
MORE



The MORE Project
Maximizing Results of Operations Research
TvT Associates
503 Capitol Court N.E.
Washington, DC 20002

Contract DPE 3030-C-00-8167
Agency for International Development

**Database of
Family Planning
Operations Research
Studies**

MORE

MAXIMIZING RESULTS OF
OPERATIONS RESEARCH

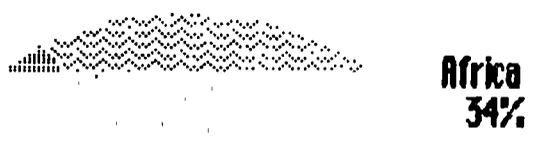
Database

TvT Associates
Washington, D.C.

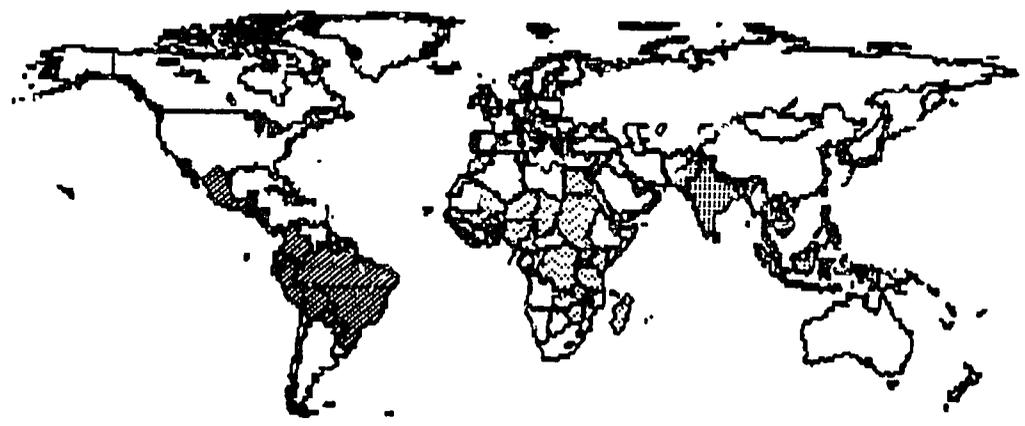
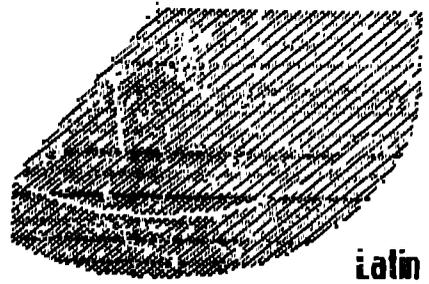
The data base includes 226 OR projects that have been conducted since the Office of Population's OR Program began in 1973. Studies have been conducted in 57 countries.



