



Investing in Isiolo County's family planning programme



Background

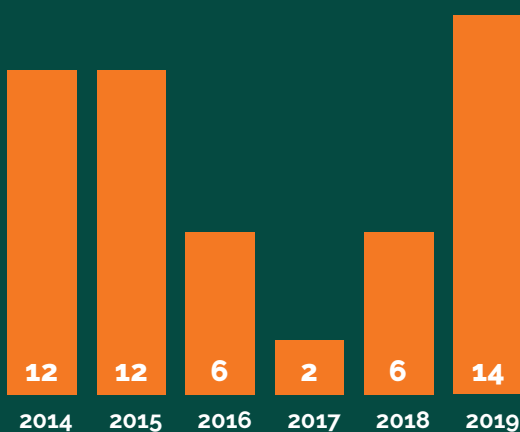
Isiolo County covers an area of 25,336.7 square kilometers and is situated in the upper eastern region of Kenya, bordering Marsabit county to the north, Samburu and Laikipia Counties to the west, Garissa County to the south east, Wajir County to the north east, Tana River and Kitui Counties to the south and Meru and Tharaka Nithi Counties to the south west. It has three sub counties Isiolo, Merti and Garbatulla and the county's population consists largely of Oromo-speaking Borana and Sakuye as well as the Turkana, Samburu, Meru, Somali and other immigrant communities from different parts of Kenya. The distance between the county's capital Isiolo town and Nairobi is 285 kilometers.

The county has a total of 70 health facilities^{3a}, with a health facility density of 3.1 health facilities per 10,000 citizens, which is lower than the World Health Organisation's (WHO) recommendation of^{3b}. It has a core health workforce density of 22 per 10,000 citizens, which is below WHO's recommended 23 health workers^{3b}.

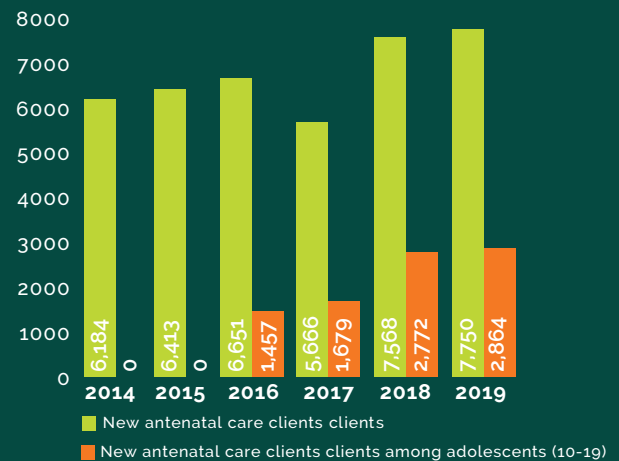
Social statistics		
Population (2019) ⁶	Male	139,510
	Female	128,483
	Total	268,002
Total fertility rate (number of children per woman) (2015-2020) ⁵		4.9
Poverty index (2014) ⁸		65%
% Distribution of population aged 15 years and above with ability to read and write (2014) ⁷	Male	64.6
	Female	55.9
	Total	60.1

In terms of service provision, 95% of the facilities in the county offer family planning services. Only 42% have all the family planning tracer commodities, including pills, injectables and condoms^{3b}.

Number of maternal deaths



Number of adolescent pregnancies



7

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

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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 Isiolo county:



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.



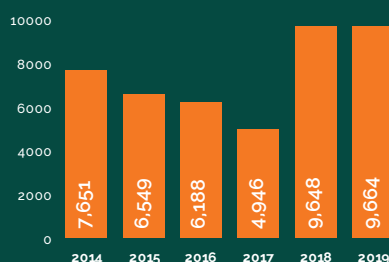
More domestic financing for family planning is required

The status of family planning access and funding in Isiolo county

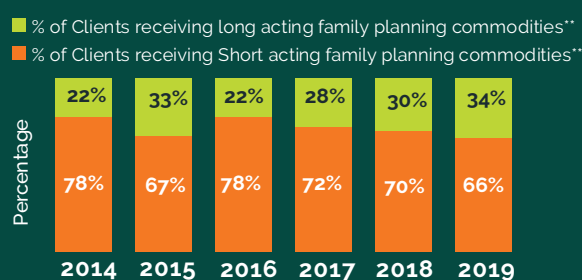
Modern contraceptive prevalence rate (mCPR 2014)



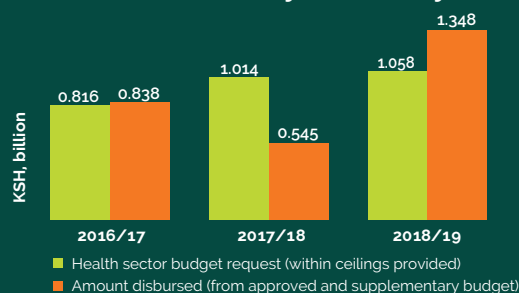
Number of new family planning cases per year



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.