



Basic Education Profile for Southeast Nigeria

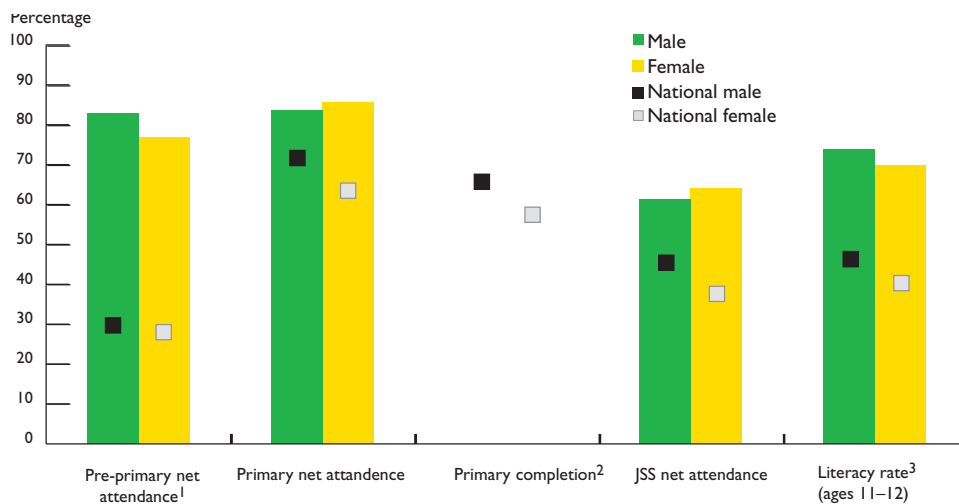
Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Imo States



BASIC EDUCATION OVERVIEW

This overview provides information on basic education, with indicators on attendance at three school levels, primary school completion and literacy rates. On all indicators except for primary completion, performance in the Southeast is much higher than

the national average; this is especially true for pre-primary net attendance. The Southeast does not show a large gender disparity in learning achievement, and female students actually outperform males in primary and junior secondary school (JSS) net attendance.



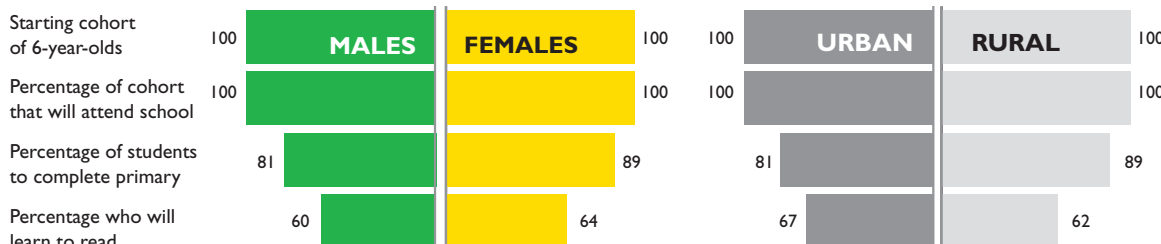
Source: EPDC extraction from DHS 2003 dataset

1. Pre-primary attendance is the percentage of children aged 6–11 who reported having entered school and who had attended pre-primary.
2. Primary completion rate is the number of children in the last year of primary school as a percentage of the population of 11-year-olds.
3. Literacy rate is the percentage of children aged 11–12 who can read a partial or whole sentence.

LEARNING PYRAMID: ACHIEVEMENT AND LOSSES IN PRIMARY SCHOOL

The learning pyramid shows the proportion of 6-year-olds likely to attend primary school, complete it, and be able to read a simple sentence by the time they are 12 years old. In the Southeast, 100 percent of all children (male and female) are reported as attending primary school, and 85 percent, on average, continue to grade 5.

Females and rural children have higher primary survival rates at 89 percent, compared to males and urban children at 81 percent. But since over a third of this population will remain illiterate, the region would benefit from literacy programs.

