



NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

2006 CORE WELFARE INDICATOR QUESTIONNAIRE (CWIQ) SURVEY

ZONAL SUMMARY – NORTH-CENTRAL

INTRODUCTION

The Nigerian Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaire survey (CWIQ) is a nationwide sample survey designed to collect household data which are analysed to furnish policy makers and planners with indicators for monitoring poverty and living standards in the country at National, Zonal, State and Senatorial District levels.

This flyer presents key findings for the North-Central zone of the country. It focuses on State variations within the zone, rural-urban and gender differences. The States in the zone are: Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Nassarawa, Niger, Plateau and FCT.

KEY FINDINGS

DEPENDENCY RATIO

The overall dependency ratio for the zone was 0.7, indicating that less than one person was dependent on each economically-active person. The dependency ratio for the rural areas was 0.8, while it was 0.7 for the urban areas. Kwara, Nassarawa and Niger had dependency ratios above the zonal average (0.8, 0.8 and 0.9 respectively). Kogi had the least ratio of 0.6.

HOUSEHOLD WELFARE

Household Economic Situation Compared with Past Year

Thirty-five per cent of households in the zone said that their economic situation was worse than a year ago. The urban-rural situation showed a higher percentage of those in rural areas reporting a worse economic situation (36.4 per cent). The picture was the same on a State basis, except for Niger and FCT that reported better economic situation than last year (50.4 per cent and 36.5 per cent respectively).

Neighbourhood Crime/Security Situation Compared to One Year Ago

Forty-two per cent of households in the zone reported a better crime/security situation now than a year ago. The picture was the same for urban, rural and the States in general.

Difficulty in Satisfying Household Needs

The household needs considered was food and 7.2 per cent of households in the zone found it difficult to satisfy their food needs. There was no variation in the pattern in urban, rural and in the States, except Nassarawa that had over 20 per cent of the households having difficulty satisfying their food needs.

Self-Classified Poverty Situation

HOUSEHOLD INFRASTRUCTURE

Secure Housing Tenure

Secure housing tenure is defined for households that have documentation to verify their occupancy status. About 53 per cent of households in the zone had secured housing tenure. Households in the rural areas had higher secure housing tenure (57.6 per cent) than those in the urban areas (42.1 per cent). On a State basis, Benue had the highest figure (78.6 per cent), while Kwara had the lowest (16.6 per cent).

Access to Water from All Sources

Access to water is measured by percentage of households with water sources less than 30 minutes away. Majority of households in the zone had access to water (80.2 per cent). It was higher in the urban (92.3 per cent) than in the rural (75.7 per cent) areas. The States with high access were Niger (93.5 per cent), FCT (94.9 per cent) and Kwara (89.1 per cent).

Safe Water Source

One in every two of the households in the zone had access to safe water sources. Access to safe water source was lower in the rural (38.7 per cent) than in the urban (72.8 per cent) areas. Kwara and Niger States scored high on access to safe water (71.4 per cent and 62.2 per cent respectively). Safe water means treated water from pipes, bore-hole- and protected well-.

Safe Sanitation

Safe sanitation is defined for households using flush toilets, covered pit latrines or ventilated improved pit latrines. There were only few households in the zone with safe sanitation (9.8 per cent). In the rural areas, it was 3.7 per cent, while it was 25.0 per cent in the urban areas. There was little variation in the States, except FCT that had higher access to sanitation facilities (42.1 per cent).

Improved Waste Disposal

A very low percentage of households (8.7 per cent) used improved waste disposal system in the zone. There was wide disparity between rural (4.5 per cent) and urban (19.0 per cent) areas. The highest percentage of improved waste disposal system was recorded for Kwara State (18.7 per cent), while the lowest was recorded for Plateau State (0.8 per cent).

Access to Electricity

About 44 per cent of the households in the zone had electricity as source of lighting. The rural-urban disparity was high with only 28.5 per cent having access to electricity in the rural areas and 82.0 per cent in the urban areas. On a State basis, Kwara had about 70 per cent of the households with electricity, while Benue had only 22.9 per cent.

OWNERSHIP OF IT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

Personal Computer

Ownership of personal computers was low in the zone (1.1 per cent). The pattern was the same for all the States in the zone, except FCT that had about 6 per cent of the households owning personal computers. Benue, Kogi and Nassarawa, that had less than one per cent of the households owning personal computers.

