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USING FAMILY PLANNING TO ADDRESS DRIVERS OF MORTALITY: REACHING WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCE HIGH PARITY AND ADVANCED MATERNAL AGE PREGNANCIES

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FAMILY PLANNING SAVES WOMEN'S LIVES

- In one year, family planning prevented more than 272,000 maternal deaths, a 44% reduction
- If all needs for family planning were met, an additional 104,000 maternal deaths could be prevented annually (an additional 30% reduction)

HEALTHY TIMING AND SPACING OF PREGNANCY

- Family planning helps women achieve healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies by preventing unintended and high-risk pregnancies
- **High-Risk Pregnancies defined as:**
 - Adolescent <age 18
 - Short Interval <24 mos birth to conception (< 3 years birth to birth)
 - High Maternal Age >35
 - High Parity >5

THE HEALTHIEST TIMES FOR PREGNANCY FOR BEST MATERNAL OUTCOMES

< Age 35

< Parity 5

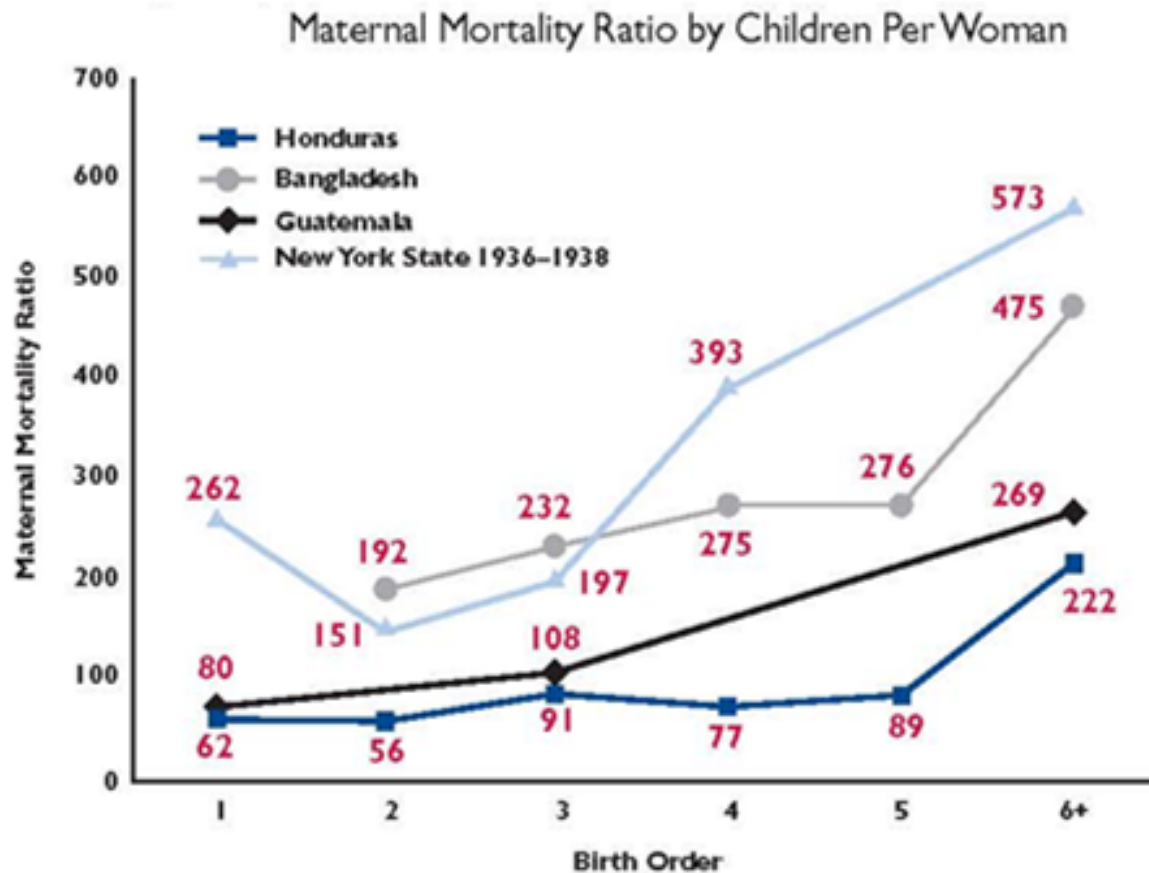
Family planning can ensure that pregnancies occur at the healthiest times of a woman's life.