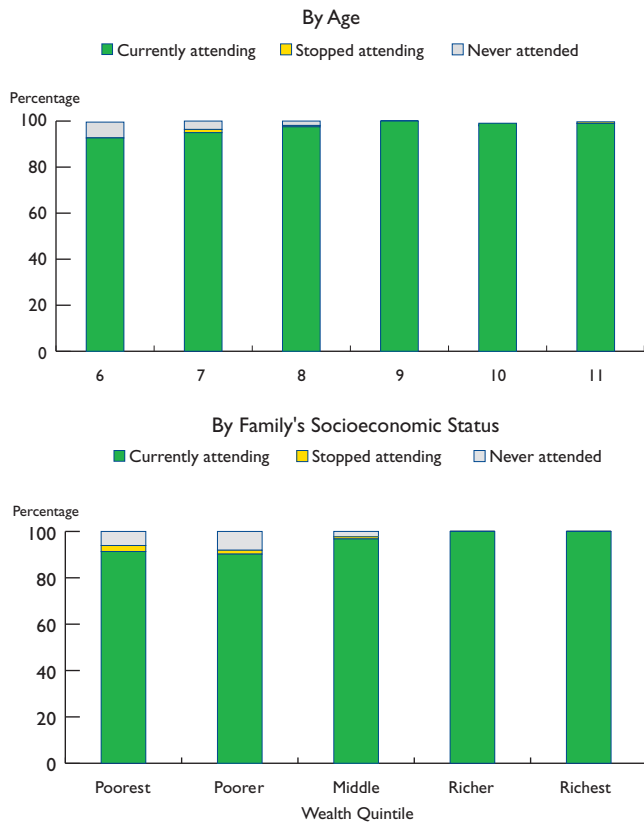


Source: EPDC extraction from DHS 2003 survey dataset

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE STATUS

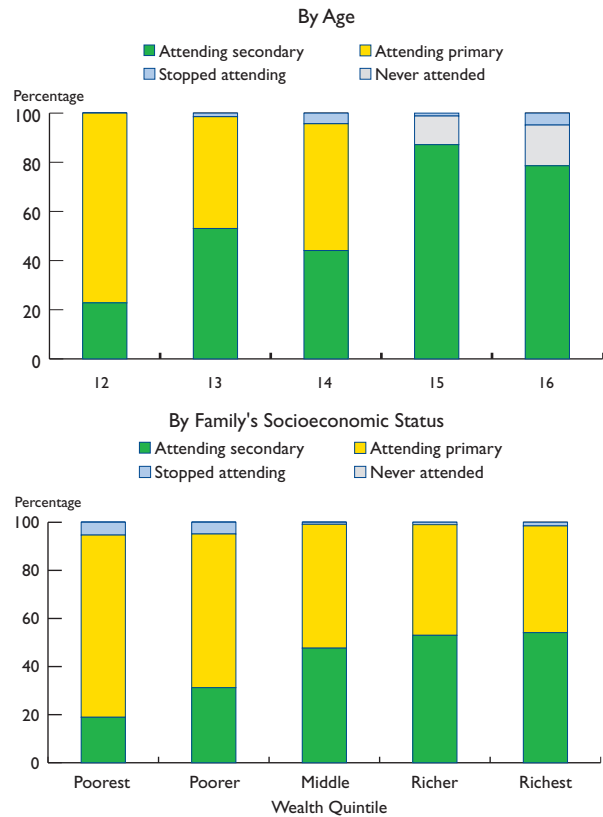
Primary School-Age Children

By age 6, most children (93 percent) in Southeast Nigeria have entered school, with a slight rise in school attendance from age 6 to age 11. The never-attended and dropout rates of 6- to 11-year-olds in the poorest 40 percent of the population are higher than those of children in wealthier households.



Secondary School-Age Children

Attendance is high for children ages 12–16 (the official secondary school ages), but an alarmingly large portion of students between ages 12 and 14 are still attending primary school. Children from richer households are more likely to be placed in age-appropriate grades in this older age group.

