



### BENUE STATE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

The 2006 Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ) Survey is a national Sample Survey, designed to provide indicators for monitoring Poverty and Living Standards in the country at National, State and Zonal Levels. A total of 3400 households, i.e. 4.4 per cent of the 77,400 households in the National Sample,

represents Benue State in the survey sample. Out of the 3400 households sampled in the State, 2960 lived in rural areas, representing 87.1 per cent, while 440 lived in urban areas (12.9 per cent). This flyer presents State aggregates, including rural-urban, senatorial and gender differences for selected indicators.

## KEY FINDINGS

### DEPENDENCY RATIO

The dependency ratio in Benue State was 0.7, which implies that less than one person is dependent on one economically active person. The dependency ratio in rural and urban areas was 0.8 and 0.4 respectively. At the senatorial districts, north-east had 0.7, while north-west and south each had 0.7.

### HOUSEHOLD WELFARE

#### Household Economic Situation Compared with Past Year

About 38.0 per cent of the sampled households in the State felt that their economic situation was better, while 43.2 per cent felt they were worse off now compared to one year ago. Thirty-Seven per cent of rural households and 43.2 per cent of urban households felt they were better off, while, 44.6 per cent of rural households and 36.2 per cent of urban households felt they were worse off. At the senatorial districts, only 27.7 per cent in north east, 39.8 per cent in north-west and 48.4 per cent in south felt they were better, while 57.1 per cent in north-east, 34.5 per cent in north-west and 37.8 per cent in south believed they were worse .

#### Neighbourhood Crime/Security Situation Compared to One Year Ago

About 54.0 per cent of the households felt the crime security situation was better now, compared to one year ago, while 20.8 per cent believed it was worse. 57.8 per cent of those in the rural areas and 33.5 per cent of urban households felt the situation was better, while 15.5 per cent of rural and 47.2 per cent of urban households felt it was worse. In the senatorial districts, 71.4 per cent in north-east, 47.0 per cent in south and 42.8 per cent in north-west felt the situation was better now, while 32.4 per cent in north-west, 20.7 per cent in south and 8.5 per cent in north-east felt the situation was worse.

#### Difficulty in Satisfying Household Needs

Seven per cent of the sampled households had difficulty satisfying their food needs in the State, with 7.6 per cent of rural and 4.5 per cent of urban households involved. In the senatorial districts, 13.0 per cent of households in north-west, 4.3 per cent in the south and 3.3 per cent in north-east had difficulty satisfying their food needs.

#### Self-Classified Poverty Situation

More than half (54.6 per cent) of the sampled households classified themselves as poor, with 58.5 per cent of rural and 35.3 per cent of urban households. About 62.0 per cent of the households in south, 53.1 per cent in north-east and 50.1 per cent in north-west were classified as poor. Fifty-five per cent of the male-headed and 53.2 per cent of the female-headed households were poor. Also, 58.4 per cent of rural male-headed households and 35.8 per cent of urban male-headed households were poor, as well as 60.3 per cent of rural female-headed households.

### HOUSEHOLD INFRASTRUCTURE

#### Secure Housing Tenure

About 88.0 per cent of the sampled households had documentation to verify their occupancy status in the State, with 87.1 per cent in rural areas and only 94.6 per cent in urban areas. About 99.7 per cent of households in north-east, 93.8 per cent in north-west and 68.9 per cent in south senatorial districts had secure housing tenure.

#### Access to Water From all Sources

About 72.0 per cent of the sampled households lived in locations with a source of water less than 30 minutes away. 68.9 per cent of rural and 84.2 per cent of urban households had access to water. In the senatorial districts, 81.4 per cent in north-west, 70.8 per cent in north-east and 60.1 per cent in south had access.

## Safe Water Source

About 43.0 per cent of households used treated piped water, borehole, hand pump or protected well in the State, while 39.0 per cent of rural and 65.6 per cent of urban households had safe water source. 59.6 per cent of households in north-west, 48.9 per cent in north-east and only 17.6 per cent in south had safe water source.

## Safe Sanitation

About 51.0 per cent of households used flushed toilets, covered pit latrines or ventilated improved latrines in Benue State, with 43.5 per cent of rural and 70.5 per cent of urban households. In the senatorial districts, 55.1 per cent of households in north-west, 43.1 per cent in south and 51.9 per cent in north-east used safe sanitation.

