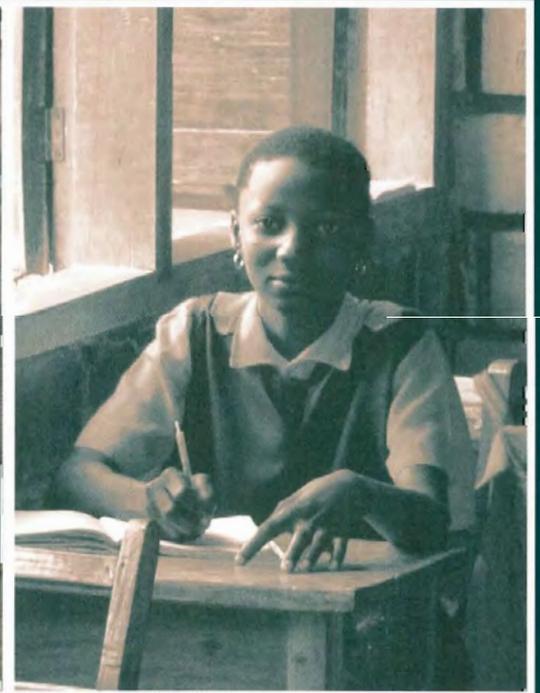
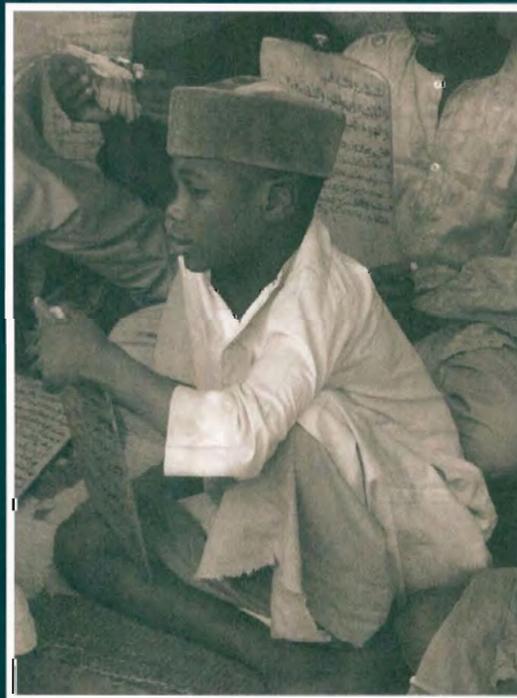


Nigeria

DHS EdData Survey 2004

Key Findings



This report summarises education data from the 2004 Nigeria DHS EdData Survey (NDES) and the 2003 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (Nigeria DHS), both of which were carried out by the National Population Commission (NPC), with technical assistance provided by ORC Macro. The 2004 NDES was carried out by the NPC in partnership with the Nigeria Federal Ministry of Education (FMOE). Funding for the 2003 Nigeria DHS and the 2004 NDES was provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Nigeria. Funding for the overall DHS EdData Activity, including the development of the model survey instruments, was provided by USAID's Office of Education in the Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade.

Additional information about the final report of the 2004 NDES may be obtained from the National Population Commission (NPC), Plot 2031 Olusegun Obasanjo Way, Zone 7, Wuse, PMB 281, Abuja; Tel: 234-9-523-9173; Fax: 234-9-523-1024.

Additional information about the 2004 NDES, the DHS EdData Activity, the 2003 Nigeria DHS, or the MEASURE DHS+ program may be obtained by writing to: DHS EdData or MEASURE DHS+, ORC Macro, 11785 Beltsville Drive, Suite 300, Calverton, MD 20705 (Telephone: 301-572-0200; Fax: 301-572-0983; E-mail: reports@orcmacro.com; Internet: <http://www.dhsedata.com> or <http://www.measuredhs.com>).

