

# **REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN YEMEN**

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# Background Characteristics, 2011

Total population: 24,133,492

Age structure: 0-14 years: 43%

15-64 years: 54.4%

65+ years: 2.6%

Population growth rate: 2.65%

Birth rate: 33.5/1,000

Death rate: 7.02/1,000

Sex ratio: 1.05 males/female

IMR: 55.1/1,000 live births

Life expectancy: 63.7 years

Male: 61.7 years

Female: 65.9 years

TFR: 4.63

Literacy: 50.2%

Male: 70.5%

Female: 30% (2003 est.)

Unemployment: 35%

*Source: CIA World Factbook*

# Reproductive Health:

- ✓ Complex demographic phenomenon
- ✓ Takes into account multitude of factors
- ✓ Provides a holistic approach to population health

# Reproductive Health:

- “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity in all matters relating to the reproductive system and to its functions and processes” (UN, 1994)

# Three Broad Dimensions

- Able to have satisfying and safe sex life and they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so.
- Have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable choice of family planning methods.
- Access to appropriate healthcare services that will enable women to go safely through pregnancy and childbirth and provide couples with the best chance of having a healthy infant.

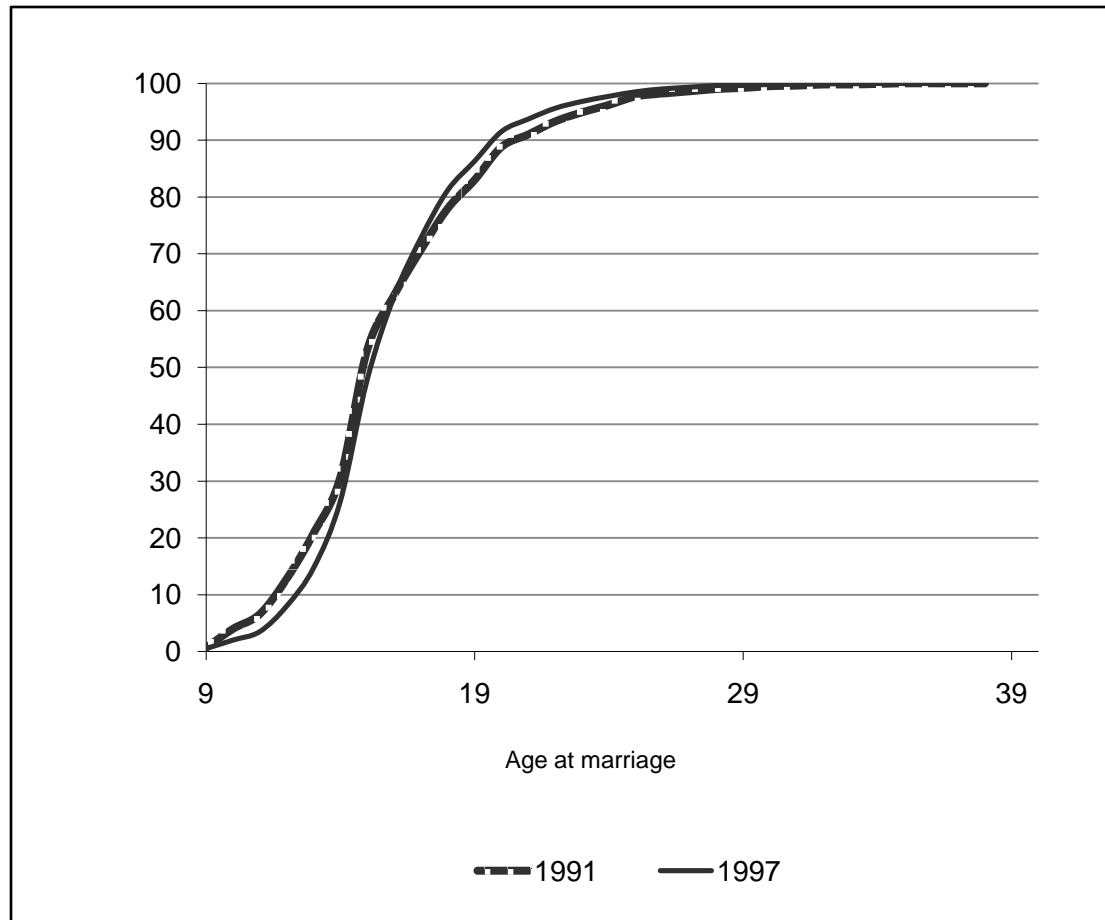
Able to have satisfying and **safe sex life** and the **capability** to reproduce and the **freedom** to decide if, when and how often to do so.

- ✓ Marriage law
- ✓ Age at marriage
- ✓ Adult illiteracy
- ✓ Abortion law
- ✓ Gender inequality

# Marriage Law

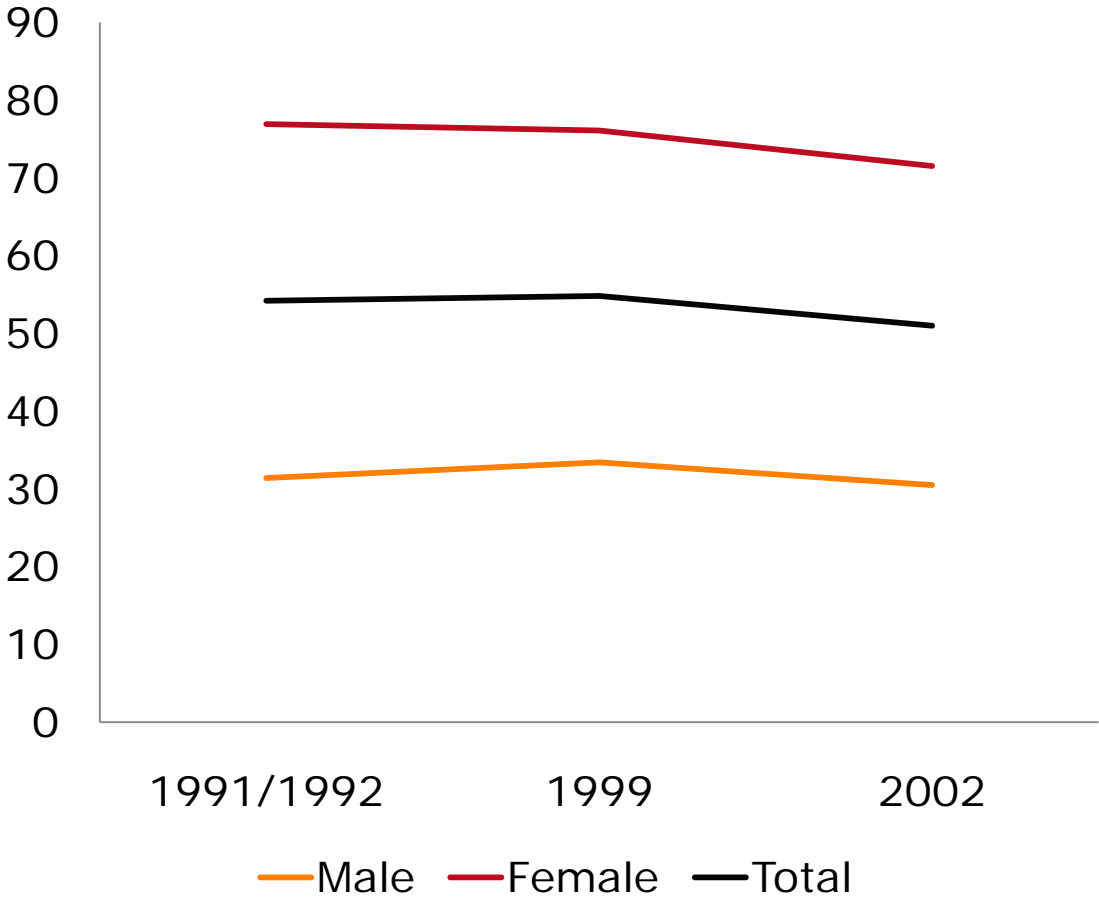
- North Yemen – 15 and South Yemen - 16
- Legal age at marriage was 15 until 1999
- Currently there is no legal age at marriage
- Nearly half of young women marry before age 20
- Growing proportion of mothers prefer their daughters to marry at a later age

