

2003 Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ) Survey, Ghana Greater Accra Region Districts Summary

Flyer No. 8

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 4,455 households, i.e., 9.1 per cent of the 49,003 households in the national sample, represent the Greater Accra region.

This Flyer presents district variations in selected indicators within the region. It is one of two flyers presenting key survey findings for the Greater Accra 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 in the region is 77.6 per cent, over 20 percentage points higher than the national average (53.4 per cent). Both Accra (80.5 per cent) and Tema (79.6 per cent) record adult literacy rates above the regional average, while Dangbe East (56.7 per cent) has the lowest. However, all districts in the region record rates above the national average. A higher proportion of males than females are literate in all the districts in the region, with margins of 17.7 (Accra Metropolitan Area) to 28.3 percentage points (Dangbe East).

Youth Literacy

The youth literacy rate for the region (86.3 per cent) is high compared to the national average (68.7 per cent). Two of the five districts Accra and Tema, record higher youth literacy rates than the regional average. Tema records the highest rate (88.6 per cent) while Dangbe East records the lowest (67.3 per cent). The youth literacy rates for males are higher than females in all the districts but with much narrower margins (13.9 for Ga and 17.7 percentage points for Dangbe East) relative to the adult literacy rates.

Net Enrolment

The net primary school enrolment rate for the region is 80.9 per cent, 11 percentage points higher than the national average (69.9 per cent). The net primary enrolment rate for the districts ranges from 66.0 per cent in Dangbe West to 85.4 per cent in Tema. Three of the five districts, Tema Municipal Area, Dangbe West, and Dangbe East record higher net primary enrolment rates for females than males as with the regional female and male rates.

The net secondary enrolment rate in the region is 54.9 per cent, which is substantially lower than the primary school enrolment rate. The regional average is almost one and a half times the national average. In all the districts, the proportions of males enrolled in secondary schools are higher than that of females. But with the exception of Dangbe East which has a margin of about 11 percentage points, the differences between male and female enrolment is marginal in all the districts. Dangbe East records the lowest secondary school enrolment rate (28.6 per cent) and Accra Metropolitan Area, the highest.

Access to School

Majority (90.2 per cent) of primary school children take less than 30 minutes to reach the nearest primary school compared to the national average (85.4 per cent). Three of the five districts, Tema, Accra and Ga have higher primary school access rates than the regional average.

Access to secondary school for the region (63.4 per cent) is about one and a half times (63.4 per cent) higher than the national average (43.3 per cent). Tema Municipal Area and Accra Metropolis have higher secondary school access rates than the regional average. The lowest secondary school access rate in the region is recorded in Dangbe West (26.9 per cent).

Satisfaction with Education

About nine in every ten children (88.0 per cent) in primary school are satisfied with their schools. The proportion of children who are satisfied is higher in all the districts than the national average. It varies from 80.1 per cent in Ga to 98.5 per cent in Dangbe East.

Almost the same proportion of secondary (89.0 per cent) as primary school children in the region are satisfied with their education. All the districts in the region record high proportions of satisfied secondary school children; all but two (Ga and Tema Municipal Area) record rates above the regional average.

Access to Health Facilities

About four-fifth of households have access to health facilities in the region. Marked disparities, however, exist in access to health facilities among the districts in the region, with Tema recording the highest (94.1 per cent) and Dangbe West recording the lowest (41.1 per cent).

Apart from Dangbe West and Dangbe East, all other districts record rates higher than the national average and only two (Accra Metropolitan Area and Tema) have rates higher than the regional average.

Adequacy of Health Services

About 14.0 per cent of persons in households in the region reported sick or injured in the 4-week period preceding the survey, a proportion lower than the national average (18.3 per cent). The need for health services vary from 9.7 per cent in Tema Municipal Area to 19.5 per cent in Dangbe West. About 15 per cent of household members in the region consulted health practitioners. At the district level Tema records the lowest rate of use of medical services (9.5 per cent) while Accra Metropolitan Area records the highest (17.9 per cent).

About 76.0 per cent of household members in the region who consulted health practitioners are satisfied with the services received. The satisfaction rate at the district level ranges from 55.1 per cent in Tema to 87.5 per cent in Dangbe East.

Prenatal Care

About 86 per cent of women who had a live birth in the region 12 months prior to the survey received prenatal care, which is lower than the national average (93 per cent). Variations among the districts range from 77.7 per cent in Ga to 100 per cent coverage in Dangbe East.