**Distribution of OR
Family Planning Projects
By Region**



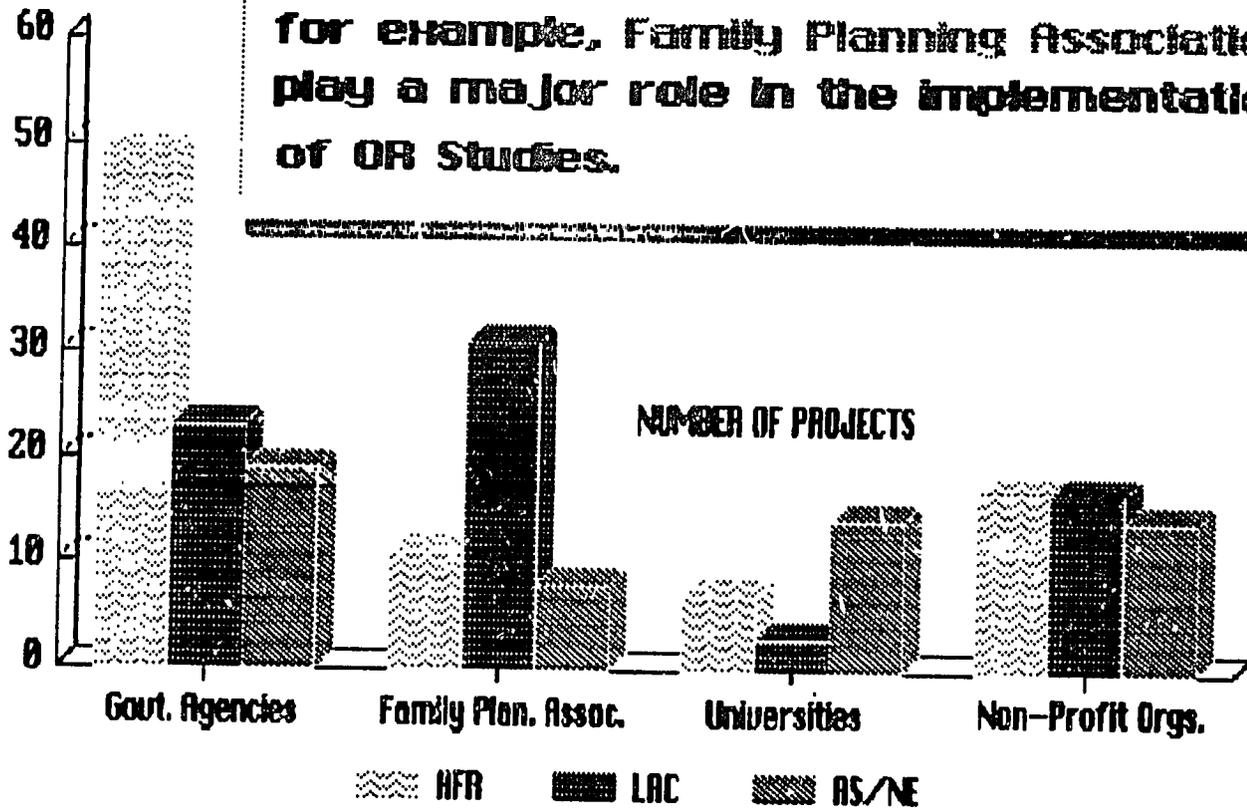
Asia/Near East
31%



**The MORE Database contains
information about:**

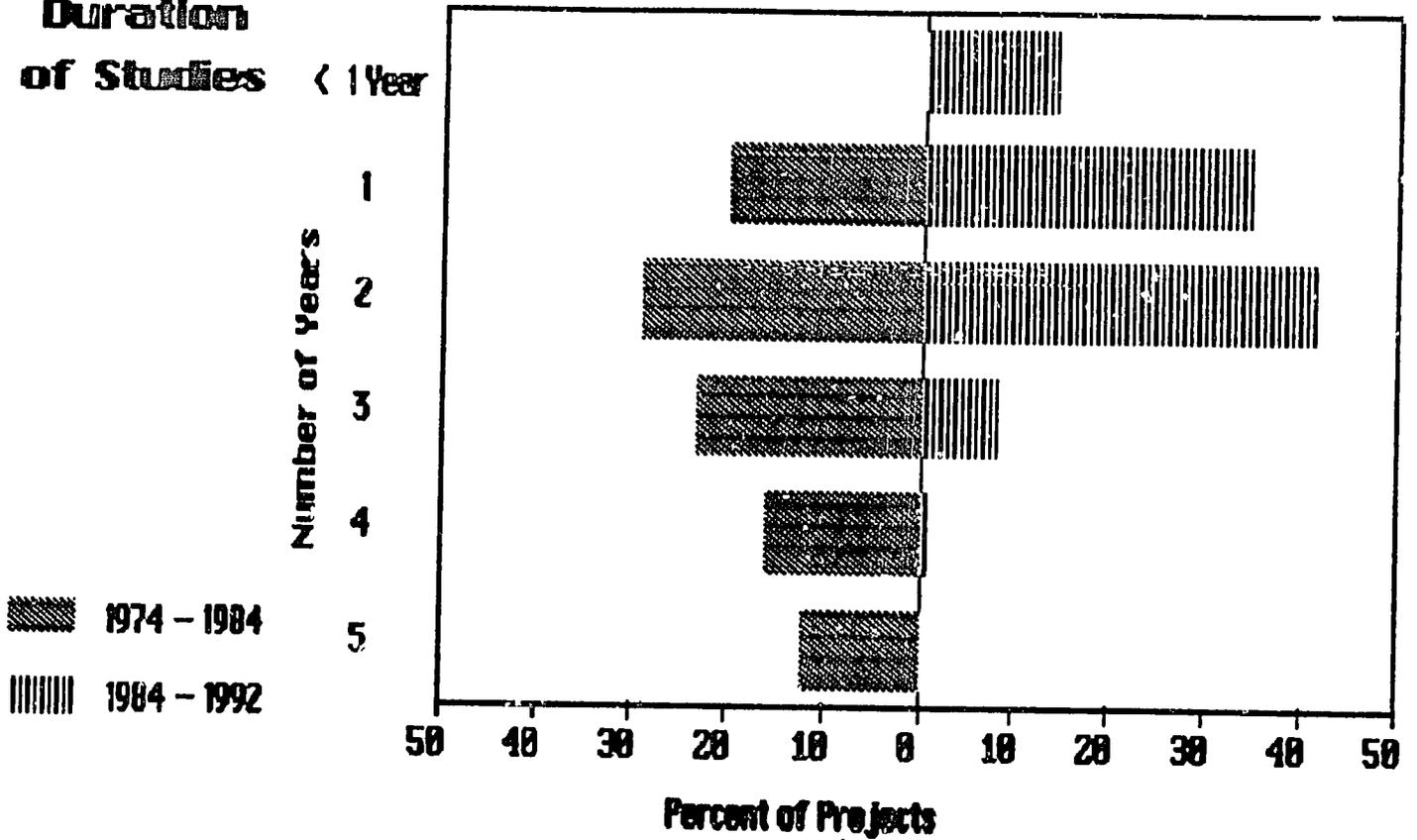
- **Implementing Agencies**
- **Study Length and Budget**
- **Issues Studied**
- **Service Delivery Approach and
Contraceptive Methods Examined**
- **Study Design and Data Collection
Techniques**
- **Findings and Implications**
- **Dissemination Activities**

OR Studies have been implemented largely by public sector agencies, although this pattern varies by region. In Latin America for example, Family Planning Associations play a major role in the implementation of OR Studies.



The trend in the 1980's has been to conduct shorter studies, in response to program managers' need for timely information.

