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# GLOSSARY

**Abortion:**

Purposeful termination of an intrauterine pregnancy with the intention of avoiding a live birth. Abortions “on request” have been available within the first 12 weeks of gestation in all former Soviet Union countries since November, 1955. In these countries, abortion during the first 28 weeks of gestation may be legally performed on medical and social grounds.

**Abortion-to-live birth ratio:**

The number of abortions to women aged 15–44 years during a specified period of time divided by the number of live births to women aged 15–44 years during the same time period.

**Age-specific fertility rate (ASFR):**

The number of births to women with a specific age group during in a specified period of time per 1,000 women aged 15–44; traditionally given for 5-year age groups.

**Age-specific abortion rate (ASAR):**

The number of abortions to women with a specific age group during a specified period of time per 1,000 women aged 15–44; traditionally given for 5-year age groups.

**AIDS:**

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome– disease caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which disrupts the immune system and leads to death from opportunistic infections.

**Anemia:**

A condition characterized by a decrease in the concentration of hemoglobin in the blood. Anemia results from conditions that decrease the number or size of red cells, such as excessive bleeding, a dietary deficiency (most often iron deficiency), destruction of red cells (e.g. transfusion reaction), or an abnormally formed hemoglobin.

**Anthropometry:**

Measurement of height and weight to estimate nutritional status.

**Below replacement fertility:**

Total fertility rate below that which is necessary to maintain the current size of a population, generally less than 2.1 births per woman.

**Body mass index (BMI):**

Measure used to classify surveyed women as underweight, overweight, or obese; derived from the weight in kilograms, divided by the square of the height in meters. A BMI value of less than 18.5 indicates underweight, 24–29.9 overweight, and greater than 30, obesity.

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**Caucasus Republics:**

Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

**CDC:**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**Central Asian Republics:**

(For this report) Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

**Child mortality rate:**

The probability of dying between exact ages 1 and 5, during a specified time period per 1,000 children aged 1 up to but not including 5 years of age during the same time period.

**Contraceptive effectiveness:**

The reduction in pregnancy rate due to the use of a method of contraception compared with the pregnancy rate expected by chance if not using contraception. Contraceptive failure is the inverse of contraceptive effectiveness.

**Contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR):**

Percentage of currently married and in-union women who are using some method of pregnancy prevention (modern or traditional).

**Dermatovenerology clinic:**

In former Soviet countries, a clinic that specializes in the diagnosis, reporting, and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.

**DHS:**

Demographic and Health Survey project managed and provided technical assistance by ORC/Macro International.

**Eastern Europe:**

(For this report) Czech Republic, Moldova, Romania, Russia, and Ukraine.

**Fecund:**

Physically capable of becoming pregnant.

**General fertility rate (GFR):**

The number of live births to women of all ages during a specified period of time per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years.

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**General abortion rate (GAR):**

The number of abortions to women of all ages during a specified period of time per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years.

**Hemoglobin:**

An oxygen-carrying protein inside red blood cells (gives these cells their red color) whose function is to distribute oxygen to other tissues and cells in the body. The amount of oxygen in the body tissues depends on how much hemoglobin is in the red cells. Without enough hemoglobin, the tissues lack oxygen. A low hemoglobin level usually means the person has anemia.

**HIV:**

Human Immunodeficiency Virus; virus which causes AIDS, spread by sexual contact with an infected person, use of needles or blood and blood products contaminated with the virus.

**Household:**

One or more persons who share a dwelling and expenses.

**Infant mortality rate (IMR):**

The probability of dying in the first year of life (from birth to, but not including 1 year of age), during a specified time period per 1,000 live births during the same time period.

**Infecund:**

Physically incapable of becoming pregnant.

**Intimate partner violence (IPV):**

Any act of physical, sexual or psychological harm, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivations of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life, perpetrated against a woman by her male partner.

**Judet:**

Geographic administrative unit in Romania.

**Low birth weight (LBW):**

Infant weight at birth of less than 2,500 grams.

**Maternal mortality ratio (MMR):**

Number of women who die of any cause related to or aggravated by pregnancy or its management during a specified period of time per 100,000 live births during the same time period.

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**Method mix:**

Percent distribution of methods used by contracepting women, adding up to 100%.

**Miniabortion:**

Purposeful termination of an intrauterine pregnancy (requires pregnancy confirmation) performed in the earliest stages of gestation (up to 6 weeks of gestation) by the means of electrical vacuum aspiration, usually without cervical dilatation or anesthesia.

