

THAILAND

Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2015-2016

KEY FINDINGS

August, 2016



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PREFACE

Since the very start of the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Royal Thai Government, along with its national and international partners in social development sector, has continuously demonstrated its commitment for their achievement. The national commitment was further reconfirmed with the support for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the national response to it. Sustaining such a commitment requires a systematic approach to allocate resources, identification of emerging needs and monitoring of the progress based on solid data. Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS) offers a reliable methodology and sources of data to support effective and evidence-based decision making. The MICS, as developed by UNICEF and implemented by national partners, collects internationally comparable data on a wide range of indicators on the situation of children and women. MICS surveys measure key indicators that allow countries to generate data for use in policies and programmes, and to monitor progress towards the international commitments.

The Thailand National Statistical Office (NSO) carried out the fifth round of MICS between November 2015 and March 2016 with technical and financial support from UNICEF. The survey was also supported by the National Health Security Office. A joint Royal Thai Government Steering Group guided the initial planning of the MICS5. A technical group, composed of key line ministries' representatives, assisted in customising and adopting the global MICS5 tools to the local context. The main objective of the survey is to track progress on various programs, post-MDGs situation and to help establish a baseline on indicators under the SDGs.

The objective of publishing and releasing this Key Finding Report (KFR) is to facilitate the timely and succinct dissemination of key results from the Thailand MICS5. The main report, in turn, will contain detailed information on all survey findings by various demographic, socio-economic and cultural characteristics.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our partners for their continuous support to complete Thailand MICS5 within stipulated time. Special thanks to UNICEF Thailand country office and National Health Security Office for their financial and technical support. We would also like to appreciate contributions from line ministries and organizations namely, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Ministry of Labour, Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board, International Health Policy Program, Thai Health Promotion Foundation, Institute for Population and Social Research: Mahidol University, College of Population Studies: Chulalongkorn University). National Statistical Office hopes that the information from this report will be useful to ministries, agencies, both public and private institutions and the general public.

Director General
National Statistical Office

Representative
UNICEF, Thailand Country Office



THAILAND MICS 2015-16 AT A GLANCE

Survey implementation			
Sample frame	October to December, 2014	Questionnaires	Household Women (age 15-49) Men (age 15-49) Children under five
Interviewer training	1 st batch: September, 2015 2 nd batch: October, 2015	Fieldwork	November 2015 to March 2016
Survey sample			
Households		Children under five	
- Sampled	31,010	- Eligible	12,313
- Occupied	29,375	- Mothers/caretakers interviewed	12,250
- Interviewed	28,652	- Response rate (Percent)	99.5
- Response rate (Percent)	97.5		
Women		Men	
- Eligible for interviews	26,033	- Eligible for interviews	23,642
- Interviewed	25,614	- Interviewed	23,183
- Response rate (Percent)	98.4	- Response rate (Percent)	98.1

Survey population			
Average household size	3.2	Percentage of population living in	
Percentage of population under:		- Urban areas	46.4
- Age 5	5.9	- Rural areas	53.6
- Age 18	23.6	- Bangkok	13.6
Percentage of women age 15-49 years with at least one live birth in the last 2 years	8.2	- Central	30.1
		- North	16.6
		- Northeast	26.3
		- South	13.3

