

CHILD-FRIENDLY REGIONAL PROFILE

Region Two (2)

Pomeroon-Supenaam



Ministry of Communities
Building cohesive, empowered and
sustainable communities

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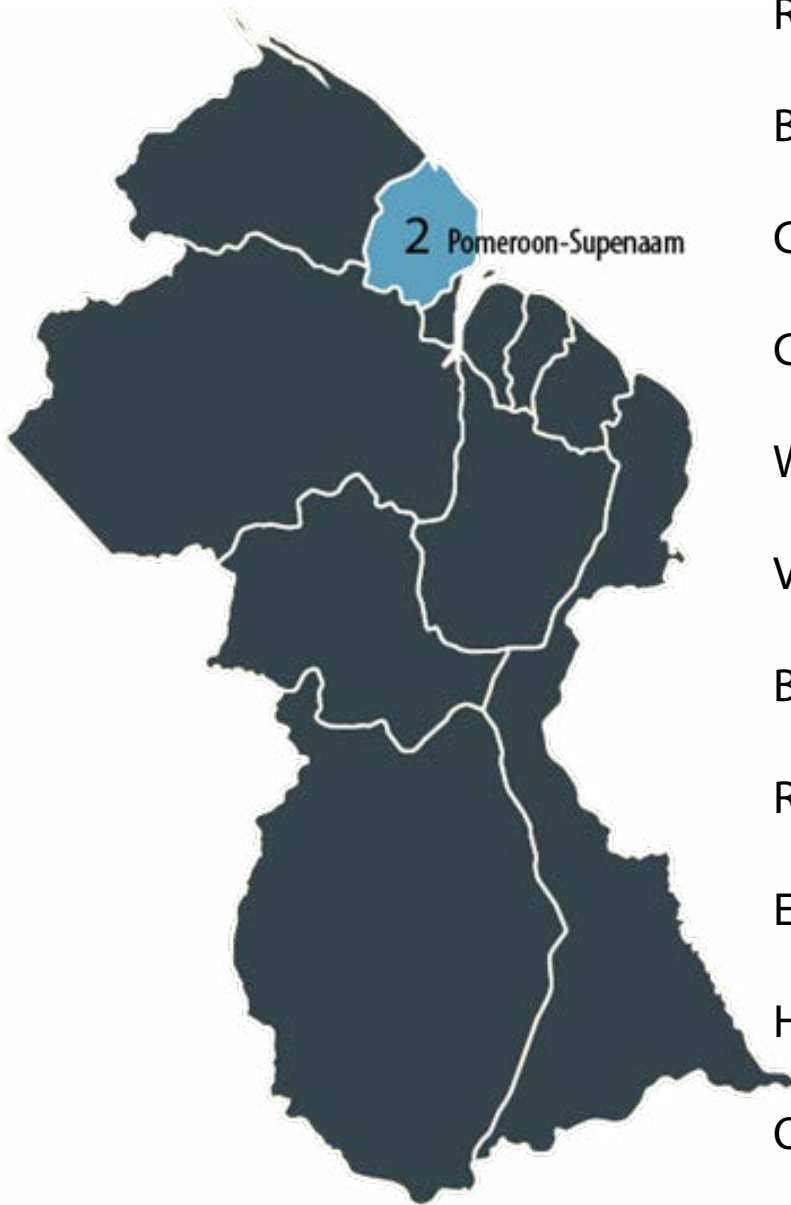
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There is no better investment in this world than investment in children.

— President David Granger, August 21, 2017

Region 2

Pomeroon-Supenaam

The Pomeroon-Supenaam region comprises of forested highland and low coastal plain, but also takes in a small portion of the hilly sand and clay region. The region spans 2,392 square miles.

The 46,810 people of this region live in Indigenous settlements and more established villages concentrated along the coast. The town of Anna Regina, on the West Bank of the Essequibo River, grew out of a government land development scheme and is made up of former plantations such as Henrietta, Lima and La Belle Alliance.

Rice farming is the main economic activity of this region. The Tapakuma Project in this region links the Tapakuma, Reliance and Capoey lakes into one large conservancy, which supplies irrigation water for rice fields which dominate Region Two.