**Mistimed pregnancy:**

An unintended pregnancy that occurs when the woman wants a child at some point in the future.

**Modern methods of contraception:**

Pregnancy prevention by supplied or surgical means including condoms, diaphragms, cervical caps, spermicides, intrauterine devices (IUDs), oral contraceptives, emergency contraception, injectables, patches, implants, male and female sterilization; generally more effective than traditional methods of contraception in preventing pregnancy.

**Mother-to-child transmission (MTCT):**

Refers to ways in which the virus is passed from an HIV-infected mother to her child. These include transmission during pregnancy, during delivery, and through breastfeeding.

**Neonatal mortality rate (NNMR):**

The probability of dying within the first month of life (from birth to, but not including, 28 days) during a specified time period per 1,000 live births during the same time period.

**NCHS:**

National Center for Health Statistics

**Oblast:**

Geographic administrative district in former Soviet Republics.

**Permanent method of contraception:**

Male or female sterilization, also called surgical contraception, which provides permanent and highly effective pregnancy prevention.

**Post-neonatal mortality rate (PNMR):**

The difference between neonatal and infant mortality rates, interpreted as the probability of dying during the post-neonatal period (from 28 days to, but not including, 1 year of age) during a specified time period per 1,000 live births during the same time period.

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**Rate of natural increase:**

The birth rate minus the death rate, implying the annual rate of population growth without regard to migration.

**RHS:**

Reproductive Health Survey of women aged 15–44 and sometimes also men aged 15–49 performed with technical assistance from CDC.

**Replacement level fertility:**

The total fertility rate necessary to maintain the current size of a population, generally 2.1 births per woman.

**Reproductive age:**

Age range during which most women are assumed to be capable of bearing children and contributing significantly to the TFR and CPR; in Reproductive Health Surveys considered to be 15–44 years of age and in Demographic and Health Surveys 15–49 years of age.

**Sexually transmitted infection (STI):**

Infection spread by sexual contact.

**Stunting:**

Having height-for-age more than two standard deviations below the median of the reference population; below normal height-for-age resulting from prolonged inadequate food intake or from recurrent episodes of illness.

**Sub-fecund:**

Having a diminished capacity of becoming pregnant.

**Technicum:**

Type of technical education that trains mid-level specialists for either 2 years after completing secondary education, or for 4–5 years after competing basic general education (8–9 years of school). Technicum diploma may count toward university credits. Technicum developed in the Soviet Union and is still in existence in the former Soviet Republics.

**Total fertility rate (TFR):**

The average number of children that a woman would have during her childbearing years if she passed through those years experiencing the observed age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs); the sum of the ASFRs.

**Total abortion rate (TAR):**

The average number of abortions that a woman would have over the course of her life if she experienced the observed age-specific abortion rates (ASARs); the sum of the ASARs.

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**Traditional methods of contraception:**

Pregnancy prevention by means such as periodic abstinence or withdrawal, often considered natural, but generally less effective than modern methods.

**Under five mortality rate (Under5MR):**

The probability of dying before reaching 5 years of age during a specified period of time per 1,000 live births during the same time period.

**Unintended pregnancy:**

A pregnancy is classified as unintended if the woman stated that “just before she got pregnant with that pregnancy” she did not want to have a(another) baby “then or at any time in the future” (*unwanted* pregnancy) or if she wanted to get pregnant at a later time (*mistimed* pregnancy).

**Unmet need for contraception:**

In the RHS, the percentage of women who are currently sexually active, fecund, not wanting to become pregnant, and not currently using any method of contraception; in the DHS the same as the RHS plus women who are currently pregnant or post-partum and whose pregnancies were unwanted or mistimed at the time of conception and who did not use any method of pregnancy prevention at the time of conception.

**Unwanted pregnancy:**

A pregnancy is classified as unwanted if the woman stated that “just before she got pregnant with that pregnancy” she did not want to have a(nother) baby “then or at any time in the future.”

**Wasting:**

Having weight-for-age more than two standard deviations below the median of the reference population; below normal weight-for-age reflecting a recent period of inadequate food intake or a recent episode of illness.

**Women in union:**

Women who are currently married or living with a man in a consensual, unregistered union.

**YARHS:**

Young Adult Reproductive Health Survey of young people aged 15–24 performed with technical assistance from CDC.