## Nigeria Education Fact Sheets I 2023

Analyses for learning and equity using MICS data

MICS-EAGLE

## Acknowledgements

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## Photocredits

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## Introduction

## What is MICS?

UNICEF launched Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) in 1995 to monitor the status of children around the world. Over the past 25 years, this household sample has become the largest source of statistically sound and internationally comparable data on women and children worldwide, and more than 330 MICS surveys have been conducted in more than 115 countries.

MICS surveys are conducted by trained fieldworkers who perform face-to-face interviews with household members on a variety of topics. MICS was a major data source for the Millennium Development Goals indicators and continues to inform more than 150 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators in support of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

MICS has been updated several times with new and improved questions. The current version, MICS6, was deployed in 2017 and is being implemented in 58 countries. MICS6 includes new modules that track SDG4 indicators related to education such as learning (SDG4.1.1), early childhood development and education (SDG4.2.1 and SDG4.2.2), information and communication technology skills (ICT - SDG4.4.1), and child functioning (child disability - SDG4.5.1), as well as parental involvement in education.

## MICS6 in Nigeria

MICS was carried out in 2021 by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) as part of the Global MICS Programme. Technical support was provided by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), with government funding and financial support of UNICEF, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and Bill \& Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). The fieldwork was carried out between September to December 2021. For all education questions, 2020-2021 school year is the school year of reference, i.e., 'current school year'.

## Differences between estimates from household survey and EMIS

In MICS, the questions on education are focused on 'attendance' instead of 'enrolment'. For all 3-to 24 -year-olds, an array of information on schoo attendance and completion is collected. This information is collected for all children residing in the household at the time of data collection. Education information collected includes whether they ever attended school, whether they attended school in school year 2020-2021, their highest level of education, whether they attended school in school year 2019-2020, and whether they completed the grades attended. This is the information that has been used to calculate completion rate, out-of-school rate, dropout and repetition rates in MICS6 and MICS Education Analysis for Global Learning and Equity (MICS-EAGLE) factsheet for Nigeria. It is therefore important to note that while indicators in MICS and Education Management Information System (EMIS) may share the same names, they are different. The difference arises as a result of difference in data sources, or the respondents in both sources, the school year, the question/concept used to calculate the indicator (attendance versus enrolment). However, estimates from both MICS and EMIS help provide a broad understanding of the education situation in Nigeria.

## What is MICS-EAGLE?

UNICEF launched the MICS-EAGLE initiative in 2018 with the objective of improving learning outcomes and equity ssues in education. MICS-EAGLE addresses two critical education data problems - gaps in key education indicators, as well as lack of effective data utilization by governments and education stakeholders. It is designed to:

- Support education sector situation analysis and sector plan development by building national capacity and leveraging the vast wealth of MICS6 education data; and
- Build on the MICS6 education data to yield insights at the national, regional, and global level about ways to ensure each child can reach his or her full potential by reducing barriers to opportunity.


## What is profiling?

One of the characteristics of these fact sheets is profiling. Profiling illustrates the demographic and socio economic characteristics of children in a certain category, and answers questions such as "what percentage of a key population group is male and what percentage is female?" or "what percentage of a key population group lives in rural and what percentage lives in urban areas?" Because profiles examine all children within a key population group, the sum of various characteristics always adds up to 100 per cent (although rounding may affect this)

For example, a profile of children not completing primary education will highlight some of the main characteristics of children in the target population group for this indicator. Primary completion rates look at children aged 3-5 years older than the entry age for children for the last grade of primary school, so the target population on this indicator will be children aged 14-16 years who have not completed primary education. In Nigeria, 24 per cent of children aged between 14 and 16 have not completed primary education. Among these 27 percent who have not completed primary education, 52 per cent are males and 48 per cent are females.

How are these fact sheets structured?

The MICS-EAGLE initiative offers activities at the national, regional and global level.
The eight topics listed below are analysed through an equity lens (gender, socio-economic status, ethnicity, etc.):


Access and Completion

## Skills

(learning outcomes, ICT skills and literacy rate)

Education for Children with Functional Difficulties


Early Learning

## Out-of-School Children

Repetition and Dropouts
(internal efficiency)

Child Protection
(child labour and child marriage)

Remote Learning


## Topic 1 Completion Rates

## Guiding <br> questions

1. For which level of education is the completion rate the lowest?
2. What region and ethnicity have the lowest completion rates at each level?
3. What is the profile of children who do not complete each level of education?
4. What are the socio-economic characteristics of children who do not complete each level of education?

## Overview

## What is completion rate?

The completion rate reflects the percentage of a cohort of children or young people 3 to 5 years years older than the intended age for the last grade of each level of education (primary, junior secondary, or senior secondary) who have completed that level of education. For example, if the officia age of entry into primary education is 6 years, and primary school has six grades, then the intended age for the last grade of primary education is 11 years. In this case, the reference age group for calculation of the primary completion rate would be 14-16 years $(11+3=14$ and $11+5=16)$ This indicator is used to calculate SDG 4.1.2 - completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education).

| FIGURE | Overview of completion rates |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Richest | 97\% | 94\% | 90\% |
| Urban | 90\% | 85\% | 76\% |
| Total | 73\% | 68\% | 54\% |
| Rural | 61\% | 53\% | 37\% |
| Poorest | 34\% | 27\% | 16\% |
|  | PRIMARY | JUNIOR SECONDARY | SENIOR SECONDARY |



## Box 1

Completion rate in Nigeria MICS and Nigeria EMIS

Using administrative data, the completion rate is determined by dividing the total number of students completing the last grade of the level by the population of the official age in that grade. In contrast, in MICS and other household survey data, the completion rate represents the percentage of a cohort of children or young people 3 to 5 years older than the intended age for the last grade of each education level (primary, junior secondary, or senior secondary) who have successfully completed that level of education.

As per the definitions, although both MICS and EMIS calculate an indicator with the same name, i.e., completion rate, the numerator and denominator of the completion rate differ according to the data source. It is important to note, however, that both calculation methods aim to capture the efficiency of education systems, with the completion rate (in EMIS and household surveys) being sensitive to repeaters, late entrants, and dropouts.


FIGURE 3 Junior secondary completion rates


FIGURE 4 Senior secondary completion rates


## Findings

- The primary completion rate in Nigeria is 73 per cent, indicating that about one fourth of the children of primary school completion age did not complete primary education. The differences are notable by various background characteristics.
- Completion rates decline for junior secondary school to 68 per cent, and further drop to 54 per cent for senior secondary level.
- At all levels, rural and poor children have completion rates below the average for all of Nigeria, whereas urban and wealthier children have completion rates above the average In particular, children belonging to the poorest quintile have much lower completion rates than other groups.
- The gap between the completion rates of children from the wealthiest and poorest wealth quintiles remains high at all levels of the education system. In primary, 97 per cent of children from the wealthiest quintile complete their education, compared to only 34 per cent from the poorest quintile. Furthermore, while 90 per cent of children from the wealthiest quintile complete senior secondary education, less than 16 per cent of children from the poorest quintile do so

Across different ethnicities, children with Igbo, Yoruba, Ijaw, Ibibio or Edo ethnicity generally have higher completion rates than others. In contrast, completion rates for children with Fulani or Kanuri ethnicity are lower than others.


## FIGURE 5 Primary completion rates



## FIGURE 7 Senior secondary completion rates



FIGURE 6
Junior secondary completion rates


## Findings

- Across all levels of education, southern states have better completion rates than northern states. However, it is important to note that completion rate accounts for those 3 to 5 years older than those expected to complete a level. Therefore, migration within a country after finishing a level of education could have implications on these completion rates by states. This is because these completion rates are calculated based on the household location at the time of the survey and do not account for migratory status.
- At the primary level, Anambara state has the highest completion rate at 99 per cent. On the other hand, the primary completion rate in the state of Bauchi is less than half of these states, at 30 per cent.
- Completion rates decline for all levels, although some states such as Abia and Rivers (on the higher side of the spectrum) and Yobe and Gombe (in the middle of the spectrum) do not show a steep decline in completion rate between primary and junior secondary
- At the senior secondary level, there is a steep decline in completion rates across all states.


[^0]TABLE 1. Completion rates
Shares and headcounts of incomplete by various socio-economic characteristics

| socio-economic characteristics |  | Primary$27 \text { \% }$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { secondary } \\ \hline 32 \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \begin{array}{c} \text { Senior } \\ \text { secondary } \end{array} \\ \hline 46 \% \end{gathered}$ | Primary3,927,800 | $\begin{gathered} \text { secondary } \\ \hline 4,226,200 \end{gathered}$ | Senior <br> secondary$5,273,000$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gender | Male | 27 \% | 31 \% | 43 \% | 2,023,300 | 2,043,600 | 2,358,500 |
|  | Female | 27 \% | $33 \%$ | 49 \% | 1,904,500 | 2,182,600 | 2,914,600 |
| Area | Urban | 10 \% | 15\% | 24 \% | 639,000 | 877,300 | 1,205,300 |
|  | Rural | $39 \%$ | 47 \% | 63 \% | 3,288,800 | 3,348,900 | 4,067,700 |
| Wealth quintile | Poorest | 66 \% | 73 \% | 84 \% | 1,872,700 | 1,629,300 | 1,853,500 |
|  | Second | $39 \%$ | 51 \% | 68 \% | 1,122,600 | 1,265,200 | 1,569,800 |
|  | Middle | 19\% | 27 \% | 44 \% | 593,700 | 797,900 | 1,051,900 |
|  | Fourth | $8 \%$ | 13\% | 24 \% | 251,500 | 367,700 | 588,700 |
|  | Richest | $3 \%$ | 6 \% | 10\% | 87,300 | 166,100 | 209,200 |
| Ethnicity of household head | Hausa | 44 \% | 51 \% | 64 \% | 1,887,200 | 1,900,200 | 2,117,600 |
|  | Igbo | $3 \%$ | 8 \% | 19\% | 64,600 | 146,000 | 284,800 |
|  | Yoruba | $7 \%$ | 12\% | 23 \% | 164,100 | 254,000 | 373,300 |
|  | Fulani | 66 \% | 69 \% | 81 \% | 689,100 | 641,300 | 715,500 |
|  | Kanuri | $60 \%$ | $59 \%$ | 68 \% | 221,900 | 190,200 | 189,700 |
|  | ljaw | 11 \% | 14 \% | 31 \% | 29,300 | 33,100 | 64,100 |
|  | Tiv | $34 \%$ | 42 \% | $59 \%$ | 94,100 | 113,600 | 168,700 |
|  | Ibibio | $4 \%$ | 16 \% | 31 \% | 11,500 | 39,100 | 63,900 |
|  | Edo | $8 \%$ | 13\% | 19\% | 18,500 | 29,300 | 36,200 |
|  | Other ethnicity | 21 \% | 26 \% | 42 \% | 747,600 | 879,400 | 1,259,100 |
| Zone | North Central | 26 \% | $30 \%$ | 46 \% | 546,700 | 593,900 | 850,500 |
|  | North East | 51 \% | $55 \%$ | 67 \% | 1,143,700 | 1,076,800 | 1,161,600 |
|  | North West | $44 \%$ | 51 \% | 63 \% | 1,849,900 | 1,846,900 | 2,097,500 |
|  | South East | $3 \%$ | $9 \%$ | 18\% | 45,700 | 122,400 | 210,200 |
|  | South South | $7 \%$ | 13\% | $29 \%$ | 151,700 | 239,800 | 466,400 |
|  | South West | $7 \%$ | 15\% | 27 \% | 190,000 | 346,500 | 486,900 |




