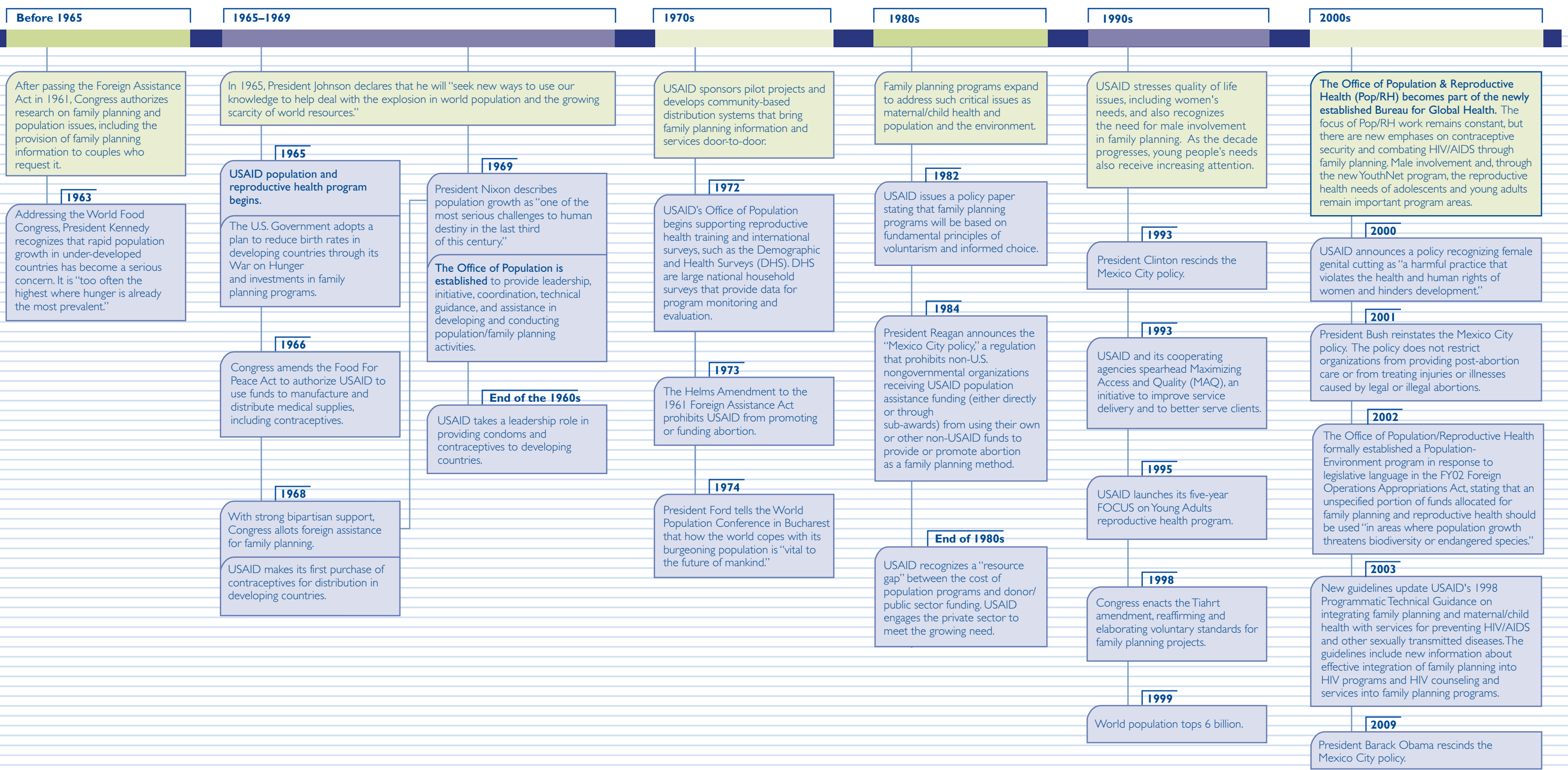


Family Planning **TIMELINE**

With more than 35 years of experience, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has long been the world leader in supporting voluntary family planning programs in the developing world. By enabling women and couples to have the number of children they want and by helping them space their children three to five years apart, family planning has markedly improved maternal and child health.





