Understanding the lives of adolescents and young adults (UDAYA)

**CONTEXT**

Understanding the lives of adolescents and young adults (UDAYA), a programme of research conducted by the Population Council, seeks to:

- explore the situation and needs of younger (10–14 years) and older (15–19 years) adolescents;
- describe changes in their situation and needs over time; and
- assess factors that determine the quality of their transitions from adolescence to young adulthood.

UDAYA, implemented from 2015 to 2020, uses community-based repeated cross-sectional surveys, panel surveys and qualitative methods. With its geographical focus on Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, UDAYA illustrates the lives of every fourth adolescent in India and every 16th adolescent globally.

UDAYA profiles the multiple facets of adolescents’ situation:

- **Education, employability and economic inclusion**
- **Agency, community and citizenship**
- **Entry into marriage and motherhood**
- **Health and nutrition**
- **Violence in private and public spaces**
- **Media and technology**
- **Parental engagement**
- **Entitlements**

This factsheet presents findings from the first round of surveys, conducted during January to July 2016, in Bihar, India. The study interviewed adolescents in rural and urban areas of 36 out of 38 districts in the state.

- **1,012 Unmarried boys** (10–14 years)
- **1,821 Unmarried boys** (15–19 years)
- **764 Unmarried girls** (10–14 years)
- **3,428 Unmarried girls** (15–19 years)
- **3,408 Married girls** (15–19 years)
**Currently enrolled in school/college (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93.7</td>
<td>78.3</td>
<td>90.1</td>
<td>66.2</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Of those currently enrolled in school

**Enrolled in an age-appropriate grade* (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>58.1</td>
<td>60.4</td>
<td>58.9</td>
<td>57.5</td>
<td>55.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Of those currently enrolled in school/college

**Currently enrolled in a government school* (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85.8</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>90.6</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>87.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Of those currently enrolled in school

**Literacy and numeracy* (%)**

- Can read class 2 text fluently in Hindi
- Can solve a simple division problem

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Can read class 2 text fluently in Hindi</th>
<th>Can solve a simple division problem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</td>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>64.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>65.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</td>
<td>58.1</td>
<td>47.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>72.1</td>
<td>53.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>78.8</td>
<td>33.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Of those who had completed class 5

**Building job skills through vocational training (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Aspires to attend a vocational training programme</th>
<th>Attended a formal vocational training programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>81.3</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>91.2</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>83.1</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Banking practices (%)**

- Has a savings account
- Independently operates a savings account

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Has a savings account</th>
<th>Independently operates a savings account</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>52.0</td>
<td>37.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>49.6</td>
<td>32.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>33.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Engaged in paid work* (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In the last 12 months

**Seeking jobs (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Agency, community and citizenship**

**Pre-marital violence (%):**
- Premarital violence (%): 78.0
- Other forms of violence (%): 82.4
- Marital violence (%): 33.9
- Parental violence (%): 43.8

**Domestic violence by husbands of married girls:**
- Emotional violence: 36.4
- Physical violence: 30.9
- Sexual violence: 26.4

**Adolescents whose mother had no formal schooling:**
- Acknowledged at least one form of favourable (boys)/discriminatory (girls) practices by their parents: 77.7
- Discussed friends with their mother in the last year: 42.0
- Discussed friends with their father in the last year: 76.7
- Discussed reproductive processes with their mother in the last year: 29.8
- Discussed reproductive processes with their father in the last year: 23.1
- Considered parents as their role model: 90.4
- Identified parents as their source for learning social behaviours: 28.5

**Parental engagement (%):**
- EVER BEATING MOTHER: 18.3
- EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY A PARENT: 30.0

**Unmarried boys (10—14 yrs) vs. Unmarried girls (10—14 yrs) vs. Unmarried girls (15—19 yrs) vs. Married girls (15—19 yrs):**
- Unmarried boys (10—14 yrs)
  - Allowed to visit selected locations unescorted (%)
  - Would eat with people of other castes/religions (%)

**Participation in civil society and political life (%):**
- Membership in organised groups: 2.6
- Ever involved in political activities: 19.4
- Believes that one can vote freely without fear, pressure or influence: 90.1

**Voted in the last election (%):**
- 20.0
- 33.8
- 30.3

**Media and technology:**
- Owns or has access to mobile phones (%): 75.8
- Watches television regularly* (%): 50.0
- Accesses internet regularly** (%): 4.6
- Accesses social media regularly*** (%): 1.7

* Regularly includes daily or weekly exposure
# Of those who had five or more years of schooling
Contraceptive awareness