Besides rice farming, some people cultivate coconuts and care for beef and dairy cattle. Timber production is conducted on a very small scale in this region. Not surprisingly, the region is known as 'The Rice Land'. Pomeroon -Supenaam is the gateway to Region 1 and Venezuela. A Coast Guard Station is located at the mouth of the Pomeroon River. Thirty-six miles of road links Supenaam to Charity. The town of Anna Regina is mid-way between Charity and Supenaam. The Regional Administrative Office is located at Anna Regina. The Regional Hospital, High Court and Registry for the Essequibo County are at Suddie.



Location of Region 2 (Pomeroon-Supenaam)

Background

Context

The Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) are committed to the wellbeing and development of Guyanese children.

The Government at the national and sub-national levels is committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). UNICEF is the custodian or co-custodian of 10 of the SDG indicators (stunting, wasting/overweight, skilled attendance at birth, under five mortality, neonatal mortality, early childhood development, early marriage, FGM/C, child discipline and sexual violence against children).

This commitment is demonstrated by their support for the generation and dissemination of evidence to inform the development of plans, policies, projects, and programmes to address equity gaps in areas of survival, lifelong learning, protection and participation of children.

Need for Developmental Data

Building sustainable communities is part of the Ministry of Communities' mandate. An essential component of sustainable communities is being child-friendly. This effort to develop child friendly regional data profiles is a repackaging of existing data, from empirical sources, in a way that is specific to a region and can be used by decision makers, to the fullest extent possible, for the realisation of child rights. It can also assist in supporting the achievement of the SDGs.

Disaggregated data on social indicators are an essential component of evidence informed policies, plans, projects and programmes. It enables actors to effectively monitor progress toward the realisation of national and international goals and commitments and helps to measure whether these goals have been achieved and to what extent. Data supports national and sub-national governance structures to focus their interventions on the most deprived thereby reducing inequities; and identifying capacity deprivations for corresponding capacity building initiatives.

This child-friendly regional profile compiled by the Government of Guyana through its Ministry of Communities, in collaboration with UNICEF, provides current information for development actors.

Methodology

The process of developing this profile for Pomeroon - Supenaam was participatory and involved varied stakeholders. Using the Multiple Cluster Indicators Survey (MICS) 2014 and other national surveys, consultations were carried out with the Regional Administration and other stakeholders to present the findings, seek consensus and validation of the processes.

The data presented and the profile prepared represent a commitment by the Regional Administration and stakeholders to a sustainable community development that is child friendly.

The profile indicates areas of achievements and areas of deprivations, some of which are the worst in the country. Undoubtedly the Regional Administration, national government, local actors and international development partners will work to address the issues the data unfolds.

Child Development

Fig. 1.1: Early Child Development Indexⁱ

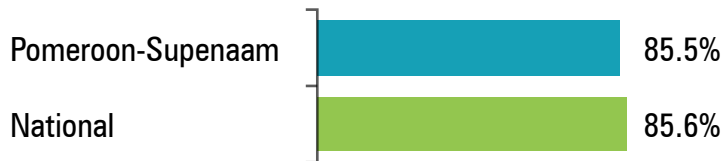


Fig. 1.2: Mother's Support for Learningⁱⁱ

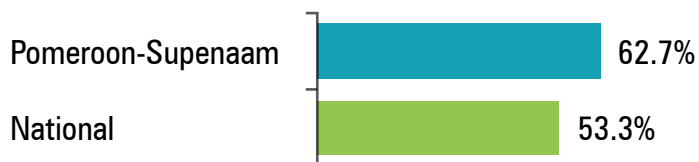


Fig. 1.3: Father's Support for Learning^{iv}



Achievements /Areas for Attention

85.5 percent of the children of the region are developmentally on track.

62.7 percent of the mothers supported learning in their children. This is more than two times higher than both the father's support for learning and the national average at 53 percent

Father's support for learning is low at 25.8 percent and may indicate matrifocal households.