Duration of Studies < 1 Year

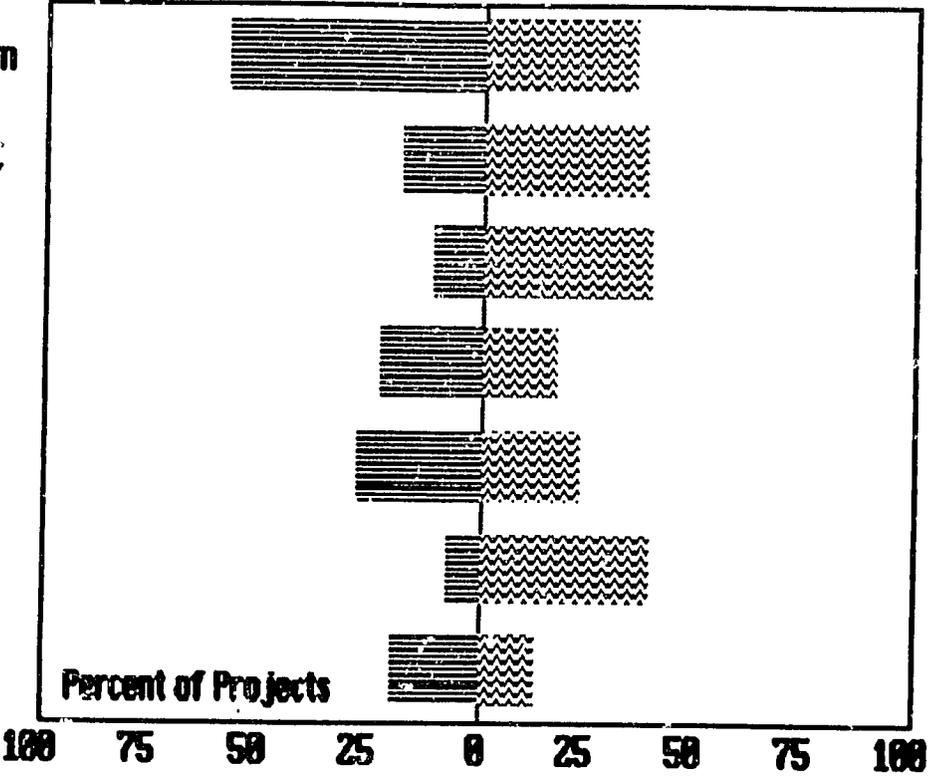


Management, IEC and Delivery Personnel have joined Delivery Mechanism as priority study issues in the last decade.

Total Exceeds 100% because of multiple issues examined by same study.

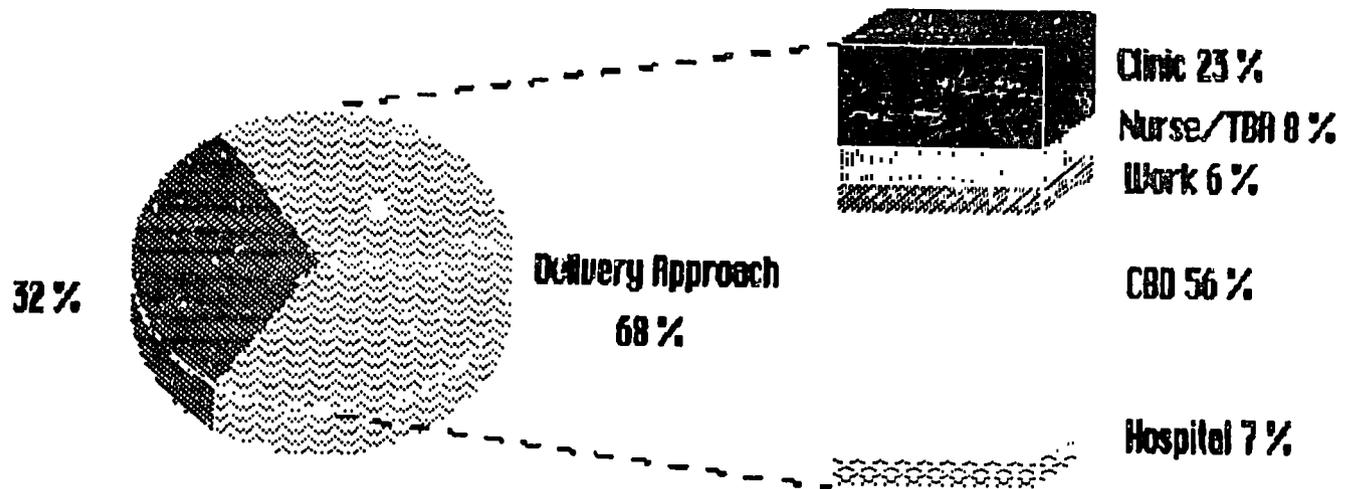
1974 - 1984 N = 82 1984 - 1992 N = 144

- Delivery Mechanism
- IEC
- Delivery Personnel
- Cost Effect./Analysis
- Training
- Management/MIS
- K&P

