

Chapter 1

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

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1.1 Survey Design

The 2002 Malawi Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ) Survey was designed to collect information on demographic and socio-economic characteristics as well as health status of household members, household assets and amenities, as well as poverty predictors and predictors of child malnutrition. In addition, information on food security, social projects and HIV/AIDS was also collected.

The 2002 Malawi CWIQ Survey stratified the country into rural and urban strata. The urban stratum comprises the four major urban areas (Blantyre, Lilongwe, and Mzuzu Cities and the Municipality of Zomba). All other areas, including Bomas as well as other gazetted towns are considered as rural areas in this survey. Further, each of the twenty-seven districts (as at the time of the survey) was considered as a separate sub-stratum of the main rural stratum. Thus the total number of strata in the survey may be taken as thirty one: twenty seven districts and four urban centres. The design of the survey is such that statistical information will be reported at district level. The information will also be presented at city or municipality level.

The 2002 Malawi CWIQ Survey used a two-stage sample design. In the first stage, census enumeration areas (EAs) were selected from each of the 31 strata. The EAs served as Primary Sampling Units (PSUs). The EAs were selected using the probability proportional to size method. The population of the strata was considered for this purpose. In the second stage, sample households were selected within each sample cluster using simple random selection. In order to be able to report at least at stratum level, 22 rural households and 25 urban households were selected from each cluster. In all, 500 EAs were sampled for the survey and 10,593 households were selected. Of these, 9,618 were rural households and 975 households were selected from urban areas.

Prior to the data collection, a pilot CWIQ was conducted in two selected districts in October 2001. The objective of the pilot was to test the feasibility of the survey methodology and survey instruments in preparation for the 2002 Malawi CWIQ Survey.

As a prerequisite for the sample design, all sampled enumeration areas were listed during July and August 2002. Training of field staff (data collectors and their supervisors) as well as data processors was conducted from 28th August to 13th September 2002. Data collection started immediately after the training on 14th September 2002, and data processing started one week later. By 20th November 2002 all field teams had completed data collection, and preliminary tables were ready by 21st December 2002. However, the tables generated by the CWIQ package were inconsistent and new tables had to be regenerated using Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS PC+) software statistical package.

1.2 Response Rates

Table 1.1 shows response rates for the 2002 Malawi CWIQ Survey by area. A total of 10,593 households were sampled and 9,819 were successfully interviewed. This yielded a national household response rate of 93 percent. Most of the households that were not interviewed in Chikwawa and Blantyre rural could not be located at the time

of interviews and a substantial proportion of households in Mzuzu City and Kasungu refused to be interviewed.

The response rates in rural and urban areas of Malawi were about 93 and 90 percent respectively while at regional level the response rates were about 92, 95 and 91 percent in the Northern, Central and Southern regions respectively.

At district level, response rates were highest in Mchinji District (about 100 percent), followed by Nkhatakota District (99 percent), Lilongwe Rural, Lilongwe City (98 percent each) and Ntchisi District (96 percent). The lowest response rates were observed in Zomba Municipality (82 percent), Blantyre City (84 percent) and Kasungu District (86 percent each).

Table 1.1: Interview results at district level.

	Households In Sample	Households Interviewed	Response Rate
Malawi	10593	9819	92.7
Rural	9618	8941	93.0
Urban	975	878	90.1
Northern Region	1599	1471	92.0
Chitipa	231	220	95.2
Karonga	273	252	92.3
Rumphi	231	200	86.6
Nkhata Bay	231	217	93.9
Likoma	63	62	98.4
Mzimba	420	381	90.7
Mzuzu City	150	139	92.7
Central Region	3836	3644	95.0
Kasungu	399	343	86.0
Ntchisi	252	242	96.0
Dowa	378	347	91.8
Nkhatakota	294	291	99.0
Mchinji	357	356	99.7
Lilongwe rural	609	598	98.2
Salima	315	296	94.0
Dedza	462	438	94.8
Ntcheu	420	391	93.1
Lilongwe City	350	342	97.7
Southern Region	5158	4704	91.2
Balaka	357	312	87.4
Machinga	399	381	95.5
Mangochi	546	485	88.8
Zomba rural	420	392	93.3
Chiradzulu	357	339	95.0
Blantyre rural	378	332	87.8
Mulanje	462	446	96.5
Thyolo	483	444	91.9
Phalombe	357	343	96.1
Mwanza	252	225	89.3
Chikwawa	378	336	88.9
Nsanje	294	272	92.5
Blantyre City	350	294	84.0
Zomba Municipality	125	103	82.4

Chapter 2

HOUSEHOLD AND POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

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2.1 Population Characteristics

The survey results indicate that of the estimated 12.0 million persons resident in Malawi at the time of the survey, 10.9 million (91 percent) lived in rural areas and only 1.1 million (9 percent) lived in the main urban areas of Blantyre City, Lilongwe City, Mzuzu City and Zomba Municipality. About 12, 42 and 46 percent of the total population lived in the Northern, Central and Southern Regions respectively (Table 2.1).

The sex distribution shows that there were 5.9 million males (49 percent) and 6.2 million females (51 percent) in Malawi. Thus the sex ratio, defined as the number of males per 100 females, was 95.5 in Malawi, 94.5 and 105.6 in rural and urban areas respectively (Table 2.2).

Furthermore, the age distribution of the population shows that Malawi has a young population: 45 percent were aged under 15 years, 51 and 4 percent are aged between 15-64 years and 65 years or older respectively. The age structure of the population in rural areas is somewhat similar to that of Malawi as a whole. In urban areas, however, 41 percent of the population are aged under 15 years, 58 and 1.3 percent are aged 15-64 years and 65 years or older respectively.

The age dependency ratios are 0.95, 0.97 and 0.72 for Malawi, rural and urban areas respectively. The age dependency ratio is a crude measure of economic dependency of economically inactive population on the economically active population. The measure assumes that children under the age of 15 years and elderly persons aged 65 years or older are economically inactive and are thus dependent on the persons aged 15-64 years.

2.2 Household Characteristics

The results further show that there were about 2.8 million households at the time of the survey. Of the total households in Malawi, about 2.5 million (91 percent) were located in the rural areas and 255,000 (9 percent) were in the major urban areas. About 1.4 million households (about 49 percent) were located in the Southern Region, a further 1.1 million (40 percent) were in the Central Region and about 305,000 households (11 percent) were in the Northern Region (Tables 2.1 and 0.3).

Table 2.1: Percentage distribution of households and population by age and sex at regional level.

	Population	Age			Sex		Households
		<15	15-64	65+	Males	Females	
Malawi	100.0	45.0	51.4	3.7	48.8	51.2	100.0
Rural	90.6	45.4	50.7	3.9	48.6	51.4	90.8
Urban	9.4	40.6	58.1	1.3	51.4	48.6	9.2
Northern Region	11.7	44.4	52.0	3.5	49.7	50.3	11.0

Central Region	42.2	46.0	50.5	3.5	49.3	50.7	40.2
Southern Region	46.2	44.2	51.9	3.9	48.2	51.8	48.8

Table 2.2: Population distribution by sex and age dependency and sex ratios at district level

	Total	Sex		Age	Sex	Average
		Males	Females	Dependency	Ratio	Household
				Ratio		Size
Malawi	100.0	48.8	51.2	0.95	95.5	4.3
Rural	100.0	48.6	51.4	0.97	94.5	4.3
Urban	100.0	51.4	48.6	0.72	105.6	4.4
Northern Region	100.0	49.7	50.3	0.92	98.9	4.6
Chitipa	100.0	48.7	51.3	0.96	95.1	4.9
Karonga	100.0	51.0	49.0	0.91	104.2	4.8
Rumphi	100.0	50.6	49.4	0.93	102.5	4.9
Nkhata Bay	100.0	51.3	48.7	0.86	105.5	4.4
*Likoma	100.0	45.0	55.0	1.00	81.8	5.1
Mzimba	100.0	49.2	50.8	0.94	96.7	4.5
Mzuzu City	100.0	48.8	51.2	0.76	95.5	5.0
Central Region	100.0	49.3	50.7	0.98	97.2	4.5
Kasungu	100.0	51.7	48.3	1.03	107.2	4.8
Ntchisi	100.0	49.8	50.2	0.97	99.4	4.4
Dowa	100.0	49.6	50.4	1.01	98.6	4.3
Nkhotakota	100.0	50.8	49.2	0.88	103.4	4.3
Mchinji	100.0	52.8	47.2	1.02	112.0	4.9
Lilongwe rural	100.0	48.1	51.9	0.97	92.6	4.6
Salima	100.0	50.5	49.5	0.97	101.9	4.2
Dedza	100.0	47.1	52.9	1.17	88.9	4.5
Ntcheu	100.0	48.0	52.0	1.02	92.3	4.4
Lilongwe City	100.0	50.7	49.3	0.74	103.0	4.7
Southern Region	100.0	48.2	51.8	0.93	93.1	4.1
Balaka	100.0	48.2	51.8	1.14	92.9	4.2
Machinga	100.0	49.7	50.3	1.06	98.7	4.2
Mangochi	100.0	47.3	52.7	1.11	89.6	4.5
Zomba rural	100.0	46.9	53.1	1.01	88.4	4.0
Chiradzulu	100.0	44.9	55.1	0.89	81.4	4.0
Blantyre rural	100.0	47.2	52.8	0.89	89.5	4.0
Mulanje	100.0	46.3	53.7	0.78	86.2	3.5
Thyolo	100.0	48.5	51.5	0.85	94.2	4.1
Phalombe	100.0	47.6	52.4	0.88	90.8	3.8
Mwanza	100.0	47.6	52.4	0.94	91.0	4.1
Chikwawa	100.0	51.2	48.8	0.88	104.9	4.1
Nsanje	100.0	48.5	51.5	1.04	94.3	4.5
Blantyre City	100.0	52.3	47.7	0.70	109.5	4.1

Zomba Municipality	100.0	51.3	48.7	0.66	105.2	4.0
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* based on population less than 7500

2.2.1 Household Size

The results further reveal that the average household size in Malawi was 4.3 and 4.4 in urban areas. In the rural areas, the average household size was the same as that of Malawi, maybe hugely due to the large contribution of rural population in the total population of Malawi. Ultra poor households are generally larger than all the other households. Table 2.1 shows that the average household size for rural ultra poor and urban ultra poor households are 5.6 and 5.3 respectively as opposed to the household size of 4.3 (all rural households) or 4.4 (all urban households).

