



Key Findings

Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey - Jamaica
2011



MICS

unicef



CRC@25 CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

MICS Key Findings

Jamaica

The Jamaica Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was carried out in 2011 by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica. Financial and technical support was provided by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and other UN partners.

MICS is an international household survey programme developed by UNICEF. The Jamaica MICS was conducted as part of the fourth global round of MICS surveys (MICS4). MICS provides up-to-date information on the situation of children and women and measures key indicators that allow countries to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally agreed upon commitments. Additional information on the global MICS project may be obtained from www.childinfo.org.

Breastfeeding

Breast is Best

Breastfeeding is vital for an infant's health and development.

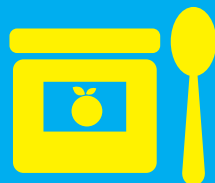
WHO/UNICEF recommend that all mothers ...



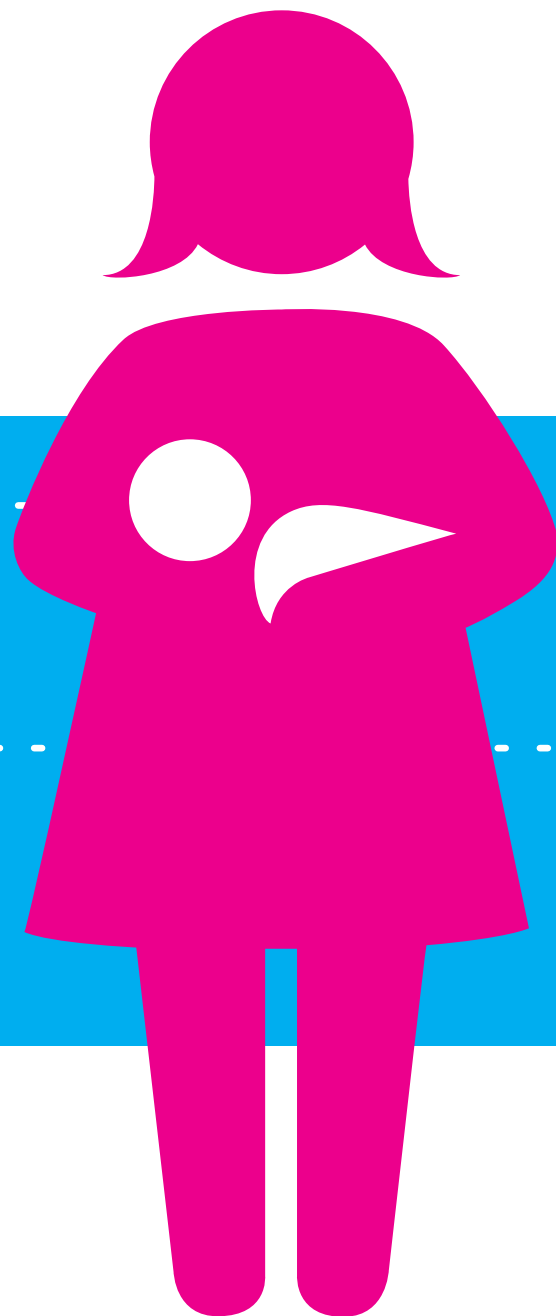
Initiate
breastfeeding
within
1 HOUR
of birth



Breastfeed
exclusively for
the first
6 MONTHS
(with continued
breastfeeding
up to 2 YEARS)



Start
complementary
foods at
6 MONTHS



National exclusive
breastfeeding rates
of children ages 0-5
have gone up

MICS
2005: **15.2%**

MICS
2011: **23.8%**

But, they are still too
low: Only **2 out of 10**
children are exclusively
breastfed during their
first **5 MONTHS**



And the periods
of exclusive
breastfeeding
are still too short.