Photo credit is: © 2006 Marina Grayson, Courtesy of Photoshare

HIGH PARITY PREGNANCIES ARE LINKED WITH MATERNAL MORTALITY

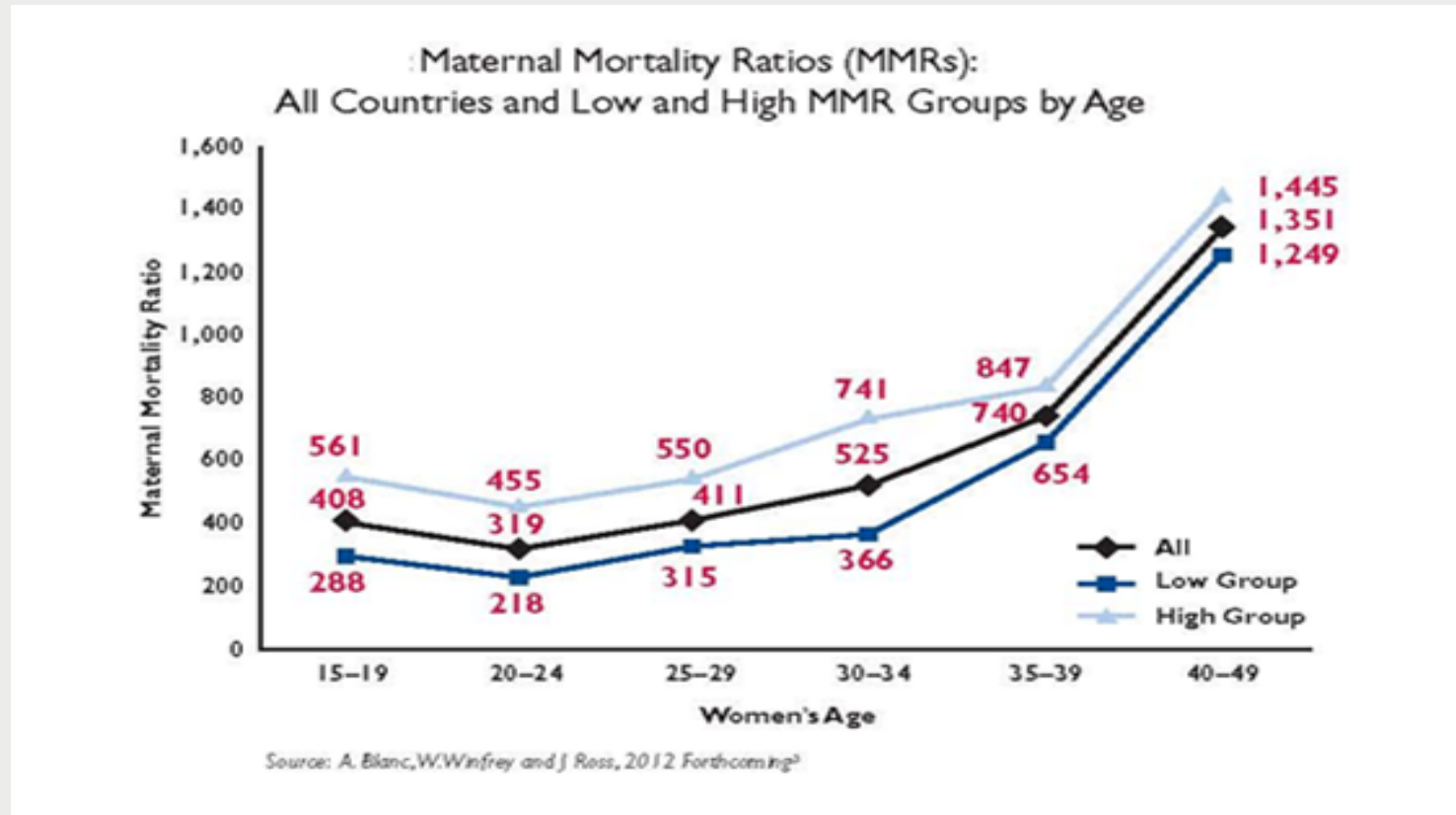
Maternal mortality is **lower** among women who have fewer children