# Cumulative Percent Married by Age

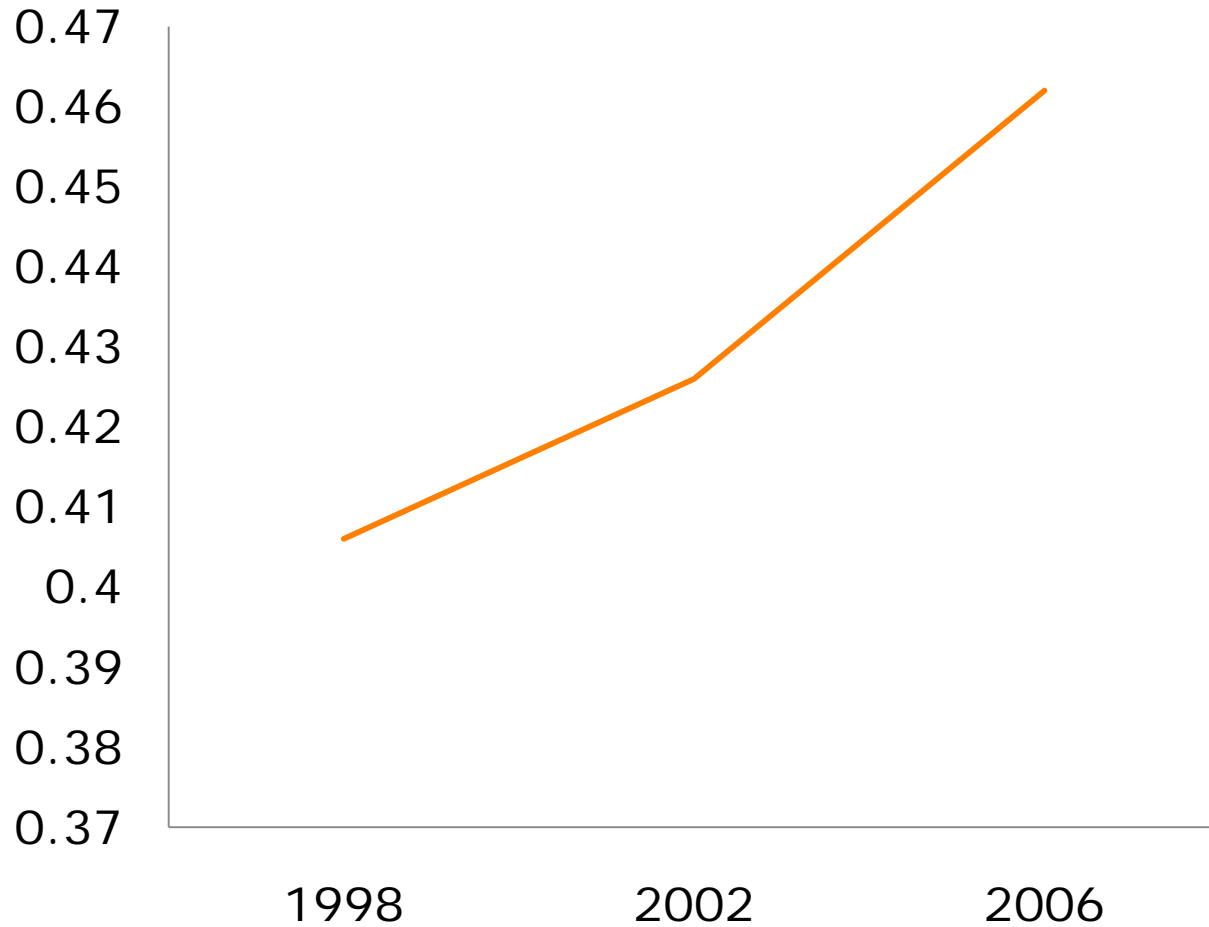




# Percent Illiterate by Gender



# Gender Inequality Index



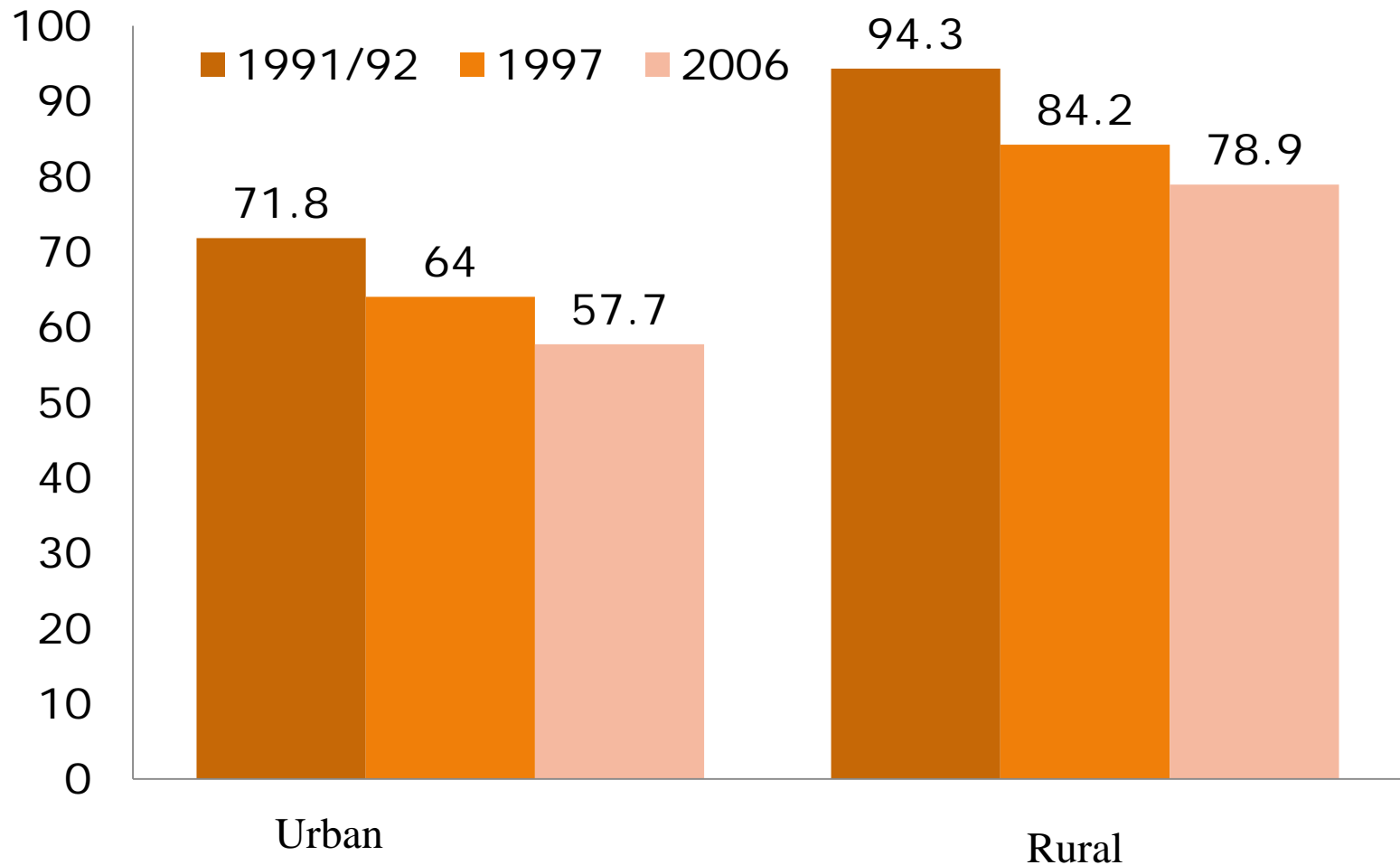
# Abortion Law

- **Restricted in Yemen**
- **Cannot be performed in public health facilities**
- **Allowed in specific situations**