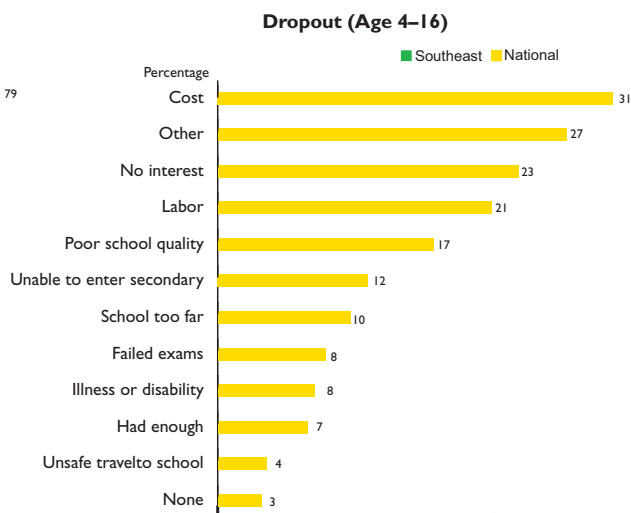
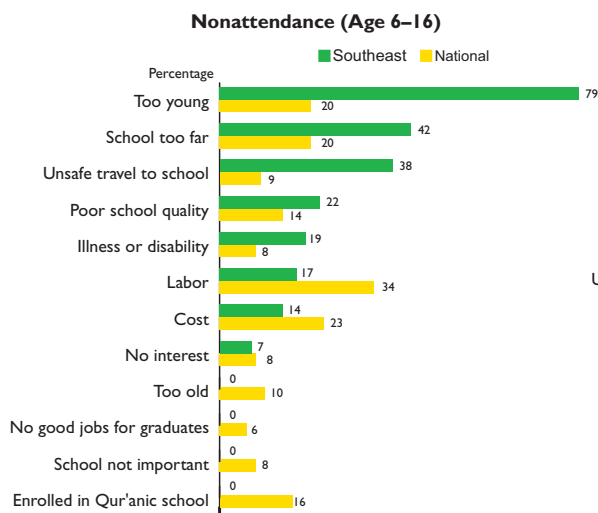


Source: EPDC extraction from DHS 2003 survey dataset. Note: Data on attendance are based on formal education figures.

FACTORS AFFECTING NONATTENDANCE AND DROPOUT

The main reasons given for school-age children in this region never to have gone to school were that they were too young,

their school was too distant, or the way to school was too risky to travel. Data on dropout were missing for this region.

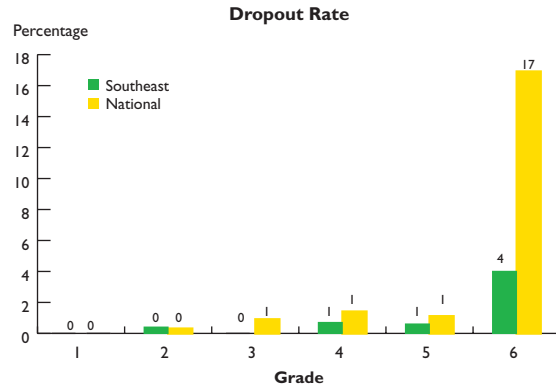
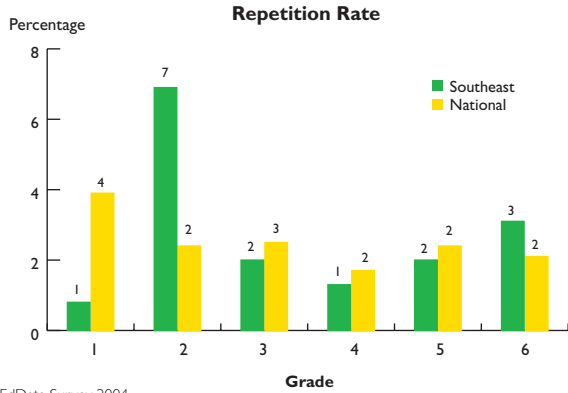


Note: For information on survey sample, see page eight. Source: DHS EdData Survey 2004

EFFICIENCY: REPETITION AND DROPOUT RATES IN PRIMARY SCHOOL BY GRADE

Repetition rates in the Southeast are comparable to the national average, except for the first grade at 1 percent, which is well below the national average of 4 percent, and for the second grade at 7

percent, substantially higher than the national average of 2 percent. Dropout rates are low for grades 1–5 and remain fairly low at 4 percent in grade 6, compared to the national average of 17 percent.



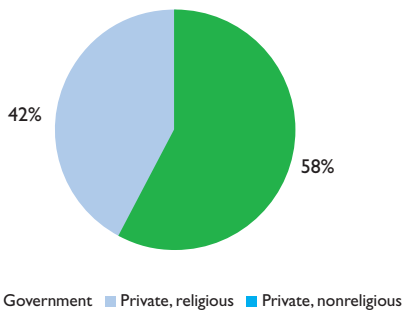
Source: DHS EdData Survey 2004

STUDENT BACKGROUND AND SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS

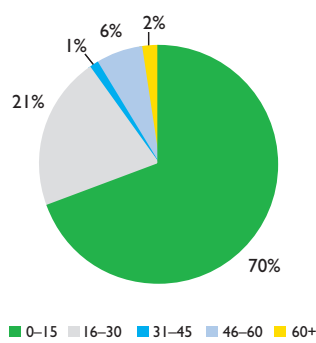
There is a relatively high percentage of private schools (42 percent) in the Southeast compared to other regions. Fathers are the main decision-makers for children's education (56 percent). Students

in government primary schools come from all socioeconomic levels, whereas a large portion of private-school students come from wealthier households. This region has no nonreligious private schools.

