



Child marriage is rooted in inequality between men and women and discriminatory views towards a girl's value, sexuality, and role in society. Ending child marriage is a strategic way of tackling gender inequality and shifting the discriminatory norms that perpetuate child marriage. This week's Viz5 challenge aims to highlight the impact of child marriage.

While child marriages, universally, are considered marriages under 18, there are countries that conduct marriages even to those girls who are 15 and/or under.

5.48%



On an Average, 5.48% girls get married by the age of 15 years.

23.13%



On an Average, 23.13% girls get married by the age of 18 years.

4.78%



Whereas on an Average, 4.78% boys get married by the age of 18 years.

Choose a parameter from here to see how child marriages change from country to country:

Click on a country from map to see average values

All



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Avg. Females Married by 18

23.13%

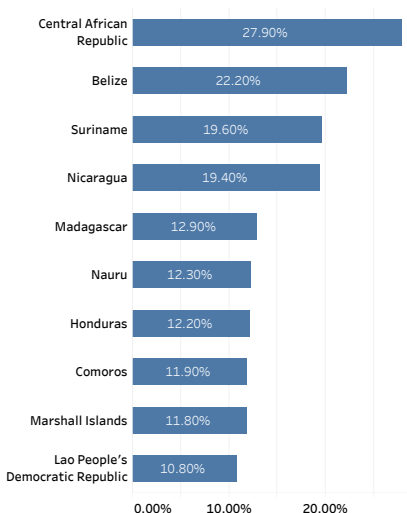
Avg. Males Married by 18

4.78%

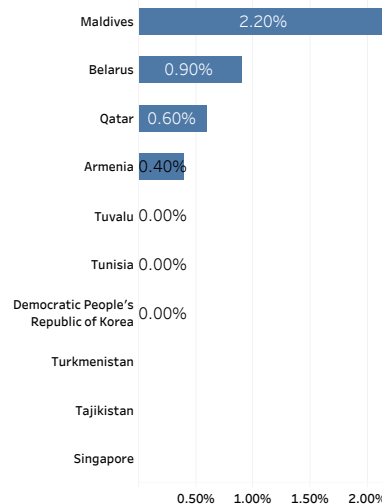
Avg. Females Married by 15

5.48%

Top and Bottom ¹⁰



Countries



Factors Affecting Child Marriage:

While countries with the highest prevalence of child marriage are concentrated in Western and Sub-Saharan Africa, due to population size, the largest number of child brides reside in South Asia.

POVERTY

Girls living in poor households are almost twice as likely to marry before 18 than girls in higher income households. In these same countries, more than 75 percent of people live on less than \$2 a day.

EDUCATION

In Mozambique, some 60 percent of girls with no education are married by 18, compared to 10 percent of girls with secondary schooling and less than one percent of girls with higher education.

HEALTH

Child brides often face a higher risk of contracting HIV because they often marry an older man with more sexual experience. Girls ages 15 – 19 are 2 to 6 times more likely to contract HIV than boys of the same age in Sub-Saharan Africa.

VIOLENCE

A study conducted by ICRW in two states in India found that girls who were married before 18 were twice as likely to report being beaten, slapped, or threatened by their husbands than girls who married later. Child brides often show signs symptomatic of sexual abuse and post-traumatic stress such as feelings of hopelessness, helplessness, and severe depression.

OPERATION
FISTULA