

Technical Brief: Additional Users

What are additional users?

The "highlight" goal for the FP2020 initiative is increasing the number of women using a modern contraceptive method by 120 million between 2012 and 2020. This is measured through core indicator #1, the number of 'additional users' using modern contraception each year. Additional users are always measured from a 2012 baseline (e.g. how many more modern contraceptive users are there in 2015 compared to 2012?).

Increasing mCPR versus reaching additional users

Additional users are calculated from a total increase in the number of modern contraceptive users in a country. This increase in additional users is not the same as measuring increases in modern CPR. This is because in countries where the number of women of reproductive age (15-49) is growing year on year, more users must be reached just to keep mCPR constant. Once this is done, additional gains in users are made by expanding family planning programs to further increase the mCPR. Additional users capture both of these concepts. Therefore, in countries with increasing numbers of women of reproductive age, their additional user numbers will increase year on year, even if mCPR is not growing.

Calculating additional users

Additional users are measured from 2012, the "baseline" year for FP2020. This means there were zero additional users in 2012. From 2013 onwards, additional users are reported as the difference between the total number of users in the year, and the number of users there were in 2012. This allows for a direct way to

estimate the cumulative number of additional users through any given year in comparison with 2012. Total users in each year are calculated by multiplying the mCPR in that year by the estimated number of women of reproductive age in the same year. For more about calculating mCPR, see the Technical Brief on FPET.

To illustrate, the estimated number of modern contraceptive users in Indonesia in 2014 was 30,628,236. To calculate the number of additional users from the FP2020 baseline year of 2012 to the year 2014, the estimated number of contraceptive users in 2012 (29,930,510) is subtracted from the 2014 estimate, yielding a value of the indicator number of additional users between 2012 and 2014 of 697,726 (see graph to right).

Measuring from a rolling baseline

It should be noted that the calculation of Indicator 1 "Number of Additional Modern Contraceptive Users" is based upon a "rolling baseline" for the year 2012. The use of a rolling baseline takes into account the fact that past population size estimates and estimates of mCPR likely will change as new census and survey data become available. A more detailed explanation of the concept of a "rolling baseline" may be found in the Track20 Technical Brief on this topic.

