

New Evidence on Gaps in Contraceptive Technology

Guttmacher Institute
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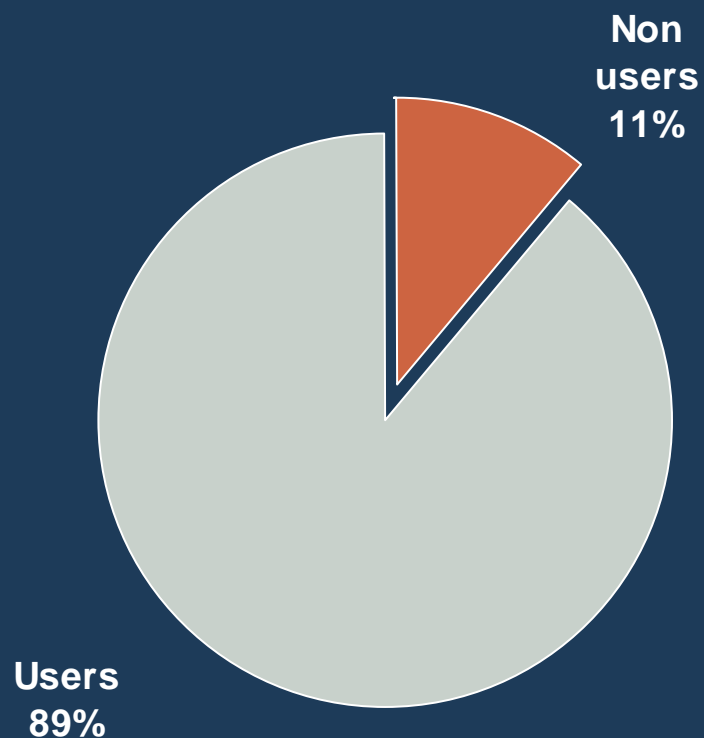
Unmet needs for contraception will not be met with current methods

- Side effects of current methods are a major barrier to long-term contraceptive use
- Many women find current methods difficult to use consistently and correctly
- Most current methods are inappropriate for the many women with low coital frequency
- These problems may be universal

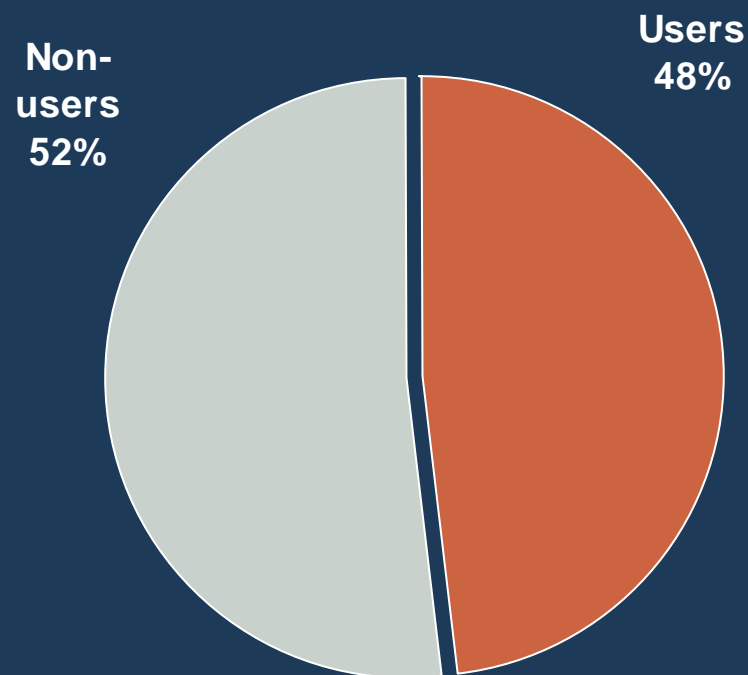
Content

- Problems with contraceptive use among U.S. women
- A new look at unmet need in developing countries
- Implications for government & industry

Unplanned pregnancy and contraceptive use, United States



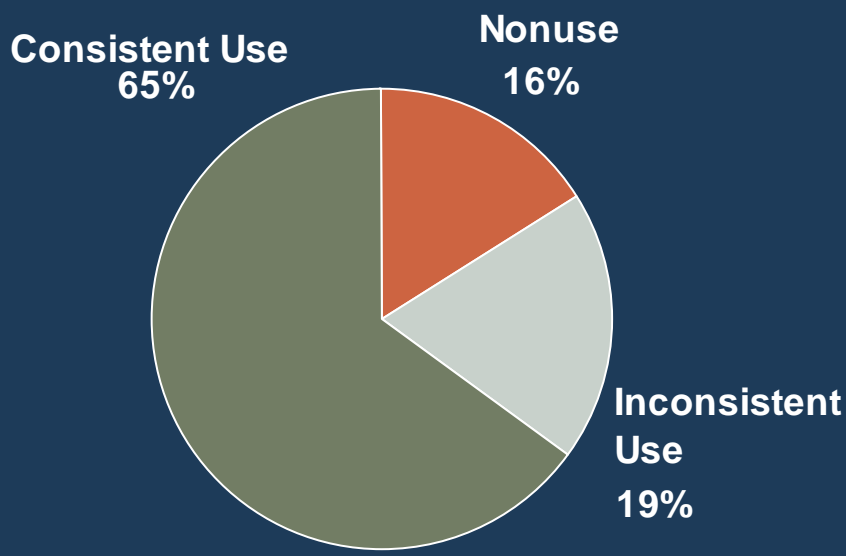
U.S. women at risk of unplanned pregnancy, 2002 (43 million)



U.S. women experiencing unplanned pregnancies, 2001 (3.1 million)

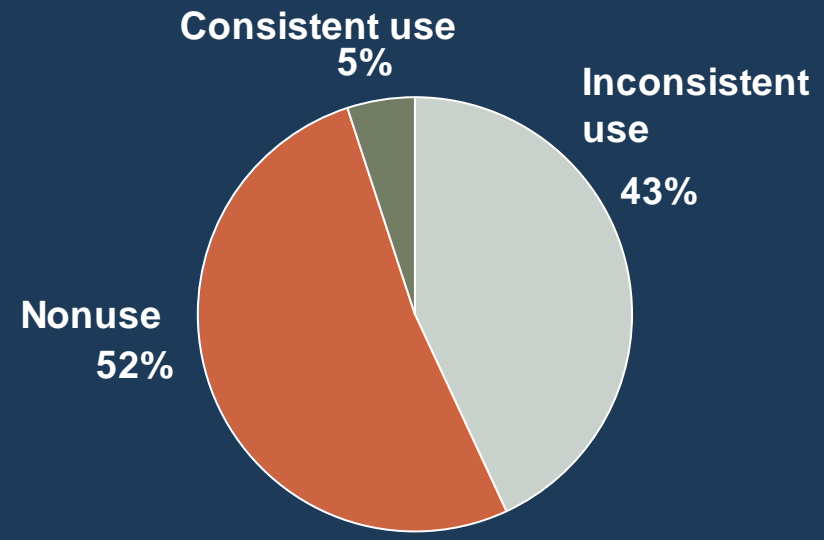
The two-thirds of at-risk women who use contraception consistently and correctly account for 5% of unintended pregnancies

Women at risk of unintended pregnancy, by consistency of method use over one year