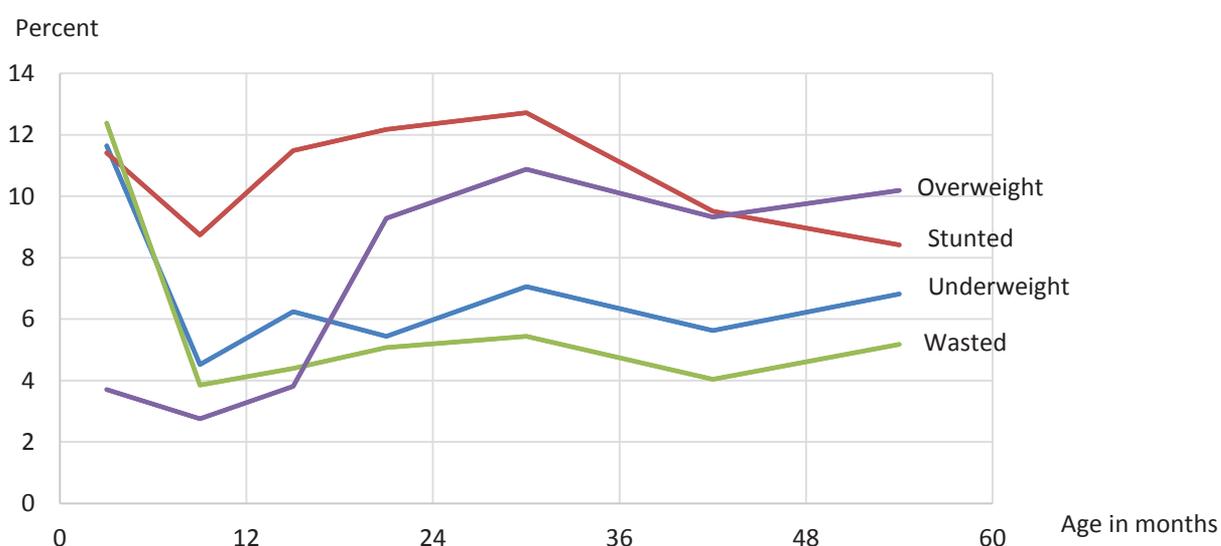
Housing characteristics	
Percentage of households with	
- Electricity	99.6
- Finished floor	80.2
- Finished roofing	99.4
- Finished walls	97.1
- Three or more rooms used for sleeping	18.3
Mean number of persons per room used for sleeping	1.91

Household or personal assets	
Percentage of households that own	
- A television (Plain monitor)	77.0
- A television (LCD/LED/Plasma)	38.0
- A refrigerator	91.9
- Agricultural land	42.3
- Farm animals/Livestock	26.0
- Computer	32.0
- Tablet	24.6
- Air conditioner	28.2
Percentage of households where at least a member has or owns a	
- Mobile phone (Traditional)	68.6
- Mobile phone (Smart)	68.2
- Car or truck	46.4
- Motorcycle or scooter	78.8
- Bank account	89.9
- Credit card	23.7

NUTRITION

Nutritional status ¹				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
2.1a 2.1b	MDG 1.8 Underweight prevalence (a) Moderate and severe (b) Severe	Percentage of children under age 5 who fall below (a) minus two standard deviations (moderate and severe) (b) minus three standard deviations (severe) of the median weight for age of the WHO standard	6.7 1.5	
2.2a 2.2b	Stunting prevalence (a) Moderate and severe (b) Severe	Percentage of children under age 5 who fall below (a) minus two standard deviations (moderate and severe) (b) minus three standard deviations (severe) of the median height for age of the WHO standard	10.5 2.6	
2.3a 2.3b	Wasting prevalence (a) Moderate and severe (b) Severe	Percentage of children under age 5 who fall below (a) minus two standard deviations (moderate and severe) (b) minus three standard deviations (severe) of the median weight for height of the WHO standard	5.4 1.4	
2.4	Overweight prevalence	Percentage of children under age 5 who are above two standard deviations of the median weight for height of the WHO standard	8.2	

Figure 1 Underweight, stunted, wasted and overweight children under age 5 (moderate and severe), Thailand MICS, 2015-16



¹ Weight and height/length measurements were successfully completed for 92.0 and 90.4 percent of children under age 5, respectively. For the calculation of the indicators in Nutritional status section, children with missing or out of range information on relevant anthropometric variables (date of birth, weight or height/length) will be excluded from the calculation. Percentage of children excluded from analysis of underweight, stunted and wasted are 13.9, 19.2 and 19.5, respectively for children under 6 months, and 8.7, 10.1 and 10.7 percent, respectively for all children under age 5.

