Swaziland

Out of School Children of the Population Ages 7-14

Number Out of School
7,000

**Percent Out of School**
3%

Source: Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2010

Comparison of Rates of Out of School Children Ages 7-14 across Swaziland

Exact estimated rates and 95% confidence intervals for estimates are provided later in the profile.
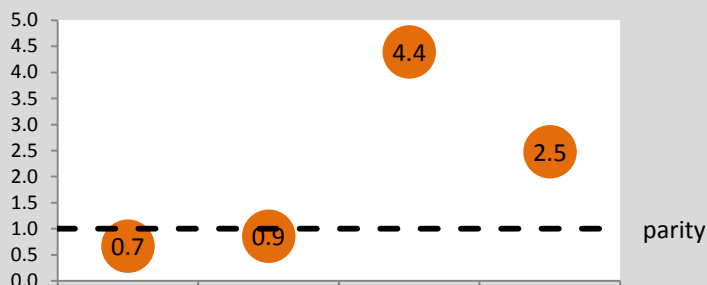

Hhohho

Manzini

Lubombo

Shiselweni

Out of School Rates (%)
- 0 - 1
- 1 - 2
- 2 - 3
- 3 - 4
- 4 - 5
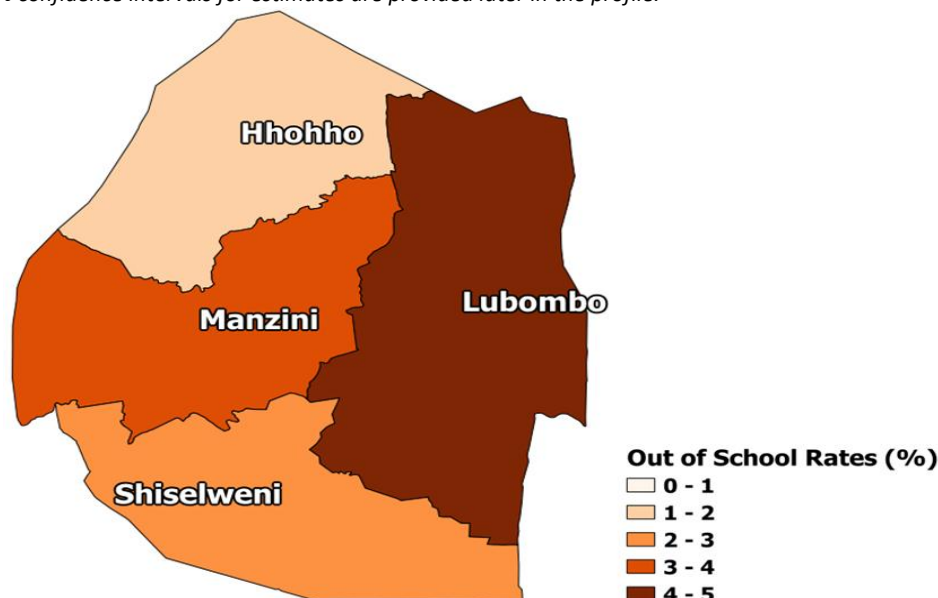
Comparison of Rates of Out of School Children According to the Most Recent Household Survey, Ages 7-14, Southern Africa

Lesotho (2009)	7
Namibia (2007)	7
Swaziland (2010)	3
South Africa (2011)	2
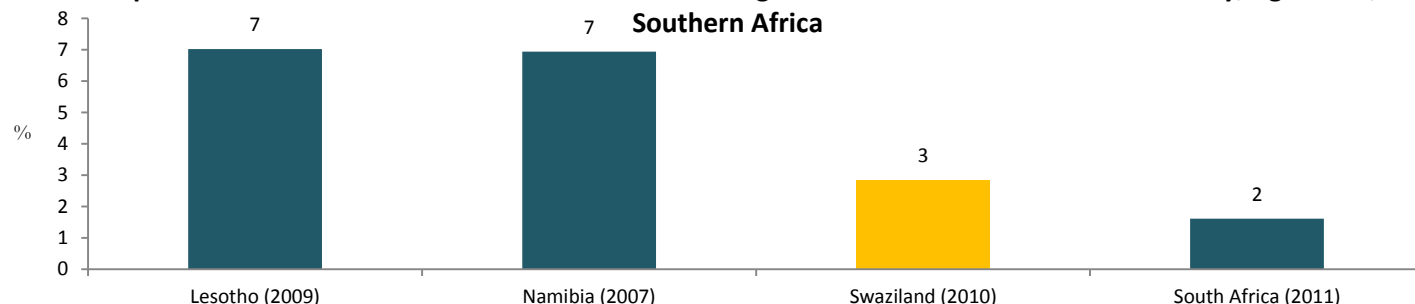
The Structure of the Education System in Swaziland

Swaziland has a 7-3-2 formal education structure. Primary school has an official entry age of six and a duration of seven grades. Secondary school is divided into two cycles: lower secondary (junior secondary) consists of grades 8 - 10 and upper secondary (senior secondary) consists of grades 11 - 12. In principle, primary school is free and compulsory. Students sit for the Swaziland Primary Certificate Examination at the end of grade 7, the Junior Certificate (JC) exam at the end of grade 10, the Swaziland General Certificate of Secondary Education (SGCSE) or the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE), at the end of grade 12. (UNESCO IBE, World Data on Education. 7th Edition, 2010-2011. Revised 8/2010).

