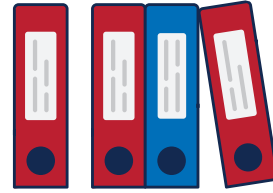


Contraceptive Security Indicators Survey

Policy

National Policies and the Private Sector



Policies indicate the level of government commitment to contraceptive security (CS) and influence national practices that can promote, or hinder CS. Supportive family planning/reproductive health (FP/RH) policies are integral to the existence of successful health systems and strong FP programs. The policy section of the survey recognizes that how FP/RH policies are made, who makes them, and the level of contention on the issues being addressed, all have implications for policy implementation¹. The indicators in this section aim to address key policies affecting CS and their implementation to help determine whether a country has an enabling environment for, and is committed to CS.



What's Holding the Private Sector Back?

The private sector includes the commercial, non-governmental organization, and social marketing sectors. Examples of national policies that could hinder the ability of the private sector to provide contraceptive methods include price controls, distribution limitations, taxes or duties, and advertising bans.

When reviewed, only seven countries (18 percent) cited hindering policies for the private sector, providing the following examples:

- 👎 **Imposed tax and/or customs**
- 👎 **Local branding and/or advertising restrictions**
- 👎 **Distribution challenges**

All seven countries that reported hindering policies also reported one or more policies that enable the private sector as well.



What's Spurring the Private Sector Forward?

Policies that enable the private sector provision of contraceptives vary among countries yet can commonly include improved private models for distribution and services, social marketing programs, introduction of new products, pharmaceutical partnerships, financial incentives, and private loans and financing. Among the countries surveyed, 38 **(93 percent)** reported having **policies in place that enable the provision of contraceptives**.



Examples of some of these policies include the following:

- 👍 **Local legislation allowing private sector staff to provide contraceptive and family planning care so long as certain training/education criteria are met**
- 👍 **Official government policy and/or frameworks specifically outlining public-private partnerships for contraceptive method provision**
- 👍 **Private sector organizations permitted to engage in social marketing/social franchising of contraceptives**



“The national health policy as well as the Family Planning standards manual encourage public-private partnership. These documents invite the private sector and the public sector to collaborate and to engage in a methodical way in birth control activities within the framework of the provision of integrated services to be offered to the community.”

Haiti - 2021 CS Indicators
Survey Response

To find more information about how national policies may affect the provision of contraceptives by the private sector, visit the Policy section 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/>.