Table 2.3: Percentage distribution of households by household size by background characteristics of household head at district level.

	Household size				
	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 6	7 or more	Mean
Malawi	20.8	37.8	25.8	15.7	4.3
Rural	20.8	37.9	25.8	15.5	4.3
Rural Ultra poor	1.1	22.4	42.9	33.6	5.9
Urban	20.7	36.6	25.0	17.7	4.4
Urban Ultra poor	4.7	36.2	33.2	25.9	5.3
Northern Region	18.2	34.2	27.9	19.7	4.6
Chitipa	14.4	35.6	29.3	20.7	4.9
Karonga	17.3	36.5	25.2	21.0	4.8
Rumphi	10.7	35.6	33.8	20.0	4.9
Nkhata Bay	17.0	39.7	27.1	16.1	4.4
Likoma	15.7	29.2	30.7	24.4	5.1
Mzimba	20.8	31.7	28.0	19.5	4.5
Mzuzu city	13.0	38.4	23.1	25.5	5.0
Central Region	17.1	37.2	27.9	17.9	4.5
Kasungu	19.7	31.5	22.2	26.6	4.8
Ntchisi	22.5	34.5	26.3	16.8	4.4
Dowa	26.4	31.6	26.3	15.7	4.3
Nkhotakota	16.9	41.0	28.8	13.3	4.3
Mchinji	15.0	33.9	27.6	23.6	4.9
Lilongwe rural	14.3	38.2	31.3	16.2	4.6
Salima	21.2	40.7	23.0	15.1	4.2
Dedza	15.7	38.9	29.5	15.9	4.5
Ntcheu	17.8	42.7	23.4	16.1	4.4
Lilongwe city	15.7	34.7	27.7	21.8	4.7
Southern Region	24.4	39.0	23.6	12.9	4.1
Balaka	18.1	47.7	19.8	14.4	4.2
Machinga	16.8	45.4	24.9	13.0	4.2
Mangochi	20.2	33.5	29.5	16.9	4.5
Zomba rural	25.4	41.3	20.1	13.2	4.0
Chiradzulu	30.5	31.6	24.2	13.7	4.0

Blantyre rural	24.4	40.1	25.7	9.8	4.0
Mulanje	33.8	39.6	19.8	6.8	3.5
Thyolo	24.5	37.2	23.7	14.7	4.1
Phalombe	28.2	41.6	21.7	8.6	3.8
Mwanza	23.8	39.4	18.8	18.0	4.1
Chikwawa	24.4	36.2	27.4	12.0	4.1
Nsanje	21.3	36.3	23.5	18.9	4.5
Blantyre city	24.9	38.5	22.6	14.0	4.1
Zomba municipality	29.0	30.9	28.3	11.8	4.0
Socio-economic Sector					
Public	15.4	32.4	28.7	23.4	4.9
Private formal	22.7	38.9	24.3	14.1	4.2
Private informal	19.4	38.9	27.7	14.0	4.3
Subsistence Agriculture	20.1	38.1	26.3	15.5	4.3
Self Employed	18.7	39.5	24.8	17.0	4.4
Unemployed	31.3	34.4	21.5	12.8	3.9
Other	13.0	52.6	29.1	5.2	4.1
Sex					
Male	17.4	37.1	27.4	18.1	4.5
Female	30.6	39.6	21.0	8.8	3.7

Table 2.3 further shows that about 21 percent of the households in Malawi consisted of one or two members and 38 percent had three or four members. Sixteen percent of the households had at least seven members. The rural-urban variations in the size of households appear to be minimal.

More than 75 percent of the rural ultra poor households and 59 percent of the urban ultra poor households consisted of at least 5 members.

It is noteworthy that about 46 percent of the male-headed households and 30 percent of the female-headed households comprised 5 members or more. The average household size in male-headed and female-headed households was 4.5 and 3.7 respectively.

2.2.2 Land Holding

As Malawi is predominantly a rural population, possession of agricultural land by households may in part explain why poor households with no reliable source of income or land are often not food secure. Of course, the mere possession of agricultural land in itself is not a precondition for a household to be non-poor.

The survey results reveal that about 10 percent of the households in Malawi did not own any land, and 48 percent owned less than 1 hectare of land, and 37 percent owned between 2 and 4 hectares of land.

At rural/urban level, the results show that about 7 percent of the households in rural areas and 46 percent of urban households did not have any land. Furthermore, about three quarters of the rural households had land that was less than 2 hectares. Among urban households, this proportion is about 47 percent (Note that about 46 percent of urban households do not own any land). Table 2.3 also shows that about 44 percent of the rural households as opposed to 18 percent of the urban households had at least 1 hectare of land. The rural-urban differential in the size of land holding, thus, appears to be quite significant.

2.2.3 Livestock Holding

The 2002 Malawi CWIQ Survey also collected information on the amount of livestock

owned by households. The livestock was classified as cattle, medium sized or poultry.

Medium-size livestock principally include pigs, goats and sheep. The results indicate that in Malawi about 44 percent of the households did not own any livestock, and were 41 and 76 percent in rural and urban areas respectively.

About 6 percent of the rural households and 3 percent of the urban households at least had cattle. About half of the rural households had at least poultry compared to 18 percent of the urban households (Table 2.4).

Table 2.4: Distribution of households by household size, land and livestock holdings

	Malawi		Rural		Urban	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Household size						
1-2	577930	20.8	524624	20.8	53306	20.7
3-4	1048994	37.7	953949	37.8	95045	36.9
5-6	717304	25.8	652785	25.9	64519	25.0
7+	435651	15.7	390742	15.5	44909	17.4
Land holding (ha)						
None	291137	10.5	172031	6.8	119106	46.2
< 1	1335830	48.1	1244419	49.3	91411	35.5
1-1.99	706306	25.4	675909	26.8	30397	11.8
2-3.99	325194	11.7	311139	12.3	14055	5.5
4 -5.99	68065	2.4	66348	2.6	1717	0.7
6+	53347	1.9	52254	2.1	1093	0.4
* Livestock holding						
None	1227735	44.2	1034952	41.0	192783	75.7
Cattle	158839	5.7	150850	6.0	7989	3.1
** Medium sized	675474	24.3	653996	25.9	21478	8.4

Poultry	1314934	47.3	1269498	50.3	45436	17.8
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**Total number of households owning livestock does not add up to total number of households for area because some households own more than one type of animal*

*** Medium-sized animals include goats, pigs and sheep.*

2.3 Characteristics of Head of Household

2.3.1 Sex and Marital Status

The survey results reveal that about one quarter of the households in Malawi were female-headed. The proportion of female-headed households was higher in rural areas (27 percent) than it was in urban areas (13 percent). This observation may be explained by the fact that labour migration from rural areas to urban areas is usually in favour of males; hence there are a substantial number of households in rural areas where husbands may have migrated out and are consequently headed by their spouses. The results further reveal that 72 percent of the households in Malawi were headed by married persons and a further 13 percent were headed by persons who were widowed.

The situation in rural areas is hugely similar to that for Malawi as a whole. In urban areas, however, there was a distinctively smaller proportion (6 percent) which were headed by widowed persons. As was the case in rural areas, the majority of the households (77 percent) in urban areas were headed by persons who were married. It is also observed that the prevalence of polygamy in rural areas was higher (9 percent) than it was in urban areas (4 percent).

2.3.2 Education Level

The survey results also indicate that one in every three households in Malawi was headed by persons who had not attended any formal school and roughly half of the households were headed by persons with primary school education. Persons with post secondary school education headed only about 1 percent of the households in the country.

It is also noted that 36 and only 8 percent of the rural and urban households respectively were headed by persons with no education while 53 percent of the rural households and 48 percent of the urban households were headed by persons with primary education. Unlike in the rural areas where 10 percent of the households were headed by persons with some secondary education and 1 percent were headed by persons with post secondary education, the situation among urban households is different. About 39 percent of urban households were headed by persons with some secondary education and a further 5 percent are headed by persons with post secondary education.

2.3.3 Socio-economic Characteristics

The heads of households were also asked a set of questions to establish their employment status, sector and industry.

