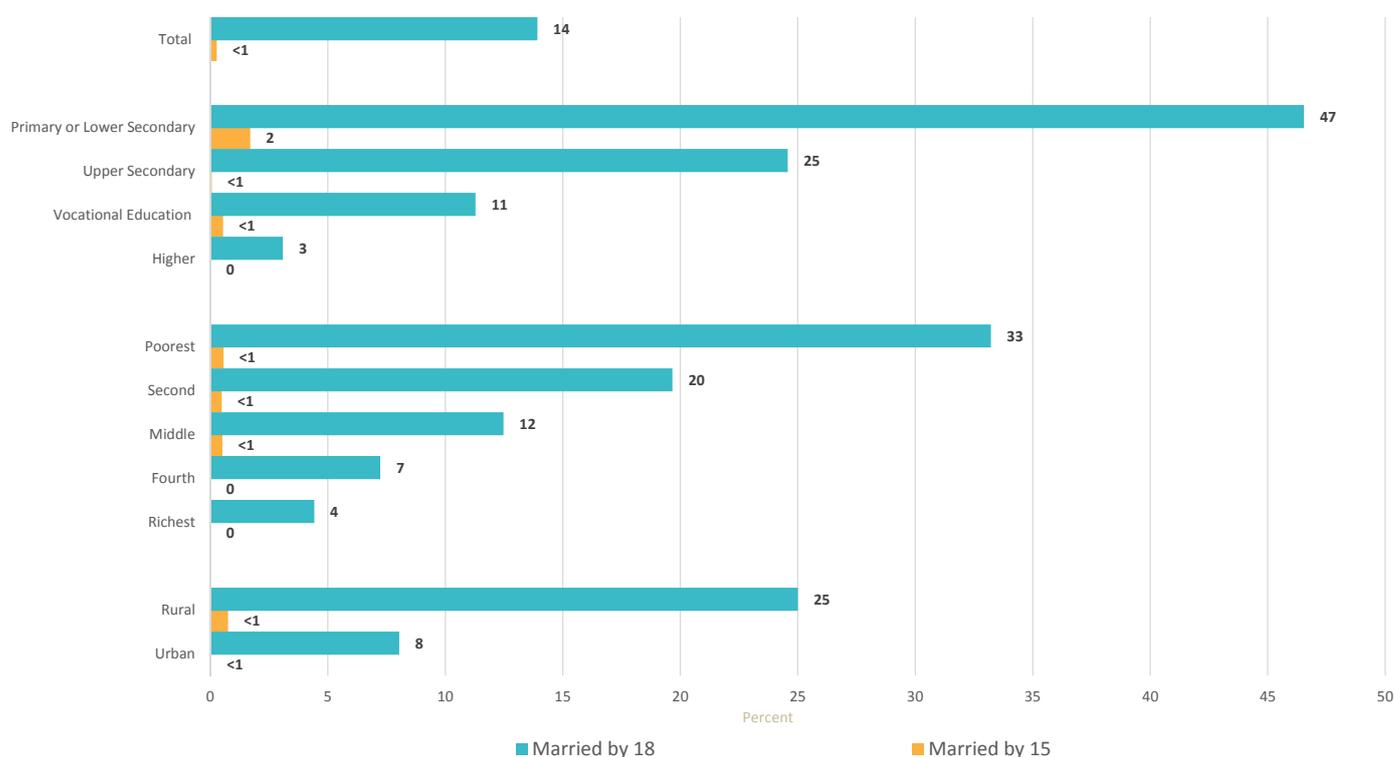


Marriage before Age 15 & Age 18 (women age 20-24): SDG 5.3.1



Percentage of women age 20-24 years who were first married or in union before age 15 and before age 18, by residence, wealth quintile and education

Key Messages

- Child marriage still remains a major threat and substantial measures for its elimination are being implemented. Among women aged 20-24, 14% claimed to be married before age 18.
- Child marriage is a problem across the country; however, there is a significant difference between the prevalence in urban and rural areas. 8% of the age group 20-24, living in urban area have been married before the age of 18; whereas, 25% (aged 20-24) of women from rural area were married or were in union before coming of age.
- There is correlation of the child marriage and education. 47% of women aged 20-24, who were married or were in union before the age 18, have obtained primary or lower secondary education, 25% - upper secondary and 11% - vocational education, while only 3% of woman aged 20-24, who were married or in union before age 18, have achieved higher level of education.
- In the poorest quintile, 33% of women aged 20-24 were married before age of 18, while 4% belong to the richest quintile were married before the age of 18.
- Share of women married before age 18 among the women aged 20-49 is the highest in Kvemo Kartli (25%), while it is the lowest in Tbilisi (12 percent).
- There is a significant difference between age cohort of trends in child marriage. Highest indices in both, married by 15 and married by 18, has the age group 40-44, with 3% and 27% respectively.

