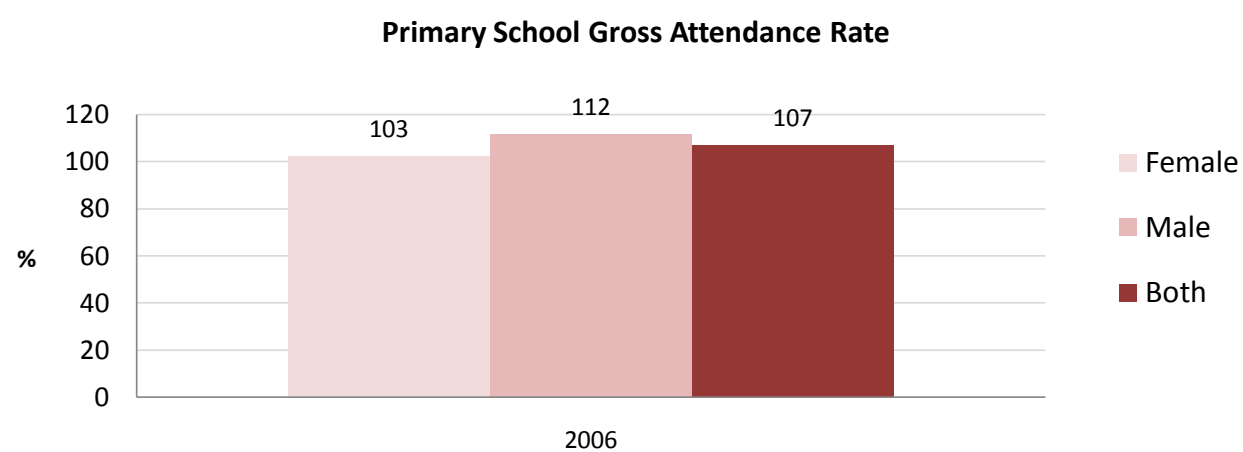
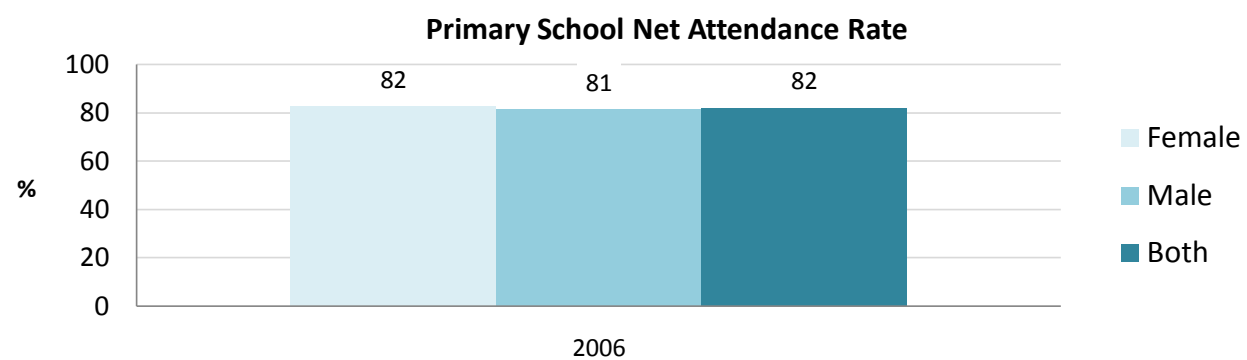


Primary School Net and Gross Attendance Rates, Swaziland

More than three quarters of primary school age children in Swaziland attend school and gender parity in attendance has been achieved.

- 82% of children ages 6-12 attend primary school.
- 81% of boys ages 6-12 attend school, compared to 82% of girls.
- Some gender disparity in favor of boys can be observed in primary gross attendance rates.