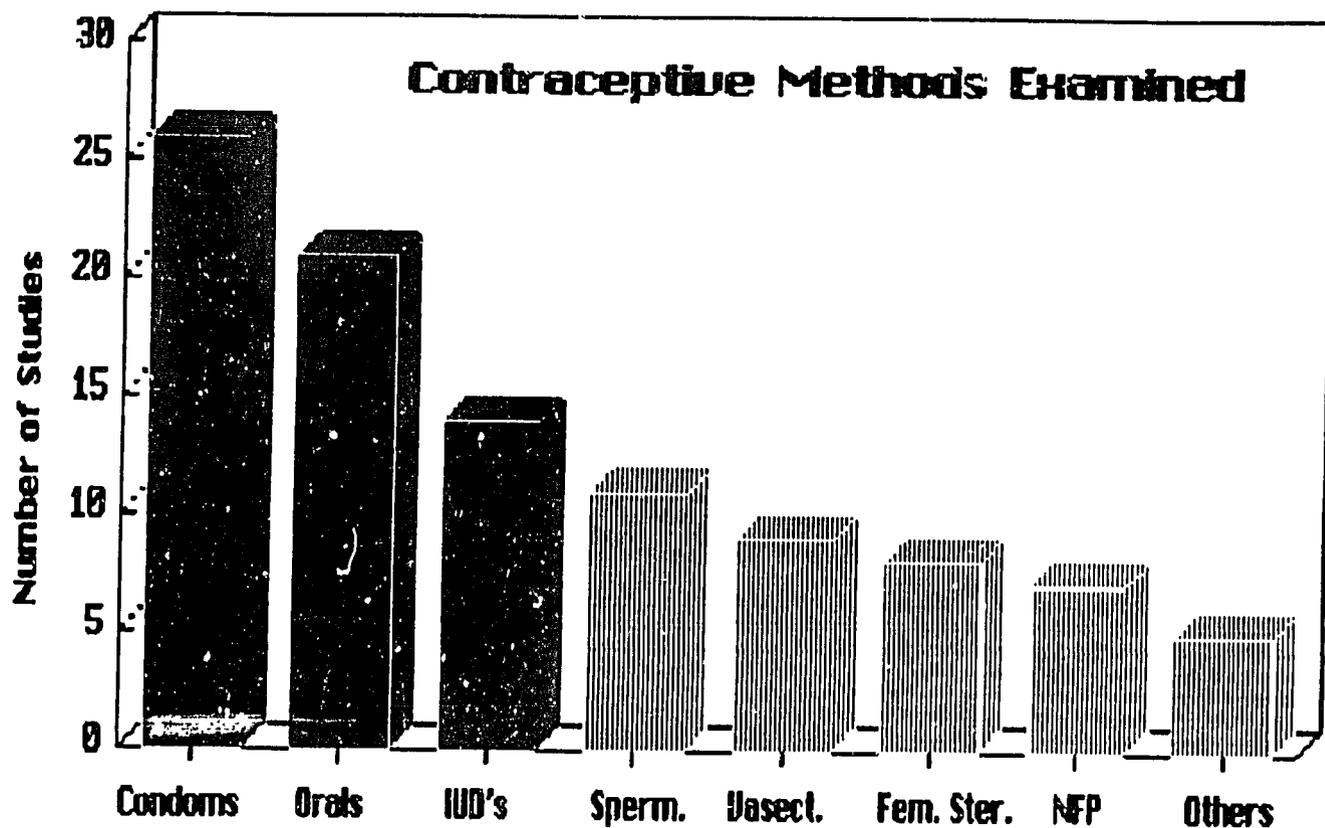


OA studies have examined a broad array of service delivery mechanisms, with CBD the approach most frequently studied.

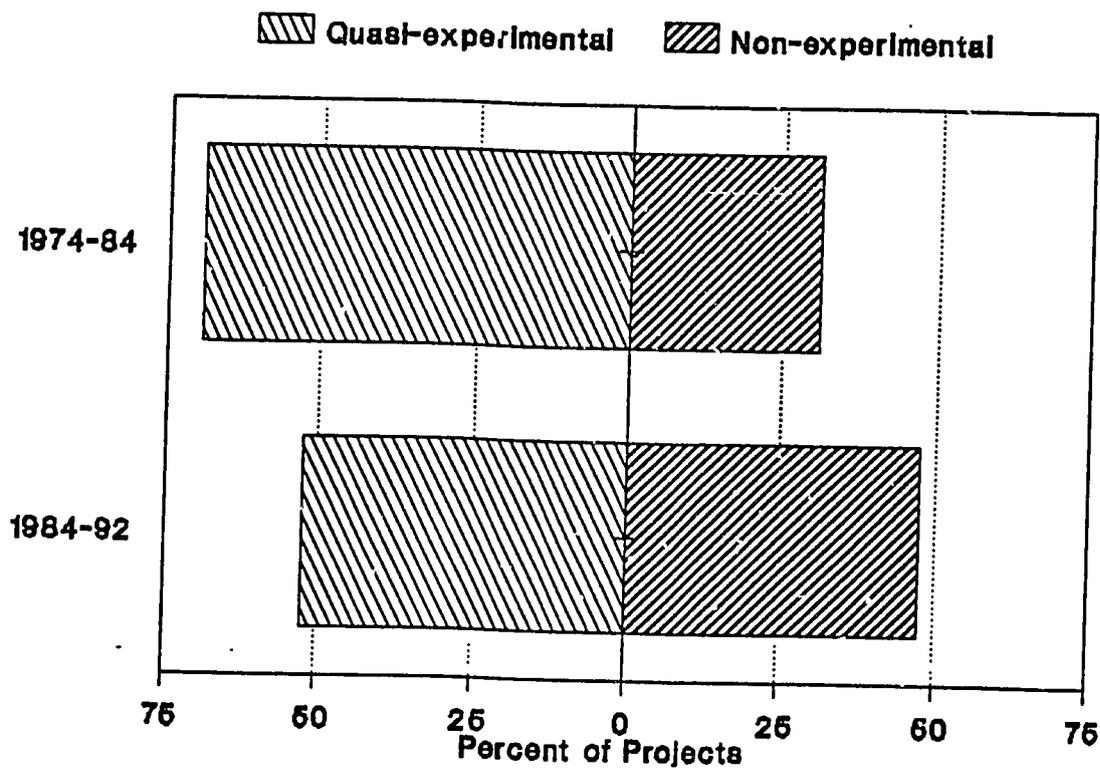
Service Delivery Approach Studied



Condoms, Orals and IUDs were most frequently the focus of attention in OR studies that addressed contraceptive methods.