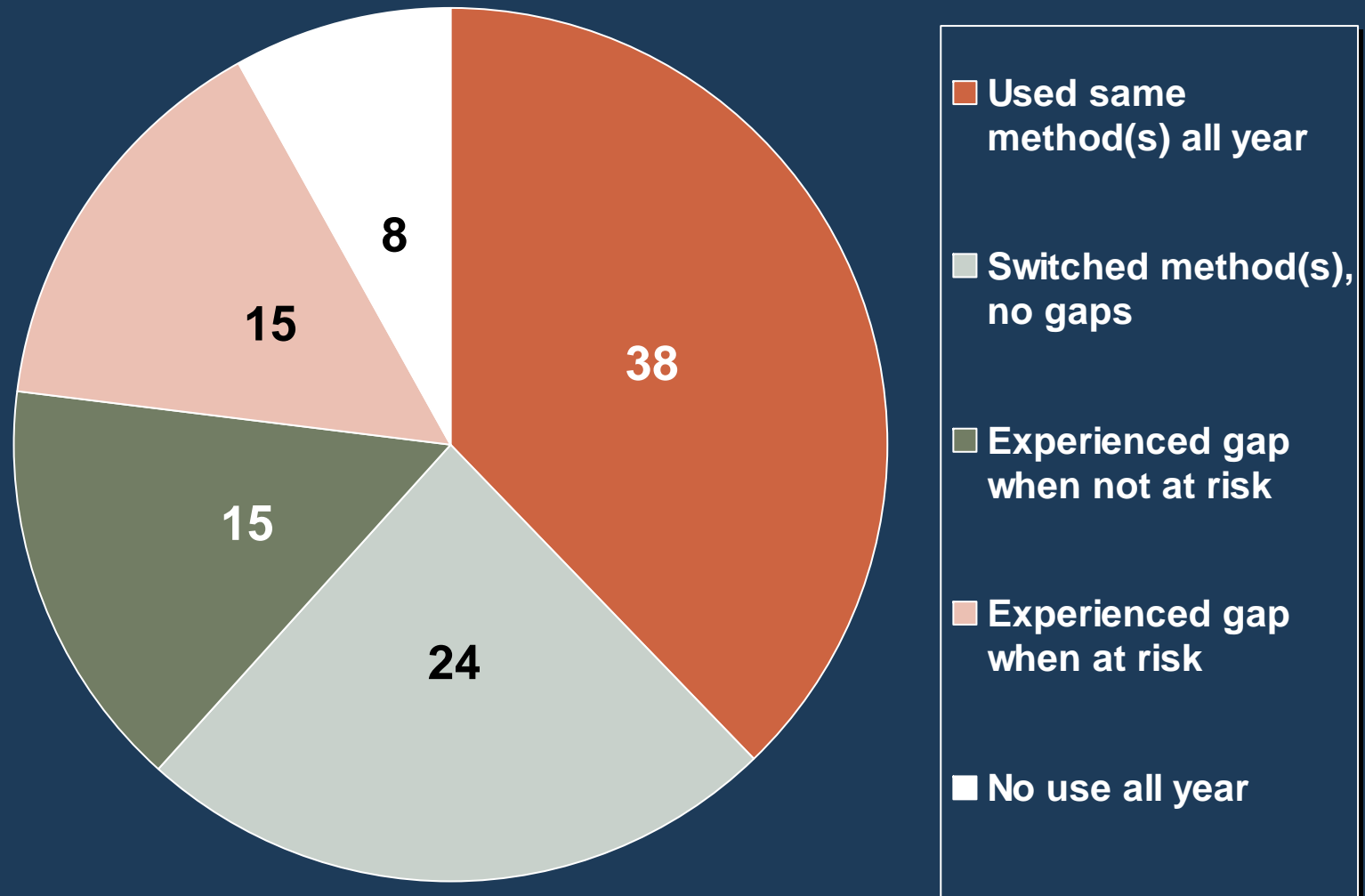
43 million women at risk of unintended pregnancy

Unintended pregnancies, by consistency of method use during month of conception



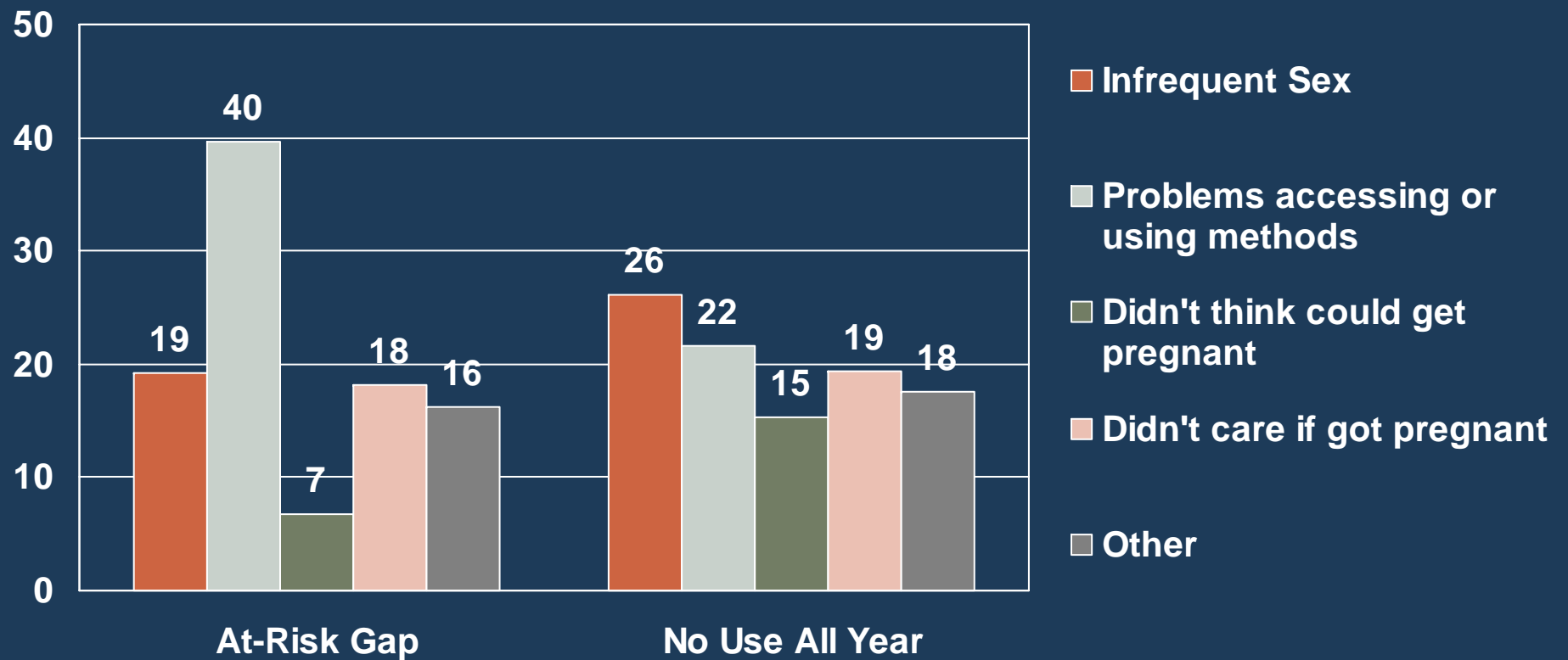
3.1 million unintended pregnancies

Gaps in contraceptive use among U.S. women (percent of women 15-44)

