



# Investing in Marsabit County's family planning programme



## Background

Marsabit County is the largest county in Kenya and covers a surface area of 66,923.1 km<sup>2</sup>. The county is part of Frontier Counties Development Council and its capital is Marsabit while its largest town is Moyale. The county borders Ethiopia in the north, Turkana County in the west, Samburu County and Isiolo County in the south, Wajir County in the east. It is divided into four sub-counties: North Horr, Moyale, Marsabit Central (Saku) and Laisamis. The county is mainly inhabited by the Cushitic-speaking Borana Oromo people. There are few Nilotic Turkana and Bantu Ameru.

The county has a total of 144 health facilities<sup>3a</sup> with a health of 2.8 health facilities per 10,000 population against the World Health Organisation's (WHO) recommended ratio of 2.0. She has a core health workforce density of 13.5 core health personnel per 10,000 population against the WHO's recommended ratio of 23 health workers<sup>3b</sup>.

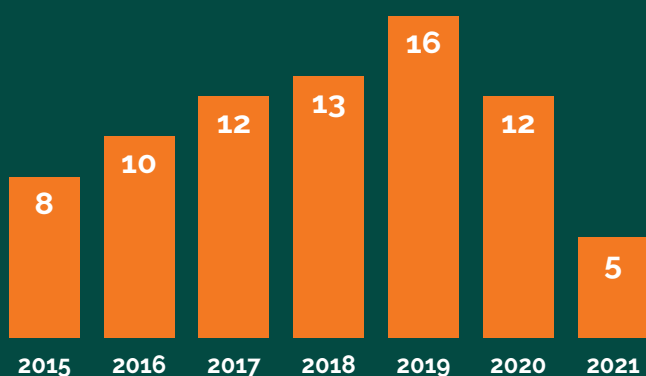
In terms of service provision, 75% of the facilities in the county offer family planning services. 56% of the facilities don't have all the family planning tracer commodities which include blood pressure

### Social statistics

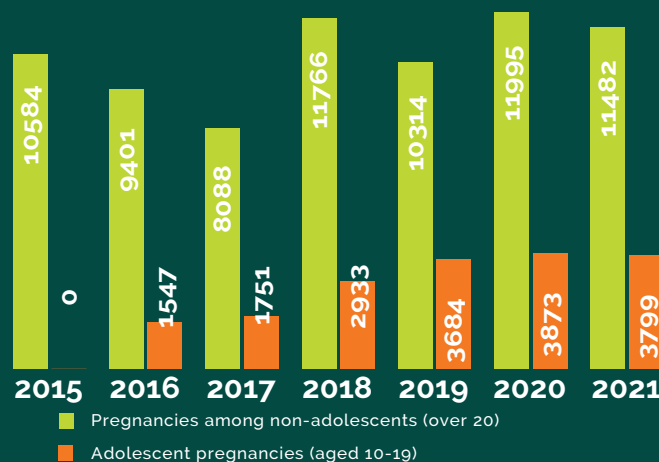
Population (2022) <sup>c</sup>	Total	506,087
	Male	256,819
	Female	249,270
	Women of Reproductive age (15-49 yrs)	110,709
	Adolescents 10 - 14 yrs	79,962
	Adolescents 15 - 19 yrs	63,261
Total fertility rate (number of children per woman) (2019) <sup>6</sup>		7
Absolute poverty rate (2015) <sup>7</sup>		35%
% Distribution of population aged 15 years and above with ability to read and write (2015) <sup>8</sup>	Male	47%
	Female	28%
	Total	38%

apparatus, combined oral contraceptive pills, progestin-only contraceptive pills, Injectable contraceptives and condoms<sup>3b</sup>.

