Mapping of Child Well-being in Saint Lucia

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ABBREVIATIONS

ALMP	Active Labour Market Policies
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSO	Central Statistics Office
EC$	Eastern Caribbean Dollar
ECCU	Eastern Caribbean Currency Union
ECE	Early Childhood Education
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOSL	Government of Saint Lucia
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MICS4	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 4 (2012)
MODA	Multiple Overlapping Deprivations Analysis
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoST	Ministry of Social Transformation Local Government and Community Empowerment
MPI	Multi-dimensional Poverty Index
NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases
NER	Net Enrolment Rate
OECD	Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
SIDS	Small Island Development States
SSNA	Social Safety Net Assessment
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WBR	Well-Being Rates
WHO	World Health Organization

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This report presents the results of an assessment of child well-being and deprivations in Saint Lucia. Following a comprehensive literature review on human development and child rights, a multi-dimensional measure of child well-being for Saint Lucia was compiled. This measure allows comparison of child well-being across various dimensions and socio-demographic decompositions. Conducting this assessment of child well-being and deprivations is entirely based on an analysis of Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 4 (MICS4) data. The analysis contains an evaluation of five different dimensions of child well-being, including material well-being, health and nutrition, education, child protection and access to information. Additionally, the report assesses overall child well-being in Saint Lucia.

With regards to material well-being, results of the analysis showed that the average child in Saint Lucia is worse off than the average adult, especially those living in rural areas, large households and households headed by a single adult. Also, children living in female-headed households tend to be more frequently materially deprived compared to their counterparts living in male-headed households.

Analysis of child well-being in the health and nutrition dimension revealed that approximately 5 per cent of Saint Lucian children are undernourished, with girls on average being better nourished than boys, and children in male-headed households being better nourished than those in female-headed households. Detailed analysis with respect to immunization of children was not possible due to the fact that MICS4 data do not contain this information.

Regarding education, the analysis reviewed different educational stages seperately, including pre-school education, primary education, secondary education and education from the age of 17 years onwards. Children from male-headed households are more likely to be enrolled in pre-school education than children in female-headed households, as are children in smaller-sized households.

Almost all children in Saint Lucia seem to attend primary school education, whereas attendance rates are considerably lower for secondary school, particularly for children living in large households. After the age of 17 years, only 54.6 per cent of children are attending some level of schooling.

Children's access to information is high; 97.4 per cent of all children have access to a TV, phone, radio or computer.

With regards to child protection in Saint Lucia, on the other hand, the average well-being rate has room for improvement. This is particularly because corporal punishment seems to be widely accepted as a method to restore discipline: 40 per cent of children are subject to a harsh discipline at home.

All in all, the overall average child well-being rate in Saint Lucia amounts to 66.1 per cent, signifying that 2 out of 3 children are well-off (i.e. in all but one dimension). As noted in the limitations of this chapter, one needs to keep in mind that - from a human rights perspective - for a child to be truly well-off she/he should be well in *all* dimensions. Taking this approach would result in a lower overall child well-being rate in Saint Lucia than the one noted above.

Improvement in the overall child well-being rate could, amongst other interventions, be achieved through improvements in the domains of child protection and sanitation facilities, especially in rural areas. Children living in large families and those living with a single adult also deserve extra attention since these children are frequently comparably worse off.

1 Introduction

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"The true character of a society is revealed in how it treats its children."

Nelson Mandela, 1997

Children are the future. They are also the most vulnerable part of society, and their well-being should therefore be central to policy consideration. For any country to achieve sustained growth and shared prosperity its children must be safe, healthy and well-educated.

In order to assess the adequacy of Saint Lucia's resources and policies dedicated to improving children's lives, it is necessary to monitor the situation of its children. By regularly analysing child well-being and deprivation as part of the policy-making process, the most pressing challenges are revealed. This ensures that effective policies are designed for children and that financial resources are allocated where they are needed most.

The findings in this report are the results of an evaluation of child well-being and deprivation based on analysis of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 4 (MICS4) data.

Multiple measures of child well-being in Saint Lucia were taken into account which allows for comparison between the situations of children from various different socio-demographic backgrounds. Five dimensions of child well-being were evaluated, including material well-being, health and nutrition, education, child protection and access to information.

Data

The MICS is a standard survey featuring a range of questions related to child well-being. The main sections focus on nutrition, education, reproductive health, and housing. Although the MICS does not capture information on income/consumption and social transfers[1], it allows for a multi-dimensional approach to measure child well-being.