Contraceptive use within marriage* (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Married boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Condoms (%)</td>
<td>81.7</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral contraceptive pills (%)</td>
<td>42.8</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>58.2</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency contraceptive pill (%)</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Practices within premarital sexual relationships (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Married boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ever had an opposite-sex romantic partner</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever had premarital sex</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaged in sex before age 15 within premarital relations*</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used condom consistently within premarital relations*</td>
<td>20.3</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaged in sex with multiple partners within premarital relations*</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>27.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Of those who ever had premarital sex

Contraceptive use within marriage* (%)

- Ever used contraception within marriage: 11.2%
- Currently using contraception within marriage: 6.9%
- Used contraception to delay first birth: 8.2%
- Has an unmet need for spacing: 45.2%

Maternal and newborn health care for first birth* (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Married boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Received postpartum check-up by a health professional within 2 days of delivery</td>
<td>36.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery was attended by a healthcare professional</td>
<td></td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivered in a health facility</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Married girls knew that a newborn should be breastfed within an hour of birth: 42.8%
Married girls knew that a pregnant woman should have at least four antenatal check-ups: 27.7%
Married girls knew that a newborn should be exclusively breastfed for six months: 48.2%

*Married girls who had at least one live birth
**Sexual and reproductive health knowledge, attitudes and beliefs (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Believes that it is acceptable for a girl/woman to abort her pregnancy if she doesn’t want to continue</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>29.9</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of sex determination test</td>
<td>31.3</td>
<td>66.6</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>72.0</td>
<td>75.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of sexually transmitted infections other than HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>53.5</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received family life education*</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Of adolescents 13–19 years

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**Nutritional status (%)**

- **Obese or overweight**: 16, 26, 16, 2, 1
- **Thinness**: 23, 3, 17, 3, 6
- **Any anaemia**: 2, 2, 8, 6, 4
- **Moderate or severe anaemia**: 7, 4, 3, 1, 5

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**Mental health (%)**

- Displayed symptoms of moderate to severe depression in the last 2 weeks*: 0.0, 1.1, 1.3, 5.0, 6.9
- Contemplated committing suicide in the last 12 months**: 0.2, 1.7, 0.3, 3.4, 7.0
- Inflicted self-harm in the last 12 months**: 5.0, 3.7, 4.2, 2.1, 3.7

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**Substance use (%)**

- Ever consumed alcohol: 1.9, 8.0, 0.0, 0.2, 0.3
- Ever consumed drugs: 0.4, 1.1, 0.0, 0.1, 0.0
- Ever consumed tobacco products: 4.8, 20.2, 1.2, 1.7, 1.5

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**Entry into marriage and motherhood**

- **6.8%** Of all girls (15–19 years) got married before age 15
- **43.7%** Of all girls (18–19 years) got married before age 18

*Of married girls who had begun cohabiting
### Violence in private and public spaces

#### Premarital violence* (%)

- Perpetrated (boys)/experienced (girls) forced sex within premarital relationships**
  - Boys: 32.0%
  - Girls: 62.6%
  - Total: 57.9%

*Of those who had premarital sex

#### Marital violence** (%)

- Domestic violence by husbands of married girls
  - Emotional violence: 33.9%
  - Physical violence: 27.5%
  - Sexual violence: 37.4%

**Of those who had begun cohabiting

#### Parental violence (%)

- Witnessed father ever beating mother***
  - Boys: 18.3%
  - Girls: 17.8%
  - Total: 18.2%

***Of those with both parents alive

- Experienced physical violence by a parent since age 10****
  - Boys: 77.7%
  - Girls: 42.0%
  - Total: 59.0%

****Of those with at least one parent alive

### Other forms of violence (%)

- Perpetrated bullying in the last 12 months
  - Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs): 28.5%
  - Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs): 14.9%
  - Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs): 28.7%
  - Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs): 20.8%
  - Married girls (15–19 yrs): 4.9%

- Involved in physical fights with individuals of the same sex
  - Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs): 46.4%
  - Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs): 24.8%
  - Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs): 29.5%
  - Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs): 16.9%
  - Married girls (15–19 yrs): 4.1%

- Experienced mobile phone/internet based harassment
  - Boys: 0.1%
  - Girls: 2.3%
  - Total: 2.0%

- Reported familiarity with marriage-related markers of trafficking
  - Boys: 2.2%
  - Girls: 2.7%
  - Total: 4.5%

- Believes that it is acceptable to beat up someone who insults a female family member
  - Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs): 48.4%
  - Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs): 47.5%
  - Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs): 35.2%
  - Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs): 34.0%
  - Married girls (15–19 yrs): 30.0%

### Parental engagement (%)

- Adolescents whose mother had no formal schooling
  - Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs): 78.0%
  - Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs): 76.8%
  - Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs): 77.7%
  - Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs): 72.1%
  - Married girls (15–19 yrs): 82.4%

