The RWANDA DHS 7 DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY

Executive Summary

December, 2025

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Table of Contents

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The RWANDA DHS 7 DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY

General Introduction

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Survey background

The RWANDA DHS 7 DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY

01 History

The 2025 RDHS is the 7th demographic and health survey following those conducted in 1992, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2014-15 and 2019-20 as part of The DHS Program.

02 Context

The 2025 RDHS is designed to provide estimates at the national level, urban and rural areas, provinces and for some indicators at district level.

Main Objective

The primary objective of the 2025 RDHS is to provide up-to-date estimates of basic demographic and health indicators.

Sample Design

Sampling Frame

From 2022 (Fifth) Rwanda Population and Housing Census (RPHC)

First Stage: 560 Clusters

Were selected in all districts: 198 in urban areas and 362 in rural areas.

Second Stage: 26 households

Were selected per cluster resulting to 14,560 households countrywide.

women

All aged 15-49
In all selected households.

men

All aged 15-59
In a half of selected households.

Anthropometry for children

All aged 0-59 months in all selected households.

Biomarkers and anthropometry for adult (men and women)

In selected households for men's interview.

Main Survey operations

Main Training: 01

From 4 May – 3 June 2025
- 173 candidates
- 121 Interviewers
- 52 Biomarkers

Data collection: 02

From 5 June to 25 October 2025
- Data collection method: CAPI
- Data transfer: On daily basis to central NISR

Data processing: 03

Mid November 2025

Survey response rates by type of interview

Household Interviews

Households selected	Households occupied	Households interviewed	Response rate
14,560	14,434	14,427	99.9

Interviews for Women age 15-49

Eligible women	Women interviewed	Response rate
14,396	14,283	99.2

Interviews for Men age 15-59

Eligible men	Men interviewed	Response rate
6,667	6,548	98.2

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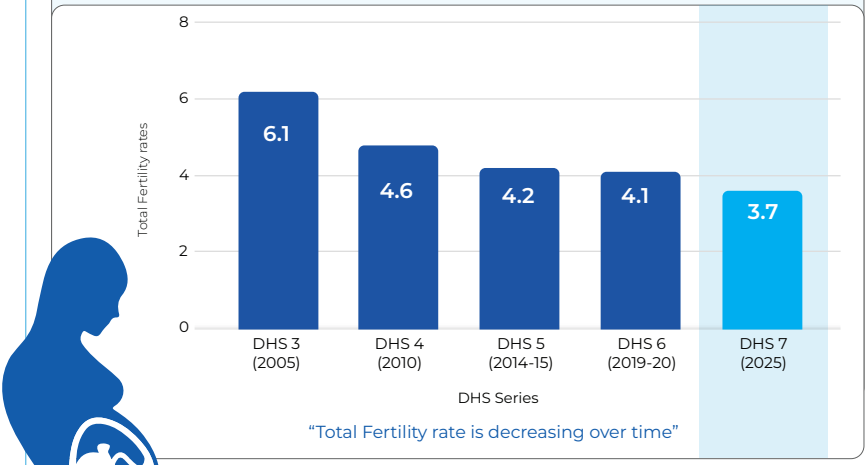
DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY

Key Findings

Total Fertility rate

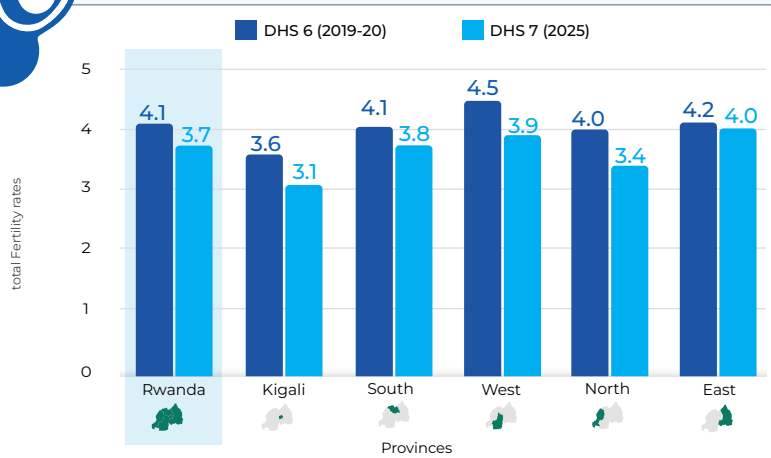
Total Fertility rate Trends

"Births per women for the 3-years period before the survey"



"Total Fertility rate is decreasing over time"

Total Fertility Rate by Province



"The highest decrease was observed in western and Northern province"