In Malawi as a whole, the majority (1.6 million) or 59 percent of the 2.8 million heads of households were subsistence farmers and a further 15 percent of them were employed in the private sector doing formal or informal work. About 11 percent were self-employed and 6 percent worked as public servants.

A sharp contrast, however, exists between rural and urban heads of households regarding the socio-economic sectors they belonged to. It is noted that while 20 percent of the 255,000 heads of urban households worked as public servants, only 5 percent of their rural counterparts were in public service. Furthermore, 12 percent of the rural heads of households were employed in the private sector compared to 45 percent of the heads of households in urban areas. As probably expected, the majority of rural heads of households (65 percent) were subsistence farmers in contrast to only 4 percent of the urban heads of households. It is noteworthy that about one quarter of the heads of urban households were self-employed in economic activities such as operating small retail shops, vending second hand clothes, etc.. In rural areas, this proportion is only about 9 percent (Table 2.5).

Table 2.5 Distribution of households by background characteristics of head of household at Rural/Urban level.

	Malawi		Rural		Urban	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Malawi	2779879	100.0	2525122	100.0	254757	100.0
Socio-economic Sector						
Public	176918	6.4	126874	5.0	50044	19.6
Private formal	273307	9.8	189255	7.5	84052	33.0
Private informal	146642	5.3	116746	4.6	29896	11.7
Subsistence Agriculture	1644173	59.1	1633506	64.7	10667	4.2
Self employed	295919	10.6	228706	9.1	67213	26.4
* Unemployed	233239	8.4	220354	8.7	12885	5.1
Other	9681	0.3	9681	0.4	0	0.0
Sex						
Male	2058855	74.1	1837597	72.8	221258	86.9
Female	721024	25.9	687525	27.2	33499	13.1
Marital Status						
Never married	86338	3.1	65238	2.6	21100	8.3
Monogamous	1768750	63.6	1580770	62.6	187980	73.8
Polygamous	232008	8.3	223090	8.8	8918	3.5
Divorced/Separated	319403	11.5	298549	11.8	20854	8.2
Widowed	373380	13.4	357475	14.2	15905	6.2
Highest Level of Education						
None	935538	33.7	914321	36.2	21217	8.3
Some Primary	1101782	39.6	1027205	40.7	74577	29.3
Completed Primary	347279	12.5	300485	11.9	46794	18.4
Some Secondary	183059	6.6	146731	5.8	36328	14.3
Completed Secondary	176229	6.3	113151	4.5	63078	24.8
Post Secondary	35021	1.3	22258	0.9	12763	5.0
Not Stated	971	0.0	971	0.0	0	0.0

** Unemployed includes persons who did not work in the 4-week period prior the survey and who looked for worked in the same period. The inactive population, primarily students and retired persons, is not included.*

Chapter 3

LITERACY AND EDUCATION

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3.1 Adult Literacy

The 2002 Malawi CWIQ Survey defined adult literacy as the ability of a person aged 15 years or more to read and write a simple statement in any language. This is in accordance with the UNICEF definition of adult literacy.

The survey results show that of all the persons aged 15 years or more in Malawi, about 61 percent reported that they were literate. In other words, the adult literacy rate in Malawi stood at 61 percent. The male adult literacy rate was about 74 percent and the corresponding rate for females was 49 percent. Adult literacy levels were significantly higher in urban areas (91 percent) than they were in rural areas (59 percent).

At regional level, Northern Region has the highest adult literacy rate (77 percent) and Southern Region has the lowest rate (57 percent). The adult literacy rate in Central Region of 61 percent is substantially higher than that observed for Southern Region (Table 3.1).

3.2 Education

The indicators of education considered in this survey are *Access*, *Enrolment* and *Satisfaction* with school facilities. Primary school estimates are defined for children aged 6 to 13 and secondary school estimates are defined for children aged 14 to 17.

Children have access to school if they live within 30 minutes of travel the nearest school using whatever means of transportation. Access is defined as the percentage of children in households that live within 30 minutes of travel to their school.

Net Enrolment Rates (NER) are calculated for both primary and secondary school children. The primary school net enrolment rate is defined as the ratio of the number of children age 6 to 13 years regularly attending school in the current school year to the total number of children in the population aged 6 to 13 years. Secondary school Net Enrolment Rate is similarly defined as the ratio of the total number of children aged 14 to 17 years in the secondary school regularly attending secondary school in the current school year to the total number of children in the population aged 14 to 17 years. Thus by definition, NER cannot exceed 100 percent.

Gross Enrolment Rates for primary schools are, on the other hand, defined as the ratio of the total number of primary school children regularly attending school in the current school year, irrespective of their ages, to the total number of children in the population aged 6 to 13 years. Secondary school Gross Enrolment Rate is likewise defined as the ratio of the number of children of regularly attending secondary school in the current school year to the total number of children in the population aged 14 to 17 years. Thus GER can exceed 100 percent if, for example; there are too many over-aged or under-aged pupils in the primary or secondary school.

Data on *Satisfaction* with the school was collected upon asking if the eligible person aged 5 years or more had any problems with the school. Such problems include lack of books or supplies, poor teaching, lack of teachers, or facilities being in bad condition. Satisfaction is thus defined for children currently in school who reported that they did not have any problems with the school.

Table 3.1: Selected education indicators by background characteristics, sex at district level

	Adult Literacy Rate	Primary				Secondary			
		Access	Enrolment		Satis- faction	Access	Enrolment		Satis- faction
			Net	Gross			Net	Gross	
Malawi	60.9	60.1	71.1	100.3	51.8	17.9	8.5	27.3	49.9
Rural	58.7	58.0	69.7	100.2	52.8	14.1	25.6	64.0	54.3
Urban	90.5	80.7	85.5	101.5	51.7	56.1	6.7	23.5	48.6
Northern Region	76.5	59.7	86.9	127.0	42.0	11.9	12.9	40.9	57.9
Chitipa	75.7	54.6	88.5	125.2	61.5	21.6	27.5	70.1	56.5
Karonga	74.9	46.4	86.4	132.0	58.6	8.8	7.2	26.8	56.8
Rumphi	86.1	61.6	89.8	130.3	27.4	7.8	20.7	49.7	36.5
Nkhata Bay	78.7	61.8	95.9	144.5	25.2	11.6	10.2	51.6	51.1
Likoma	73.9	64.4	77.9	104.2	79.1	7.9	17.7	70.2	47.1
Mzimba	73.7	61.5	84.7	122.6	39.0	10.2	8.3	30.4	68.1
Mzuzu city	92.9	82.8	88.6	125.9	53.4	35.3	37.5	86.4	56.7
Central Region	60.5	60.0	70.8	101.7	45.4	19.7	6.5	24.5	40.9
Kasungu	71.6	50.8	80.4	116.2	46.8	15.1	8.1	23.8	49.5
Ntchisi	61.7	57.1	63.3	89.8	66.6	10.0	6.9	19.7	62.1
Dowa	58.5	55.6	66.0	94.9	58.7	10.9	5.8	15.3	74.2
Nkhotakota	64.6	78.3	80.4	109.9	32.3	32.1	14.5	40.7	42.3
Mchinji	57.7	58.4	65.4	92.5	38.6	16.0	3.0	15.5	32.1
Lilongwe rural	58.7	60.2	71.7	106.2	44.1	20.1	2.8	22.0	29.6
Salima	51.5	65.6	70.2	94.3	38.5	18.2	3.6	12.8	35.7
Dedza	39.1	45.6	53.8	78.8	56.8	1.1	0.5	8.0	48.6
Ntcheu	62.9	55.7	76.5	109.8	37.7	16.5	5.8	27.4	32.3
Lilongwe city	84.1	84.4	85.6	117.2	45.4	56.7	26.0	62.4	47.7
Southern Region	57.4	60.3	66.9	94.6	61.9	17.8	9.2	26.5	54.6
Balaka	60.5	66.7	70.1	101.4	31.5	11.3	6.5	24.1	60.4
Machinga	46.8	64.0	63.9	88.3	66.2	10.0	3.3	20.3	51.7
Mangochi	42.8	55.3	61.2	84.5	61.3	10.2	5.8	15.4	57.2
Zomba rural	52.0	58.6	62.4	89.4	68.7	8.0	1.5	12.7	59.4
Chiradzulu	64.2	55.0	76.0	107.1	76.1	21.9	10.2	33.6	57.4
Blantyre rural	62.0	67.9	74.7	103.3	47.0	19.8	12.5	38.6	33.9
Mulanje	55.9	51.6	63.3	92.9	70.9	10.1	5.2	20.2	62.7
Thyolo	61.6	35.9	67.2	99.0	75.4	8.5	12.1	26.4	66.6
Phalombe	54.5	54.7	57.3	84.7	71.4	22.2	3.8	12.8	63.6
Mwanza	58.2	59.9	59.0	86.7	46.2	10.9	6.4	17.1	44.0
Chikwawa	50.2	80.2	59.7	87.7	66.5	23.0	11.2	19.7	74.5

Nsanje	40.8	63.6	62.4	87.3	46.9	14.8	10.7	20.2	24.1
Blantyre city	85.2	76.2	85.0	113.8	58.2	56.1	23.6	63.6	62.8
Zomba municipality	86.2	94.2	89.0	122.2	81.2	74.7	23.9	49.2	30.8
Socio-economic Sector									
Public	75.1	72.9	78.3	112.0	68.2	34.2	18.7	60.9	40.0
Private formal	75.6	66.6	91.0	120.7	60.5	31.0	42.0	76.5	52.1
Private informal	66.8	61.6	73.7	113.1	48.7	20.2	7.6	26.1	48.0
Subsistence Agriculture	57.5	56.9	70.6	101.2	50.6	12.2	7.5	26.9	54.1
Self Employed	64.5	67.2	75.5	108.5	54.5	28.8	4.8	22.1	55.4
Unemployed	57.2	55.1	70.3	100.0	52.3	15.7	8.8	27.2	47.8
Other	65.9	73.3	70.9	101.5	51.8	15.3	0.0	0.0	49.9
Sex									
Male	73.8	60.9	69.1	103.2	52.3	18.7	8.3	32.1	52.5
Female	48.9	57.8	72.8	99.7	51.3	15.8	8.6	22.3	45.8

3.3 Net Enrolment Rates

The survey results reveal that in Malawi as a whole, 71 percent of the children aged 6 to 13 years were regularly attending primary school. In general, 70 and 86 percent of the children aged 6 to 13 years in rural and urban areas respectively were regularly attending primary school.

