

## 1.4 Executive Summary

The tables below contain the main social indicators provided by the Welfare Monitoring Survey 2007 (WMS) that can be used to describe and monitor the socio-economic conditions of the Malawian population over time. More detailed information on all indicators can be found in the relevant chapters in the publication. Also included in the tables is a comparison between results obtained for the same indicators in the WMS 2005 and WMS 2006 in order to be able to analyse changes over time.

### 1.4.1 Population

The Welfare Monitoring Survey conducted in August- October 2007 shows:

- A young population: almost half are under 15 years (46 percent)
- Slightly fewer males than females: 96 males for every 100 females
- The proportion of orphans among children aged 20 years and below has increased from 15 percent in 2006 to 17 percent in 2007

**Table 1.2: Population and households. Main indicators 2005, 2006 and 2007**

INDICATOR	WMS 2005	WMS 2006	WMS 2007
<b>Population</b>			
Age			
<15	46	47	46
15-64	50	49	50
65+	4	4	4
Sex ratio	96	98	96
Percentage living in urban areas	13	12	11
Proportion of orphans among children ( 20 years and below)	20	15	17
<b>Households</b>			
Percentage female-headed households	25	23	28
Proportion of households headed by			
Children under 20	1	1	1
Person 65 and above	14	13	13
Dependency ratio (under 15 + 65 and above as ratio of 15-64)			
Total	1.03	1.02	1.12
Urban	.80	0.84	.83
Rural	1.07	1.07	1.15
Percentage of households with deaths last year			
Total	9	8	6
Urban	6	6	4
Rural	9	9	6

## 1.4.2 Health

The Welfare Monitoring Survey, 2007 indicates:

- The proportion of people who were sick or injured the last 2 weeks before the survey period has been reduced slightly between 2005 and 2007 to 12 percent.
- There is no change in the proportion of people who had visited a health provider whether they had been sick or not from 2005 to 2007
- The proportion with less than 30 minutes walk to the nearest health clinic or hospital has decreased somewhat between 2005 and 2007
- The proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel has increased from 59 percent in 2005 to 66 percent in 2007.

**Table 1.3: Main Health indicators 2005, 2006 and 2007**

<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>WMS 2005</b>	<b>WMS 2006</b>	<b>WMS 2007</b>
Proportion who were sick/injured last 2 weeks	13	14	12
Proportion who visited health provider	11	11	11
Access to health facility (% walking less than 30 minutes to the facility)	15	17	14
Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	59	62	66

## 1.4.3 Education

The Welfare Monitoring Survey 2007 shows:

- Adult literacy rate has increased from 65 percent in 2005 to 70 percent in 2007
- Female literacy rate has increased from 54 percent in 2005 to 60 percent in 2007
- Literacy rates for the 15 – 24 year olds has increased over the period 2005 – 2007
- Female literacy rate for the 15 – 24 year olds increased to 79 percent in 2007
- The ratio of literate women to men in the 15 – 24 year age group has increased to 93 percent in 2007
- Net primary school enrolment rate has decreased from 79 percent in 2005 to 75 percent in 2007
- Proportion of primary school pupils not satisfied with school almost doubled between 2005 and 2007

**Table 1.4: Main Education Indicators 2005, 2006 and 2007**

<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>WMS 2005</b>	<b>WMS 2006</b>	<b>WMS 2007</b>
Adult literacy rate	65	66	70
Female literacy rate	54	56	60
Literacy rate of 15-24 years old			
Total	78	78	82
Male	81	83	85
Female	74	73	79
Ratio of literate women to men, 15-24 years old	91	88	93
<b>Primary school</b>			
Net enrolment rate			
Total	79	73	75
Male	78	70	74
Female	80	76	77
Drop out rate			
Total	2	3	2
Male	1	3	2
Female	2	3	2
Repetition rate			
Total	23	28	20
Male	22	28	20
Female	24	28	19
Proportion having problems at school	47	74	77
Access (percentage with less than 30 minutes walk)	58	60	50
Net primary school enrolment among orphans	82	69	75
Gross primary school enrolment among orphans	116	86	113
<b>Secondary school</b>			
Net enrolment rate	12	11	18
Gross enrolment rate	34	25	35
Proportion not satisfied with school	49	70	60
Access (percentage with less than 30 minutes walk)	18	20	18

#### **1.4.4 Housing conditions and amenities**

The Welfare Monitoring Survey 2007 indicates:-

- The proportion of households with safe drinking water increased between 2005 and 2007 to 81 percent
- Proportion of households with access to drinking water has remained relatively stable and high
- The proportion of households with improved sanitation facilities has increased from 31 percent in 2005 to 47 percent in 2007.
- The proportion of households with electricity as their main source of lighting has slightly increased from 6 percent in 2005 to 8 percent in 2007.

**Table 1.5: Main Housing conditions and amenities Indicators 2005, 2006 and 2007**

<b>IINDICATOR</b>	<b>WMS 2005</b>	<b>WMS 2006</b>	<b>WMS 2007</b>
Proportion with safe drinking water			
Total	72	75	81
Urban	92	94	98
Rural	69	73	79
Access to drinking water (percentage with less than 30 minutes walk)			
Total	93	95	92
Urban	98	99	98
Rural	93	94	91
Proportion with proper sanitation facilities			
Total	31	29	47
Urban	43	45	79
Rural	30	27	43
Proportion with electricity as main source of lighting			
Total	6	5	8
Urban	30	32	52
Rural	2	2	2

#### 1.4.6 Poverty

Over the period covered by the WMS surveys from 2005 to 2007:

- Poverty has decreased from 50 percent in 2005 to 40 percent in 2007
- The proportion of ultra – poor has decreased from 22 percent in 2005 to 15 percent in 2007
- Urban poverty has been reduced from 24 percent to 11 percent
- Rural poverty has been reduced from 53 percent to 44 percent;

**Table 1.6: Proportion of poor and ultra-poor Main indicators 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007**

<b>Poverty status</b>	<b>IHS2 2004</b>	<b>WMS 2005</b>	<b>WMS 2006</b>	<b>WMS 2007</b>
<b>Proportion poor</b>				
<b>Malawi</b>	52	50	45	40
Urban	25	24	25	11
Rural	..	53	47	44
Rural Northern region	56	51	46	46
Rural Central region	47	46	40	36
Rural Southern region	64	60	55	51
<b>Proportion ultra-poor</b>				
<b>Malawi</b>	22	21	17	15
Urban	8	8	6	2
Rural	..	23	19	17
Rural Northern region	26	21	17	18
Rural Central region	16	16	12	11
Rural Southern region	32	30	25	22

### 1.4.7 HIV/AIDS Knowledge and Testing

The Welfare Monitoring Survey 2007 indicates:

- The proportion of persons 15 years and above that had undergone an HIV/AIDS test last 12 months increased from 12 percent in 2005 to 22 percent in 2007
- The proportion of persons 15-24 year olds who had undergone an HIV/AIDS test last 12 months increased from 14 percent in 2005 to 24 percent in 2007

**Table 1.7: HIV / AIDS Knowledge and Testing, Main indicators 2005, 2006 and 2007**

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>WMS 2005</b>	<b>WMS 2006</b>	<b>WMS 2007</b>
Proportion who had undergone an HIV test last 12 months			
15 Years and above	12	20	22
15-24 Years	14	22	24