Breastfeeding and infant feeding				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
2.5	Children ever breastfed	Percentage of women with a live birth in the last 2 years who breastfed their last live-born child at any time	97.4	
2.6	Early initiation of breastfeeding	Percentage of women with a live birth in the last 2 years who put their last newborn to the breast within one hour of birth	39.9	
2.7	Exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months	Percentage of infants under 6 months of age who are exclusively breastfed ²	23.1	
2.8	Predominant breastfeeding under 6 months	Percentage of infants under 6 months of age who received breast milk as the predominant source of nourishment ³ during the previous day	42.1	
2.9	Continued breastfeeding at 1 year	Percentage of children age 12-15 months who received breast milk during the previous day	33.3	
2.10	Continued breastfeeding at 2 years	Percentage of children age 20-23 months who received breast milk during the previous day	15.6	
2.11	Median duration of breastfeeding	The age in months when 50 percent of children age 0-35 months did not receive breast milk during the previous day	7.9	
2.12	Age-appropriate breastfeeding	Percentage of children age 0-23 months appropriately fed ⁴ during the previous day	28.0	
2.13	Introduction of solid, semi-solid or soft foods	Percentage of infants age 6-8 months who received solid, semi-solid or soft foods during the previous day	84.6	
2.14	Milk feeding frequency for non-breastfed children	Percentage of non-breastfed children age 6-23 months who received at least 2 milk feedings during the previous day	92.0	
2.15	Minimum meal frequency	Percentage of children age 6-23 months who received solid, semi-solid or soft foods (plus milk feeds for non-breastfed children) the minimum number of times ⁵ or more during the previous day	84.6	
2.16	Minimum dietary diversity	Percentage of children age 6-23 months who received foods from 4 or more food groups ⁶ during the previous day	75.0	

² Infants receiving breast milk, and not receiving any other fluids or foods, with the exception of oral rehydration solution, vitamins, mineral supplements and medicines

³ Infants receiving breast milk and certain fluids (water and water-based drinks, fruit juice, ritual fluids, oral rehydration solution, drops, vitamins, minerals, and medicines), but do not receive anything else (in particular, non-human milk and food-based fluids)

⁴ Infants age 0-5 months who are exclusively breastfed and children age 6-23 months who are breastfed and ate solid, semi-solid or soft foods

⁵ Breastfeeding children: Solid, semi-solid, or soft foods, two times for infants age 6-8 months, and three times for children 9-23 months; Non-breastfeeding children: Solid, semi-solid, or soft foods, or milk feeds, four times for children age 6-23 months

⁶ The indicator is based on consumption of any amount of food from at least 4 out of the 7 following food groups: 1) grains, roots and tubers, 2) legumes and nuts, 3) dairy products (milk, yogurt, cheese), 4) flesh foods (meat, fish, poultry and liver/organ meats), 5) eggs, 6) vitamin-A rich fruits and vegetables, and 7) other fruits and vegetables

Breastfeeding and infant feeding

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
2.17a 2.17b	Minimum acceptable diet	(a) Percentage of breastfed children age 6–23 months who had at least the minimum dietary diversity and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day (b) Percentage of non-breastfed children age 6–23 months who received at least 2 milk feedings and had at least the minimum dietary diversity not including milk feeds and the minimum meal frequency during the previous day	49.6 58.5
2.18	Bottle feeding	Percentage of children age 0-23 months who were fed with a bottle during the previous day	79.3

Salt iodization

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
2.19	Iodized salt consumption	Percentage of households with salt testing 15 parts per million or more of iodide/iodate	73.3