Mobile Phone

About 22 per cent of households in the zone owned mobile phones. Ownership of mobile phones was higher in the urban (45.3 per cent) than in the rural (12.0 per cent). On state basis, FCT had the highest (74.2 per cent), while Benue State had the lowest (12.9 per cent) of the households owning mobile phones.

EMPLOYMENT

Youth Unemployment

Youth unemployment (aged 15 – 24) was 4.2 per cent. When disaggregated by sex, it was 4.5 per cent for the males and 4.1 per cent for the females. A similar picture was observed for the urban and rural areas with 4.4 per cent and 4.3 per cent respectively. Nassarawa State recorded the highest youth unemployment (8.1 per cent), while Niger recorded the lowest figure (1.7 per cent). Youth unemployment was higher for females in Benue, Kwara and FCT.

General Unemployment

Unemployment for persons 15 years and above was 3.5 per cent. This rate was almost equal for the males and females in the urban areas. For males, it was 4.1 per cent in the urban areas and 3.3 per cent in the rural areas. Nassarawa State had the highest unemployment rate of 7.6 per cent, while Niger had the lowest (1.1 per cent)

Under-Employment

Underemployment is defined for persons aged 15 and above and includes employed persons who sought to increase earnings in the seven day period preceding the survey. Under-employment rate in the zone was 8.3 per cent. The males had 10.3 per cent, while the females had 6.3 per cent. Under-employment was higher in the rural areas (9.2 per cent) than in the urban areas (6.1 per cent). On a State basis, it was highest in the FCT (13.1 per cent) and lowest in Niger State (6.2 per cent).

EDUCATION

Adult Literacy

Adult literacy rate is defined as ability to read and write in any language. More than two third while 69 percent and 46.1 percent were recorded for males and females respectively. Marked disparities existed among urban and rural dwellers with rates as high as 74.7 per cent for urban and 51.6 per cent for females. On a State basis, Benue, Kogi, Niger and FCT had rates higher than the zonal average.

Youth Literacy

Youth literacy rate in any language in the zone was 74.8 per cent. Disaggregation by sex had 81.6 per cent for males and 67.1 per cent for females. The rate in urban (88.6 per cent) was higher than in rural (69.8 per cent) areas. At the State level, Benue, Kogi, Kwara and FCT recorded rates above the zonal average. Youth literacy rates in males were generally higher than those of females in all the States.

PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

Access to Primary School

Access to Primary school education is defined as the percentage of students of primary school age that could get from their homes to the nearest primary school in less than 30 minutes, using their normal means of transportation (including walking). About 79 per cent of people in the zone had access to primary school. The people in the urban (91.0 per cent) had better access than the people in the rural (75.2 per cent) areas. Access was highest in the FCT (94.9 per cent) and lowest in Benue State (62.8 per cent).

Primary School Net Enrolment

Net enrolment rate for the zone was 73.3 per cent. The rate was higher in the urban areas (84.5 per cent) than in the rural areas (70.7 per cent). It was almost equal for the males and females (73.4 per cent for males and 73.0 per cent respectively). On a State basis, Benue, Kogi and Plateau had higher net enrolment rates for females. Primary school net enrolment rate was highest in the FCT (83.2 per cent) and lowest in Niger state (58.8 per cent).

Satisfaction with Primary School

Satisfaction with primary school is measured by the percentage of individuals currently enrolled in primary schools that experienced no problems with their schools. Satisfaction at the zonal level was 50.1 per cent. People in the urban areas expressed more satisfaction with primary school than those in the rural areas. FCT recorded the highest rate of satisfaction (72.2 per cent), while Plateau had the lowest rate (26.2 per cent).

Primary School Completion Rate

Primary school completion rate was 12.8 per cent for the zone. The rate was higher in the urban (14.9 per cent) than in the rural (12.2 per cent) areas. Kogi State had the highest primary completion rate in the zone (18.7 per cent), while Niger had the lowest (6.4 per cent).

SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

Access to Secondary Education

Access to secondary education is defined as the per centage of students of secondary age that could get from their homes to the nearest secondary school in less than 30 minutes, using their normal means of transportation (including walking). Access to secondary school in the zone was 45.6 per cent. Persons who live in the urban areas had better access than those in the rural areas. Benue State had the lowest access (33.1 per cent), while it was highest in Kogi (61.1 per cent)

Secondary School Net Enrolment

Secondary school net enrolment rate was 46.4 per cent for the zone. Secondary School enrolment rate was higher for males (48.3 per cent) than for females (44.0 per cent). The urban areas had a higher enrolment rate (58.7 per cent) than the rural areas (42.4 per cent). The rate was lowest in Niger State and highest in Kogi State.