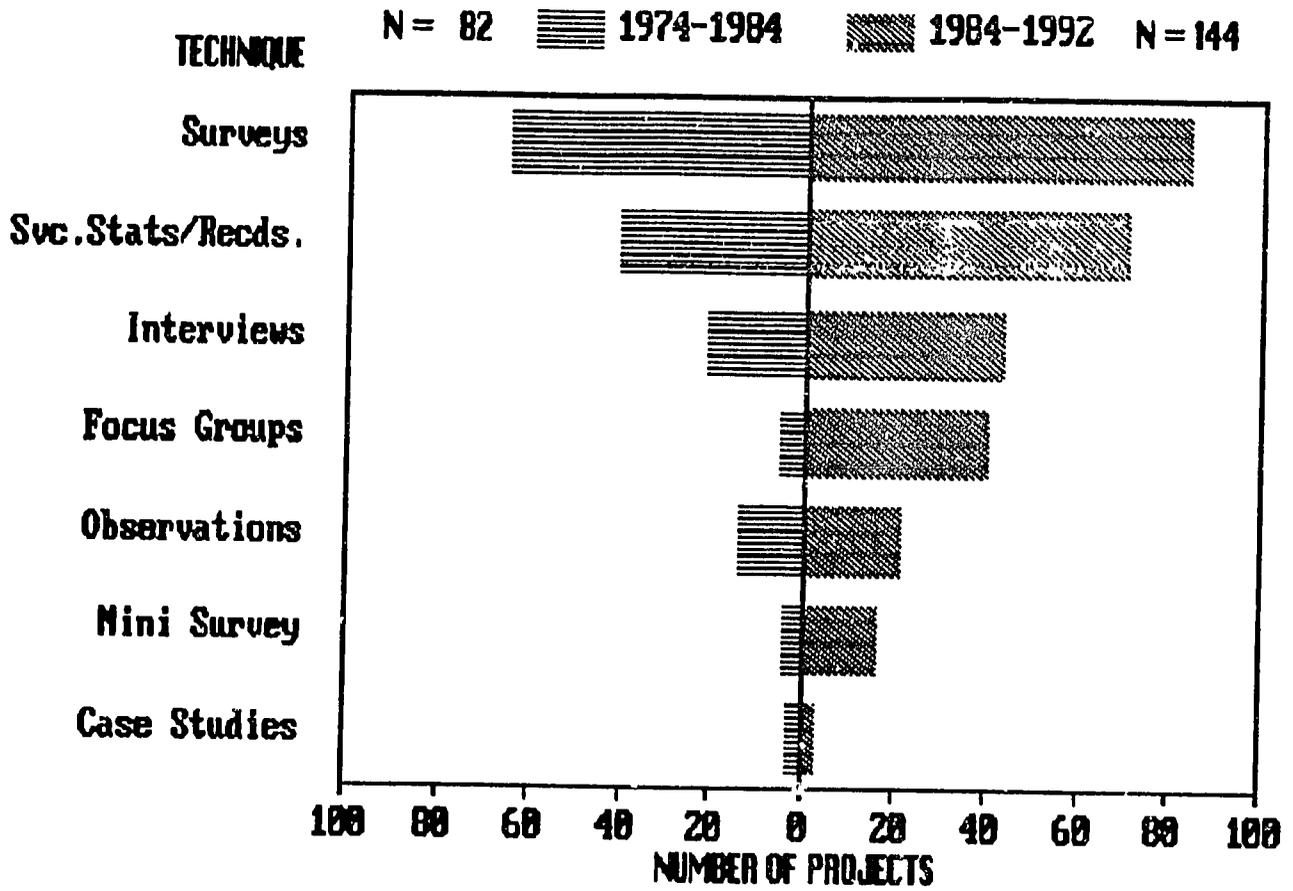


The trend in the OR program is towards employing non-experimental study designs, although quasi-experimental designs continue to be widely used.



Surveys have been the most common data collection technique used in the OR program. During the most recent period, however, OR studies have employed a greater variety of techniques, including focus groups, service statistics and qualitative interviews.