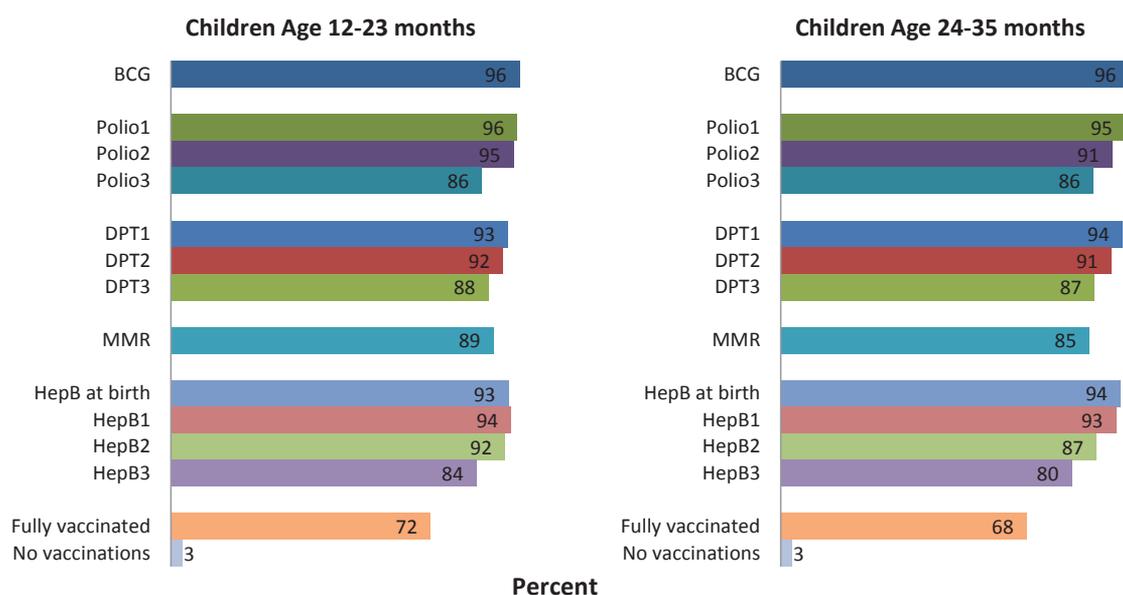
Low-birthweight

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
2.20	Low-birthweight infants	Percentage of most recent live births in the last 2 years weighing below 2,500 grams at birth	9.4
2.21	Infants weighed at birth	Percentage of most recent live births in the last 2 years who were weighed at birth	98.9

CHILD HEALTH

Vaccinations				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
3.1		Tuberculosis immunization coverage	Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received BCG vaccine by their first birthday	96.2
3.2		Polio immunization coverage	Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received the third dose of OPV vaccine (OPV3) by their first birthday	85.8
3.3		Diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus (DPT) immunization coverage	Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received the third dose of DPT vaccine (DPT3) by their first birthday	87.6
3.4	MDG 4.3	Measles immunization coverage	Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received MMR vaccine by their first birthday	89.0
3.5		Hepatitis B immunization coverage	Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received the third dose of Hepatitis B vaccine (HepB3) by their first birthday	84.3
3.8		Full immunization coverage	Percentage of children age 12-23 months who received all ⁷ vaccinations recommended in the national immunization schedule by their first birthday	71.6

Figure 2 Vaccinations by age 12 months, Thailand MICS, 2015-16



⁷ Full vaccination includes the following: BCG, Polio1-Polio3, DPT1-DPT3, HepB0, HepB1-3 and MMR1

Tetanus toxoid

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
3.9	Neonatal tetanus protection	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who were given at least two doses of tetanus toxoid vaccine within the appropriate interval prior to the most recent birth	73.9

Diarrhoea

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
-	Children with diarrhoea	Percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks	4.9
3.10	Care-seeking for diarrhoea	Percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider	70.7
3.12	Diarrhoea treatment with oral rehydration therapy (ORT) and continued feeding	Percentage of children under age 5 with diarrhoea in the last 2 weeks who received ORT (ORS packet, recommended homemade fluid or increased fluids) and continued feeding during the episode of diarrhoea	70.5

Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) symptoms

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
-	Children with ARI symptoms	Percentage of children under age 5 with ARI symptoms in the last 2 weeks	1.4
3.13	Care-seeking for children with ARI symptoms	Percentage of children under age 5 with ARI symptoms in the last 2 weeks for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider	79.5
3.14	Antibiotic treatment for children with ARI symptoms	Percentage of children under age 5 with ARI symptoms in the last 2 weeks who received antibiotics	70.0

Solid fuel use

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
3.15	Use of solid fuels for cooking	Percentage of household members in households that use solid fuels as the primary source of domestic energy to cook	21.1

