age 5 - 14 years and there is no cap on the number of hours of housework for children in the age 15-17 year.

### Definition of Child Labour

Age 5 to 11 years: At least 1 hour of economic activities or 21 hours of unpaid household services per week.

Age 12 to 14 years: At least 14 hours of economic activities or 21 hours of unpaid household services per week.

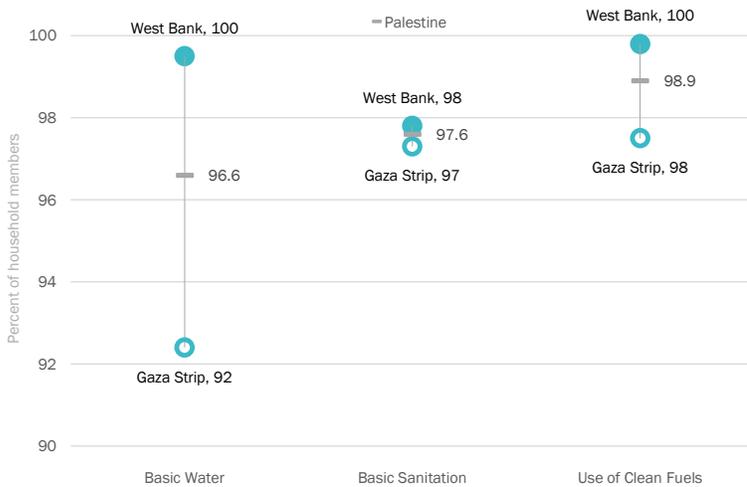
Age 15 to 17 years: At least 43 hours of economic activities. No threshold for number of hours of unpaid household services.

Economic activities include paid or unpaid work for someone who is not a member of the household, work for a family farm or business. Household chores include activities such as cooking, cleaning or caring for children.

Note that the child labour indicator definition has changed during the implementation of the sixth round of MICS. Changes include age-specific thresholds for household chores and exclusion of hazardous working conditions. While the overall concept of child labour includes hazardous working conditions, the definition of child labour used for SDG reporting does not.

# Every Adolescent Lives in a Safe & Clean Environment

## Water, Sanitation & Clean Fuel Use



The data presented here are at the household level. Evidence suggests that adolescent access to these services are comparable to household-level data.

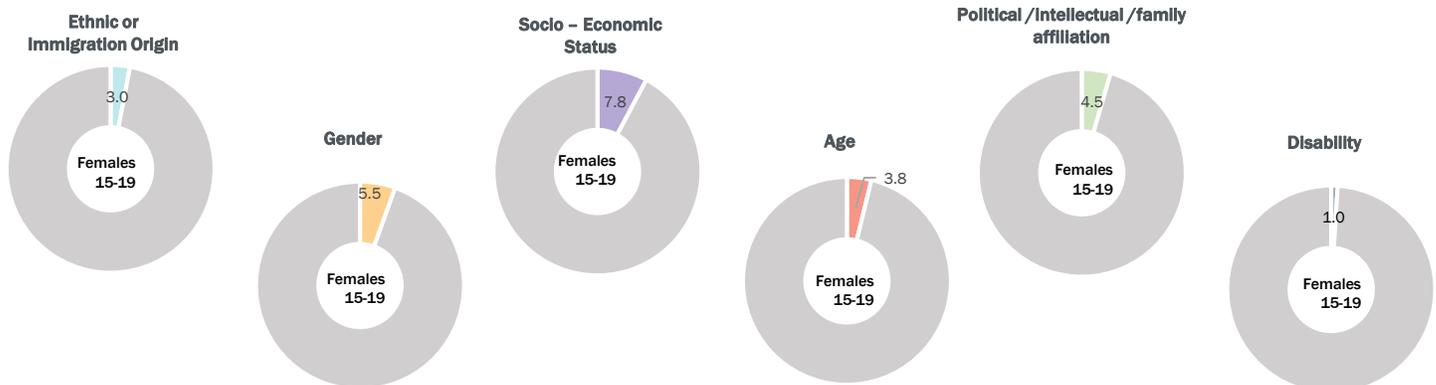
**Basic Drinking Water SDG 1.4:** Drinking water from an improved source, provided collection time is not more than 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queuing. Improved drinking water sources are those that have the potential to deliver safe water by nature of their design and construction, and include: piped water, boreholes or tubewells, protected dug wells, protected springs, rainwater, and packaged or delivered water

**Basic Sanitation Services SDG 1.4.1/6.2.1 :** Use of improved facilities which are not shared with other households. Improved sanitation facilities are those designed to hygienically separate excreta from human contact, and include: flush/pour flush to piped sewer system, septic tanks or pit latrines; ventilated improved pit latrines, composting toilets or pit latrines with slabs

**Clean Fuels SDG 7.1.2:** Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating and lighting

# Every Adolescent has an Equitable Chance in Life

## Discrimination & Harassment



Percentage of adolescent females age 15-19 years who in the last 12 months have felt discriminated against or harassed on the basis of different grounds

## Key Messages

- Met Need for modern family planning methods is low, while the unmet need for family planning methods is still high.
- Smoking rates among females are high, and therefore it must be taken into account that recommendations for abstaining from smoking should include water pipe smokers as well.
- Fifty three percent of children aged 7-14 years were able to read at the second grade level, and 46% were able to perform math operations successfully. Despite the high enrollment rates in schools, there is a weakness in reading and numeracy skills, which requires immediate interventions to improve the quality of education in Palestine.
- Adolescents in The State of Palestine are exposed to unacceptable levels of physical and psychological violence. This requires more work and effort to protect children from all forms of violence, which have major repercussions on their lives after adolescence.
- To varying degrees, females are still subjected to harassment and discrimination based on gender and other reasons related to age, social, economic and other conditions.
- Thirteen out of 100 females at age 20-24 years are married before reaching 18 year. This percentage is higher in the Gaza Strip and in urban areas. Early marriage is a violation of children's rights, and may result in early pregnancies and social isolation. Knowing that a presidential decree has been issued prohibiting males and females from marrying before they reach the age of 18 years, this decree was valid at the beginning of 2020. Therefore, the data on early marriage reflects the years prior to the year 2020.

The State of Palestine Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was carried out in 2019-2020 by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics as part of the global MICS programme. Technical and financial support was provided by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The objective of this snapshot is to disseminate selected findings from the State of Palestine MICS 2019-20 related to Adolescents. Data from this snapshot can be found in table SR4.1, SR9.4W, SR10.1, TM2.1, TM3.1, TM3.4, LN1.2, LN4.1, LN4.2, PR2.1, PR3.3, PR4.1W, WS3.6, TC4.1, EQ1.2 and EQ3.1W.

Further statistical snapshots and the Summary Findings Report for this and other surveys are available on [mics.unicef.org/surveys](https://mics.unicef.org/surveys).