Total Fertility rate by Area of residence

Rural

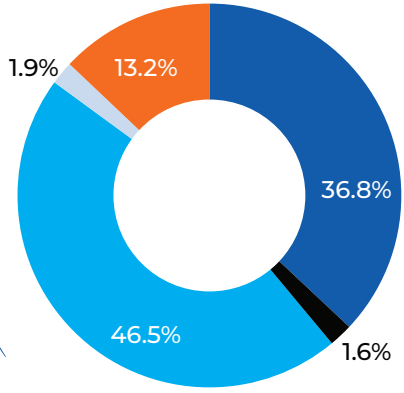
from **4.3** in 2019-20

Urban

Same in 2019-20

Fertility Preferences

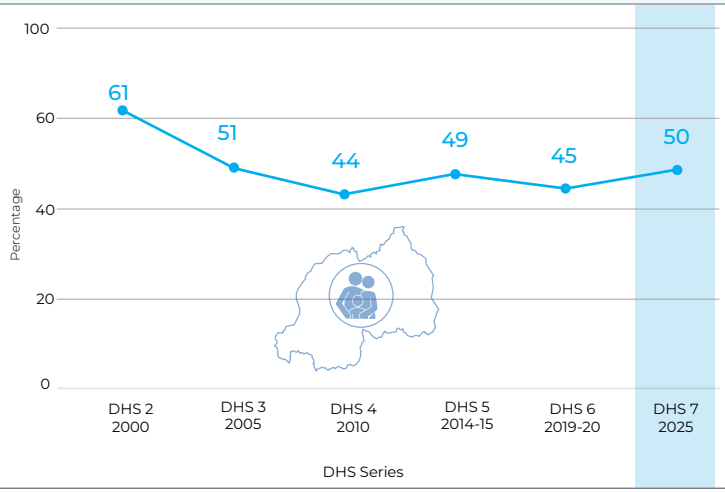
Percentage distribution of women in marital union aged 15-49 by desire for children



- Have another Later (Beyond 2 years)
- Declared Infecund
- Want No More or Sterlised
- Undecided
- Have another Soon (Within 2 years)

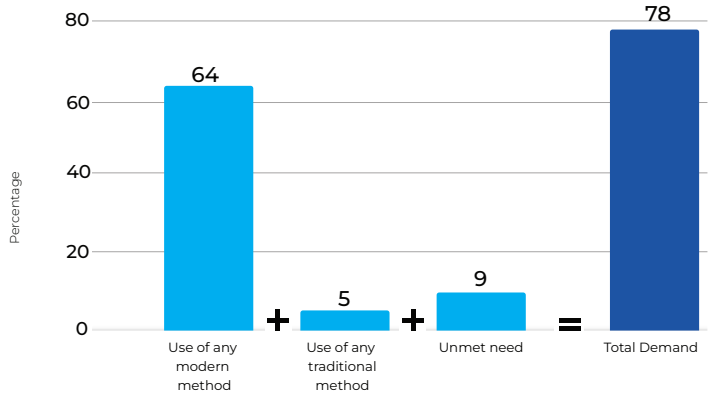
"A Half of women in marital union desire to have children, either soon or later."

Trends of women in marital union aged 15-49 who want more children

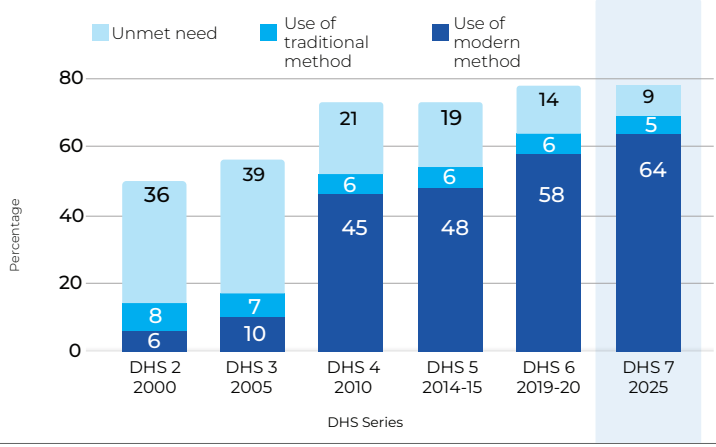


Demand for Family Planning

Percentage of women in marital union 15-49 with unmet need, met need, and total demand for family planning:



Trends in Use, Need, and Demand for Family Planning
(Percentage of women in marital union aged 15-49)