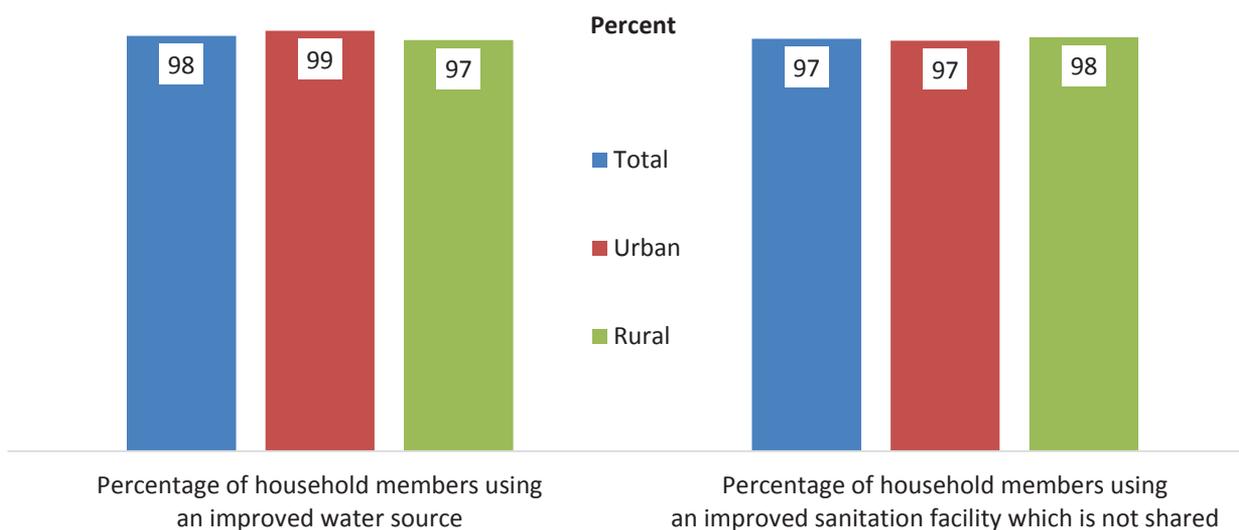
Fever

MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
3.20	Care-seeking for fever	Percentage of children under age 5 with fever in the last 2 weeks for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health facility or provider	75.6

WATER AND SANITATION

Water and sanitation				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
4.1	MDG 7.8	Use of improved drinking water sources	Percentage of household members using improved sources of drinking water	98.0
4.2		Water treatment	Percentage of household members in households using unimproved drinking water who use an appropriate treatment method	21.6
4.3	MDG 7.9	Use of improved sanitation	Percentage of household members using improved sanitation facilities which are not shared	97.2
4.4		Safe disposal of child's faeces	Percentage of children age 0-2 years whose last stools were disposed of safely	42.0
4.5		Place for handwashing	Percentage of households with a specific place for hand washing where water and soap or other cleansing agent are present	81.2
4.6		Availability of soap or other cleansing agent	Percentage of households with soap or other cleansing agent	85.5

Figure 3: Use of improved water and sanitation in urban and rural areas, Thailand MICS, 2015-16



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Contraception and unmet need				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
-		Total fertility rate	Total fertility rate ⁸ for women age 15-49 years	1.5
5.1	MDG 5.4	Adolescent birth rate	Age-specific fertility rate ⁹ for women age 15-19 years	51
5.2		Early childbearing	Percentage of women age 20-24 years who had at least one live birth before age 18	9.4
5.3	MDG 5.3	Contraceptive prevalence rate	Percentage 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	78.4
5.4	MDG 5.6	Unmet need	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who are currently married or in union who are fecund and want to space their births or limit the number of children they have and who are not currently using contraception	6.2

Figure 4: Use of contraception, Thailand MICS, 2015-16



⁸ The age-specific fertility rate is defined as the number of live births to women in a specific age group during a specified period, divided by the average number of women in that age group during the same period expressed per 1,000 women. The age-specific fertility rate for women age 15-19 years is also termed as the adolescent birth rate.