FIGURE 15 Rate of non-completion and headcounts of children who do not complete senior secondary school


## Findings

- At primary level, the non-completion rate is the same for both boys and girls. However, the non-completion rate for girls is slightly higher at junior secondary (33 per cent for girls vs 31 per cent for boys) and senior secondary level (49 per cent for girls vs 43 per cent for boys).
- There is substantial variation in non-completion rates by urban-rural location and socio-economic status, as rural children and poorer children have much higher non-completion rates at all three levels.
- The headcount and rate of incompletion vastly differ in northern and southern regions across the three levels. Northern regions have higher non-completion rates and headcounts than southern.
- Igbo, Yoruba, Ijaw, Ibibio and Edo have lower incompletion rates than other ethnicities. In contrast, Hausa, Fulani and Kanuri ethnicities have higher incompletion rates and number of children who do not complete than other ethnicities.



## Topic 2 Skills

Guiding
questions

1. By which grade do most children acquire foundational skills (measured at the Grade 2/3 level)?
2. Which characteristics are linked to higher shares of reading and numeracy skills?
3. What share of each group of young people are literate, and what share have ICT skills?
4. What is the profile of children who are not learning?

## Foundational reading and numeracy skills measured at the Grade 2/3 level

Foundational learning skills in the MICS module are learning outcomes expected for Grades 2 and 3 in numeracy and reading. They are measured for children aged 7 to 14 years. These data can be used to calculate SDG4.1.1. a to measure the proportion of children in Grade $2 / 3$ achieving minimum proficiency in (i) reading and (ii) numeracy, by sex.




## Findings

- In Nigeria, overall, 27 per cent of children aged 7 to 14 have foundational reading skills and 25 per cent of children aged 7 to 14 have foundational numeracy skills.
- The Foundational Learning module assesses skills at the grade $2 / 3$ level. However, only 27 per cent of children who have grade 3 as the highest grade attended have the expected reading skills for that grade, while 26 per cent of children have the expected numeracy skills.
- Data indicates that children learn by staying in school, as the share increases with each highest grade attended. Foundational skills are very low for children who never attended school.
- The share of children with reading skills assessed at grade $2 / 3$ level increases from 27 per cent in primary grade 3 to 64 per cent in junior secondary grade 1 whereas the share of children with numeracy skills at the Grade $2 / 3$ level increases from 26 per cent in primary grade 3 to 59 per cent in junior secondary grade 1 . It is crucial to highlight that all children are evaluated based on the content of grade $2 / 3$, and notably in Nigeria, there are children whose highest grade is junior secondary grade 2 yet they still lack these foundational skills.
- Learning gaps along socio-economic lines can be seen in Nigeria, where a higher share of urban and wealthy children have foundational reading and numeracy skills.
- The largest gap is associated with household wealth: the share of children from the richest quintile with foundational reading skills is 62 percentage points higher than the share of children from the poorest wealth quintile. A similar gap can be seen in foundational numeracy skills, where the percentage of children from the richest quintile who have foundational numeracy skills is 62 compared to 5 per cent of children from poorest wealth quintile
- Across different ethnicities, a smaller share of children with Fulani, Kanuri and Hausa ethnicities have foundational reading or numeracy skills than those from other ethnicities, whereas a higher share of children with Yoruba, Edo and Igbo ethnicities have foundational reading or numeracy skills
- Among 7- to 14 -year-olds who have a different language at home and in school, 36 per cent have foundational reading skills and 33 per cent have foundational numeracy skills. However, among children who speak the same language at home and in school, Igbo speaking and English speaking children have higher foundational reading and numeracy skills than children who have dissimilar language at home and language of instruction. On the other hand, Hausa and Yoruba speaking children have very low foundational reading and numeracy skills despite speaking the same language at home and in school. This may indicate resources and quality constraints Hausa and Yoruba speaking children may be facing



## Literacy and ICT skills

ICT skills are measured based on whether an individual carried out computer-related activities in the three months preceding the survey.
An individual is literate if (i) they attended secondary or higher level of education and (ii) they can read all, or part of, a typed sentence which is shown to them.



## Findings

- 73 per cent of 15 - to 24 -yearolds in Nigeria are literate. In MICS, literacy is assessed on the ability of the respondent to read a short simple statement or based on school attendance i.e., those who attended lower secondary or higher are counted as literate. However, those who only attended primary school have lower literacy rates at 11 per cent.
- There are substantial variations in literacy rate across different wealth quintiles. 32 per cent of youth in the poorest households are literate, compared to 97 per cent of their peers from the richest households
- Only 7 per cent of 15 - to 24 -year-olds have ICT skills in Nigeria. ICT skills is calculated based on responses to nine ICT-related activities in MICS
- More males and urban youth have ICT skills than females or rural youth. Strong inequities are observed in ICT skills signaling the digital divide may exist along socio-economic lines.
- The largest difference in ICT skills is observed based on the highest level of education attained, with $40 \%$ of youth with higher education possessing ICT skills, while none of the youth with primary education have acquired these skills



FIGURE 25


## Findings

- Variation in foundational skills is notable by state. In Lagos, 87 per cent of children aged 7 to 14 have foundational reading skills, which is more than double the rates observed in neighbouring Ogun and Ondo states (at 34 per cent) and about nine times more than Bauchi state.
- Overall, in foundational reading skills, only five states have shares higher than 50 per cent, with an additional three states having between 45 to 50 per cent. The majority of the states have fewer than 45 per cent of children with foundational reading skills.
- Foundational numeracy skills show a similar trend, although with fewer (four) states having more than 50 per cent of children with foundational numeracy skills. In 17 states, the share of children with foundational numeracy skills is less than 20 per cent. This means that in these states 8 out of 10 children cannot do basic numeracy tasks.



Note: numbers may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding.

TABLE 2. Skills
Shares and headcounts

| by various socio-economic characteristics |  | Reading | Numeracy | Reading | Numeracy |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | 73\% | 75\% | 32,100,000 | 32,700,000 |
| Gender | Male | 75\% | 75\% | 16,600,000 | 16,600,000 |
|  | Female | 72 \% | 75\% | 15,500,000 | 16,100,000 |
| Area | Urban | $54 \%$ | $57 \%$ | 9,520,300 | 10,100,000 |
|  | Rural | 87\% | 87\% | 22,600,000 | 22,600,000 |
| Wealth quintile | Poorest | 96\% | 95\% | 9,009,000 | 8,958,900 |
|  | Second | 89\% | 89\% | 8,299,600 | 8,251,300 |
|  | Middle | 78\% | 80\% | 6,966,700 | 7,127,100 |
|  | Fourth | 61 \% | 64\% | 5,246,200 | 5,510,700 |
|  | Richest | 34\% | 38\% | 2,564,200 | 2,880,200 |
| Mother's level of education | None | $91 \%$ | 91\% | 17,000,000 | 17,100,000 |
|  | Primary | 75\% | 75\% | 6,340,500 | 6,383,700 |
|  | Junior Secondary | 73\% | 76\% | 1,800,000 | 1,879,500 |
|  | Senior Secondary | $56 \%$ | 57 \% | 5,342,600 | 5,430,400 |
|  | Higher/tertiary | 33\% | 42\% | 1,563,600 | 1,946,800 |
| Ethnicity of household head | Hausa | 89\% | 89\% | 12,200,000 | 12,300,000 |
|  | Igbo | 42\% | 47\% | 2,528,900 | 2,814,500 |
|  | Yoruba | 49\% | $51 \%$ | 3,068,700 | 3,190,000 |
|  | Fulani | 94\% | 95\% | 3,317,000 | 3,343,200 |
|  | Kanuri | 90\% | 92\% | 992,300 | 1,015,700 |
|  | Ijaw | 67\% | 72\% | 427,900 | 459,800 |
|  | Tiv | 81\% | 85\% | 760,100 | 798,600 |
|  | Ibibio | 60\% | $57 \%$ | 473,300 | 447,600 |
|  | Edo | 43\% | 49\% | 300,100 | 343,400 |
|  | Other Ethnicity | 78\% | 79\% | 8,026,300 | 8,058,400 |
| Zone | North Central | 78\% | 78\% | 5,004,600 | 4,995,000 |
|  | North East | 88\% | 90\% | 6,140,100 | 6,283,500 |
|  | North West | 91\% | $91 \%$ | 12,100,000 | 12,100,000 |
|  | South East | 44\% | $51 \%$ | 2,049,900 | 2,332,000 |
|  | South South | 63\% | 66\% | 3,373,600 | 3,511,600 |
|  | South West | 48\% | 48\% | 3,456,600 | 3,503,200 |

These charts show the number (represented by the size of the bubble) and share (indicated on the y-axis) of children in various groups who do not have foundational learning skills.


FIGURE 32 Headcounts and shares of children who do not have foundational numeracy skills


## Findings

- In both foundational reading and numeracy skills, children from the poorest wealth quintile have very high rates of children without foundational skills, at above 90 per cent. By contrast, the richest quintile has a lower share of children who do not have foundational reading skills, at around 34 per cent.

The disparity between urban and rural is also evident, as the share and headcount of urban children without foundational reading or numeracy skills are lower than their peers in rural areas.