## Improved Waste Disposal

About 10.0 per cent of the sampled households either had their waste collected or used Government bins in the State, with only 4.0 per cent of rural and 38.3 per cent of urban households. 17.2 per cent of households in north-west, 6.8 per cent in south and 4.8 per cent in north-east senatorial districts used improved waste disposal system.

## Access to Electricity

Two out of every ten (23.1 per cent) of the sampled households in the State had access to electricity, with 10.9 per cent of rural and 83.6 per cent of the urban households. In the senatorial districts, 35.0 per cent in north-west, 29.4 per cent in south and 4.7 per cent in north-east had access to electricity.

## OWNERSHIP OF IT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

### Personal Computers

Only 0.5 per cent of the sampled households owned personal computers, with 0.1 per cent of rural and 2.6 per cent of the urban households. None in north-east, while, 1.4 per cent of households in north-west and 0.1 per cent in south had personal computers.

### Mobile Phone

About 13.0 per cent of the households in Benue State owned mobile phones, with a spread of 4.6 per cent of rural and 55.4 per cent of urban households. More households (26.8 per cent) in north-west owned mobile phones, while 9.9 per cent in south and 1.3 per cent in north-east owned the items.

## EMPLOYMENT

### Youth Unemployment

The rate of unemployment among youths (age 15-24) in the State was 9.0 per cent; 10.1 per cent for males and 8.1 per cent for females. The proportion in the urban areas was 22.2 per cent, while that of rural areas was 5.7 per cent. Across the districts, unemployment was more in south (16.1 per cent) and least in north-east district (2.1 per cent).

### General Unemployment

For persons aged 15 and above unemployment rate for the State was 3.8 per cent; 4.3 per cent for males and 2.5 per

cent for females. The proportion of unemployed for this age group was 12.1 per cent in urban areas and 1.7 per cent in rural areas. Disaggregation by gender recorded higher rate for males than females at all levels, South senatorial district had the highest youth unemployment rate (4.5 per cent), while north recorded the same figure with the State (2.9 per cent).

## Under-Employment

An under-employed person is one who sought to increase his or her earnings in the seven days preceding the survey. Under-employment (ages 15 and above) rate in the State was 13.9 per cent; 16.5 per cent for males and 11.3 per cent for females. The proportion in rural (14.3 per cent) was higher than in urban (12.1 per cent) areas. North-east senatorial district had the highest under-employment rate of 20.2 per cent, while north-west and south each recorded 11.7 and 10.8 respectively. Disaggregation by gender recorded higher rates for males at all levels.

## EDUCATION

### Adult Literacy

Adult literacy in any language is defined as ability to read and write in any language. About two-thirds (67.0 per cent) of adults in the State were reported literate; 79.6 per cent for males and 52.8 per cent for females. The rate of literacy was 88.9 per cent in urban and 61.1 per cent in rural areas. There were slight variations in the districts with the highest rate (78.0 per cent) recorded in the north-west. Disaggregating by sex, males reported higher rates than females at all levels.

### Youth Literacy

Youth literacy in any language in the State was higher (83.7 per cent) than adult literacy (67.0 per cent). The rate for the males stood at 90.9 per cent while females were 75.7 per cent. The rate in urban was higher (97.3 per cent) than in the rural (79.4 per cent). The rates in the north-west and south senatorial districts were higher than the State average. Disaggregation by gender recorded higher rates for males than females at all levels.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

### Access to Primary School

Access to primary school is defined as the percentage of pupils in primary school that could get to the nearest school from their homes in less than 30 minutes, using normal means of transportation (including walking). Almost two-thirds (63.2 per cent) of primary school pupils in the State had access. Access was higher in the urban (89.2 per cent) than in the rural (59.6 per cent) areas. The proportion was equally high in the senatorial districts with the highest rate recorded in north-west (74.1 per cent), followed by South (66.7 per cent) and North-east (48.0 per cent).

### Primary School Net Enrolment

Net enrolment for primary school pupils in the State was 77.4 per cent. Enrolment was 76.6 per cent in the rural and 83.4 per cent in the urban areas. Net enrolments in the senatorial districts were above 75.0 per cent. Net

enrolments for females were higher than males in the urban areas as well as in the north-east district.