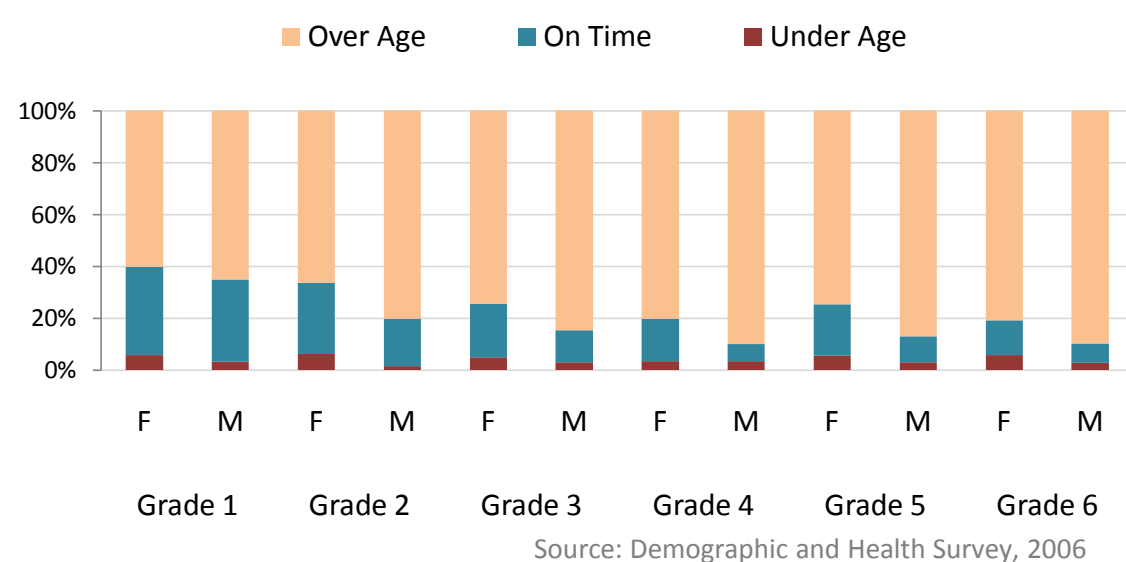
Source: Demographic and Health Survey

Many children attending primary school are outside of the official age range. This is reflected in the difference between net and gross attendance rates. This can have tremendous impact on the educational infrastructure, the experience in the classroom, and educational planning.

The net attendance ratio (NAR) is the percentage of the official primary school-age population that attends primary school. The gross attendance ratio (GAR) is the total number of students attending primary school - regardless of age - expressed as a percentage of the official primary school-age population.

Over-Age, Under-Age, and On-Time Students in Primary School, Swaziland

Only about 18% of primary school students are in the appropriate grade for their age; the on-time proportion declines in the higher grades.



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

- 82% of the male primary school students and 73% of the female students are over-age.
- The percentage of males who are over-age ranges from 65% to 90%. The percentage for females ranges from 60% to 81%.
- About 4% of primary school students are younger than the official age for the grade that they are attending.

The Implications of Over-Age/Under-Age Students

For the system: Both late entry into primary school and grade repetition can cause children to be over-age for their grade. High repetition rates indicate inefficiency in the education system.

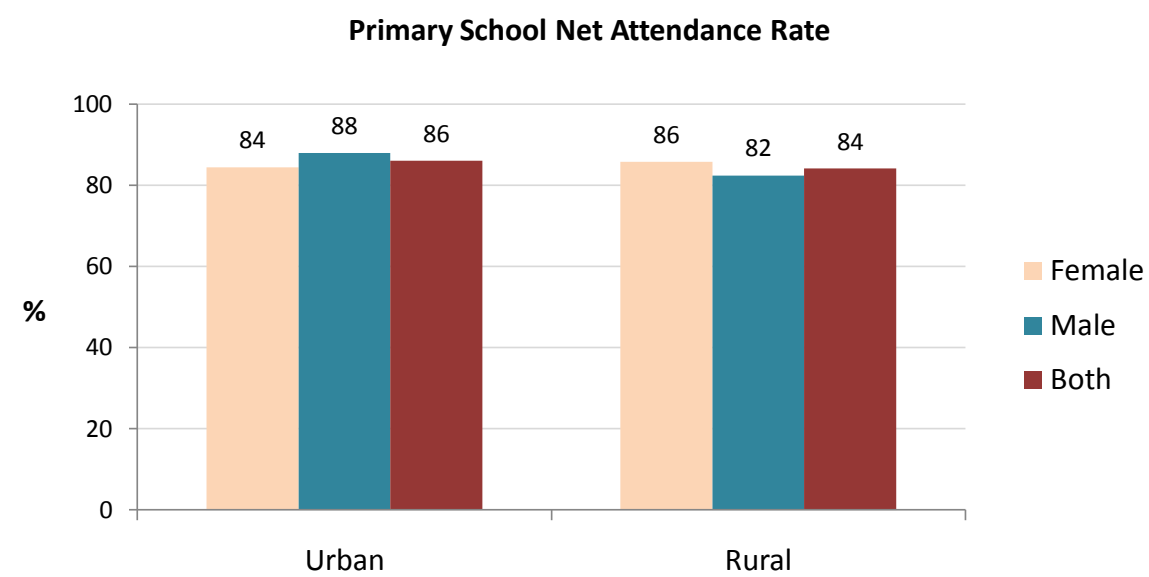
In the classroom: Large numbers of over-age students present a challenge for teachers who must teach a more diverse group with differing levels of maturity and school preparedness.

Students are considered to be on time if they are at the official age for the grade; over age if they are one or more years older; and under age if they are one or more years younger.

Primary School Net Attendance Rate in Urban and Rural Areas, Swaziland

Children in urban areas and rural areas are equally likely to attend school.

- In urban areas, 86% of children of primary school age attend school, compared to 84% in rural areas.