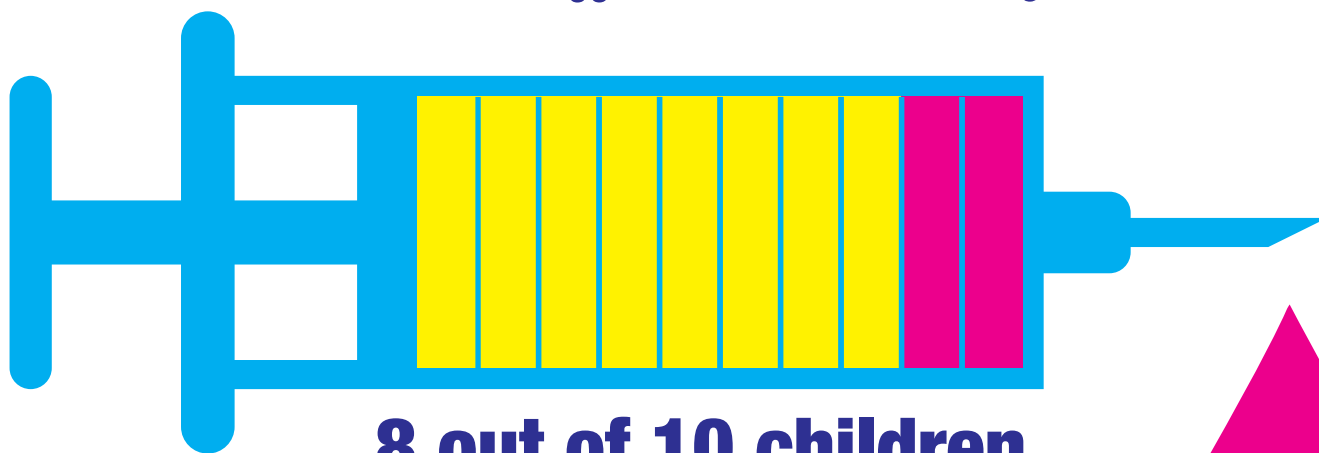
On average,
Jamaican mothers
breastfeed exclusively
for **3 WEEKS**.



Vaccinations

Immunization Saves Lives

National immunization programmes in Jamaica are key to achieving the Millennium Development Goal 4 to prevent deaths of children under **AGE 5**.



8 out of 10 children
are fully vaccinated
in their 1st year



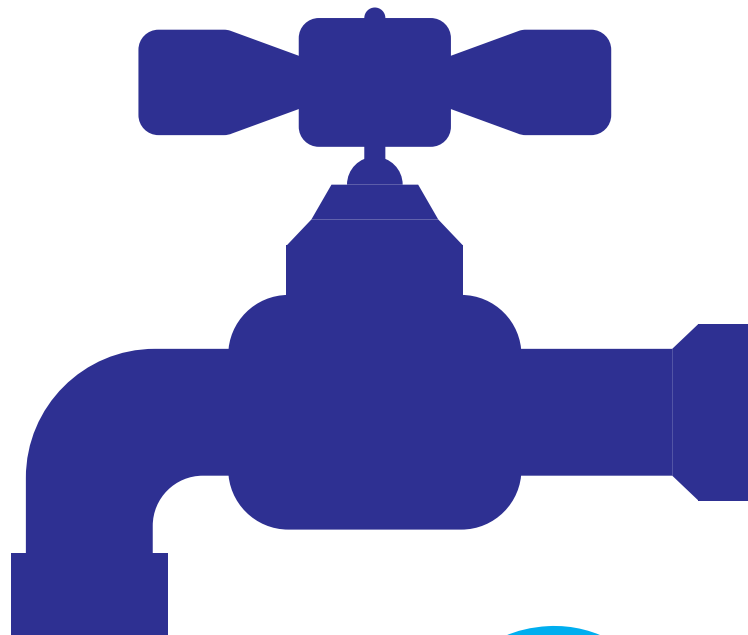
WHO/UNICEF guidelines recommend that **by 12 MONTHS**, all children should receive vaccinations for:

-  **BCG**
-  **DPT/DT (3 doses)**
-  **Polio (3 doses)**
-  **Measles**

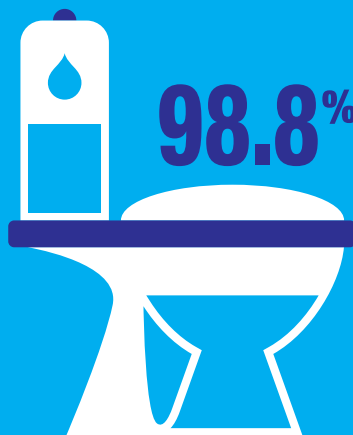
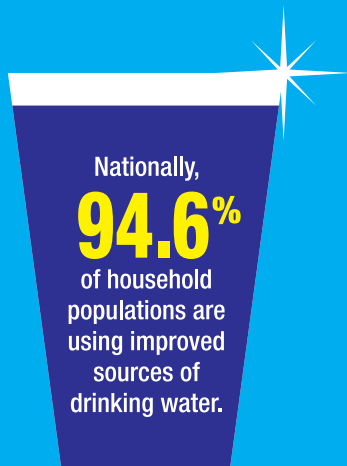
Water & Sanitation

Essentials for Every Child

Clean drinking water and proper sanitation are essentials for good health, dignity and a decent standard of living for children and their families.



Improved drinking water sources, including piped water, and improved sanitation facilities that allow for safe disposal of human excreta, lessen the risk of children contracting a host of dangerous diseases.



The reality in
Jamaica's poorest
quintile of households:

64%
are using pit latrines
with a slab cover.

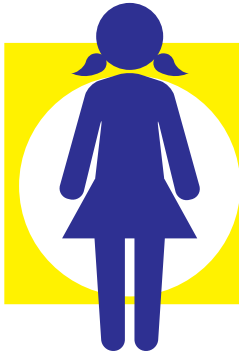
30%
have no drinking
water available on
their premises.

**Improved sanitation facilities hygienically separate human excreta from human contact. These facilities include: flush toilets, piped sewer systems, septic tanks, pit latrines (ventilated and slab covered) and pour/flush to pit latrines.*

Reproductive Health

Safe Passage at the Right Time

Early pregnancy significantly impacts the well-being of adolescent girls, particularly those in poor households and those with limited education.



Young mothers are often not equipped with important reproductive health information and far from ready to raise children. **They face a range of health, emotional and socio-economic challenges.**



20-24 year olds in the poorest households are **10 times more likely to have a child before age 18** than those in the richest households.

The **birth rate** among adolescents who have **no education or only primary level (17.7%)** is more than **twice the rate** of adolescents who have a **tertiary education (8.7%)**.



20% of young women age 20-24 with a secondary education **have had a live birth before age 18**



compared to only 5% of those with a tertiary education.

ANTENATAL CARE:

Proper antenatal care and delivery are critical for any girl or woman to bring their child into the world safely.



Nationally, **97.7% of mothers** are seen at least once by skilled personnel.



89.3% of women in the richest households are seen

4
or more
TIMES



compared to 77.3% in the poorest households.

99% of mothers have their children delivered by a skilled professional.

98.6% deliver their babies in a public or private health facility.



Early Childhood Development

The Best Foundation for Children

The early years of life are crucial.

Young children who are nurtured and cared for well are more likely to survive, enjoy good health and develop key language, emotional, social and cognitive skills.

Early stimulation, in which parents and caregivers are actively involved, is the foundation of a quality education.



