

2003 Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ) Survey, Ghana Brong Ahafo Region Districts Summary

Flyer No. 16

Introduction

The 2003 Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ) Survey is a nationwide sample survey, designed to provide at national, regional and district levels, indicators for monitoring poverty and living standards in the country. A total of 5,265 households, i.e., 10.7 per cent of the 49,003 households in the national sample, represent the Brong Ahafo region in the sample.

This Flyer presents district variations in selected indicators within the region. It is one of two flyers presenting key survey findings for the Brong Ahafo region. The other flyer portrays regional aggregates, including rural/urban and sex differentials. Other outputs from the survey that may be used as reference include:-

Flyers for other regions, national and regional summaries

Statistical Abstract, presenting tables on the survey results

Summary Bulletins based on selected themes of the Ghana Poverty reduction Strategy (GPRS)

CD-ROM, containing all the reports on the survey, and the basic survey data.

Statistics from this survey will also be available on the GhanaInfo database.

Key Findings

Adult Literacy

The adult literacy rate for the Brong Ahafo Region is 44.6 per cent; about ten percentage points lower than the national average (53.4 per cent). Adult literacy rate is highest in Sunyani (66.9 per cent) and lowest in Sene (24.0 per cent). Seven districts; Sunyani (66.9 per cent), Tanoso (55.7 per cent), Asunafo (47.0 per cent), Asutifi (46.7 per cent), Dormaa (45.7 per cent), Techiman (45.5 per cent) and Berekum (45.3 per cent) record adult literacy rates above the regional average. Higher proportions of males than females are literate in all the districts, by a difference of more than 30 percentage points in some districts (Asutifi, Jaman and Tanoso).

Youth Literacy

The youth literacy rate for the region is 61.5 per cent which is lower than the national average (68.7 per cent). All but three districts record youth literacy rates above 60 per cent. The exceptions, Kintampo (49.0 per cent), Atebubu (42.4 per cent) and Sene (33.9 per cent), record rates lower than 50.0 per cent. Sunyani records the highest rate (78.6 per cent) for the youth while Sene has the lowest (33.9 per cent). A higher proportion of males than females are literate in all the districts by a narrow margin, 12 to 24 percentage points, than among the adults. Youth literacy rates in all the districts are higher than the adult literacy rates by at least 12 percentage points.

Net Enrolment

The net primary school enrolment rate for the region is 69.3 per cent. Most districts record net enrolment rates above the regional average except Nkoranza (66.0 per cent), Kintampo (55.3 per cent), and Sene (48.2 per cent). Rates for females (70.0 per cent) and males (68.7 per cent) are almost equal at the regional level, and for few districts Sunyani and Wenchi. In districts like Asunafo, Asutifi and Techiman male enrolment exceeds female's by 6 percentage points or more, while in Jaman, Berekum, Nkoranza and Kintampo it is the reverse.

The net secondary school enrolment rate for the region (33.3 per cent) is less than half the rate for primary school and it is slightly higher for males (34.7 per cent) than for females (31.9 per cent). Sene records the lowest net secondary school enrolment rate of 16.9 per cent, with little difference between males and females.

Access to School

About four out of every five (83.7 per cent) school children in the region take less than 30 minutes to reach the nearest primary school. Eight districts have higher primary school access rates than the regional average. Asunafo (65.2 per cent) has the lowest rate followed by Sene (67.0 per cent).

Access to secondary school in the region is 34.2 per cent, which is lower than the national average (43.3 per cent) by 9 percentage points. Seven districts (Asutifi, 35.0 per cent, Sunyani, 54.7 per cent, Dormaa, 35.5 per cent, Jaman, 35.7 per cent, Berekum, 77.2 per cent, Techiman, 53.3 per cent and Kintampo, 47.8 per cent) have higher access rates than the regional average. Asunafo (7.9 per cent) and Sene (8.8 per cent) districts have the least access to secondary school, while the highest access rate recorded in Berekum (77.2 per cent), is more than double the regional average.

Satisfaction with Education

The level of satisfaction with primary education in the region is 69.3 per cent, which is slightly higher than the national average (68.0 per cent). At the district level, the rate varies from 27.5 per cent in Sene to 86.7 per cent in Asutifi. The level of satisfaction with secondary school (76.4 per cent) is higher than that for primary school. Asutifi (88.4 per cent) registers the highest satisfaction rate for secondary school while Atebubu (60.7 per cent) records the lowest.

Access to Health Facilities

About 54 per cent of households in the region take less than 30 minutes to reach the nearest health facility. A lower proportion of the households in Sene (14.2 per cent), compared to Berekum (85.3 per cent) have access to health services. The only other district with about 80 per cent access level is Jaman and is followed by Sunyani (75.1 per cent) and Kintampo (70.1 per cent). The next lowest rate to Sene has twice its access rate Asunafo (28.1 per cent).

Adequacy of Health Services

Less than one-fifth (17.6 per cent) of persons reported sick or injured in the four weeks preceding the survey and therefore in need of medical services. The proportion of those that needed medical services varies from 11.2 per cent in Techiman to 30.8 per cent in Atebubu. Almost the same proportion as were sick or injured (17.0 per cent) consulted a health practitioner. Among the districts, Kintampo records the lowest proportion for the use of medical services (8.0 per cent) while Atebubu registers the highest (27.1 per cent).