Satisfaction with Secondary Education

About 48 per cent of the children in the zone expressed satisfaction with their schools. The rates of satisfaction in urban and rural areas were almost the same (48.3 per cent for rural and 48.1 per cent for urban). On a State basis, only Kogi and Plateau recorded rates below the zonal average.

Secondary School Completion Rate

Secondary school completion rate was 15.8 per cent for the zone. Completion rate was higher in the urban areas (27.0 per cent) than in the rural areas (12.2 per cent). The State with the lowest completion rate was Niger State (7.2 per cent). FCT had a completion rate of 24.5 per cent, while Benue and Kogi States had 19.2 per cent and 19.3 per cent respectively.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Access to Medical Services

Access to health care is determined by the ability of household members to reach a health facility within 30 minutes. At the zonal level, 60.1 per cent of the population indicated that they had access to health facility. There was a significant difference in accessibility between the people living in the rural areas (53.8 per cent) and those in the urban areas (78.2 per cent). It was lowest in Benue State (41.7 per cent) and highest in the FCT (80.6 per cent).

Need for Medical Services

The need for medical services is defined for those who were sick or injured in the four weeks preceding the survey. Seven per cent of the population of the zone needed medical services. More households in the rural areas than in the urban areas needed services. Nassarawa (9.5 per cent), Niger (8.2 per cent) and Benue (7.3 per cent) reported the greatest need

for medical services. The least need was in the FCT (3.7 per cent).

Usage of Medical Services

Use of medical services is defined for those who were sick or injured in the four weeks preceding the survey. Of the 7.0 per cent who indicated need, 6.9 per cent used medical facilities. The trend was similar in the urban-rural areas and in the States. Nassarawa and Niger States 9.7 percent and 8.1 percent respectively recorded higher use of medical services than the zonal average.

Satisfaction with Medical Services

Satisfaction is defined for persons who consulted a health practitioner in the four weeks preceding the survey and who cited no problems. About two third of household members who consulted a health practitioner in the four weeks preceding the survey were satisfied with the medical services provided within the zone. There were slight variations in the States within the zone. Satisfaction was higher in the urban areas (73.5 per cent) than in the rural areas (64.5 per cent).

CHILDREN UNDER 5

Birth Registration

Birth registration for children under 5 years was 28.7 per cent for the zone. There was little difference between the males and the females. It was highest in Kwara (49.4 per cent), followed by the FCT (43.8 per cent). Birth registration in the urban areas (48.0 per cent) was more than double that of the rural areas (22.3 per cent).

Immunisation

About 32.3 per cent of children Under-5 years were fully immunized in the zone, that is, had all the necessary immunisation and 14.7 per cent did not have any. Immunization was higher in the urban than in the rural areas. States with low immunisation rates were Nassarawa (12.4 per cent) and Kogi (26.5 per cent).

GENDER

Circumcision

Circumcision for the females (female genital mutilation) was 14.5 per cent in the zone. Surprisingly, the rate was higher in the urban (18.3 per cent) than in the rural (13.1 per cent) areas. It was highest in Kwara State (63.9 per cent) and low in Niger (1.3 per cent) and Plateau (1.2 per cent).

Access To Resources

Access to credit is defined for persons 15 years and above to whom credit facilities were available. More males (13.9 per cent) than females (12.9 per cent) had access to credit. More males had access to credit in the urban and rural areas. The males had more access to credit in all States in the zone, except in Kwara where more females had access than their male counterparts.