⁹ The total fertility rate (TFR) is calculated by summing the age-specific fertility rates calculated for each of the 5-year age groups of women, from age 15 through to age 49. The TFR denotes the average number of children to which a woman will have given birth by the end of her reproductive years (by age 50) if current fertility rates prevailed

Maternal and newborn health				
MICS Indicator		Indicator	Description	Value
5.5a	MDG 5.5	Antenatal care coverage	Percentage 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 (b) at least four times by any provider	98.1
5.5b				90.8
5.6		Content of antenatal care	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who had their blood pressure measured and gave urine and blood samples during the last pregnancy that led to a live birth	97.0
5.7	MDG 5.2	Skilled attendant at delivery	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years who were attended by skilled health personnel during their most recent live birth	99.1
5.8		Institutional deliveries	Percentage of women age 15-49 years with a live birth in the last 2 years whose most recent live birth was delivered in a health facility	98.6
5.9		Caesarean section	Percentage of women age 15-49 years whose most recent live birth in the last 2 years was delivered by caesarean section	32.7

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Child development			
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
6.1	Attendance to early childhood education	Percentage of children age 36-59 months who are attending an early childhood education programme Total (a) girls (b) boys	84.7 85.1 84.2
6.2	Support for learning	Percentage of children age 36-59 months with whom an adult has engaged in four or more activities to promote learning and school readiness in the last 3 days	92.7
6.3	Father's support for learning	Percentage 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	34.0
6.4	Mother's support for learning	Percentage 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	62.8
6.5	Availability of children's books	Percentage of children under age 5 who have three or more children's books	41.2
6.6	Availability of playthings	Percentage of children under age 5 who play with two or more types of playthings	75.6
6.7	Inadequate care	Percentage of children under age 5 left alone or in the care of another child younger than 10 years of age for more than one hour at least once in the last week	6.1
6.8	Early child development index	Percentage of children age 36-59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following four domains: literacy-numeracy, social-emotional, physical, and learning	91.1

