Adolescents

The Adolescent Population: Age 10-19

This snapshot of adolescent well-being is organized around key priority areas for adolescents:

- Every adolescent learns
- Every adolescent is protected from violence and exploitation
- Every adolescent lives in a safe and clean environment
- Every adolescent has an equitable chance in life

### Every Adolescent Learns

#### School Attendance Ratios

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Secondary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Literacy rate

- **Girls**: 98%
- **Boys**: 92%

Quality education and experiences at school positively affect physical and mental health, safety, civic engagement and social development. Adolescents, however, can also face the risk of school drop-out, early marriage or pregnancy, or being pulled into the workforce prematurely.
Every Adolescent is Protected from Violence & Exploitation

Adolescence is a period of heightened risk to certain forms of violence and exploitation. The onset of puberty marks an important transition in girls’ and boys’ lives whereby gender, sexuality and sexual identity begin to assume greater importance, increasing vulnerability to particular forms of violence, particularly for adolescent girls. Certain harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage, often take place at the onset of puberty. At the same time, as children enter adolescence, they begin to spend more time outside their homes and interact more intimately with a wider range of people, including peers and romantic partners. This change in social worlds is beneficial in many respects, but also exposes adolescents to new forms of violence.

Child Marriage: SDG 5.3.1

Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were first married or in union before age 15 and before age 18, by area

Child Discipline

Percentage of children age 10 to 14 years who experienced any discipline in the past month, by type

*Age disaggregate of SDG 16.2.1

Child Labour: SDG 8.7.1 *

Definition of Child Labour

Age 5-11 years: At least 1 hour of economic work or 21 hours of unpaid household services per week.

Age 12-14 years: At least 14 hours of economic work or 21 hours of unpaid household services per week.

Age 15-17 years: At least 43 hours of economic work or any amount of unpaid household services per week.

Economic activities include paid or unpaid work for someone who is not a member of the household, work for a family farm or business.

Household chores include activities such as cooking, cleaning or caring for children, as well as collecting firewood or fetching water.

*The definition of child labour used for SDG reporting does not include hazardous working conditions. This is a change over the previously defined MICS6 indicator. Additionally, the threshold of the number of hours for household chores was changed during MICS6 implementation, due to a change in the SDG indicator definition: From 28 to 21 hours for both children age 5-11 and 12-14 years. In the new definition, there is no longer a maximum number of hours for chores of children age 15-17 years.

Note: According to the 2018 Montenegro MICS, no children age 15-17 years were engaged in economic activities or household chores for the number of hours that are classified as child labour.
The data presented here are at the household level. Evidence suggests that adolescent access to these services are comparable to household-level data.

**Basic Drinking Water SDG 1.4**: Drinking water from an improved source, provided collection time is not more than 30 minutes for a roundtrip including queuing. Improved drinking water sources are those that have the potential to deliver safe water by nature of their design and construction, and include: piped water, boreholes or tubewells, protected dug wells, protected springs, rainwater, and packaged or delivered water.

**Basic Sanitation Services SDG 1.4.1/6.2.1**: Use of improved facilities which are not shared with other households. Improved sanitation facilities are those designed to hygienically separate excreta from human contact, and include: flush/pour flush to piped sewer system, septic tanks or pit latrines; ventilated improved pit latrines, composting toilets or pit latrines with slabs.

**Clean Fuels SDG 7.1.2**: Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating and lighting.

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**Every Adolescent has an Equitable Chance in Life**

**Discrimination & Harassment**

Percentage of adolescent girls and boys age 15-19 years who in the last 12 months have felt discriminated against or harassed on the basis of different grounds.
### Every Adolescent has an Equitable Chance in Life

#### Functioning Difficulties in Adolescents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>0%</th>
<th>10%</th>
<th>20%</th>
<th>30%</th>
<th>40%</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>60%</th>
<th>70%</th>
<th>80%</th>
<th>90%</th>
<th>100%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>Making friends</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of adolescents who have a functioning difficulty, by domain and age.

#### Key Messages

- **Males aged 15–19 years** have the highest percentage (7%) in the population distribution among males.
- **97 percent** of girls and **96 percent** of boys of primary school age (by the end of the calendar year) attend primary school.
- **91 percent** of girls and **85 percent** of boys of secondary school age (by the end of the calendar year) attend secondary school.
- The literacy rate for girls and boys aged 15–19 years is **98 percent** and **92 percent**, respectively.
- The proportion of women aged 20–24 years who got married before the age of 15 is very low (2 percent).
- **6 percent of women aged 20–24 years** got married before age 18.
- **61 percent of adolescents aged 10 to 14 years** experienced some form of physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by adult household members in the last month.
- **Only 26 percent** experienced non-violent methods of disciplining.
- **9 percent of adolescents aged 12–14 years** work under hazardous conditions, as well as **6 percent of adolescents aged 15–17 years**.
- **Overall, almost no adolescents felt discriminated against or harassed on the basis of any of the reasons mentioned in the survey, in the 12 months before the survey.**
- **5 percent of adolescent boys age 15–19 years** felt discriminated against or harassed based on religion or belief, in the 12 months before the survey.
- Anxiety is the domain with the highest percentage of adolescents with functional difficulties, among adolescents aged 15–17 years (6 percent) and 10–14 years (5 percent).
- **4 percent of adolescents aged 15–17 years** have functional difficulties in the domain of depression.

The Montenegro Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was carried out in 2018 by the Statistical Office of Montenegro (MONSTAT) as a part of the global MICS programme. Technical support was provided by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UNICEF, the Government of Montenegro, and UNHCR provided financial support.

The objective of this snapshot is to disseminate selected findings from the 2018 Montenegro MICS related to Adolescents. Data from this snapshot can be found in tables SR.4.1, SR.6.1W/M, TM.2.1, LN.2.3, LN.2.6, PR.2.1, PR.3.3, PR.3.4, PR.4.1W, WS.3.6, TC.4.7, EQ.1.2 and EQ.3.1W/M in the Survey Findings Report.

Further statistical snapshots and the Survey Findings Report for this and other MICS surveys are available on mics.unicef.org/surveys.