North Central Zone Core Welfare Indicators (2006)														
	Total	Margin of error	Rural	Rural poor	Urban	Urban poor	Benue	Kogi	Kwara	Nasara wa	Niger	Plateau	FCT	
Household characteristics														
Dependency ratio	0.7	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.7	
Household welfare														
Household economic situation compared to one year ago														
Worse now	35.0	0.9	36.8	51.0	30.6	43.3	43.2	27.0	35.5	57.1	26.6	34.6	13.6	
Better now	32.6	1.0	34.3	22.2	28.4	11.4	38.2	25.2	22.6	24.2	50.9	27.1	36.6	
Neighborhood crime/security situation compared to one year ago														
Worse now	21.1	0.9	20.9	31.1	21.5	25.3	20.8	21.3	8.2	30.4	19.6	28.8	19.3	
Better now	42.7	1.3	46.5	32.4	33.4	24.3	53.7	45.2	31.9	31.8	53.3	31.6	30.8	
Difficulty satisfying household needs														
Food	7.3	0.5	8.5	12.3	4.4	10.1	7.1	5.9	7.5	21.1	3.0	7.4	1.1	
Households self classified as poor														
All households	62.8	1.1	64.4	79.7	58.7	77.1	54.6	64.4	83.3	64.0	43.4	76.9	44.4	
Male headed households	62.3	1.2	63.8	78.7	58.2	74.2	54.8	64.4	83.6	63.8	43.6	76.7	43.2	
Female headed households	66.5	2.2	70.5	87.8	61.3	83.9	53.2	64.3	82.2	71.8	36.7	80.5	55.7	
Household infrastructure														
Secure housing tenure	68.4	1.2	64.5	52.0	78.1	61.8	88.4	64.1	44.2	53.4	82.8	59.3	76.8	
Access to water	81.0	1.1	76.3	53.0	92.7	83.3	71.5	75.2	89.5	77.4	94.4	78.5	95.0	
Safe water source	48.9	1.6	39.1	17.4	72.9	56.6	43.4	36.9	72.1	38.6	62.6	43.3	42.2	
Year round water source	31.5	1.2	32.3	19.0	29.6	23.9	25.2	40.0	26.3	19.9	32.4	35.7	51.6	
Water treated before drinking	14.1	0.7	14.5	11.1	13.2	7.5	18.0	11.7	13.4	13.0	8.1	20.2	8.4	
Safe sanitation	46.6	1.4	36.4	9.2	71.7	39.3	50.5	31.5	40.6	35.6	61.9	47.9	80.7	
Improved waste disposal	8.8	1.0	4.6	2.4	19.2	11.5	9.8	4.4	18.8	3.9	12.0	0.8	21.5	
Non-wood fuel used for cooking	16.8	1.1	8.1	1.2	38.2	14.9	10.7	21.5	19.8	7.5	9.5	21.4	56.3	
Has electricity	44.6	1.7	29.0	5.0	82.9	53.3	23.1	56.1	71.1	36.5	45.8	31.8	86.6	
Ownership of IT/Telecommunications Equipment														
Personal computer	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.5	0.4	2.0	0.6	1.2	1.4	5.9	
Mobile phone	21.9	1.2	12.2	0.6	45.9	7.0	13.1	17.4	34.2	21.8	25.8	14.4	74.2	
Employment														
Employment Status in last 7 days														
Unemployed (age 15-24)	12.8	1.1	11.7	6.4	17.5	17.4	9.0	25.5	16.2	26.6	3.5	10.3	11.0	
Male	14.4	1.4	13.4	7.7	18.7	12.4	10.0	30.8	16.3	28.1	3.8	14.1	6.3	
Female	11.3	1.2	10.0	5.3	16.3	21.0	8.1	20.4	16.0	25.2	3.2	6.8	16.2	
Unemployed (age 15 and above))	5.1	0.4	4.7	2.9	6.2	6.9	3.8	7.9	5.1	12.8	1.5	3.4	6.9	
Male	5.2	0.4	5.0	3.4	5.6	6.8	4.3	9.2	4.4	11.6	1.6	3.5	2.2	
Female	5.1	0.4	4.5	2.4	6.8	7.0	3.2	6.6	5.8	14.4	1.3	3.2	13.1	
Underemployed (age 15 and above)	13.4	0.6	14.5	14.2	10.5	12.9	13.9	12.3	14.4	18.2	8.8	15.3	21.4	
Male	16.3	0.8	17.8	19.6	11.9	16.0	16.5	14.4	17.3	23.1	10.8	19.0	23.4	