Child Protection

Fig. 2.1: Birth Registration^v

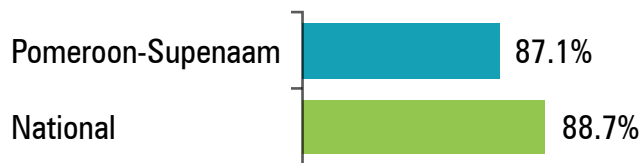


Fig. 2.2: Child Labour^{vii}



Fig. 2.3: Violent Discipline^{viii}

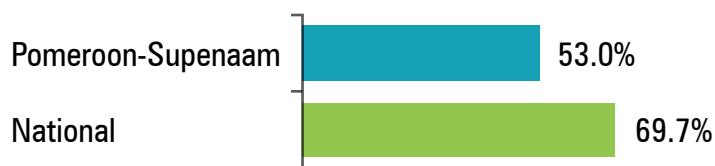
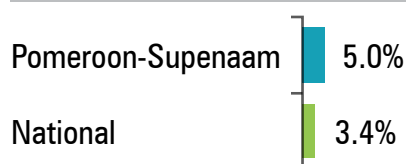


Fig. 2.4: Marriage Before Age 15 [Female]^{ix}



Achievements /Areas for Attention

87 percent Birth Registration in the region is slightly below the national average of 88.7 percent.

Child Labour is at 22 percent, 4 percent higher than the national average. Almost 1 in every four children are said to be involved in too many hours of work for their age

Violent discipline of children in this region is 53 percent and presents an area for work for all stakeholders.

5 percent of the females in this region get married before age 15. Early child marriages affect the social fabric of the community negatively.

Water and Sanitation

Fig. 3.1: Use of Improved Drinking Sources^x

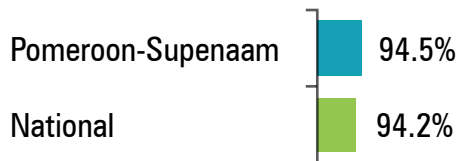


Fig. 3.2: Use of Improved Sanitation^{xi}

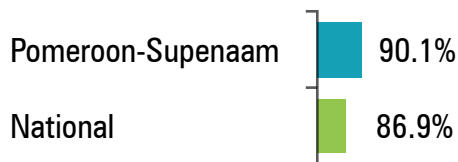


Fig. 3.3: Place for Handwashing^{xii}

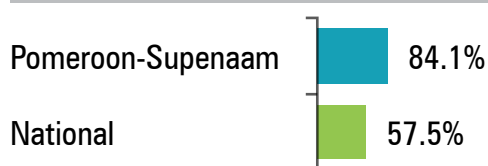


Fig 3.4: Availability of Soap or Other Cleaning Detergents^{xiii}



Achievements /Areas for Attention

94.5 percent of the residents of this region use clean and improved drinking water sources.

90.1 percent of the population use improved forms of sanitation. The use of improved sanitation (and improved sources of drinking water) reduce the chances of childhood diseases.

84.1 percent of the population had a place for hand washing. Hand washing reduces the spread of infectious diseases among children.

The availability of soap and or other cleaning detergents in this region stands at 81.2 percent. The availability of soap and other cleaning detergents also reduces the spread of diseases.

Vaccinations

Fig. 4.1: Polio Immunisation Coverage^{xiv}



Fig. 4.2: Tuberculosis Immunisation Coverage^{xv}



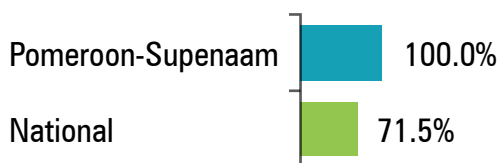
Fig. 4.3: Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus (DPT) Immunisation Coverage (Pentavalent)^{xvi}



Fig. 4.4: Measles Immunisation Coverage^{xvii}



Fig. 4.5: Yellow Fever Immunisation Coverage^{xviii}



Achievements /Areas for Attention

/ The region should be congratulated for achieving the goal of 100 percent immunisation against Polio.

/ 100 percent of the children of this region received Immunisation against tuberculosis.

/ Childhood immunisation for DPT and measles has attained the goal of 100 percent.

/ Yellow fever immunisation is 100 percent.