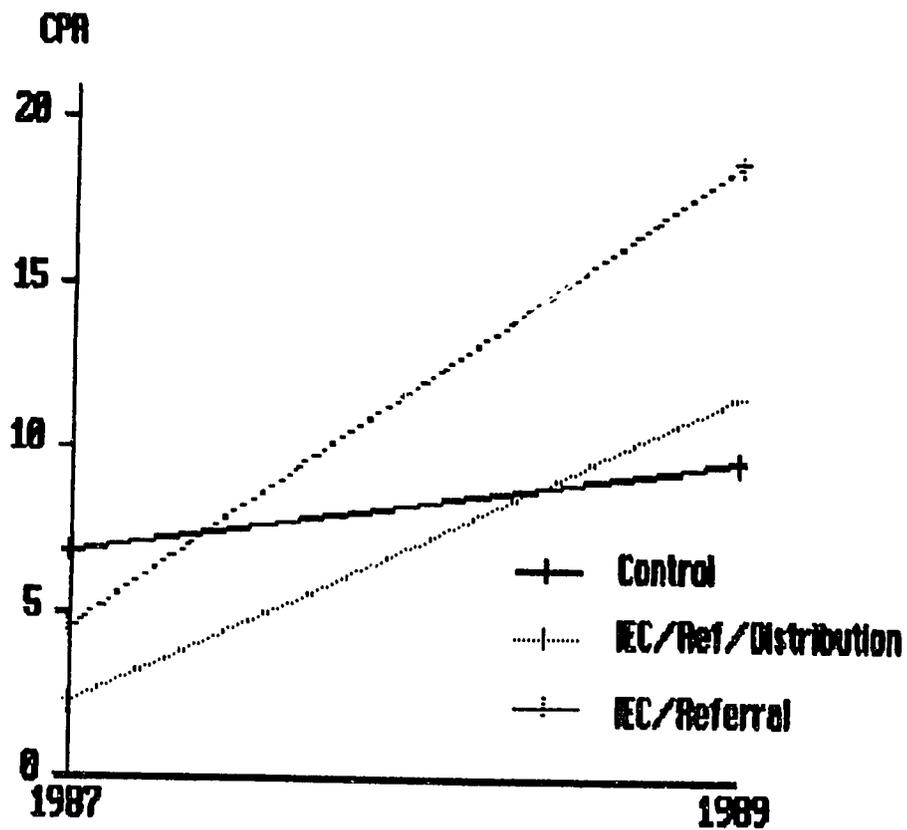
Data Collection Techniques



OR studies assessed results using the following standardized outcome measures:

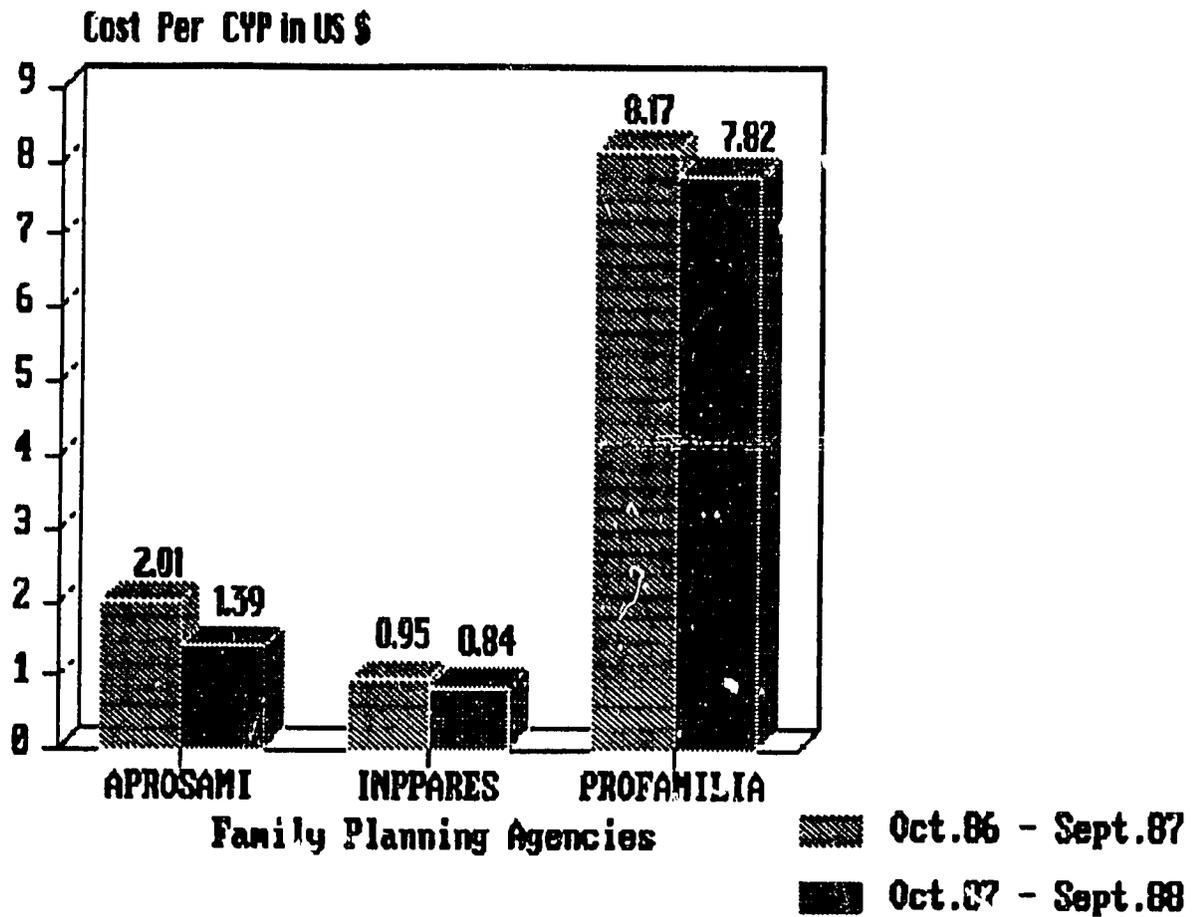
- **Contraceptive Prevalence Rate**
- **Contraceptive Continuation Rate**
- **Active Users**
- **New Acceptors**
- **Contraceptive Sales/Distribution**
- **Contacts with Clients**
- **Couple Years Protection**
- **Cost per CYP**
- **Contraceptive Knowledge**