### **Satisfaction with Primary Education**

Satisfaction with primary school was measured by percentage of pupils currently enrolled in primary schools that experienced no problems with their schools. The proportion of pupils who were satisfied with their primary education was 59.9 per cent. Satisfaction in urban and rural areas was about 59.9 per cent. At the senatorial level, the highest satisfaction was derived by pupils from north-east (75.9 per cent), while north-west and South recorded 63.7 per cent and 42.3 per cent respectively.

### **Primary School Completion Rate**

The proportion of people who completed primary school education was 14.6 per cent in the State while 14.3 in rural areas. Completion rate in the urban was 17.4 per cent. Across senatorial districts, South reported the highest rate (16.8 per cent) while north-east and north-west recorded 13.6 per cent and 13.7 per cent respectively.

## **SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION**

### **Access to Secondary School**

Access to secondary education was defined for children of secondary school age who could get to the nearest school from their homes in less than 30 minutes. Almost one-third (33.5 per cent) of the students in the State had access to school. More of these students (71.9 per cent) were in the urban than in the rural (25.4 per cent) areas. Across the districts there were significant disparities with rates as high as 53.9 per cent for north-west and as low as 16.1 per cent for North-east.

### **Secondary School Net Enrolment**

The secondary school net enrolment rate was 45.0 per cent for the State. For the male category, it was 47.7 per cent, and for the females, 41.6 per cent. The rates for males and females were fairly the same in rural and urban areas. Across the districts, north-west and south had about 48.9 per cent, while north-east recorded 35.7 per cent.

### **Satisfaction with Secondary Education**

Over 50.0 per cent of the students were satisfied with secondary school education. The urban areas recorded 54.8 per cent while the rural areas recorded 52.3 per cent. Majority of students (72.0 per cent) in north-east were satisfied, while satisfaction in south was 34.1 per cent.

### **Secondary School Completion Rate**

The completion rate for students of secondary school was 19.2 per cent in Benue State. The rate was higher in the urban areas (47.8 per cent) than in the rural areas (13.2 per cent). The least rate was in north-east (11.6 per cent).

## **MEDICAL SERVICES**

### **Access to Medical Services**

Only 42.0 per cent of the households in the State had access to health services. Urban households (74.3 per cent) had more access, while north-east had the least access (21.4 per cent).

## **Need for Medical Services**

The proportion of households that had need for health services was 7.14 per cent. The same proportion prevailed in the rural-urban sectors and in south district. On a senatorial basis, north-west had a greater need (10.5 per cent) while the least rate was recorded in north-east (3.9 per cent)

### **Usage of Medical Services**

Just 6.8 per cent of the households utilized medical services. The proportions of households that utilized medical service in the urban were 8.1 per cent, and in the rural areas, 6.5 per cent. North-west district (10.0 per cent) had the highest proportion, while north-east (3.3 per cent) had the least.

### **Satisfaction with Medical Services**

More than two-thirds (71.7) of the people who used medical services in the State derived satisfaction. The rate in urban areas was higher (82.2 per cent) than in the rural areas (67.9 per cent). In the districts, More than 73.7 per cent derived satisfaction in north-east and south, while 69.5 per cent were satisfied in north-west.

## **CHILDREN UNDER 5**

### **Birth Registration**

Only 32.2 per cent of children under-5 had documentation of their births in the State; with 27.5 per cent of rural and 66.7 per cent of the urban areas. There was no significant difference in senatorial districts. About 30.0 per cent of male and 29.7 per cent of female children were registered.

### **Immunization**

Forty-seven per cent of children aged 12-59 months had received Measles, BCG, DPT1-3, OPV0-3, Yellow Fever and Vitamin A vaccinations in the State. More than One-third (42.8 per cent) of children in rural areas and three-quarters (77.4 per cent) of urban children were fully vaccinated. About 18.1 per cent of them never received any vaccination, with 20.3 per cent rural and only 3.9 per cent of urban children. In the senatorial districts, 68.0 per cent in north-west, 37.8 per cent in south and 33.9 per cent in north-east were fully vaccinated, while 22.5 per cent in south, 16.4 per cent in north-west were not vaccinated.