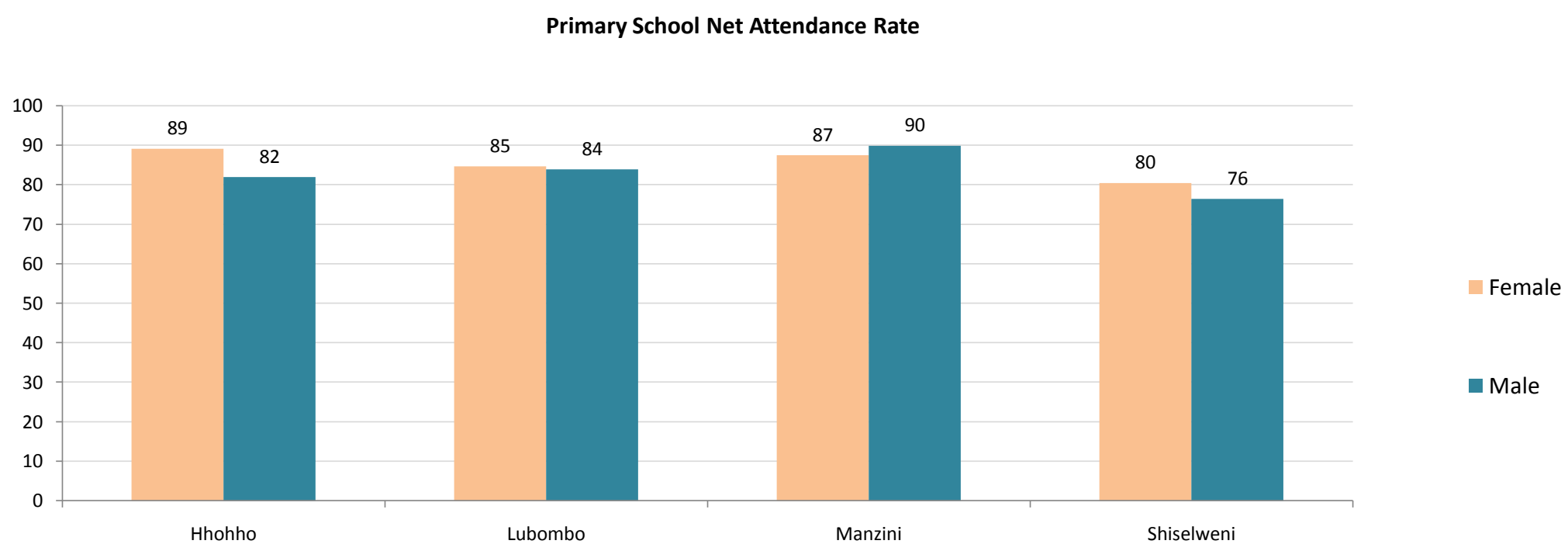
Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

- No gender disparity can be observed in either urban or rural areas.

Primary School Net Attendance Rate by Region, Swaziland

There are not very large regional disparities in primary school attendance in Swaziland.

- Primary net attendance is highest in the Manzini region (89%); attendance is lowest in the Shiselweni region (78%).
- Gender disparity is lowest in the Lubombo region and highest in the Hhohho region.
- In all 4 regions more than three quarters of primary school age children attend school.

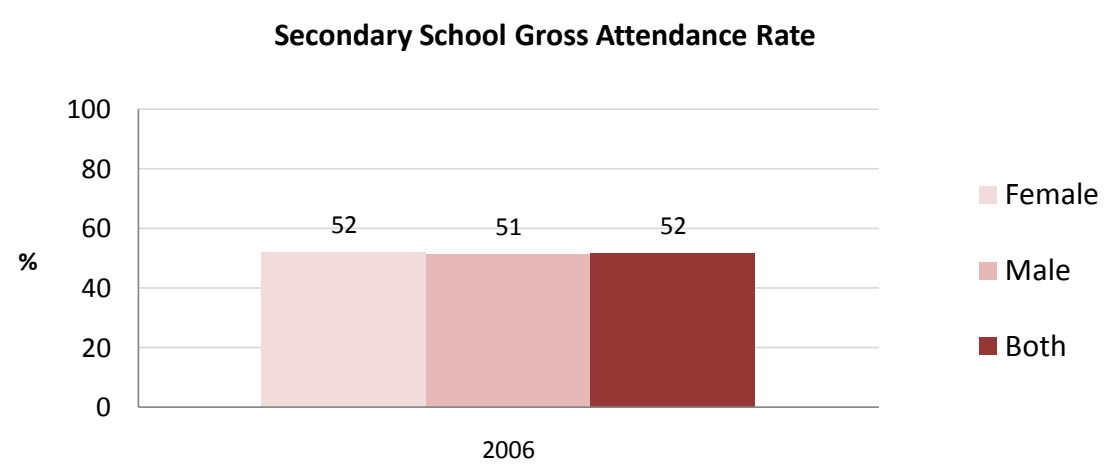
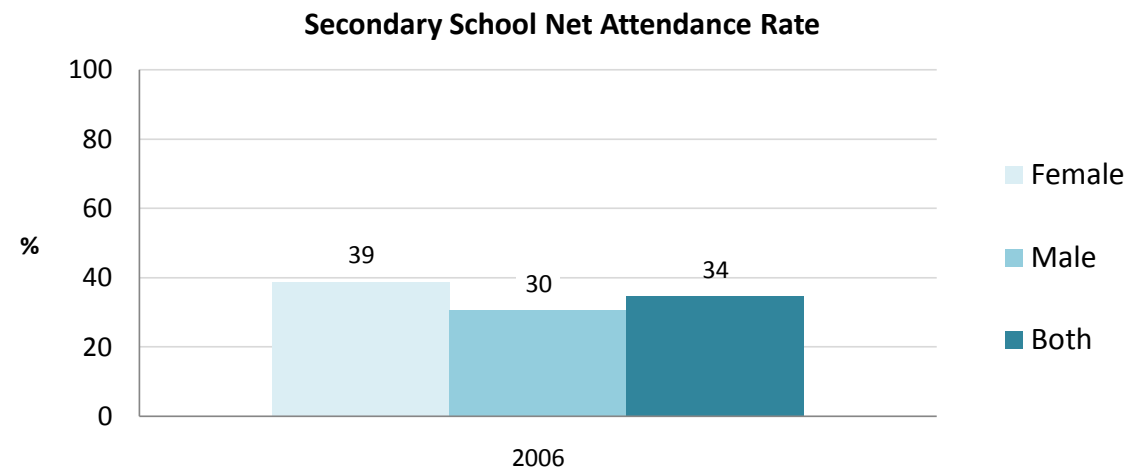


Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

Secondary School Net and Gross Attendance Rates, Swaziland

Only one third of secondary school age youth attends school.

- 34% of youth ages 13-17 attend secondary school.
- 30% of males ages 13-17 attend school, compared to 39% of females.
- Students over or under the official secondary school age range make up 17% of the secondary school age population.
- Some gender disparity in favor of females can be observed in secondary school net attendance.

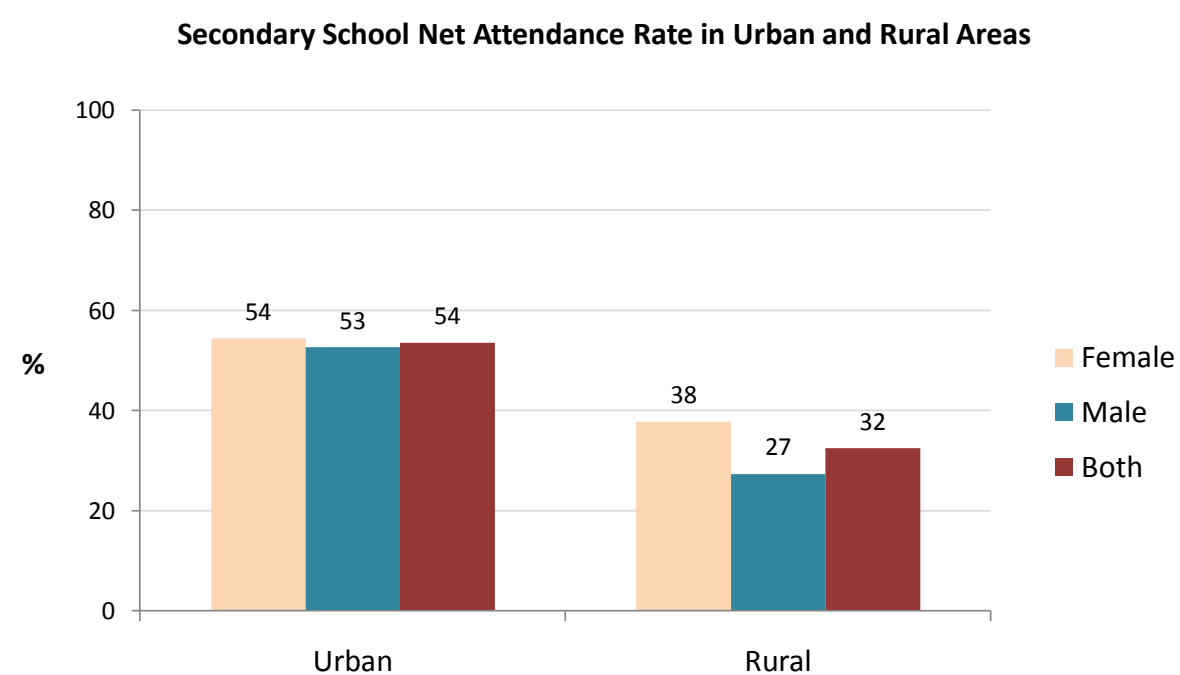


Source: Demographic and Health Survey

Secondary School Net Attendance Rate in Urban and Rural Areas, Swaziland

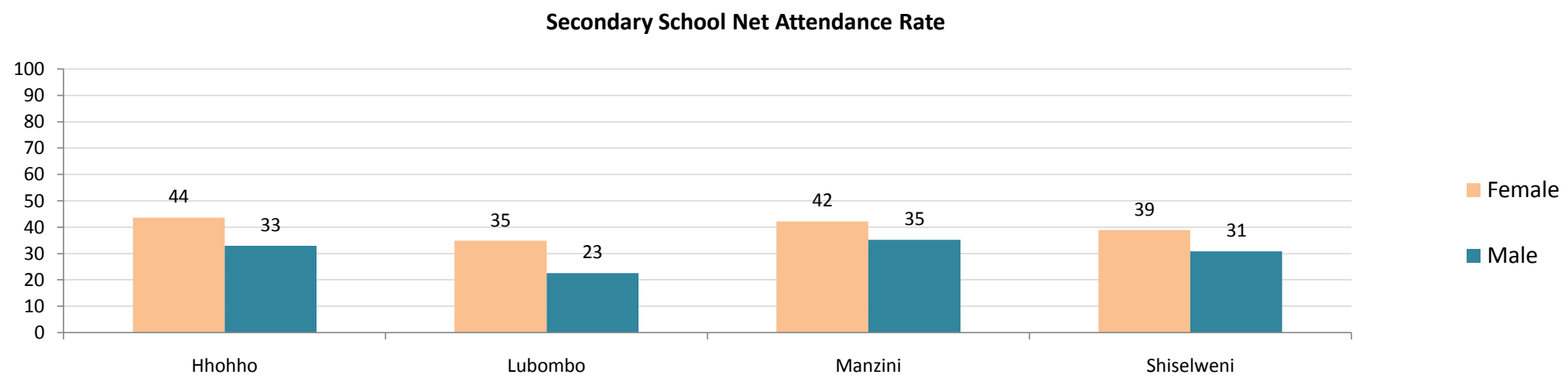