- The variance in share of children without foundational skills in northern regions is higher than in southern regions. Additionally children with Hausa, Fulani, Kanuri and Tiv ethnicities have the highest share without foundational reading or numeracy skills, whereas children with Igbo, Yoruba and Edo ethnicities have the lowest share without the same skills.

|  | Foundational reading skills (7 to 14) by state and socio-economic categories |  |  |  |  |  |  | Foundational numeracy skills (7 to 14) by state and socio-economic categories |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest |
| Jigawa | 2 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 0 |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |  |
| Kebbi | 5 | 4 | 6 | 15 | 3 | 0 |  | 6 | 6 | 5 | 15 | 3 | 1 |  |
| Borno | 7 | 7 | 6 | 17 | 2 | 0 | 25 | 8 | 10 | 5 | 21 | 2 | 1 | 20 |
| Bauchi | 9 | 11 | 7 | 39 | 4 | 4 |  | 8 | 8 | 7 | 22 | 5 | 4 |  |
| Katsina | 9 | 11 | 7 | 18 | 7 | 3 |  | 13 | 15 | 11 | 20 | 12 | 6 |  |
| Nasarawa | 9 | 9 | 8 | 12 | 8 | 6 |  | 8 | 6 | 10 | 13 | 6 | 5 |  |
| Kano | 10 | 10 | 9 | 16 | 4 | 3 | 27 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 18 | 6 | 3 | 22 |
| Taraba | 10 | 10 | 10 | 29 | 6 | 3 |  | 10 | 8 | 11 | 17 | 8 | 4 |  |
| Gombe | 11 | 12 | 10 | 21 | 8 | 3 |  | 15 | 14 | 15 | 24 | 12 | 7 |  |
| Sokoto | 11 | 13 | 9 | 28 | 6 | 2 |  | 6 | 8 | 5 | 22 | 2 | 1 |  |
| Zamfara | 11 | 14 | 7 | 35 | 5 | 0 |  | 5 | 7 | 3 | 17 | 2 | 0 |  |
| Niger | 12 | 12 | 13 | 32 | 6 | 2 | 65 | 19 | 22 | 15 | 35 | 13 | 1 | 53 |
| Plateau | 15 | 15 | 16 | 25 | 11 | 7 |  | 17 | 18 | 16 | 30 | 11 | 7 |  |
| Yobe | 16 | 14 | 18 | 27 | 12 | 3 |  | 12 | 13 | 11 | 19 | 10 | 1 |  |
| Kaduna | 18 | 16 | 19 | 28 | 10 | 1 |  | 16 | 15 | 17 | 23 | 10 | 8 |  |
| Cross River | 20 | 12 | 30 | 66 | 14 | 7 |  | 20 | 18 | 22 | 56 | 15 | 8 |  |
| Adamawa | 23 | 22 | 24 | 33 | 19 | 15 |  | 11 | 12 | 10 | 18 | 8 | 10 |  |
| Kogi | 25 | 27 | 22 | 37 | 19 | 1 | 49 | 28 | 30 | 26 | 49 | 18 | 6 | 45 |
| Benue | 25 | 25 | 25 |  | 20 | 9 |  | 23 | 23 | 24 |  | 18 | 7 |  |
| Delta | 34 | 31 | 37 | 47 | 18 |  | 55 | 33 | 34 | 33 | 45 | 18 |  | 62 |
| Ekiti | 34 | 29 | 39 | 36 | 25 |  | 64 | 37 | 40 | 34 | 40 | 25 |  | 71 |
| Ogun | 34 | 34 | 36 | 43 | 25 | 11 | 71 | 35 | 37 | 33 | 45 | 23 | 14 | 68 |
| Ondo | 34 | 30 | 37 | 39 | 29 |  | 50 | 44 | 38 | 49 | 52 | 36 |  | 60 |
| Akwa Ibom | 35 | 30 | 40 | 73 | 33 | 24 | 90 | 40 | 41 | 40 | 69 | 39 | 35 | 74 |
| Abia | 37 | 36 | 38 | 48 | 35 |  | 43 | 22 | 24 | 20 | 37 | 20 |  | 33 |
| Kwara | 38 | 46 | 31 | 46 | 21 | 4 | 78 | 29 | 29 | 29 | 34 | 19 | 11 | 54 |
| Oyo | 38 | 28 | 48 | 45 | 17 | 8 | 64 | 30 | 28 | 32 | 35 | 16 | 14 | 55 |
| Bayelsa | 41 | 42 | 39 |  | 34 |  |  | 32 | 30 | 34 |  | 27 |  |  |
| Rivers | 44 | 45 | 42 | 50 | 38 |  | 64 | 40 | 49 | 29 | 42 | 39 |  | 53 |
| Fct | 46 | 44 | 48 | 52 | 32 |  | 66 | 35 | 38 | 32 | 39 | 23 |  | 49 |
| Edo | 48 | 46 | 50 | 58 | 34 |  | 69 | 39 | 38 | 39 | 42 | 34 |  | 48 |
| Osun | 48 | 45 | 52 | 49 | 45 |  | 80 | 52 | 50 | 54 | 52 | 48 |  | 84 |
| Imo | 55 | 53 | 57 |  | 40 |  | 74 | 57 | 51 | 66 |  | 44 |  | 81 |
| Anambra | 62 | 37 | 75 | 65 | 46 |  | 77 | 66 | 43 | 78 | 70 | 45 |  | 85 |
| Enugu | 62 | 60 | 64 | 69 | 41 | 29 | 72 | 47 | 52 | 41 | 52 | 30 | 27 | 52 |
| Ebonyi | 63 | 75 | 54 |  | 33 | 20 |  | 39 | 51 | 30 |  | 26 | 21 |  |
| Lagos | 87 | 83 | 91 | 88 | 55 |  | 87 | 82 | 82 | 82 | 83 | 46 |  | 82 |

## Topic 3 Out-of-School Children

Guiding
questions

1. Which level of education has the highest rate of out-ofschool children?
2. How many children are out of school?
3. Which regions have the highest out-of-school rates?
4. Where do most out-of-school children live and what is their background?

## Overview

## Who are out-of-school children?

Out-of-school children are children and young people in the official age range for a given level of education who are not attending either pre-primary, primary, secondary or higher levels of education. The objective of the out-of-school children rate is to identify the part of the population in the official age range for a given level of education not attending school, in order to formulate targeted policies that can be put in place to ensure they have access to education. It is used to calculate SDG 4.1.4 - out-of-school rate for different levels of education, including primary, lower secondary and upper secondary. Non-formal education is not included in the out-of-school rate.

FIGURE 3
Out-of-school population (estimated)


FIGURE 33 Overview of out-of-school rates

| Richest | $5 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Urban | $11 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| Total | $26 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $34 \%$ |
| Rural | $35 \%$ | $36 \%$ | $44 \%$ |
| Poorest | $58 \%$ | $58 \%$ | 58\% |
| PRIMARY | JUNIOR <br> SECONDARY | SENIOR <br> SECONDARY |  |



## Findings

- In Nigeria, 26 per cent of children of primary school age are out of school. At the junior secondary school level, the percentage of out-of-school children drops to 25 per cent, and at the senior secondary level it increases to 34 per cent
of children.
- At all levels, the poorest children have out-of-school rates that are much higher than the average for all of Nigeria. The gap in out-of-school rates between children from poorest and richest wealth quintile is largest at primary level at 53 percentage points, which reduces to 47 percentage points for senior secondary level.

Out-of-school rates for rural children are also higher than the Nigeria average at all levels of education.

- In total an estimated 8.9 million primary school-age children and 3.9 million junior secondary school-age children were out of school. At the senior secondary level, the estimated number of out-of-school children is about 4.9 million.

Out-of-school children by level of education


FIGURE 37 Senior secondary out-of-school rates


## Findings

- At all levels of education, out-of-school rates vary a lot between urban and rural areas. At the primary level, rural areas have higher out-of-school rate at 35 per cent and the urban areas have the lowest, at 11 per cent.
- Compared to children with mothers who have some education, children with mothers who have had no education at all have the highest out-of-school rate across all levels of education.
- Compared to other ethnicities, children with Hausa, Fulani and Kanuri ethnicities have the highest out-of-school rates in primary school



## FIGURE 38 Primary out-of-school rates



FIGURE 40 Senior secondary out-of-school rates


FIGURE 39 Junior secondary out-of-school rates


## Findings

- At the primary level, seven states have out-of-school rates higher than 50 per cent. This means that one in two primary school-aged children in these states are not attending any level of education. The states (in alphabetical order) are: Bauchi, Borno,
Gombe, Kebbi, Sokoto, Yobe and Zamfara.
On the other hand, in some states like Imo, the out-of-school rate is extremely low at
1 per cent.
- At the junior secondary level as well, seven states exhibit out-of-school rates higher than 50 per cent, echoing the pattern observed at the primary level. All states in this category remain consistent with the previously mentioned primary level states, except for the substitution of Sokoto with Jigawa state.
- At the upper secondary level, out-of-school rates increase for all states. Ebonyi and Imo states have the lowest out-of-school rates at 7 or 8 per cent and Bauchi and Jigawa states have the highest out-of-school rates at 73 per cent.
 of senior secondary school age are out of school.



FIGURE 44 Profile of out-of-school children, by level of education and by wealth quintile


FIGURE 45 Profile of out-of-school children, by level of education and by ethnicity of household head



## Findings

- At the primary level, an equal number of boys and girls are out of school. However, at the junior or senior secondary level, among the children who are out of school, girls make up the majority.
- At all levels,the vast majority of out-of-school children reside in rural areas.
- Children from the poorest wealth quintile comprise 51 per cent of out-of-school children of primary school age, and 48 per cent of junior secondary school age.
- The overwhelming majority of those out of school have mothers with no education.
- Between 40 to 50 per cent of those out of school belong to Hausa ethnicity, followed by Fulani or other ethnicities.