Breastfeeding

Fig. 5.1: Child Ever Breastfed^{xix}

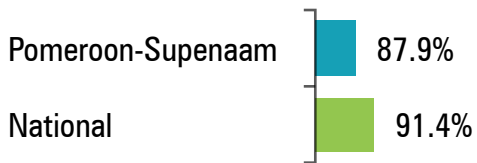


Fig. 5.2: Early Initiation of Breastfeeding^{xx}

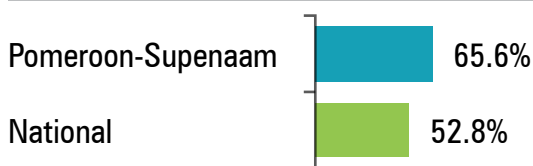


Fig. 5.3: Exclusive Breastfeeding Under Six Months^{xxi}



Fig. 5.4: Duration of Breastfeeding^{xxii}

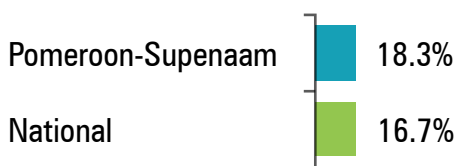


Fig. 5.5: Age-appropriate Breastfeeding^{xxiii}



Achievements / Areas for Attention

87.9 percent of the population of infants in the region were breastfed at least once, indicating a sense of awareness among mothers about the importance of breast milk and postnatal nutrition for healthy children.

65.6 percent of the population has an early initiation of breastfeeding which is higher than the national average of 52.8 percent.

Exclusive breastfeeding under six months is low at 46.7 percent though this is twice the national average.

Duration of breastfeeding at 18.3 percent is slightly higher than the national average of 16.7 percent but extremely low.

Age appropriate breastfeeding is higher than the national average at 47 percent but still below the required percentage and in need of interventions.

Reproductive Health

Achievements / Areas for Attention

Fig. 6.1: Antenatal Care Coverage^{xxiv}



Fig. 6.2: Postnatal Health Check for New-borns^{xxv}

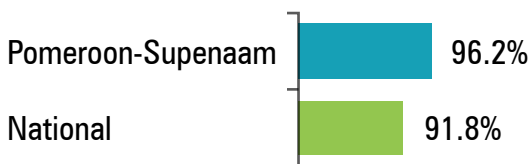


Fig. 6.3: Adolescent Birth Rate^{xxvi}

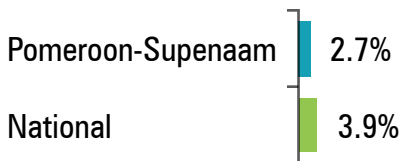


Fig. 6.4: Early Child Bearing^{xxvii}

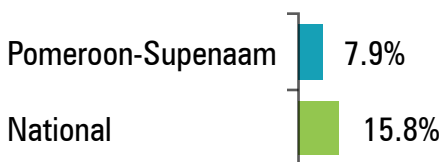
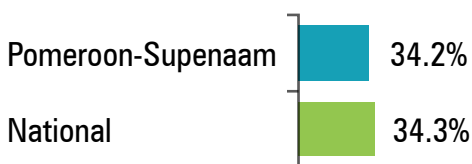


Fig. 6.5: Contraceptive Prevalence Rate^{xxviii}



The indicators show that the region is on track with its reproductive health capacities in both its prenatal care coverage at 99 percent and postnatal health care check-up of newborns at 96.2 percent (Figs 1 and 2).

Adolescent birth rate is at 2.7 percent and below the national average but still needs attention.

Early child bearing is 7.9 percent. While this is less than half of the national average of 15.8 percent, it is still an area that needs some attention. Delayed child bearing has positives for the health and social well-being of mother and child as well as larger community.

65.8 percent of the women in the region are not using a modern contraceptive method. Contraceptive use is associated with family-planning which has positive impacts for the children, mothers and community.

