

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

Flyer No. 10

Introduction

The 2003 Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ) Survey is a nationwide sample survey, designed to provide national, regional and district levels indicators for monitoring poverty and living standards in the country. A total of 5,859 households, i.e., 9.9 per cent of the 49,003 households in the national sample, represent the Volta region in the survey sample.

This Flyer presents district variations in selected indicators within the region. It is one of two flyers presenting key survey findings for the Volta 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 for the Volta Region is 52.9 per cent, almost at par with the national average of 53.4 per cent. Five of the 12 districts in the region (Kpando, Hohoe, Ho, Jasikan and Keta) have adult literacy rates above the regional average. Nkwanta (20.7 per cent) has the lowest rate while Kpando (72.1 per cent) has the highest.

Youth Literacy

The youth literacy rate is 68.2 per cent, which is almost equal the national average (68.7per cent). Eight out of the twelve districts in the region have rates higher than the regional average. The districts with lower than average rates are Jasikan, Kadjebi, Krachi and Nkwanta. Hohoe has the highest rate of 85.9 per cent, while Nkwanta has the lowest rate (33.1 per cent). Literacy level is lower for female youth than for male youth by at least 10 percentage points in all districts except South Tongu, North Tongu, Ho, Hohoe, Kpando and Jasikan. Youth literacy rates are higher compared to the adult rates in all the districts.

Net Enrolment

The region has a net enrolment rate of 64.7 per cent, which is lower than the national average of 69.9 per cent. Only three districts in the region, South Tongu, North Tongu, and Krachi have higher proportions of females than males enrolled in primary school.

The primary enrolment rates for the districts range from 34.9 per cent in Nkwanta to 78.9 per cent in Kpando.

The net secondary enrolment rate is 33.8 per cent almost half the rate of primary enrolment. Moreover, it is lower than the national average by about 4 percentage points. Nkwanta has the lowest secondary enrolment rate (10.2 per cent) while Kpando has the highest (54.2 per cent). The net secondary enrolment rate for females (33.3 per cent) is only 1 percentage point lower than the rate for males (34.3 per cent). Five of the twelve districts in the region have higher female secondary enrolment rates than that of males with differences ranging from 1.5 percentage points (South Tongu) to 4.5 percentage points (Ketu).

Access to School

Eight out of ten primary school children (83.9 per cent) primary school children take less than 30 minutes to reach the nearest primary schools. Only 39.4 per cent of students in secondary school in the region are within 30 minutes to the nearest school. Five districts, Keta, Ketu, Ho, Hohoe, and Kpando have secondary school access rates equal to or higher than the regional average.

Satisfaction with Education

More than half of primary school children (55.3 per cent) express satisfaction with their school but is more than 10 percentage points lower than the national average of 68.0 per cent. Satisfaction with primary education ranges from 37.8 per cent in Akatsi to 82.6 per cent in South Tongu.

The proportion of secondary school students who are satisfied with their school (62.6 per cent) is lower than the national average by more than 10 percentage points (75.0 per cent), but higher than the rate for primary school (55.3 per cent). Satisfaction with secondary education is lowest in Akatsi (41.4 per cent) and highest in Keta (78.9 per cent).

Access to Health Facilities

About half of the households (49.5 per cent) in the region have access to a health facility. Nkwanta has the lowest access rate of 22.3 per cent, followed by Krachi (27.7 per cent), while Hohoe has the highest (73.2 per cent) with Kpando (66.2 per cent) the next highest.

Adequacy of Health Services

About 22 per cent of households in the region were sick or injured during the four weeks prior to the survey and presumed to have needed health services. Need for health services is higher than the national average (18.3 per cent). Need for health services at the districts vary from 9.0 per cent in Kadjebi to 29.1 per cent in North Tongu.

Only 18.0 per cent of people consult a health practitioner. At the district level, Kadjebi has the lowest rate of use of medical services (7.9 per cent) and Krachi the highest (28.5 per cent). The proportion of people who are satisfied with medical services is high (78.4 per cent) and equal to the national average of 78.6 per cent. Most districts have satisfaction rates above seventy per cent, except Hohoe (58.7 per cent) and Kpando (43.7 per cent).

Prenatal Care

Majority (86.7 per cent) of women in the region aged 12-49 years who had a live birth, twelve months of the survey received prenatal care. All districts have rates above 75 per cent for prenatal care with eight of them above the regional average. The lowest rate is reported in Kadjebi 77.1 per cent while the highest rate of 94.3 per cent is recorded in Keta.

Births Assisted by Trained Health Professionals

Four in ten of the children aged under five years, were delivered with the assistance of trained health professionals (42.3 per cent) compared to the national average of 51.8 per cent. Nkwanta has the lowest rate (12.1 per cent) while the highest rate of 83.5 per cent is in Hohoe. Four of the districts have rates below the regional average (Nkwanta, Krachi, North Tongu and Ho).