There are more youth attending secondary school in urban areas as compared to rural areas.

- In urban areas, 54% of children of secondary school age attend school, compared to 32% in rural areas.
- Gender disparity in favor of females can be observed in rural areas.



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

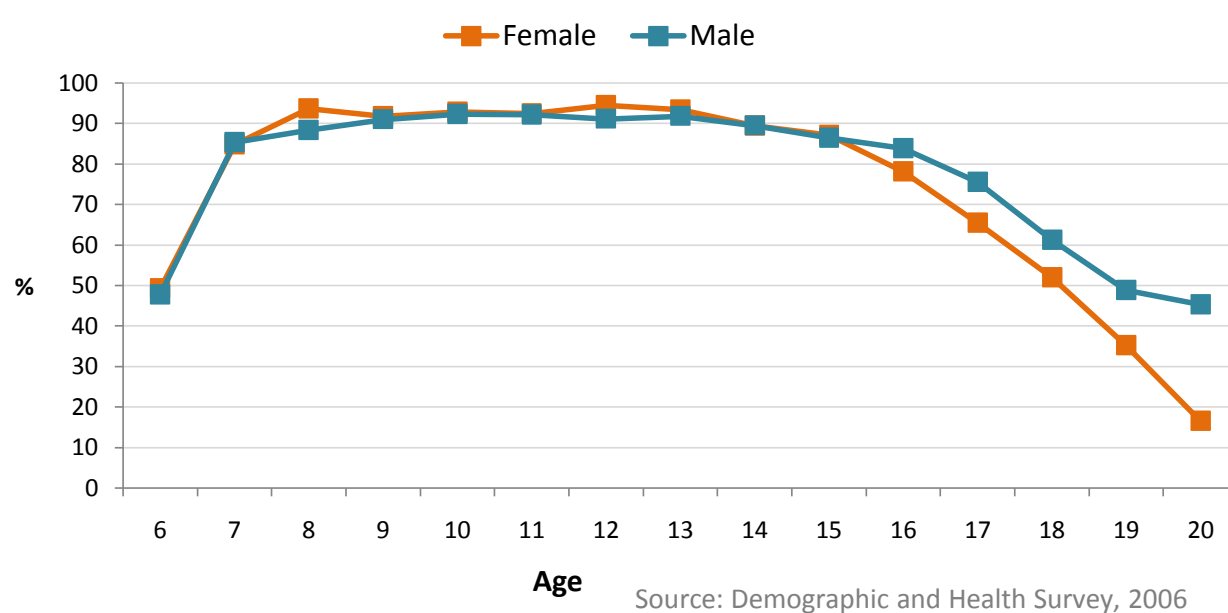
Secondary School Net Attendance Rate by Region, Swaziland



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

- Secondary net attendance is highest in the Manzini region (39%); attendance is lowest in the Lubombo region (28%).
- Gender disparity is highest in the Lubombo region and lowest in the Manzini region.