Enrolment rates for secondary school children are significantly much lower than enrolment rates for primary school age children. In Malawi, only 9 percent of the children aged 14 to 17 years were regularly attending secondary school: 7 percent in rural areas and 26 percent in urban areas.

At regional level, 87 percent of the primary school age children in the Northern Region were attending primary school compared to 71 and 67 percent of their counterparts in the Central and Southern Region respectively. Furthermore, 13 percent of children aged 14 to 17 years were attending secondary school in the Northern Region while in the Central and Southern Regions the rates were 7 and 9 percent respectively.

Substantial variations in net enrolment rates also exist among children from households with various socio-economic backgrounds. For example, 78 percent of the children from households whose heads work in public sector enrolled in primary school and 19 percent in secondary school compared with 71 and 8 percent of children from households headed by subsistence farmers who enrolled in primary and secondary school respectively. Variations in net enrolment rates by sex of children are not large: 69 percent and 8 percent of male children enrolled in primary and secondary school respectively compared to 73 and 9 percent of female children enrolled in primary and secondary school respectively (Table 3.1).

3.4 Gross Enrolment Rates

The gross enrolment rates (GER) in Malawi stood at 103 pupils per 100 children age 6 to 13 years. The GER in Northern and Central regions were 127 and 102 per 100 children of primary school-going age. This shows that there were substantial numbers of over-aged pupils in Northern Region, and less so in Central Region. The primary school GER in Southern Region was 95 per 100 children aged 6 to 13 years.

Secondary school GERs in Malawi and regions were, as expected, 27 (Malawi), 41, 25 and 27 in Northern, Central and Southern Regions respectively. Such Gross Enrolment Ratios of less than 100 may be indicative of the fact that there may be many children

aged 14 to 17 years who were currently not attending school, or maybe still in primary school.

3.5 Access to School

The results also show that 60 and only 18 percent of primary school age and secondary school age children respectively were reported to be living in households that are within 30 minutes of travel to school. It is also observed that sharp variations in access to schools exist between rural and urban areas in the country. Whereas 59 and 14 percent of rural primary and secondary schools respectively had access to school, 81 and 56 percent of children in urban areas reported to have access to primary and secondary schools respectively. As expected, male and female children had somewhat equal access to primary or secondary schools (Table 3.1).

At regional level, it is noted that access to primary schools is the same in the three regions (about 61 percent each). However, regarding access to secondary schools, it is noted that 20 percent of the children of secondary school age in the Central Region have access to schools in contrast with 12 percent in the Northern Region and 18 percent in the Southern Region.

3.6 Satisfaction with School

The results show that less than half of the children regularly attending school were dissatisfied with school service. More precisely, about 52 percent of the primary school and about half of the secondary school age children in Malawi respectively expressed satisfaction with schools, regarding school facilities and supplies, etc. The proportion of children by sex who reported to be satisfied with primary and secondary school was roughly the same for male and female children (Table 3.1).

Table 3.2: Percentage of students currently enrolled in school not satisfied with school and reasons for dissatisfaction

	Dissatisfied	Reasons for dissatisfaction				
		Books/ Supplies	Poor Teaching	Lack of Teachers	Poor/No Facilities	Other
Malawi	47.8	59.0	24.3	38.4	44.2	4.7
Rural	48.2	59.7	23.4	40.3	45.1	4.8
Urban	44.9	53.1	32.6	21.4	35.9	3.7
Northern Region	55.8	61.2	28.0	64.9	41.7	3.2
Chitipa	39.2	52.9	23.3	43.1	21.5	7.6
Karonga	41.3	72.0	29.9	65.2	18.1	1.9
Rumphi	71.4	65.3	42.0	64.6	46.7	5.0
Nkhata Bay	70.2	53.1	38.5	72.4	57.8	7.4
Likoma	27.3	66.9	4.8	32.8	8.6	5.4
Mzimba	58.4	62.2	22.7	68.8	44.5	0.9
Mzuzu city	44.5	51.5	28.6	18.9	28.1	9.3
Central Region	54.4	57.8	24.5	32.5	49.8	4.6
Kasungu	52.0	46.4	26.3	32.0	52.0	5.6
Ntchisi	33.9	49.5	17.7	40.1	55.3	4.6
Dowa	39.7	45.1	30.6	34.4	43.8	8.1
Nkhotakota	65.8	74.3	21.6	40.3	50.1	4.1
Mchinji	61.9	57.6	39.7	35.4	38.1	2.7

Lilongwe rural	56.8	66.8	17.5	32.9	49.9	5.7
Salima	60.7	71.3	26.4	40.9	68.5	2.7
Dedza	43.2	48.4	30.8	36.9	44.2	1.0
Ntcheu	61.9	47.2	11.9	30.0	61.2	4.0
Lilongwe city	51.6	50.0	41.3	19.3	40.8	4.5
Southern Region	38.4	59.5	22.3	33.3	37.3	5.7
Balaka	65.2	58.1	14.9	41.4	49.5	3.1
Machinga	34.7	67.2	26.7	28.8	31.9	3.1
Mangochi	38.8	49.0	23.5	27.3	26.4	12.4
Zomba rural	31.6	55.9	27.2	42.3	36.8	6.7
Chiradzulu	26.1	80.1	9.8	32.5	29.3	3.9
Blantyre rural	54.5	62.5	15.8	25.3	39.7	1.7
Mulanje	29.5	43.0	33.2	53.0	31.2	20.6
Thyolo	25.4	68.5	31.7	32.3	50.2	9.3
Phalombe	28.4	56.7	23.7	53.2	54.6	13.0
Mwanza	55.3	54.6	13.2	34.0	51.4	2.4
Chikwawa	33.3	61.8	30.7	39.6	45.5	3.3
Nsanje	54.3	68.1	24.4	39.6	31.6	0.0
Blantyre city	39.3	57.5	20.0	25.0	31.1	2.0
Zomba municipality	26.9	55.5	47.4	19.7	20.4	-

Table 3.2: Percentage of students currently enrolled in school not satisfied with school and reasons for dissatisfaction
(cont'd)

	Dissatisfied	Reasons for dissatisfaction				
		Books/ Supplies	Poor Teaching	Lack of Poor/No Teachers Facilities	Other	
Sex						
Male	47.2	59.3	24.6	39.0	43.6	5.0
Female	48.5	58.7	24.1	37.8	44.7	4.4
Type of School						
Primary	48.2	59.1	23.1	38.3	45.7	4.4
Government	46.7	59.4	22.6	37.7	45.9	4.6
Private	59.0	57.6	25.7	42.8	46.2	3.0
Other	35.4	59.5	28.6	20.2	26.8	6.9

Secondary	50.1	60.5	35.8	41.3	30.0	6.5
Government	51.9	60.7	38.3	43.9	29.9	6.2
Private	49.7	72.3	26.4	39.2	41.2	10.7
Other	45.1	55.8	30.9	33.4	26.6	6.1
Other	27.5	39.5	21.4	25.7	43.8	12.8
Government	42.3	48.7	30.4	43.2	35.2	10.0
Private	42.5	45.9	11.7	6.8	43.9	32.2
Other	19.5	29.5	16.7	16.5	51.3	9.2

In the rural areas, 53 percent of children of primary school age expressed satisfaction with school compared to only 54 percent of secondary school age who also expressed satisfaction with school. The proportion of children of primary school age who expressed satisfaction with school in rural areas was almost the same as those in urban areas. About 52 percent of the primary school children and 49 percent of secondary school age children in urban areas expressed satisfaction with school.

The Survey also collected information on reasons why pupils/students were dissatisfied with school. The results reveal that of all the children currently enrolled in school in Malawi 48 percent reported that they were dissatisfied with school services. The proportion of dissatisfied children is slightly higher in rural areas (48 percent) than in urban areas (45 percent). The variation in levels of dissatisfaction between male school going children (47 percent) and female school going children (48 percent) was not significant. However, it is also noted that level of dissatisfaction with primary school among children is higher in private (59 percent) than in government schools (47 percent). In the case of secondary schools, the findings indicate that relatively a slightly larger proportion of children in government schools (52 percent) were dissatisfied than in private schools (50 percent).