  - **Save a woman's life**
  - **Victim of rape**
  - **Congenital abnormality of fetus**

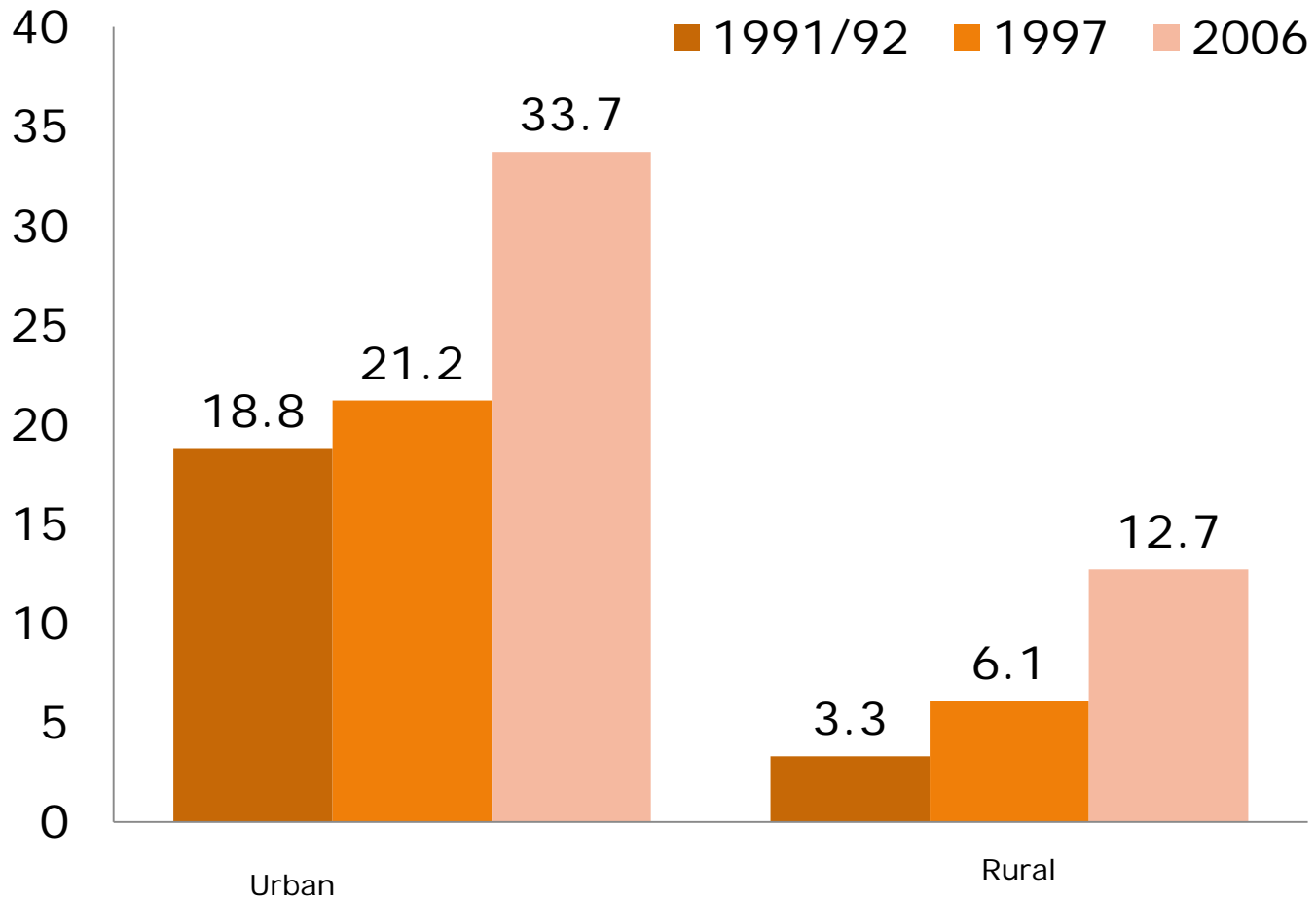
Have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning of their choice

- ✓ Proportion not using contraceptives
- ✓ Use of any modern methods
- ✓ Unmet need for family planning