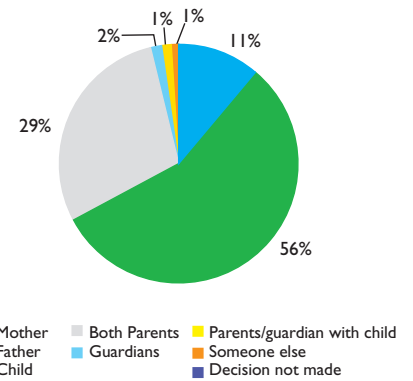
Percentage of Schoolchildren Attending Different Types of Primary Schools



Minutes Walking to Nearest Primary School

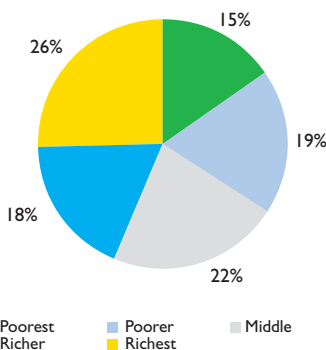


Decisionmakers for Children's Education

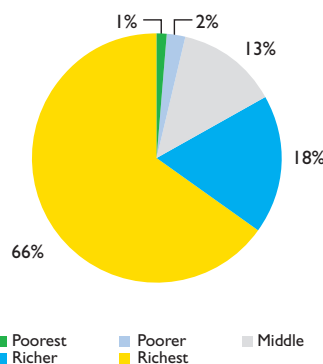


Source: DHS EdData Survey 2004

Family's Socioeconomic Status in Government Primary Schools



Family's Socioeconomic Status in Private Religious Primary Schools

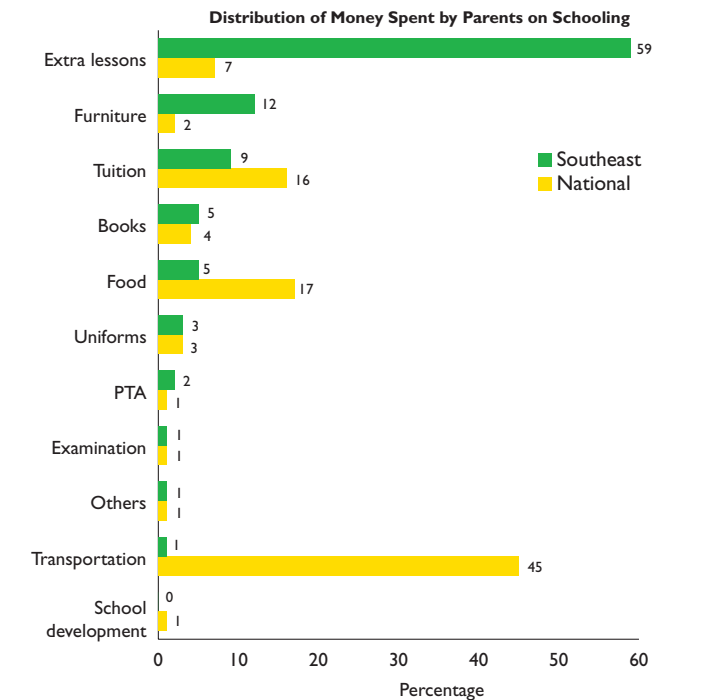
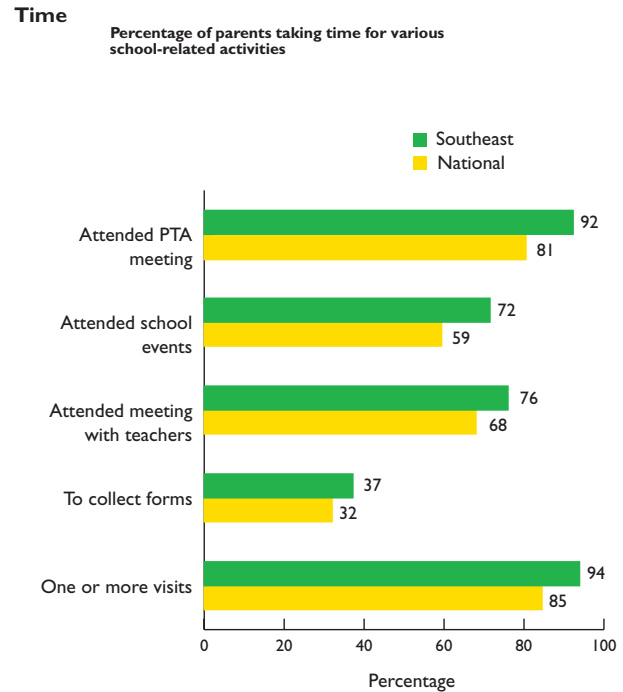
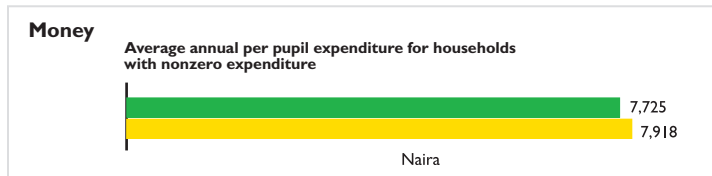