Impact of CBD Approaches on CPR, Rwanda



Source: CPFH, Columbia University/ONAPO

Cost Effectiveness of Three CBD Programs in Peru



OR results are disseminated to different audiences through:

- **Workshops**
- **Seminars and Conferences**
- **Interim and Final Reports**
- **Papers and Journal Articles**
- **Meetings and Site Visits**
- **Manuals**
- **Videotapes**

The MORE Database can be used to generate reports, tables and graphs on the substance of studies, study design, conduct and outcome. Some of the outputs currently generated are:

- **Project Abstracts**
- **Project Lists by Database Variable**
- **Cross-tabulations**
- **Graphs**
- **Project Summaries**

FAMILY PLANNING OPERATIONS RESEARCH SUB-PROJECTS

| Country/Inst. | Title | Budget | Dates | Description | Progress | Findings |
|--|--|----------|----------------------|--|---|---|
| AFRICA | | | | | | |
| COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY | | | | | | |
| 1 Burkina Faso/ Ministry of Health | Strengthening Family Health Delivery - Phase I | \$23,000 | 02/01/86 12/01/87 | Diagnostic study employs baseline KAP surveys and focus groups to determine the impact of the government FP program and a national conference to plan interventions. | Completed. (Final report available in French only.) | Use of modern methods for men and women was 7% and 10%, respectively. Obstacles to use were sociocultural barriers (e.g., little spouse communication) and lack of information about methods and access to sources. 81% of women and 64% of men wanted to use modern methods in future. |
| 2 Burkina Faso/ Ministry of Health | Strengthening Family Health Delivery - Phase II | \$65,963 | 11/01/87 04/01/90 | Project integrates FP and MCH services in urban maternities. MCH staff trained in FP IEC and service delivery. Situation analysis; clinic, self-evaluations; service statistics; mini-surveys. | Completed. (Final report in French; English summary.) | Use of modern methods among MCH center clients rose from 8.2% to 18.0%. Integration had positive impact on quantity and quality of services, client satisfaction and staff effectiveness. |
| 3 Chad/ Ministry of Health | Preliminary Research for Development of a Family Planning Program in N'Djamena | \$42,200 | 04/01/88 10/01/88 | Diagnostic study employs MRA sample KAP survey, focus groups to determine current contraceptive practices and FP service needs. | Completed. | 1.3% of women at risk of becoming pregnant were currently using a modern method. 52% would like to use a method in the future for spacing. 48% knew at least one method. |
| 4 Gambia/ Gambia Family Planning Association | Contraceptive Distribution by Commercial Agents | \$18,817 | 03/01/87 09/01/89 | Quasi-experimental study of two approaches to supervision of local agent distributors (LADs). LAD characteristics study; sales reports; supervisory visit records; client interviews. | Completed. | No significant difference in sales between experimental and control groups. Agents report need for IEC. LAD characteristics study (N=76) found 58% ever use of contraceptive among agents, current use 32%. |

● Project Lists by Database Variable

| <u>Variables</u> | | <u>Variable Content</u> | |
|------------------|--|------------------------------|----------|
| ISSUES | | COST-EFFECTIVENESS | |
| REGION | | LATIN AMERICA | |
| COUNTRY | PROJECT TITLE | COST MEASURE | VALUE |
| Mexico | Effectiveness of Social Marketing Strategies in the Implementation of a Male-only clinic | Cost-benefit ratio billboard | \$ 41.00 |
| | | Cost-benefit ratio print.ads | \$ 45.00 |
| | | Cost-benefit ratio talks | \$966.00 |
| Paraguay | Improved worker utilization: A Path to Expand Family Planning Coverage | Cost/CYP for clinics w/posts | \$12.33 |
| | | Cost/CYP clinics w/o posts | \$ 8.49 |
| Ecuador | Delivery of Family Planning & Health Services in Campesino & Indigenous Communities | Cost/CYP CBD only | \$43.19 |
| | | Cost/CYP CBD + Clinic | \$20.71 |

