# **GUATEMALA** Minimum legal age of marriage for girls: 18 | with exceptions: 16

Current levels of child marriage

# Burden of child marriage Figure 1. Number of girls and women of all ages who were first married or in union before ages 15 and 18 Married before age 18 2.00 million

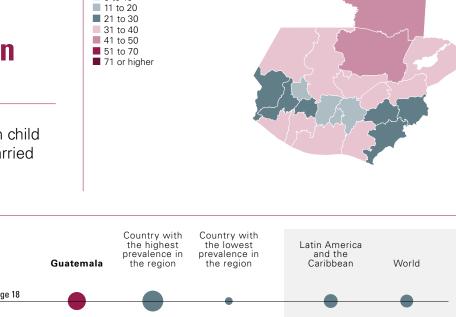
Guatemala is home to around 2 million child brides; 3 in 10 young women were married in childhood

#### Latin America and the the highest prevalence in the lowest prevalence in World Guatemala the region the region Caribbean **Regional and global comparisons** Married before age 18 Figure 3. Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were first married or in 30% 36% 8% 21% 19% union before ages 15 and 18 Married before age 15 4% 6% 10% 0% 4%

#### Wealth quintile Education Residence 100 80 60 40 20 0 Richest Secondary or higher Urban <sup>|</sup> Fourth No education Bural Second Middle Poorest Primary

### Vulnerable populations

Figure 4. Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were first married or in union before age 18



Prevalence of child marriage

Figure 2. Percentage of women

aged 20 to 24 years who were

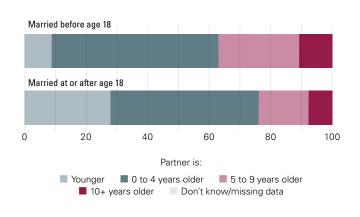
first married or in union before

age 18

## **Characteristics of unions**

### Spousal age gap

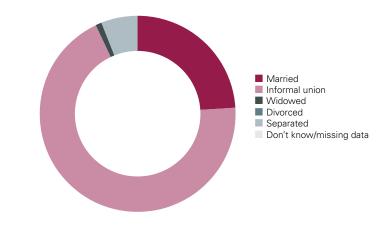
Figure 5. Percentage distribution of currently married women aged 20 to 24 years by the age gap between the women and their partners



#### Types of unions

Never married

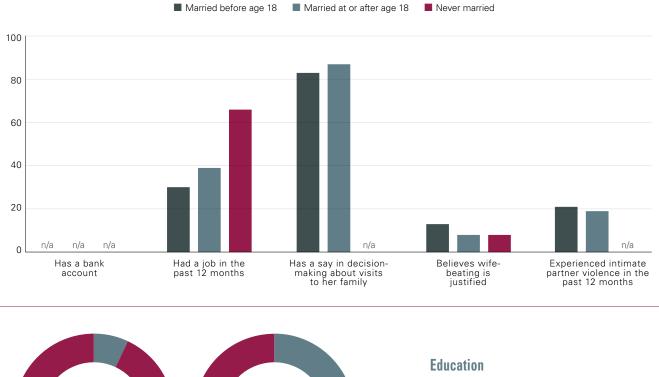
Figure 6. Percentage distribution of ever-married girls aged 15 to 17 years by current marital status



### Lives of child brides

#### Autonomy, empowerment and violence

Figure 7. Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who have an account at a bank or other financial institution, who have had a job in the past 12 months, who usually decide (alone or with their spouses) about visits to the women's families, who believe wife-beating is justified, and who have experienced intimate partner violence in the past 12 months



Never married

or in union

Figure 8. Percentage distribution of girls aged 15 to 17 years by schooling status

In school Out of school Don't know/missing data

Currently

married or in

union

### Early childbearing

Figure 9. Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who gave birth before ages 18 and 20  $\,$ 

Gave birth before age 18

Gave birth at or after age 18 but before age 20

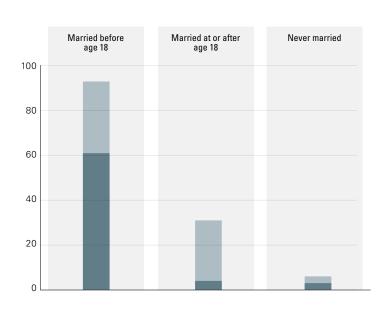
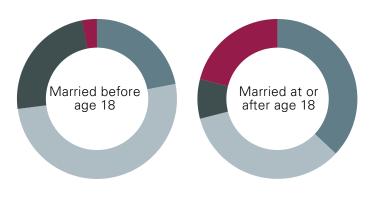