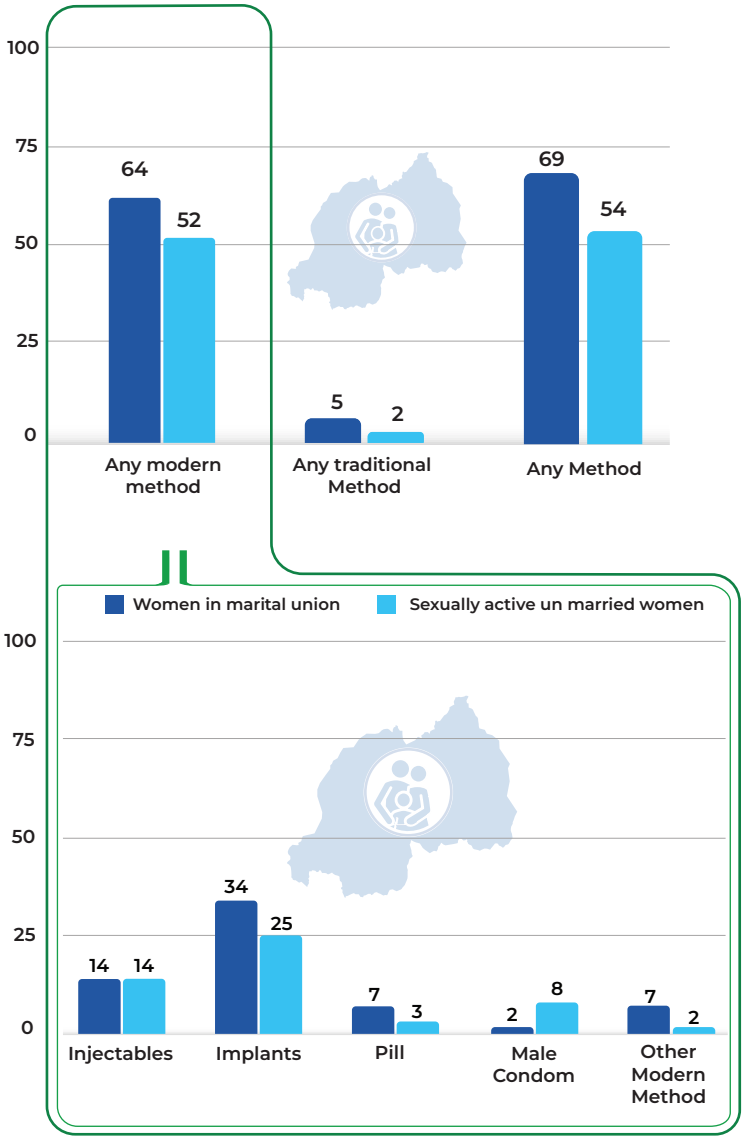
Use of any method by Area of residence

Rural
71% from **65%** in 2019-20

Urban
65% from **61%** in 2019-20

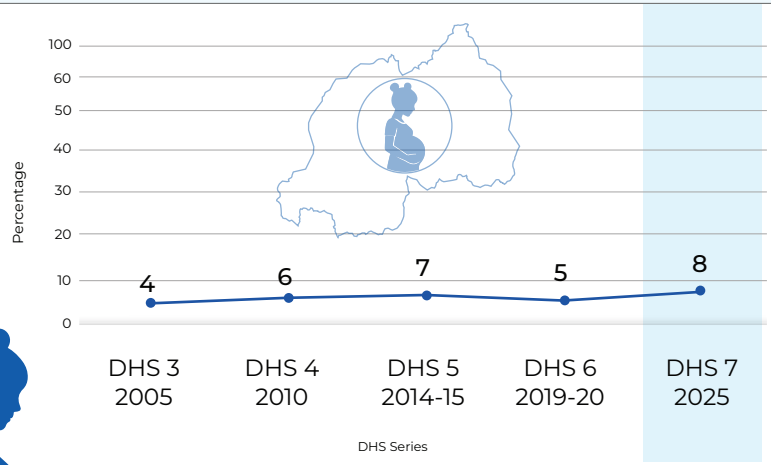
Used method for Family Planning

Percentage of women aged 15-49 who use family Planning:



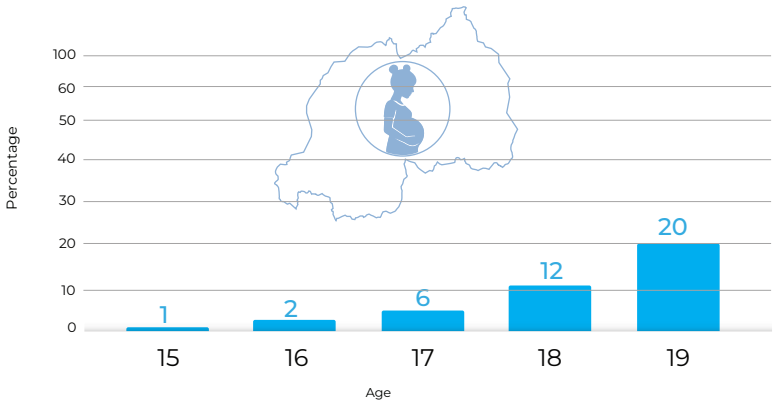
Teenage Pregnancy Trend

Trend of Teenage (15-19) Pregnancy



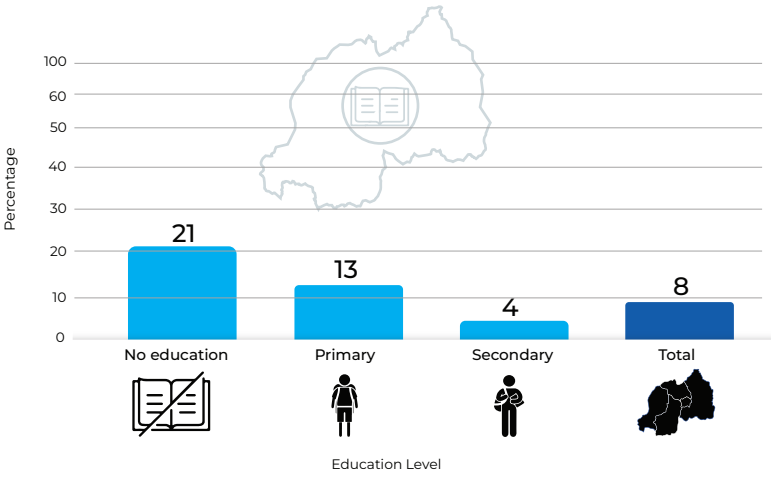
There has been an increase in teenage pregnancy over the past five years.