Education

Fig. 7.1: Net Intake in Primary Education^{xxx}

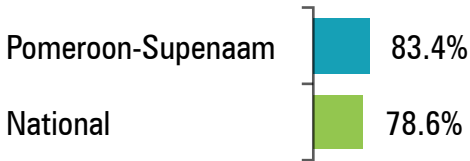


Fig. 7.2: Primary Completion Rate^{xxx}

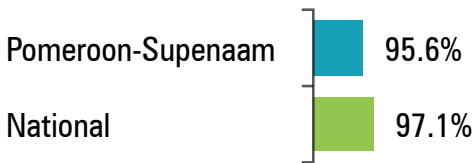
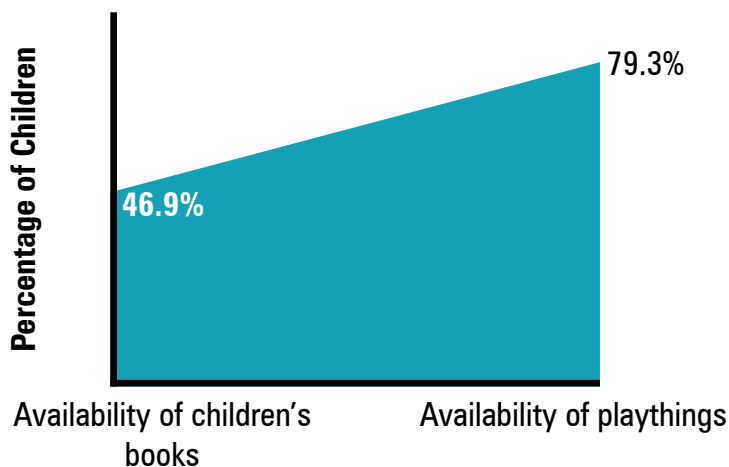


Fig. 7.3: Transition Rate to Secondary School^{xxxi}



Fig. 7.4: Availability of Resources^{xxxii}



Achievements /Areas for Attention

The net intake in Primary Education is at 83.4 percent but there is still 17 percent that needs attention.

Primary completion rate is 95.6 percent just below the national average.

The transition rate to Secondary school in this region is 100 percent which is commendable and should be maintained.

46.9 percent of children have children's books to their disposal. This indicator is associated with higher IQs in children and higher levels of academic performance in school (Fig 7.5).

Availability of playthings is at 79.3 percent improved. 21 percent do not have access to playthings. Playthings are associated with the positive social and cognitive development of children.

Health

Fig. 8.1: Tobacco Use [Male]^{xxxiii}

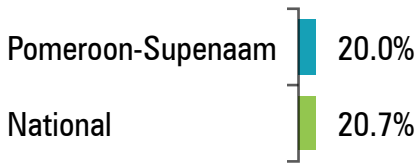


Fig. 8.2: Smoking Before Age 15 [Male]^{xxxiv}

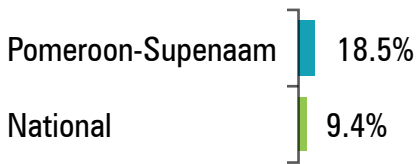


Fig. 8.3: Use of Alcohol [Male]^{xxxv}

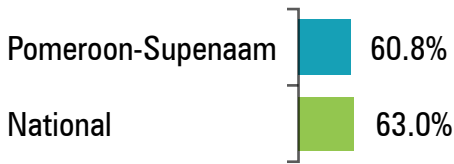


Fig. 8.4: Use of Alcohol [Female]^{xxxvi}

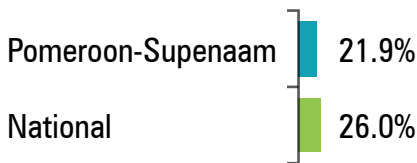
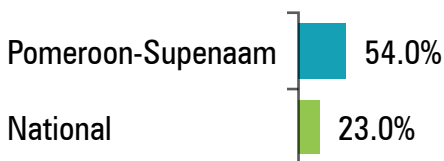


Fig. 8.5: Neonatal Mortality Rate^{xxxvii}



Achievements /Areas for Attention

20 percent of males in this region use Tobacco. This has implications for the overall health of the region.

Smoking before age 15 (males) stands at 18.5 percent which is double the national average and of concern.