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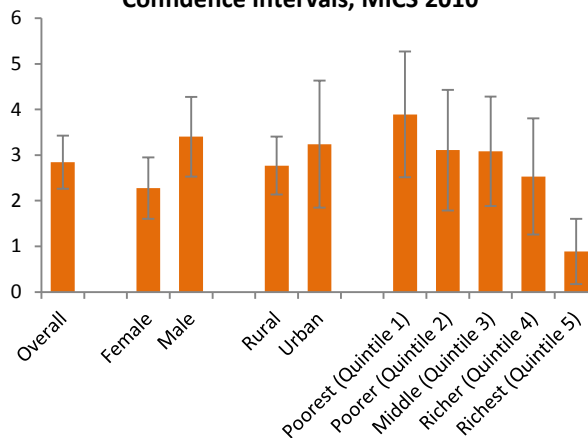*Making sense of data to improve education for development*

Parity Indices

● Parity indices provide information about the greatest sources of inequality in a population. The graph at left provides ratios of different estimates of children aged 7-14 who are out of school. It shows, for example, that the out of school rate in rural areas is 0.9 times higher than that in urban areas.

● For Swaziland, the greatest disparity in out of school rates is between children from the poorest and richest quintiles. Children from the poorest quintile are 4.4 times as likely to be out of school as children from the richest quintile.
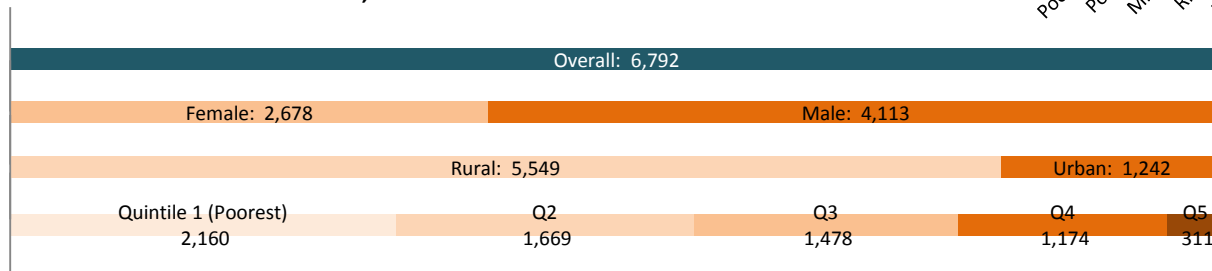
Out of School Children by Individual and Household Characteristics

● Fewer girls (2% or 2,678) are out of school than boys (3% or 4,113) in Swaziland.

● Out of school rates for children from rural areas (3%) are lower than those for children from urban areas (3%). In terms of absolute numbers, there are more children out of school in rural areas (5,549) than in urban areas (1,242).

● Out of school rates are highest for children in the poorest wealth quintile (4%).

Rates of Out of School Children (%), with 95% Confidence Intervals, MICS 2010

Numbers of Out of School Children, MICS 2010

Overall: 6,792		
Female: 2,678	Male: 4,113	
Rural: 5,549	Urban: 1,242	

| Quintile 1 (Poorest)	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5
2,160	1,669	1,478	1,174	311

About Data Sources

All out of school estimates presented in this profile are EPDC extractions of MICS data. MICS Surveys are led by UNICEF and are conducted every several years. They collect information on health, education, and other topics for households and individuals residing in those households. The 2010 Swaziland MICS Survey is representative at the national and subnational level. For more information, please see http://www.childinfo.org/mics.html.

Estimates of out of school children from household surveys can be expected to differ from administrative estimates, such as those from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics and national government agencies, because of differences between these sources in data collection and estimation methods for measuring school participation. For more information on the differences between these data sources, please see www.epdc.org.

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Out of School Children by Subnational Regions

● The subnational region with the highest percentage of children out of school is Lubombo (4%). Hhohho has the lowest rate of school non-participation (2%).

● The highest numbers of out of school children are located in Lubombo (2,179). Hhohho has the lowest numbers of out of school children (1,040).

