SECTION 1: OVERALL CONTRACEPTIVE DYNAMICS

CHANGE IN CONTRACEPTIVE USE OR NON-USE

Percent of women age 15-49 who changed contraceptive use status between PMA Phase 1 (February 2020), PMA Phase 2 (February 2021), and PMA Phase 3 (April 2022) (n=1,581)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase 1</th>
<th>Phase 2</th>
<th>Phase 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant</td>
<td>3 / 72</td>
<td>4 / 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Using FP</td>
<td>57 / 79</td>
<td>211 / 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using FP</td>
<td>45 / 41</td>
<td>153 / 49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The ribbons of the Sankey represent the flow of women from one contraceptive use status to another among panel women who completed all three PMA Phases. The left side of the Sankey shows the flow between Phase 1 and Phase 2, and the right side between Phase 2 and Phase 3. The color of each ribbon represents the contraceptive use status at the initial Phase of the two Phases (e.g., a grey ribbon flowing from Phase 2 to Phase 3 represents women who were pregnant at Phase 2). The N on each ribbon is the weighted number of women who went from the contraceptive use status at the initial Phase to the use status at the next Phase. The width of the ribbon is proportional to the number of women represented.

Among women with an unmet need in 2022, 85% continued to be non-users and 13% had discontinued their contraceptive use.

Nearly half of the women who intended to use family planning (FP) adopted a contraceptive method the following year.

The more children a woman had, the more likely she was to continue her contraceptive use between Phase 2 and Phase 3. Twenty-nine percent of women who had 5 children or more at Phase 2 continued using the same method at Phase 3, while only 13% of women without any previous birth continued using their contraceptive method.

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KEY FINDINGS FOR SECTION 1: OVERALL CONTRACEPTIVE DYNAMICS

- Between 2020 and 2022, no significant change was observed in contraceptive use, which remained at around 45%.
- Twenty percent of women who used contraception at Phase 1 discontinued their contraceptive use between Phase 1 and Phase 2. This proportion increased to 28% between Phase 2 and Phase 3.
- Between 2021 and 2022, the proportion of long-acting and reversible contraceptive (LARC) method users increased by one percentage point, from 8% to 9%. Nearly one in ten short-acting contraceptive method users in 2021 discontinued their modern contraceptive use in 2022.
SECTION 2: CONTRACEPTIVE DYNAMICS BY KEY MEASURES

CHANGE IN CONTRACEPTIVE USE STATUS, BY AGE
Percent of women age 15-49 who engaged in one of the following contraceptive use behaviors between PMA Phase 2 (February 2021) and PMA Phase 3 (April 2022), by age.

CHANGE IN CONTRACEPTIVE USE STATUS, BY EDUCATION LEVEL
Percent of women age 15-49 who engaged in one of the following contraceptive use behaviors between PMA Phase 2 (February 2021) and PMA Phase 3 (April 2022), by education.
KEY FINDINGS FOR SECTION 2: CONTRACEPTIVE DYNAMICS BY KEY MEASURES

- Between 2021 and 2022, one in five women continued using the same contraceptive method.
- Between 2021 and 2022, nearly one in four married women reported using the same contraceptive method, while nearly half of unmarried women continued to be non-users.
- The more children a woman had at Phase 2, the more likely she was to continue using her contraceptive method at Phase 3. For example, 29% of women with five children or more continued using the same method between Phase 2 and Phase 3, while only 13% of women without any previous birth continued using their contraceptive method.
### METHOD DISCONTINUATION

Among women 15-49 with unmet need at Phase 3, the percentage that stopped using a contraceptive method or became pregnant since Phase 2 (n=2,250)

- **Stopped**: 67%
- **Continued non-use**: 20%
- **Became pregnant**: 13%

### PARTNER SUPPORT FOR FAMILY PLANNING

Percent of women in union age 15-49 who were not using an FP method at Phase 2 and who adopted an FP method between Phase 2 and Phase 3, by husband/partner’s support for FP at Phase 2 (n=806)

- **Yes, husband/partner is supportive of FP**: 32%
- **No, husband/partner is not supportive of FP**: 36%
- **Don’t know if husband/partner is supportive of FP**: 33%

### INTENTION TO USE FAMILY PLANNING

Percent of women age 15-49 who were not using an FP method at Phase 2 and who adopted an FP method between Phase 2 and Phase 3, by their intention to use FP at Phase 2 (n=1,227)

- **Yes, intends to use FP at Phase 2**: 49%
- **No, does not intend to use FP at Phase 2**: 51%

### UNMET NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING

Percent of women age 15-49 who were not using an FP method at Phase 2 and who adopted an FP method between Phase 2 and Phase 3, by their unmet need status at Phase 2 (n=1,227)

- **Unmet need at Phase 2**: 44%
- **No unmet need at Phase 2**: 56%

### KEY FINDINGS FOR SECTION 3: OTHER PANEL DYNAMICS

- **Among women with an unmet need in April 2022, 85% continued to be non-users of contraception and 13% had discontinued their use of family planning.**
- **Thirty-two percent of women who reported that their partners were favorable to FP in 2021 adopted a contraceptive method in 2022. This proportion was 36% among women whose partners were not favorable to FP in 2021.**
- **Forty-nine percent of women who reported that they intended to use FP in 2021 adopted a contraceptive method in 2022. Only one in five women who reported that they did not intend to use FP in 2021 adopted a contraceptive method in 2022.**

### SUMMARY TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Completed Phase 1</th>
<th>Completed Phase 2</th>
<th>Completed Phase 3</th>
<th>Completed Phase 2 and Phase 3</th>
<th>Completed All Three Phases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled at Phase 1</td>
<td>2,549</td>
<td>2,529</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1,989</td>
<td>1,703</td>
<td>1,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled at Phase 2</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>831</td>
<td>651</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Panel Women</strong></td>
<td>3,387</td>
<td>2,529</td>
<td>2,820</td>
<td>2,354</td>
<td>2,250</td>
<td>1,589</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the province of Kinshasa, PMA Democratic Republic of Congo collects representative data at the provincial level on knowledge, practice and coverage of family planning services in 58 enumeration areas using a two-stage stratified cluster sampling approach at the urban level. The PMA panel survey was conducted among 2,990 women interviewed in Phase 1 and Phase 2 surveys, who consented to follow-up, and who were aged 15-49 at the time of the Phase 3 survey (December 2021 to April 2022). 72% of women were enrolled in Phase 1 between December 2019 and February 2020, and 26% of women were enrolled in Phase 2 between November 2020 and February 2021. Of the 2,990 eligible female respondents, 18.5% were not contacted at follow-up. Of those reached, 2,366 (79.1%) responded to the survey, for a response rate of 97% among the women contacted. The survey results presented in this report are for de facto women who completed the panel surveys in each Phase. The results presented in Section 1 of the report are representative of the Phase 1 population. The estimates presented in Sections 2 and 3 are representative of the Phase 2 population. The sociodemographic data used to disaggregate the indicators were collected in Phase 2.

For more information on sampling and to access the full datasets, visit [www.pmadata.org/countries/democratic-republic-congo](http://www.pmadata.org/countries/democratic-republic-congo).

Percentages presented in this brief have been rounded and may not add up to 100%.

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