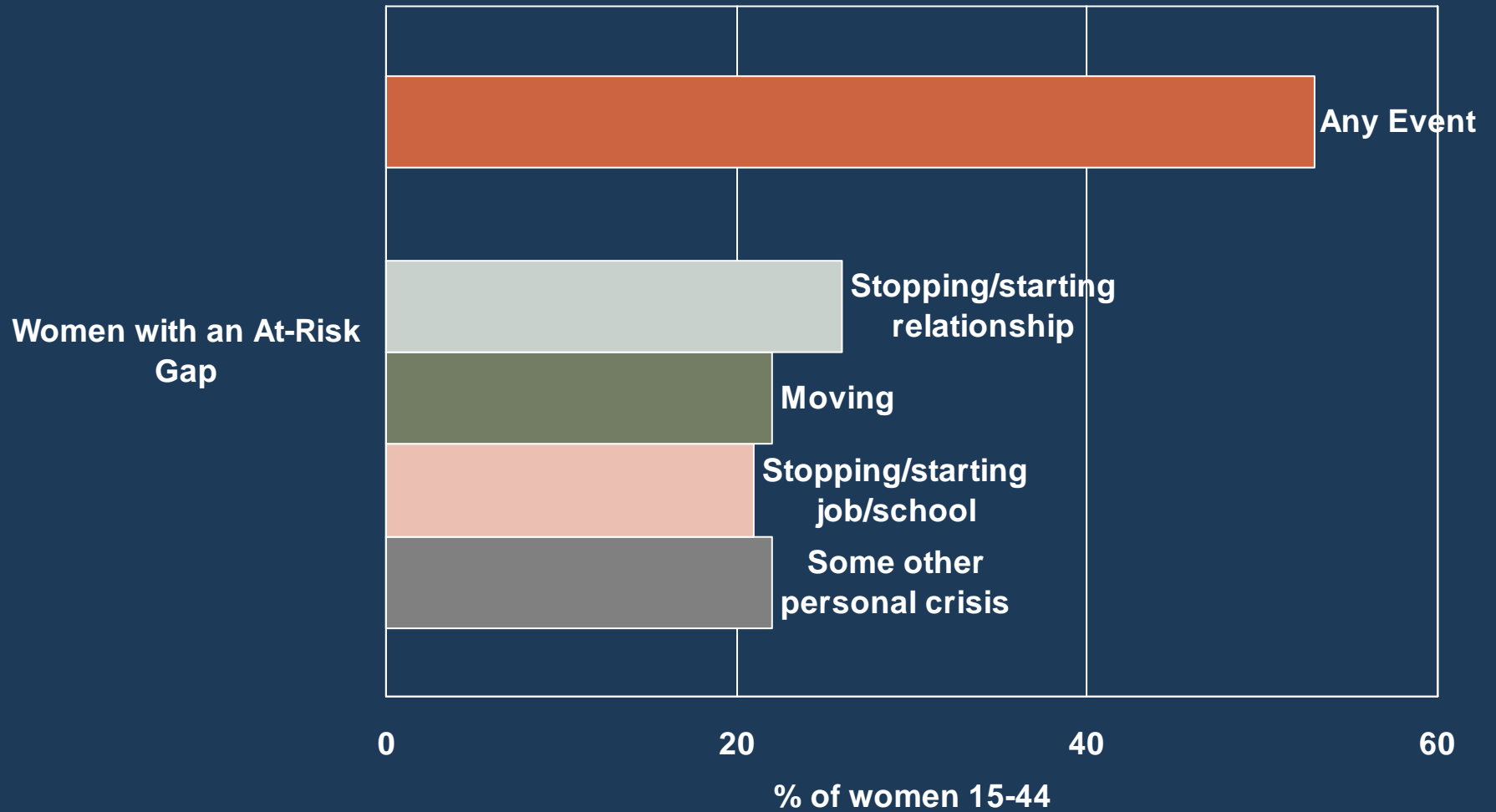


Reasons American women do not use contraception

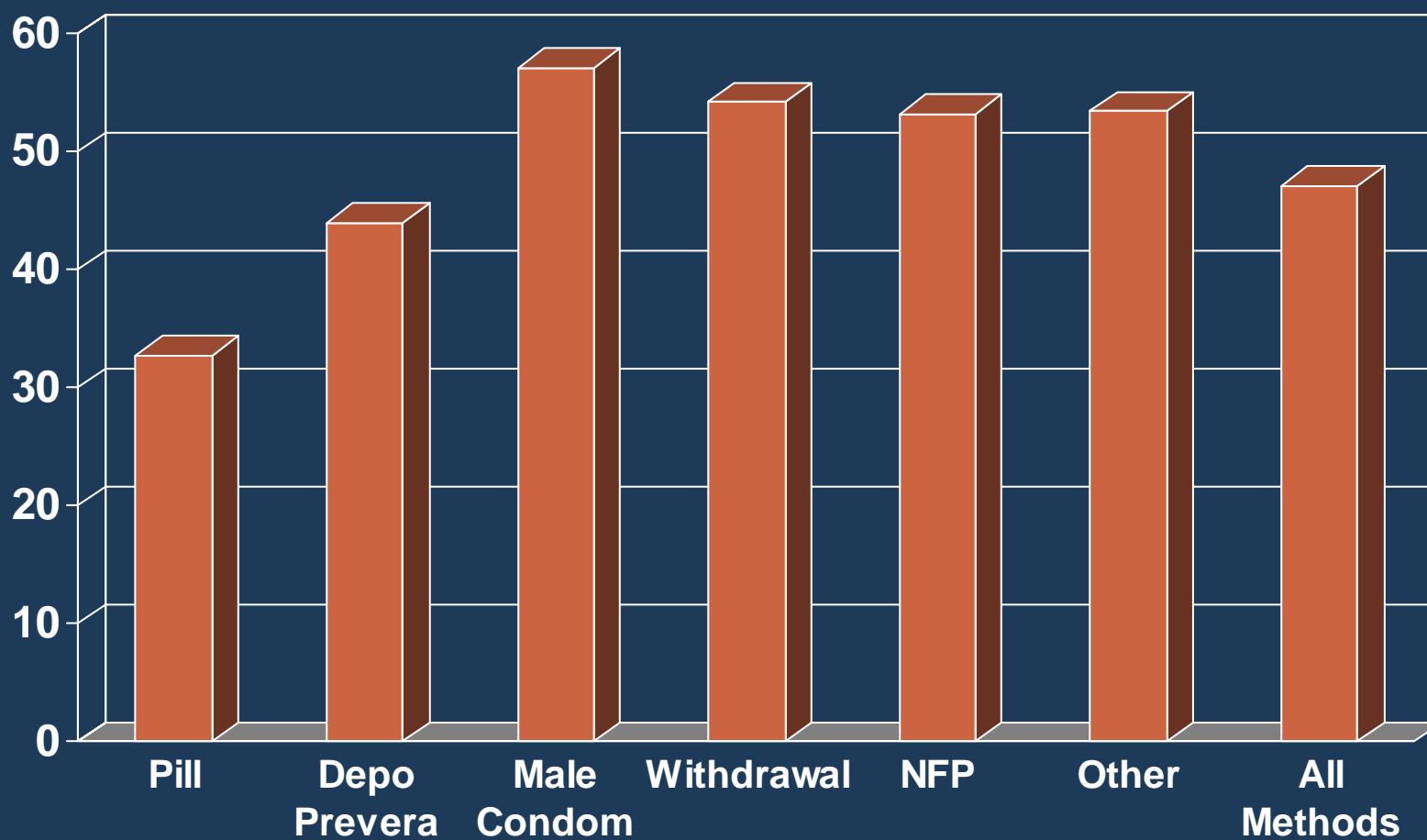
% of Women



Impact of major life changes on consistent contraceptive use



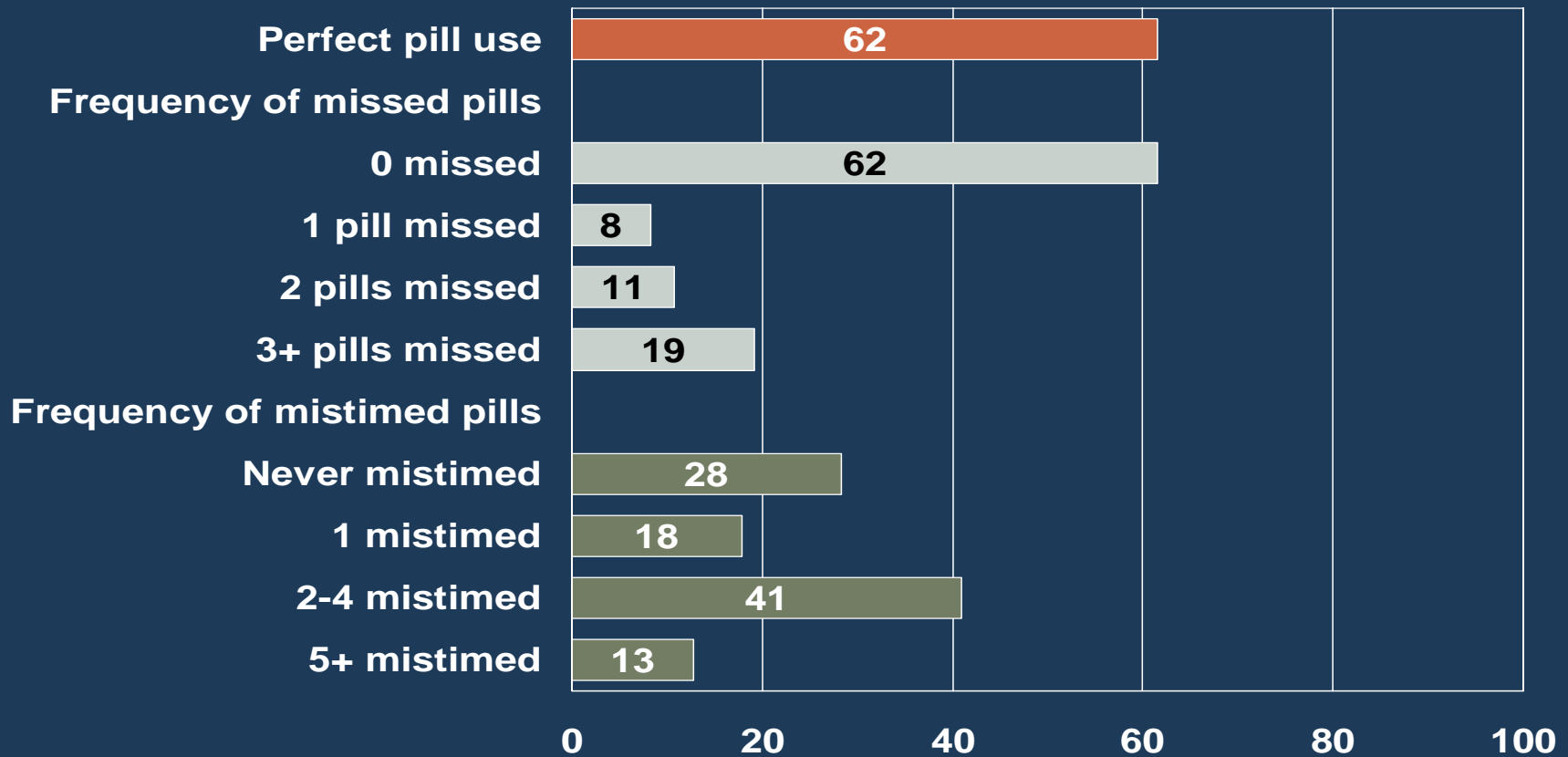
Method-related U.S. discontinuation rates by method (12 months)