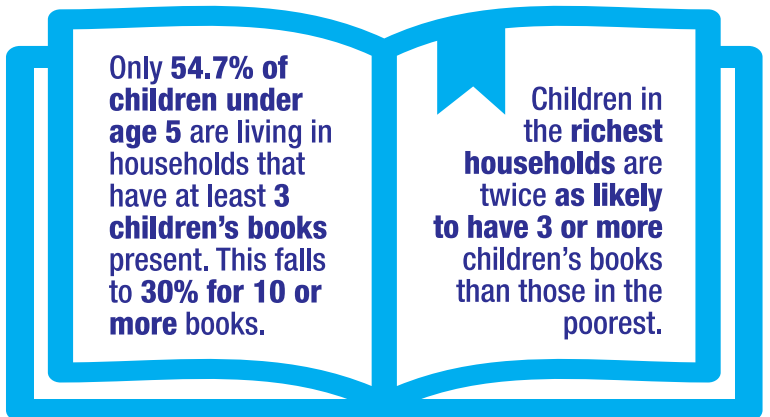
High enrolment in early childhood programmes: 91.5% of children ages 3-5 years are attending early childhood institutions.



PERCENTAGES OF CHILDREN AGE 3-5 YEARS WHO ARE DEVELOPMENTALLY ON TRACK FOR DEDICATED DOMAINS

LITERACY-NUMERACY (Rural) 56.9%

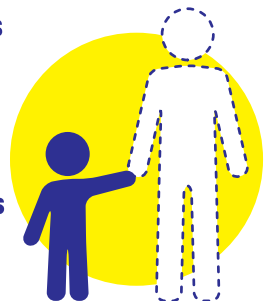
LITERACY-NUMERACY (Urban) 72.3%



Opportunities for father engagement are limited: Close to 60% of children ages 3-5 are not living with their natural father.

Nationally, father engagement is low across households of all income brackets: less than 30% of fathers of children ages 3-5 are engaged in activities that support learning.

Fathers in the richest households are more engaged: children in the poorest households are 3 times less likely to have their father engaged in activities that support learning*



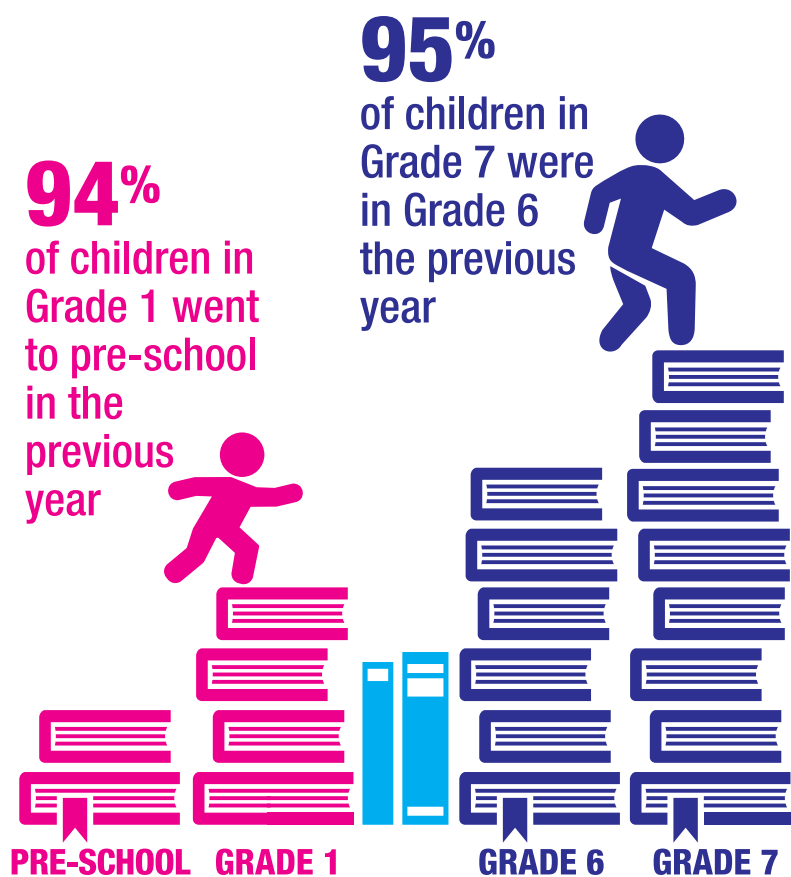
*Support for learning includes reading books, looking at picture books, telling stories, singing songs, taking children outside the home/compound/yard, playing with children, spending time with children naming, counting or drawing.