Percentage of teenagers who have ever been pregnant by single age



Teenage Pregnancy by level of Education

Trend of Teenagers (15-19) Pregnancy

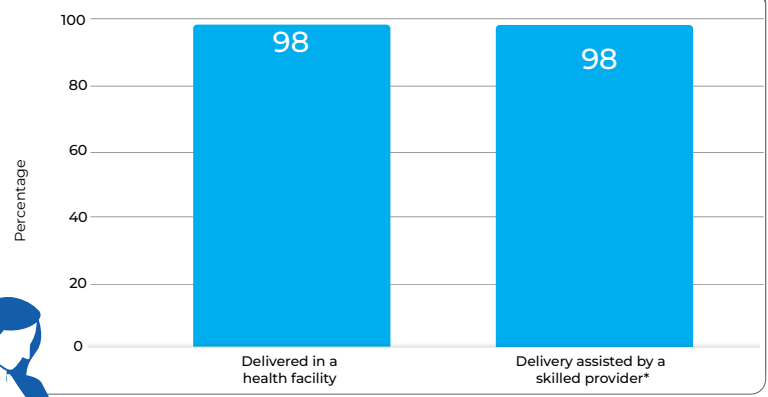


"University level is not presented due to the limited number of observations in the sample".

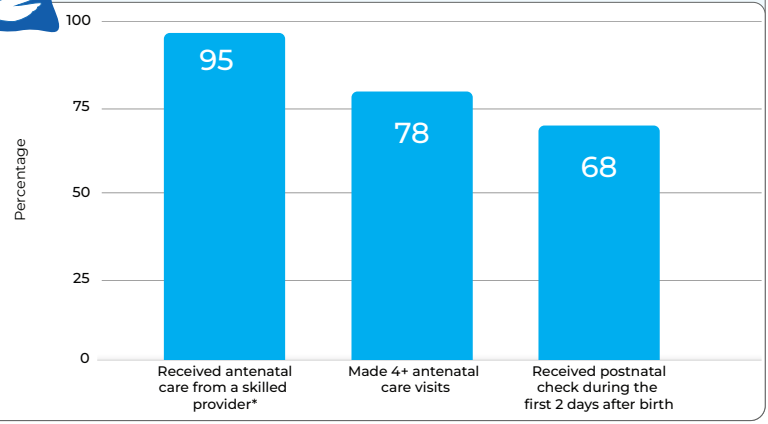
Maternal Care

In the 2 years before the survey

Percentage of women aged 15-49 who had a live birth and/or a stillbirth: Delivery



Percentage of women aged 15-49 who had a live birth and/or a stillbirth: Antenatal Care and Postnatal Care



At least 4ANC visits by Area of residence

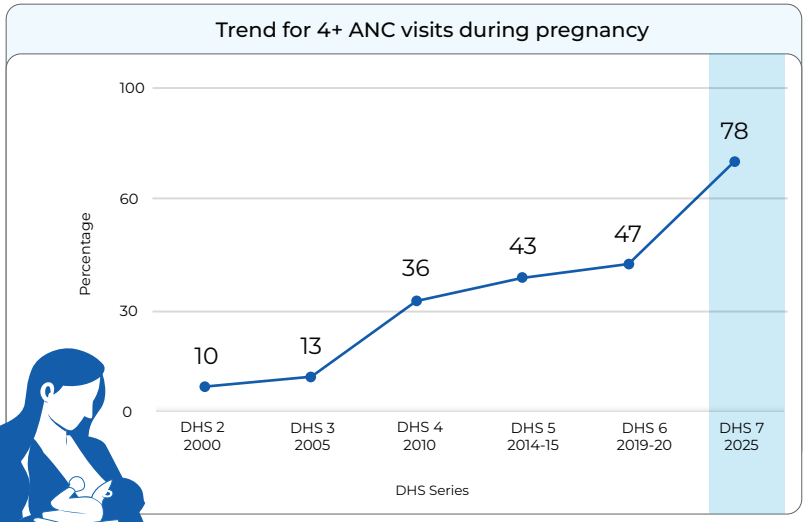
80% **Rural** from **47 %** in 2019-20

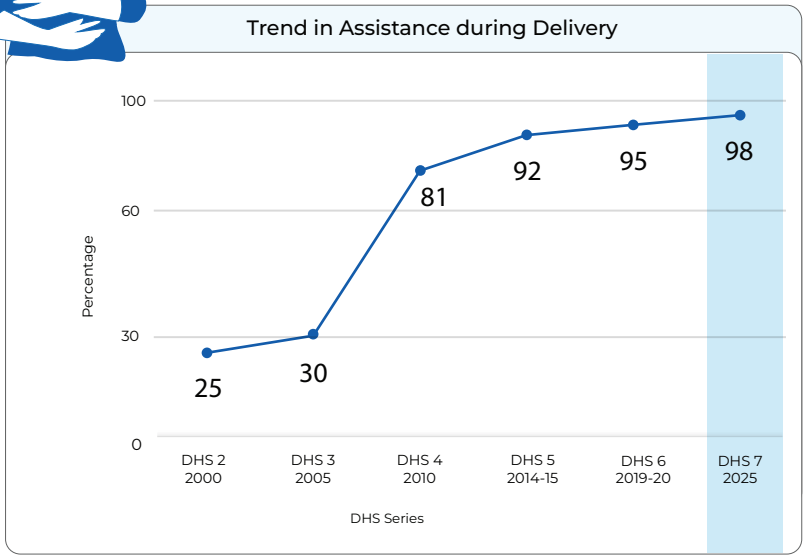
73% **Urban** from **49 %** in 2019-20

*Skilled provider includes doctor, nurse/midwife

Trends in Maternal Care

Percentage of live births in the 2 years before the survey assisted by a skilled provider

