



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 is part of North Rift Economic Bloc (NOREB).

The county has a total of 145 health facilities^{3a} with a density of 2.9 per 10,000 population, against the World Health Organisation's (WHO) recommendation of 2.0. It has a core health workforce density of 9.9 core personnel per 10,000 citizens, against WHO's recommended 23 health workers.

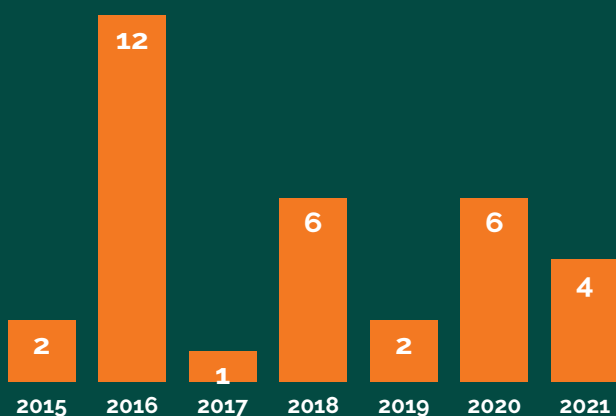
In terms of service provision, 93% of the facilities in the county offer family planning services. 59% of the facilities don't have all the family planning tracer commodities which include blood pressure apparatus, combined oral contraceptive

Social statistics

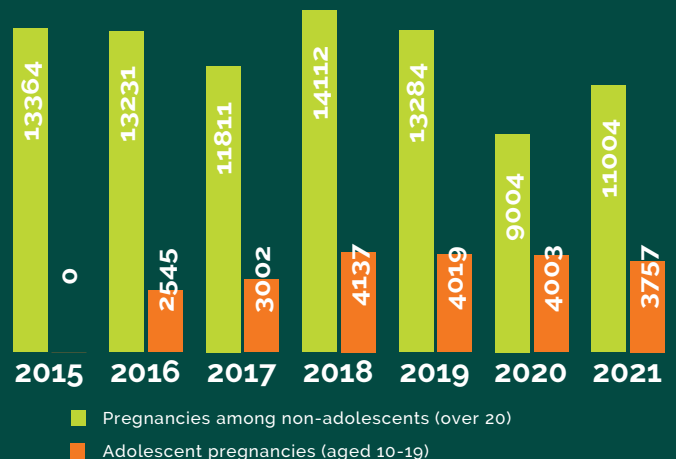
Population (2022) ^c	Total	503,019
	Male	250,962
	Female	252,056
	Women of Reproductive age (15-49 yrs)	118,538
	Adolescents 10 - 14 yrs	72,435
	Adolescents 15 - 19 yrs	61,368
Total fertility rate (number of children per woman) (2019) ⁶		3.7
Absolute poverty rate (2015) ⁷		43%
% Distribution of population aged 15 years and above with ability to read and write (2015) ⁸	Male	87.3%
	Female	81.9%
	Total	84.6%

pills, progestin-only contraceptive pills, Injectable contraceptives and condoms^{3b}.

Number of maternal deaths per year



Number of adolescent pregnancies per year



2

maternal deaths could have been prevented through family planning in 2021¹

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 planning²

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 Elgeyo Marakwet county:



More women need to be reached with family planning services



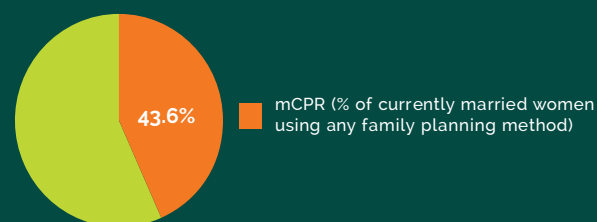
Counselling on and sensitisation to long acting family planning methods must be provided to increase the uptake of long acting methods



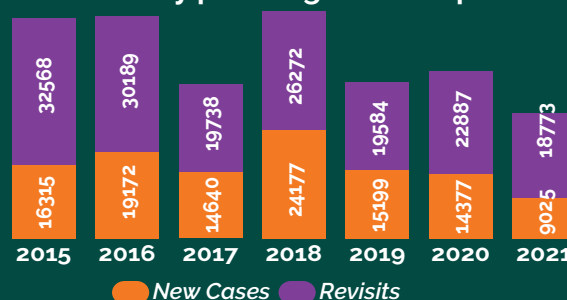
More domestic financing for family planning is required

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

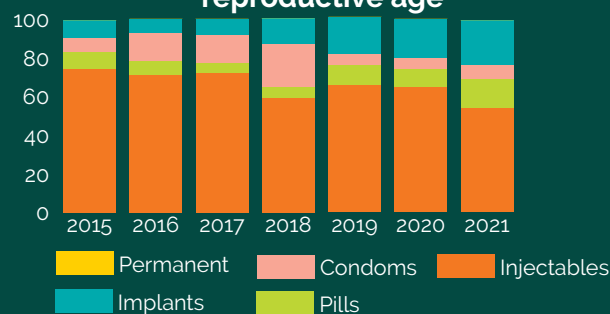
Modern contraceptive prevalence rate (mCPR 2014)⁹



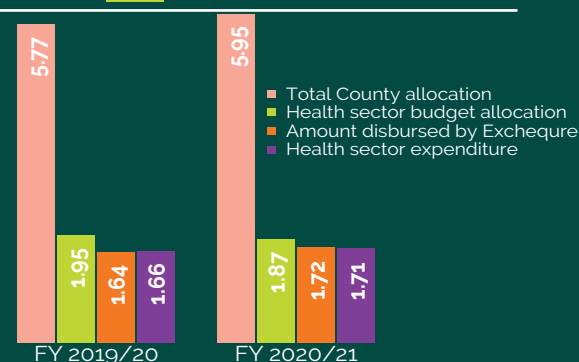
Family planning service uptake^{*}



Family planning method mix among women of reproductive age^{*}



Comparison of funding needs and disbursements (in Billions Ksh.)⁴



References

¹ Data from Kenya Health Information System as of April 2022

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 Government budget implementation review report 2018/19, 2019/20 & 2020/21.

⁵ KNBS, 2019 Kenya population and housing census.

⁶ KNBS, Analytical Report on Fertility and Nuptiality, Volume IV, 2019.

⁷ 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.

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

⁹ Kenya demographic health survey 2014