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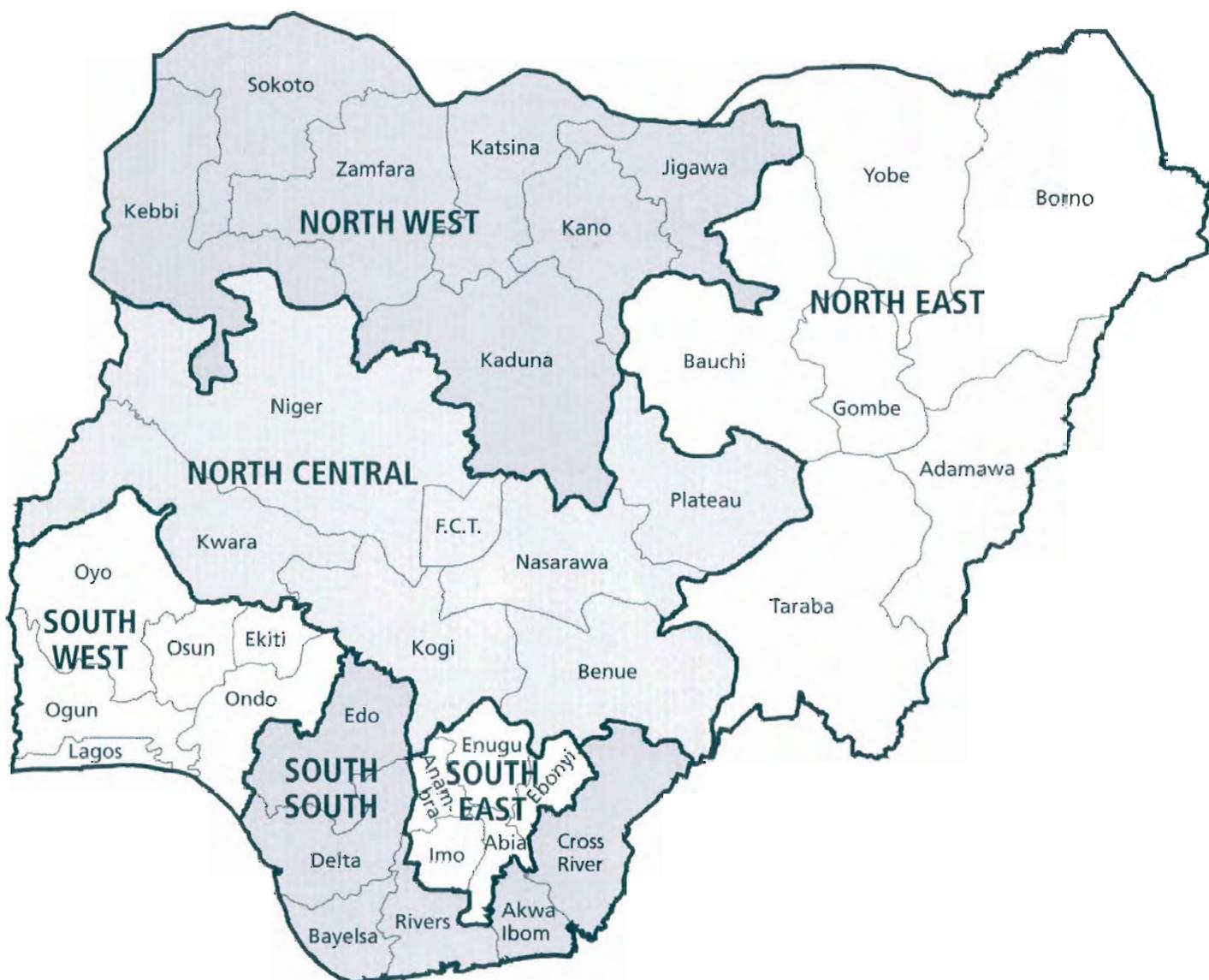
Cover photos: Kristi Fair and Stephanie Gorin

About the 2004 Nigeria DHS EdData Survey

The 2004 Nigeria DHS EdData Survey (NDES) provides estimates of national education statistics. The survey was designed to provide estimates for Nigeria as a whole, for urban and rural areas, and for the six geopolitical regions.

Who participated in the survey?

A nationally representative sample of 3,987 parents and guardians were interviewed, and they provided information about 9,695 children age 4-16. About 4 in 10 parents and guardians are female, and most parents and guardians are between the ages of 30 and 49.

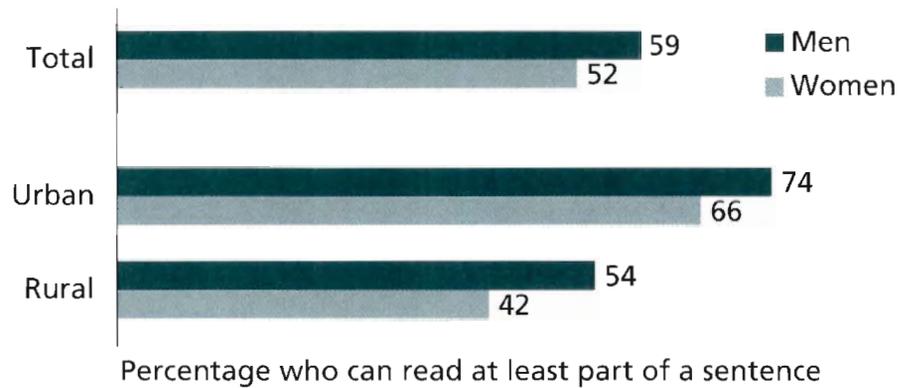


Education and Literacy among Parents and Guardians

About 4 in 10 parents and guardians have never attended school. On average, parents and guardians have completed about 5 years of schooling.

Among parents and guardians, 59 percent of men and 52 percent of women can read. People in urban areas are considerably more likely than those in rural areas to be literate.