The majority (59 percent) of the dissatisfied children cited lack of books or supplies as the main reason for dissatisfaction. About 44 percent and 38 percent cited lack of (or poor facilities) and lack of teachers respectively as the cause for dissatisfaction.

At regional level the highest proportion of children who expressed dissatisfaction was in Northern Region (56 percent) followed by Central Region (54 percent). The least was in Southern Region (38 percent). In Central and Southern Regions, most of the children stated that they were dissatisfied because their schools lacked books or supplies. Poor or lack of facilities and lack of teachers were the commonly cited causes of dissatisfaction with school by most of the children. In the Northern Region, however, lack of teachers (65 percent) was the main cause for dissatisfaction followed by lack books/supplies (61 percent) and poor facilities (42 percent).

3.7 School Attendance

The results show that in Malawi as a whole about 9 percent of all the children aged 6 to 17 years were not in school in the 2001/02 school year. This disaggregates into 4 percent for children aged 6 to 13 years and 21 percent for those aged 14 to 17 years. It is also observed

that equal proportions of males and female children were not attending school during the reference period. Regardless of area of residence, sex, age or socio-economic background of the head of the household, the most commonly cited reason for not attending school is that school is *'useless or uninteresting'*. A further substantial proportion stated that school is *'expensive'* (Table 3.3).

Of the children who were not currently attending school, around 53 percent of the males and 43 percent of the females reported that they were not in school because school is *'useless'*. However, about 12 percent of the females and 1 percent of the males were not in school because they were *'married'*. This is a revelation that girls were more likely to enter into marriage life earlier than males.

Table 3.3: Percentage distribution of children age 6 to 17 who ever attended school but are not currently enrolled in school by reason for not currently attending school and selected characteristics of children by district.

	Not Attending	Reasons not currently attending								
		Too old or young	Distance	Expensive	Work	Useless	Illness/Pregnancy	Failed Exam	Got Married	Other
Malawi	9.0	3.7	3.5	17.1	5.3	47.8	8.7	3.5	7.1	10.3
Rural	9.0	9.7	1.1	19.6	3.9	33.0	10.8	2.4	11.6	13.5
Urban	9.0	3.1	3.7	16.9	5.4	49.2	8.5	3.6	6.7	10.1
Northern Region	4.0	0.5	3.9	14.4	3.0	49.6	14.1	6.3	27.4	2.1
Chitipa	4.2	5.0	-	14.5	7.7	18.6	13.2	5.4	13.2	7.7
Karonga	3.2	-	-	8.7	-	14.4	25.6	30.9	28.8	9.4
Rumphi	2.8	-	-	8.4	23.2	6.4	49.0	-	37.7	-
Nkhata Bay	3.0	-	9.1	24.0	-	36.3	28.7	-	30.8	-
Likoma	6.8	-	-	0.0	14.4	73.3	20.6	-	6.1	-
Mzimba	4.3	-	4.7	15.8	-	66.8	7.5	3.7	29.1	-
Mzuzu city	6.4	-	7.6	7.6	13.2	57.1	4.4	-	20.9	4.4
Central Region	8.1	3.8	3.6	20.2	7.1	46.1	6.0	2.3	4.3	11.4
Kasungu	4.6	2.6	-	32.5	5.0	36.5	6.1	3.8	2.6	8.1
Ntchisi	8.7	10.6	-	12.7	8.5	41.4	3.3	-	-	7.6
Dowa	11.2	7.2	-	45.4	4.0	37.8	0.0	1.4	-	21.7
Nkhotakota	5.1	0.0	4.1	30.9	-	41.0	4.6	3.3	4.6	5.1
Mchinji	12.2	1.1	4.5	17.7	12.2	48.8	2.5	-	3.0	8.9
Lilongwe rural	7.7	5.3	5.7	16.1	2.7	47.5	6.6	3.1	3.4	13.3
Salima	5.5	0.0	5.1	4.2	8.6	55.9	11.3	-	11.0	3.7
Dedza	7.5	1.9	1.8	10.5	20.8	68.4	4.2	-	4.2	5.4
Ntcheu	10.1	4.1	6.5	16.1	6.5	38.9	13.0	4.9	3.1	14.1
Lilongwe city	7.5	2.1	-	28.8	2.2	31.6	7.8	4.3	16.0	8.8
Southern Region	11.2	3.8	3.3	15.2	4.2	48.8	10.0	4.0	7.2	10.4
Balaka	7.0	6.9	-	17.9	10.9	50.5	7.1	13.3	3.0	3.7
Machinga	9.9	-	2.0	20.8	5.2	46.8	19.1	6.2	7.1	18.9
Mangochi	9.4	4.0	2.5	12.6	2.2	42.2	9.4	3.0	9.1	12.7
Zomba	13.3	1.0	2.7	19.8	4.9	55.3	9.4	1.0	5.6	7.8
Chiradzulu	12.4	1.6	1.8	13.9	4.2	39.5	10.6	7.9	4.7	2.8
Blantyre rural	11.7	5.5	-	6.9	5.8	41.9	5.8	3.6	7.5	19.3
Mulanje	9.9	-	6.3	6.1	4.0	54.9	17.9	6.2	10.1	-
Thyolo	13.9	3.4	11.1	27.1	4.5	53.9	9.8	4.5	7.8	5.4
Phalombe	12.5	3.7	2.1	16.9	-	56.4	9.3	5.5	7.2	-
Mwanza	9.1	3.8	-	15.1	12.3	57.1	7.7	4.8	3.5	7.8
Chikwawa	8.8	2.4	2.4	17.1	0.0	54.8	8.5	4.3	9.2	9.2
Nsanje	12.2	1.9	4.2	3.5	3.2	66.1	1.9	2.8	5.4	17.3
Blantyre city	10.9	16.7	-	13.2	4.3	33.6	12.4	0.0	8.5	18.8

Zomba municipality	9.4	-	20.1	25.7	4.5	16.2	25.1	16.8	-	-
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Table 3.3: Percentage distribution of children age 6 to 17 who ever attended school but are not currently enrolled in school by reason for not currently attending school and selected characteristics of children by district.
(cont'd)

	Not Attending	Reasons not currently attending								
		Too old or young	Distance	Ex-pensive	Work	Useless	Illness/ pregnancy	Failed exam	Got married	Other
Socio-economic sector										
Public	11.9	-	8.4	17.7	17.7	52.8	21.0	-	-	-
Private formal	9.2	-	5.9	17.5	16.0	3.3	-	4.9	20.8	31.6
Private informal	6.3	4.3	-	9.2	12.5	68.0	10.0	-	7.9	17.7
Subsistence Agriculture	8.6	5.1	2.6	17.4	4.1	47.6	6.9	3.8	6.8	12.0
Self Employed	9.2	2.8	-	26.3	7.8	51.8	5.8	2.3	8.4	4.5
Unemployed	9.4	3.1	4.2	16.8	5.1	46.9	9.6	3.6	7.0	9.6
Other										
Sex										
Male	8.5	3.4	4.5	18.4	4.7	52.9	4.5	3.3	1.4	11.1
Female	9.6	3.9	2.6	16.0	5.8	43.2	12.5	3.6	12.3	9.6
Age										
6-13	4.3	3.6	6.2	15.3	4.1	52.9	6.4	3.1	0.7	9.9
14-17	21.1	3.7	2.1	18.1	5.9	45.1	9.9	3.7	10.5	10.6

In both the rural and urban areas, about 9 percent were not in school in the reference school year.

Table 3.3 shows that only 4 percent of children aged 6 to 17 were not in school in Northern Region while 8 and 11 percent were not in school in Central and Southern Regions respectively.

3.8 School Drop Out

Children are considered to be drop-outs if they left school in the current school year but were in school in the previous year. Drop-out rates are calculated by dividing the number of children who left school in the current year by the total number of children who enrolled in the current year, including the drop-outs.

Table 3.4: Enrolment and drop out rates for primary and secondary schools by age and sex

	Enrolment rates			Drop out rates		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Primary						
Total	69.1	72.8	71.1	2.3	2.1	2.2
6	39.5	43.5	41.5	0.4	1.8	1.1
7	59.0	64.7	61.7	0.9	0.5	0.7
8	67.8	75.7	71.8	2.5	1.9	2.2
9	78.6	79.0	78.8	2.9	2.4	2.6
10	78.2	81.6	79.9	1.9	2.3	2.1
11	81.5	80.5	81.0	4.2	4.7	4.5
12	79.2	82.7	80.9	4.3	1.9	3.2
13	78.1	80.1	79.1	4.0	5.3	4.7
Secondary						
Total	8.3	8.6	8.5	5.9	7.7	6.8
14	2.2	5.5	3.8	5.0	5.8	5.4
15	6.6	6.6	6.6	5.6	9.2	7.2

16	10.0	10.8	10.4	6.3	6.8	6.6
17	18.4	14.3	16.4	7.2	9.7	8.4

The 2002 Malawi CWIQ Survey results indicate that of all the children aged 6 to 13 years who enrolled in primary school in the 2001-2 school year, about 2 percent dropped out of primary school and 7 percent out of secondary school. The proportion of children who drop-out of school increases with age. At very young ages the proportion of male children who drop out of school is higher than that of females, but as the children reach 10 years of age, the proportion of females who drop out of school exceeds that of male children. By age 17, around 10 percent of female children drop out compared with 7 percent of their male counterparts. On the overall, 6 percent of male children and 8 percent of female children in secondary school drop out (Table 3.4).

