REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN YEMEN

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## Background Characteristics, 2011

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total population: 24,133,492</th>
<th>Life expectancy: 63.7 years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age structure:</td>
<td>Male: 61.7 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>0-14 years: 43%</td>
<td>Female: 65.9 years</td>
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<td>15-64 years: 54.4%</td>
<td>TFR: 4.63</td>
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<td>65+ years: 2.6%</td>
<td>Literacy: 50.2%</td>
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<td>Population growth rate: 2.65%</td>
<td>Male: 70.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birth rate: 33.5/1,000</td>
<td>Female: 30% (2003 est.)</td>
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<td>Death rate: 7.02/1,000</td>
<td>Unemployment: 35%</td>
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<td>Sex ratio: 1.05 males/female</td>
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<td>IMR: 55.1/1,000 live births</td>
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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

Age at marriage

1991 1997
Gender Inequality Index

1998 2002 2006
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

Urban
- 1991/92: 71.8%
- 1997: 64%
- 2006: 57.7%

Rural
- 1991/92: 94.3%
- 1997: 84.2%
- 2006: 78.9%
Use of Modern Methods

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991/92</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>12.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>21.2</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>12.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>33.7</td>
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Unmet Need for Family Planning

- **Urban**
  - 1997: 33.3
  - 2006: 13.8

- **Rural**
  - 1997: 40.3
  - 2006: 28
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

Urban
- 1991/92: 37
- 1997: 36.9
- 2006: 27.9

Rural
- 1991/92: 74.4
- 1997: 71.2
- 2006: 59.3
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

[Graph showing age-specific fertility rates for different years and surveys, including 1977 UN, 1991-92 DHS, 1994 Census, 1997 DHS, and 2005 UN.]
Use of Modern Contraception

- **1991/92**
- **1997**

Year: 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

Values: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24
Conclusion

• Growing young population
• Pace of fertility decline
• Adolescent reproductive health