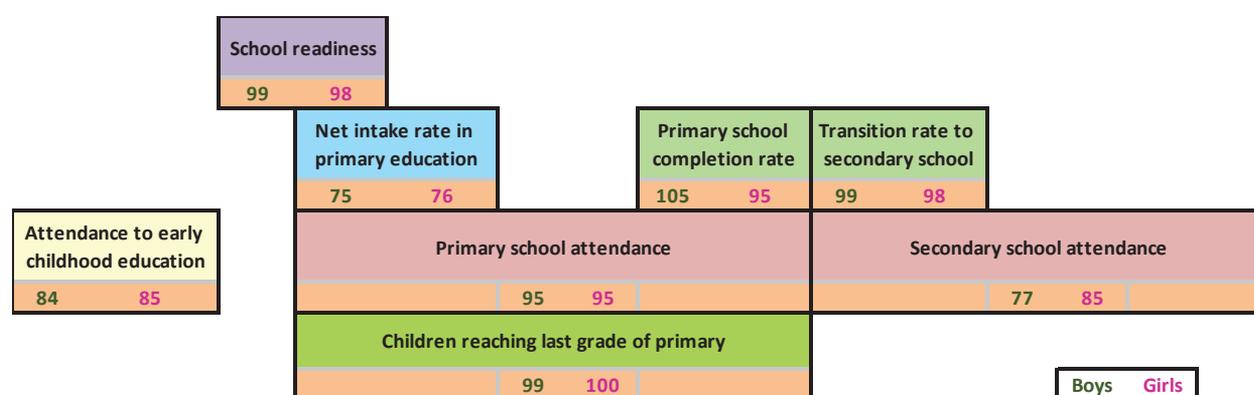
LITERACY AND EDUCATION

Literacy and education ¹⁰				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
7.1	MDG 2.3	Literacy rate among young people	Percentage of young people age 15-24 years who are able to read a short simple statement about everyday life or who attended secondary or higher education	
			(a) women	95.4
			(b) men	94.7
7.2		School readiness	Percentage of children in first grade of primary school who attended pre-school during the previous school year	
			Total	98.7
			(a) girls	98.3
			(b) boys	99.2
7.3		Net intake rate in primary education	Percentage of children of school-entry age who enter the first grade of primary school	
			Total	75.7
			(a) girls	76.2
			(b) boys	75.2
7.4	MDG 2.1	Primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted)	Percentage of children of primary school age currently attending primary or secondary school	
			Total	94.8
			(a) girls	95.0
			(b) boys	94.6
7.5		Secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted)	Percentage of children of secondary school age currently attending secondary school or higher	
			Total	81.0
			(a) girls	85.5
			(b) boys	76.6
7.6	MDG 2.2	Children reaching last grade of primary	Percentage of children entering the first grade of primary school who eventually reach last grade	
			Total	99.5
			(a) girls	99.5
			(b) boys	99.4
7.7		Primary completion rate	Number of children attending the last grade of primary school (excluding repeaters) divided by number of children of primary school completion age (age appropriate to final grade of primary school)	
			Total	99.5
			(a) girls	94.9
			(b) boys	104.8

¹⁰ Education indicators, wherever applicable, are based on information on reported school attendance (at any time during the school year), as a proxy for enrolment

Literacy and education				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
7.8		Transition rate to secondary school	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 divided by number of children attending the last grade of primary school during the previous school year Total (a) girls (b) boys	98.2 97.7 98.6
7.9	MDG 3.1	Gender parity index (primary school)	Primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for girls divided by primary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for boys	1.00
7.10	MDG 3.1	Gender parity index (secondary school)	Secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for girls divided by secondary school net attendance ratio (adjusted) for boys	1.11

Figure 5: Education indicators by sex, Thailand MICS, 2015-16



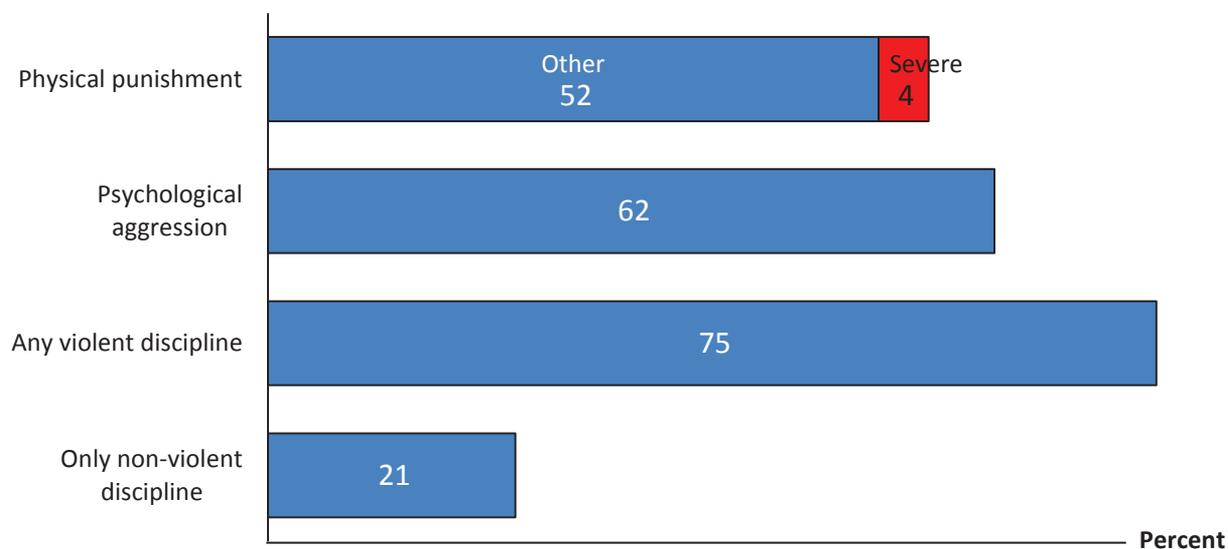
Note: All indicator values are in percent