Female	10.3	0.6	10.8	8.8	8.8	10.0	11.3	10.4	11.7	11.5	6.4	9.9	18.5	
Education														
Adult literacy rate-any language														
Total	58.3	0.9	53.0	41.0	72.0	52.5	67.0	64.5	56.6	53.7	36.5	61.6	79.0	
Male	69.2	0.9	65.0	53.2	80.2	65.4	79.6	74.1	68.3	68.4	47.4	69.8	85.9	
Female	46.5	1.0	40.2	28.8	63.2	39.7	52.8	55.0	44.8	37.6	25.2	52.3	71.5	
Youth literacy rate-any language (age 15-24)														
Total	77.3	0.9	73.1	61.8	88.6	78.5	83.7	89.7	80.3	68.0	53.8	77.0	82.8	
Male	84.7	0.9	81.3	71.8	93.8	90.9	90.9	92.8	87.8	80.2	66.1	82.7	86.4	
Female	69.1	1.3	63.8	51.8	82.9	64.1	75.7	86.2	71.7	54.6	40.7	70.4	79.6	
Primary school														
Access to School	79.7	1.2	76.2	47.7	91.7	82.0	63.2	88.1	84.3	79.6	88.6	74.9	94.9	
Primary Net Enrollment	72.5	0.9	69.7	66.0	82.3	76.5	77.4	80.5	78.6	66.5	57.5	79.3	83.4	
Male	72.9	1.0	70.7	68.6	80.8	71.4	77.2	80.5	77.8	67.9	59.7	78.5	86.4	
Female	72.1	1.1	68.5	62.7	84.0	81.3	77.6	80.5	79.6	64.7	54.8	80.0	80.1	
Satisfaction	50.3	1.5	49.2	35.0	53.8	54.8	59.9	63.4	56.6	56.2	39.2	26.2	72.4	
Primary completion rate	12.8	0.5	12.2	9.8	15.0	15.3	14.6	18.4	13.4	13.0	6.5	13.7	17.0	
Secondary school														
Access to School	47.7	1.6	39.7	12.3	72.1	39.7	33.5	61.6	49.5	47.2	50.4	45.0	61.1	
Secondary Net Enrollment	46.1	1.0	42.2	32.6	58.3	45.7	45.0	59.8	48.1	44.0	34.2	42.5	58.3	
Male	47.9	1.2	43.8	34.8	61.0	46.8	47.8	60.6	50.2	46.9	36.5	43.9	59.5	
Female	43.8	1.3	40.0	29.9	55.1	44.0	41.6	58.9	45.4	40.4	30.9	40.6	57.1	
Satisfaction	48.5	1.6	48.6	30.4	48.5	43.1	52.8	47.9	54.8	60.8	51.0	22.8	79.5	
Secondary completion rate	15.7	0.9	12.1	5.5	26.9	16.3	19.2	19.1	17.8	18.7	7.1	11.2	24.4	
Medical services														
Health access	61.1	1.3	54.8	15.8	79.2	57.4	42.0	76.9	73.4	64.4	68.0	47.5	80.8	
Need	7.0	0.2	7.1	8.5	6.6	6.9	7.4	6.5	4.5	9.7	8.2	6.4	3.7	
Use	6.9	0.2	6.9	7.1	6.9	5.7	6.8	5.8	5.7	9.8	8.1	5.9	5.6	
Satisfaction	67.1	1.5	64.8	55.0	73.7	61.4	71.0	58.1	67.7	68.6	64.9	69.5	81.0	
Child welfare and health														
Children under 5														
Birth registration	31.3	1.3	25.5	17.3	49.0	32.0	32.2	36.6	51.3	19.6	22.9	27.4	44.4	
Male	31.0	1.4	25.5	17.8	48.1	33.8	31.4	38.7	46.6	18.4	22.7	29.4	54.8	
Female	31.6	1.5	25.4	16.8	50.0	30.7	33.1	34.5	56.1	21.0	23.1	25.0	32.9	
Fully vaccinated	50.2	1.6	44.4	37.0	68.2	57.5	47.5	52.9	82.6	22.9	41.7	55.9	74.0	
Not vaccinated	12.3	0.9	14.7	23.5	4.5	9.2	18.1	9.8	8.0	21.4	5.8	16.0	2.0	
Gender														
Circumcision	57.7	0.5	57.0	56.9	59.6	62.0	57.6	55.9	78.1	54.4	52.6	52.9	52.9	
Access to credit facility	15.0	0.6	14.5	9.3	16.3	9.5	19.6	13.2	22.7	9.8	19.9	4.4	9.3	
Male	15.5	0.6	15.0	9.9	16.7	9.0	20.2	14.3	20.9	10.2	20.5	5.8	11.3	
Female	14.4	0.6	13.9	8.7	15.9	10.1	19.0	12.1	24.3	9.3	19.2	2.8	7.1	

*All correspondence about the Survey, including definitions of terms and concepts, should be addressed to:
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