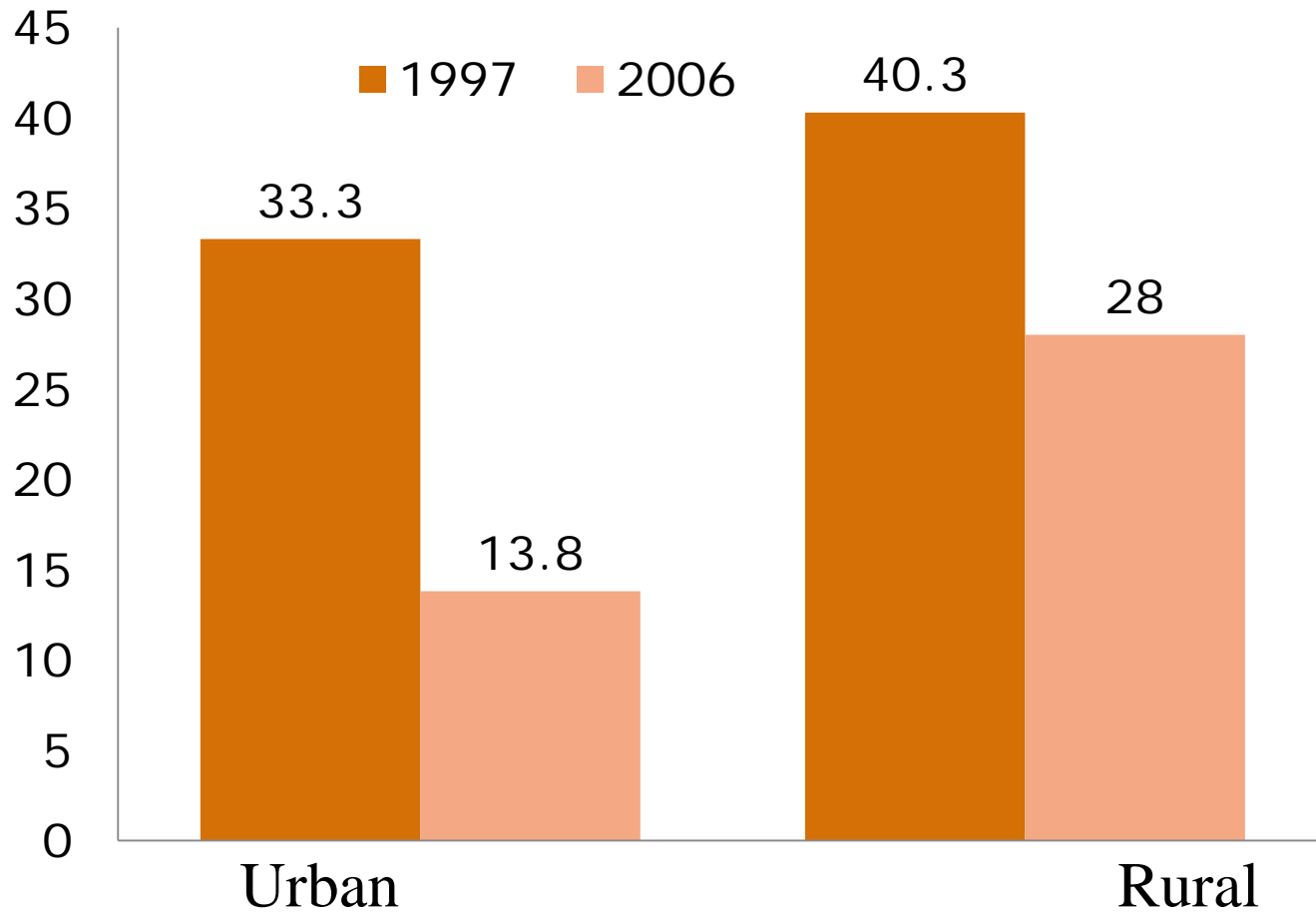
# Never Used Any Method



# Use of Modern Methods



# Unmet Need for Family Planning

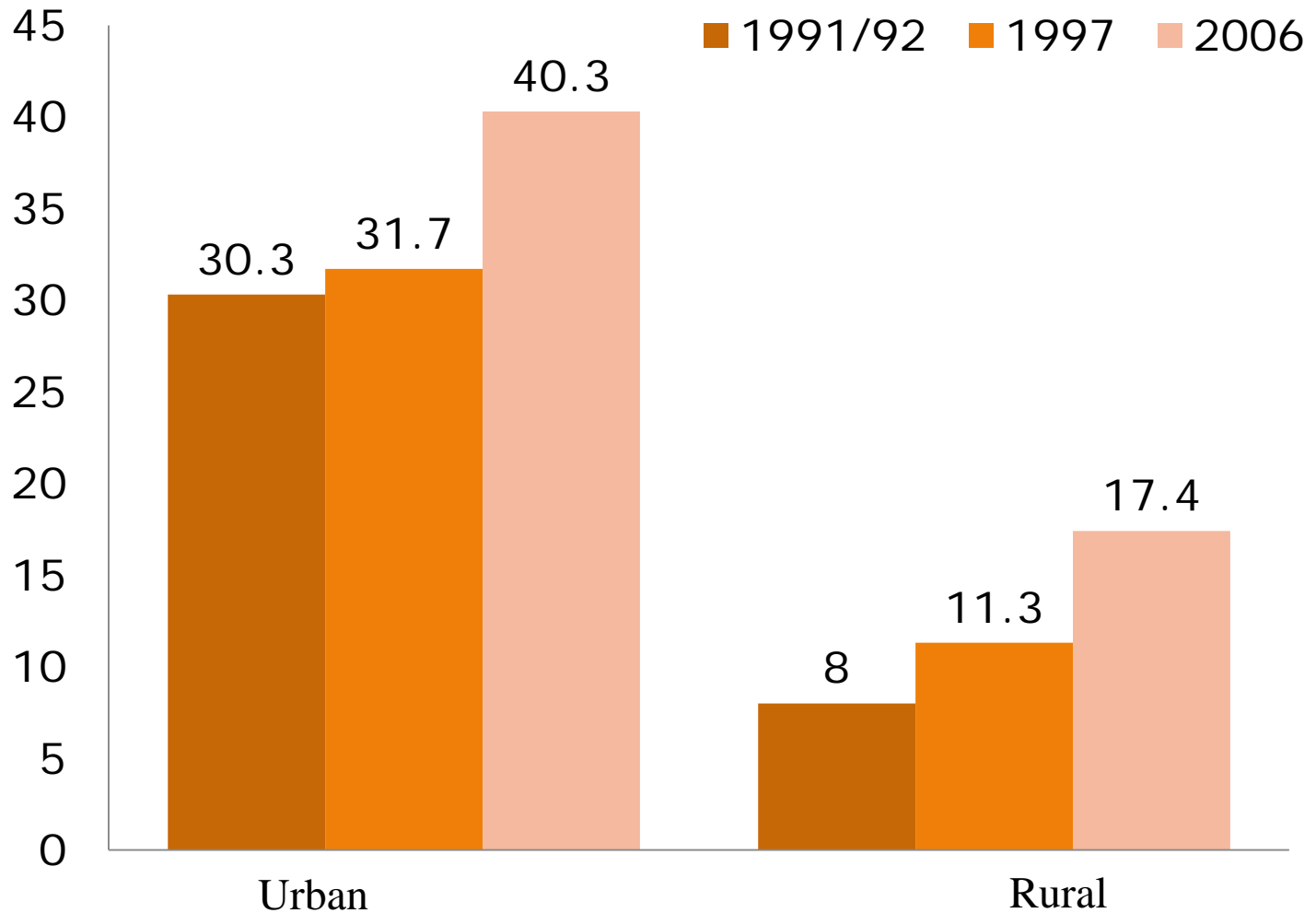


Access to appropriate healthcare services that will enable women to go safely through pregnancy and childbirth and provide couples with the best chance of having a healthy infant