Child Nutritional Status

The proportion of stunted children among the under fives in the region is 31.9 per cent. The lowest rate of stunting (16.2 per cent) is observed in Ho, while Kpando has the highest rate (53.7 per cent). The proportion of wasted children in the region is 11.6 per cent compared to the national average of 15.5 per cent. The proportion of wasted children varies from (Kadjebi) 0.0 per cent to (Ketu) 21.5 per cent. About 21 per cent of children under 5 years are underweight compared to the national average of 25.8 per cent. The proportion of underweight children varies from 12.4 per cent in Nkwanta to 33.9 per cent in Hohoe.

Availability of Employment

The proportion unemployed among persons aged 15 years and older is 4.4 per cent for the region, a 1 percentage point difference from the national average of 5.4 per cent. The proportion for females (4.8 per cent) is higher than that of males (3.9 per cent). At the district level, the level of unemployment ranges from 0.9 per cent of persons 15 years and older in Kadjebi to 14.3 per cent in Hohoe.

Underemployment rate for the region (12.6 per cent) is lower than the national average (13.6 per cent). The lowest rate (1.5 per cent) is in Kadjebi while the highest rate (29.6 per cent) is in South Tongu. The underemployment rate for females is higher than that for males in five districts, North Tongu, Ho, Hohoe, Kpando and Jasikan.

Meeting Food Needs

The proportion of households (21.9 per cent) that have difficulty meeting their basic food needs in the region is substantially higher than the national average (12.8 per cent). At the district level, Nkwanta has the highest level of difficulty (58.4 per cent) while Kadjebi has the least difficulty (1.3 per cent). The proportion of households that have difficulty in meeting their basic food needs, exceeds the regional average in four out of 12 districts (Ho, 23.3 per cent; South Tongu, 31.3 per cent; Krachi, 37.6 per cent; and Nkwanta).

Access to Water

Almost nine in ten households (88.8 per cent) are within 30 minutes of the nearest water source compared to the national average (94.0 per cent). Nkwanta has the least level (75.8 per cent) and Kpando has the highest (97.3 per cent).

Improved Water Source

About half of the households (52.1 per cent) in the region obtain their drinking water from improved water sources compared to the national average of 74.1 per cent. Ketu has the lowest proportion (19.2 per cent) of households that obtain their drinking water from improved sources, while Hohoe records the highest level (79.8 per cent).

Safe Sanitation

About 38 per cent of households in the region use safe sanitation facilities (flush toilet, covered pit latrine and VIP/KVIP) compared to the national average (55.0 per cent). Variations among the districts range from 7.2 per cent in Nkwanta to 60.7 per cent in Keta. With the exception of Keta and Hohoe 54.5 per cent, all the districts fall substantially below the national average.

Improved Waste Disposal

About 45 per cent of the households use improved waste disposal methods. The corresponding proportions for the districts are generally low and vary from 18.6 per cent in Akatsi to 69.6 per cent in Kadjebi. The only other district with a proportion of its household using improved disposal method which is higher than the national average, is Jasikan (67.4 per cent).

Electricity

Thirty-six per cent of households in the Volta Region use electricity, compared to the national average of 50.6 per cent. At the district level, households that use electricity range from 16.9 per cent in Akatsi to 61.3 per cent in Hohoe. Five of the districts in the region Nkwanta (18.3 per cent), Krachi (28.6 per cent), North Tongu (22.0 per cent), Ketu (32.4 per cent) and South Tongu (34.0 per cent) have fewer households using electricity than the regional average (36.0 per cent).

Non-wood Fuel used for Cooking

The proportion of the region's households that use non-wood fuel for cooking (3.1 per cent), is almost a quarter of the national average (11.4 per cent). Ho has the highest proportion (6.6 per cent), followed by Kpando (4.4 per cent) and Krachi (0.3 per cent) has the lowest with all the districts recording proportions substantially lower than the national average.

Household Economic Situation Compared to One Year Ago

More than two-thirds (68.7 per cent) of households in the region perceive their economic situation to have worsened compared to one year ago. This is high compared to the national average (51.8 per cent). Over half of the households in each of the 12 districts, except Kpando (48.9 per cent) see their economic situation as having worsened; in four of these districts, the proportions are more than three quarters: South Tongu (82.4 per cent), Ketu (80.0 per cent), Akatsi (79.2 per cent) and Keta (79.1 per cent) perceive that their economic situations have worsened.

Only 13.1 per cent of the households in the region see their economic situation as better than a year ago, with seven of the districts recording levels below the regional average. There has been very little change in the land ownership, 2.8 per cent report less land now while 2.0 per cent report more land compared to a year ago. The only substantial change is recorded in Nkwanta where the proportions are 11.9 per cent and 12.1 per cent respectively.