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Subject: Over reporting of School Going Students by DHS

Posted by [Prateek](#) on Tue, 12 Jul 2016 08:58:37 GMT

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Hi,

I am trying to estimate unregistered/Non Formal school enrolments in sub Saharan Africa. For this analysis we have been using Demographic health survey and have consistently found that DHS survey reports higher school going students (Higher School Attendance Ratios) than census or government data. It will be great if you could put some light on this issue.

Eagerly waiting for your response.

Thanks and Regards,  
Prateek

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Subject: Re: Over reporting of School Going Students by DHS

Posted by [huebler](#) on Tue, 12 Jul 2016 17:52:17 GMT

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Prateek,

It is not clear to which indicators you refer and how they were calculated. Analysis in the report below (annex 1C, pages 66-67) demonstrates that there is no systematic pattern of one or the other data source (household surveys vs. administrative records) always showing higher or lower attendance or enrolment.

Friedrich

Reference: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS). 2005. Children out of School: Measuring Exclusion from Primary Education. Montreal: UIS.

<http://www.uis.unesco.org/Library/Documents/oosc05-en.pdf>.

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Subject: Re: Over reporting of School Going Students by DHS

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 13 Jul 2016 17:19:31 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Fred Arnold:

The DHS surveys report on school attendance, whereas the government statistics typically report on school enrollment, which are not the same thing. Moreover, the government statistics on enrollment are from sources that do not include the denominator needed to calculate the high school attendance ratios, so they usually have to use an independent estimate from a different source. The years of the surveys and the government statistics may also be different. The DHS

survey also does not include children living in group quarters or the homeless population. Could you please send me some additional information on the exact definition of the indicator that you are referring to in the censuses and government data (including the definition of the numerator and the denominator, as well as the relevant age group).

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