Supported by UNICEF, the Government of Saint Lucia, UN Women, and UNFPA, Saint Lucia's Ministry of Social Transformation, Local Government and Community Empowerment (MoST) and the Central Statistical Office of Saint Lucia conducted the MICS4 survey from March-May 2012. Three separate questionnaires were used, aimed at households, women aged 15 to 49 years and children under 5 years of age.

The survey sample was selected in two stages, using the 2010 Population and Housing Census as a sampling frame and the census enumeration districts as the preliminary sampling units (PSUs/clusters), urban and rural areas being the main strata. In total, 100 enumeration districts (40 urban and 60 rural) were selected with the probability proportional to size technique. This was followed by drawing a systematic sample of 20 households from each enumeration district resulting in a target sample of 2000 households. The final sample contains 1718 households (4922 individuals). Weights are applied in the analysis in order to obtain nationally representative results (Table A- 1 to Table A- 6 in the Annex contain more detailed information on the sample).

1 Note that since the last representative household survey containing data on income, consumption and benefits was implemented nearly nine years ago (LSM/HBS from 2005/2006), there is a lack of up-to-date information on which to assess the current poverty incidence and severity of poverty.

Methodology

Wealth index

This analysis makes use of a wealth index to measure material well-being[2]. The wealth index is an asset index that reflects households' average long-term economic status, but it cannot be used to calculate absolute poverty as it does not capture income or expenditures levels.

To display Saint Lucia's different levels of material well-being, all individuals are ranked according to their score on the wealth index and then divided into five groups of equal size – wealth quintiles – with the first quintile representing the poorest fifth of the population and the fifth quintile representing the richest fifth. This ranking is used to contrast the distribution of different groups among wealth quintiles. For instance, the ranking makes it possible to compare the well-being of someone living in an urban area with someone living in a rural areas by comparing the share of the urban population that belongs to the poorest or richest quintile with the respective population share in rural areas.

Child well-being

The methodology used for the current assessment draws upon the latest methods developed for analysis of child well-being and deprivation. A multi-dimensional index was constructed following the methodology used for assessment of child well-being in Kazakhstan (Roelen & Gassmann, 2012). This method is derived from previous studies such as Gordon and Nandy (2007), Gordon et al. (2003), Roelen et al. (2009) and UNICEF (2011). It is analogous to the method for calculation of the multi-dimensional poverty index (MPI) developed by Alkire and Santos (2010) in its logic of construction of the composite index by aggregation of weighted indicators. However, the index used here differs from the MPI in that it allows for setting weights at two stages in the aggregation, first at the indicator level and then at the dimension level.

The indicators and dimensions included in the measure as well as the threshold levels are adapted to the specific context of Saint Lucia. This analysis looks at the achievement (well-being) in the various domains as opposed to the deprivations.

The selected indicators and domains reflect the main dimensions of child well-being at each stage of the life cycle, following the method used for defining indicators and domains in the Multiple Overlapping Deprivations Analysis (MODA)[3]. Therefore, the well-being index of children at different ages is made up of slightly different domains – for example, nutrition is included as a dimension for children under the age of 5 years since it is crucial for child health and development at this very early age, while access to information is included as a dimension only for children over the age 5 since it is considered very important for child development from this age onward.

The main domains included in the well-being measure are housing, water and sanitation, nutrition (for children under 5 years of age), education (for children over 2 years of age), child protection, and access to information (for children over 5 years of age). The relevant indicators and dimensions selected for each age group are listed in Table 1-1 below (a detailed description of the indicators and thresholds can be found in Table A-8 in the Annex).

2 The wealth index is constructed using information about ownership of household assets (such as types of floor, roof, wall, type of cooking fuel, radio, television, mobile phone, land line phone, bicycle, motorcycle, boat, car/truck, source of drinking water, type of sanitation facility). Through principal component analysis each asset is assigned a specific weight, and a wealth score is calculated for each household. For a detailed description of the wealth index methodology, see Rutstein and Johnson (2004) and Filmer and Pritchett (2001).

3 MODA is a method for analysis of multiple child deprivations developed by the UNICEF Office of Research. For a detailed explanation of the method, please refer to the MODA Technical Note (Neubourg, Chai, Milliano, Plavgo, & Wei, 2012).