Education

Quality Education for All

Universal primary education, the second Millennium Development Goal, is crucial for the development of children and of entire nations.

Most children transition between critical points of the education system:



98%

Children of primary school age (6-11) are **attending primary school**.

91.5% of children ages 12-16 are attending secondary school. The net attendance ratio* is lowest for children:

- In the **poorest** households (87.6%),
- In **rural** areas (89.5%)
- And whose **mothers** are educated up to the primary level (88.2%)

Girls are more likely to be in primary and secondary school than boys.

102 FOR **EVERY 100**



Young women ages 20-24 are more likely to be literate (96.6%) than adolescent girls ages 15-19 (92.6%)

Net attendance ratio: Number of children attending secondary school who are of the official secondary school age (12-16), expressed as a percentage of the total number of children of official secondary school age.

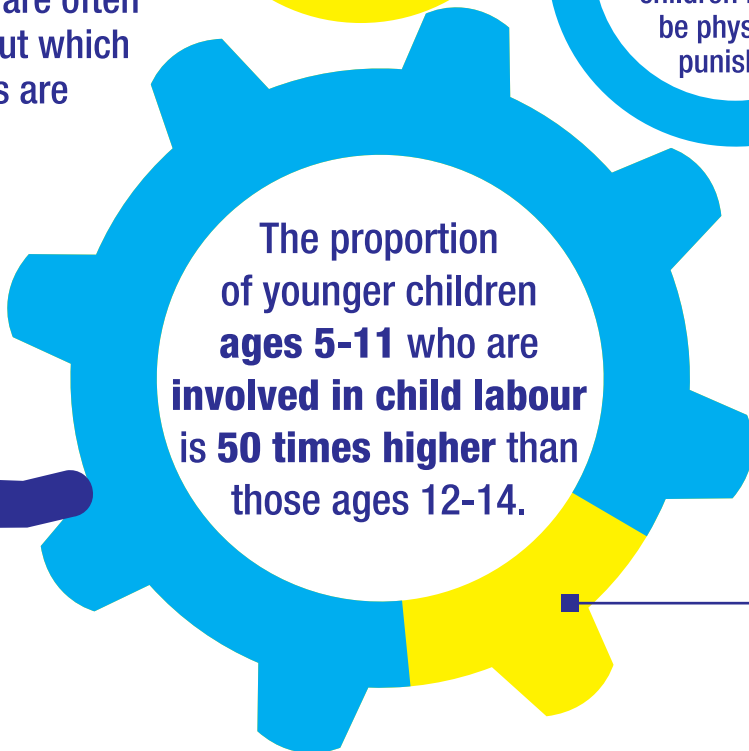
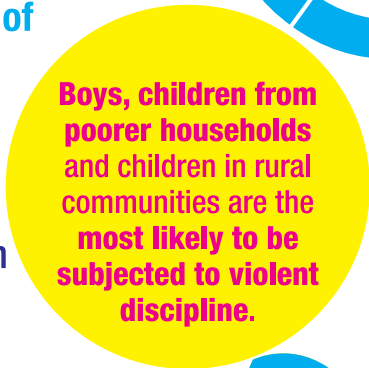
Child Protection

Protection is a Right

Every single child has the right to protection from all forms of abuse, violence and exploitation.

Pervasive violence throughout Jamaica brings immeasurable harm to children. Physical punishment as a means of disciplining children is widespread.

There is evidence that parents/caregivers and teachers are interested in alternative forms of discipline but are often uncertain about which other methods are effective.



Children in the poorest households are **8 times more likely** to be involved in child labour than those in the richest households.

Nationally, **15% of children** ages 5-11 are involved in some form of child labour**

**Violent discipline includes both psychological aggression and physical punishment.*

***MICS4 definitions of child labour: Ages 5-11: at least one hour of economic work or 28 hours of domestic work per week. Ages 12-14: at least 14 hours of economic work or 28 hours of domestic work per week.*