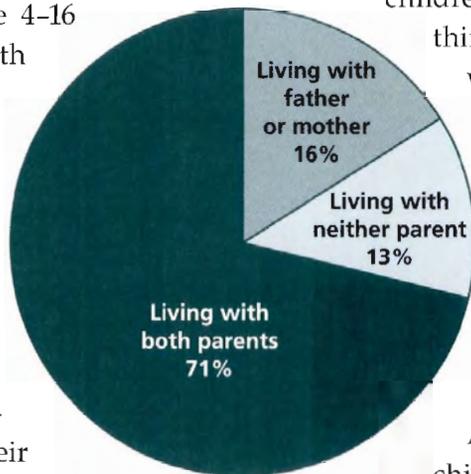
Literacy among parents and guardians



Children's Characteristics

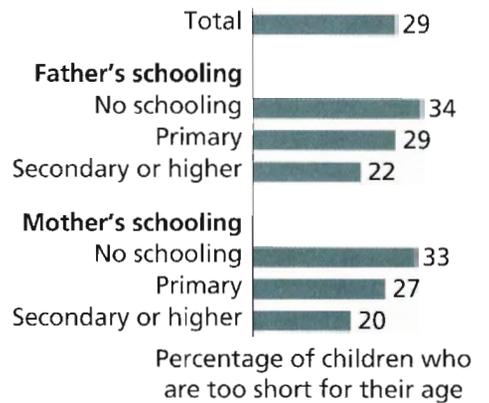
Living Arrangements

Most children age 4-16 in Nigeria live with both their biological parents. One in six children lives with only one of their parents. Four percent of children have lost their mother, and 7 percent have lost their father.



malnourished. Only 3 percent of children are wasted (too thin for their height), which indicates acute malnutrition. However, 30 percent are stunted (too short for their age), which indicates chronic malnutrition. Almost one in five children is underweight (low weight-for-age), which reflects the effects of

How is children's stunting related to parents' education?

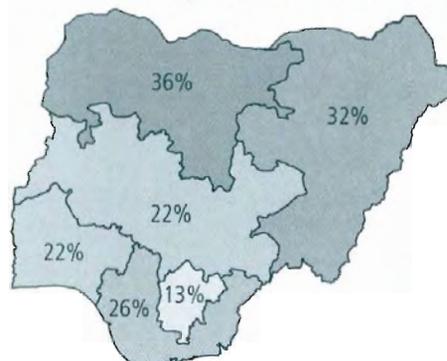


Eating Patterns and Nutrition

Nigerian children are very unlikely to miss breakfast or lunch. The vast majority (95 percent) of children age 4-16 ate breakfast, and the same percentage ate lunch, on the day before the household was interviewed.

Even though they eat regular meals, many Nigerian children age 4-9 are

Where in Nigeria are children most likely to be stunted?



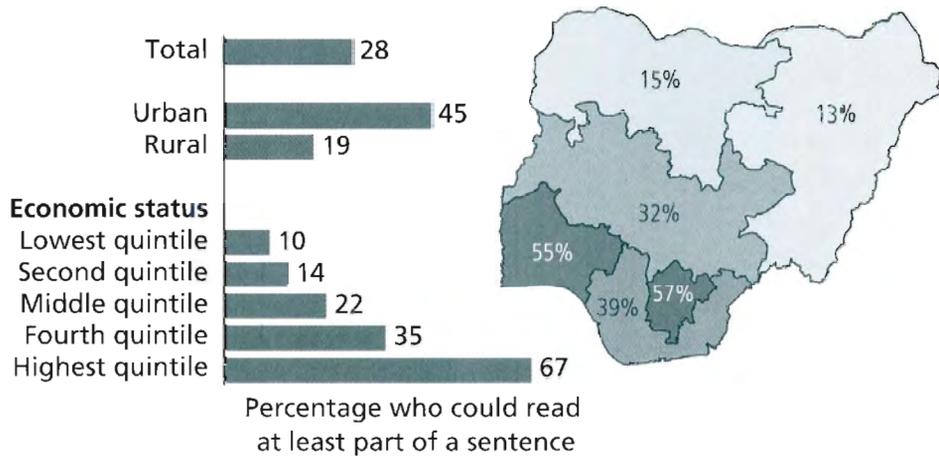
both chronic and acute malnutrition. Children from less economically advantaged households, those whose mothers and fathers have never attended school, and those living in the North West are most likely to be malnourished.

If children are malnourished, they may be less likely to start school at the official age. Parents may decide to send children to school for the first time when they are as tall as other children attending primary 1, and some schools may admit

children based on height, as well. Four in 10 Nigerian children who are stunted have never attended school, compared with just 2 in 10 who have attended school.

Children's nutrition is an important education issue. Malnourished children may attend school less often, or not at all, and those who do attend may have learning problems, such as difficulty concentrating.