### Number of maternal deaths per year



### Number of adolescent pregnancies per year



2

maternal deaths could have been prevented through family planning in 2021<sup>1</sup>

3/10

pregnant women were adolescents in 2021\*



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

## Benefits of investing in family planning<sup>2</sup>

### 1. Health benefits

- Lower number of unintended pregnancies
- Decline in unplanned births
- Reduction in unsafe 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 the demographic dividend

### To reap these benefits in Marsabit county:



More women need to be reached with family planning services



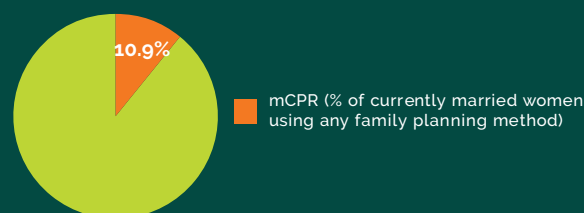
Counselling on and sensitisation to long acting family planning methods must be provided to increase the uptake of long acting methods



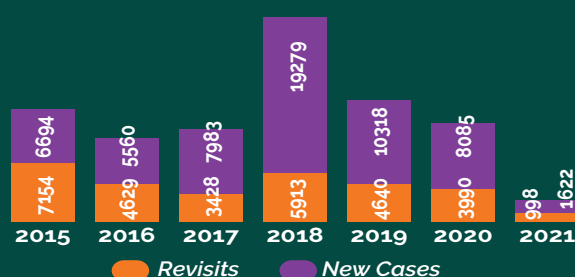
More domestic financing for family planning is required

## The status of family planning access and funding in Marsabit county

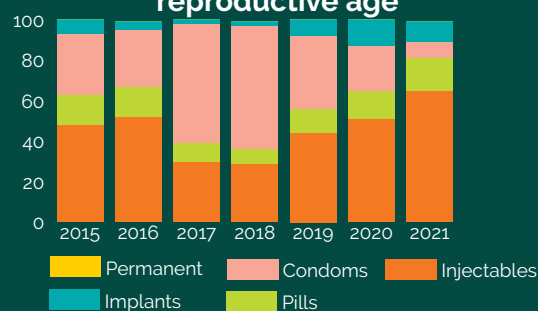
### Modern contraceptive prevalence rate (mCPR 2014)<sup>9</sup>



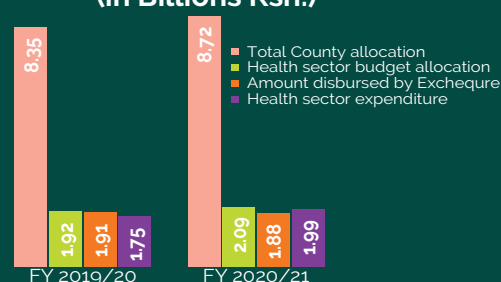
### Family planning service uptake\*



### Family planning method mix among women of reproductive age\*



### Comparison of funding needs and disbursements (in Billions Ksh.)<sup>4</sup>



## References

\* Data from Kenya Health Information System as of April 2022

<sup>2</sup> Ahmed, Saifuddin et al. Maternal deaths averted by contraceptive use: an analysis of 172 countries. The Lancet, Volume 380, Issue 9837, 111 – 125

<sup>3</sup> Starrs A, Ezech 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

<sup>3a</sup> Kenya Master Health Facility List (KMHL). <sup>3b</sup> Kenya harmonized health facility assessment 2018/19 (KHFA)

<sup>4</sup> County Government budget implementation review report 2018/19, 2019/20 & 2020/21.

<sup>5</sup> KNBS, 2019 Kenya population and housing census.

<sup>6</sup> KNBS, Analytical Report on Fertility and Nuptiality, Volume IV, 2019.

<sup>7</sup> KNBS, Inequality trends and diagnostics in Kenya 2020; Absolute poverty rate is defined as the inability for a household, family or person to meet basic needs including food, shelter, safe drinking water, education and healthcare.

<sup>8</sup> KNBS, The 2015/16 Kenya integrated household budget survey (KIHS) reports

<sup>9</sup> Kenya demographic health survey 2014