[^1]| TABLE 3. Out-of-school children <br> Shares and headcounts of out-of-school children by various socio-economic characteristics |  | Out-of-school rates (\%) |  |  | Headcount of children out of school |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Primary | Junior secondary | Senior secondary | Primary | Junior secondary | Senior secondary |
|  | Total | 26\% | 25\% | 34\% | 8,977,800 | 3,916,900 | 4,911,300 |
| Gender | Male | 25\% | 24\% | 33\% | 4,510,400 | 1,903,600 | 2,410,800 |
|  | Female | 26\% | 26\% | 35\% | 4,467,400 | 2,013,300 | 2,500,500 |
| Area | Urban | 11\% | 10\% | 21\% | 1,548,300 | 667,300 | 1,347,300 |
|  | Rural | 35\% | 36\% | 44\% | 7,429,600 | 3,249,700 | 3,564,000 |
| Wealth quintile | Poorest | 58\% | 58\% | 68\% | 4,534,500 | 1,856,000 | 1,807,100 |
|  | Second | $33 \%$ | 33\% | 43\% | 2,437,700 | 1,070,000 | 1,184,900 |
|  | Middle | 15\% | 15\% | 25\% | 1,052,600 | 525,200 | 776,800 |
|  | Fourth | 9\% | 10\% | 18\% | 608,200 | 300,300 | 558,200 |
|  | Richest | 5\% | 6\% | $21 \%$ | 344,800 | 165,400 | 584,200 |
| Ethnicity of household head | Hausa | 40\% | 38\% | 48\% | 4,320,200 | 1,829,400 | 1,960,800 |
|  | Igbo | 7\% | 7\% | 16\% | 341,100 | 138,400 | 317,100 |
|  | Yoruba | 4\% | 7\% | 20\% | 230,000 | 165,600 | 460,100 |
|  | Fulani | 62 \% | 61 \% | $71 \%$ | 1,828,500 | 763,500 | 713,500 |
|  | Kanuri | 59\% | 59\% | 63\% | 515,600 | 242,000 | 224,600 |
|  | Ijaw | 8\% | 10\% | 24\% | 46,700 | 26,200 | 59,300 |
|  | Tiv | 17\% | 10\% | 21 \% | 128,300 | 30,000 | 57,600 |
|  | Ibibio | 5\% | 6\% | 23\% | 32,700 | 17,500 | 69,800 |
|  | Edo | 5\% | 6\% | 23\% | 25,600 | 14,600 | 59,000 |
|  | Other ethnicity | 18\% | 19\% | 28\% | 1,509,100 | 689,700 | 989,600 |
| Zone | North Central | 21 \% | $20 \%$ | 28\% | 1,089,200 | 447,100 | 580,500 |
|  | North East | $50 \%$ | 48\% | $56 \%$ | 2,710,100 | 1,157,500 | 1,196,800 |
|  | North West | 40\% | 39\% | 48\% | 4,281,400 | 1,833,600 | 1,929,800 |
|  | South East | 9\% | 7\% | 15\% | 312,600 | 111,400 | 240,200 |
|  | South South | 5\% | 7\% | 21 \% | 201,200 | 136,600 | 431,300 |
|  | South West | 6\% | 9\% | 20\% | 383,300 | 230,800 | 532,800 |



FIGURE 48 Out-of-school children of senior secondary school age


## Findings

- At the primary level, girls and boys have similar headcounts and rates of out-of-school children. However, the disparity by urban-rural residence is substantial, as children in rural areas have much higher out-of-school rates and headcounts. The gap by wealth at the primary level is also evident, with more than 50 per cent of children from the bottom wealth quintile being out-of-school.
By ethnicities, the highest share of out-of-school children is observed among the Fulani ethnicity but the largest number are among the Hausa ethnicity. By region, the highest share and number of out of school children are in the North East and North West region

At the junior secondary school level socio-economic inequality remains consistent, mirroring the patterns observed at the primary level. Similarly, regional disparities persist, with the Northern region exhibiting the highest rate of out-of-school children, echoing the findings at the primary level. In terms of ethnicity of the household head, children with Fulani ethnicity consistently experience the highest out-of-schoo rates across all levels of education.

- Among children of senior secondary school age, the out-of-school rate and headcount further increase. With the pattern across different socio-economic backgrounds remaining relatively the same, the magnitude of the gap enlarges. For example, the gaps in out-of-school children rate between the top and the bottom wealth quintile are 53, 52 , and 47 percentage points for primary, junior, and senior secondary level.

Out-of-school rate by state and socio-economic and demographic characteristics

|  | Primary |  |  |  |  |  |  | Lower secondary |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest |
| Kebbi | 65 | 62 | 67 | 16 | 74 | 85 |  | 62 | 58 | 67 | 11 | 74 | 86 |  |
| Zamfara | 61 | 57 | 66 | 25 | 69 | 83 |  | 56 | 54 | 60 | 18 | 67 | 82 |  |
| Bauchi | 61 | 60 | 61 | 17 | 68 | 76 |  | 60 | 56 | 64 | 18 | 68 | 79 |  |
| Yobe | 58 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 57 | 82 | 11 | 55 | 60 | 49 | 50 | 56 | 84 |  |
| Gombe | 54 | 56 | 51 | 17 | 64 | 73 | 10 | 53 | 51 | 55 | 25 | 62 | 69 |  |
| Sokoto | 53 | 51 | 55 | 42 | 56 | 75 | 24 | 47 | 48 | 45 | 31 | 51 | 75 |  |
| Borno | 51 | 49 | 52 | 41 | 55 | 79 | 14 | 54 | 51 | 57 | 39 | 61 | 82 | 32 |
| Jigawa | 44 | 46 | 42 | 10 | 48 | 56 |  | 52 | 49 | 55 | 10 | 59 | 69 |  |
| Niger | 40 | 39 | 42 | 8 | 50 | 84 | 3 | 38 | 36 | 41 | 13 | 46 | 80 |  |
| Katsina | 33 | 34 | 33 | 28 | 35 | 56 | 15 | 37 | 32 | 43 | 25 | 40 | 60 |  |
| Kano | 32 | 32 | 32 | 17 | 43 | 67 | 6 | 26 | 24 | 27 | 7 | 45 | 68 | 3 |
| Adamawa | 30 | 28 | 33 | 19 | 34 | 39 |  | 25 | 23 | 27 | 20 | 27 | 35 |  |
| Taraba | 30 | 29 | 30 | 15 | 32 | 40 |  | 21 | 19 | 22 | 8 | 24 | 28 |  |
| Nasarawa | 26 | 26 | 26 | 16 | 29 | 31 | 8 | 25 | 22 | 28 | 17 | 28 | 36 |  |
| Anambra | 21 | 18 | 24 | 24 | 4 |  | 17 | 13 | 8 | 19 |  | 10 |  | 10 |
| Kwara | 18 | 19 | 18 | 3 | 48 | 76 | 1 | 20 | 23 | 15 | 12 | 42 | 63 | 8 |
| Kaduna | 18 | 17 | 19 | 10 | 24 | 46 | 3 | 18 | 20 | 17 | 9 | 27 | 51 |  |
| Plateau | 18 | 19 | 17 | 11 | 20 | 23 | 3 | 18 | 19 | 18 | 12 | 21 | 27 |  |
| Osun | 13 | 15 | 11 | 14 | 8 | 11 | 14 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 21 | 13 |  | 12 |
| Benue | 13 | 11 | 14 | 0 | 14 | 21 |  | 7 | 7 | 7 |  | 7 | 12 |  |
| Ogun | 10 | 10 | 11 | 3 | 18 | 26 | 2 | 12 | 17 | 8 | 3 | 22 |  | 2 |
| Enugu | 10 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 6 | 17 | 13 | 7 | 20 | 13 | 12 |  | 19 |
| Fct | 9 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 11 |  | 4 | 11 | 10 | 13 | 8 | 20 |  | 9 |
| Oyo | 8 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 21 | 42 | 3 | 11 | 14 | 7 | 6 | 25 |  | 3 |
| Delta | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 9 |  | 7 | 11 | 13 | 9 | 8 | 14 |  | 8 |
| Kogi | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 13 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 12 |  |
| Edo | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 6 |  | 2 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 10 |  | 3 |
| Ondo | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 8 |  | 3 |
| Rivers | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 |  | 4 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 5 |  | 7 |
| Ebonyi | 4 | 2 | 5 |  | 11 | 15 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 8 | 8 |  |
| Akwa Ibom | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 12 | 6 |  |  |
| Cross River | 3 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 7 |  | 5 | 5 | 4 |  | 5 | 5 |  |
| Bayelsa | 3 | 3 | 3 |  | 4 | 8 |  | 6 | 8 | 3 |  | 3 |  |  |
| Abia | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 |  | 3 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 6 |  | 0 |
| Lagos | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 7 |  | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |  |  | 2 |
| Ekiti | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 |  | 3 | 3 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 4 |  |  |
| Imo | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |  | 1 |  |  |

Note: The values in the table have been rounded using Excel, which tends to round down estimates, leading to slight potential discrepancies between the displayed figures and those presented in other MICS reports.

## Out-of-school rate by state and socio-economic and demographic characteristics

|  | Upper secondary |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest |
| Kebbi | 65 | 62 | 70 | 25 | 78 | 90 |  |
| Zamfara | 63 | 55 | 71 | 32 | 72 | 85 |  |
| Bauchi | 73 | 76 | 70 | 24 | 82 | 92 |  |
| Yobe | 61 | 62 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 88 |  |
| Gombe | 52 | 51 | 53 | 26 | 62 | 69 |  |
| Sokoto | 57 | 51 | 64 | 32 | 65 | 83 |  |
| Borno | 55 | 53 | 58 | 43 | 62 | 82 | 24 |
| Jigawa | 73 | 71 | 74 | 22 | 80 | 86 |  |
| Niger | 43 | 41 | 46 | 28 | 49 | 80 |  |
| Katsina | 48 | 45 | 50 | 33 | 52 | 77 |  |
| Kano | 37 | 34 | 39 | 21 | 55 | 78 | 11 |
| Adamawa | 41 | 36 | 46 | 33 | 44 | 51 |  |
| Taraba | 33 | 31 | 35 | 30 | 34 | 42 |  |
| Nasarawa | 31 | 30 | 31 | 27 | 32 | 33 |  |
| Anambra | 19 | 20 | 18 |  | 18 |  | 21 |
| Kwara | 37 | 34 | 39 | 27 | 57 | 75 | 24 |
| Kaduna | 27 | 23 | 30 | 13 | 39 |  |  |
| Plateau | 28 | 23 | 32 | 23 | 30 | 36 |  |
| Osun | 24 | 20 | 28 | 25 | 21 |  | 19 |
| Benue | 18 | 17 | 18 |  | 18 | 28 |  |
| Ogun | 21 | 22 | 20 | 16 | 26 |  | 16 |
| Enugu | 20 | 25 | 16 | 21 | 17 |  | 27 |
| Fct | 20 | 19 | 22 | 15 | 30 |  | 17 |
| Oyo | 18 | 20 | 16 | 13 | 31 |  | 12 |
| Delta | 26 | 26 | 26 | 28 | 24 |  | 30 |
| Kogi | 15 | 16 | 13 | 9 | 18 | 26 |  |
| Edo | 21 | 22 | 20 | 17 | 26 |  | 20 |
| Ondo | 20 | 16 | 23 | 18 | 21 |  | 27 |
| Rivers | 20 | 18 | 21 | 23 | 17 |  | 40 |
| Ebonyi | 7 | 8 | 7 |  | 14 | 17 |  |
| Akwa Ibom | 21 | 18 | 25 | 27 | 21 |  | 37 |
| Cross River | 21 | 21 | 21 |  | 20 | 31 |  |
| Bayelsa | 18 | 16 | 20 |  | 14 |  |  |
| Abia | 20 | 16 | 25 | 22 | 20 |  | 20 |
| Lagos | 23 | 22 | 24 | 23 |  |  | 25 |
| Ekiti | 9 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 6 |  |  |
| Imo | 8 | 6 | 10 |  | 12 |  |  |

## Findings

- Among children of primary school age, Kebbi state has the highest out-of-school rate at 65 per cent, and Imo state has the lowest at 1 per cent. The differences in out-of-school rate by gender are comparatively smaller than those observed along urban-rural or wealth divides.