Source: J. Stover and J. Ross, 2010

ADVANCED MATERNAL AGE PREGNANCIES ARE LINKED WITH MATERNAL MORTALITY

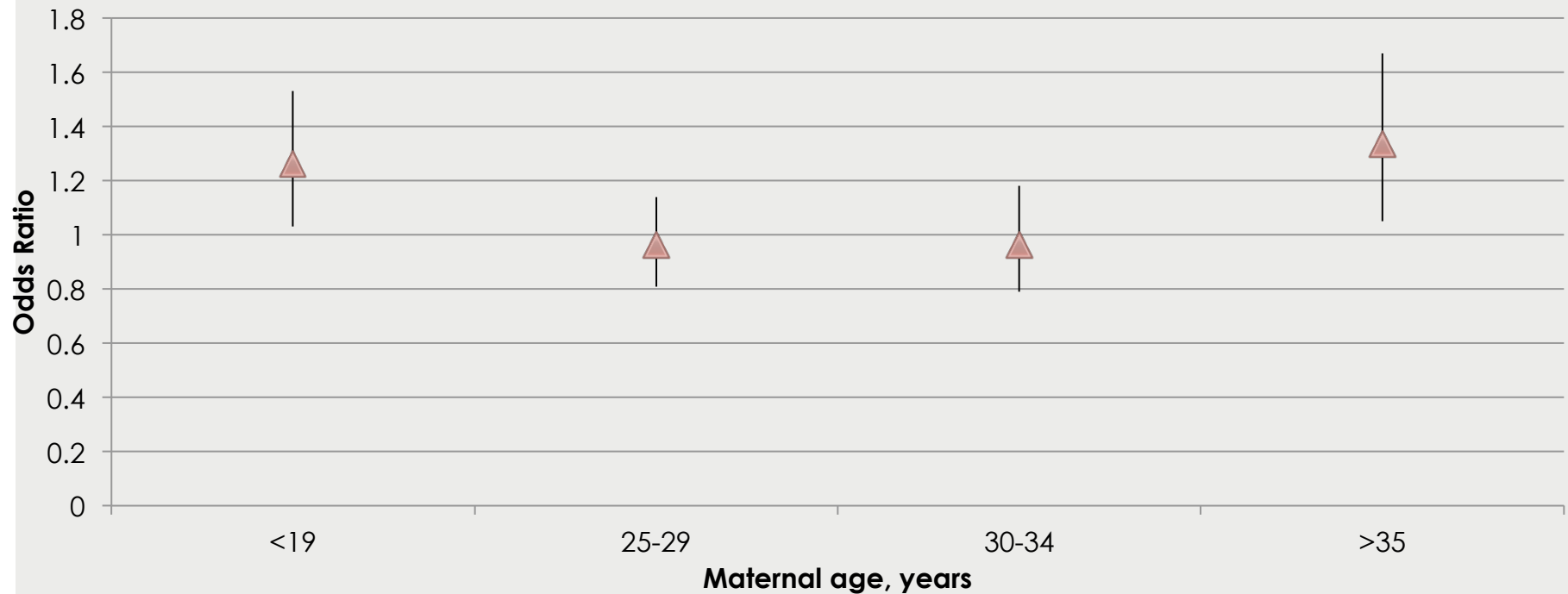
Maternal mortality is **lower** among women who become pregnant before age 35



ADVANCED MATERNAL AGE IS LINKED WITH ADVERSE PERINATAL OUTCOMES

Advanced maternal age is associated with approximately a 30% **increased** risk of preterm birth