Chapter 4

EMPLOYMENT

Ishmael V. Gondwe

4.1 Introduction

Collection of data on employment can be complex and time consuming. With assistance from the International Labour Organisation, the CWIQ has identified a set of questions to collect enough data to identify the basic indicators of employment. These are: employment status, sector and industry. In many societies, children perform some kind of work such as livestock tending, fetching of water or selling of household commodities and other casual work (paid or unpaid). As such, CWIQ captures this information on employment from the population aged 5 years and above.

The population (5 years and above) is divided into two main categories: the employed and the non-employed. The employed population includes all regular and casual employees, family business workers and the self-employed. The non-employed population includes subsistence farmers, students, all job seekers and all the inactive population.

4.2 Employed Population

The results of the survey in Table 4.1 show the pattern of employment status in Malawi. About 15 percent of the population in Malawi aged 5 years and above were employed as at the time of the survey. About 6 percent were self-employed, about 5 percent were regular employees and about 3 percent were family business workers. About 3 percent of the employed persons in Malawi were under-employed.

The pattern of the employed in urban/ rural setting shows that about 38 percent of the population aged 5 years and above in the urban areas were employed. In rural areas about 13 percent were employed. Most of these in both urban and rural areas are regular employees or self-employed, though the proportion is more in urban compared to rural areas.

At regional level, about 13 percent, 15 percent and 16 percent in the North, Centre and South respectively were employed. Also, about 21 percent of the male population was employed as compared to 9 percent for the female population. About 2 percent of children aged 5-14 years were employed.

4.3 Non Employed Population

The non-employed population comprised about 85 percent of the total population aged 5 years and above in Malawi. About 43 percent of the total population were Subsistence farmers, about 3 percent were jobseekers and about 44 percent were the inactive population. Most of the subsistence farmers were in rural areas while most of the inactive population were in urban areas. About 79 percent of the male and 91 percent of the female population aged 5 years and above were not employed.

Table 4.1: Distribution of persons aged 5 years or over by economic activity status, sex, age at district level

	Employed						Not Employed				All Persons
	Regular employee	Casual employee	Family Business Worker	Self-Employed	Under-employed	Total	Mlimi seekers	Inactive	Total		
Malawi	5.4	1.6	2.6	5.5	3.0	15.1	43.2	2.7	44.2	84.9	100.0
Rural	4.1	1.5	2.4	4.7	2.6	12.8	47.2	2.7	43.0	87.2	100.0
Urban	18.2	2.6	4.0	12.9	7.7	37.7	3.9	3.6	55.2	62.3	100.0
Northern Region	5.0	1.8	1.5	4.6	2.8	12.7	33.7	6.1	49.9	87.3	100.0
Chitipa	6.2	2.3	2.8	4.2	4.4	15.5	20.8	16.1	50.0	84.5	100.0
Karonga	2.7	3.3	1.0	5.1	2.5	12.1	23.3	16.8	48.7	87.9	100.0
Rumphi	4.2	2.0	1.9	3.1	1.9	11.2	41.7	0.5	49.0	88.8	100.0
Nkhata Bay	7.2	1.9	2.3	5.9	3.8	17.3	32.7	1.6	49.7	82.7	100.0
Likoma	8.1	4.4	4.0	9.5	8.0	25.9	0.7	7.1	66.3	74.1	100.0
Mzimba	3.9	1.1	1.1	4.1	2.2	10.2	40.3	3.5	49.3	89.8	100.0
Mzuzu City	19.2	2.4	2.5	7.8	7.0	32.0	2.0	4.3	61.9	68.0	100.0
Central Region	4.7	1.5	2.6	6.1	2.4	14.8	42.0	2.0	44.9	85.2	100.0
Kasungu	5.4	2.1	1.0	10.8	4.5	19.4	28.7	3.8	52.8	80.6	100.0
Ntchisi	2.6	1.2	0.2	8.9	2.2	12.8	44.7	4.1	46.6	87.2	100.0
Dowa	2.0	0.5	1.1	11.6	3.0	15.2	48.0	3.4	42.7	84.8	100.0
Nkhotakota	10.8	0.9	4.5	4.4	1.7	20.5	31.5	1.1	48.8	79.5	100.0
Mchinji	2.7	2.0	11.8	1.3	2.2	17.8	48.1	0.6	39.8	82.2	100.0
Lilongwe rural	3.5	1.4	2.6	5.1	1.6	12.6	42.9	1.8	45.8	87.4	100.0
Salima	4.0	0.7	3.4	5.9	2.6	14.0	39.8	2.4	48.9	86.0	100.0
Dedza	1.4	1.3	0.4	1.8	0.4	5.0	56.1	1.3	39.3	95.0	100.0
Ntcheu	2.3	1.1	0.3	1.5	0.8	5.2	62.6	0.5	35.2	94.8	100.0
Lilongwe City	16.4	2.6	1.9	16.1	7.6	36.9	4.8	3.6	55.1	63.1	100.0
Southern Region	6.2	1.7	2.8	5.2	3.7	15.9	46.8	2.6	42.0	84.1	100.0
Balaka	2.2	1.1	0.6	2.4	2.4	6.4	63.7	1.0	33.0	93.6	100.0
Machinga	3.9	1.3	1.1	6.2	3.4	12.6	58.5	1.3	37.4	87.4	100.0
Mangochi	2.6	2.7	1.4	4.7	2.6	11.4	47.6	4.3	42.9	88.6	100.0
Zomba rural	3.8	2.0	0.6	4.0	2.9	10.4	60.6	1.0	36.0	89.6	100.0
Chiradzulu	6.6	1.8	5.4	2.8	3.3	16.6	46.4	4.5	39.4	83.4	100.0
Blantyre rural	5.1	1.1	3.0	5.2	3.4	14.4	54.9	1.1	40.1	85.6	100.0
Mulanje	6.3	0.6	2.7	3.9	1.6	13.5	47.9	1.3	44.8	86.5	100.0
Thyolo	8.0	2.2	3.5	3.8	6.1	17.5	44.0	4.0	44.0	82.5	100.0
Phalombe	2.7	0.7	5.2	4.4	1.5	13.0	49.6	2.4	43.7	87.0	100.0
Mwanza	2.9	0.7	1.6	5.3	3.4	10.5	58.0	1.9	40.1	89.5	100.0
Chikwawa	7.6	1.0	2.4	4.1	3.2	15.1	46.4	3.6	41.4	84.9	100.0
Nsanje	2.8	1.5	4.9	8.6	4.1	17.8	41.7	3.9	43.4	82.2	100.0
Blantyre City	19.7	2.6	6.2	10.3	8.2	38.9	2.7	3.3	55.2	61.1	100.0
Zomba Municipality	20.5	2.3	3.3	13.8	5.7	39.9	9.9	4.8	46.1	60.1	100.0

Table 4.1: Distribution of persons aged 5 years or over by economic activity status, sex, age at district level
(cont'd)

	Employed						Not Employed			
	Regular employee	Casual employee	Family Business Worker	Self-employed	Under-Employed	Total	Mlimi	Job seekers	Inactive	Total
Sex and age										
Male	9.1	2.4	2.8	7.0	4.5	21.3	39.8	2.6	42.2	78.7
5-14	0.3	0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	2.0	11.7	1.1	85.6	98.0
15 - 29	10.7	3.7	5.3	9.5	5.9	29.2	46.2	4.6	27.0	70.8
30 - 49	22.1	4.5	2.2	15.4	10.7	44.2	62.6	2.1	3.0	55.8
50 - 64	14.7	2.7	1.5	9.2	5.1	28.1	75.9	2.7	5.7	71.9
65+	7.5	0.7	1.6	6.8	3.0	16.6	71.9	2.6	16.5	83.4
Female	1.9	0.8	2.4	4.1	1.7	9.1	46.5	2.9	46.0	90.9
5-14	0.3	0.1	1.4	0.1	0.1	1.9	9.2	1.2	88.0	98.1
15 - 29	2.2	1.4	3.9	5.1	1.9	12.6	59.4	4.5	29.7	87.4
30 - 49	4.8	1.5	2.9	9.4	4.9	18.6	73.0	3.1	13.0	81.4
50 - 64	2.4	0.4	0.5	5.5	1.2	8.8	83.5	3.2	12.4	91.2
65+	0.3	0.6	0.7	3.6	0.8	5.3	64.8	2.2	33.2	94.7

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- Note: 1. Regular employees, casual employees, family business workers and self-employed also comprise under-employed persons. Total working, thus, excludes underemployed persons.
2. Job seekers include all those persons who were seeking work in the past 7 days and reported that work was not available as well and all those who were not working because they were laid off because their jobs were seasonal.
3. Inactive persons include students, all those who could not work because they were too young/old to work, they were infirm or were home workers

4.4 Employment Status.

In order to determine employment status the interviewer asked how the person was paid for his/her work and then categorise them into one of the following categories: *regular employee, casual, family business worker, or self-employed*. A regular employee is one who is continuously employed and is paid money on a weekly or monthly basis. A *casual worker* is one who is being paid by the hour or day (also referred to as 'ganyu'). A *family business worker* is someone who works in an economic activity of the family without receiving any payment. A *self-employed* is someone who operates his or her own economic activity (with or without partners). A *Mlimi* is a subsistence farmer, whose work status is farming on his/her own garden.