Rates of Out of School Children by Subnational Region (%), with 95% Confidence Intervals, MICS 2010
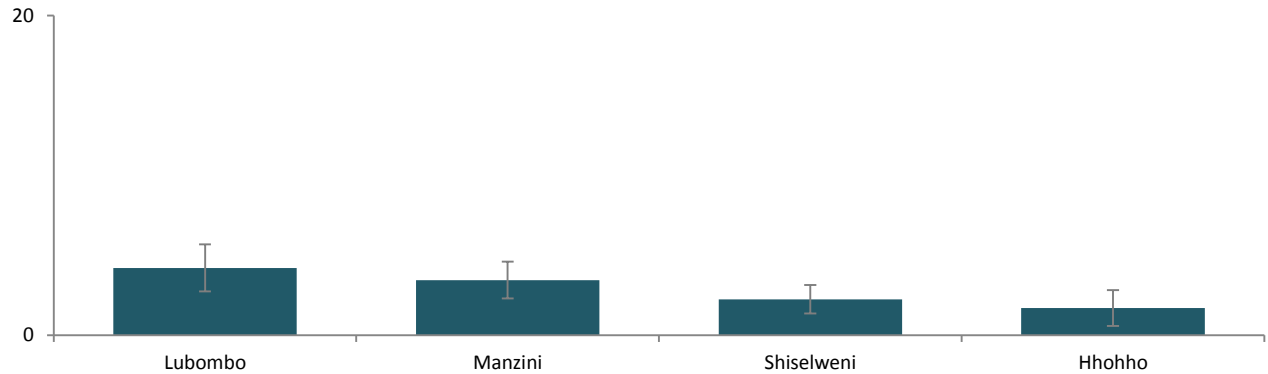
Numbers of Out of School Children by Subnational Region (# in thousands), with 95% Confidence Intervals, MICS 2010
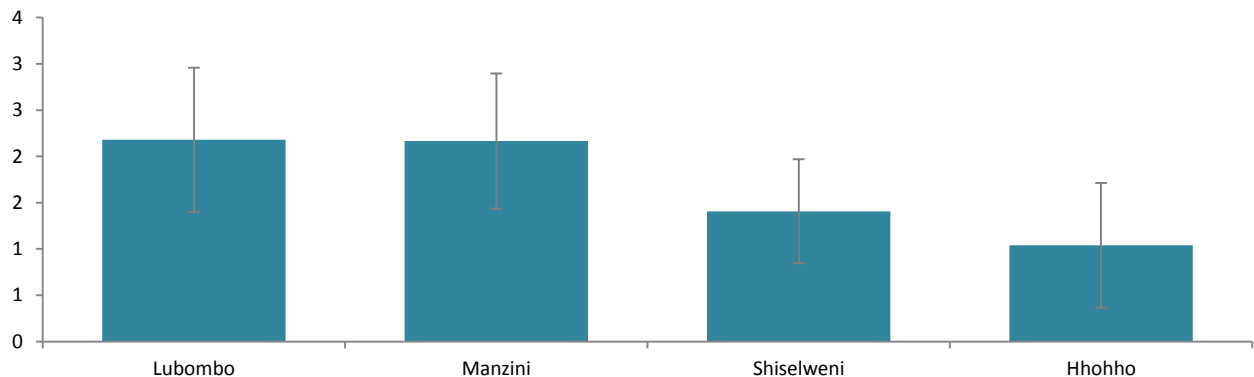

Why Ages 7-14?

EPDC presents data for ages 7-14. This age group captures the bulk of basic compulsory education in most countries, aids cross-national comparability of estimates, and conveys the normative international frameworks set by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and supported by the ILO Minimum Age Convention.

Out of School Rates by Age and Sex

● The official primary school entry age in Swaziland is age 6. At that age, 13% of girls and 18% of boys are out of school.

● At age 15, 13% of girls and 9% of boys are out of school.

● School participation is highest for girls at age 11 and for boys at age 10.