- Acknowledged at least one form of favourable (boys)/discriminatory (girls) practices by their parents*
  - Boys: 20.4%
  - Girls: 19.2%
  - Total: 40.2%

- Discussed friends with their mother in the last year**
  - Boys: 37.2%
  - Girls: 36.7%
  - Total: 74.0%

- Discussed friends with their father in the last year**
  - Boys: 21.3%
  - Girls: 27.1%
  - Total: 48.5%

- Discussed reproductive processes with their mother in the last year**
  - Boys: -
  - Girls: 0.1%
  - Total: 3.3%

- Discussed reproductive processes with their father in the last year**
  - Boys: -
  - Girls: 1.1%
  - Total: 1.1%

- Considered parents as their role model***
  - Boys: 18.9%
  - Girls: 12.2%
  - Total: 31.1%

- Identified parents as their source for learning social behaviours
  - Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs): 81.5%
  - Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs): 85.8%
  - Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs): 90.4%
  - Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs): 90.1%
  - Married girls (15–19 yrs): 90.3%

*Of those co-residing with a brother/sister with age gap of up to three years
**Of those with at least one parent alive
***Of those who reported their having a role model
**Entitlements**

### Education entitlements (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education entitlements</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aware of scholarship schemes* 14</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>99.7</td>
<td>98.2</td>
<td>99.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received a scholarship* 14</td>
<td>77.8</td>
<td>55.1</td>
<td>92.9</td>
<td>71.5</td>
<td>66.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of provision of free textbooks* 15</td>
<td>99.0</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>99.2</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>97.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received free textbooks* 15</td>
<td>91.8</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>93.5</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>93.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of provision of free uniforms* 15</td>
<td>99.0</td>
<td>98.5</td>
<td>99.3</td>
<td>99.5</td>
<td>96.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received free uniforms* 15</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>78.1</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td>93.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received bicycle/money to buy bicycle* 15</td>
<td>47.0</td>
<td>72.8</td>
<td>57.9</td>
<td>81.5</td>
<td>85.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Those enrolled in an eligible class in a government school at the time or in the year preceding the interview.

### Livelihood entitlements (%)

- **18.1** Aware of Bihar Skill Development Mission
- **21.9** Aware of Bihar Skill Development Mission
- **8.0** Aware of employment exchange or employment counselling centres
- **21.9** Aware of vocational training centres that offer training under Bihar Skill Development Mission
- **5.4** Aware of vocational training centres that offer training under Bihar Skill Development Mission

### Health entitlements (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health entitlements</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)</th>
<th>Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
<th>Married girls (15–19 yrs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aware of weekly iron and folic acid supplementation (WIFS) scheme</td>
<td>66.3</td>
<td>54.8</td>
<td>62.7</td>
<td>63.9</td>
<td>51.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received iron and folic acid tablets under WIFS in the last year</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received de-worming tablets under WIFS in the last year</td>
<td>52.5</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>44.1</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of adolescent friendly health clinics</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of accredited social health activists (ASHAs)</td>
<td>57.7</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>77.0</td>
<td>93.2</td>
<td>92.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interacted with an ASHA in the last year</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>30.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aware of anganwadi workers</td>
<td>93.0</td>
<td>95.9</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>97.3</td>
<td>96.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interacted with an anganwadi worker in the last year</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>29.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Received mid-day meal on the last day that s/he attended school* (%)

- **82.4** Unmarried boys (10–14 yrs)
- **74.3** Unmarried boys (15–19 yrs)
- **91.6** Unmarried girls (10–14 yrs)
- **94.0** Unmarried girls (15–19 yrs)

*Of those currently enrolled in eligible classes in a government school.

### Received mid-day meal on the last day that s/he attended school* (%)

- **51.8** Received any benefits from ICDS centre during pregnancy or lactation period**
- **36.0** Received any benefits for the baby from ICDS centre***
- **48.2** Received cash benefits from Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram**
- **71.5** Received cash benefits from Janani Suraksha Yojana**

* Of those whose first birth took place in a government health facility
** Married girls with at least one live birth
*** Of those whose first delivery took place in a public or private health facility
UDAYA profiles the multiple facets of adolescents’ situation: health and nutrition, education, employability, media and technology, agency, community, entitlements, and economic inclusion. It also explores the situation and needs of younger (10−14 years) and older (15−19 years) adolescents and presents their situation and needs over time. The study interviewed every fourth adolescent in India and every 16th adolescent globally. Geographical focus on Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, UDAYA illustrates the lives of adolescents in rural and urban India. The study interviewed 764 married girls, 764 unmarried girls, 764 unmarried boys, and 764 ever state. This factsheet presents data from the first study conducted in Bihar from January to July 2016. The data are based on interviews with 764 married girls, 764 unmarried girls, 764 unmarried boys, and 764 ever state. The study was supported by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

Notes:

1. The questions about decision-making were different for younger and older adolescents. Younger adolescents were asked about their participation in decisions related to years of schooling they should have, their choice of friends and going to a friend’s house; older adolescents were asked about their participation in decisions related to years of schooling they should have, major household purchases and whether to work or stay at home. The percentage reflects those who reported some say in all the three decisions and the analysis pertaining to this indicator has been restricted to those who were enrolled in school as the question about the level of schooling they should have was posed only to those who were ever enrolled in school. Given that younger and older adolescents were asked different questions, comparisons between these groups are not advised for this indicator.