The results show that about 72 percent of total population aged 5 years and above who were working population were subsistence farmers (Mlimi). About 76 percent of the working population in rural areas were farmers compared to only 8 percent in the urban areas (Table 4.2).

The results further show that about 82 percent of the females were subsistence farmers compared with 61 percent of their male counterparts. However, males were about four and half times more likely to be employed than females (Table 4.2).

The findings also reveal that about 3 percent of the children aged under 15 were regular employees, but about 10 percent of the males and 13 percent of the females under 15 years of age were engaged in family business work.

Most urban people who were employed were either regular employees (about 44 percent) or self employed (about 31 percent).

Table 4.2: Percentage distribution of the working population aged 5 years or over by employment status, sex, age at district level.

	Mlimi	Regular Employee	Casual employee	Family Business worker	Self-employed
Malawi	71.6	10.2	3.0	4.8	10.3
Rural	76.4	7.6	2.7	4.5	8.7
Urban	8.7	44.2	6.2	9.6	31.3
Northern Region	71.1	11.2	4.0	3.4	10.3
Chitipa	54.3	18.3	6.8	8.2	12.4
Karonga	65.1	7.8	9.5	2.8	14.8
Rumphi	77.8	8.3	3.9	3.8	6.2
Nkhata Bay	64.6	14.8	3.8	4.7	12.0
Likoma	2.7	30.2	16.4	14.9	35.7
Mzimba	78.4	8.2	2.4	2.3	8.7
Mzuzu city	5.3	56.9	7.1	7.5	23.2
Central Region	72.1	8.8	2.7	4.9	11.5
Kasungu	55.4	12.5	4.9	2.4	24.8
Ntchisi	74.0	5.2	2.5	0.3	18.0
Dowa	71.8	3.8	0.9	2.0	21.5
Nkhotakota	59.0	21.5	1.8	8.9	8.8
Mchinji	70.1	4.5	3.4	19.9	2.1
Lilongwe rural	76.0	6.7	2.7	5.0	9.7
Salima	71.2	8.2	1.3	7.0	12.2
Dedza	91.6	2.4	2.3	0.7	3.0
Ntcheu	91.8	3.6	1.8	0.5	2.3
Lilongwe city	10.6	39.7	6.2	4.5	38.9
Southern Region	71.3	11.2	3.0	5.1	9.3
Balaka	90.4	3.4	1.7	0.9	3.7
Machinga	79.5	6.4	2.2	1.8	10.2
Mangochi	78.4	5.0	5.0	2.7	8.8
Zomba rural	83.4	6.1	3.2	0.9	6.4
Chiradzulu	70.4	11.8	3.1	9.7	5.0
Blantyre rural	75.6	8.7	1.8	5.1	8.8
Mulanje	74.9	11.6	1.1	5.1	7.3
Thyolo	66.4	15.4	4.2	6.7	7.4
Phalombe	75.9	5.1	1.2	9.7	8.1
Mwanza	81.9	4.9	1.2	2.8	9.2
Chikwawa	72.5	13.8	1.8	4.4	7.5
Nsanje	66.3	5.2	2.9	9.2	16.3
Blantyre city	6.4	47.5	6.2	14.9	24.9
Zomba municipality	18.7	41.8	4.7	6.8	28.1
Sex and age					
Male	61.4	16.6	4.3	5.1	12.6
5-14	84.6	2.6	1.8	9.9	1.1
15-29	57.3	15.6	5.5	7.7	13.9
30-49	53.4	23.3	4.7	2.4	16.2
50-64	69.3	16.0	3.0	1.7	10.0
65+	79.5	9.3	0.9	1.9	8.4
Female	82.1	3.7	1.6	4.6	7.9
5-14	82.6	2.8	0.7	12.6	1.3
15-29	80.8	3.3	2.2	6.0	7.8
30-49	77.8	5.7	1.8	3.4	11.2
50-64	89.6	2.8	0.5	0.6	6.5
65+	91.8	0.5	0.9	1.1	5.6

4.5 Employment Sector

The simplest categorization of this sector is typically that of public versus private. The CWIQ included categories for parastatal (part public, part private) and separated private into private business versus private person or household.

The result showed that most of the working population (about 86 percent) worked for private persons or individual household sector and about 10 percent in private business. Thus the private sector contributed to about 95 percent of the working population (Table 4.3).

This is due to the fact that most of the private person/household sector business is actually farming (*Mlimi*). Note in the rural areas where about 88 percent are in this sector, compared with the urban sector where it is only about half of the working population that are in this sector. However in urban, a considerable proportion of the working population were either in government or in private business. About 3 percent of working population in Malawi were in the Government (about 3 percent in rural and 11 percent in urban area). Note that about 24 percent in Mzuzu city, 10 percent in Lilongwe city and 17 percent in Zomba municipality were in government sector.

Table 4.3: Percentage distribution of the working population aged 5 years or over by employer ,sex and age at district level.

	Government	Parastatal	Private business	Private person Household
Malawi	3.2	1.2	9.8	85.8
Rural	2.6	0.7	8.5	88.1
Urban	10.5	7.0	27.0	55.5
Northern Region	4.3	1.1	5.9	88.6
Chitipa	8.7	3.6	3.4	84.3
Karonga	2.0	1.4	4.9	91.8
Rumphi	4.8	0.2	3.8	91.2
Nkhata Bay	4.7	0.6	8.6	86.0
Likoma	5.2	7.1	22.2	65.5
Mzimba	3.1	0.7	5.2	91.1
Mzuzu city	23.7	6.8	23.7	45.8
Central Region	3.0	0.9	8.2	87.9
Kasungu	2.9	2.8	10.0	84.3
Ntchisi	3.1	0.5	2.7	93.8
Dowa	4.1	0.1	2.7	93.0
Nkhotakota	5.7	0.9	14.2	79.2
Mchinji	1.3	0.5	2.8	95.4
Lilongwe rural	1.9	0.3	9.8	88.0
Salima	3.6	0.8	4.3	91.3
Dedza	2.6	0.2	4.0	93.2
Ntcheu	1.6	0.2	4.3	93.9
Lilongwe city	9.9	5.8	27.9	56.5
Southern Region	3.1	1.4	12.0	83.5
Balaka	2.2	0.5	5.2	92.1

Machinga	3.7	1.1	18.1	77.2
Mangochi	1.7	0.2	16.5	81.7
Zomba rural	1.3	0.8	17.1	80.9
Chiradzulu	4.2	0.8	12.5	82.4
Blantyre rural	2.5	1.2	4.1	92.2
Mulanje	2.5	0.3	8.6	88.6
Thyolo	3.8	0.4	9.9	85.9
Phalombe	2.6	0.3	3.3	93.9
Mwanza	3.4	0.0	2.7	93.9
Chikwawa	2.2	4.9	9.2	83.8
Nsanje	2.5	0.0	7.4	90.1
Blantyre city	9.4	8.0	26.5	56.1
Zomba municipality	17.2	8.5	26.3	48.0

Table 4.3 :Percentage distribution of the working population aged 5 years or over by employer, sex and age at district level.
(cont'd)

	Government	Parastatal	Private business	Private person Household
Sex				
Male	4.3	1.9	13.8	79.9
5-14	0.0	0.0	7.3	92.7
15-29	3.1	1.9	13.7	81.3
30-49	7.4	2.5	16.7	73.4
50-64	4.7	2.5	13.9	78.9
65+	1.9	1.1	8.6	88.4
Female	2.0	0.4	5.7	91.9
5-14	0.0	0.0	5.3	94.7
15-29	1.8	0.5	5.5	92.2
30-49	3.5	0.4	6.4	89.7
50-64	1.4	0.3	6.1	92.2
65+	0.2	0.1	3.9	95.8

4.6 Industry of Employment

The interviewers recorded the industry in which the person worked. The lists of industries were condensed into ten categories according to the standard classification for the ILO for convenience.

The results shows that 79 percent of the working population aged 5 years and over were in the agriculture industry. This is especially so in the rural areas where about 84 percent were in agricultural industry. In urban areas only around 11 percent were in agriculture industry whereas about 38 percent were in trade and about 24 percent are in services. More working females were in agriculture industry as compared to their male counterparts. Close to 95 percent of those aged less than 15 years who were working were in agriculture industry (Table 4.4).

Table 4.4: Percentage distribution of the working population aged 5 years or over by industry, sex, age at district level.