School Attendance by Age and Sex, Swaziland

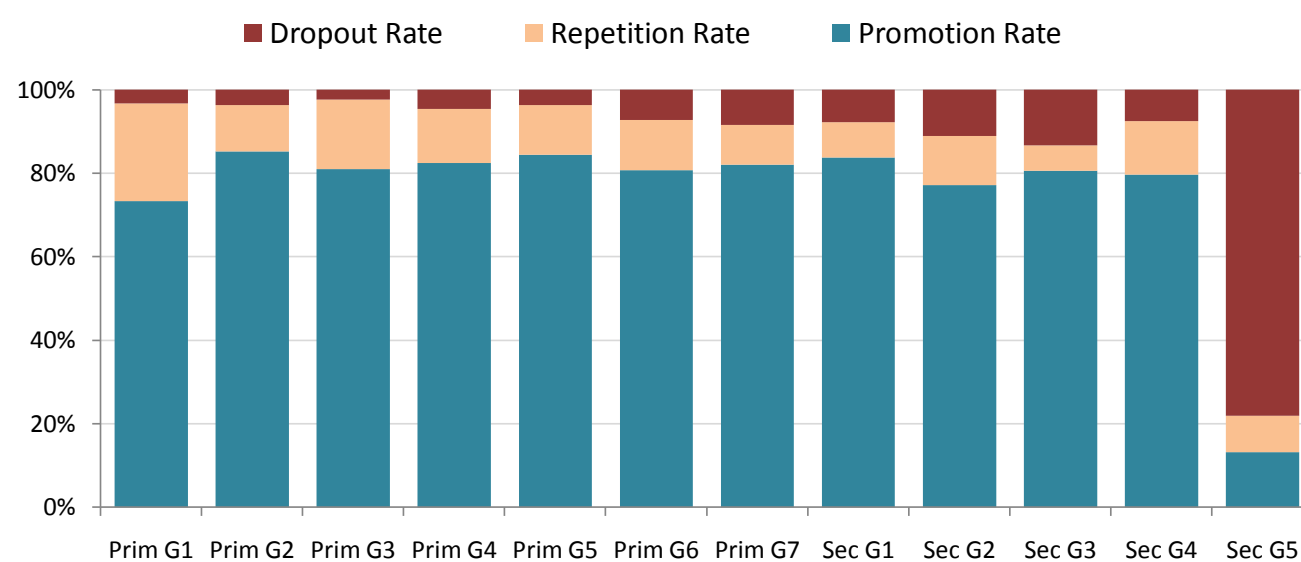


Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

- There are as many girls as boys attending school up to age 15, in older age groups the percentage of boys attending school is higher than girls.
- For females, the highest attendance rate is at age 12 (95%), while for males the highest attendance rate is at age 10 (92%).

Repetition, Dropout, and Promotion Rates by Grade, Swaziland

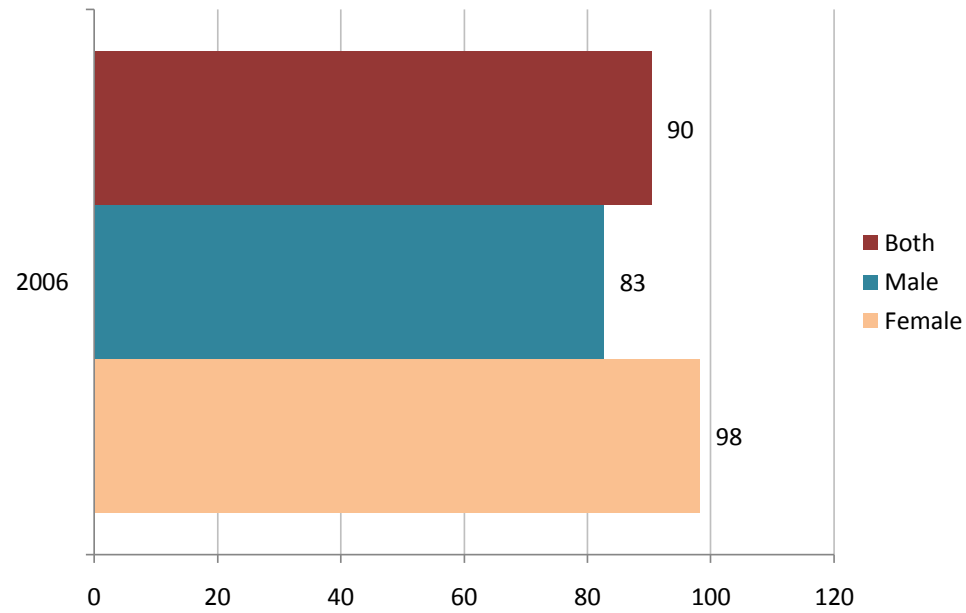
- Repetition rate ranges from 6% in grade 3 of secondary school to 23% in grade 1 of primary school.
- Dropout rate is highest in grade 5 of secondary school (78%) and lowest in grade 3 of primary school (2%).