## **GENDER**

### **Circumcision**

About 11.0 per cent of the female population were circumcised, with 12.4 per cent in rural and 3.7 per cent in urban areas. South senatorial district had 27.7 per cent female circumcision, while north-east and north-west had 1.3 per cent and 1.2 per cent respectively.

### **Access to Resources**

About 20.0 per cent of persons aged 15 and above had access to credit facilities in the State, with 21.1 per cent of rural and 14.0 per cent of urban populations. In the senatorial districts, 26.0 per cent in north-west, 17.3 per cent in south and 14.4 per cent in north-east had access. Only 18.3 per cent male and 16.4 per cent female populations had access to credit facilities.

Benue Core Welfare Indicators (2006)								Senatorial Districts		
		<i>Total</i>	<i>Margin of error</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Rural poor</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Urban poor</i>	<i>North East</i>	<i>North West</i>	<i>South</i>
<b>Household characteristics</b>	<i>Dependency ratio</i>	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7
<b>Household welfare</b>										
Household economic situation compared to one year ago										
	<i>Worse now</i>	43.2	2.5	44.6	56.6	36.2	65.8	57.1	34.5	37.8
	<i>Better now</i>	38.2	2.7	37.3	21.5	43.2	19.1	27.7	39.8	48.4
Neighborhood crime/security situation compared to one year ago										
	<i>Worse now</i>	20.8	2.7	15.5	28.4	47.2	37.0	8.5	32.4	20.7
	<i>Better now</i>	53.7	3.1	57.8	36.0	33.5	36.3	71.4	42.8	47.0
Difficulty satisfying household needs	<i>Food</i>	7.1	1.2	7.6	7.4	4.5	7.5	3.3	13.0	4.3
Households self classified as poor										
	<i>All households</i>	54.6	2.9	58.5	67.7	35.3	42.8	53.1	50.1	62.0
	<i>Male headed households</i>	54.8	2.9	58.4	67.3	35.8	41.6	52.8	52.0	60.8
	<i>Female headed households</i>	53.2	6.3	60.3	71.6	32.3	47.7	57.8	30.2	69.7
<b>Household infrastructure</b>										
	<i>Secure housing tenure</i>	88.4	1.8	87.1	81.7	94.6	84.4	99.7	93.8	68.9
	<i>Access to water</i>	71.5	2.8	68.9	47.4	84.2	72.0	70.8	81.4	60.1
	<i>Safe water source</i>	43.4	3.1	39.0	23.9	65.6	61.8	48.9	59.6	17.6
	<i>Safe sanitation</i>	50.5	3.1	43.5	15.8	84.9	70.0	51.9	55.1	43.1
	<i>Improved waste disposal</i>	9.8	2.7	4.0	6.0	38.3	15.2	4.8	17.2	6.8
	<i>Has electricity</i>	23.1	3.6	10.9	2.0	83.6	49.5	4.7	35.0	29.4
Ownership of IT/Telecommunications Equipment										
	<i>Personal computer</i>	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.1
	<i>Mobile phone</i>	13.1	2.5	4.6	0.0	55.4	9.4	1.3	26.8	9.9
<b>Employment</b>										
Employment Status in last 7 days										
	<i>Unemployed (age 15-24)</i>	9.0	2.1	5.7	3.1	22.2	17.6	2.1	7.5	16.1
	<i>Male</i>	10.0	2.4	7.0	5.3	21.3	0.0	3.9	7.8	17.0
	<i>Female</i>	8.1	2.2	4.7	1.5	22.9	36.7	0.6	7.2	15.3
