

Such control helps women decide to participate more fully in the workforce, and parents can invest in better food and housing for their families and education for their children. It is particularly important for poor women, who have the lowest contraceptive prevalence rate in the country (40.4%) and the highest unmet need for family planning (31.1%) (Nepal DHS, 2011).

Attaining a Secondary Education

16.5%
women in
lowest wealth
quintile

42.8%
national
average

Source: Nepal DHS, 2011



Call to Action

To capitalize on the window of opportunity for the demographic dividend—which can accelerate economic growth—and improve economic opportunities for and well-being of the poor, the government of Nepal should

- Invest simultaneously across the health, education, and economic sectors to maximize the potential demographic dividend
- Increase investment in improvements to school facilities
- Implement the Consolidated Equity Strategy for the Education Sector to increase enrollment in line with the School Sector Reform plan
- Recruit, train, and support teachers to improve the quality of education for all students

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