	Agriculture	Mining/ quarrying	Manufacturing/ processing	Constru- ction.	Transport	Trade/ selling	Services	Education/ Health	Adminis- tration
Malawi	78.8	0.4	1.9	2.3	0.6	9.6	3.4	1.8	0.3
Rural	84.1	0.4	1.6	1.9	0.3	7.5	1.9	1.5	0.2
Urban	10.5	0.5	6.5	7.9	4.5	38.1	23.0	6.3	1.9
Northern Region	75.9	0.7	0.6	2.2	0.5	12.3	3.4	3.0	0.7
Chitipa	61.2	0.0	2.1	3.3	0.5	15.6	8.5	6.7	1.4
Karonga	65.6	1.3	1.5	6.9	0.9	17.5	4.6	1.6	0.0
Rumphi	81.7	1.4	0.0	3.0	0.2	8.5	0.9	3.9	0.4
Nkhata Bay	75.6	0.1	0.6	1.5	0.2	13.3	0.6	3.0	0.8
Likoma	9.1	3.9	4.2	10.2	0.0	55.1	7.1	4.9	1.9
Mzimba	82.9	0.6	0.2	0.9	0.4	9.7	2.3	2.4	0.5
Mzuzu city	7.9	0.0	2.9	7.7	3.4	35.6	24.7	9.0	7.4
Central Region	82.1	0.3	1.4	1.8	0.7	8.2	3.3	1.7	0.3
Kasungu	72.3	0.1	1.3	1.8	0.5	16.1	2.9	2.6	2.0
Ntchisi	89.0	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.1	6.0	0.5	2.6	0.1
Dowa	90.4	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.2	5.6	0.3	2.0	0.0
Nkhotakota	68.2	0.0	11.8	1.2	0.3	9.7	3.5	4.1	0.5
Mchinji	93.8	0.4	0.4	1.1	0.1	2.0	1.6	0.6	0.0
Lilongwe rural	87.7	0.4	0.9	2.0	0.4	5.2	1.5	1.3	0.0
Salima	77.9	0.0	0.3	1.4	0.8	12.3	4.6	2.1	0.0
Dedza	93.1	0.1	0.6	0.8	0.2	3.8	0.8	0.6	0.0
Ntcheu	93.4	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.2	1.8	1.8	1.0	0.1
Lilongwe city	13.5	0.8	4.1	7.9	4.9	39.8	23.0	4.5	1.2
Southern Region	76.5	0.5	2.6	2.7	0.6	10.4	3.5	1.7	0.4
Balaka	91.5	0.6	0.6	1.6	0.0	3.5	1.6	0.6	0.0
Machinga	85.1	0.1	0.3	2.8	0.2	6.6	1.6	1.9	0.0
Mangochi	83.1	1.0	0.4	1.4	0.2	8.2	0.7	1.0	0.1
Zomba rural	87.9	0.6	0.5	2.0	0.1	5.9	1.3	0.7	0.1
Chiradzulu	81.8	0.0	1.9	3.5	0.7	7.9	1.4	2.9	0.0
Blantyre rural	76.7	1.4	1.1	3.3	0.8	10.9	4.5	0.9	0.1
Mulanje	81.6	0.3	4.9	1.8	0.3	7.7	1.8	1.5	0.0
Thyolo	77.4	0.2	4.8	2.7	0.7	8.7	2.5	2.5	0.6
Phalombe	83.8	0.0	0.9	1.3	0.0	11.0	1.3	0.9	0.7
Mwanza	83.1	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.5	9.0	3.8	0.8	0.5
Chikwawa	77.2	0.1	10.0	2.7	0.2	6.8	1.0	0.8	0.7
Nsanje	77.1	0.2	0.7	2.0	0.2	16.0	1.2	0.9	0.5
Blantyre city	6.7	0.0	9.3	7.7	4.7	37.6	24.1	6.9	1.8
Zomba municipality	22.9	2.3	4.0	8.7	0.4	28.9	10.2	15.6	3.9
Sex and age									
Male	70.5	0.6	3.2	4.0	1.1	11.2	5.4	2.5	0.5
5-14	94.5	1.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	2.5	1.3	0.0	0.0
15-29	69.2	0.7	3.0	4.2	1.1	13.5	5.1	1.7	0.3
30-49	60.5	0.5	4.4	5.4	1.8	13.8	7.0	4.4	0.8
50-64	75.3	0.6	3.6	3.4	0.7	6.9	5.5	2.4	0.5
65+	84.5	0.0	1.8	2.3	0.3	4.8	4.3	1.4	0.3
Female	87.4	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.1	8.0	1.4	1.2	0.2
5-14	93.9	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	3.2	1.9	0.1	0.0

15-29	87.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.0	8.4	1.7	0.9	0.2
30-49	81.7	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.2	11.9	1.4	2.4	0.4
50-64	91.9	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.2	4.7	0.6	0.8	0.2
65+	95.8	0.0	0.9	0.3	0.0	2.3	0.7	0.0	0.0

Percentages may not add up to up to 100 due to rounding.

4.7 Economically Inactive

It was already noted that about 44 percent of the population aged 5 years and over were economically inactive. About 3 percent of these were inactive due to unavailability of work. About three quarters of the economically inactive persons said were either students or were too old or too young to work. Most of those who said they were not working due to age were in rural areas. Some said they were not working due to family or household duties. These were mostly females. (Table 4.5)

Table 4.5: Percentage distribution of the economically inactive population aged 5 years or over by reason at district level

	No work Available	Seasonal Inactivity	Student	Household/ Family Duties	Age	Infirmity	Other
Malawi	3.8	2.1	45.7	12.5	31.3	2.8	1.8
Rural	3.5	2.3	44.4	11.1	33.8	3.1	1.9
Urban	5.6	0.5	55.8	23.5	12.5	0.8	1.4
Northern Region	3.3	7.6	58.6	8.2	20.7	0.9	0.7
Chitipa	7.2	17.2	48.1	6.3	19.0	1.3	0.9
Karonga	4.0	21.7	48.4	6.9	17.0	1.0	1.0
Rumphi	0.3	0.8	62.2	6.0	27.3	2.9	0.6
Nkhata Bay	2.3	0.8	67.4	7.9	20.8	0.7	0.2
Likoma	6.3	3.4	51.3	16.4	18.4	1.2	3.1
Mzimba	2.7	3.9	61.7	8.6	22.0	0.5	0.6
Mzuzu city	5.1	1.5	62.1	16.8	13.0	1.0	0.5
Central Region	3.3	1.0	52.3	9.5	29.4	2.5	2.0
Kasungu	4.0	2.6	54.7	15.4	17.8	2.3	3.2
Ntchisi	7.5	0.6	45.6	7.4	26.3	3.9	8.7
Dowa	7.3	0.2	48.7	8.8	24.5	4.4	6.1
Nkhotakota	2.3	0.0	69.2	11.2	16.0	1.0	0.3
Mchinji	1.2	0.3	55.1	5.9	33.0	2.0	2.5
Lilongwe rural	2.4	1.4	56.7	7.6	28.7	2.3	0.9
Salima	4.2	0.5	50.4	14.0	27.7	1.8	1.3
Dedza	1.6	1.5	30.1	5.1	57.1	3.1	1.4
Ntcheu	1.4	0.1	37.7	5.4	49.3	4.6	1.5
Lilongwe city	5.7	0.4	64.2	17.1	10.3	0.5	1.7
Southern Region	4.3	1.4	35.2	16.7	36.6	3.8	2.0
Balaka	0.5	2.5	33.2	4.4	52.6	5.4	1.5
Machinga	1.8	1.5	22.4	10.0	56.4	4.5	3.4
Mangochi	7.1	1.9	23.1	12.9	48.5	4.0	2.4
Zomba rural	2.0	0.6	27.1	11.1	49.1	7.8	2.3
Chiradzulu	7.4	2.8	36.1	10.8	39.2	3.1	0.5
Blantyre rural	1.3	1.4	47.8	19.0	23.0	4.1	3.4
Mulanje	2.3	0.4	35.0	20.3	38.0	3.2	0.6
Thyolo	5.7	2.5	33.9	15.0	35.6	4.8	2.5
Phalombe	4.9	0.3	29.3	18.5	43.1	3.2	0.6
Mwanza	4.1	0.3	38.4	21.4	31.5	1.4	2.7
Chikwawa	6.1	1.8	38.7	16.1	33.4	2.4	1.4
Nsanje	6.5	1.7	43.1	14.3	29.6	3.0	1.9
Blantyre city	5.5	0.2	47.9	30.6	13.5	1.1	1.2
Zomba municipality	4.6	4.9	38.6	21.4	27.6	-	2.9

**Table 4.5: Percentage distribution of the economically inactive population aged 5 years or over
By reason at district level
(cont'd)**

	No work Available	Seasonal Inactivity	Student	Household/ Family Duties	Age	Infirmity	Other
Sex							
Male	3.8	2.0	50.6	6.1	33.0	2.8	1.7
5-14	0.9	0.4	49.2	3.2	44.8	0.9	0.8
15-29	11.1	3.5	66.9	13.7	0.2	2.0	2.5
30-49	19.9	21.1	0.8	18.4	0.0	27.6	12.2
50-64	12.7	19.2	0.0	14.6	3.5	35.1	14.8
65+	2.8	11.0	0.0	2.3	48.9	33.8	1.3
Female	3.7	2.2	41.3	18.1	29.9	2.9	2.0
5-14	1.1	0.3	49.8	5.4	42.1	0.7	0.6
15-29	9.3	3.9	39.0	40.9	0.0	2.9	4.0
30-49	9.1	10.0	0.2	63.8	0.0	11.2	5.7
50-64	8.4	12.0	0.0	42.9	7.3	19.2	10.2
65+	1.6	4.7	0.0	6.9	68.7	16.8	1.3