Literacy among children 4-12



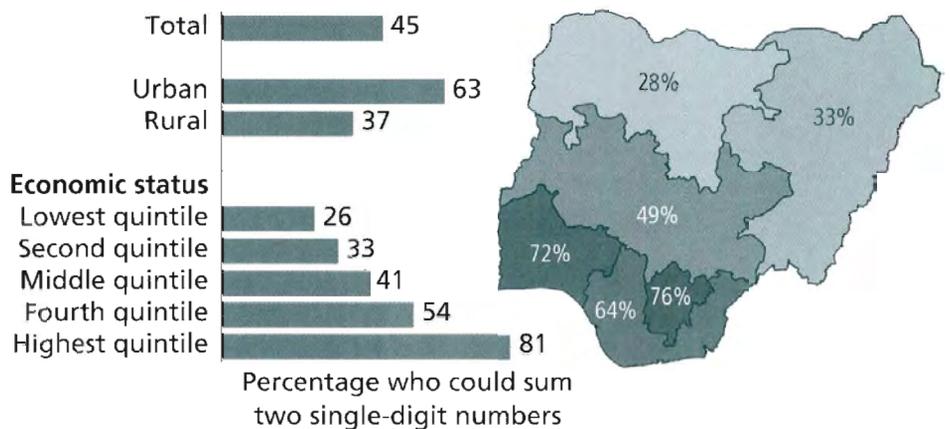
Literacy

To test literacy, children age 4-12 were asked to read a simple sentence. Thirty percent of boys and 26 percent of girls could read at least part of the sentence. Predictably, children with more schooling are more likely to be able to read; only 1 percent of children with no schooling are literate, compared with 94 percent of children with secondary schooling. Children in urban areas, those in the south, and those from more economically advantaged households are most likely to be literate.

Numeracy

To test numeracy, children age 4-12 were asked to sum two one-digit numbers totalling less than 10 (for instance, 3 + 5). Children were much more likely to be numerate than to be literate, with over half of both boys and girls correctly summing the numbers. Again, children with more education are more likely to be numerate. Children in urban areas, those in the south, and those from more economically advantaged households were most likely to be numerate.

Numeracy among children 4-12



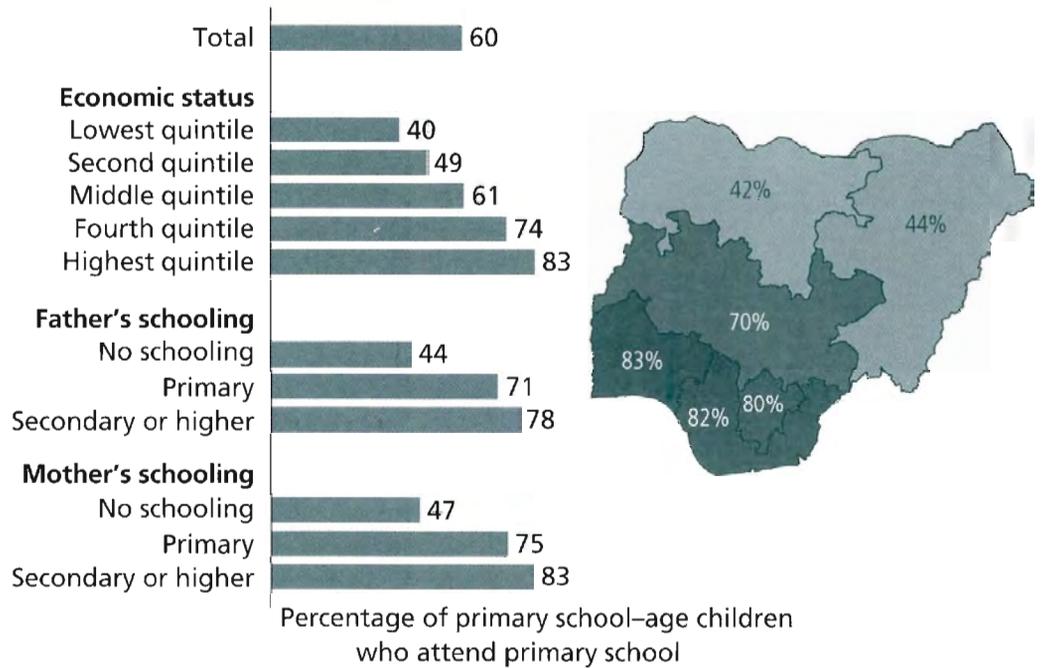
School Attendance Rates

Primary School NAR

Sixty percent of children age 6-11 attend primary school. More boys than girls attend school (64 percent of boys versus 57 percent of girls). Children in urban areas, those in the south, and those in more economically advantaged households are most likely to attend.

Parents who attended school are more likely to send their children to primary school. Less than half of children whose mothers have no schooling attended primary school, compared with more than 8 in 10 of those whose mothers attended secondary school or higher.