Births Assisted by Trained Health Professionals

The births of children under five years in the region were assisted by trained health professionals (doctor, nurse and midwife) in 87.4 per cent of the cases. Marked disparities, however, exist by districts, ranging from Dangbe West (51.3 per cent) to Tema Municipal Area (97.7 per cent).

Child Nutritional Status

The proportion of stunted children in the region is 27.8 per cent and is lower than the rate for the country as a whole by 4.6 percentage points. At the district level it varies from 19.7 per cent in Dangbe West to 30.8 per cent in the Accra Metropolis. Less than a quarter (23.8 per cent) of the children under five are wasted compared to the national average of 15.5 per cent. At the district level, the proportion of children who are wasted varies from 9.9 per cent in Dangbe East to 39.2 per cent in the Ga district. The proportion of underweight children varies from 15.8 per cent in Dangbe East to 45.2 per cent in the Ga district. Only two of the districts (Ga and Dangbe West) have rates higher than the regional average.

Availability of Employment

The proportion unemployed among persons aged 15 years and older in the region is relatively high (8.8 per cent) compared to the national average of 5.4 per cent. A slightly higher proportion of males (9.2 per cent) than females (8.4 per cent) are unemployed. The levels of unemployment for the districts range from a low of 2.9 per cent in the Ga district to 12.1 per cent in Tema Municipal Area

The regional and national underemployment rate is about the same; but for the districts, it ranges from 5.0 per cent in Tema Municipal Area to 17.5 per cent in the Accra Metropolis. The underemployment rates are higher for males than for females but only marginally in Accra Metropolitan Area and Ga district. Female underemployment rates, however, are higher than male underemployment in Tema Municipal Area, Dangbe East and Dangbe West.

Meeting Food Needs

About 12 per cent of households in the region have difficulty in meeting their basic food needs, almost equal to the national average of 12.8 per cent. At the district level, only the Accra Metropolis records a higher proportion (15.0 per cent) of households having difficulty in meeting their basic food needs than the regional average. The rate for Accra Metropolis is about five times the rates for Dangbe West (3.2 per cent) and Dangbe East (3.0 per cent).

Access to Water

Most households (97.1 per cent) in the region take less than 30 minutes to reach the nearest source of water, compared to the national average of 94.0 per cent. All but Dangbe West district (86.8 per cent) record over 90 per cent accessibility to source of water.

Improved Water Source

More than 80 per cent of the households in the region have access to improved water sources. For the districts the proportion varies from 33.1 per cent in the Ga district to 98.4 per cent in the Accra Metropolitan Area.

Safe Sanitation

About 83 per cent of households in the region use safe sanitation facilities, compared to 55.0 per cent nationwide. Marked variations, ranging from 32.0 per cent (Dangbe West) to 89.9 per cent (Tema), are observed at the district level.

Improved Waste Disposal

About 80 per cent of households in the region use improved waste disposal methods, which exceeds the national average by 13.7 percentage points. The use of improved waste disposal methods is very low among households in Dangbe West (22.6 per cent) compared to those in the Accra Metropolitan Area (89.0 per cent).

Electricity

About 83 per cent of households in the region use electricity, compared to the national average of 50.6 per cent. Accra Metropolitan Area records the highest usage (93.0 per cent) followed by Tema (87.4 per cent), with Dangbe West reporting the lowest rate (40.4 per cent).

Non-wood Fuel Used for Cooking

One-third of the households (33.0 per cent) in the region use non-wood fuel for cooking compared to 11.4 per cent nationwide. Use of non-wood fuel is very high, above the regional average in two districts; Tema and Accra Metropolitan Area. The proportion of households is relatively high also in the Ga District (29.9 per cent) but extremely low in Dangbe East (2.7 per cent).

Household Economic Situation Compared to One Year Ago

More than half of the households in the region perceive that their economic situations have worsened compared to one year ago. The situation is much worse for districts such as Tema (72.5 per cent) and Dangbe East (67.0 per cent) where more than two-thirds of the household feel worse off. Only 16.3 per cent of the households in the region perceive that their economic situations have improved since one year ago; 28.8 per cent in Ga District, the highest and 11.7 in Accra Metropolitan Area, the lowest.

The land owned by households has barely changed. For the region as a whole less than 1 per cent feel they have less land now, while only 1.1 per cent feel they have more compared to a year ago. In Dangbe West 3.4 per cent feel they have more land relative to 1.5 per cent who have less land. For Dangbe East, almost the same proportions of households report that their land ownership has either increased (2.2 per cent) or decreased (2.0 per cent).