Table 1-1: Dimensions and indicators included in the composite child well-being index per age group

Dimensions	Indicators				
Age groups	*0-2*	*3-4*	*5-11*	*12-16*	*17*
Housing	Dwelling with proper floor				
	Dwelling with proper roof				
	Dwelling with proper walls				
Water and sanitation	Access to safe drinking water				
	Distance to drinking water				
	Access to hygienic toilet				
Health: Nutrition	Height for age		n.a.		
	Weight for age				
	Weight for height				
Education	n.a.	School attendance			
Child protection	No harsh discipline				No harsh discipline
	Birth registration				
	Not engaged in child labour				
Access to information	n.a.	Assets for information and communication in the household			

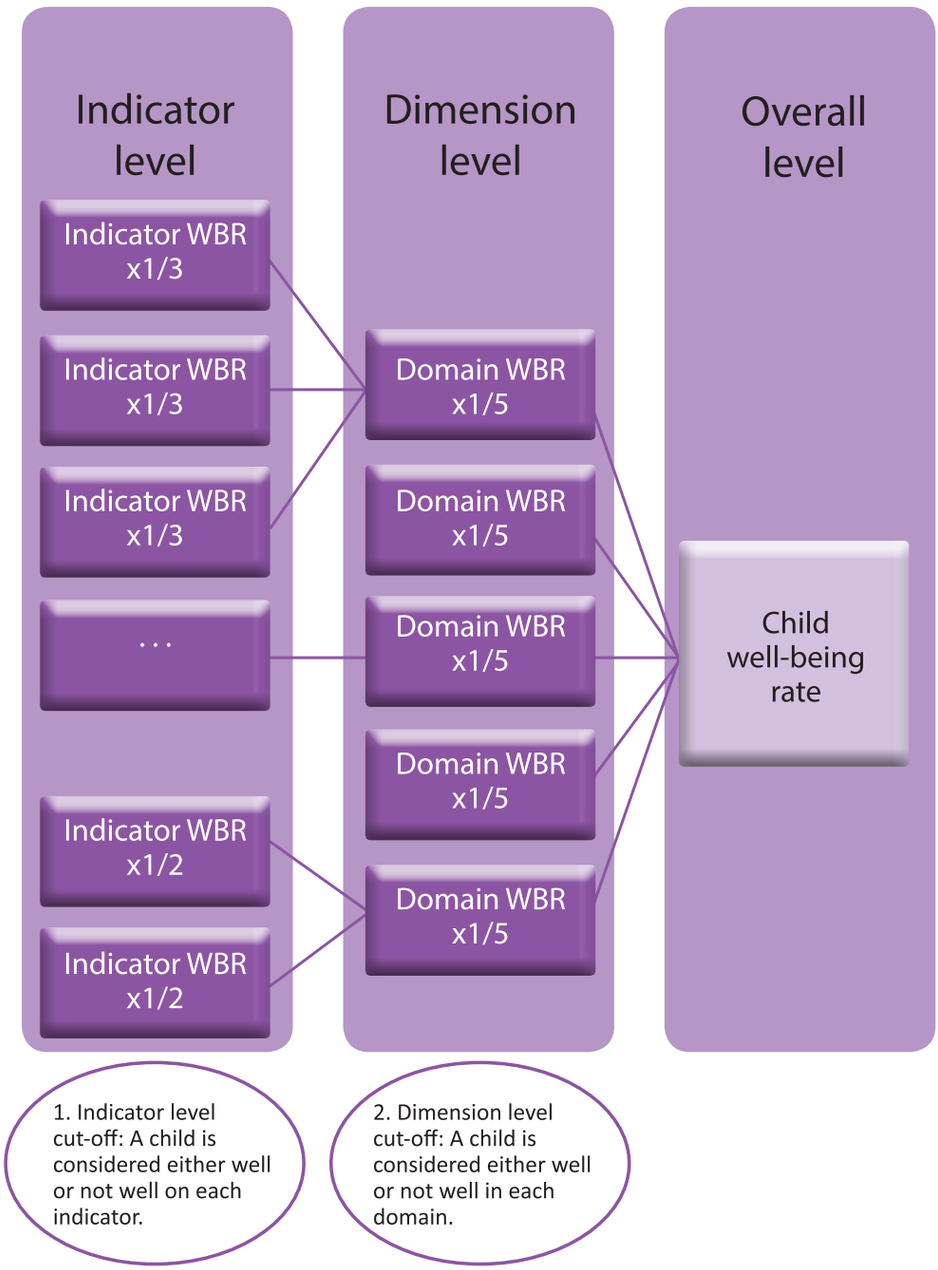
Source: Authors' compilation. Note: For detailed definitions of the indicators, see Table A-8 in the Annex.

As a first step, indicator well-being rates (WBR) are calculated representing children who are considered "well" in a particular indicator as a share of all children for which the indicator is relevant. The next step is to aggregate the indicator information to produce domain-level well-being rates, and further, total child well-being rates. These aggregated figures allow for the comparison of well-being in different domains across various demographic groups.