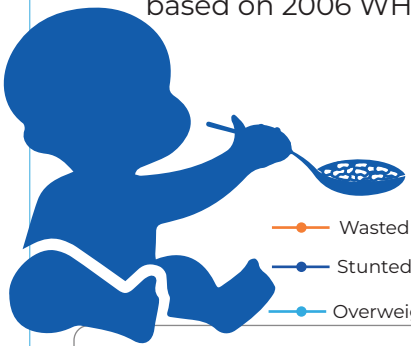




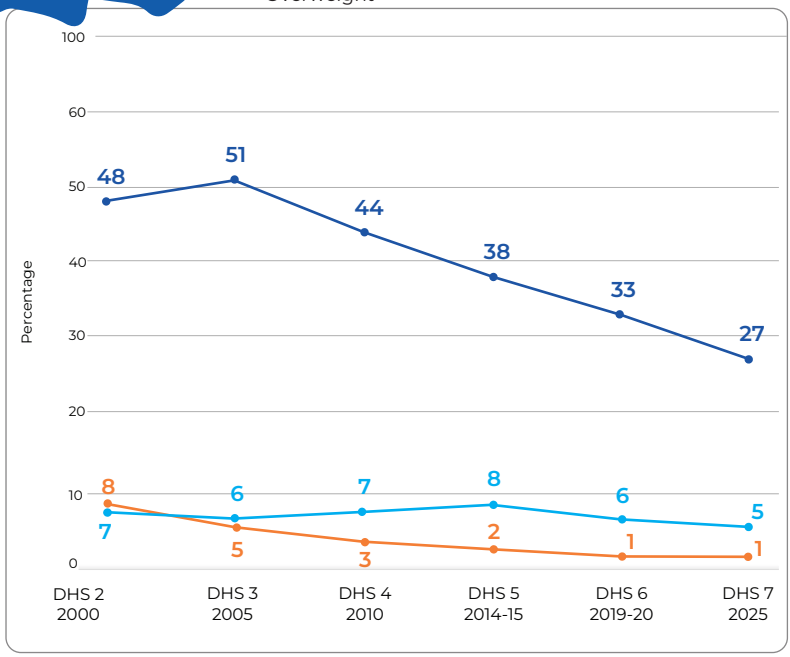
"Maternal care has continued to show improvement over recent years."

Trends in Nutritional Status of Children

Percentage of children under age 5 who are malnourished based on 2006 WHO Child Growth Standards



"There is a persisting yet declining trend in stunting prevalence."



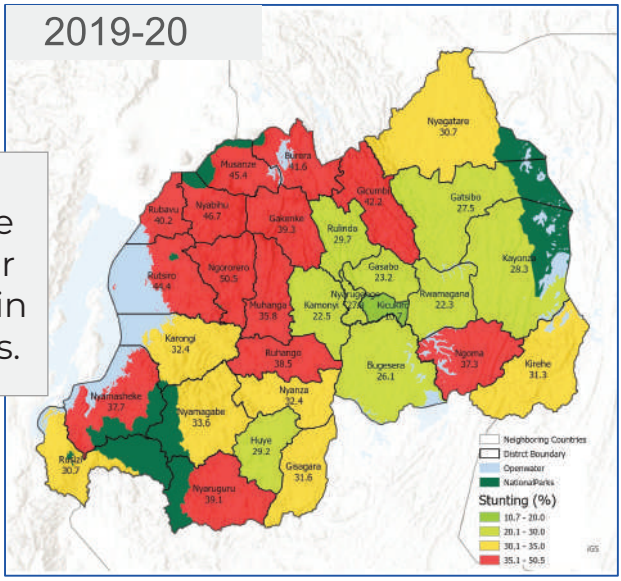
Stunting Prevalence by Area of residence

30% **Rural** from **36 %** in 2019-20

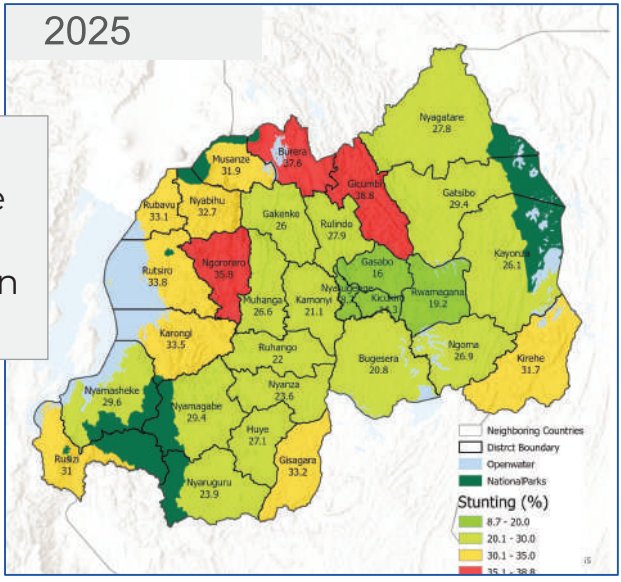
19% **Urban** from **20 %** in 2019-20

Prevalence of stunting by district

Stunting prevalence was higher than 30% in 20 districts.