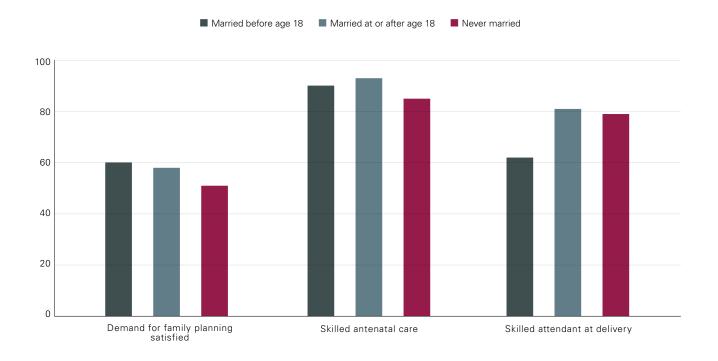
Figure 10. Percentage distribution of ever-married women aged 20 to 24 years by timing of pregnancy and marriage

Pregnant before marriage
Pregnant within 1 year of marriage
Pregnant after 1 year of marriage
Never gave birth



### **Reproductive health**

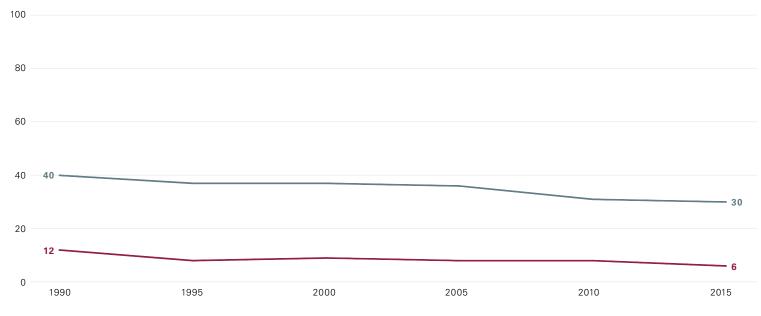
Figure 11. Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years whose demand for family planning is satisfied by a modern method, who received antenatal care from a skilled provider during their last pregnancy, and who had a skilled attendant during their last live birth



### **Generational trends**

Figure 12. Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were first married or in union before ages 15 and 18

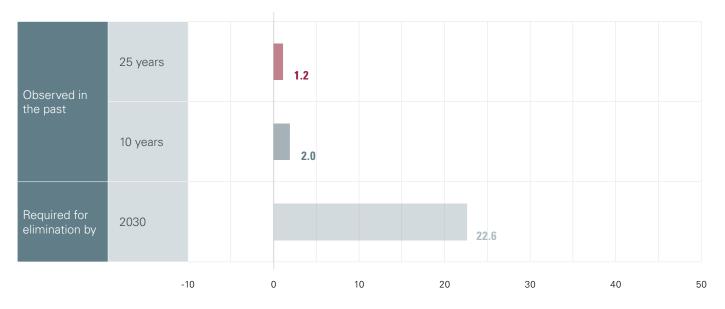
- Married before age 18 - Married before age 15



### Looking ahead to ending child marriage

#### **Observed and required rates of progress**

Figure 13. Average annual rate of reduction (%) in the percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who were first married or in union before age 18, observed and required for elimination



#### NOTES:

Data are sourced from the Demographic and Health Survey 2014-15 unless otherwise noted. Data on the legal age at marriage are sourced from the World Bank, Women, Business and the Law, 2018 dataset. Demographic data are from the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022), World Population Prospects 2022, Online edition. Maps do not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers. Confidence intervals are not shown in this profile; therefore caution is warranted in interpreting the results since apparent differences may not be significant. All references to 'marriage' or 'child brides' include both formal marriage and informal unions in which women started living together with a partner as if married. Global estimates are based on a subset of 103 countries with comparable available data from 2015 to 2022, covering 78 per cent of the global female population. Regional estimates represent data covering at least 50 per cent of the female population. For statistical purposes, 'elimination' is defined here as a child marriage prevalence of less than 1 per cent. Values presented are based on a least 25 unweighted cases. Data for some indicators and population groups are suppressed due to insufficient numbers of cases to perform the analysis. Indicators marked as 'n/a' indicate either the value was suppressed or data were not collected. Numbers expressed in thousands and/or millions have been rounded. The burden of child marriage refers to the population in 2021. Figures in stacked bar and donut charts may not add up to 100 per cent due to rounding.