Between primary and lower secondary as the table shows, a consistent trend emerges. In these two levels, Kebbi state reports the highest out-of-school rate at lower secondary level at 62 per cent, while Imo State stands out with an exceptionally low rate of less than 1 per cent. However, as illustrated on the accompanying table, the dynamics shift in upper secondary education. Bauchi and Jigawa states record the highest out-of-school rates at 73 per cent, while Ebonyi, also exhibits the lowest rate at 7 per cent. While the overall pattern suggests a uniformity between primary and lower secondary levels, the table reveals potential variations between states, offering a visual insight into the regional disparities.


Note: The values in the table have been rounded using Excel, which tends to round down estimates, leading to slight potential discrepancies between the displayed figures and those presented in other MICS reports

FIGURE 49 Gender parity in out-of-school rates among children of primary school age


FIGURE 51 Gender parity in out-of-school rates among children of senior secondary school age


FIGURE 50
Gender parity in out-of-school rates among children of junior secondary school age


## Findings

- The gender parity index for out-of-school rates divides the percentage of girls who are out of school by the percentage of boys who are out of school. Values between 0.97 and 1.03 represent parity between the two groups. Values greater than 1.03 mean a higher share of girls than boys is out of school, which are mean in shades of orange to red. Values less than 0.9 represent a higher share of boys are out of school than girls. These are represented by blue, purple and pink colours.
- As the data shows, across the three levels of education, a higher share of girls are out of school than boys in most states with available data.


## Topic 4 Early Learning

Guiding
questions

1. Which children are developmentally on track (as measured by the ECDI)?
2. Which level(s) of education do young children attend?
3. Do children attend Grade 1 at the right age?
4. What is the profile of children not attending early childhood education (ECE)?
5. What is the profile of children who are not developmentally on track (as measured by the ECDI)?

## Overview

## What is the Early Child Development Index 2030 (ECDI2030)?

The Early Childhood Development Index 2030 (ECDI2030) module captures the achievement of key developmental milestones by children between the ages of 24 and 59 months. The data generated by the ECDI2030 can be used for monitoring and reporting on SDG indicator 4.2.1, and to inform government efforts to improve developmental outcomes among children. The measure includes 20 questions about the way children behave in certain everyday situations, and the skills and knowledge they have acquired, reflecting the increasing difficulty of the skills children acquire as they grow. The 20 items are organized according to the three general domains of health, learning, and psychosocial well-being. Children are considered to be developmentally on track if they have achieved the minimum number of milestones expected for their age group.

FIGURE 53 Early Childhood Development Index (ECDI) for children aged 2 to 4


FIGURE 52 Age distribution at Class 1 of primary education (\%)


Two or more years
younger
One year younger
Right age
One year or older
Two or more years older




## Findings

- Around 45 per cent of Nigeria's 3- to 4-year-olds are developmentally on track as measured by the ECDI
- Higher shares of urban children (63 per cent) are developmentally on track as measured by the ECDI than rural children ( 35 per cent)
- In Nigeria, 38 per cent of children aged 36 to 59 months attend early childhood education. Moreover, early childhood education attendance increases with age: 32 per cent of 3-year-olds attend early childhood education compared with 43 per cent of 4 -year-olds.
- Importantly, the share of children attending early childhood education who are developmentally on track is 8 percentage points higher than that of children not attending early childhood education.
- Early childhood education attendance is lower for children whose mothers have no education or only early childhood education, at 10 per cent, compared to 75 per cent for children whose mothers have higher education.
- In Grade 1, 27 per cent of children are the right age for the grade, but 42 per cent are one or more years older and 32 per cent are one or more years younger than the official starting age


 are not attending early childhood education, and 55 per cent are not developmentally on track as measured by the ECDI.


FIGURE 61 Profile of young children aged 3 to 4 not attending preschool or not developmentally on track, by wealth quintile


FIGURE 62 Profile of young children aged 3 to 4 not attending preschool or not developmentally on track, by ethnicity of household head


## Findings

- Slightly more boys than girls are not developmentally on track as measured by the ECDI.
- Rural areas are home to more than three fourths of children who are not developmentally on track, as measured by the ECDI, and not attending early childhood education.
- Socio-economic background impacts ECDI and early childhood education attendance. Children from the two poorest wealth quintiles comprise more than half of children who are not attending early childhood education who are not developmentally on track, as measured by ECDI.
- Among children who are not on track as measured by ECDI and not attending ECE, the majority have mothers with no education
- Of those not on track on ECDI or not attending ECE, around 40 per cent are children from Hausa ethnicity

[^2]| TABLE 4. Early learning <br> Shares and headcounts by various socio-economic characteristics |  | Share (\%) of children (aged 3-4) |  | Headcount of children |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Not on track on ECDI | Not attending early childhood education | Not on track on ECDI | Not attending early childhood education |
|  | Total | 55\% | 62\% | 6,698,900 | 8,276,800 |
| Gender | Male | 56\% | 63\% | 3,401,400 | 4,172,800 |
|  | Female | 54\% | 62 \% | 3,297,400 | 4,104,000 |
| Area | Urban | 37\% | 42\% | 1,541,300 | 2,017,300 |
|  | Rural | 65\% | 74\% | 5,157,600 | 6,259,500 |
| Wealth quintile | Poorest | 75\% | 89\% | 2,343,900 | 2,961,000 |
|  | Second | 67\% | 77\% | 1,806,500 | 2,267,500 |
|  | Middle | 55\% | 60\% | 1,302,600 | 1,586,700 |
|  | Fourth | 43\% | $41 \%$ | 833,300 | 931,500 |
|  | Richest | 21\% | 25\% | 412,500 | 530,100 |
| Ethnicity of household head | Hausa | 70\% | 88\% | 2,920,800 | 3,831,200 |
|  | Igbo | 34\% | 25\% | 467,800 | 374,400 |
|  | Yoruba | 29\% | 23\% | 387,500 | 400,300 |
|  | Fulani | $71 \%$ | 92\% | 803,700 | 1,102,100 |
|  | Kanuri | 73\% | 91\% | 227,300 | 318,600 |
|  | ljaw | 45\% | 42\% | 69,300 | 84,800 |
|  | Tiv | 53\% | 67\% | 138,600 | 205,800 |
|  | Ibibio | 35\% | 26\% | 88,000 | 78,400 |
|  | Edo | 35\% | $31 \%$ | 71,000 | 63,400 |
|  | Other ethnicity | $56 \%$ | 58\% | 1,524,800 | 1,817,900 |
| Zone | North Central | 62\% | 62 \% | 1,020,500 | 1,210,600 |
|  | North East | 68\% | 88\% | 1,394,300 | 1,992,200 |
|  | North West | $71 \%$ | 87\% | 2,950,100 | 3,708,700 |
|  | South East | 40\% | 28\% | 427,200 | 307,400 |
|  | South South | $36 \%$ | 32\% | 501,800 | 513,400 |
|  | South West | 26\% | 26\% | 405,000 | 544,500 |

These charts show the number (represented by the size of the bubble) and share (indicated on the y-axis) of children in various groups who are not on track in terms of the ECDI (top) and not attending early childhood education (bottom).

## FIGURE 63 Headcounts and shares of children aged 3 to 4 who are not developmentally on track



## Findings

- In Nigeria, 55 per cent of 3- to 4-year-olds are not developmentally on track, as measured by ECDI, and 62 per cent of 3- to 4-year-olds are no attending early childhood education
- More rural children (65 per cent) are not on track as measured by the ECDI than urban children ( 37 per cent), and more than twice the share of poorest children (75 per cent) are not on track on ECD as wealthiest children (21 per cent). Similarly, a larger share of rural children are not attending early childhood education compared to urban children, and 89 per cent of the poorest children are not attending early childhood education, compared to 25 per cent of the wealthiest children.
- Across different zones, the northern zones have higher shares of children aged 3-4 who are not developmentally on track or who do not attend early childhood education. By ethnicity, Hause ethnicity has both high shares and numbers of children not on track or not attending ECE.

Participation rates in organized learning (attendance one year before primary starting age)


[^3]

## Topic 5 Repetition and Dropout

## Guiding

questions

1. Which level or grade has the highest rates of repetition, dropouts and non-transitioners?
2. What is the profile of children who repeat a grade?
3. What is the profile of children who drop out of school?
4. What is the profile of children who do not transition to the next level of education?

## Overview

## What is the repetition

 rate?Repetition rates measure the share of children in a given grade in a given school year who repeated that grade as a percentage of the total number of children who attended the grade in the previous year.
What is the dropout rate? Dropout rates measure the proportion of children from a cohort attending a given grade in a given school year who are no longer attending school the following year. Dropouts in the last grade of a level represent non-transitioners, i.e., those students who did not continue to the next level of
 education between the previous and current school year.

FIGURE 65 Repetition rate by grade



[^4]

## Findings

- While repetition rates vary by grade in Nigeria, they are typically high. In the primary grades, repetition rates range from 16 per cent in Grades 1 and 5 , to 9 per cent in Grade 6. At the junior secondary level, repetition rate ranges from 15 per cent in Grades 7 and 8, to 10 per cent in Grade 9. At the senior secondary level, the repetition rate ranges from 24 per cent in Grade 11, to 5 per cent in Grade 12.
- The dropout rate, on the contrary, typically increases by grades within each level of education. The dropout rate for lower grades of primary stays low (between 3 to 6 per cent), but increases to 12 per cent at Grade 6. In the junior secondary level, the dropout rate ranges from 2 per cent in Grade 7, to 8 per cent in Grade 9. In senior secondary, the range of dropout is 3 per cent in Grade 10, to 84 per cent in grade 12. However, it is important to note that a dropout in Grade 12 means these students had not yet transitioned to higher level within the previous and current year of education.
- In Nigeria, the primary school age is 6 to 11, the junior secondary school ages is 12 to 14 , and senior secondary is 15 to 17.
- Among 2- to 4 -year-olds, between 34 and 40 per cent attend ECE. At age 5 (one year before primary), the majority of children are either in ECE or already attending primary education.
- Among 6- to 11-year-olds, the out-of-school rate varies from 31 to 21 per cent, respectively. However, beginning age eight, some children reported attending junior secondary signifying early entry to that level
- On the other hand, among the junior secondary age bracket, 12- to 14-year-olds, the majority of children are either out of school or attending a lower or higher level of education.
- Out-of-school rate increases between age 15 and 17, with only four in ten 17-year-olds attending senior secondary education.