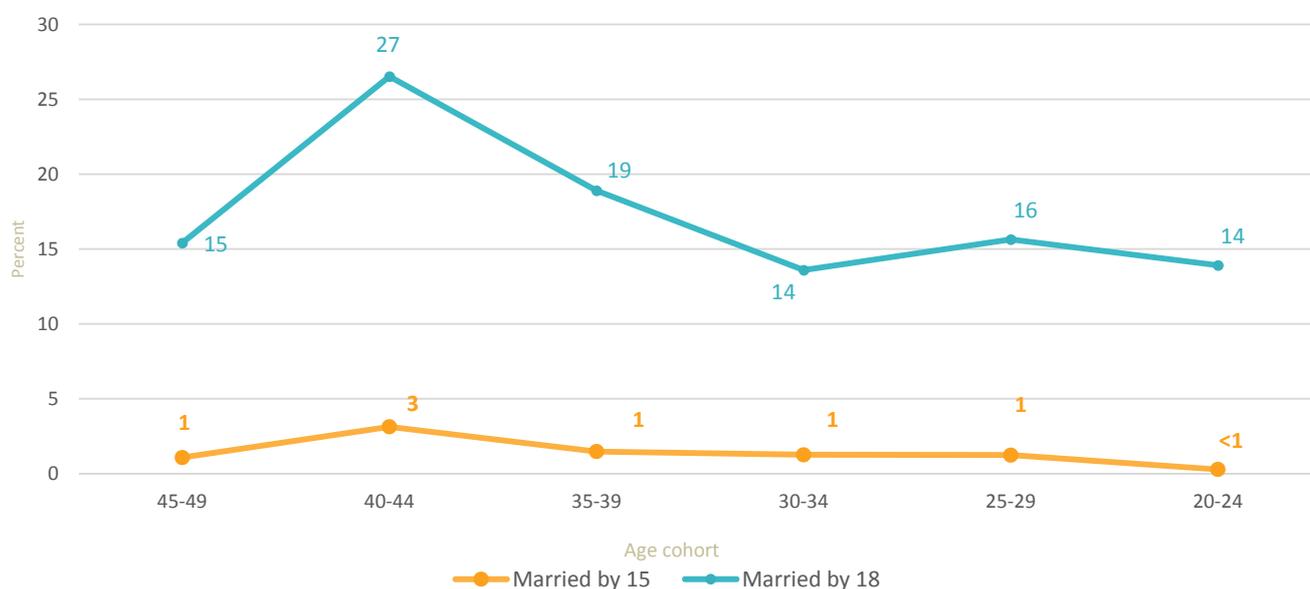
Regional Data on Child Marriage

Region	Marriage by age 18
National	17
Tbilisi	12
Adjara A.R	20
Guria	22
Imereti, Racha-Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti	17
Kakheti	24
Mtskheta-Mtianeti	16
Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti	16
Samtskhe-Javakheti	22
Kvemo Kartli	25
Shida Kartli	24

Marriage before the age of 18 is a reality for many young girls. In many parts of the world parents encourage the marriage of their daughters while they are still children in hopes that the marriage will benefit them both financially and socially, while also relieving financial burdens on the family. In actual fact, child marriage is a violation of human rights, compromising the development of girls and often resulting in early pregnancy and social isolation, with little education and poor vocational training reinforcing the gendered nature of poverty. The right to 'free and full' consent to a marriage is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights - with the recognition that consent cannot be 'free and full' when one of the parties involved is not sufficiently mature to make an informed decision about a life partner.

Percentage of women aged 20-49 years who were first married or in union before age 18, by region

Trends in Child Marriage



Percentage of women age 20-49 years who were first married or in union before age 15 and before age 18, by age cohort

The Georgia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was carried out in 2018 by the National Statistics Office of Georgia as part of the global MICS programme. Technical support was provided by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). UNICEF, NCDC, USAID, WB, UNFPA, SIDA, AFD, SCD, ISS, UNDP and WHO provided financial support.

The objective of this snapshot is to disseminate selected findings from the Georgia MICS 2018 related to Early Marriage. Data from this snapshot can be found in tables PR4.1W.

Further statistical snapshots and the Survey Findings Report for this and other surveys are available on mics.unicef.org/surveys.