

Contraceptive Security Indicators Survey

Supply Chain / Overall Survey

Contraceptive security challenges and successes



The Supply Chain and Private Sector sections of the survey recognize that for contraceptive security (CS)/reproductive health commodity security (RHCS) to become a reality, stakeholders who are involved in contraceptive financing, procurement, and distribution must work together to promote sustainable, effective, and efficient service delivery and supply chain systems¹. For instance, one survey question enquires about the challenges and/or successes regarding a country's contraceptive security landscape. The indicators in this section provide more context into the challenges faced and successes achieved.

WHAT'S IN THE WAY?

The survey inquired about overall contraceptive security challenges faced by countries. When amalgamated, the answers depict some common themes that reflect specific shared experiences across national boundaries. These themes below can be grouped into two main categories: overall health system and COVID-related challenges, and supply chain-specific challenges.

OVERALL HEALTH SYSTEM

Disruptions in provider training, stakeholder meetings, deliveries due to COVID-19 pandemic	Decreased funding for contraceptives
Lack of adequate education and awareness of FP services	High reliance on external aid for contraceptive procurement
High turnover of health personnel	Pandemic restricted the ability to train new health personnel

SUPPLY CHAIN

Stockouts and undersupply of contraceptives and family planning (FP) pharmaceuticals
Communication challenges between central and regional levels
Low levels of site consumption data available

“The procurement process of internationally procured products is very time-consuming under normal circumstances. Due to COVID-19 mobility restrictions, the procurement of internationally procured products was further affected. Additionally, local production of contraceptive commodities was also affected to a certain degree.”

Pakistan 2021 CS Indicators
Survey Response

In order to ensure a healthy and successful FP/RH health sector, national and regional level providers and institutions must have adequate access to contraceptives and FP pharmaceuticals. Among the countries surveyed, only 20% of countries had no central level stockouts of any contraceptive commodity and only 3% had no SDP level stockouts of any contraceptive commodity. By far, stockouts and unavailability of product are the greatest challenge mentioned by countries aiming to promote healthy contraceptive security/reproductive health security. Stockouts and undersupply can occur for a variety of reasons and affect the central and subnational levels differently, however some of the key trends identified in the 2021 survey are as follows: can be grouped into two main categories: overall health system and COVID-related challenges, and supply chain-specific challenges.

SUCCESSSES

Several countries identified successes in their management of CS over the past fiscal year that deserve highlighting. The below examples show how countries not only managed to overcome challenges but, in some instances, also achieved larger success in promoting CS widely.

- ✓ **Government ensured CS stock availability at 99% of service delivery points (SDPs) in the country**
- ✓ **Family planning/reproductive health (FP/RH) meetings were held regularly, even at the district levels**
- ✓ **Improvements were made in the provision of integrated care in reproductive health**
- ✓ **Demand and uptake for family planning services have improved**
- ✓ **The frequency of nationwide distributions increased, leading to reduced stockout rates**
- ✓ **Telehealth initiatives were launched to provide care throughout the pandemic**

To find more information about how countries are facing and overcoming unique challenges to make CS a reality, visit the Supply Chain and Private Sector sections of the CS Indicators Survey online dashboard.



Online Dashboard

¹Data For Impact, Family Planning and Reproductive Health Indicators Database. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.data4impactproject.org/prh/sexual-and-reproductive-health/>