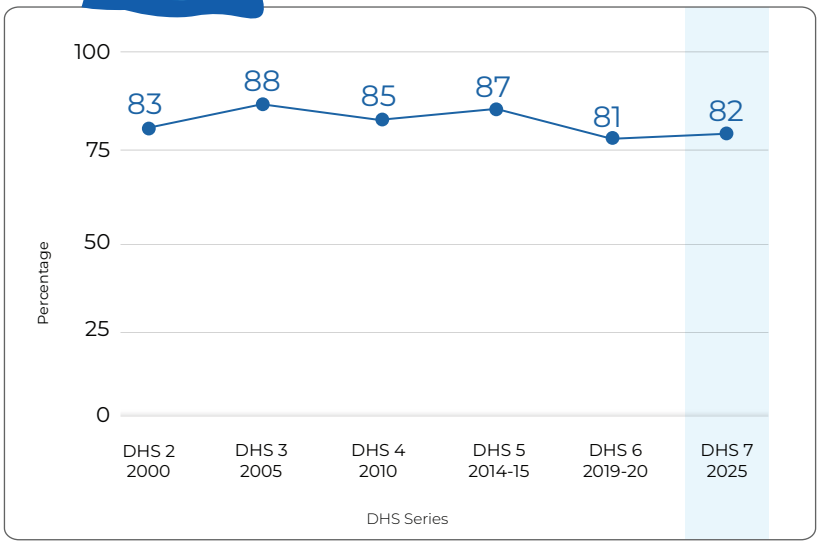
Stunting prevalence is higher than 30% in 11 districts.



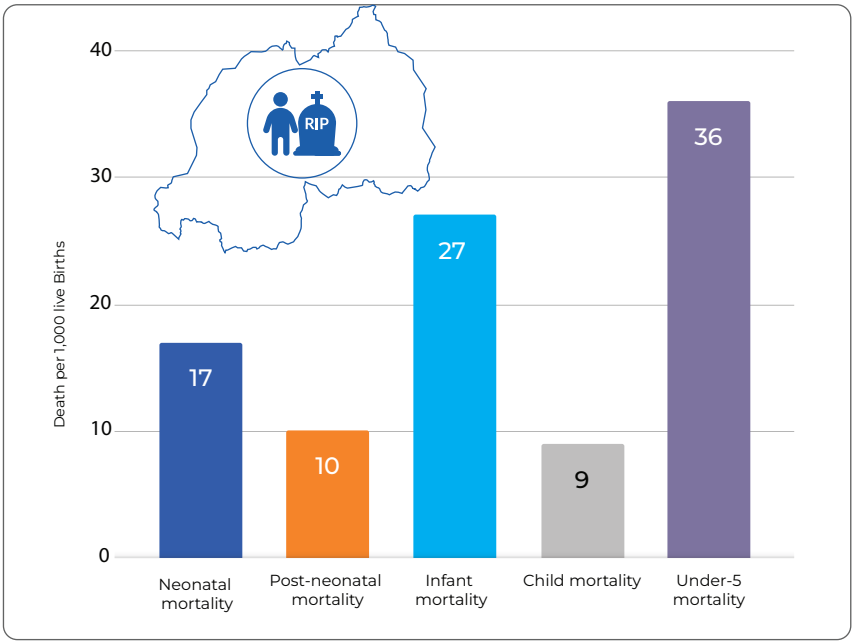
Trend in Exclusive Breastfeeding

Percentage of children aged 0-5 months who are exclusively breastfed*

*Exclusive breastfeeding refers to feeding an infant solely with the mother's breast milk during the day before interview



Childhood Mortality Rates



Neonatal mortality: The probability of dying within the first month of life.

Postneonatal mortality: The probability of dying between the first month of life and the first birthday (computed as the difference between infant and neonatal mortality).

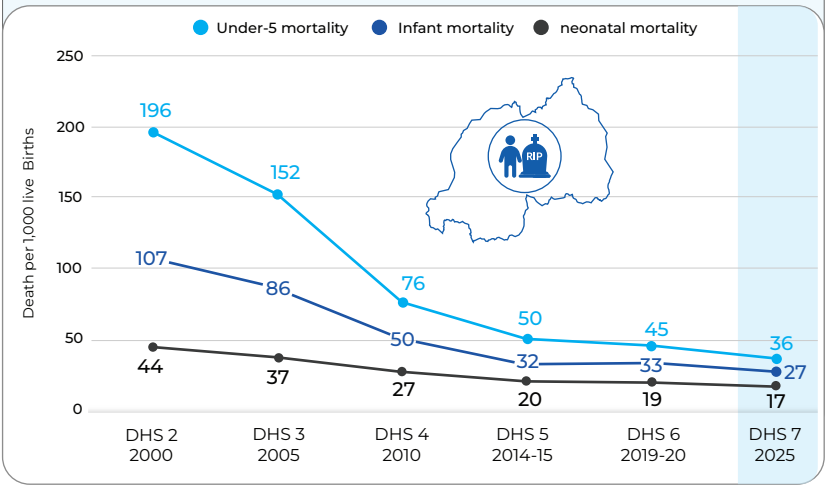
Infant mortality: The probability of dying between birth and the first birthday.