60.8 percent of males and 21.9 percent females in this region use alcohol. This is a cause of concern as it can lead to unwanted social consequences including violence against women and children. Alcohol use by women during pregnancy leads to developmental issues in the foetus.

This region ranks highest in the country in neonatal mortality rate which is more than twice the national average at 54 percent.

Other

Fig. 9.1: Use of Internet^{xxxviii}

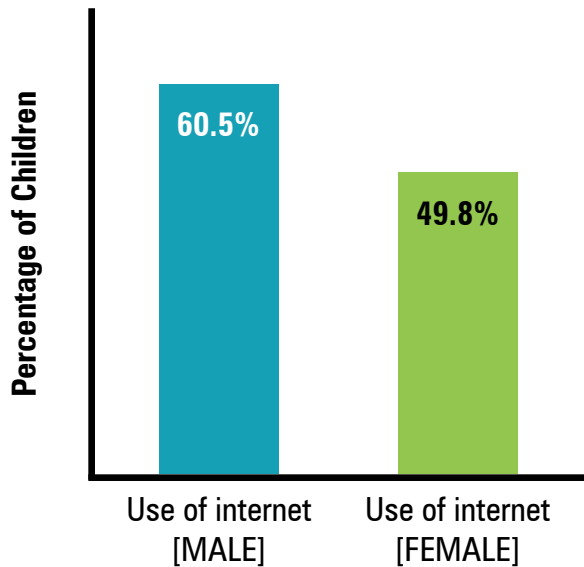
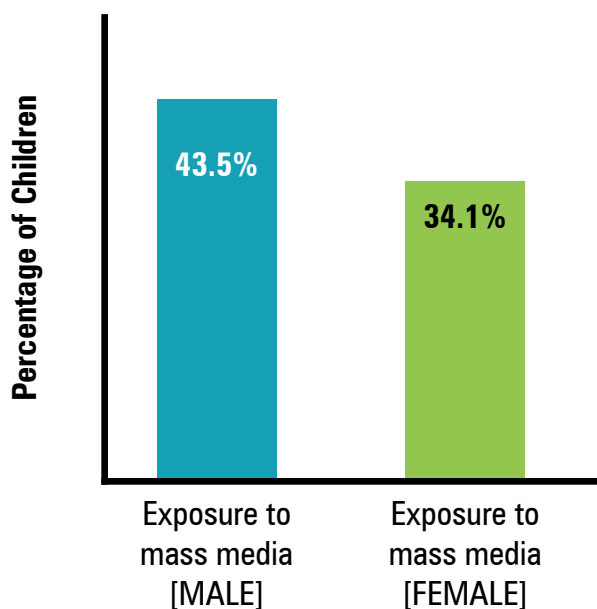


Fig. 9.2: Exposure to Mass Media^{xi}



Achievements / Areas for Attention

60.5 percent of males and 49.8 females of this region's population use the internet. Internet can be a source of information for health, education, business and citizen stewardship and community development.

Exposure to mass media is below 50 percent (43.5 males and 34.1 females). Exposure to mass media affects the transmission of critical public information including disaster warnings, public health etc.

Conclusions

This child-friendly profile represents an important first step in the presentation of regional aggregated indicators of women and children.

It can be an important addition to the resources in the achievement of the SDGs that are related to children and national goals and policies.

It is hoped that the resource will be used by all development actors and other stakeholders in the achievement of a more child-friendly society.

As this is a first step, the Ministry of Communities welcomes your feedback and response to the document. Feedback will allow us to improve future editions.