Reasons for contraceptive discontinuation: U.S. women

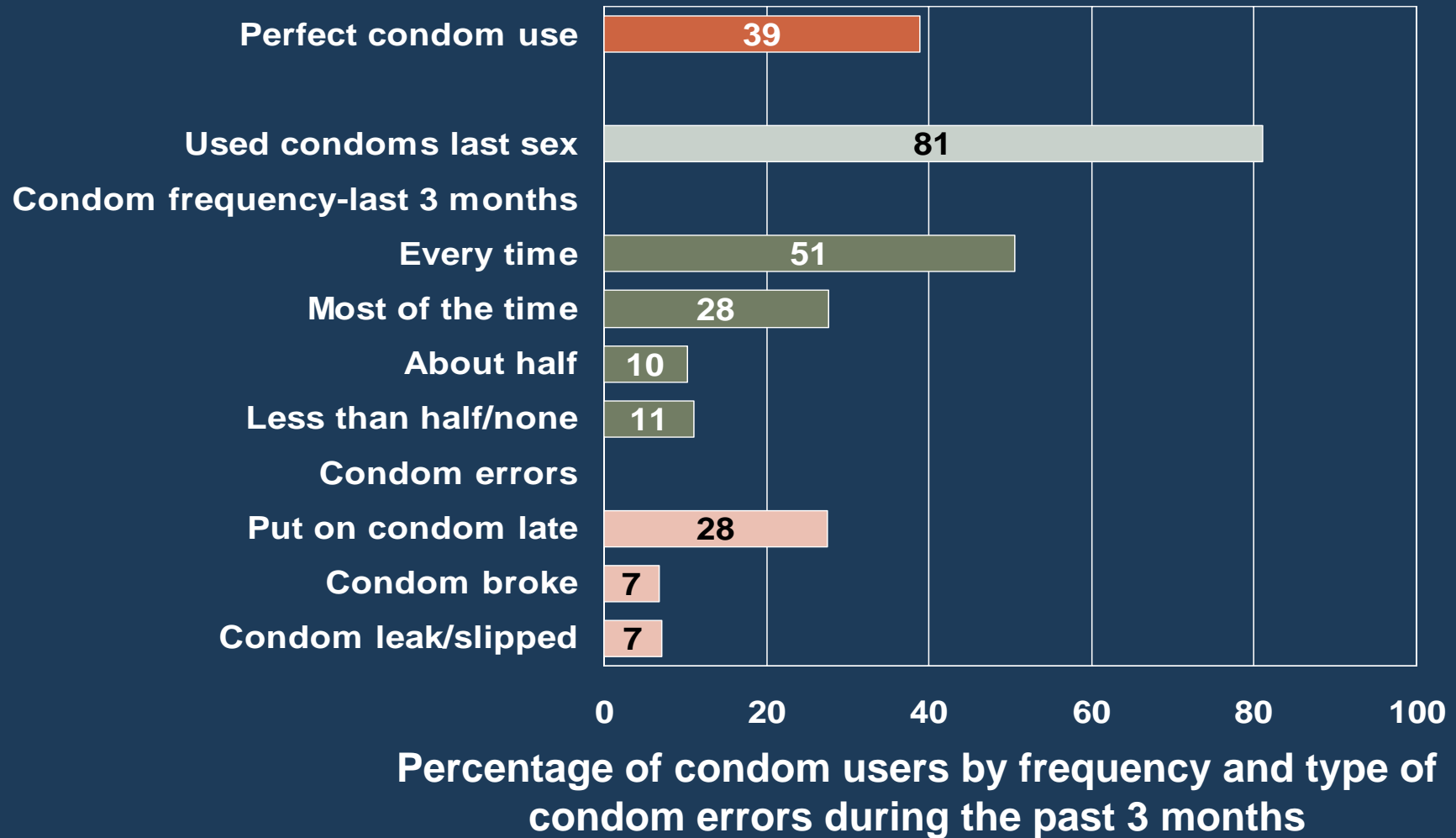
- Contraceptive failure
- Switched methods
- Wanted pregnancy
- Non-contraceptively sterile
- Sexual inactivity

Problems with pill use among U.S. women



% of pill users according to the frequency of missed or mistimed pills taken during the past 3 months

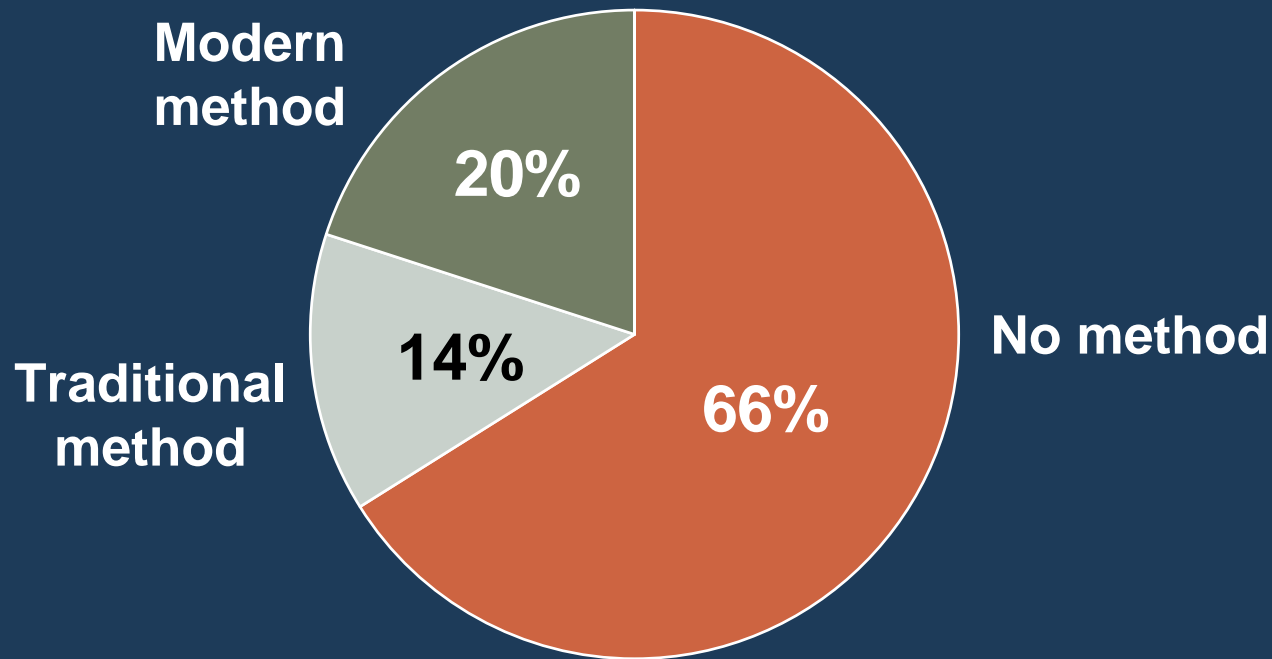
Problems with condom use reported by U.S. women





A New Look at Unmet Need for Contraception

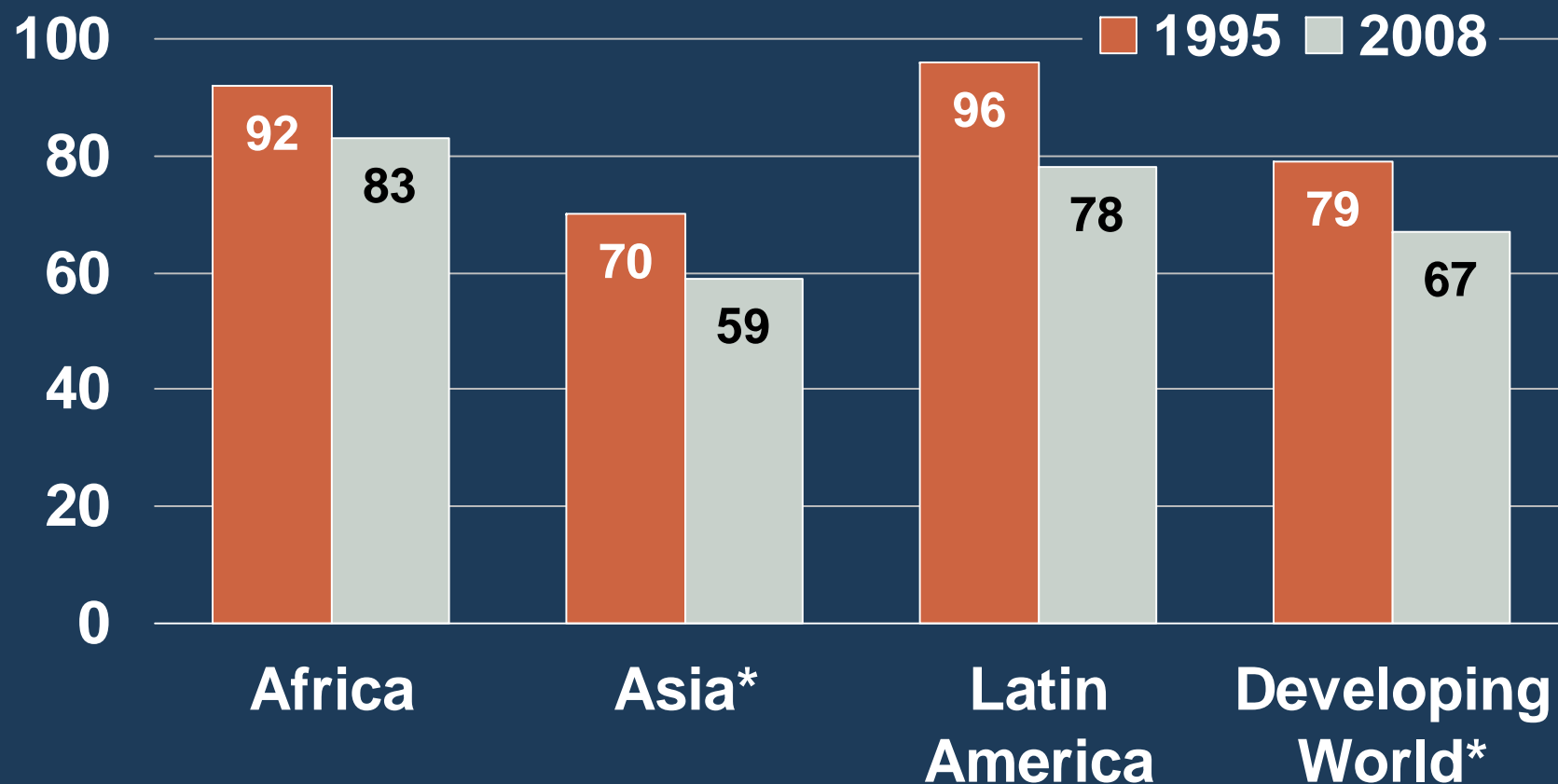
Unplanned pregnancy and contraceptive use : developing world



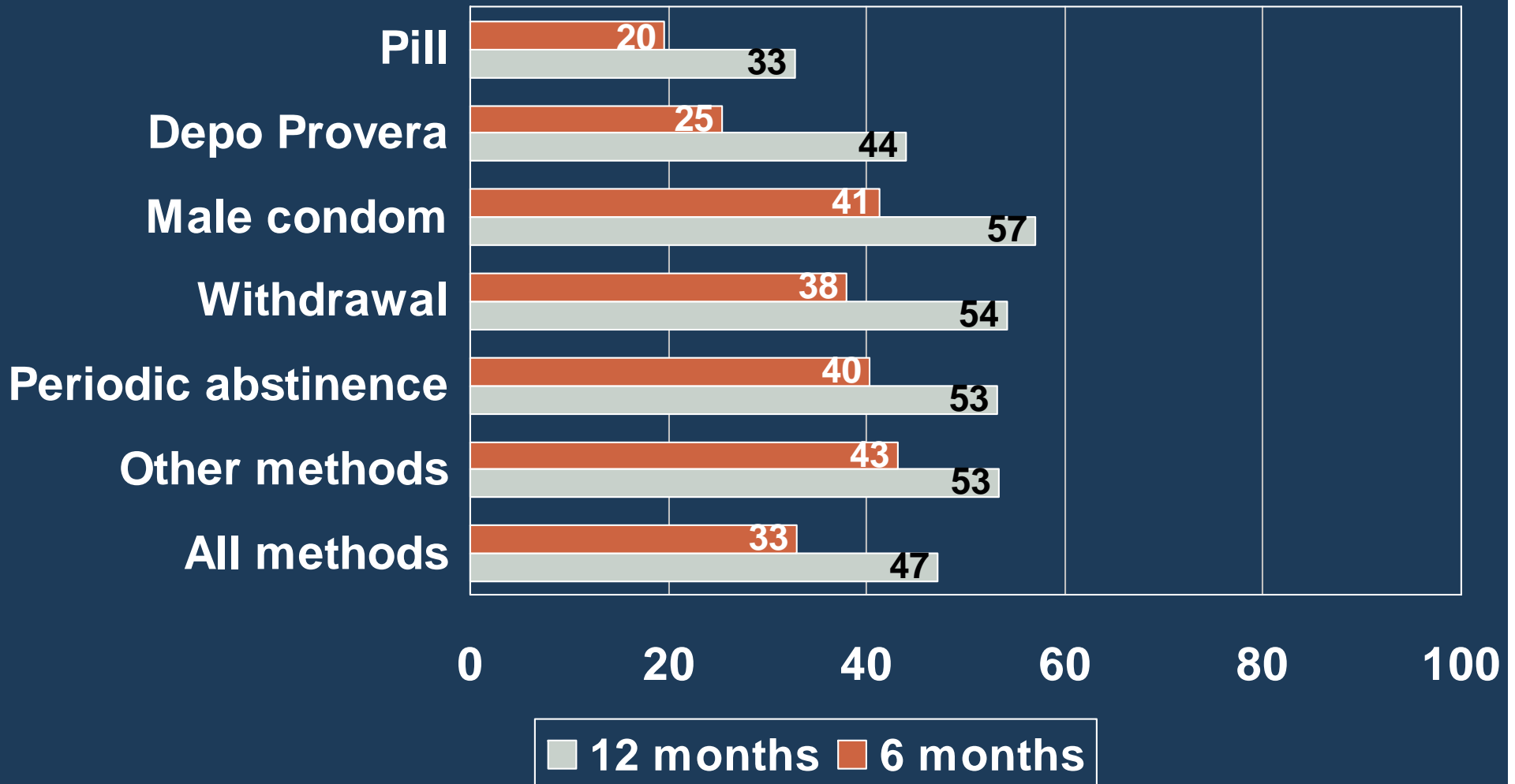
Unplanned pregnancies
in developing countries