Out of School Rates, by Age and Sex
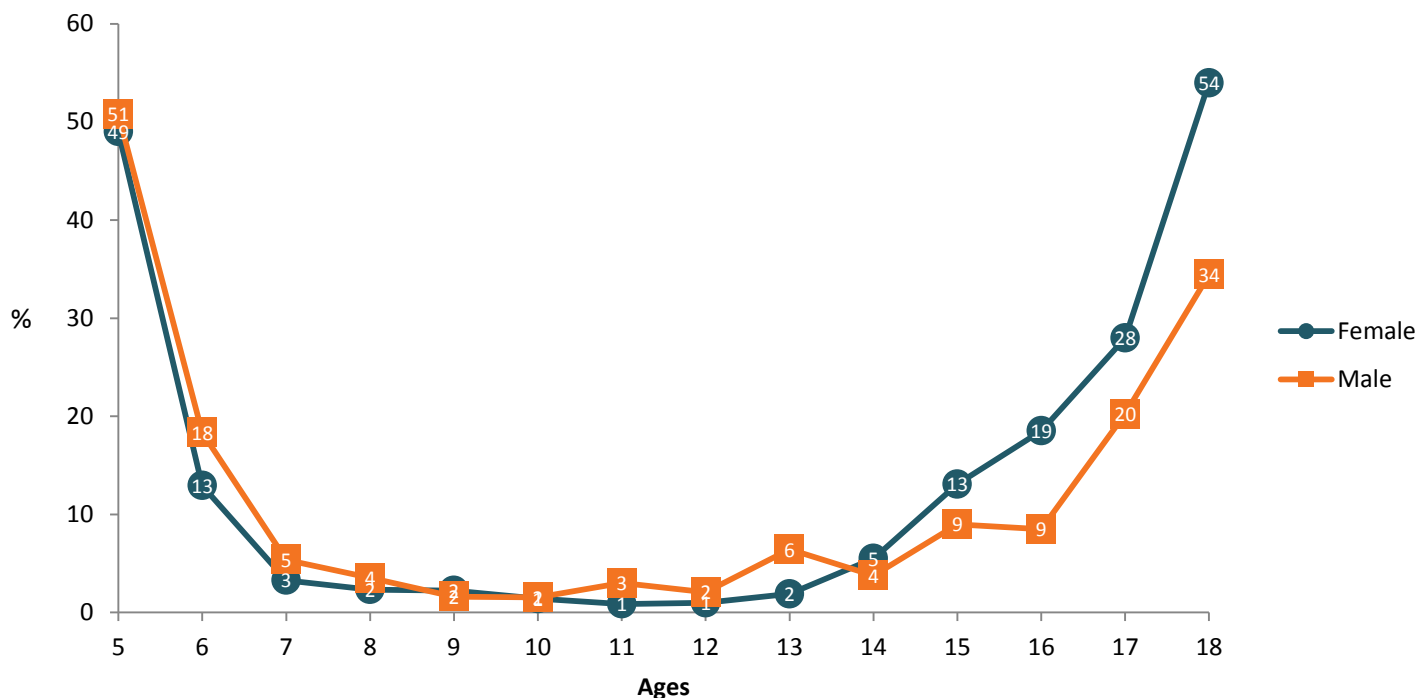
Summary of EPDC Methodology on Measuring Out of School Children

In this profile, EPDC presents estimates of the proportion and number of out of school children of the population ages 7-14 using household survey data. Along with relative and absolute estimates of out of school children, EPDC provides 95% confidence intervals for each estimate.

To create estimates of the proportion of out of school children for a particular school year, EPDC used birthdate information to identify children who were of a particular age range (7-14) on the month that the school year began. Children who had attended primary school or higher at any time during the school year were classified as 'in school;' Children who had not attended school at any time during the school year, or who had attended pre-school during that reference period were classified as 'out of school.' The proportion of children who are out of school is calculated as the number of children within the 7-14 age range who were classified as out of school divided by the number of children within the same age range.

To obtain the number of out of school children, the out-of-school rate is then applied to the estimated population of the same age range from the UN Population Division (EPDC obtained single-age population estimates to build the correct age range). UN Population Division figures are provided for mid-year each year, and EPDC uses the population figures from the year closest to the start of the school year in each country. Depending on a country's main academic calendar, the population figure may be from the year before the school participation year.

For more information on measurement of out of school children, please see the EPDC website at www.epdc.org.

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EPDC Estimated Rates and Numbers of Out of School Children based on MICS 2010 Presented with 95% Confidence Intervals

	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval	Estimated proportion of out of school children of the population ages 7-14 (%)	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval	Lower limit of 95% confidence interval	Estimated number of out of school children of the population ages 7-14 (#)	Upper limit of 95% confidence interval
National	2	**3**	3	5,409	**6,792**	8,174
Sex						
Female	2	**2**	3	1,880	**2,678**	3,476
Male	3	**3**	4	3,068	**4,113**	5,158
Area						
Rural	2	**3**	3	4,286	**5,549**	6,813
Urban	2	**3**	5	682	**1,242**	1,803
Relative Wealth						
Poorest Quintile	3	**4**	5	1,385	**2,160**	2,934
Poorer Quintile	2	**3**	4	950	**1,669**	2,388
Middle Quintile	2	**3**	4	893	**1,478**	2,063
Richer Quintile	1	**3**	4	546	**1,174**	1,802
Richest Quintile	0	**1**	2	61	**311**	561
Regions						
Lubombo	3	**4**	6	1,399	**2,179**	2,959
Manzini	2	**3**	5	1,436	**2,166**	2,895
Shiselweni	1	**2**	3	844	**1,407**	1,970
Hhohho	1	**2**	3	365	**1,040**	1,714