Primary school net attendance ratios

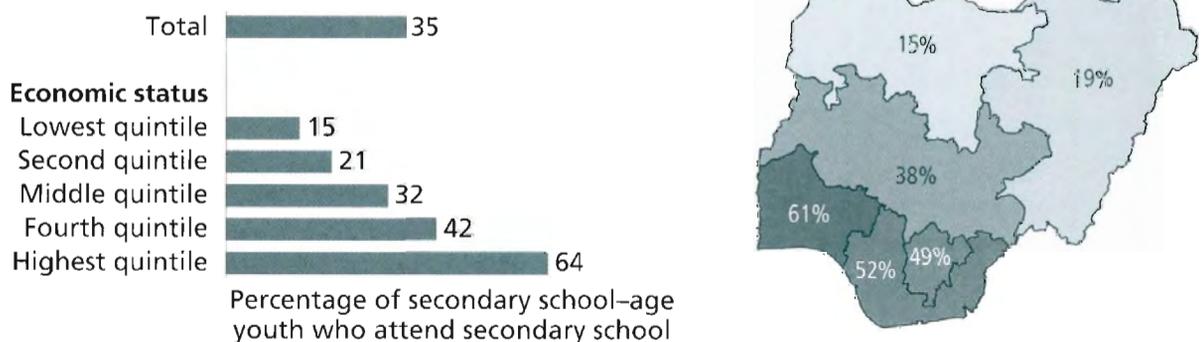


Six in ten primary school-age children go to primary school, while 35 percent of secondary school-age youth go to secondary school.

Secondary School NAR

Thirty-five percent of youth age 12-17 attend secondary school, with 38 percent of male and 33 percent of female youth attending school. Again, youth in urban areas, those in the south, and those in more economically advantaged households were most likely to attend.

Secondary school net attendance ratios



Over-age, Under-age, and On-time Pupils

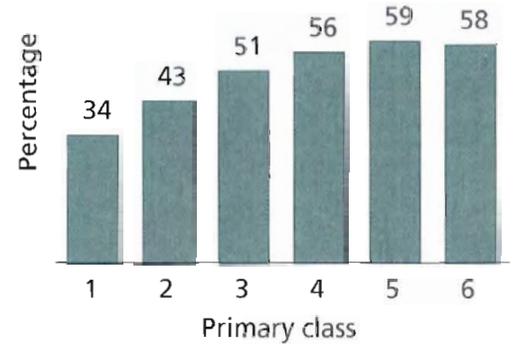
Primary school pupils may or may not be at the target age for the class they attend. For instance, children in primary 1 are on time, or at the expected age for the class, if they are age 6 or 7. Primary 1 pupils who are age 5 or younger are under age, and those age 8 or older are over age for the class.

Having under-age and over-age pupils in class may have an impact on pupil learning, as well as on persistence in school. For example, in a class with pupils ranging in age from 5 to 15, teachers may have difficulty managing the learning environment, as younger and older

pupils are at different stages of physical, social, and intellectual development. In addition, there is evidence that children who are over age for the class—especially girls—may be more likely to drop out before completing primary school. Finally, in systems where school places are limited, the presence of under-age children may displace over-age children, who are likely to have a smaller window of opportunity for schooling, before assuming adult productive and reproductive roles.

Some children start school over age; others may repeat primary school classes or temporarily drop

How many primary school children are over age for their grade?



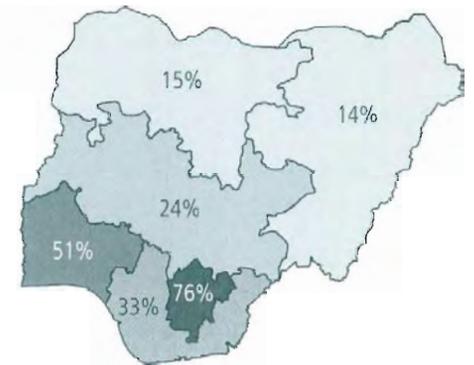
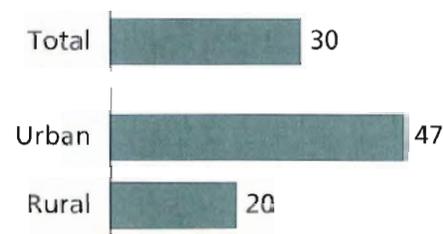
out of school, falling behind their peers. Over age among primary school pupils is widespread in Nigeria, with half of primary school pupils being over age for the class they attend. One in three primary 1 pupils is over age for the class attended, compared with 58 percent of those in primary 6.

