

KNOWLEDGE OF BENEFITS OF BIRTH SPACING

Output indicator

Indicator Phrasing

English: % of [select: women aged 15-19 / 15-24 / 15-49; husbands] who can state two benefits of waiting at least two years after the last live birth before attempting the next pregnancy

French: % de [précisez le groupe cible] qui peuvent citer deux avantages d'attendre au moins deux ans après la dernière naissance vivante avant de tenter une nouvelle grossesse

Spanish: % de [seleccione: mujeres de 15 a 19 años / 15 a 24 / 15 a 49 años; maridos] que puede indicar dos beneficios de esperar al menos dos años después del último nacimiento vivo antes de intentar el siguiente embarazo

Portuguese: % de [especifique o grupo-alvo] que podem dizer dois benefícios relativos a esperar pelo menos dois anos após o último parto-vivo antes de tentar a próxima gravidez

Czech: % [určete: žen ve věku 15-19 / 15-24 / 15-49 let; manželů] schopných uvést dva přínosy oddálení početí dalšího dítěte o alespoň dva roky po narození posledního dítěte

What is its purpose?

The indicator assesses the proportion of the target population aware of at least two of the promoted benefits of waiting at least two years before trying to get pregnant again. Doing so enables the woman's body to recover from the last pregnancy and reduces the risk of dying during the birth, having a miscarriage or delivering an undernourished baby.

How to Collect and Analyse the Required Data

Collect the following data by conducting individual interviews with a [representative sample](#) of your target population members:

RECOMMENDED SURVEY QUESTIONS (Q) AND POSSIBLE ANSWERS (A)

Q1: *Do you think that there are any benefits of waiting at least two years after the last birth before attempting the next pregnancy?*

A1: yes / no

(ask the following question only if the previous answer is YES)

Q2: *Could you please tell me what are the most important benefits?*

A2: specify the benefits your intervention promotes (multiple answers possible)

Note: If less than two are stated, keep probing: *“Are there any other benefits?”*

To **calculate the indicator’s value**, divide the number of respondents who were able to state at least two of the promoted benefits by the total number of respondents. Multiply the result by 100 to convert it to a percentage.

Disaggregate by

[Disaggregate](#) the data by [wealth](#) and other relevant criteria.

Important Comments

1) The benefits your intervention promotes need to **reflect the available scientific evidence**, such as a lower risk of low birth weight, preterm birth, labour issues, or infant death. At the same time, they should also include (often non-health) **benefits identified through your formative survey**, such as facing less financial (or other) issues, having more time for each baby or following certain social norms. These benefits can often be more influential than a range of scientific health arguments.

2) Use **pre-testing** to determine whether the requirement of stating only two benefits is not unnecessarily low. If so, change the indicator to “three benefits”.

E-Questionnaire

- [XLS form for electronic data collection - indicator Knowledge of Benefits of Birth Spacing](#)