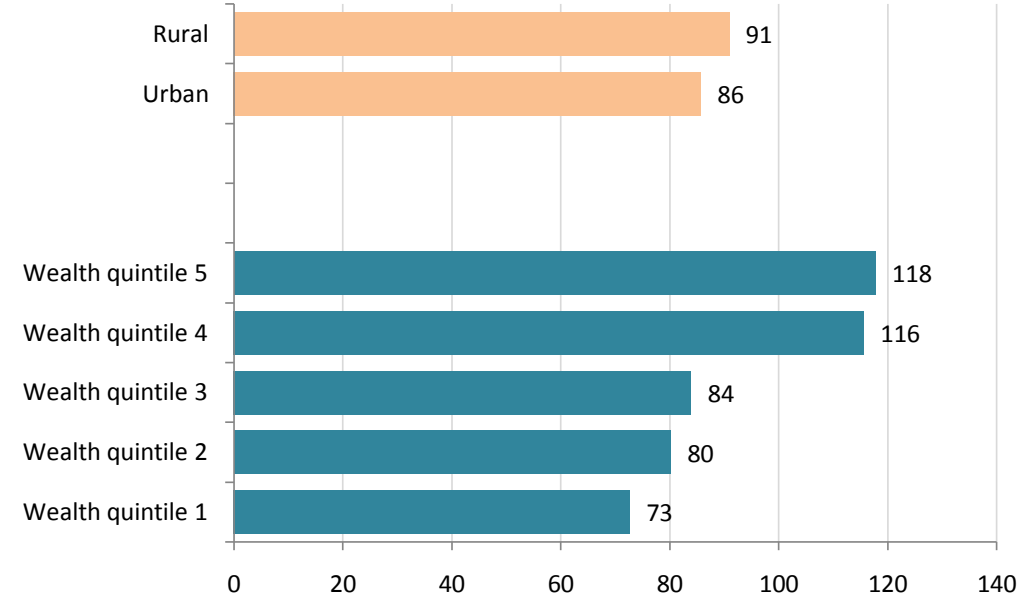
Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

Primary School Completion Rates, Swaziland

- Primary completion rates are higher among females (98%) than males (83%).
- The probability of completing primary school is similar in urban and rural areas and does seem to be slightly correlated with the wealth of the student's household.



Source: Demographic and Health Survey



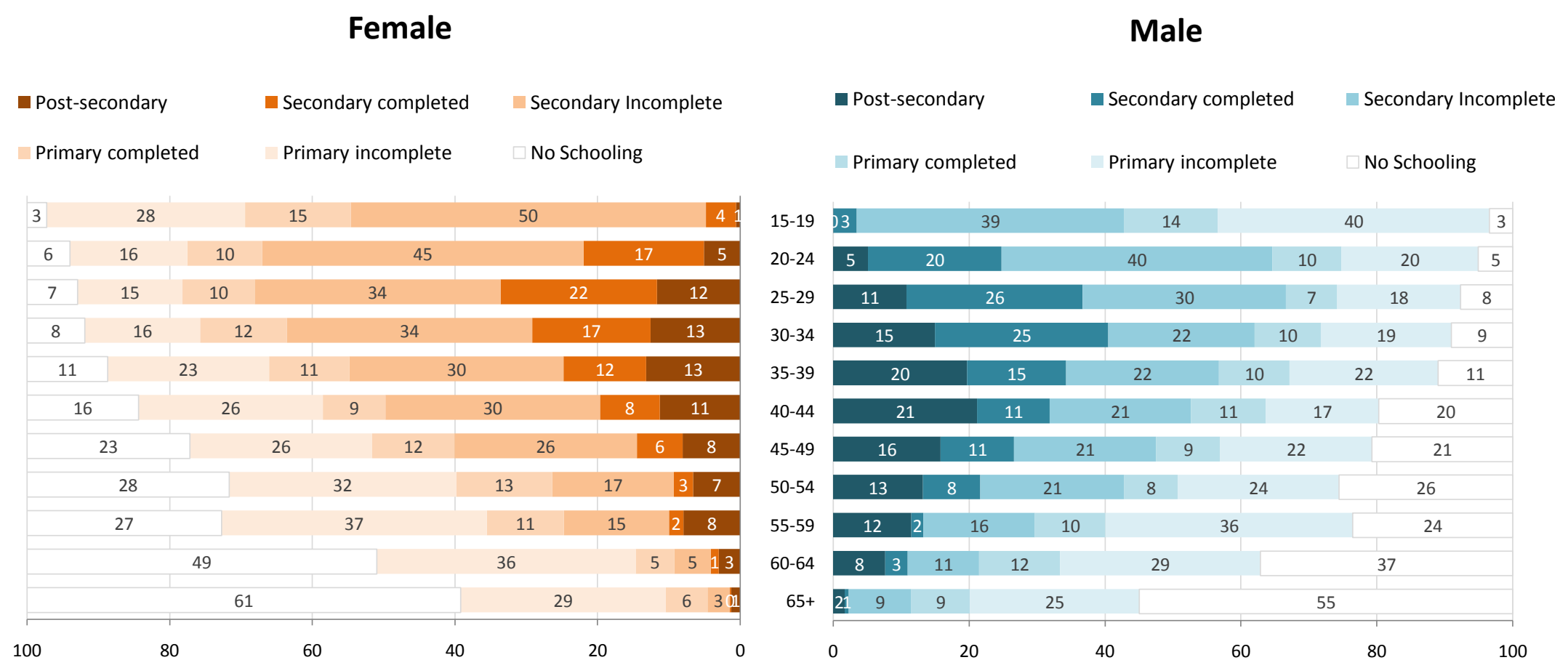
Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

The primary school completion rate is the total number of students attending the last grade of primary school - regardless of age - expressed as a percentage of the official last grade of primary school-age population.