Factors Affecting Children's School Attendance

Pre-primary School Attendance

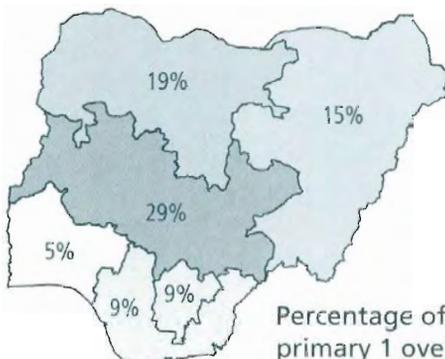
Less than a third (30 percent) of children in Nigeria attended pre-primary school before starting primary school. Attending pre-school helps prepare children for primary school by providing a foundation for learning.

How many children have ever attended pre-primary school?



Age at Primary School Entry

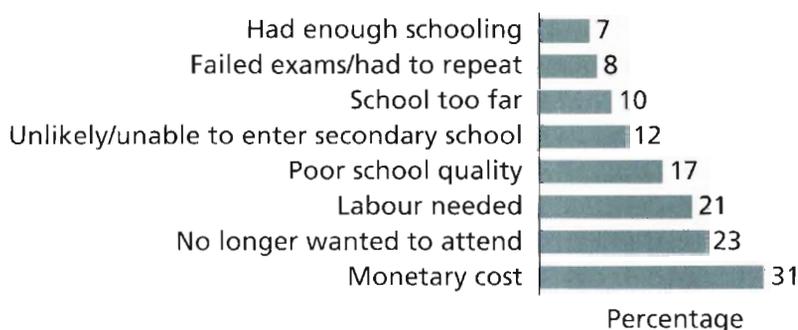
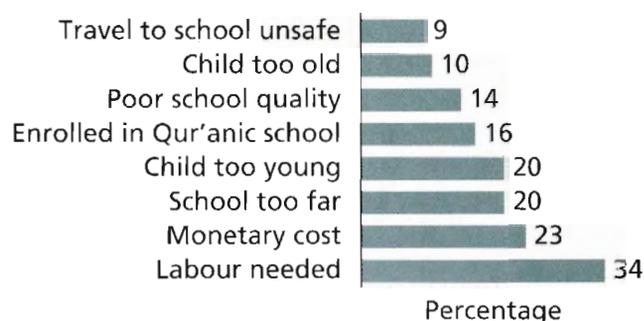
More than half of children start primary school on time (at age 6–7). One in four children entered primary school below the target entry age, and 16 percent started school over age (at age 8 or older). The mean age of starting primary 1 was 6.3 years.



Percentage of children who started primary 1 over age

Reasons for Never Having Attended School

A number of reasons were given for children not attending school. The most common reason given was the monetary cost of schooling. In addition to the direct costs of schooling, a household sending a child to school sacrifices the contribution the child would otherwise make to the household. These indirect costs were the most commonly given reason for children not attending school (34%), followed by the direct monetary cost of schooling (23%).



Reasons for Dropping Out of Primary School

The most common reason parents and guardians gave for their children dropping out of primary school was the monetary cost of schooling (31%). In 21 percent of cases, the household needed the child's labour, and in 23 percent of cases, the child no longer wanted to attend school.

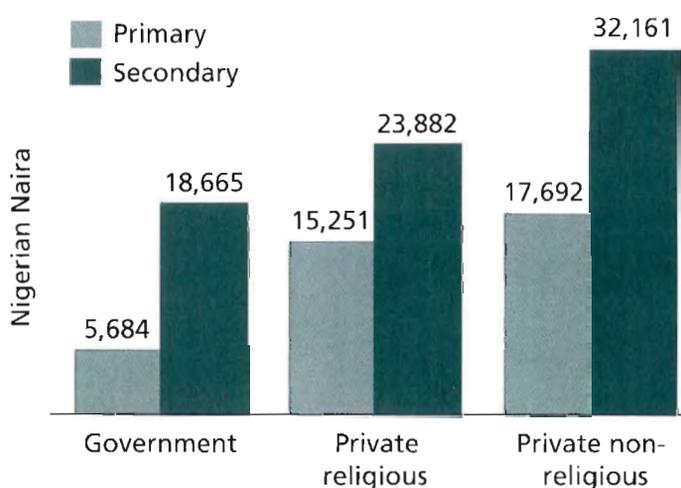
Household Contributions to Schooling

Household Expenditures

Almost every household in Nigeria with children in school spends money on schooling, including expenses such as school supplies, clothing, PTA fees, exam fees, and tuition. These costs, together with the indirect costs of schooling, may be difficult for some households to bear, in some cases keeping children from ever attending school or resulting in children leaving school.

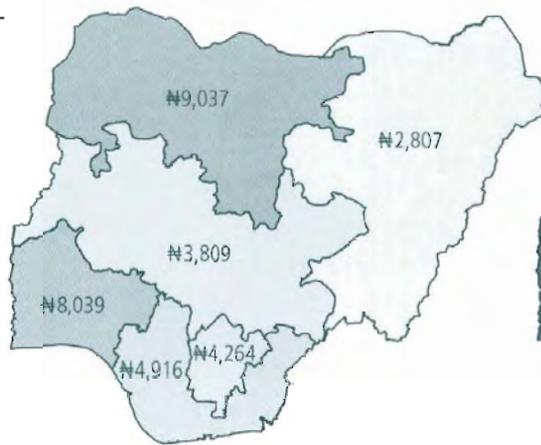
In the 2002–2003 school year, families spent an average of ₦5,684 on children attending government primary schools. For children attending private primary schools, families spent about three times as much.

In 2002–2003, how much did households spend per pupil/student on different types of schooling?

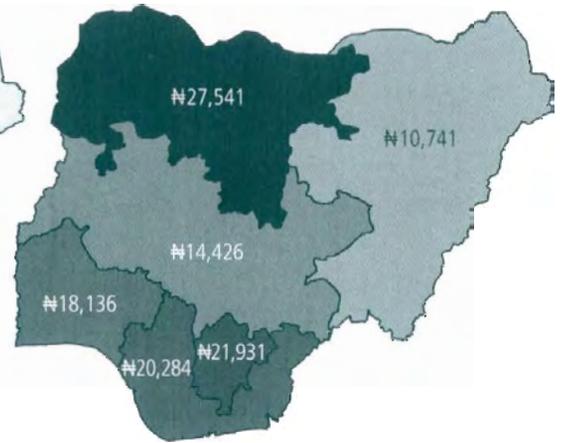


Secondary school costs families much more than primary school. Families spent an average of ₦18,665 per student on government secondary school, and considerably more for private schooling. Households spend more on female students than on male students (roughly ₦23,000 for young women, compared with ₦15,000 for young men).

Household expenditures on government primary schooling



Household expenditures on government secondary schooling



Other Household Contributions

Other contributions to schooling include time, labour, and materials. Children in primary school spend about 6 hours per day on school activities (including travel time). Most pupils do homework outside school, which takes an average of 2 hours per week. Secondary school students spend more time on school activities (more than 7

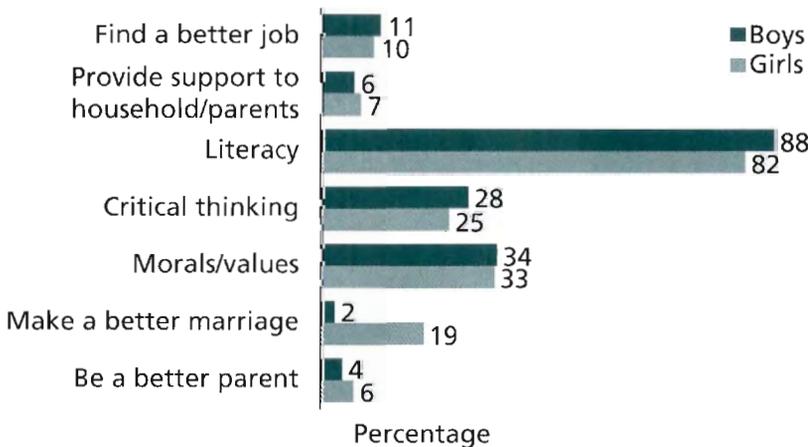
hours per day on average). Eighty-seven percent of secondary school students do homework outside of school, which takes them more than 3 hours per week.

Parents and guardians also spend time on school activities. Most children in both primary and secondary school receive help with homework from someone else in the household. Parents and guardians are also very likely to visit the

school; 85 percent of parents and guardians with a child in primary school said that they (or another adult in the household) had visited the school in the last year for a PTA meeting, a celebration or a sports event, to meet with a head teacher or teacher, or to collect school forms. In addition, one in four households contributed money, labour, or materials to their children's primary school.

Value of Schooling

How do parents and guardians think primary school benefits children and families?



Nearly all parents and guardians say primary school benefits both boys and girls. They commonly cite literacy and developing a moral framework as two of these benefits. One benefit listed more often for girls than for boys was the likelihood of making a better marriage. When asked about disadvantages, most parents and guardians said there were no disadvantages to sending a child to primary school.

Absenteeism in Primary and Secondary School

Six in ten primary school pupils missed school at some point during the 2002-2003 school year. Those children who were absent missed an average of 10 days during the

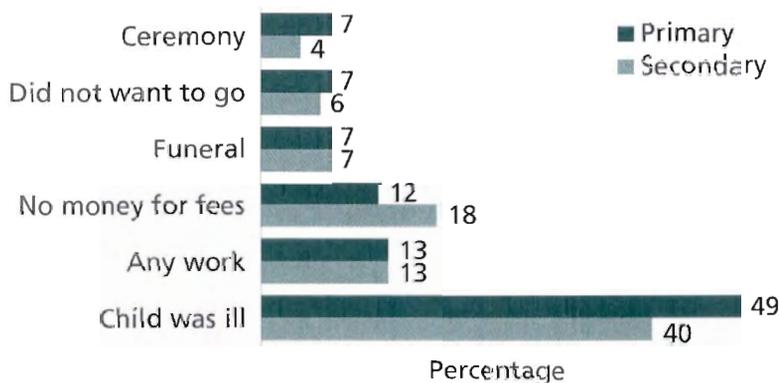
year. At the secondary level, 53 percent of students missed school during the 2002-2003 school year, averaging 9 days absent.