Following the methodology used by Roelen and Gassmann (2012), the calculation of the composite index differentiation is made between indicator and dimension weights. First, the indicators are assigned equal weight within the dimensions. Then, all dimensions are weighted equally and summed up to generate a total well-being score (see Figure 11 below for illustration). This allows the assigning of different indicator and dimension weights for different age groups, depending on the number of indicators and dimensions included for the given group.

During the aggregation, a cut-off point is necessary to determine whether a child is well-off or not. Since the indicators included in this child well-being index are based on child rights, all indicators are considered essential. Therefore, in order to calculate well-being in each dimension the unity approach is used. In other words, a child is considered well-off in a specific dimension only if she/he is well in all of the indicators included in that dimension. On the aggregate level, however, a less strict approach is chosen to allow for more meaningful comparisons, a threshold for defining well-being at the aggregate level is set at a normative 70 per cent. This level of the cut-off, which is in line with the threshold selected in the construction of the MPI, allows a child to be considered well-off, even when she/he is well-off in all but one of the dimensions.

Figure 1-1: Methodology: Child well-being rate



Limitations

The availability of recent survey data poses certain limitations to the current analysis of child well-being. The choice of multi-dimensional well-being indicators is constrained by the information available in the MICS4 carried out in Saint Lucia in 2012. The lack of data on income/consumption of households does not allow a monetary indicator of well-being to be included in the measure. For the same reason, calculation of up-to-date monetary poverty rates, depth of poverty and income/consumption inequality could not be carried out. Another data constraint is related to assessment of child well-being in health as the MICS4 questionnaire for Saint Lucia does not contain questions related to vaccinations of children. Furthermore, the lack of information on employment status and social benefits limits the options for comparison of well-being across groups of different socio-economic status.

Additionally, the sample design of the MICS4 in Saint Lucia does not allow some common decompositions. In particular, the geographical decomposition of well-being rates in this analysis is restricted to a comparison between rural and urban areas due to the fact that the survey is not representative at the district level.

Finally, like other quantifiable measures, the design of the composite well-being measure itself can be considered a limitation in the current analysis as it cannot extensively capture the complexity of factors shaping children's experiences. In particular, the indicators included in each dimension and the respective thresholds chosen are based on minimum standards – necessary, but not always sufficient for a child to live well. Thus, the well-being scores in the different dimensions simply indicate the presence of conditions essential for well-being, and at best can only approximate actual well-being. In addition, it should be noted that the definition of overall child well-being in this assessment (i.e. allowing a child to be considered well-off on the aggregate level even if she/he is not well-off in one of the dimensions included), although more suitable for analytical purposes, can be criticised from a human rights perspective since in principle all child rights should be adhered to in order for a child to be truly well-off overall.

2 Dimensions

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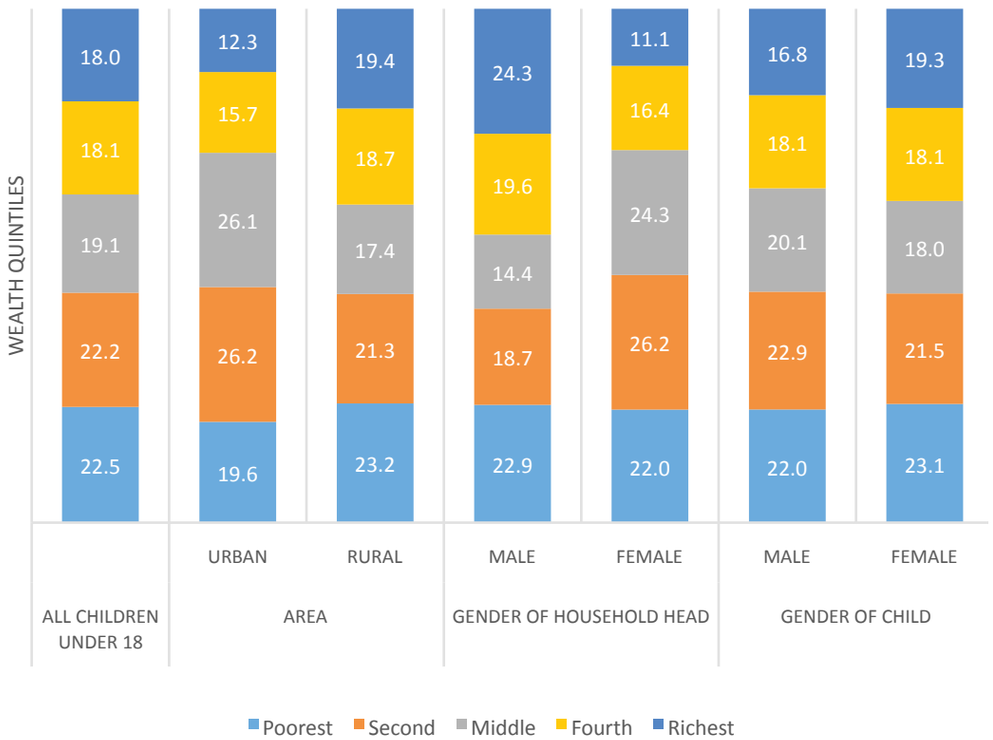
2.1 Material Well-being

