

General Information

Child marriage occurs when one or both spouses are below the age of 18. While boys can be affected, the practice predominantly impacts girls. It is often referred to as "early and forced" marriage because the girls, given their young age, can rarely make a free and informed decision about their marriage partner, the timing or the implications of this binding commitment. An element of coercion may be involved because their families may pressure or force the girls into marriage. Strong social and cultural norms also drive the practice despite legislation in place.

Legal Age at Marriage (2010)

Without / with parental consent or approval by pertinent authority	Female 18 / 15	Male 18 / 16
Current Law in Place	Civil Code	

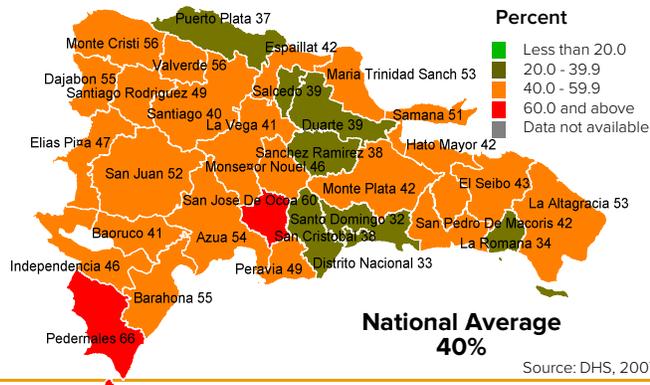
DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Population (000)	9,927 (UNPD, 2010); (9,445, Census 2010)
Population under 18 (%)	37 (UNPD, 2010)
Life expectancy at birth (Years)	73 (UNPD, 2010)
Adolescent birth rate (Per 1,000 women)	92.4 (DHS, 2007)
CPR (15-19) (%)	45.8 (DHS, 2007)
UNR (15-19) (%)	9.1 (DHS, 2007)
PDS* (15-19) (%)	83.4 (DHS, 2007)
Net enrolment in secondary, female (%)	63 (SOWC, 2007-2010)

*PDS (Percentage of demand satisfied) = CPR/(UNR + CPR)*100

Child Marriage by Sub-National Regions

Percent of 20-24 year old females married by the age of 18



Indicator Definitions

Total Population (000) ?	Estimates produced by the United Nations Population Division based on population projections.
Population under 18 (000) ?	Estimates produced by the United Nations Population Division based on population projections.
Life expectancy at birth (Years) ?	Number of years newborn children would live if subject to the mortality risks prevailing for the cross section of population at the time of their birth.
Adolescent birth rate (Per 1,000 women) ?	The adolescent birth rate measures the annual number of births to women 15 to 19 years of age per 1,000 women in that age group. It represents the risk of childbearing among adolescent women 15 to 19 years of age. It is also referred to as the age-specific fertility rate for women aged 15-19.
Adolescent Contraceptive Prevalence Rate, CPR (15-19) (%) ?	Percentage of women 15-19 years old married or in union currently using contraception.
Adolescent Unmet need for Contraception Rate, UNR (15-19) (%) ?	Percentage of women 15-19 years old married or in union currently with unmet need for contraception. They expressed a desire to control their fertility but were not using contraception.
Adolescent Percentage of Demand Satisfied, PDS (15-19) (%) ?	Percentage of the total demand for contraception that is satisfied and is obtained as : $PDS = CPR / (UNR + CPR)$.
Net enrolment in secondary, female (%) ?	Number of girls enrolled in secondary school who are of official secondary school age, expressed as a percentage of the total number of girls of official secondary school age.
Child Marriage (%) ?	Child marriage is presented here as the percentage and number of women 20-24 that marry/in-union before reaching age 18.

Abbreviations

DHS ?	Demographic and Health Surveys
SOWC ?	The State of the World's Children reports, produced by the United Nations Children's Fund
UNFPA ?	United Nations Population Fund
UNPD ?	United Nations Population Division
UNSD ?	United Nations Statistics Division
MICS ?	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey