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Making sense of Tanzania's fertility: the role of contraceptive use

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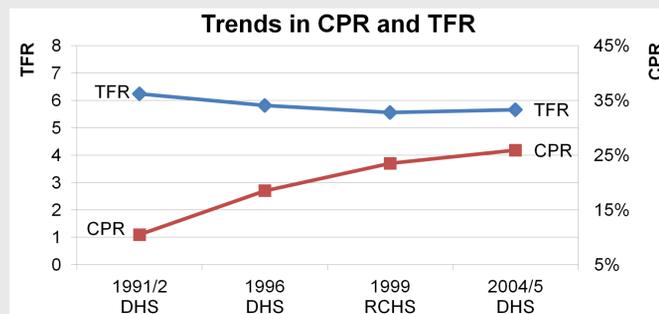
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Making Sense of Tanzania's Fertility: The Role of Contraceptive Use

Michelle Weinberger and Dr. Ernestina Coast

The issue

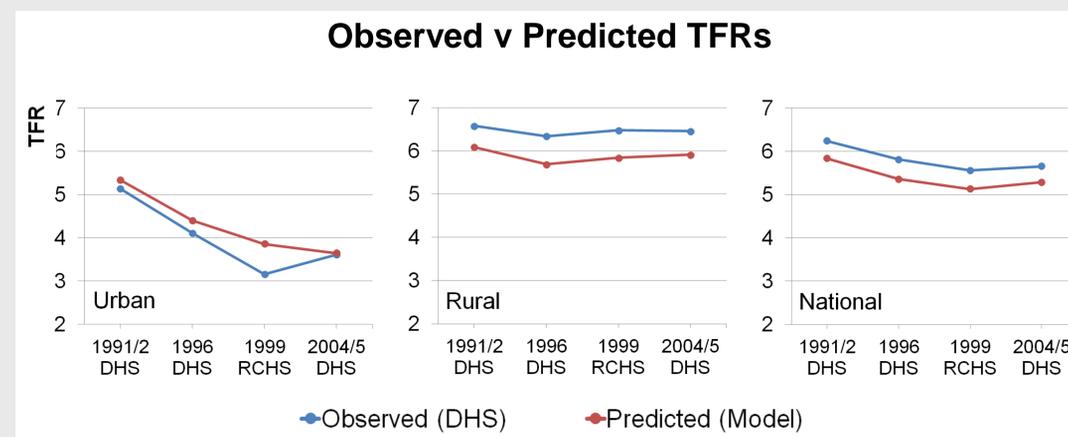
Contraceptive prevalence (CPR) has more than doubled since the early 1990s; yet the total fertility rate (TFR) remains high.



Findings

Bongaarts' model suggests:

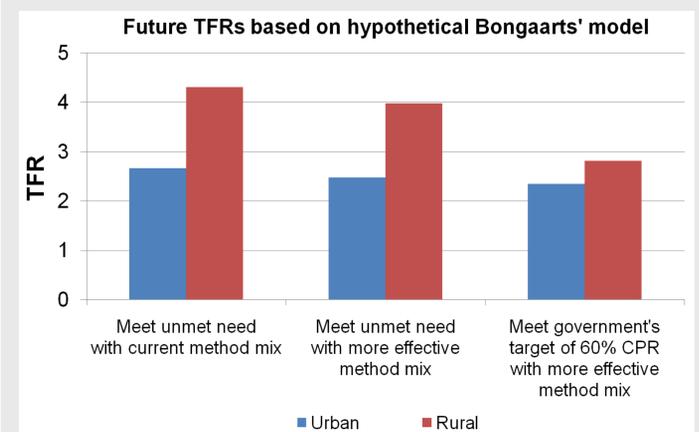
No fertility stall in urban areas, *but* fertility stall in rural areas



Tanzania is mostly rural (+70%), so national trend driven by rural stall.

The future?

Future CPR increases will play large role in fertility decline:



The question

What role have changes in contraceptive use and method mix played in determining fertility trends and differentials in Tanzania?

Drivers of the rural fertility stall =

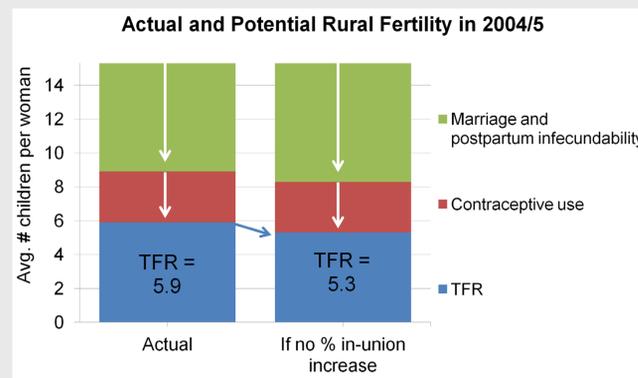
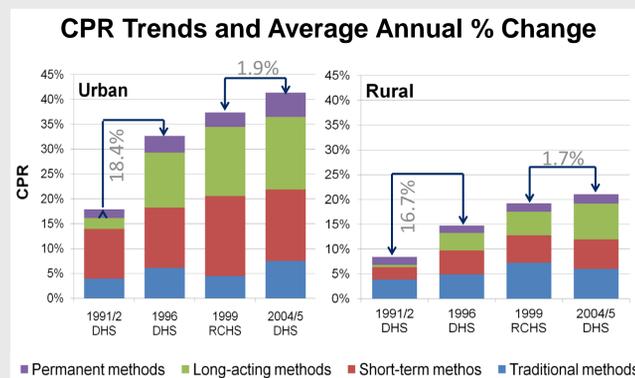
contraceptive use

+

increase in % in-union

Low CPR in rural areas + early growth in CPR and method mix effectiveness not sustained = less impact on decreasing TFR.

Rural CPR growth offset \uparrow in % in-union. Had % in-union not increased, rural TFR would have declined.



Methodology

Secondary analysis of:

- Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) (1991/2, 1996, 2004/5)*
- Reproductive and Child Health Survey (RCHS) (1999)

*At time of analysis the 2010 DHS was not yet available

Knowledge contribution

- Rural fertility stall exists, but, can be overcome
- Focus efforts on rural areas to close growing urban/rural gap
- Government's effort to revitalize FP will play key role in promoting individual rights, slowed population growth, and improved development prospects.

From dissertation in fulfillment of MSc Population and Development

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