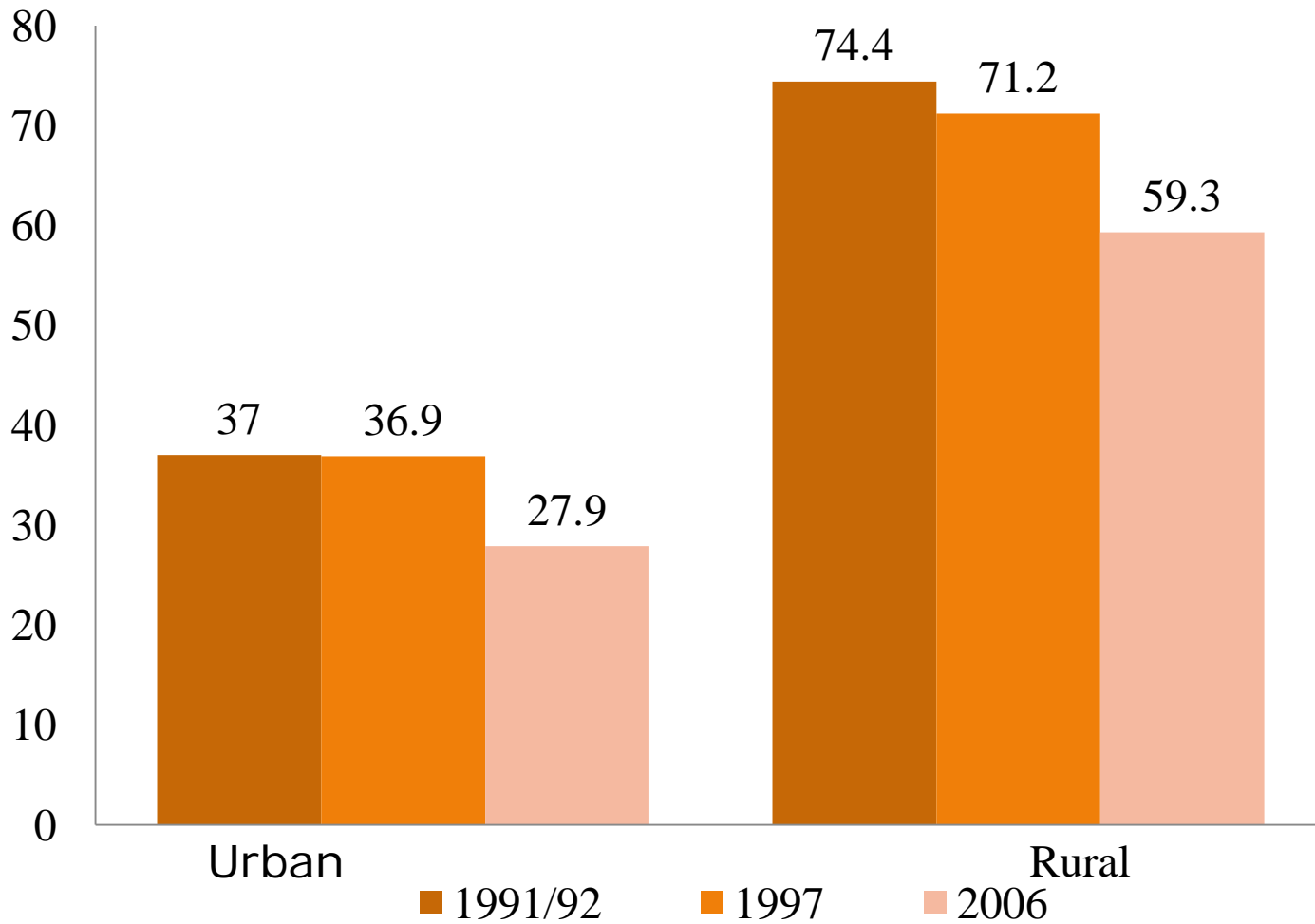
- ✓ Births at a health facility
- ✓ Antenatal care
- ✓ Traditional birth attendants
- ✓ Infant mortality
- ✓ Maternal mortality