Profile of repeaters, dropouts, and non-transitioners

These findings are based on Nigeria's children who repeated, dropped out from primary to senior secondary or those who did not transition to the higher level. Overall, 15 per cent of Nigeria's students repeat and 9 per cent dropout.

## FIGURE 68 Profile of repeaters and dropouts, by gender



FIGURE 69 Profile of repeaters and dropouts, by area


FIGURE 73 Profile of repeaters and dropouts, by ethnicity of household head

| Dropout | 23 |  | 18 |  | 20 |  | 5 | 2 | 2121 |  | 24 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Repetition | 22 |  | 23 |  | 20 |  |  | 3 | 11213 |  |  |  |
|  |  | 20\% |  | 40\% |  | 60\% |  |  |  | 80\% |  | 100\% |



## Findings

- More boys than girls repeat a grade or dropout.
- Among children who repeat or dropout, urban children form the majority. One reason for this is that dropout and repetition analysis is based on students, i.e., children still attending education.
- Children from the wealthiest two quintiles make up the majority of repeaters or dropouts.
- Most children who repeat or drop out have mothers with no or only primary education.
- By ethnicity, other ethnicities, Igbo, Yoruba and Hausa make up most of those repeating or dropping out.
- By level of education, the majority of repeaters are from the primary level whereas among dropouts, most are from the senior secondary level.

[^5]| Shares and headcounts by various socio-economic characteristics |  | Rate (\%) |  | Headcount of children (in thousands) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Repetition | Dropout | Repetition | Dropout |
| Total |  | 15\% | 9\% | 7,145,500 | 4,856,300 |
| Level of education attended | Primary | 14\% | 5\% | 3,957,100 | 1,353,300 |
|  | Junior secondary | 14\% | 5\% | 1,512,300 | 504,800 |
|  | Senior secondary | 16\% | 27\% | 1,676,100 | 2,998,200 |
| Gender | Male | 15\% | 9\% | 3,708,900 | 2,505,800 |
|  | Female | 14\% | 9\% | 3,436,600 | 2,350,500 |
| Area | Urban | 17\% | 10\% | 4,046,800 | 2,551,700 |
|  | Rural | 12\% | 9\% | 3,098,700 | 2,304,600 |
| Wealth quintile | Poorest | 12\% | 8\% | 654,000 | 437,300 |
|  | Second | 12\% | 9\% | 1,114,500 | 840,000 |
|  | Middle | 14\% | 8\% | 1,581,200 | 1,059,000 |
|  | Fourth | 15\% | $11 \%$ | 1,830,600 | 1,387,200 |
|  | Richest | 18\% | 10\% | 1,965,200 | 1,132,800 |
| Ethnicity of household head | Hausa | 13\% | 9\% | 1,543,700 | 1,108,600 |
|  | Igbo | 20\% | 10\% | 1,631,500 | 878,400 |
|  | Yoruba | 16\% | 10\% | 1,408,800 | 969,700 |
|  | Fulani | 10\% | 13\% | 197,400 | 252,100 |
|  | Kanuri | 11 \% | 12\% | 84,900 | 92,700 |
|  | ljaw | 11\% | 10\% | 101,900 | 101,900 |
|  | Tiv | 10\% | 6\% | 107,400 | 70,700 |
|  | Ibibio | 8\% | 10\% | 89,700 | 120,500 |
|  | Edo | 25\% | 8\% | 220,600 | 75,600 |
|  | Other ethnicity | 13\% | 8\% | 1,759,500 | 1,185,900 |
| Zone | North Central | 15\% | 8\% | 1,174,100 | 647,500 |
|  | North East | 14\% | 10\% | 774,100 | 579,600 |
|  | North West | 10\% | 9\% | 1,221,500 | 1,154,600 |
|  | South East | 21\% | 11\% | 1,368,000 | 716,100 |
|  | South South | 13\% | 9\% | 996,500 | 743,900 |
|  | South West | 16\% | 9\% | 1,611,300 | 1,014,600 |

These charts show the number (represented by the size of the bubble) and rates (indicated on the y-axis) of children in various groups who repeat (top), or dropout (bottom).


## Findings

- Repetition rates are similar between level of education, sex and area.
- However, repetition rates increase by wealth quintile, One explanation for this is that repetition rate is based on students and if wealthier students are more likely to be in education, they are also more likely to be impacted by efficiency issues as students from poorer wealth quintiles may already be out of the system
- Among ethnicities, Edo ethnicity has the highest repetition rate, while Igbo ethnicity has the largest number of children repeating
- Among zones, South East zone has the highest share of repeaters but South West zone has the higher number of repeaters.
- By ethnicity, Fulani has the highest dropout rate but Hausa ethnicity makes up the largest number of children dropping out.


## Repetition rate by state and various socio-economic characteristics

|  | Primary |  |  |  |  |  |  | Lower secondary |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest |
| Ebonyi | 36 | 42 | 32 |  | 23 | 27 |  | 27 | 22 | 34 |  | 22 | 17 |  |
| Anambra | 34 | 35 | 33 | 38 | 12 |  | 36 | 30 | 37 | 18 |  | 11 |  | 33 |
| Zamfara | 30 | 26 | 37 | 37 | 27 | 14 |  | 26 | 32 |  | 23 |  |  |  |
| Sokoto | 27 | 26 | 26 | 31 | 25 | 18 | 47 | 21 | 24 | 16 | 35 | 7 |  |  |
| Abia | 24 | 27 | 22 | 37 | 22 |  | 20 | 22 | 23 | 21 | 32 | 20 |  |  |
| Lagos | 22 | 25 | 19 | 23 | 12 |  | 22 | 20 | 23 | 18 | 21 |  |  | 19 |
| Ondo | 22 | 23 | 21 | 21 | 22 | 13 | 28 | 20 | 20 | 19 | 21 | 19 |  | 28 |
| Bauchi | 21 | 20 | 21 | 14 | 23 | 30 |  | 19 | 20 | 17 | 12 | 23 |  |  |
| Edo | 21 | 23 | 18 | 20 | 21 |  | 20 | 20 | 24 | 17 | 18 | 24 |  | 25 |
| Yobe | 20 | 21 | 20 | 27 | 19 | 17 | 32 | 19 | 22 | 15 | 18 | 19 |  |  |
| Nasarawa | 19 | 21 | 18 | 22 | 19 | 16 | 36 | 20 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 20 | 10 |  |
| Kogi | 19 | 15 | 23 | 15 | 21 | 22 | 17 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 22 | 20 | 29 |  |
| Ekiti | 19 | 22 | 16 | 22 | 8 |  | 17 | 19 | 22 | 16 | 23 | 4 |  |  |
| Taraba | 17 | 18 | 17 | 10 | 19 | 23 |  | 16 | 19 | 13 | 13 | 17 | 21 |  |
| Kwara | 16 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 10 | 15 | 15 | 17 | 18 | 16 | 18 | 9 |  | 14 |
| Bayelsa | 16 | 16 | 17 |  | 20 | 15 |  | 18 | 20 | 16 |  | 18 |  |  |
| Rivers | 16 | 16 | 16 | 18 | 13 |  | 18 | 20 | 26 | 12 | 26 | 16 |  | 15 |
| Oyo | 14 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 12 | 8 | 16 | 13 | 7 | 19 | 13 | 15 |  | 18 |
| Adamawa | 14 | 15 | 12 | 24 | 10 | 10 |  | 8 | 6 | 10 | 12 | 7 | 5 |  |
| Kebbi | 14 | 13 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 12 |  | 10 | 7 | 13 | 14 | 7 |  |  |
| Niger | 13 | 14 | 13 | 24 | 9 | 4 | 28 | 19 | 15 | 25 | 32 | 12 |  |  |
| Delta | 13 | 13 | 13 | 7 | 18 |  | 9 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 5 | 17 |  | 5 |
| Fct | 13 | 10 | 16 | 14 | 10 |  | 14 | 14 | 15 | 12 | 16 | 9 |  | 16 |
| Gombe | 11 | 12 | 10 | 14 | 9 | 3 |  | 9 | 10 | 9 | 18 | 2 |  |  |
| Imo | 11 | 12 | 10 |  | 12 |  | 10 | 8 | 12 | 5 |  | 13 |  |  |
| Ogun | 11 | 8 | 14 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 8 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 9 |  | 12 |
| Benue | 10 | 11 | 9 | 16 | 10 | 8 |  | 14 | 15 | 13 | 18 | 13 | 16 |  |
| Plateau | 10 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 12 |  | 11 | 6 | 16 | 8 | 12 | 18 |  |
| Cross River | 9 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 8 | 11 |  | 3 | 4 | 3 |  | 2 |  |  |
| Borno | 8 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 13 | 8 |  |  |
| Katsina | 8 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 15 | 13 | 12 |  |  |
| Kaduna | 7 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 5 | 11 | 9 | 7 |  |  |
| Kano | 7 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 3 |  | 12 |
| Jigawa | 7 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 7 | 7 |  | 12 | 13 | 11 |  | 12 |  |  |
| Enugu | 5 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |  |  |
| Akwa Ibom | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 4 |  |  |
| Osun | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 11 |  | 1 |