Educational Attainment, Swaziland

The levels of education of males and females appear to be similar across most age groups.

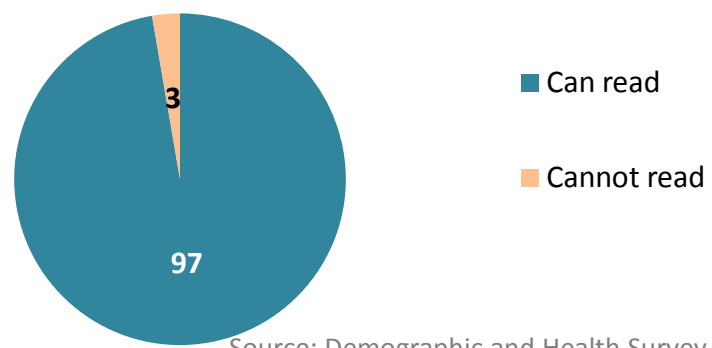
- Among the population aged 15 years old and above, 13% of men and 16% of women have no education.
- 3% of men and 3% of women who are 15-19 year old have never attended school.
- Only 8% of the population aged 15 years old and above have post-secondary education.



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

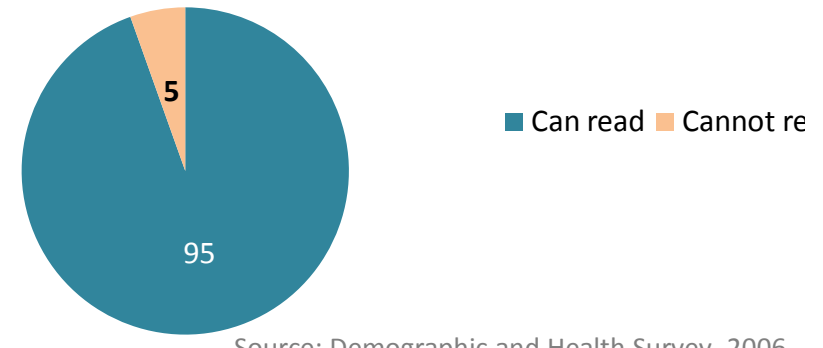
Female Literacy Rates, Swaziland

Female Literacy Rate, Urban



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

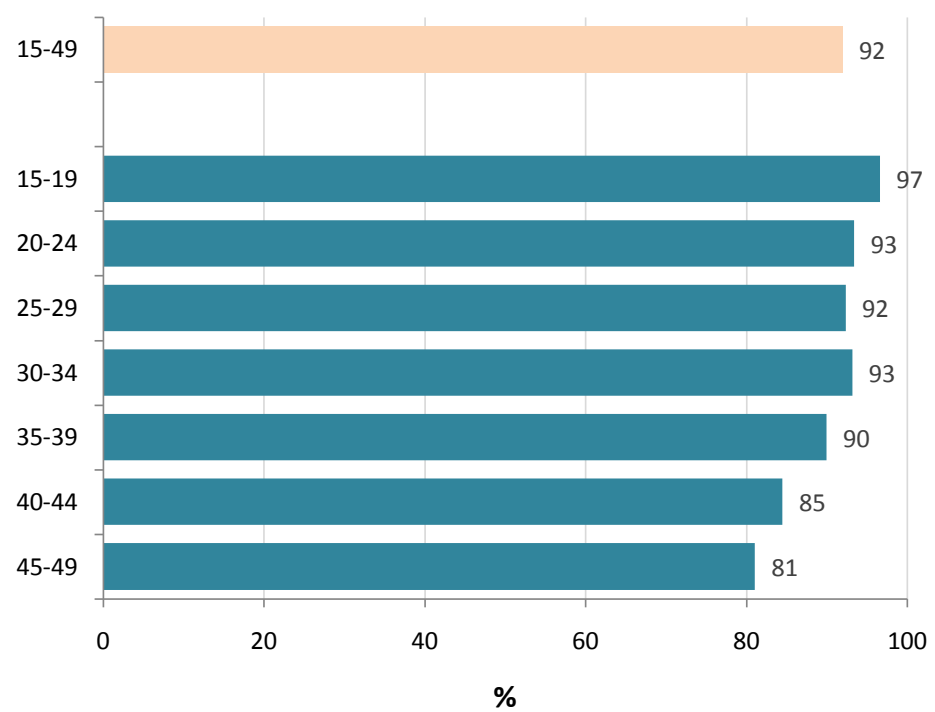
Female Literacy Rate, Rural



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006

- 97% of women age 15-24 in urban areas can read, compared to 95% in rural areas.
- The percentage of women who can read is 81% among women age 45-49 and 97% among women age 15-19.

Female Literacy Rate by Age



Source: Demographic and Health Survey, 2006