	<i>Unemployed (age 15 and above)</i>	3.8	0.7	2.3	1.3	10.4	8.0	1.1	3.9	6.0
	<i>Male</i>	4.3	0.7	2.9	2.1	10.3	3.8	1.8	4.0	7.1
	<i>Female</i>	3.2	0.8	1.7	0.5	10.5	12.6	0.2	3.7	5.1
	<i>Underemployed (age 15 and above)</i>	13.9	1.8	14.3	8.8	12.1	26.8	20.2	11.7	10.8
	<i>Male</i>	16.5	2.0	17.2	11.8	13.6	28.5	22.4	14.4	13.2
	<i>Female</i>	11.3	1.7	11.4	6.1	10.4	24.9	17.7	8.5	8.7
<b>Education</b>										
Adult literacy rate-any language										
	<i>Total</i>	67.0	1.7	61.1	51.8	88.9	66.7	61.1	78.0	60.9
	<i>Male</i>	79.6	1.2	76.0	67.7	92.6	75.4	77.3	86.8	73.7
	<i>Female</i>	52.8	2.4	44.5	34.6	84.6	56.0	41.1	67.1	48.5
Youth literacy rate-any language (age 15-24)										
	<i>Total</i>	83.7	1.6	79.4	70.2	97.3	85.8	75.5	89.6	84.0
	<i>Male</i>	90.9	1.2	88.6	82.5	98.0	88.8	87.2	96.4	88.2
	<i>Female</i>	75.7	2.4	69.2	57.1	96.4	80.7	61.7	82.2	79.3
Primary school										
	<i>Access to School</i>	63.2	3.5	59.6	26.3	89.2	73.5	48.0	74.1	66.7
	<i>Primary Net Enrollment</i>	77.4	1.3	76.6	71.2	83.4	87.0	75.1	75.6	81.6
	<i>Male</i>	77.2	1.7	76.9	71.3	79.4	73.4	73.0	76.9	81.6
	<i>Female</i>	77.6	1.6	76.1	71.1	88.7	100.0	77.6	74.1	81.5
	<i>Satisfaction</i>	59.9	3.1	59.9	40.6	59.7	61.6	75.9	63.8	42.3
	<i>Primary completion rate</i>	14.6	1.0	14.3	12.2	17.4	7.3	13.6	13.7	16.8
Secondary school										
	<i>Access to School</i>	33.5	3.5	25.4	3.9	71.9	7.3	16.1	53.9	28.0
	<i>Secondary Net Enrollment</i>	45.0	2.3	41.2	32.3	63.2	42.3	35.7	48.9	48.3
	<i>Male</i>	47.8	2.4	44.9	37.8	64.5	46.8	38.7	51.6	51.0
	<i>Female</i>	41.6	2.9	36.4	25.1	62.2	31.8	31.9	45.9	44.6
	<i>Satisfaction</i>	52.8	3.7	52.3	33.4	54.8	57.6	72.0	62.8	34.1
	<i>Secondary completion rate</i>	19.2	2.5	13.2	5.5	47.8	19.9	11.6	25.0	19.5
<b>Medical services</b>										
	<i>Health access</i>	42.0	3.7	35.1	5.2	74.3	37.0	21.4	52.1	49.4
	<i>Need</i>	7.4	0.5	7.3	8.2	7.5	4.7	3.9	10.5	7.0
	<i>Use</i>	6.8	0.5	6.5	6.1	8.1	3.0	3.3	10.0	6.4
	<i>Satisfaction</i>	71.0	3.0	67.9	55.8	82.2	72.6	73.7	69.5	72.1
<b>Child welfare and health</b>										
Children under 5										
	<i>Birth registration</i>	32.2	2.7	27.5	20.3	66.7	46.9	33.7	29.2	34.4
	<i>Male</i>	31.4	3.0	26.9	23.5	65.5	54.7	34.7	28.9	30.9
	<i>Female</i>	33.1	3.2	28.1	17.2	67.9	35.8	32.7	29.4	38.9
	<i>Fully vaccinated</i>	47.5	3.2	42.8	39.8	77.4	69.6	33.9	68.0	37.8
	<i>Not vaccinated</i>	18.1	2.4	20.3	27.6	3.9	6.0	15.7	16.4	22.5
<b>Gender</b>										
	<i>Female Circumcision</i>	10.9	2.0	12.4	21.1	3.7	11.7	1.3	1.2	27.7
	<i>Access to credit facility</i>	19.6	1.7	21.1	18.7	14.0	8.9	14.4	26.0	17.3
	<i>Male</i>	20.2	1.8	21.7	19.8	14.4	8.0	15.0	27.3	17.0
	<i>Female</i>	19.0	1.8	20.5	17.6	13.5	10.0	13.7	24.3	17.6

All correspondence about the survey including definitions of terms and concepts should be addressed to:  
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