Unintended pregnancy rates are down somewhat in the developing world

Unintended pregnancies per 1,000 women 15-44

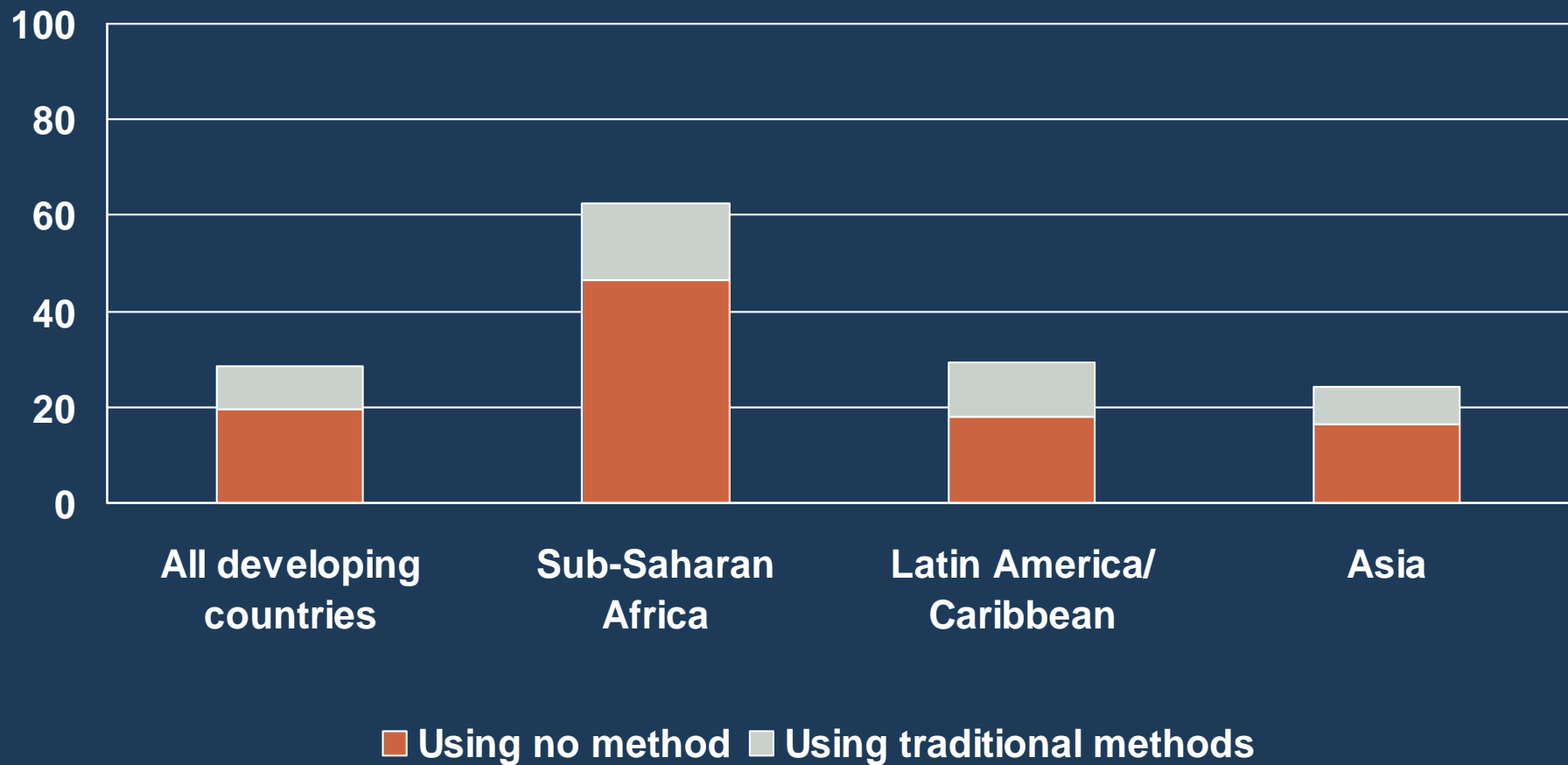


Percentage discontinuing for method-related reasons

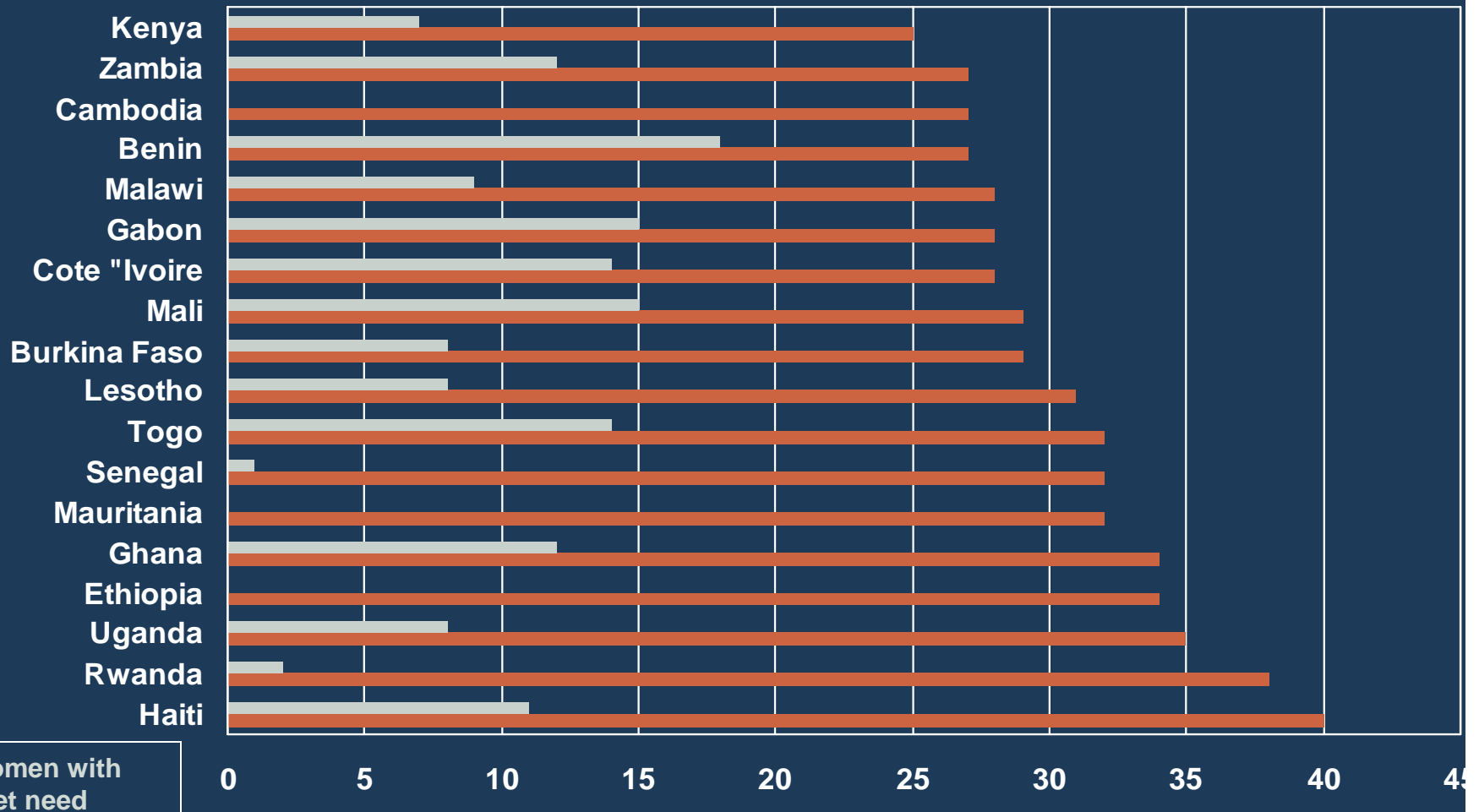


Unmet Need for Contraception by Region

% of women 15–49 at risk of unintended pregnancy, 2003



Countries with the highest levels of unmet need



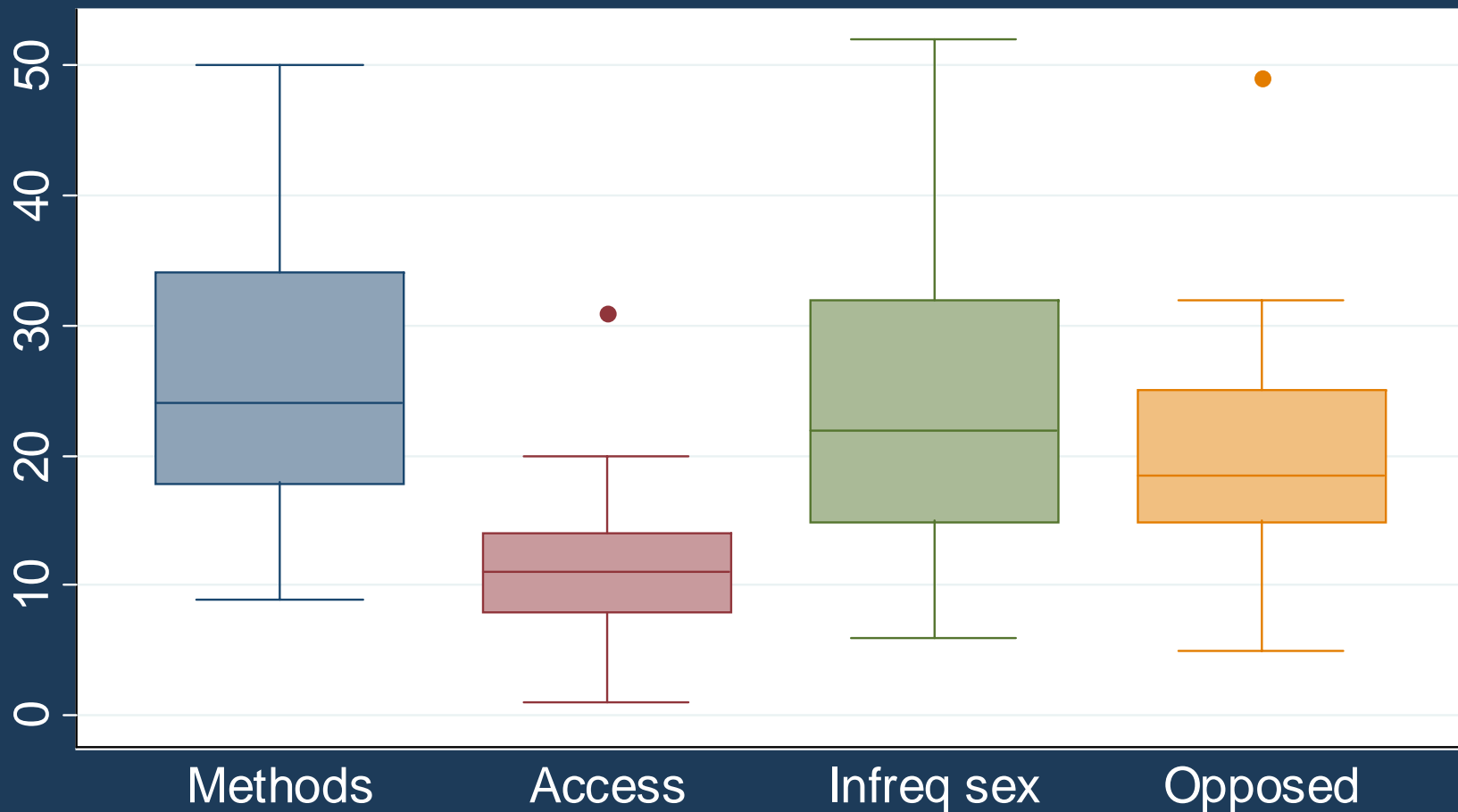
% of women with unmet need

Reasons women in the South do not use contraceptives

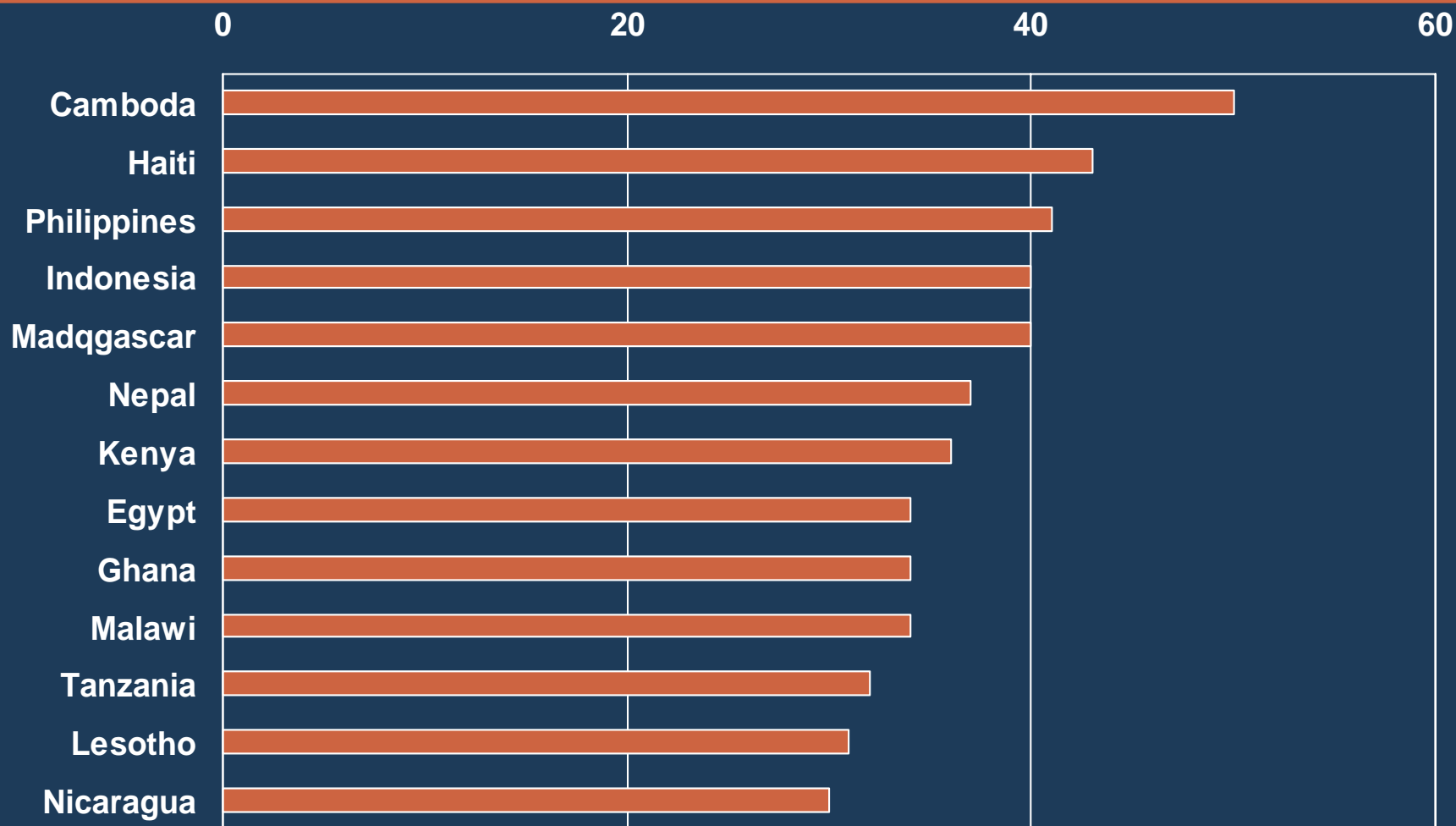
- Perceived low risk of pregnancy
 - Infrequent sex
- Problems with contraceptive methods
 - Side effects or fear of health risks
- Poor access to contraceptive supplies
- Opposition to contraception

Reasons for not using contraception compared: results for 55 countries

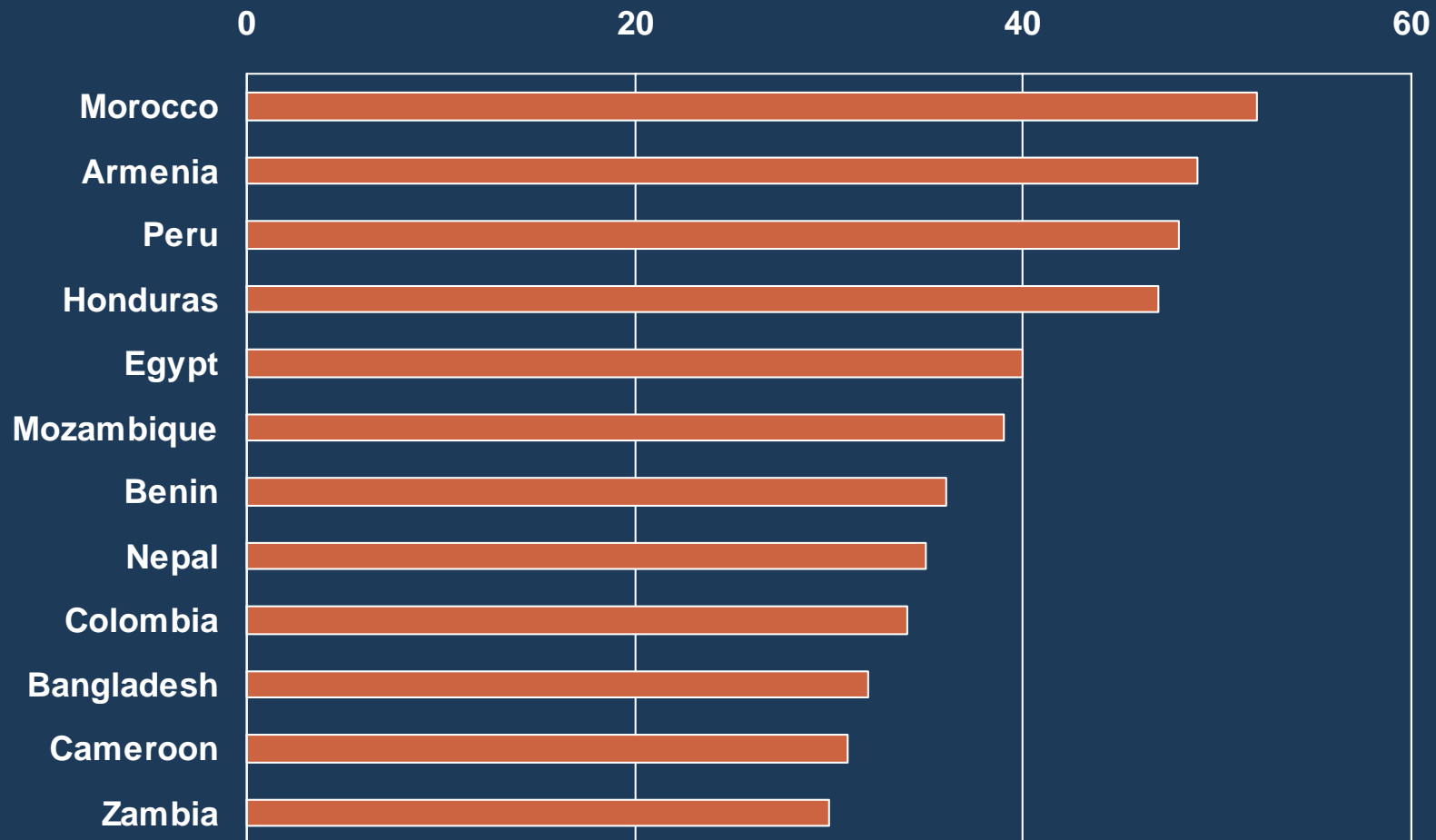
% of married women 15-49 reporting each problem