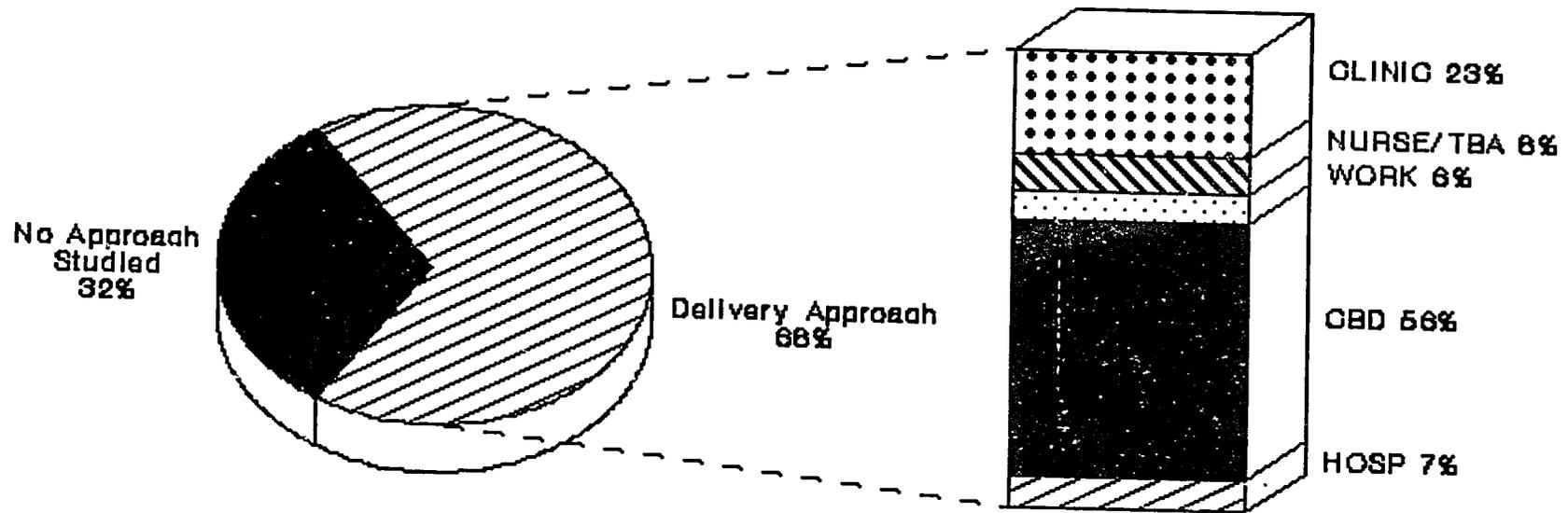
● Cross-tabulations

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN CONTRACEPTIVE PREVALENCE AMONG SELECTED OPERATIONS RESEARCH PROJECTS

| Project Title | Country | Before Intervention Prevalence | After Interv. Preval. | Percent Change | Time Period |
|---------------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Matlab | Bangladesh | 1.1 | 15.0 | 1,263.6 | 1 year |
| | | 2.9 | 3.6 | 24.1 | 1 year |
| CPAIME | Brazil | 70.1 | 74.7 | 6.6 | 7 months |
| Boyaca | Colombia | 16.0 | 63.0 | 293.7 | 3 years |
| Shanawan | Egypt | 18.4 | 31.0 | 68.5 | 1 year |
| Menoufia | Egypt | 19.1 | 27.7 | 45.5 | 8 months |
| INCAP | Guatemala | 14.0 | 17.0 | 21.4 | 11 months |
| HBD | Haiti | 1.4 | 25.5 | 1,721.4 | 8 months |
| Euriyong | Korea | 34.0 | 41.0 | 20.5 | 4 months |
| Autopan | Mexico | 6.6 | 34.0 | 415.2 | 21 months |
| VDMS | Morocco | 49.9 | 65.0 | 32.7 | 4 months |
| | | 11.0 | 45.0 | 309.1 | 4 months |
| MCH/FP | Nicaragua | 4.4 | 6.2 | 40.9 | 1 year |

● **Graphs**

Service Delivery Approach Studied



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● Project Summaries

PROJECT NO. BAN-07

COUNTRY: Bangladesh

TITLE: Evaluating the Effectiveness of Newly Introduced Interventions in Pathfinder CBD Projects

CONTRACTOR: University Research Corporation

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTION: Pathfinder

DATES: November 1986 - March 1988 **BUDGET:** \$58,612

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE: In Bangladesh the Pathfinder Fund operates CBD family planning projects in 24 urban areas. In the course of implementing these projects, Pathfinder discovered a number of inter-related operational problems including: inadequate coverage of clients, inaccurate record keeping, and poor planning and supervision of field operations. Three management interventions were introduced in response in 7 project areas, with the overall objective of improving quality and quantity of family planning coverage among married women. An OR study was undertaken by QBL to examine whether the interventions had been implemented as planned and to assess the impact of the interventions on improving coverage, acceptance and prevalence of family planning.

DESCRIPTION: The three interventions introduced in the project areas at different times were: a new work planning system, reduced client-worker ratio, and a simplified record-keeping and control system. The interventions were tested in different combinations or packages in 7 of the 24 areas.

STUDY DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY: A non-experimental design was used, because the program was not set up as a research project, and no baseline data or control groups existed. Data were collected from secondary sources, service statistics, interviews with project staff and key informants, and a representative survey of 1,400 MWRA, 200 from each of the project areas.

FINDINGS AND IMPLICATIONS:

- o A combination of all three interventions is the most effective package, followed by a combination of the workplan and reduced client-worker ratio. The new work plan alone seems to be the most effective single intervention.
- o Contraceptive prevalence was highest in an area when all three interventions were introduced and lowest when only one was introduced.
- o The workplan systematized the workers' activities, ensured regular visits to assigned couples, facilitated supervision, expanded coverage, and improved contact.
- o The simplified record keeping system systematized record keeping, helped promote effective supervision and monitoring, and aided in evaluation of worker performance.

FOLLOW-UP AND FUTURE PLANS: Based on the findings, Pathfinder has introduced the three interventions, namely, the new workplan, reduced couple-worker ration, and simplified record keeping system, in all its CBD project sites. There is potential for replication of these interventions by other NGOs as well as the government program.

The MORE Database has been developed in dBASE III+ and can interface with other software packages, such as Lotus, Harvard Graphics, SPSS and Wordperfect. All of these were used in the preparation of the text, graphs and calculations in this presentation.

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The logo for the MORE Project features the word "MORE" in a bold, sans-serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a circular emblem containing a stylized American flag design with horizontal stripes and a central graphic element.