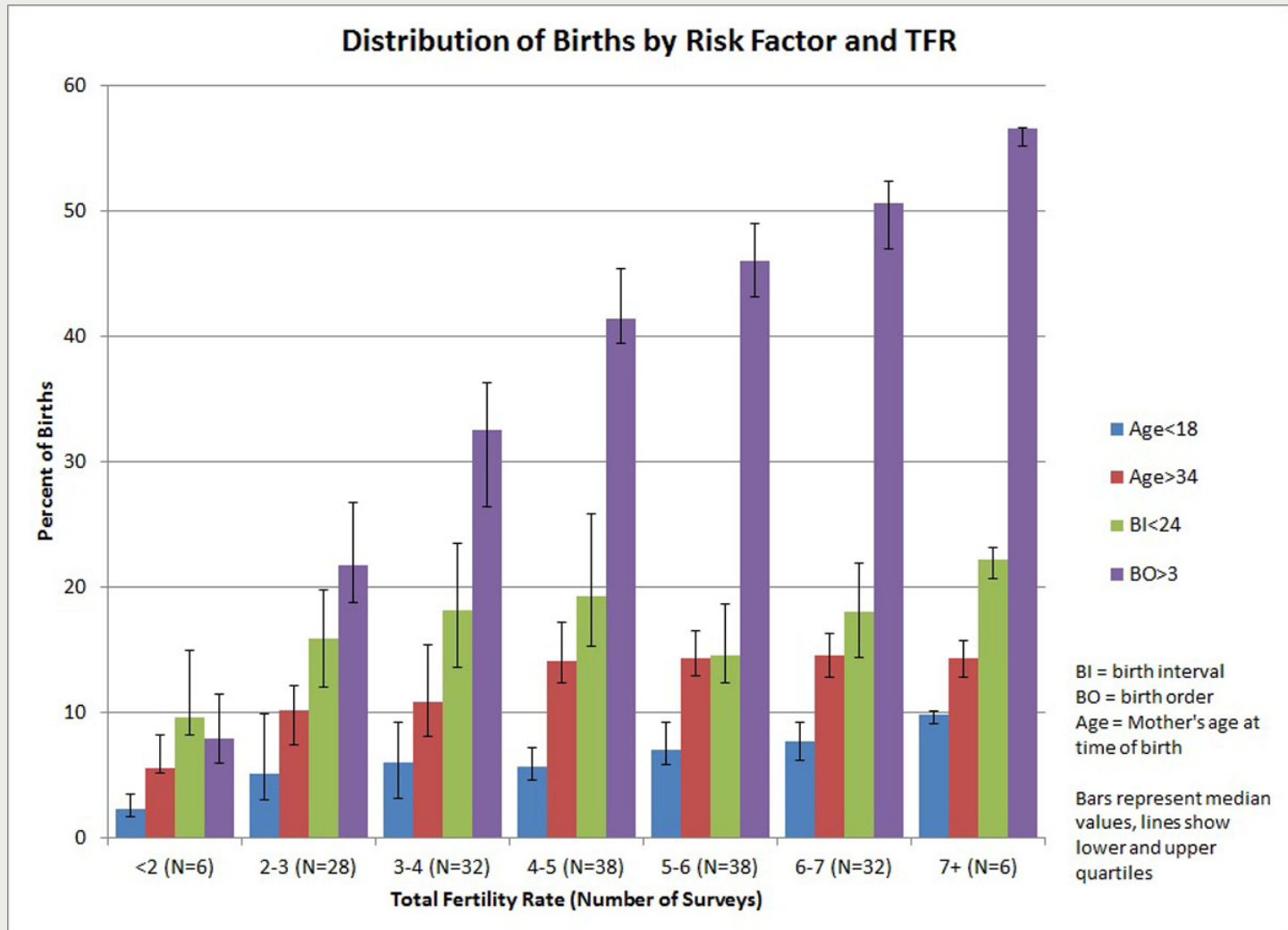
Association between maternal age and preterm delivery (AOR, 95% CI)*