Annex

- i. Number of children age 36-59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following four domains: literacy-numeracy, physical, social-emotional, and learning. Total number of children age 36-59 months.
- ii. Number of children age 36-59 months whose biological mother has engaged in four or more activities to promote learning and school readiness in the last 3 days. Total number of children age 36-59 months
- iii. Number of children under age 5 who play with two or more types of playthings. Total number of children under age 5.
- iv. Number of children age 36-59 months whose biological father has engaged in four or more activities to promote learning and school readiness in the last 3 days. Total number of children age 36-59 months.
- v. Number of children under age 5 whose births are reported registered. Total number of children under age 5.
- vi. Number of men age 15-49 years who were first married or in union before age 15. Total number of men age 15-49 years.
- vii. Number of children age 5-17 years who are involved in child labour. Total number of children age 5-17 years.
- viii. Number of children age 1-14 years who experienced psychological aggression or physical punishment during the last one month. Total number of children age 1-14 years.
- ix. Number of women age 15-49 years who were first married or in union before age 15. Total number of women age 15-49 years.
- x. Number of household members using improved sources of drinking water. Total number of household members. MDG 7.8.
- xi. Number of household members using improved sanitation facilities which are not shared. Total number of household members. MDG 7.9.
- xii. Number of households with a specific place for hand washing where water and soap or other cleansing agents are present. Total number of households.
- xiii. Number of children age 12-23 months who received the third dose of OPV vaccine (OPV3) by their first birthday. Total number of children age 12-23 months.
- xix. Number of children age 12-23 months who received BCG vaccine by their first birthday. Total number of children age 12-23 months.
- xx. Number of children age 12-23 months who received the third dose of DPT vaccine (DPT3) by their first birthday. Total number of children age 12-23 months.
- xxi. Number of children age 24-35 months who received measles vaccine by their second birthday. Total number of children age 24-35 months.
- xxii. Number of children age 24-35 months who received yellow fever vaccine by their second birthday. Total number of children aged 24-35 months.
- xxiii. Number of women with a live birth in the last 2 years who breastfed their last live-born child at any time. Total number of women with a live birth in the last 2 years.
- xxiv. Number of women with a live birth in the last 2 years who put their last newborn to the breast within one hour of birth. Total number of women with a live birth in the last 2 years.
- xxv. Number of infants under 6 months of age who are exclusively breastfed. Total number of infants under 6 months of age.
- xxvi. The age in months when 50 percent of children age 0-35 months did not receive breast milk during the previous day.
- xxvii. Number of children age 0-23 months appropriately fed during the previous day. Total number of children age 0-23 months.
- xxviii. Number of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who were attended during their last pregnancy that led to a live birth
- (a) at least once by skilled health personnel at least four times by any provider and
- (b) at least four times by any provider. Total number of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years.

xxiv. Number of last live births in the last 2 years who received a health check while in facility or at home following delivery, or a post-natal care visit within 2 days after delivery. Total number of last live births in the last 2 years.

xxv. Age-specific fertility rate for women age 15-19 years.

xxvi. Number of women age 20-24 years who had at least one live birth before age 18. Total number of women age 20-24 years.

xxvii. Number of women age 15-49 years currently married or in union who are using (or whose partner is using) a (modern or traditional) contraceptive method. Total number of women age 15-49 years who are currently married or in union.

xxviii. Number of children of school-entry age who enter the first grade of primary school. Total number of children of school-entry age.

xxix. Number of children attending the last grade of primary school (excluding repeaters). Total number of children of primary school completion age (age appropriate to final grade of primary school).

xxx. Number of children attending the last grade of primary school during the previous school year who are in the first grade of secondary school during the current school year. Total number of children attending the last grade of primary school during the previous school year.

xxxi. Number of children under age 5 who have three or more children's books. Total number of children under age 5. Number of children under age 5 who play with two or more types of playthings. Total number of children under age 5.

xxxii. Number of men age 15-49 years who smoked cigarettes, or used smoked or smokeless tobacco products at any time during the last one month. Total number of men age 15-49 years.

xxxiii. Number of men age 15-49 years who smoked a whole cigarette before age 15. Total number of men age 15-49 years.

xxxiv. Number of men age 15-49 years who had at least one alcoholic drink at any time during the last one month. Total number of men age 15-49 years.

xxxv. Number of women age 15-49 years who had at least one alcoholic drink at any time during the last one

month. Total number of women age 15-49 years.

xxxvi. Probability of dying within the first month of life.

xxxvii. Number of young women and men age 15-24 who used the internet during the last 12 months. Total number of women and men age 15-24 years.

xxxviii. Number of women and men age 15-49 years who, at least once a week, read a newspaper or magazine, listen to the radio, and watch television. Total number of women and men age 15-49 years.

Notes