Child mortality The probability of dying between the first and the fifth birthday.

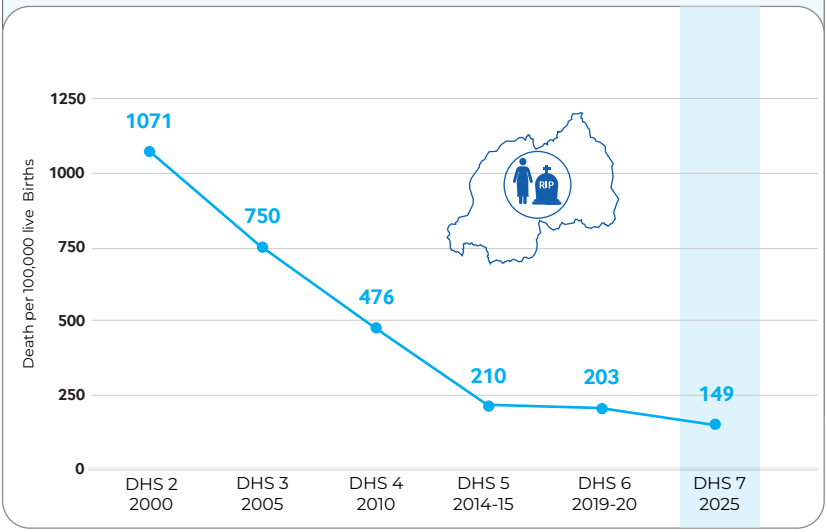
Under-5 mortality: The probability of dying between birth and the fifth birthday.

Trends in Maternal and Childhood Mortality

Trends of childhood mortality indicators

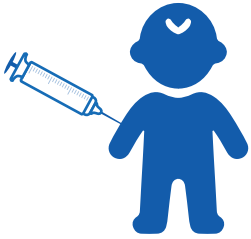


Trend Maternal mortality ratios for the period of 0-4 years prior to the survey



"Child and maternal mortality have continued to show a declining trend."

Vaccination

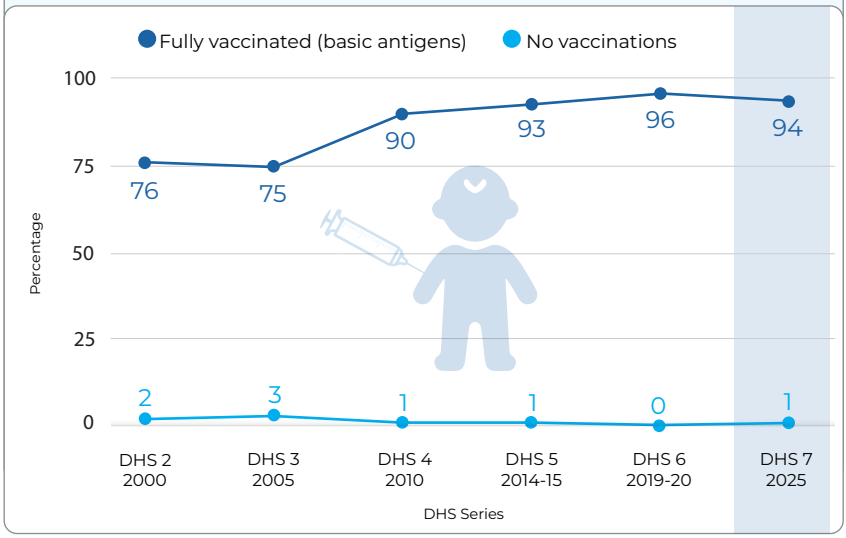


A child aged 12-23 months is considered fully vaccinated with both basic antigens and through the National Vaccination schedule if the child has received the following:

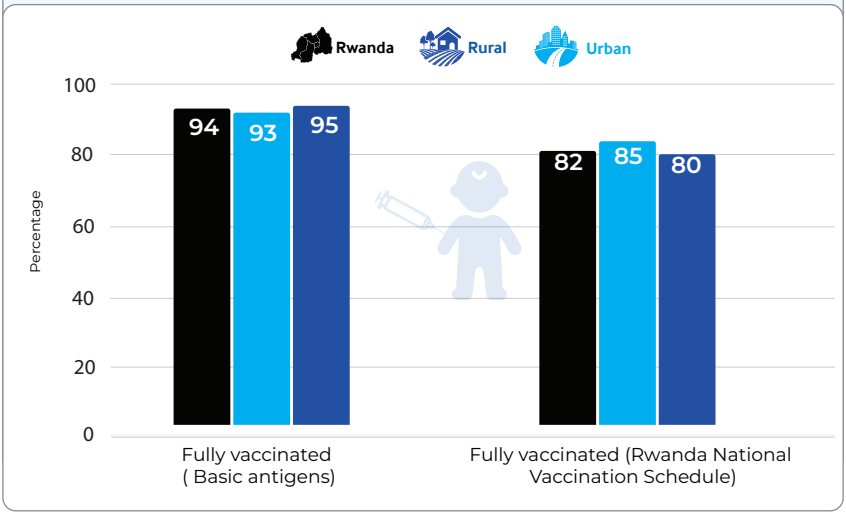
Vaccine	National Vaccination Schedule	International (Basic Antigens)
BCG	✓	✓
3 doses of DPT-HepB-HiB	✓	✓
3 doses of Polio	✓	✓
1st dose of measles-rubella	✓	✓
2nd dose of measles-rubella	✓	✗
Inactivated polio vaccine (IPV)	✓	✗
3 doses of Pneumococcal vaccine	✓	✗
2 doses rotavirus vaccine	✓	✗
Polio at Birth	✓	✗

