The objective of this study is to develop a general unmet need formula based on the analysis of unmet need for contraception. The data sources are the survey of Determinants and Consequences of Contraceptive Use Pattern in Thailand and The 1996 Contraceptive Prevalence Survey in Thailand.

It is found that the indicator in measuring not at risk of pregnancy consists of A.) not pregnant in the last 5 years, B.) postpartum amenorrhea not more than 2 months, C.) abstinence more than 1 month and D.) amenorrhea more than 1 month.

The components of unmet need for contraception which include coverage and quality of service are A.) not currently using contraception B.) undesired pregnancy C.) use of inefficient method D.) contraceptive side effects and E.) use of inappropriate methods. Estimated unmet need for contraception in 1987 and 1996 are 26.3% and 25.1% respectively.

Finally, this study leads to the formulation of a general unmet need formula which includes uncoverage, inefficiency and unsatisfaction of service. The formula is ;

$$UN = 1 - NWSTP - (PRSTP \times PRES \times PSES)$$

by UN = proportion of unmet need, NWSTP = proportion of no want service of target population, PRSTP = proportion of received service of target population, PRES = proportion of target population who received efficient service and PSES = proportion of target population who are satisfied with efficient service.