## Repetition rate by state and various socio-economic characteristics

|  | Upper secondary |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest |
| Ebonyi | 35 | 23 | 43 |  | 25 |  |  |
| Anambra | 33 | 24 | 39 |  | 11 |  | 33 |
| Zamfara | 23 | 20 |  | 18 |  |  |  |
| Sokoto | 32 | 29 |  | 45 | 21 |  |  |
| Abia | 28 | 32 | 23 | 36 | 26 |  | 21 |
| Lagos | 22 | 20 | 24 | 23 |  |  | 23 |
| Ondo | 20 | 21 | 19 | 20 | 20 |  | 19 |
| Bauchi | 13 | 8 | 21 | 13 | 13 |  |  |
| Edo | 27 | 25 | 29 | 27 | 28 |  | 25 |
| Yobe | 30 | 30 | 30 | 38 | 27 |  |  |
| Nasarawa | 23 | 20 | 28 | 30 | 20 |  |  |
| Kogi | 22 | 19 | 26 | 16 | 25 |  |  |
| Ekiti | 20 | 19 | 22 | 25 | 5 |  |  |
| Taraba | 18 | 24 | 11 |  | 20 | 14 |  |
| Kwara | 17 | 16 | 19 | 19 | 11 |  | 19 |
| Bayelsa | 8 | 9 | 7 |  | 12 |  |  |
| Rivers | 14 | 14 | 13 | 15 | 13 |  | 9 |
| Oyo | 15 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 12 |  | 20 |
| Adamawa | 10 | 8 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 7 |  |
| Kebbi | 11 | 10 | 11 | 13 | 6 |  |  |
| Niger | 14 | 11 | 19 | 19 | 10 |  |  |
| Delta | 10 | 12 | 9 | 11 | 10 |  | 12 |
| Fct | 14 | 11 | 18 | 14 | 13 |  | 18 |
| Gombe | 12 | 10 | 14 | 18 | 7 |  |  |
| Imo | 17 | 19 | 16 |  | 7 |  |  |
| Ogun | 10 | 11 | 9 | 9 | 11 |  | 12 |
| Benue | 12 | 11 | 13 |  | 11 |  |  |
| Plateau | 10 | 12 | 7 | 12 | 9 | 15 |  |
| Cross River | 11 | 9 | 14 |  | 11 |  |  |
| Borno | 11 | 13 | 8 | 10 | 12 |  | 3 |
| Katsina | 14 | 11 | 16 | 13 | 14 |  |  |
| Kaduna | 10 | 11 | 9 | 11 | 9 |  |  |
| Kano | 6 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 4 |  |  |
| Jigawa | 11 | 9 |  | 14 | 9 |  |  |
| Enugu | 4 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 2 |  | 7 |
| Akwa Ibom | 3 | 3 | 4 | 11 | 3 |  | 6 |
| Osun | 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 11 |  | 12 |

## Findings

- At the primary level, the repetition rate among students is highest in Ebonyi state at 36 per cent and lowest in Osun State at 3 per cent. At the lower secondary level, the repetition rate is highest in Anambara State at 30 per cent and lowest at Enugu state at 1 per cent. At the upper secondary level, Ebonyi state has the highest repetition rate at 35 per cent and Akwa Ibon has the lowest repetition rate at 3 per cent
- It is important to note this analysis is based on students and not children, which means that a decline in student population due to high out-of-school children rates impacts the estimates. A high out-of-school rate for a specific group may translate to lower repetition and dropout.


Note: The values in the table have been rounded using Excel, which tends to round down estimates, leading to slight potential discrepancies between the displayed figures and those presented in other MICS reports

## Dropout rate by state and various socio-economic characteristics

|  | Primary |  |  |  |  |  |  | Lower secondary |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest |
| Anambra | 20 | 22 | 19 | 23 | 6 |  | 16 | 12 | 5 | 24 |  | 8 |  | 11 |
| Osun | 14 | 17 | 12 | 16 | 8 | 5 | 14 | 18 | 16 | 20 | 21 | 8 |  | 11 |
| Borno | 13 | 13 | 13 | 9 | 16 | 17 | 20 | 19 | 16 | 21 | 12 | 23 |  |  |
| Zamfara | 9 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 11 |  | 9 | 9 |  | 10 |  |  |  |
| Gombe | 8 | 6 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 9 |  | 11 | 8 | 14 | 9 | 12 |  |  |
| Katsina | 8 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 3 |  |  |
| Nasarawa | 8 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 13 | 7 | 6 |  |
| Kebbi | 7 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 5 |  | 8 | 6 | 10 | 2 | 12 |  |  |
| Bauchi | 7 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 11 |  | 4 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 1 |  |  |
| Kano | 6 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 15 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 |  | 3 |
| Jigawa | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 |  | 8 | 9 | 6 |  | 10 |  |  |
| Plateau | 5 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 3 |  | 3 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 |  |
| Oyo | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 8 |  | 3 |
| Adamawa | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 |  | 6 | 7 | 6 | 11 | 5 | 7 |  |
| Yobe | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 7 |  |  |
| Kwara | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 1 |  | 0 |
| Kaduna | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 |  |  |
| Niger | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 5 |  |  |
| Rivers | 4 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 |  | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 |  | 1 |
| Sokoto | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 8 |  |  |
| Ogun | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 |  | 2 |
| Lagos | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 0 |  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |  |  | 1 |
| Ondo | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |  | 2 |
| Kogi | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 7 |  |
| Fct | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 |  | 1 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 6 | 13 |  | 2 |
| Cross River | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 |  | 2 | 1 | 4 |  | 3 |  |  |
| Ebonyi | 2 | 0 | 3 |  | 3 | 4 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | 2 | 2 |  |
| Benue | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |  | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 6 |  |
| Delta | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |  | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |  | 1 |
| Edo | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 |  | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 |  | 0 |
| Taraba | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |  |
| Akwa Ibom | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |  |  |
| Ekiti | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |  | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |  |  |
| Bayelsa | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 2 |  | 7 | 9 | 5 |  | 3 |  |  |
| Enugu | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 |  |  |
| Abia | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 4 |  |  |
| Imo | 0 | 0 | 0 |  | 1 |  | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 |  | 4 |  |  |

Dropout rate by state and various socio-economic characteristics

|  | Upper secondary |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | Total | Male | Female | Urban | Rural | Poorest | Richest |
| Anambra | 28 | 36 | 24 |  | 40 |  | 32 |
| Osun | 38 | 39 | 36 | 40 | 30 |  | 35 |
| Borno | 28 | 23 | 34 | 26 | 29 |  | 20 |
| Zamfara | 39 | 42 |  | 39 |  |  |  |
| Gombe | 32 | 30 | 33 | 32 | 31 |  |  |
| Katsina | 27 | 30 | 24 | 31 | 25 |  |  |
| Nasarawa | 24 | 30 | 17 | 21 | 26 |  |  |
| Kebbi | 25 | 22 | 28 | 20 | 33 |  |  |
| Bauchi | 28 | 29 | 24 | 30 | 25 |  |  |
| Kano | 29 | 27 | 31 | 30 | 26 |  |  |
| Jigawa | 28 | 25 |  | 29 | 28 |  |  |
| Plateau | 28 | 24 | 33 | 27 | 29 | 27 |  |
| Oyo | 24 | 19 | 28 | 27 | 14 |  | 21 |
| Adamawa | 32 | 35 | 27 | 27 | 34 | 34 |  |
| Yobe | 14 | 14 | 13 | 15 | 14 |  |  |
| Kwara | 33 | 33 | 33 | 32 | 35 |  | 38 |
| Kaduna | 30 | 25 | 36 | 27 | 35 |  |  |
| Niger | 19 | 18 | 20 | 15 | 22 |  |  |
| Rivers | 32 | 36 | 27 | 36 | 27 |  | 41 |
| Sokoto | 25 | 27 |  | 27 | 24 |  |  |
| Ogun | 20 | 16 | 24 | 21 | 19 |  | 22 |
| Lagos | 27 | 32 | 23 | 27 |  |  | 27 |
| Ondo | 32 | 34 | 30 | 24 | 39 |  | 31 |
| Kogi | 30 | 31 | 28 | 29 | 30 |  |  |
| Fct | 25 | 31 | 18 | 23 | 33 |  | 17 |
| Cross River | 20 | 18 | 23 |  | 19 |  |  |
| Ebonyi | 15 | 15 | 15 |  | 26 |  |  |
| Benue | 22 | 23 | 21 |  | 23 |  |  |
| Delta | 26 | 25 | 27 | 28 | 25 |  | 26 |
| Edo | 24 | 26 | 23 | 19 | 29 |  | 23 |
| Taraba | 16 | 10 | 23 |  | 18 | 24 |  |
| Akwa Ibom | 32 | 35 | 30 | 27 | 32 |  | 33 |
| Ekiti | 25 | 30 | 20 | 21 | 34 |  |  |
| Bayelsa | 39 | 40 | 37 |  | 32 |  |  |
| Enugu | 30 | 40 | 24 | 31 | 29 |  | 24 |
| Abia | 26 | 22 | 31 | 30 | 25 |  | 22 |
| Imo | 21 | 16 | 27 |  | 32 |  |  |

## Findings

- At the primary level, the dropout rate among students is highest in Anambara state at 20 per cent and lowest in Imo State at less than 1 per cent. At the lower secondary level, the dropout rate is highest in Borno State at 19 per cent and lowest In Ekiti state at less than 1 per cent. At the upper secondary level, Bayelsa and Zamfara states have the highest dropout rates at 39 per cent and Yobe has the lowest dropout rate at 14 per cent
- It is important to note this analysis is based on students and not children, which means that a decline in student population due to high out-of-school children rates impacts the estimates. A high out-of-school rate for a specific group may translate to lower repetition and dropout


Note: The values in the table have been rounded using Excel, which tends to round down estimates, leading to slight potential discrepancies between the displayed figures and those presented in other MICS reports.
50 UNICEF Nigeria Education Fact Sheets 2023 | Analyses for learning and equity using MICS data


## Topic 6 Child Protection

## Guiding

 questions1. Which groups have higher rates of early marriage and how does it impact literacy and ICT skills?
2. Which groups of children are more frequently involved in child labour?
3. How is child labour linked to foundational learning skills?
4. How does child labour explain the profile of children who are out of school or not learning in school?
5. How does early marriage explain the profile of youth without skills or not attending primary school?

Child marriage and education

## What is child marriage?

Child marriage is a marriage of a girl or boy before the age of 18, and refers to both formal marriages and informal unions in which children under the age of 18 live with a partner as if married.