Trends in Childhood Vaccinations

Percentage of vaccinated children aged 12-23 months



Vaccination Coverage (Among children aged 12-23 months)



Knowledge about HIV Prevention

The knowledge assessment was based on the following myths and facts about HIV

✕ Myths

- HIV can be transmitted by mosquito bites
- HIV can be transmitted through sharing food with infected person
- A person can get HIV through witchcraft or supernatural means

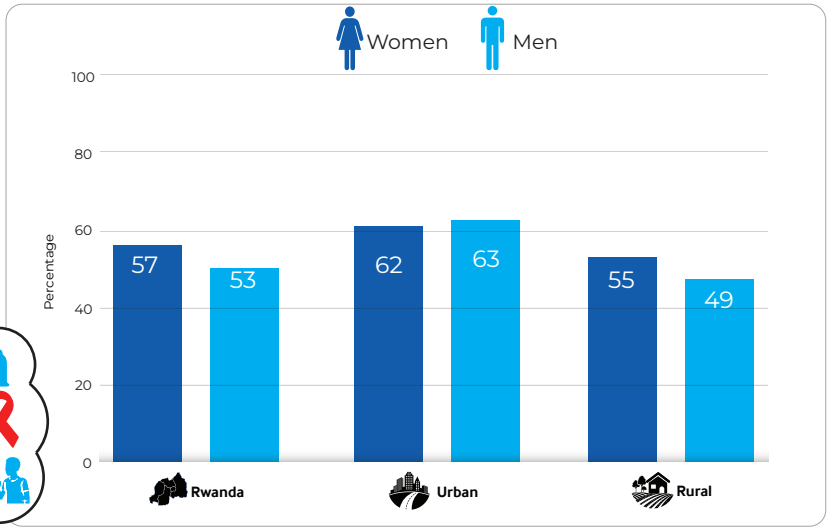
✓ FACTS

- A healthy-looking person can have HIV.
- Consistent use of condoms reduces risk of HIV.
- One uninfected, faithful partner lowers HIV risk.
- Circumcision lowers HIV risk for men.

Knowledge of HIV Prevention Among Young People

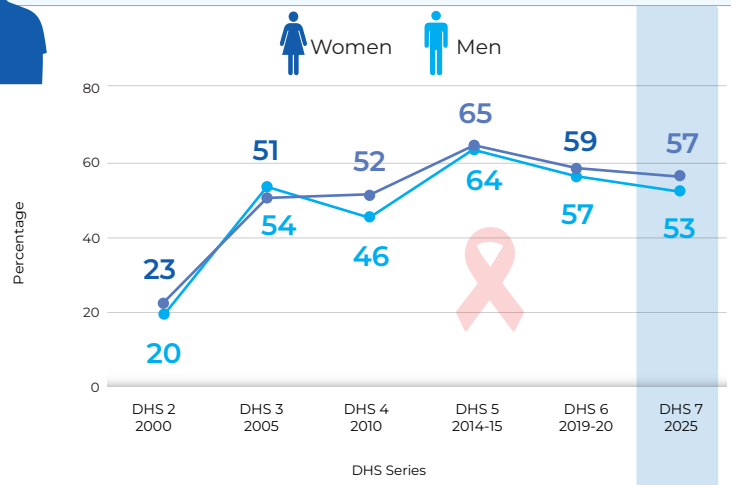
Percentage of young women and men aged 15–24

Knowledge about HIV prevention



Percentage of young women and men aged 15–24

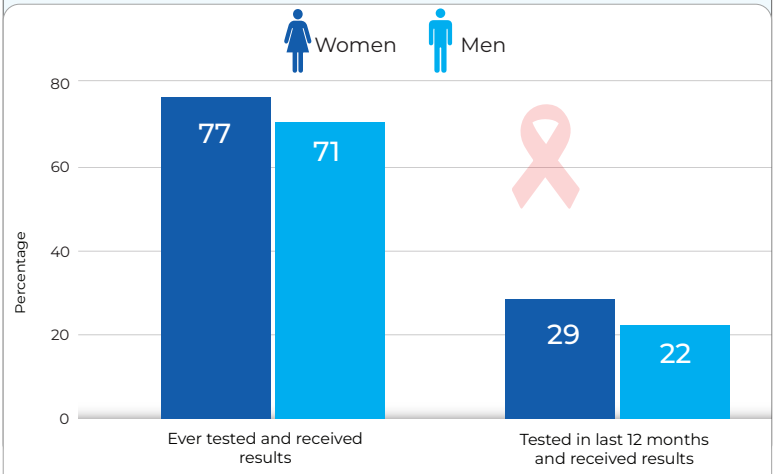
Trends of Knowledge about HIV prevention



The knowledge about HIV among youth is declining

HIV Knowledge and Testing

HIV Testing
Percentage of women and men age 15-49:



More women than men have undertaken HIV testing.

*HIV/AIDS prevalence results will be published in the Final DHS Report

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