Concerns about side effects, health risks and inconvenience among married women

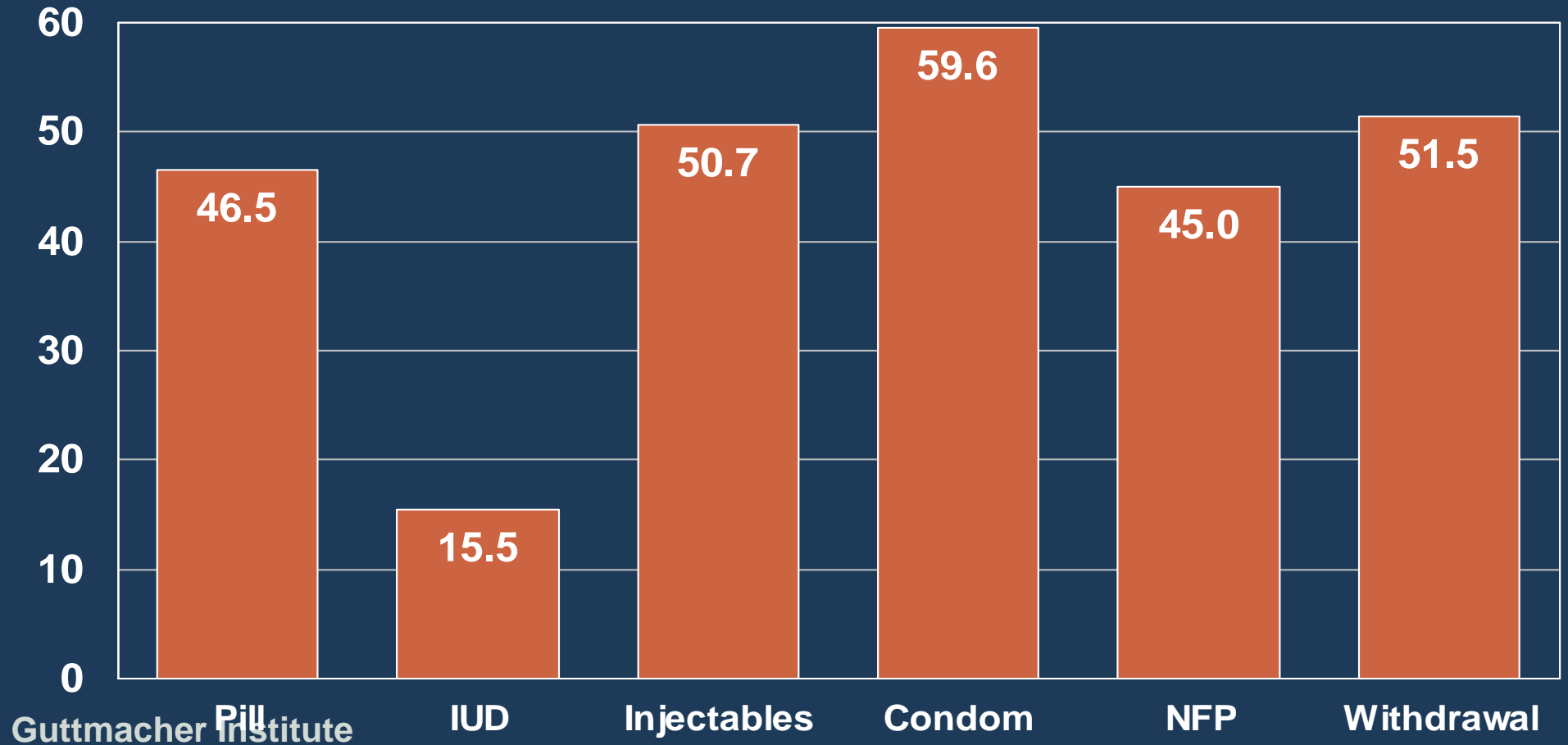


Infrequent sex as a reason for nonuse (% married women)



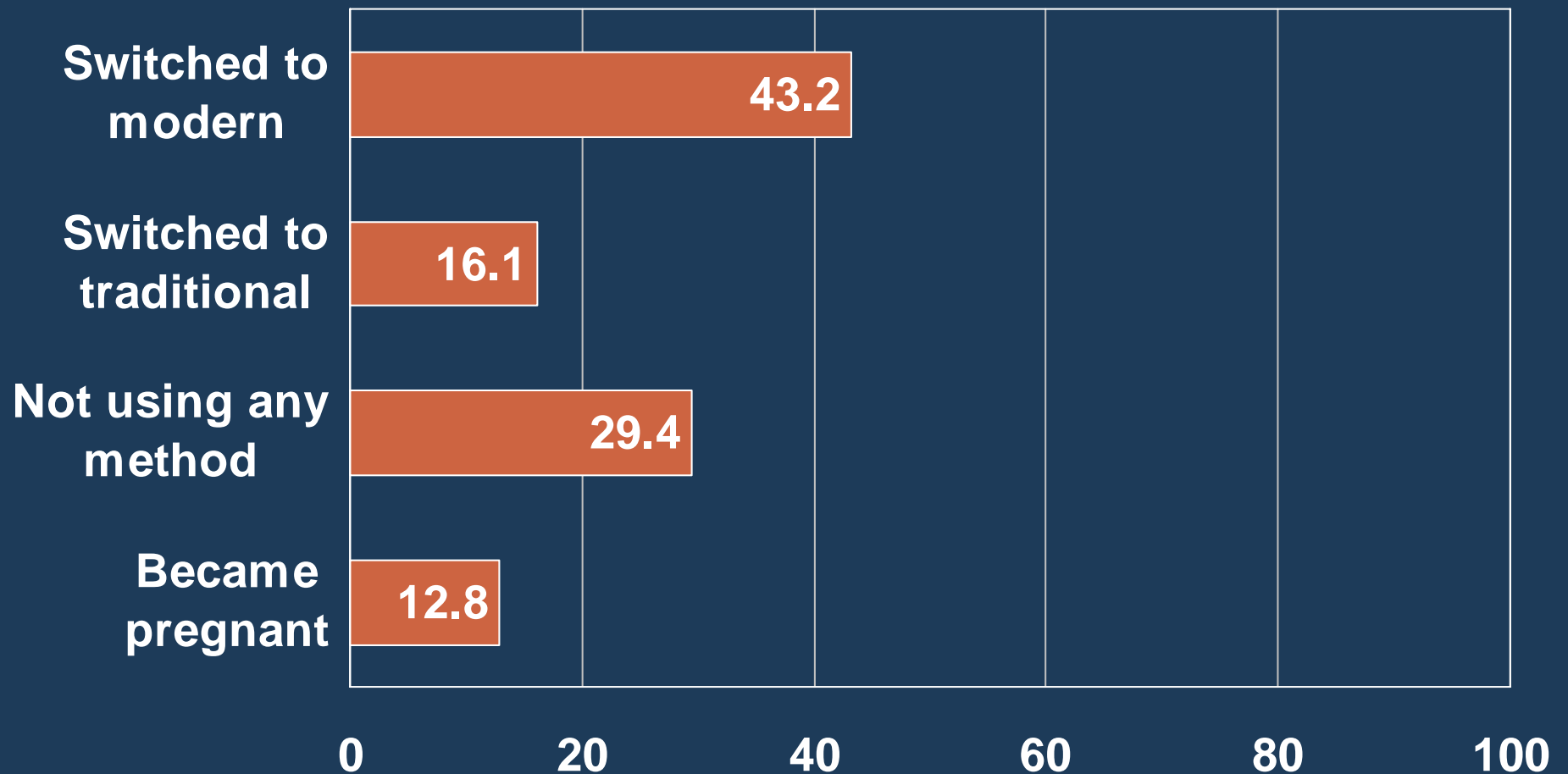
Contraceptive discontinuation rates at 12 months

Medians for 18 developing countries by method



Contraceptive discontinuation and method switching at 3 months

Medians for 18 developing countries





Implications for Government and Industry

Unmet needs for contraception will not be met with current methods

- Side effects of current methods are a major barrier to long-term contraceptive use
- Many women find current methods difficult to use consistently and correctly
- Most current methods are inappropriate for the many women with low coital frequency

Desirable product would:

- Have no unpleasant side-effects
- Be effective if used post-coitally
- Not interfere with sex
- Require little or no medical supervision
- Cost little to manufacture & distribute
- Protect against both pregnancy & disease

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