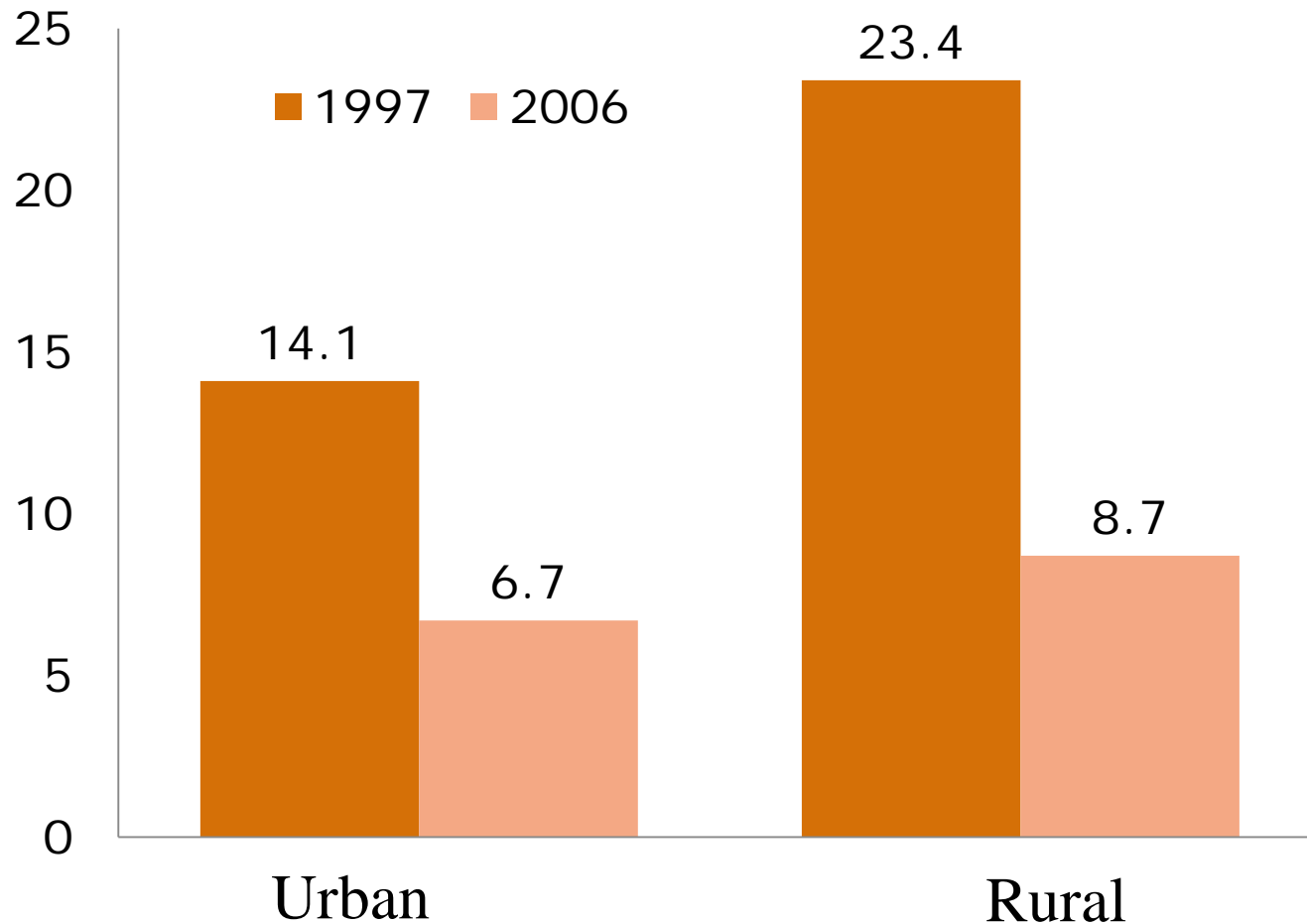
# Births at a Health Facility



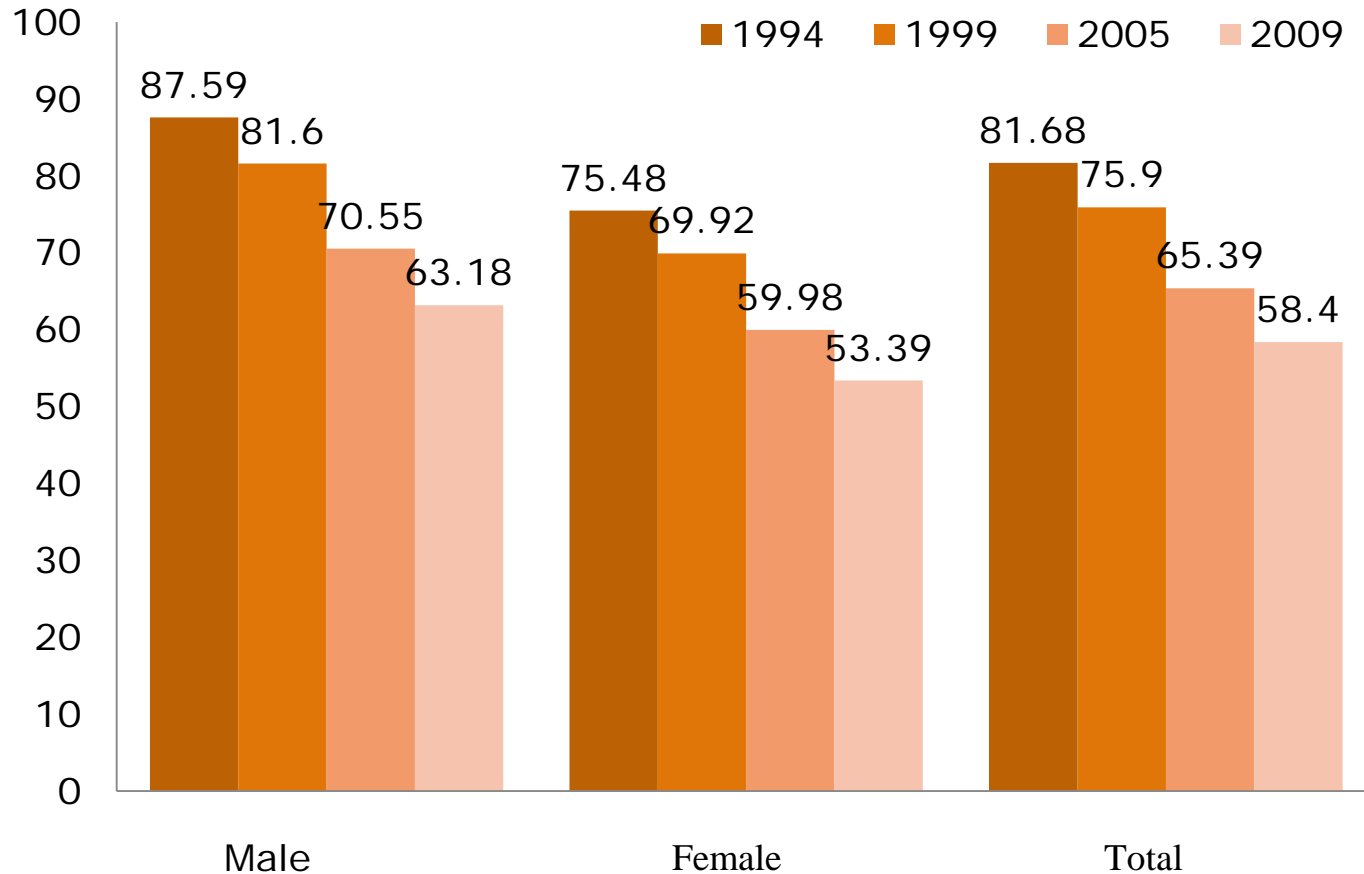
# No Antenatal Care



# Assistance from Traditional Birth Attendants

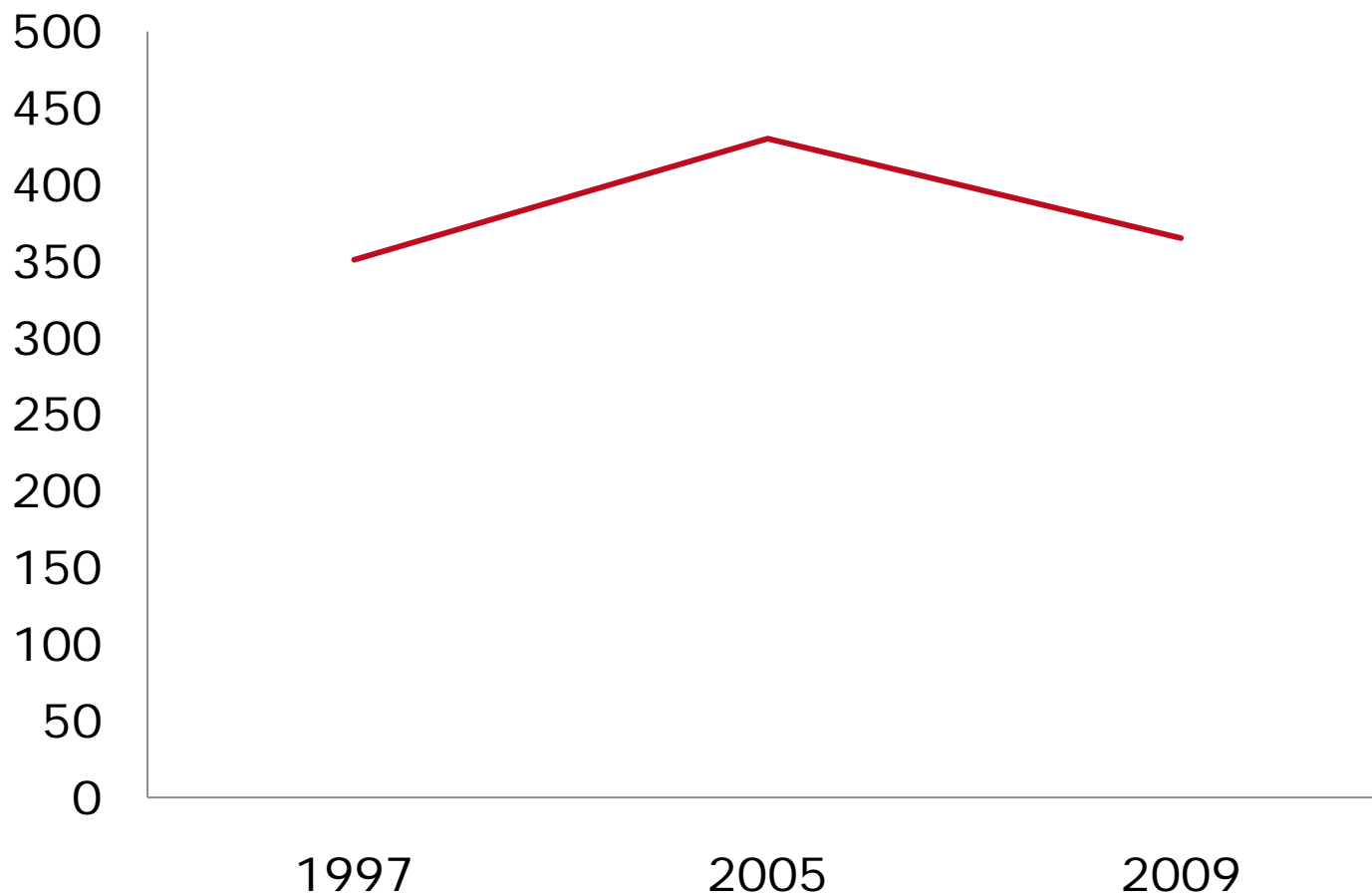


# Infant Mortality\*



\*per 1,000 live births

