

GES/UNICEF PARTNERSHIP

Analysis of school attendance trends among basic school students
2005-2010

FINAL DRAFT REPORT

Submitted by
EARC

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The major objective of this study was to collect and analyze data on school attendance at basic education level and determines areas where there are declines and low school attendance over the period 2005-2010.

The study adopted the survey research approach with a sample size of 919 Primary Schools and 706 Junior High Schools. Information came from 87 districts in nine regions.

The results show that primary school attendance experienced a slight growth nationally from 2005 to 2010 while Junior High School attendance experienced a slight decline. Generally attendance was higher for boys than girls for the period 2005 – 2010.

Over the five academic year period, Ashanti, Central, Greater Accra, Northern, Upper East, Upper West and Western Regions showed slight growth in actual school attendance in Primary schools. The Eastern Region showed a slight decline in actual attendance.

In terms of **percentage** school attendance in the Primary School, Greater Accra had the highest attendance with Upper East Region and by Northern Region having the lowest.

The following districts showed moderate to high declining attendance between 2005-2010.

1. Assin South Central Region
2. Birim North Eastern Region
3. Fanteakwa Eastern Region
4. East Gonja Northern Region
5. Bawku West Upper East Region
6. Sissala West Upper West Region
7. Wa East Upper West Region
8. Amenfi West Western Region

In addition, the following districts showed moderate to high rising primary school attendance.

1. Amansie West Ashanti Region
2. Mampong Municipal Ashanti Region
3. Sekyere South Ashanti Region
4. Mamprusi East Northern Region
5. Savelugu-Nanton Northern Region
6. Yendi Northern Region
7. Kassena Nankana East Upper East Region
8. Lawra Upper West Region
9. Wa West Upper West Region
10. Bia Western Region

Out of the 87 districts, seven districts namely, Bongo (Upper East), Garu Tempane (Upper East), Talensi Nabdam (Upper East), Nadawli (Upper West), Sissala East (Upper West), Ahanta West

(Western), and Sekondi Takoradi (Western) had girls' actual attendance higher than boys' attendance.

In terms of **percentage** school attendance in the Primary Schools, the best five districts were Kassena-Nankana East, Offinso Municipal, Kumasi, Sekondi-Takoradi and Agona West. The worst five districts were Birim South, Lawra, Techiman, Kwaebibirem, and Asuogyaman.

For the Junior High Schools, in terms of **percentage** school attendance, the best five districts were Obuasi Municipal, Sekondi-Takoradi, Tema, Kumasi, and Cape Coast. The worst five districts were Ahanta West, Assin North, Talensi-Nabdam, Lawra, and Fanteakwa.

It is recommended that studies be carried out to identify the factors that have led to the declining and low school attendance.