2. Both younger and older adolescents were asked whether they were allowed to visit locations such as a shop/market or a friend-relative in their village/ward, a shop/market or a friend-relative outside their village/ward, and a programme (mela, sports event, adolescent group meetings) within their village/ward; the percentage reflects those who were allowed to visit two out of three locations unescorted.

3. Refers to respondents who expressed a gender egalitarian attitude in four out of six statements posed to them; these statements referred to the relative importance of educating boys versus girls, comparative performance of girls versus boys in studies, and boys’ sharing household chores with their sisters (for 10−14 year-olds); fathers and mothers sharing chores related to childcare, a girl having male friend, and a man’s perceived right to beat his wife if she does not listen to or obey him (for 15−19 year-olds); and girls’ interest in being teased by boys, girls’ right to be involved in decisions related to timing of their marriage, and fathers/husbands’ perceived right to decide about spending household money (for both 10−14 year-olds and 15−19 year-olds). Given that younger and older adolescents were asked different questions, comparisons between these groups are not advised for this indicator.

4. Among those who had reported premarital sex via face-to-face interview.

5. Comprehensive awareness of HIV/AIDS for 15−19-year-old adolescents includes: (1) identifying two major ways of preventing HIV (using condoms always and limiting sex to one partner); (2) rejecting three common misconceptions about HIV transmission (that HIV can be transmitted through mosquito bites, sharing food with a person who has HIV, and hugging someone who has HIV); and (3) knowing that a healthy-looking person can be HIV-positive. Comprehensive awareness of HIV/AIDS for 10−14-year-old adolescents includes: (1) rejecting three common misconceptions about HIV transmission (that HIV can be transmitted through mosquito bites, sharing food with a person who has HIV, and hugging someone who has HIV); and (2) knowing that a healthy-looking person can be HIV-positive.

6. The criterion for being obese or overweight was defined as BMI-for-age Z score > + 1 SD, using 2007 WHO reference data.

7. Thinness was defined as BMI-for-age Z score < -2SD, using 2007 WHO reference data.

8. Any anemia: <11.5 g/dl for 10−11 year old or <= 12.0 g/dl for 12−14 year-olds and non-pregnant girls aged 15 years and above; <11.0 g/dl for pregnant girls aged 15 years and above; <13.0 g/dl for boys aged 15 years and above.

9. Moderate anemia: 7.0-9.9 g/dl for 10−14 year old and girls aged 15−19 years, regardless of pregnancy status at the time of the interview, and 9.0−11.9 g/dl for boys aged 15−19 years; Severe anemia: <7.0 g/dl for 10−14 year-olds and girls aged 15−19, regardless of pregnancy status, and <9.0 g/dl for boys aged 15−19 years.

10. We administered Patient Health Questionnaire-9 and the percentage shows those who reported some symptoms of moderate depression, 15−19 moderately severe and 20−27 severe depression.

11. Asked of respondents aged 13 and above.

12. Among those who had reported pre-marital sex via face-to-face interview or anonymous format (through sealed envelopes).

13. Girls were asked whether they or any other girls of their age in their family had ever been taken elsewhere with false promises of marriage and whether their parents or guardians had ever been approached by acquaintances or strangers with offers of marriage to grooms from outside their state for themselves or any other girl of their age in their family. Boys were asked whether their sisters or any other girls of their age in their family had received such offers. We recognise that responses to these questions may include both genuine and exploitative offers of and marriage and caution that findings may overestimate the extent of potential risk of trafficking; on the other hand, it is also likely that genuine cases of trafficking may not be reported in a large survey, and hence, findings may underestimate the risk of trafficking as well. We suggest that findings are viewed in this light.

14. Number of adolescents enrolled in Class 9 or above at the time of the interview or completed Class 9 or above in the year preceding the interview in a government school.

15. Number of adolescents enrolled in Class 1−8 at the time of the interview or completed Class 1−8 in the year preceding the interview in a government school.

16. Number of adolescents enrolled in Class 9 at the time of the interview or completed Class 9 in the year preceding the interview in a government school.

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