The level of satisfaction with the use of medical services is very high in the region, ranging from 70.4 per cent of those who used medical services in the four weeks preceding the survey in Sunyani to 93.4 per cent in Berekum.

Prenatal Care

Most women (95.0 per cent) aged 12-49 years who had a live birth, twelve months prior to the survey received prenatal care, compared to the national average of 93.4 per cent. Except in Wenchi (85.5 per cent) and Sene (84.5 per cent), more than 90.0 per cent of women in the districts received prenatal care with Jaman, recording total coverage.

Births Assisted by Trained Health Professionals

Births that are assisted by trained health professionals (doctor, nurse and midwife) is 56.7 per cent; a little higher than the national average (51.8 per cent). Marked disparities are observed at the district level, with Sene recording the lowest rate (22.8 per cent), while Berekum records the highest (81.9 per cent).

Child Nutritional Status

The proportion of children under five years who are stunted (too short for their age) is 31.9 per cent. Nkoranza has the highest stunting rate (48.6 per cent) and Asutifi the lowest (16.8 per cent). The level of wasting (children underweight for their height) is 8.5 per cent in the region compared to the national average (13.6 per cent). The proportions of children who are wasted in the districts vary from 4.0 per cent in Asutifi to 20.5 per cent in Wenchi.

The proportion of underweight children in the region is 18.8 per cent, compared to the national average 23.3 per cent. Prevalence of underweight among children aged less than 5 years varies from 8.4 per cent in Dormaa to 32.9 per cent in Wenchi.

Availability of Employment

The proportion of unemployed among persons aged 15 years and older for the region (3.0 per cent) is almost half the national average (5.4 per cent). Proportions of less than 1 per cent are recorded in Dormaa (0.1 per cent) and Sunyani (0.5 per cent). Berekum records the highest 6.1 per cent followed by Atebubu (5.0 per cent). The proportion of persons who are underemployed in the districts vary from 4.3 per cent in Sunyani to almost six times (24.5 per cent) in Jaman.

Meeting Food Needs

The Atebubu district records the highest proportion of households (14.3 per cent) with difficulty meeting their basic food needs, followed by Jaman (11.5 per cent). The lowest proportions are recorded in Sunyani (0.6 per cent) and Techiman (0.7 per cent).

Access of Water

About nine in ten (91.5 per cent) households in the region take less than 30 minutes to reach the nearest source of drinking water. Households in the Atebubu district (67.9 per cent) have the least access (67.9 per cent), while households in Sunyani and Dormaa have the highest access levels of 98.8 per cent.

Improved Water Source

About 70 per cent of households in the region obtain their drinking water from an improved source, which is lower than the national average of 74.1 per cent. In Berekum, almost all the households (99.3 per cent) use improved water sources, followed by Sunyani (93.0 per cent)

and Jaman (92.2 per cent). The lowest rate is observed in Kintampo (39.5 per cent) followed by Sene (43.7 per cent).

Safe Sanitation

Less than half (47.1 per cent) of the households in the region use safe sanitation facilities, compared to more than half (55.0 per cent) at the national level. At the district level, Sene records the lowest proportion of households (14.8 per cent) that use safe sanitation followed by Jaman (25.3 per cent). The rate is highest in Techiman (77.3 per cent), followed by Sunyani (75.5 per cent).

Improved Waste Disposal

About three-fourths of the households (76.1 per cent) in the region use improved waste disposal methods (refuse collected, public dump). Use of improved waste disposal methods is highest among households in Jaman (96.8 per cent) and lowest in Sene (25.7 per cent). Eight other districts Asutifi (80.9 per cent), Tanoso (88.5 per cent), Sunyani (79.9 per cent), Dormaa (89.9 per cent), Jaman (96.6 per cent), Berekum (89.4 per cent), Techiman (93.2 per cent), Nkoranza (90.3 per cent) and Kintampo (79.4 per cent) record higher rates than the regional average (76.1 per cent).

Electricity

Less than half (43.2 per cent) of the households in the region have access to electricity. The lowest access rate is recorded in Sene (16.9 per cent), followed by Jaman (26.6 per cent) while Berekum (67.9 per cent) and Sunyani (66.1 per cent) have the highest access rates.

Non-wood Fuel Used for Cooking

Generally, the use of non-wood fuel for cooking is very low in the region. Only 3.9 per cent of households in the region use non-wood fuel for cooking compared to 11.4 per cent of households nationwide. Substantial variations exist among the districts in the use of non-wood fuel, ranging from a high of 20.9 per cent in Sunyani to virtually none (0.0 per cent) in Sene and Kintampo, and 0.2 per cent in Atebubu.

Households Economic Situation Compared to One Year Ago

Almost half (47.0 per cent) of the households in the region perceive that their economic situations have worsened relative to one year prior to the survey. Sene records the highest proportion of households (61.5 per cent) with worsened economic situation followed by Atebubu (56.7 per cent) and several others Techiman, Nkoranza and Sunyani that have proportions of at least 50 per cent. Jaman records the lowest proportion (35.2 per cent).

About a third (35.7 per cent) of households in the region however judged their economic situation to be better than it was a year ago, with as high corresponding proportion as 48.5 per cent in Kintampo and as low as 28.1 per cent (Sunyani) and 28.8 per cent (Techiman).