- Married before age $15 \cong$ Married between ages 15 and 18




## Findings

- The prevalence of child marriage is higher for girls than for boys, particularly for those married between age 15 and 18. While 1 per cent of males aged 20 to 24 were married between 15 and 18, 18 per cent of females in this age group were married between 15 and 18 . The prevalence of child marriage is higher in rural areas for both men and women. Since the percentage of men involved in child marriage is so low, no further analysis could have been conducted.
- There is a strong negative correlation between early marriage and education. Among males aged 20 to 24 whose highest level of education attained was higher education, almost none of them reported entering a union or marriage before their 18th birthday. This estimate is around 1 per cent for women.
- Women who have lower levels of education have a higher share of early marriage. Among females who had primary education as their highest level of education attained, 29 per cent of them were married before 15 and another 27 per cent were married between 15 and 18 years of age.
- Wealth is another dimension where a strong negative correlation is observed for early marriage, where young women belonging to the poorest wealth quintiles have the highest share of entering a marriage between 15 to 18 years of age.
- Youth who married early, especially females, have markedly lower literacy rates and an extremely low share of ICT skills. For females aged 20 to 24 who married between 15 and 18 , close to one in three are literate compared to 85 per cent for females who did not marry early
- ICT skills acquisition also shows differences by marriage status. 12 per cent of females who did not marry early and only 0.3 per cent of females who married between 15 and 18 have ICT skills.


## What is child labour?

In the MICS module, children are considered to be in child labour if they engage in at least one of two categories: economic activities; and household chores. For each category, there is a time threshold based on different age groups.


FIGURE 80 Prevalence of child labour for children aged 5 to 17


FIGURE 81 Percentage of children attending the right or higher level of education by child labour status


## Findings

- In Nigeria, 31 per cent of children aged 5 to 17 are in child labour. A similar share of boys is in child labour as girls, but the disparity by urban-rural residence is substantial. Children from the poorest two wealth quintiles have similar child labour rates, at around 43 per cent. In contrast, only 14 per cent of children from the richest wealth quintiles are in child labour.
- The prevalence of child labour decreases with age. 46 per cent of primary school age children are in child labour, which drops to 1 per cent among senior secondary school age children.
- Across all ages, children engaged in child labour have lower school attendance than children not engaged in child labour.
- Foundational reading and numeracy skills are lower for children who are in child labour compared to those who are not. 32 per cent of children not in child labour have foundational numeracy skills, which drops to 17 per cent for children who are in child labour.

Profile of children not learning and out of school by child labour and uneducated or unskilled youth by early marriage


## Topic 7

Education for Children with Functional Difficulties

Guiding
questions

\author{

1. Which groups of children have higher rates of functional difficulty?
}
2. How is functional difficulty linked to school attendance and learning?
3. How is functional difficulty linked to repetition and dropouts?
4. How does functional difficulty explain the profile of children who are out of school or not learning in school?

Children with functional difficulties



Findings

- Overall, 15 per cent of children aged 5 to 17 have at least one functional difficulty.
- A slightly higher share of rural children and children from the poorest wealth quintile have functional difficulties.
- Less than 0.5 per cent of girls and boys have functional difficulties in domains associated in seeing, hearing,
communication, concentrating and self-care.
On the other hand, about 8 per cent of 5 - to 17-year-olds have signs of anxiety and 6 per cent have signs of depression



## Education for children with functional dififculties



- For all levels of education, children without any functional difficulties have higher adjusted net attendance rates (ANAR) than children with any functional difficulty. These differences are statistically significant for all levels.
- Conversely, out-of-school rates for children with any functional difficulties are higher than children with functional difficulties for all levels of education.
- No statistically significant difference is observed in repetition and dropout rates for children with and without functional difficulties
- Around 16 per cent of children aged 10 to 17 without functional difficulties have never attended school. This share increases by 8 percentage points for children with any or multiple functional difficulties. 46 per cent of children aged 10 to 17 with severe functional difficulties and without signs of anxiety or depression have never attended school. This reveals high heterogeneity among children with functional difficulties, with some groups unable to gain even initial access to education in Nigeria.


All findings presented here are for children aged 5 to 17 and therefore use the 13 functional domains presented in the earlier section.


FIGURE 92 Foundational numeracy skills by functional difficulties for 7 - to 14 -year-olds


## Findings

- A statistically significant difference is observed between the foundational reading skills of children with no functional difficulties and children with any functional difficulties, in favour of the former.
- The same trend is observed in foundational numeracy skills.





## Topic 8 Remote Learning

Guiding
questions

1. What percentage of students live in households with access to remote learning tools?
2. How is remote learning associated with foundational learning?

## 3. What are the profiles of children who do not have access to remote learning tools?

## Overview

## What are remote learning tools?

MICS collected data on the availability of tools in the household that could be used to support remote learning. These include having access to radio, television, phone, and computers with internet. Of note, however, not all members of a given household may in fact have access to whatever devices may be present.


FIGURE 95 Percentage of students aged 5 to 18 who do not have access to television, internet and a computer at home


FIGURE 96 Percentage of students aged 5 to 18 who do not have access to television, internet, computer, radio and phone at home




FIGURE 99 Percentage of students aged 5 to 24 with access to radio or television at home, by socio-economic and demographic characteristics


## FIGURE 100 Percentage of students aged 5 to 24 with access to a phone at home, by socio-economic and demographic characteristics



FIGURE 101 Percentage of students aged 5 to 24 with access to internet at home, by socio-economic and demographic characteristics


FIGURE 102 Percentage of students aged 5 to 24 with access to a computer at home, by socio-economic and demographic characteristics


## Findings

- Phone is the most accessible remote learning tool, as 91 per cent of students aged 5 to 24 have access to a phone. Among 5 to
24-year-old students, 39 per cent have internet access at home, while only 10 per cent have access to a computer at home
- It is important to note that the data here only show if a child has access to these tools as part of the household. There is no information on whether students are or will be allowed to use these tools for remote learning.
- Access to all forms of remote learning tools, including radio, television, phones, the internet, and a computers are higher among students in urban areas than in rural areas.
- Students from the poorest wealth quintile have less access to remote learning tools than students from wealthier quintiles, with the difference greatest for access to computers and the internet. Only 9 per cent of students from the poorest households have access to internet and none have access to a computer, whereas 76 per cent of the wealthiest students have access to internet and 33 per cent have access to a computer.
- Across divisions, there is a high rate of access to the phone, but there are divides in access to both internet and computer. Southern regions have slightly higher levels of internet and computer access as compared to northern regions.
- Overall, 41 per cent of students lack access to remote learning tools at home in the form of lack of access to television, internet or a computer. Lack of access to any of these remote learning tools in the home is greatest among students from the poorest wealth quintile, as 91 per cent of these students do not have television, internet or computers at home
- Access to remote learning tools increases with the level of education attended. More than twice the percentage of students in vocational or technical school have access to the internet and a computer as students in early childhood education.
- This analysis reveals that while many students in Nigeria could have been reached by broadcast and digital remote learning tools, some students did not have access to any of these tools. This means they remained at least potentially unreached and would not have been able to access any education during school closures, if mitigation approaches targeting these students were not introduced.



## FIGURE 103 Percentage of students with access to radio or television by state



FIGURE 105 Percentage of students with access to internet by state


FIGURE 104 Percentage of students with access to a phone by state


FIGURE 106 Percentage of students with access to a computer by state


## Findings

- Between remote learning tools, across states, phone has the best reachability with most students living with households with a mobile phone. However, the survey did not collect information about the type of phone, therefore this data cannot be disaggregated further to check reachability by smart phones.
- Internet connectivity is low with the highest connectivity among students in Lagos where 69 per cent of students live in a home with internet connection However internet connectivity is extremely low in Benue at only 18 per cent for students aged 3 to 24 year olds.
- Computer is a rare commodity with 33 per cent of students in Imo state living with a computer at home compared to 3 percent in Ekiti.
- The survey does not collect information on the quality of these remote learning tools. Therefore the data must be interpreted with caution.



## FIGURE 107 Percentage of children with no child-oriented books at home



## FIGURE 108 Percentage of children who received helped with homework from a parent or caretaker



## Findings

- 66 per cent of children aged 7 to 14 live in a household with no child-oriented books. This means they do not have access to additional age-appropriate materials to read and learn.
- Access to child-oriented books varies by location, school attendance status, wealth quintile, and mother's level of education. A greater percentage of rural children lack child-oriented books at home than urban children. Among children in the poorest quintile, 89 per cent do not have access to additional child-oriented books, whereas among children from the wealthiest quintile, it is 34 per cent.
- Mother's education is strongly negatively correlated with the absence of child-oriented books in the household. While 31 per cent of children whose mother has tertiary or a higher level of education are without child-oriented books at home, this percentage increases to 84 per cent among children whose mother attended only primary school or lower.
- 69 per cent of students aged 7 to 14 receive help with homework in Nigeria. However, a lower percentage of children from the poorest quintile, or whose mother has only primary education has a parent who helped with their homework.


## Topic 9 Pathway Analysis

Guiding questions

1. How does the in-school Nigerian population gradually shrink as children progress through the education system?
2. How does the shrinkage differ by sex, area and wealth?


## PRIMARY

- Ever attended primary
- Never attended primary
- Completed primary
- Still attending primary
- Dropped out of primary


## LOWER SECONDARY

Transitioned to lower secondary
Completed prim ary but did not transition to lower secondary
Completed lower secondary

- Dropped out of lower secondary

Still attending lower secondary
UPPER SECONDARY
Completed lower secondary but did not transition to upper secondary
Transitioned to upper se condary



## PRIMARY

- Ever attended primary
- Never attended primary
- Completed primary

Still attending primary
Dropped out of primary

## LOWER SECONDARY

- Transitioned to lower secondary

Completed prim ary but did not transition to lower secondary
Completed lower secondary
Dropped out of lower secondary

- Still attending lower secondary


## UPPER SECONDARY

mpleted lower se condary but did not transition to upper secondary
Transitioned to upper secondary


## Findings

- The figure above shows the educational trajectory of adolescent boys and girls aged 15 to 17 in Nigeria from primary to upper secondary.
- In terms of initial access to education, i.e., ever attended primary, in this age cohort, the share was similar between boys and girls at about 84 to 83 per cent.
- Overall, slightly more girls make it to upper secondary on time at 53 per cent than boys at 49 per cent
- In particular, the differences in lower secondary amplify the divide Upper secondary school age Nigerian boys are more likely to still be attending lower secondary or drop out at the end of upper secondary than girls.


Pathway analysis by wealth


## unicef(3) <br> for every child

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[^0]:    Note: numbers may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding

[^1]:    Note: numbers may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding

[^2]:    Note: numbers may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding

[^3]:    Note: The values in the table have been rounded using Excel, which tends to round down estimates, leading to slight potential discrepancies between the displayed figures and those presented in other MICS reports

[^4]:    Note: Dropout in Grade 12 includes those who transitioned to higher education between previous and current education years,

[^5]:    Note: numbers may not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding

