



Investing in Elgeyo Marakwet County's family planning programme



Background

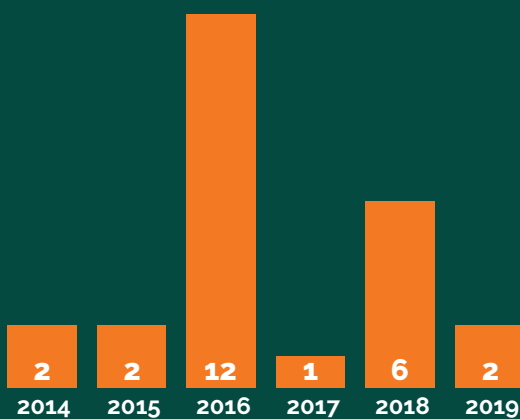
Elgeyo Marakwet County covers a total area of 3029.6 Km² on the upper rift valley. It borders West Pokot County to the north, Baringo County to the east, Trans Nzoia County to the north west and Uasin Gishu County to the West. The county is wedged in between the Uasin Gishu Plateau to the west and the Kerio River to the east, and is divided into four sub-counties: Marakwet West, Marakwet East, Keiyo South and Keiyo North.

The county has a total of 136 health facilities^{3a} with a density of 2.6 per 10,000 population, against the World Health Organisation's (WHO) recommendation^{2,03b}. It has a core health workforce density of 9.9 core personnel per 10,000 citizens, against WHO's recommended 23 health workers.

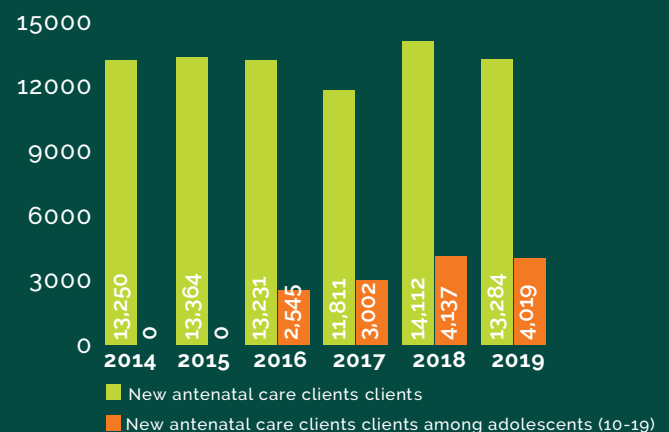
Social statistics		
Population (2019) ⁶	Male	227,317
	Female	227,151
	Total	454,480
Total fertility rate (number of children per woman) (2015-2020) ⁵		4.1
Poverty index (2014) ⁸		53%
% Distribution of population aged 15 years and above with ability to read and write (2014) ⁷	Male	87.3
	Female	81.9
	Total	84.6

In terms of service provision, 93% of the facilities in the county offer family planning services. Only 41% have all the family planning tracer commodities, including pills, injectables and condoms.

Number of maternal deaths



Number of adolescent pregnancies



1

maternal death could have been averted through contraceptive use between January to December 2019¹

3/10

pregnant women are adolescents*



To tackle both maternal deaths and teenage pregnancies, more investments in family planning are required.

Benefits of investing in family planning²

1. Health benefits

- Lower number of unintended pregnancies
- Decline in unplanned births
- Reduction in induced abortions
- Decrease in maternal deaths

2. Social and economic benefits of healthier birth timing and spacing

- Increase infant survival rates
- Improvement in children's health, education and wellbeing
- More savings as well as a higher household income and gross domestic product per capita as a result of women's economic participation
- Attainment of a demographic dividend

To reap these benefits in Elgeyo Marakwet:



More women need to be reached with family planning services



Counselling on and sensitisation to long acting family planning methods must be provided to increase the uptake of long acting methods.



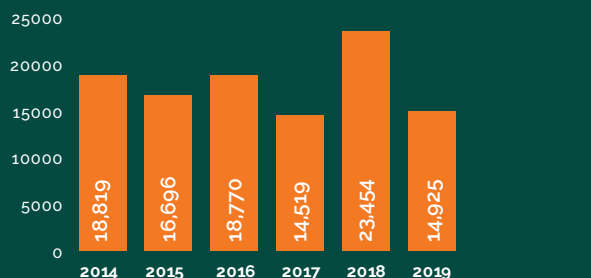
More domestic financing for family planning is required

The status of family planning access and funding in Elgeyo Marakwet county

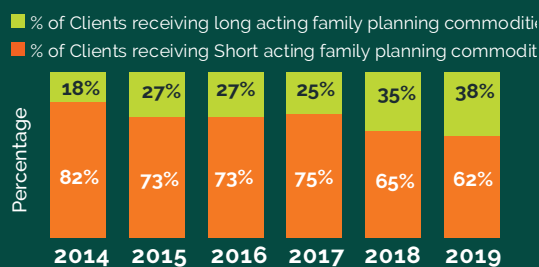
Modern contraceptive prevalence rate (mCPR 2014)



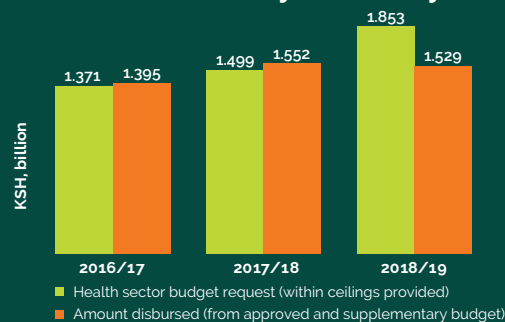
Number of new family planning cases per year



Method mix by short and long acting methods among women of reproductive age



Comparison of funding needs and disbursements, by financial year



References

- ¹ Data from District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) as of May 2020
- ² Ahmed, Saifuddin et al. Maternal deaths averted by contraceptive use: an analysis of 172 countries. *The Lancet*, Volume 380, Issue 9837, 111 – 125
- ³ Starrs A, Ezeh A, et al. Accelerate progress—sexual and reproductive health and rights for all: report of the Guttmacher–Lancet Commission. *The Lancet*, vol. 391, issue 10140, (2018), pp: 2642–2692. Published by Elsevier
- ^{3a} Kenya Master Health Facility List (KMHL). ^{3b} Kenya harmonized health facility assessment 2018/19 (KHFA)
- ⁴ County program based budgets 2016/17, 2017/18 & 2018/19 and County Government annual budget implementation review report 2016/17, 2017/18 & 2018/19.
- ⁵ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019). *World population prospects 2019*. Online Edition, Rev. 1.
- ⁶ 2019 Kenya population and housing census
- ⁷ The 2015/16 Kenya integrated household budget survey (KIHBS) reports
- ⁸ Wiesmann, U., Kiteme, B., Mwangi, Z. (2016). *Socio-economic atlas of Kenya: Depicting the national population census by county and sub-location*. Second, revised edition. KNBS, Nairobi.
- CETRAD, Nanyuki. CDE, Bern. ISBN (e-print): 978-9966-767-55-4
 DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.7892/boris.83693>
- ⁹ Kenya demographic health survey 2014
- ** Long acting family planning methods - Intra uterine device (IUD) and Implants.
- ** Short acting family planning methods - Combined oral contraceptive pills, progestogen-only contraceptive pills, injectable and condoms.