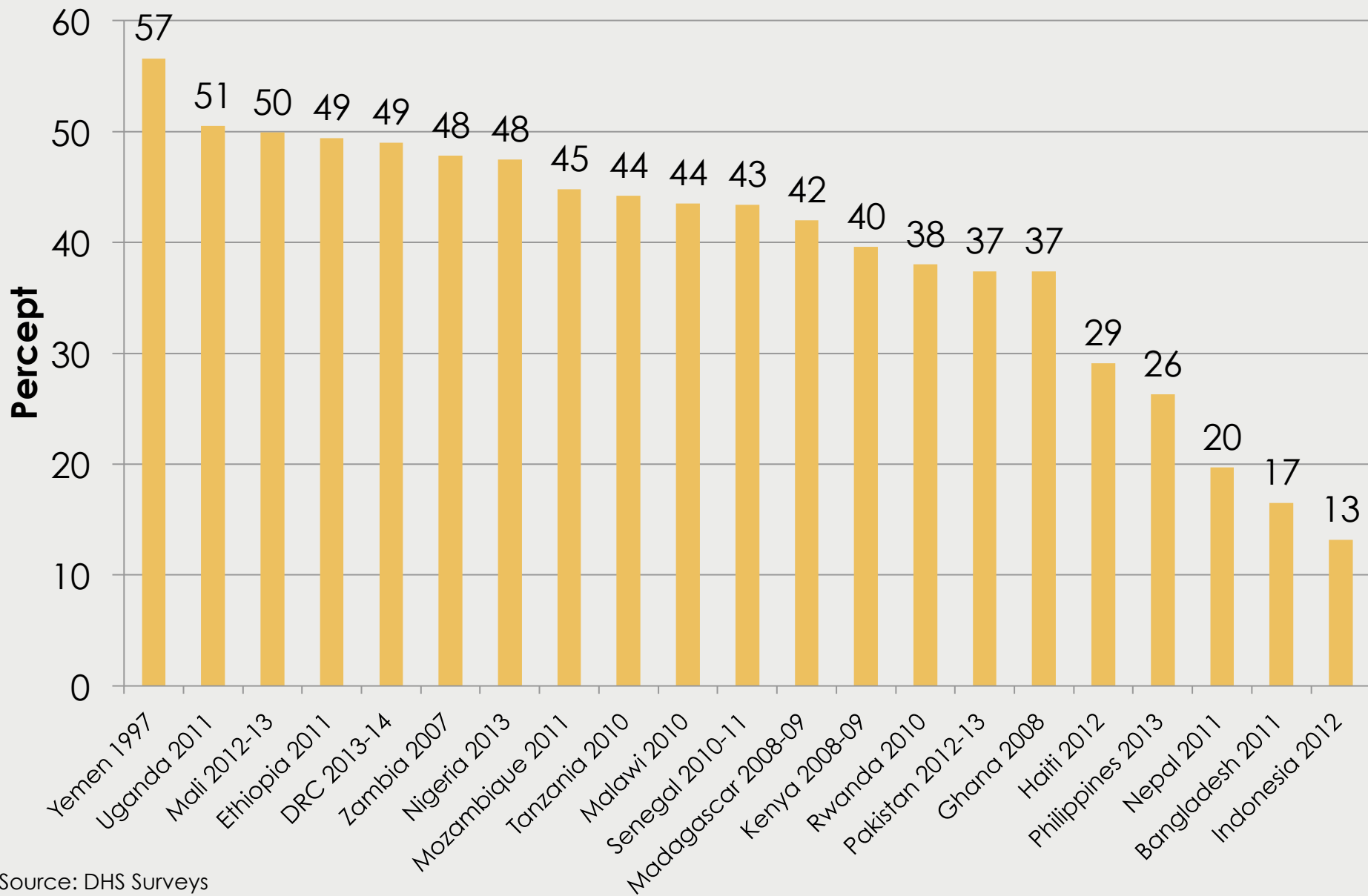
Note: * Reference category is 20-24 years; Adjusted for sex, SES factors, maternal height, breastfeeding duration and parity

Source: Fall et al. (2015). Association between maternal age at childbirth and child and adult outcomes in the offspring: a prospective study in five low-income and middle-income countries (COHORTS collaboration). *The Lancet* 3: e366-377.

SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGES OF HIGH PARITY AND HIGH AGE BIRTHS IN USAID-ASSISTED COUNTRIES



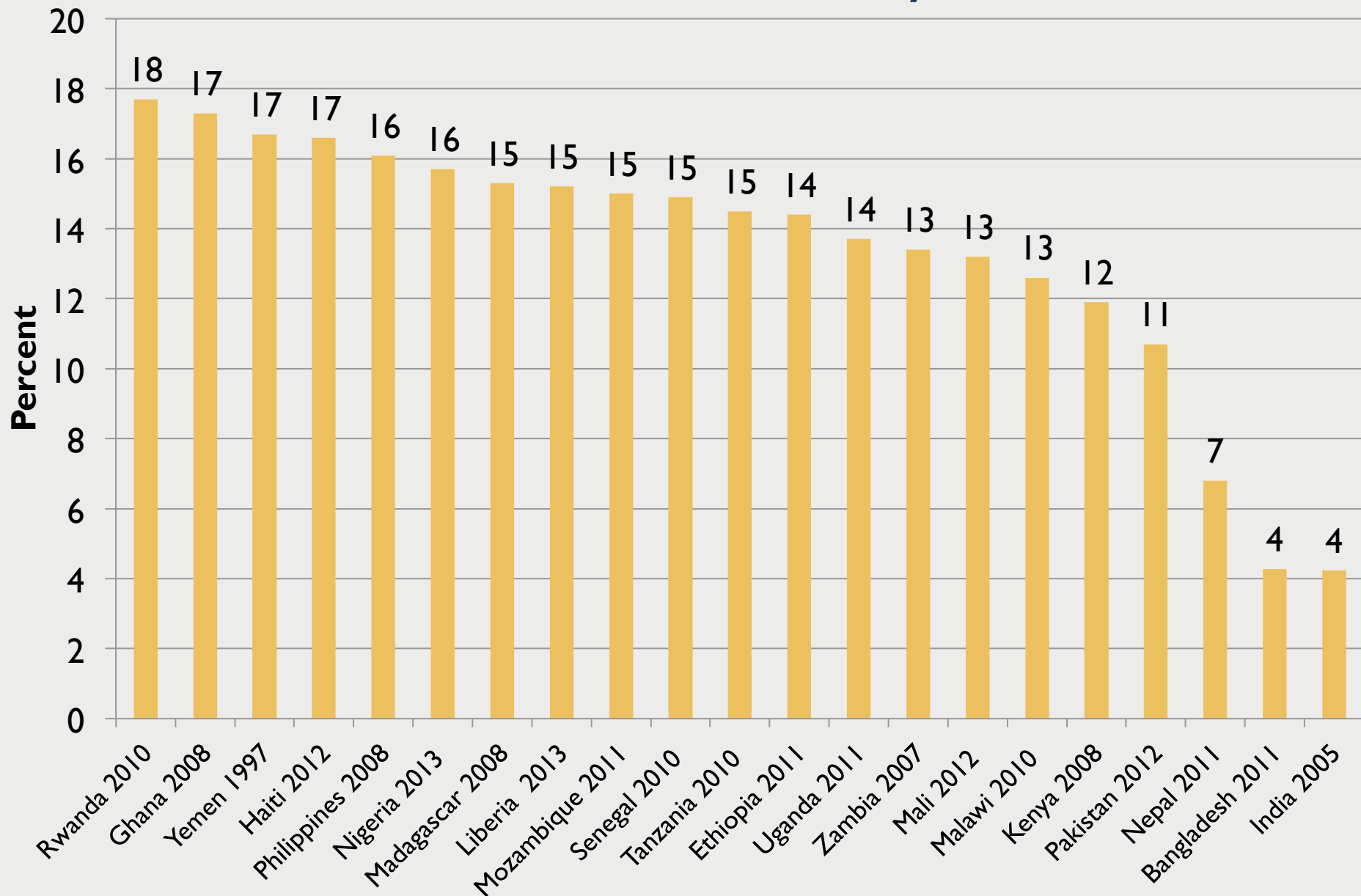
Percentage of High Parity Births (Birth Order 4+) to Women 15-49 years in USAID EPCMD Priority Countries



Source: DHS Surveys

Note: No available data for Afghanistan, South Sudan, India.

Percentage of Advanced Maternal Age Births to Women 15-49 Years in USAID EPCMD Priority Countries



WOMEN 35-49 USING IMPLANTS OR IUD

Use of implants or IUD by advanced maternal aged women is **very low** in most countries

