

ABOUT **16** MILLION  
**GIRLS** AGED  
**15–19** GIVE BIRTH  
EACH YEAR.

IN  
**9** OUT OF **10**  
OF THESE CASES,  
THE **GIRL** IS  
ALREADY  
**MARRIED.**

COMPLICATIONS FROM  
**PREGNANCY** AND  
**CHILD BIRTH** CONTINUE  
TO BE A **LEADING**  
**CAUSE OF**  
**DEATH** AMONG  
**ADOLESCENT**  
**GIRLS** AGED 15–19  
IN LOW-AND MIDDLE-  
INCOME COUNTRIES.

STILLBIRTHS AND DEATH ARE

**50%**

MORE LIKELY  
FOR BABIES  
**BORN** TO  
**MOTHERS**  
YOUNGER THAN

**20**  
THAN  
FOR

**babies**

**BORN**  
TO  
**MOTHERS**  
**AGED**  
**20–29.**

Young women who avoid unintended pregnancy are more likely to stay in school, participate in the work force and have healthier, better-educated children.



**ADOLESCENT GIRLS HAVE LIMITED ACCESS TO AND USE OF FAMILY PLANNING.**

IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OVERALL,

**22%** OF **ADOLESCENT GIRLS**  
(AGED 15–19) WHO ARE  
**MARRIED OR IN A UNION**  
USE CONTRACEPTIVES,

COMPARED TO  
**61%** OF  
**MARRIED**  
**GIRLS AND**  
**WOMEN**  
AGED  
**15–49.**

*We must work together to expand access to sexual and reproductive health services for the 1.8 billion young people in the world today.*



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Sources:

UNFPA (2012). *Marrying Too Young: End Child Marriage*. UNFPA, New York.  
WHO Fact Sheet (2012). *Adolescent Pregnancy* <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs364/en/>.

Black, R., et al. Maternal and child undernutrition: Global and regional exposures and health consequences. *The Lancet* vol. 371, no. 9608, 19 January 2008, pp. 243-260.