

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report provides the National/Provincial findings of the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLM) Survey 2005-06. During this round, 15453 households were covered across urban and rural communities. Information was collected from households on a range of social sector issues. These are primarily focussed on the sectors covered under Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and monitor UN MDGs i.e. Education, Health, Population Welfare, Immunisation, Pre/Post Natal care, Family planning and Water supply and sanitation.

To study the behaviour variation of main indicators between different groups, the information is presented disaggregated by province, by region (urban-rural) and by gender. Presenting information from the PSLM 2005-06, this report also provides information from the earlier round of PSLM 2004-05 and Pakistan Integrated Household Surveys (PIHS) 2001-02, wherever comparable information is available from these surveys. Thus the report can be used to assess trends in Pakistan's social indicators since 2001-02. Discussion on key findings in each sector between 2001-02, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are outline below:

Education

The Gross Enrolment Rate (GER) for primary schools (Age 5-9) has slightly increased from 86 percent in 2004-05 to 87 percent in 2005-06. The Net Enrolment Rate (NER) is 53 percent in 2005-06, substantially lower than the Gross Enrolment Rate because of the enrolment of overage children in primary school; however, it remained at same level of 2004-05. The PSLM collects information on enrolment in all types of schools i.e. public, private and also deeni madaris. The PSLM round shows decrease in the share of primary enrolments that are in government schools. The overall share has declined from 72 percent in 2004-05 to 65 percent in 2005-06.

The GER (Age 10-12) for middle level has increased from 46 to 49 percent where as the NER remained same at 18 percent. However, as usual a large difference remains between urban and rural areas in middle level enrolment rates.

The Matric Level (Age 13-14) GER is 44 percent and NER is 10 percent in PSLM 2005-06 follows the same pattern as in 2004-05. However, the gap between the two surveys is very small and the real impact will be observable after Four/Five years when the existing primary level Cohort will reach at middle & Matric Level.

Further the comparison of different GERs and NERs have been carried out using official age group brackets at Primary, Middle and Matric Levels. However, on users demand the tables have also been worked out using different age brackets.

There has been a slight increase in the proportion of persons (10 years & above) who report that they are literate. This has risen from 53 percent in 2004-05 to 54 percent the 2005-06.

Health

In Health section, the PSLM report includes immunisation, diarrhoea, infant mortality rate and the use of pre and post-natal services.

Two measures of immunisation coverage are presented. Based on mother's recall, at least one immunisation has increased from 83 percent to 94 percent in 2005-06. The measure that includes mothers' recall as well as record of full immunisations given to one year old children shows decline from 77 percent to 71 percent which is possibly due to mixing up of polio campaign in 2004-05 with the routine immunisation by the respondents (recall errors). Full immunisation rates based only on health cards remained at same level of 2004-05 i.e. 49 percent. While analyzing by antigen, all show an increase in coverage.

There has been shown decline in the proportion of children under five suffering from diarrhoea i.e. from 16 to 12 percent, but Sindh and Balochistan provinces has shown significant decrease from 18 percent to 8 percent and 13 percent to 4 percent respectively in 2005-06.

About 52 percent of mothers in 2005-06 had a pre-natal consultation compared to 50 percent in 2004-05 during their last pregnancy. Prenatal consultations were much more common in urban than in rural areas but there is also considerable improvement in rural areas. There is increasing trend both in urban and rural area to consult Private Hospitals/clinics and which is also significant i.e. from 42 percent to 48 percent in 2005-06. Fewer women go for post-natal consultations and it still remains low i.e. 22 percent in 2005-06.

Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) an indicator of deaths of children under one year also reflects significant improvement. The IMR has declined from 82 per thousand live births in 2001-02 to 70 per thousand live births in 2005-06.

Some 62 percent of pregnant women received Tetanus Toxoid injection in 2005-06 compared to 51 percent in 2004-05.

Population Welfare

Many population welfare indicators show improving trends, although PSLM estimates are sometimes different from estimates given by specialist demographic surveys. Contraceptive use has increased to 26 percent in 2005-06 from 19 percent in 2001-02. Knowledge of at least one contraceptive method is almost universal. The government is the major supplier of contraceptive methods, by the health departments and the Ministry of Population Welfare being important suppliers. Pills (97 percent) remains the most commonly used method.

Fertility has shown declining trend. Total Fertility Rate (TFR) estimated from 2005-06 for the period 2002-04 is 3.8 births per woman whereas in 2001-02 for the period 1998-00 births per woman were 4.5.

Housing, Water Supply & Sanitation

Tap water as a source of drinking water remains at the same level between 2005-06 & 2004-05 i.e. 34 percent. In Balochistan province Tap water facility has increased from 33 percent to 36 percent. Regarding the supply of drinking water large differences has been noticed across the four provinces. Balochistan and N.W.F.P depending most on the poorest sources. Water sources from Motor Pump have been increased in all provinces, particularly more than twice in Balochistan from 4 percent in 2004-05 to 9 percent in 2005-06.

Access to flush toilets remains low in rural areas; although there is evidence to suggest that it has improved from 30 percent in 2004-05 to 42 percent in 2005-06. Improvements appear to be mainly concentrated in Punjab and N.W.F.P. The improvement in rural areas in one year is quite significant particularly in NWFP (from 32 percent in 2004-05 to 48 percent in 2005-06) which will be verified from the ongoing district level PSLM Survey covering 77000 households.