Source: EPDC extraction from DHS 2003 survey dataset

PARENTAL CONTRIBUTION AND INVOLVEMENT IN MONEY AND TIME

These charts show parents spend about 7,725 Naira annually for each student in primary school, close to the national average of 7,918 Naira. Much of this is spent on extra lessons (59 percent). Of parents with one or more children in primary school, 94 percent report having visited the school at least once; 92 percent

have attended a PTA meeting, 76 percent have met with teachers, and 72 percent have attended school meetings in the past 12 months. Overall, parents' involvement in children's education is higher than the national average.

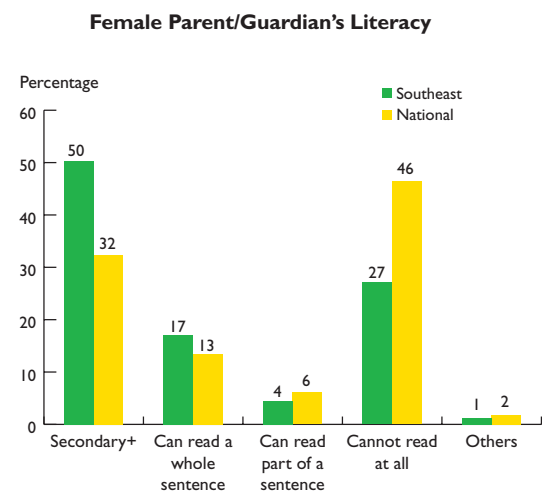
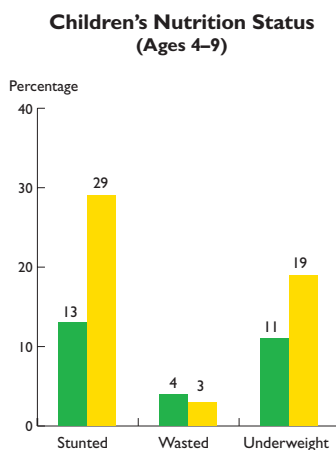
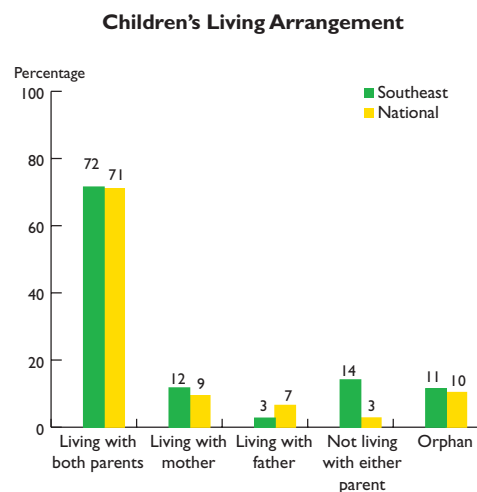


Source: DHS EdData Survey 2004

CHILD WELFARE

Seventy-two percent of children live with both parents, but the portion not living with either parent (14 percent) is far higher than the national average. Only 13 percent of children are stunted and 11 percent are underweight, compared with the national averages

of 29 percent and 19 percent. Illiteracy among female parents and guardians, at 27 percent, is well below the national average of 46 percent, and their secondary school attainment rate—50 percent—is much higher than the national average of 32 percent.