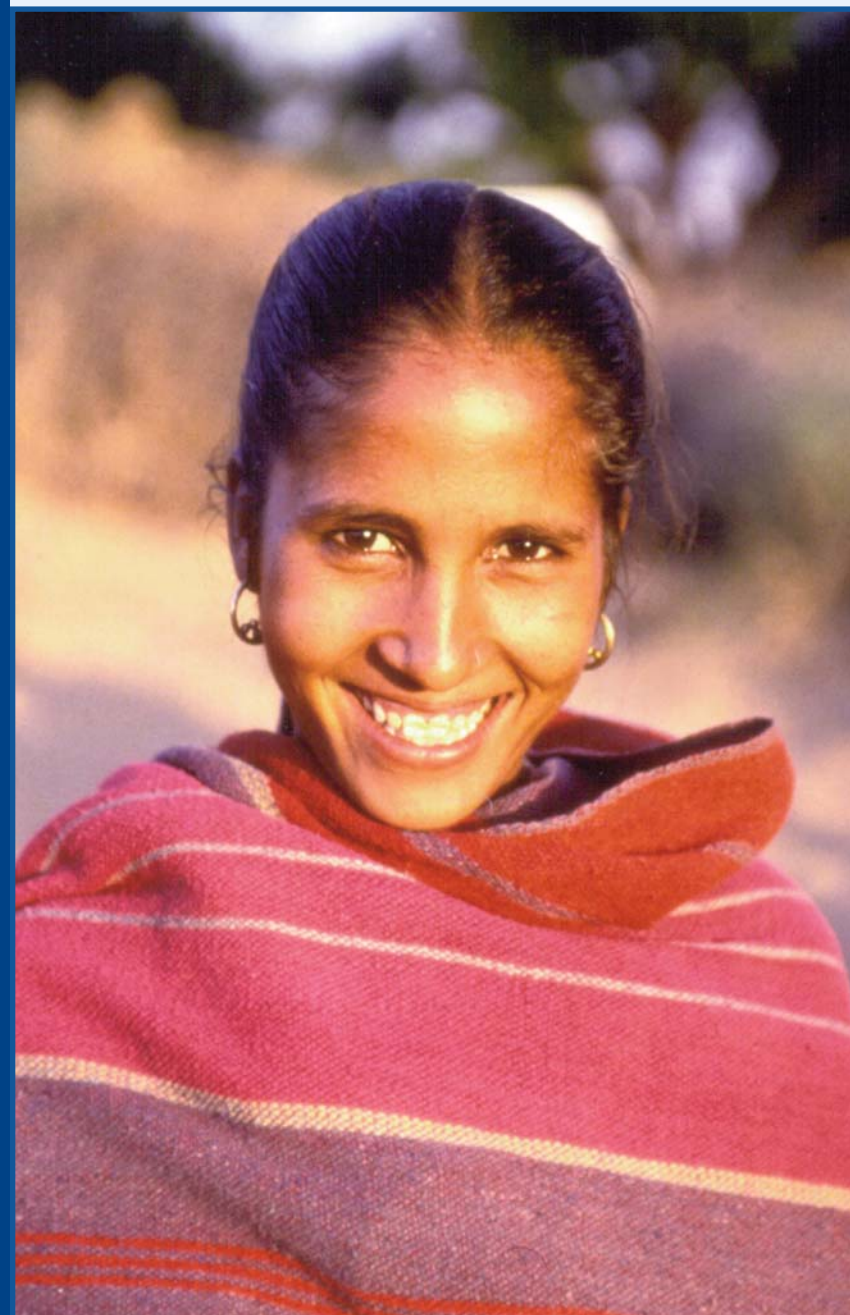
USAID Family Planning and Reproductive Health Program

A History of Achievement

- Since USAID's family planning program began in 1965, the average number of children per family in the developing world (excluding China) has dropped from 6 to 4.
- USAID provides 35 to 40 percent of donor-provided contraceptives to the developing world and supplies nearly 30 family planning programs in 20 countries with technical and logistical support.
- Contraceptive use has increased in many parts of the world. In Brazil, a country that has "graduated" from USAID family planning assistance, contraceptive use exceeds the 50 percent mark.
- USAID supports the Demographic and Health Surveys, the world's largest survey research effort. Since 1972, results from more than 70 countries have revolutionized our understanding of population and health dynamics.
- Support for safer and more effective family planning methods has brought many technical advances, including natural family planning methods, improved oral contraceptives, barrier methods, and NORPLANT™.
- USAID works to improve contraceptive security. Contraceptive security exists when every person is able to choose, obtain, and use high-quality contraceptives whenever she or he wants them.

(Continued)

Family Planning TIMELINE



- To increase access to family planning and reproductive health services, USAID introduced such innovations as door-to-door distribution, mobile clinic services, and employee-based health care programs.
- USAID programs have trained networks of midwives, healers, and traditional birth attendants to provide family planning services. These networks increase the quality of family planning/reproductive health services and their availability.
- Private sector initiatives have expanded contraceptive social marketing, pursued joint projects with commercial providers, worked with media and entertainment industries in communication campaigns, and encouraged employers to include family planning in health benefits packages.
- USAID helps governments review policies, restrictive or unnecessary regulations, and product bans that are barriers to private sector involvement in offering family planning/reproductive health services.

U.S. Agency for International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20523
www.usaid.gov

Family Planning
Saves Lives
www.usaid.gov

