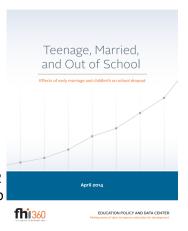


#### **MAY 2014**

# Teenage, Married, and Out of School: Effects of early marriage and childbirth on school dropout

EPDC FINDINGS SHED LIGHT ON THE IMPACT OF EARLY MARRIAGE ON SCHOOLING IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Over the past decade, improvements in primary school enrollment and gender parity in Sub-Saharan Africa have not carried over to the secondary level: For every 100 boys, only 82 girls of secondary school age are enrolled across the region, up from 80 in the year 2000. Using recent household survey data from nine Southern and Eastern African countries, this paper

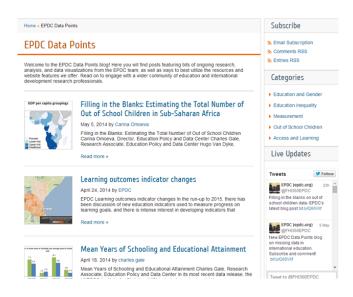


examines the role that early marriage and pregnancy play in this disparity and seeks to investigate the nuances of the relationship of marriage and attendance by including interaction terms to see how the relationship is moderated by other important factors: age, wealth, urban or rural residence, and educational attainment. Across the countries included in the study, we find that an "average" married girl is roughly 20 times as likely to be out of school as her unmarried peer, and we note moderating effects from age on early marriage and school attendance. In individual countries, effects are sometimes even more dramatic: In Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda married girls are more than 40 times as likely to be out of school than unmarried girls. The study also provides an in-depth analysis of data from Malawi, finding that both early marriage and to a lesser extent early pregnancy impact school participation. These findings suggest that policies that specifically target girls at risk for early marriage and pregnancy, such as the Malawi readmission policy, are greatly needed.

## The EPDC Data Points blog is launched!

### **EPDC CORE SERVICES**

- Data survey, compilation and extractions >
- Data visualization through graphs, maps, and profiles >
- Education trend and resource projections >
- Statistical analysis and methodology development >



The EPDC Data Points blog was recently launched with the goal of making the database and other EPDC resources more interactive and accessible to our users. Posts will feature ongoing research that staff are engaged in, recent data changes or additions, and will highlight tools such as our database search, data visualization builder, and recent publications and profile series. Users are encouraged to subscribe by email or through RSS, read and comment to keep up to date with the latest from EPDC.

#### Additions to database

#### Changes to our collection of learning outcomes data

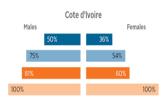
We are currently engaged in an overhaul of the learning outcomes indicators presented in our database, aiming to simplify and make them easier to search for and understand. One major change is that we will now be presenting common indicators across all types of assessments, based on high and low benchmarks. Data from the 'citizens-led' ASER, UWEZO and Beekungo assessments have already been updated, and in the coming weeks we will be updating and adding disaggregated data from SERCE, SACMEQ and other sources. See our collection of learning outcomes data notes landing page for information on each of the assessments and associated indicator benchmarks, and also download spreadsheets which preserve the traditional content-specific benchmarks for the ASER, UWEZO and Beekungo assessments, available on the EPDC site.

Other data added Other data recently added to our database include Afghanistan MICS (2011) household survey, and administrative data from the Universal

 Policy-oriented and datadriven research and analysis >

Go to our w ebsite:
www.edpc.org





#### Learning pyramids brief

In a recent brief, EPDC uses learning pyramids to show cumulative achievement of the school systems in 20 selected countries by demonstrating how many children enroll in school, w hether they remain enrolled until they reach a certain grade, and w hat percentage of them learn how to read. Grade repetition is a common experience for a vast majority of primary students, creating large inefficiencies and added strain on education systems. Finally, a significant proportion of those who reach the upper primary grades never gain basic literacy skills, the low est benchmark of a standardized learning assessment.



**EPDC** YouTube channel

Our YouTube channel was recently launched, featuring tutorial videos

Basic Education Commission Nigeria (2011, 2012). Use our country, topic or advanced search to access the latest data additions.

and tours of the website designed to help users get the most out of our resources. These short five minute videos walk users step-by-step through data searches, building data visualizations, and utilizing other resources. Have an idea for a tutorial that would be helpful to you? Feel free to e-mail epdc@fhi360.org with ideas and suggestions.

#### **CURRENT AND FORMER PARTNERS AND CLIENTS**

EPDC looks forward to continue serving its partners and clients in improving evidence-based decision making and education planning by providing education data analysis, research, and user-friendly tools for better data utilization.

Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

Global Partnership for Education (formerly EFA Fast Track Initiative)

Google

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) Ministries of Education in Mozambique, Namibia, Southern Sudan, Pakistan, Zambia

The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MINBUZA)

OECD International Household Survey Network (IHSN)

United Kingdom
Department for
International
Development (DFID)

UNESCO Global Monitoring Report (GMR)

UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)

UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP)

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

World Bank EdStats

EPDC provides global education data, tools for data visualization, and policy-oriented analysis aimed at improving schools and learning in developing countries.



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