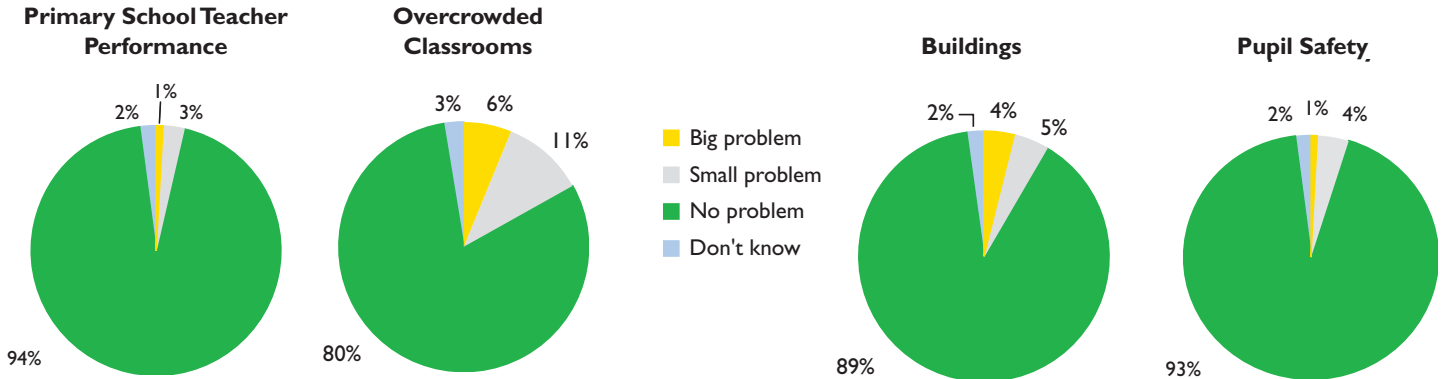


Source: DHS EdData Survey 2004

PERCEIVED SCHOOL QUALITY

Only seventeen percent of parents or guardians expressed concerns about overcrowded classrooms, and only nine percent were

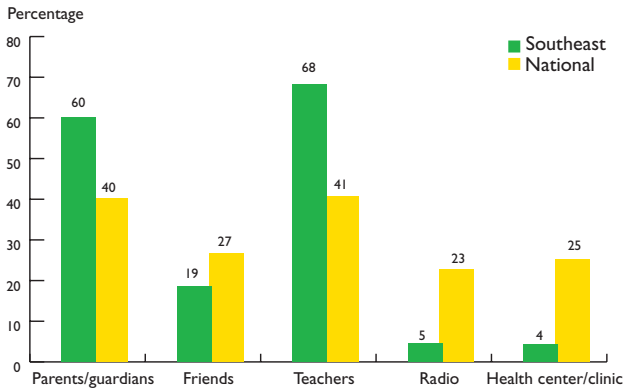
concerned about the quality of school buildings. Even fewer considered school performance or pupil safety a problem.



Source: DHS EdData Survey 2004

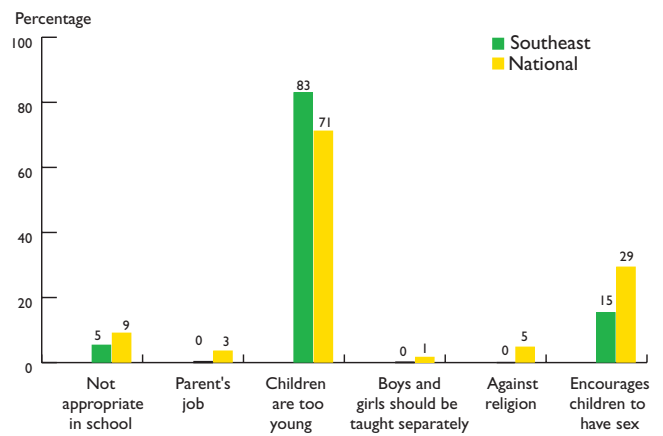
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Sources of Reproductive Education