# Maternal Mortality\*

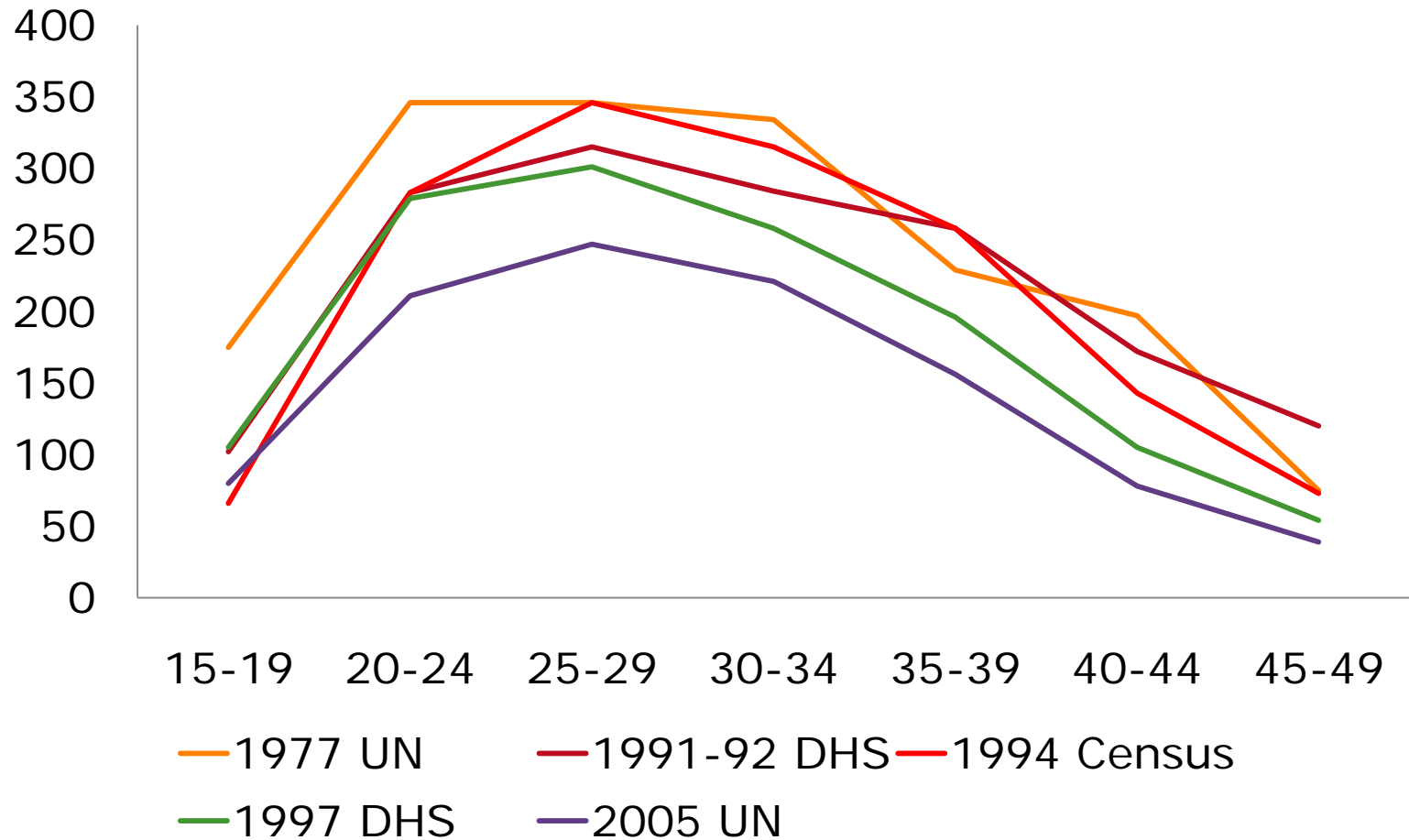


\*per 100,000 live births

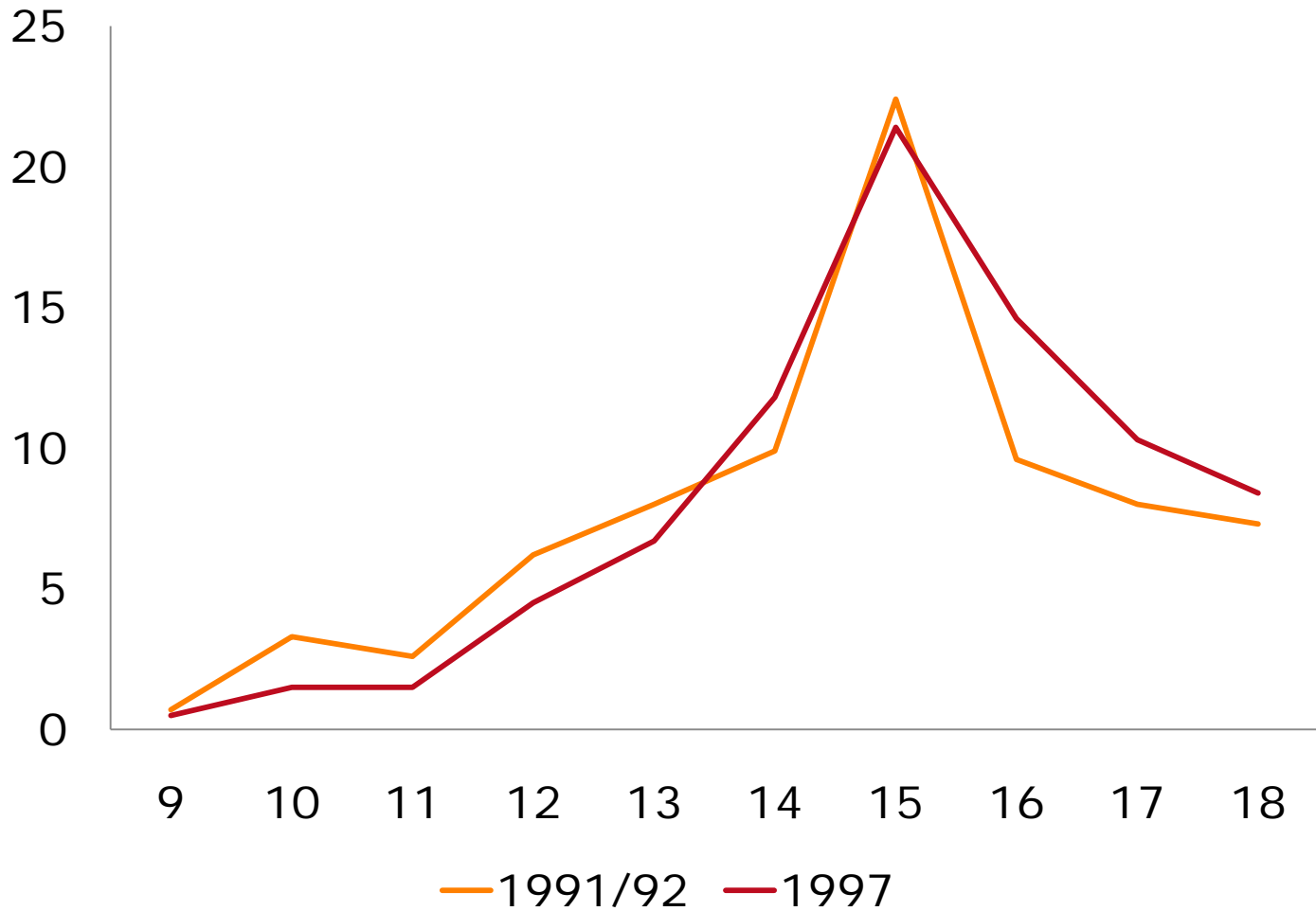
# Is Reproductive Health Transition a Reality in Yemen?

- Behavior of young adolescents
  - ASFR
  - Proportion married