CHILD PROTECTION

Birth registration			
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
8.1	Birth registration	Percentage of children under age 5 whose births are reported registered	99.5

Child discipline			
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
8.3	Violent discipline	Percentage of children age 1-14 years who experienced psychological aggression or physical punishment during the last one month	75.2

Figure 6: Child disciplining methods, children age 1-14 years, Thailand MICS, 2015-16



Early marriage and polygyny			
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
8.4	Marriage before age 15	Percentage of people age 15-49 years who were first married or in union before age 15 (a) women (b) men	4.3 1.7
8.5	Marriage before age 18	Percentage of people age 20-49 years who were first married or in union before age 18 (a) women (b) men	21.3 8.0
8.6	Young people age 15-19 years currently married or in union	Percentage of young people age 15-19 years who are married or in union (a) women (b) men	14.1 6.8
8.7	Polygyny	Percentage of people age 15-49 years who are in a polygynous union (a) women (b) men	3.4 2.9
8.8a 8.8b	Spousal age difference	Percentage of young women who are married or in union and whose spouse is 10 or more years older, (a) among women age 15-19 years, (b) among women age 20-24 years	7.5 15.1

Attitudes towards domestic violence			
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
8.12	Attitudes towards domestic violence	Percentage of people age 15-49 years who state that a husband is justified in hitting or beating his wife in at least one of the following circumstances: (1) she goes out without telling him, (2) she neglects the children, (3) she argues with him, (4) she refuses sex with him, (5) she burns the food (a) women (b) men	8.6 8.7

Children's living arrangements			
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value
8.13	Children's living arrangements	Percentage of children age 0-17 years living with neither biological parent	22.7
8.14	Prevalence of children with one or both parents dead	Percentage of children age 0-17 years with one or both biological parents dead	3.5
8.15	Children with at least one parent living abroad	Percentage of children 0-17 years with at least one biological parent living abroad	1.6

HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS knowledge and attitudes				
MICS Indicator	Indicator	Description	Value	
-		Have heard of AIDS	Percentage of people age 15-49 years who have heard of AIDS (a) women (b) men	96.2 95.2
9.1	MDG 6.3	Knowledge about HIV prevention among young people	Percentage of young people age 15-24 years who correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV ¹¹ , and who reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission ¹² (a) women (b) men	48.8 49.0
9.2		Knowledge of mother-to-child transmission of HIV	Percentage of people age 15-49 years who correctly identify all three means ¹³ of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (a) women (b) men	66.4 57.4
9.3		Accepting attitudes towards people living with HIV	Percentage of people age 15-49 years expressing accepting attitudes on all four questions ¹⁴ toward people living with HIV (a) women (b) men	31.6 33.0
9.4		People who know where to be tested for HIV	Percentage of people age 15-49 years who state knowledge of a place to be tested for HIV (a) women (b) men	84.7 80.3
9.5		People who have been tested for HIV and know the results	Percentage of people age 15-49 years who have been tested for HIV in the last 12 months and who know their results (a) women (b) men	9.3 8.5
9.7		HIV counselling during antenatal care	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who had a live birth in the last 2 years and received antenatal care during the pregnancy of their most recent birth, reporting that they received counselling on HIV during antenatal care	69.4
9.8		HIV testing during antenatal care	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who had a live birth in the last 2 years and received antenatal care during the pregnancy of their most recent birth, reporting that they were offered and accepted an HIV test during antenatal care and received their results	75.5

¹¹ Using condoms and limiting sex to one faithful, uninfected partner

¹² The two most common misconceptions about HIV transmission are included in the indicator calculation: i) sharing food with someone having HIV and ii) mosquito bites

¹³ Transmission during pregnancy, during delivery, and by breastfeeding

¹⁴ People (1) who think that a female teacher who is HIV-positive and is not sick should be allowed to continue teaching, (2) who would buy fresh vegetables from a shopkeeper or vendor who is HIV-positive, (3) who would not want to keep secret that a family member is HIV-positive, and (4) who would be willing to care for a family member with AIDS in own home