Source: DHS EdData Survey 2004

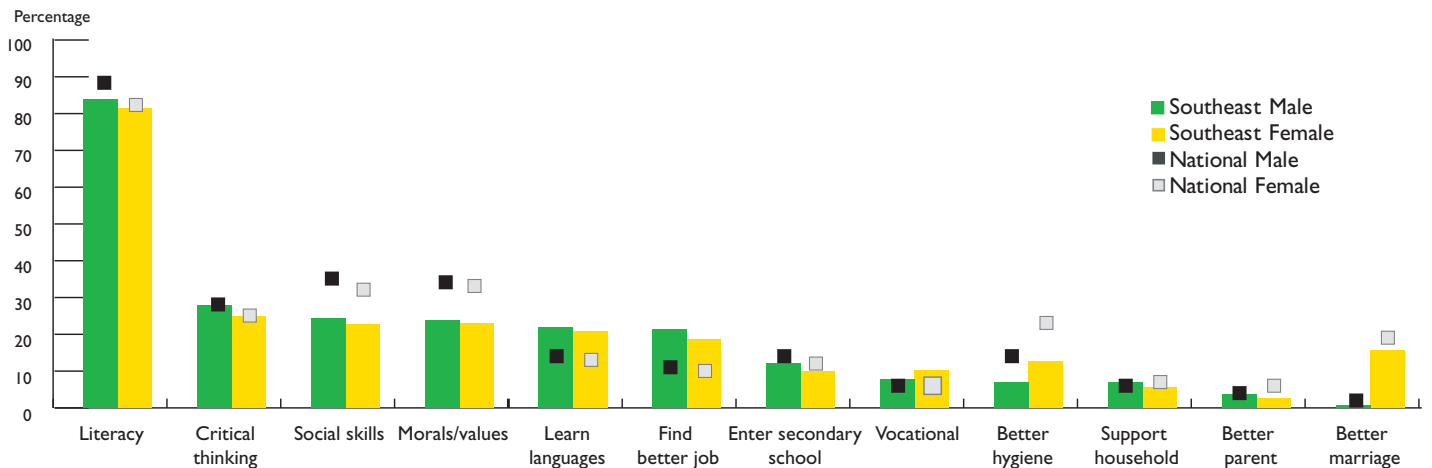
Reasons Primary Schools Shouldn't Provide Reproductive Education



VALUE OF SCHOOLING

Parents and guardians see acquiring literacy as one of the main benefits of primary schooling. Finding better jobs and learning languages

were rated higher in this region than nationally, while gaining morals/values, social skills, and good hygiene ranked lower.



Source: DHS EdData Survey 2004

BASIC EDUCATION INDICATORS	National			Region					
	Total	Urban	Rural	North-Central	North-east	North-west	South-east	South-South	South-west
School Attendance (%)									
Children age 6–11 attending primary school	68	76	64	80	54	56	85	80	82
Children age 6–11 who have ever attended school that attended preschool	27	49	19	29	12	12	80	42	61
Children age 12–14 attending JSS	28	38	22	29	14	12	33	45	49
Children age 12–17 attending SS	35	46	29	38	19	15	49	52	61
Children age 12 who can read part of or a whole sentence	44	58	36	50	28	26	64	50	74
Primary completion	62	77	55	58	44	55	79	73	79
Factors Affecting School Attendance (%)									
<i>Factors in Never Having Attended School</i>									
Monetary cost	23	23	23	27	12	29	14	51	30
Labor needed	34	29	35	14	35	36	17	16	31
Child not interested	8	13	7	11	12	6	7	11	3
Child too young	20	24	19	20	17	21	79	42	35
Child too old	10	16	8	1	10	11	0	0	0
Child very sick/long-term illness	4	6	3	6	3	5	19	0	11
Child disabled	4	4	4	12	3	3	0	12	33
Travel to school unsafe	9	5	10	7	8	10	38	1	20
School too far	20	6	24	10	20	22	42	7	19
Poor school quality	14	4	16	2	14	15	22	0	0
No good jobs for graduates	6	9	5	1	3	8	0	0	0
School not important	8	11	7	3	10	7	0	6	0
Enrolled in Qur'anic school	16	30	12	4	24	13	0	0	0
<i>Factors in Primary School Dropout</i>									
Monetary cost	31	37	29	42	25	24	*	46	36
Labor needed	21	24	20	16	18	25	*	26	19
Failed exams/had to repeat	8	12	7	0	2	15	*	7	24
Child no longer wanted to attend	23	37	19	43	12	18	*	30	49
Child completed enough schooling	7	5	8	2	4	10	*	9	0
Child very sick/long-term illness	4	5	4	6	5	4	*	3	0
Child disabled	3	2	4	0	7	2	*	3	2
School too far	10	4	12	7	11	17	*	1	4
Travel to school unsafe	4	1	5	2	4	7	*	1	0
Poor school quality	17	11	19	0	18	31	*	0	0
Unlikely/unable to enter secondary school	12	6	13	2	2	25	*	0	4
Absenteeism 2002–2003 School Year (%)									
Primary school pupils missing one or more days	60	59	61	40	68	66	71	70	47
Secondary school students missing one or more days	53	50	55	42	61	62	67	61	37
Characteristics of Schools Attended (%)									
<i>Types of Primary School</i>									
Attending public primary school	61	51	67	70	79	71	43	49	43
Attending private, religious primary schools	16	19	14	16	7	20	63	20	27
Attending private, nonreligious primary schools	23	30	18	14	13	9	40	30	30
<i>Reasons for Choice of Primary School</i>									
Proximity	66	52	73	66	78	75	39	67	48