  - Use of modern contraception

# Age Specific Fertility Rates

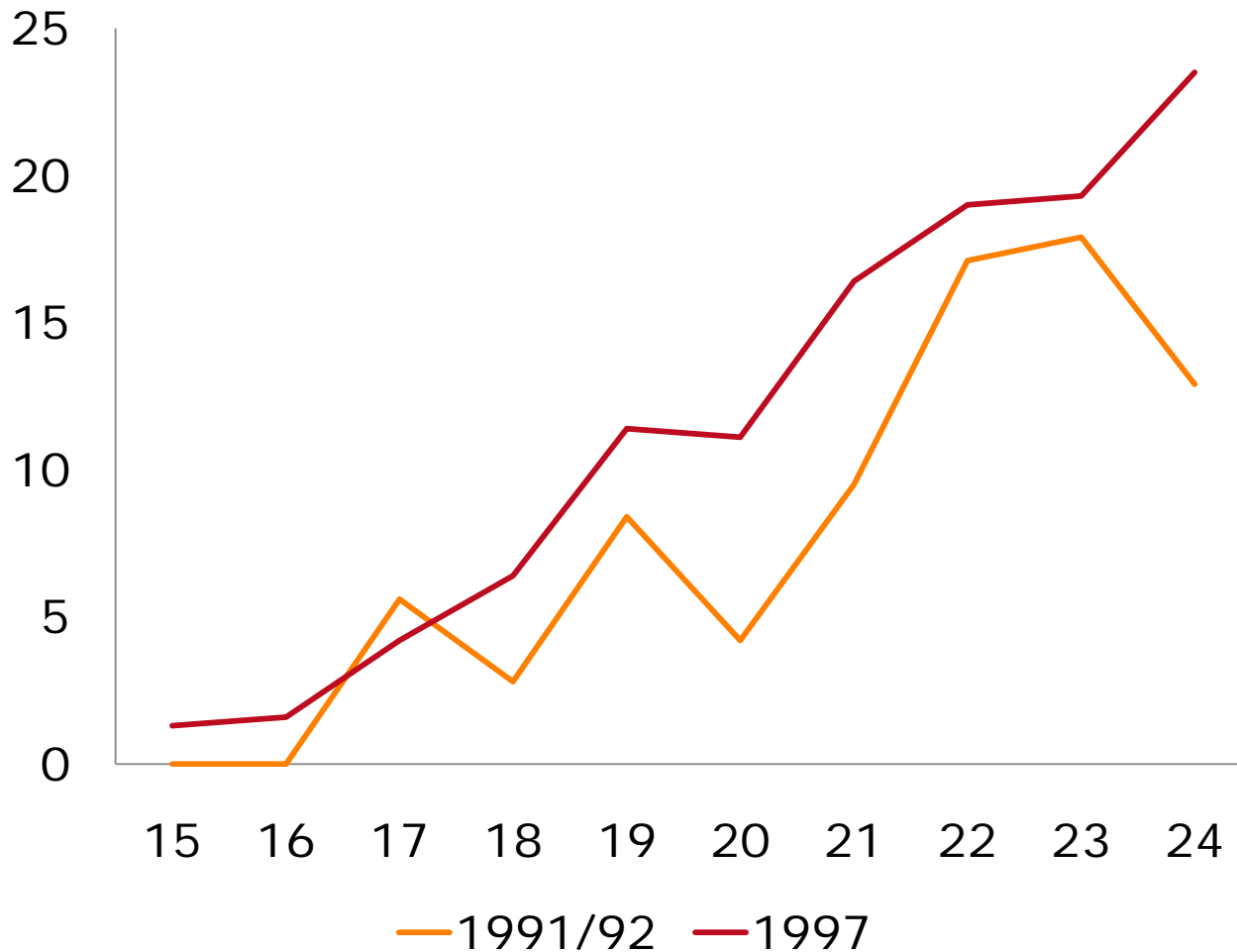


# Percent Married (9-18)





# Use of Modern Contraception



# Conclusion

- **Growing young population**
- **Pace of fertility decline**
- **Adolescent reproductive health**