Reasons for Absenteeism

Half of children in primary school were absent because they were ill. Less often, pupils missed school because they were needed to work at home, or because fees were due and there was no money to pay them.

At the secondary level, 40 percent of students missed school because they were ill, 18 percent because fees were due and there was no money to pay them, and 13 percent because they were needed to work in support of the household.

Why do children miss school?

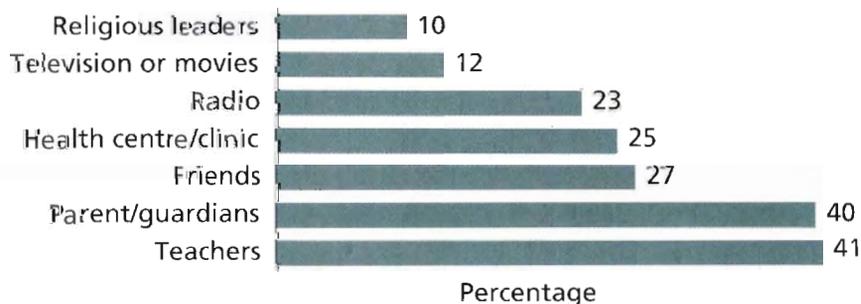


Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS, and Education

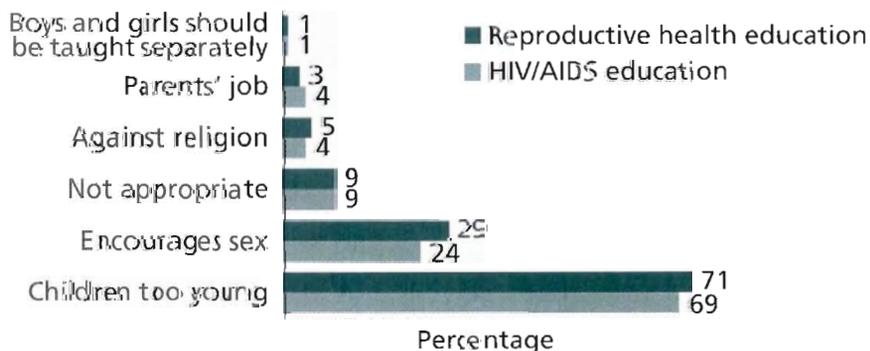
Sources of Information about Reproductive Matters

When asked where children get information on reproductive health, parents and guardians most commonly cite teachers, parents and guardians themselves, friends, clinics and health centres, and the radio as sources of information.

Where do parents and guardians say children get information on reproductive health?



When parents and guardians object to reproductive health education and HIV/AIDS education in primary schools, what are their reasons?



Reproductive Health Education in Primary School

Sixty-two percent of parents and guardians believe that reproductive health education should be taught in primary school. Most of these parents and guardians think the subject should be introduced in the upper primary grades. Among the 35 percent of parents

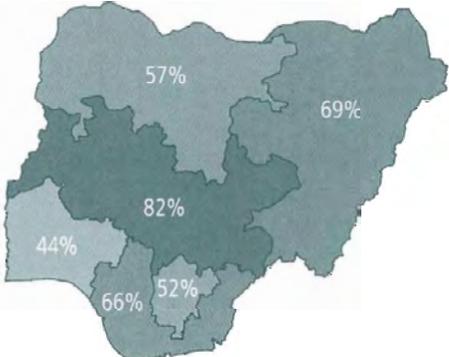
and guardians who said primary schools should not teach reproductive health education, the most common reasons given were that primary school pupils are too young and that reproductive health education encourages children to have sex.

HIV/AIDS Education in Primary School

Eighty-six percent of parents and guardians believe primary schools should teach about HIV/AIDS. Most of them think that the subject should be introduced in the upper primary grades. The 14 percent of parents and guardians who said primary schools should not teach HIV/AIDS education gave the same reasons as parents and guardians who believed reproductive health education is inappropriate in primary school.

Eight percent of parents and guardians said there were children in their community who do not attend school because their parents or guardians were sick from or had died of HIV/AIDS. Just 3 percent said that there were children in their own families who did not attend because of HIV/AIDS.

Do parents and guardians approve of reproductive health education in primary school?



Do parents and guardians approve of HIV/AIDS education in primary school?