BASIC EDUCATION INDICATORS	National			Region					
	Total	Urban	Rural	North-Central	North-east	North-west	South-east	South-South	South-west
Quality	37	49	30	48	28	33	58	23	44
Expense	18	19	17	29	13	22	15	12	10
Religion	4	6	3	3	1	8	2	2	7
Safety	7	6	8	15	12	6	3	1	3
Other	5	4	5	7	0	3	7	6	6
Parental Involvement in Primary School (%)									
Attended PTA meeting	81	85	78	90	83	80	92	50	94
Attended school events	59	65	56	66	48	43	72	58	87
Attended meeting with teachers	68	72	66	78	73	70	76	45	74
Collected forms	32	37	29	32	18	28	37	38	43
One or more visits	85	88	82	91	77	79	94	79	96
Household Expenditures on Schooling (in Naira)									
Mean household expenditures per pupil on primary schooling	7,918	10,495	6,390	5,194	3,869	9,264	7,725	8,632	13,983
Mean household expenditures per pupil on secondary schooling	20,628	29,948	20,284	15,352	11,231	29,708	22,512	22,370	21,343
Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS, and Education									
Parent/guardian favoring primary schools teaching about reproductive health (%)	62	55	66	82	69	57	52	66	44
Age at which parent/guardian thinks <i>boys</i> should be taught about reproductive health	14	15	14	13	16	15	14	13	15
Age at which parent/guardian thinks <i>girls</i> should be taught about reproductive health	13	13	13	12	13	12	13	13	14
Parent/guardians favoring primary schools teaching about HIV/AIDS (%)	86	80	89	94	90	82	80	91	72
Children's Characteristics (%)									
<i>Children's Nutrition</i>									
Children age 4–9 who are stunted	29	19	34	22	32	36	13	26	22
Children age 4–9 who are wasted	3	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	1
Children age 4–9 who are underweight	19	14	21	12	21	24	11	18	18
<i>Children's Literacy and Numeracy</i>									
Children age 4–12 who can read	28	45	19	32	13	15	57	39	55
Children age 4–12 who correctly sum numbers	45	63	37	49	33	28	76	64	72
Child Welfare (%)									
Living with both parents	71	67	73	70	74	80	72	57	62
Living with female parent/guardian who cannot read at all	46	34	56	50	80	78	27	27	29
Orphaned	10	11	10	10	10	7	11	16	10
Educational Attainment of Adults (%)									
No schooling	42	30	48	36	62	66	15	15	21
Some primary	9	8	10	11	10	8	12	11	6
Completed primary	12	12	12	13	6	7	19	18	19
Some secondary	20	25	18	24	12	9	26	33	32
Completed secondary and beyond	16	24	11	16	9	9	25	23	22
Don't know/missing	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	1

Southeast Nigeria

This education profile is intended to give a basic overview of the education sector in Southeast Nigeria. The data are from the 2004 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) EdData Survey, and are linked to the 2003 Nigeria DHS. The profile highlights issues related to attendance, retention, learning, and teaching efficiency. It also provides information on parents' contributions to their children's schooling (in money and time) and their perceptions of schooling. One section focuses on overall welfare of children in the region.

Note: The survey question on nonattendance was asked of about 1,665 youth ages 6–16 who had not attended school for any reasons other than physical or mental disabilities. The survey question on dropout was asked of about 306 children ages 4–16 who had dropped out for any reasons other than physical or mental disabilities or long-term illness.



DATA INSIGHTS

The Southeast is made up of the states of Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, and Imo. The Southeast region outperforms the national average in many of the education indicators.

- Improvements are needed in the following areas:
 - Literacy: about 30 percent of 12-year-olds could not read a simple sentence.
 - Reaching disadvantaged groups: children in the poorest quintile are the least likely to be attending school.
- On-time attendance: many children start school later than the official age of 6.
- In the Southeast, parents and teachers are the main providers of reproductive education, at rates much higher than nationally; use of radio and health centers for this is fairly low. Many parents see their children as too young for reproductive education in primary school.