Children's material well-being is measured through their distribution over wealth quantiles as well as through indicators for quality of housing and access to water and sanitation.

Wealth

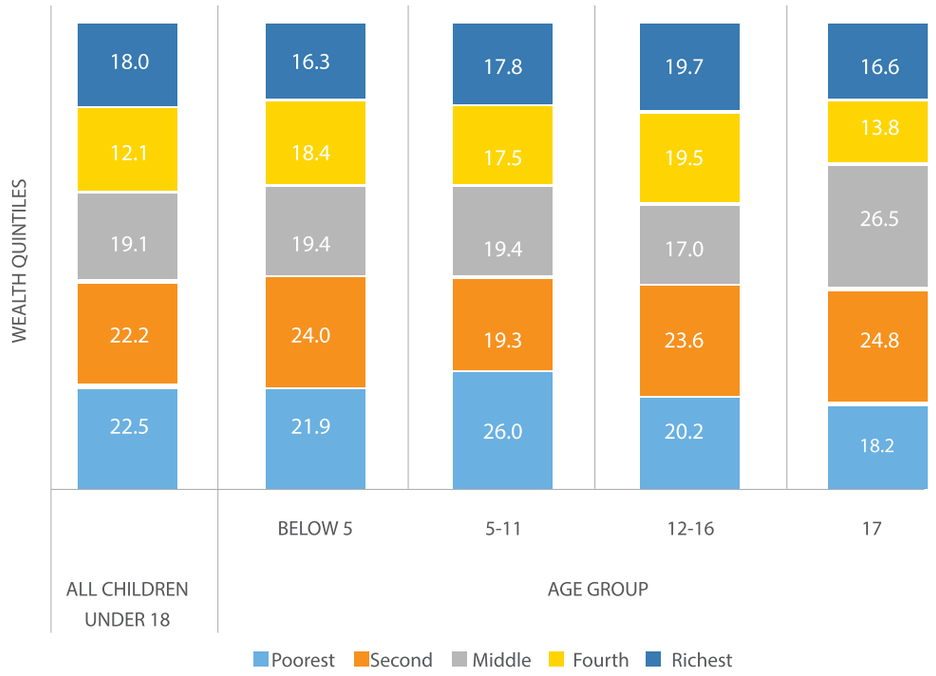
Based on the wealth index, children (persons under the age of 18 years) on average tend to be worse-off than adults. A larger number of children are concentrated in the lower quintiles of wealth distribution – 22.5 per cent of all children under the age of 18 years belong to the poorest quintile and 22.2 per cent are among persons in the second fifth. Children in rural areas are more likely to belong to the poorest fifth of the population than those living in urban areas, with shares in the poorest quintile of respectively 23.2 per cent and 19.6 per cent. There is no clear difference between the wealth distribution among boys and girls. Children from households with a female head are concentrated in the second and middle quintiles, while the distribution of wealth among children from male-headed households is more polarized with larger shares of children in the two ends of the wealth ranking (see Figure 2-1).

Figure 2-1: Distribution of children among wealth quintiles, as a percentage



Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. Note: For an explanation of the wealth quintiles, please refer to the methodology section of this chapter. The differences in wealth distribution are statistically significant at the 1% level between areas and gender of household head, but not between boy and girls.

Figure 2-2: Distribution of children among wealth quintiles, as a percentage



Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* For explanation of the wealth For an explanation of the wealth quintiles please refer to the methodology section of this chapter. There is no statistically significant difference in the distribution of children from different age groups.

When it comes to age group, although the 5-11-year-old group seems to be more concentrated in the bottom quintile, the difference in distribution of children from different age groups across wealth quintiles is not statistically significant. Children in households with five or more members are clearly worse-off than those living in smaller households. Children living with a single adult are also noticeably concentrated in the lower part of wealth distribution; those in the two richest quintiles are 23.0 per cent altogether, while the share that belongs to the poorest quintile alone is 25.1 per cent (see Figure 2-2 and Figure 2-3).

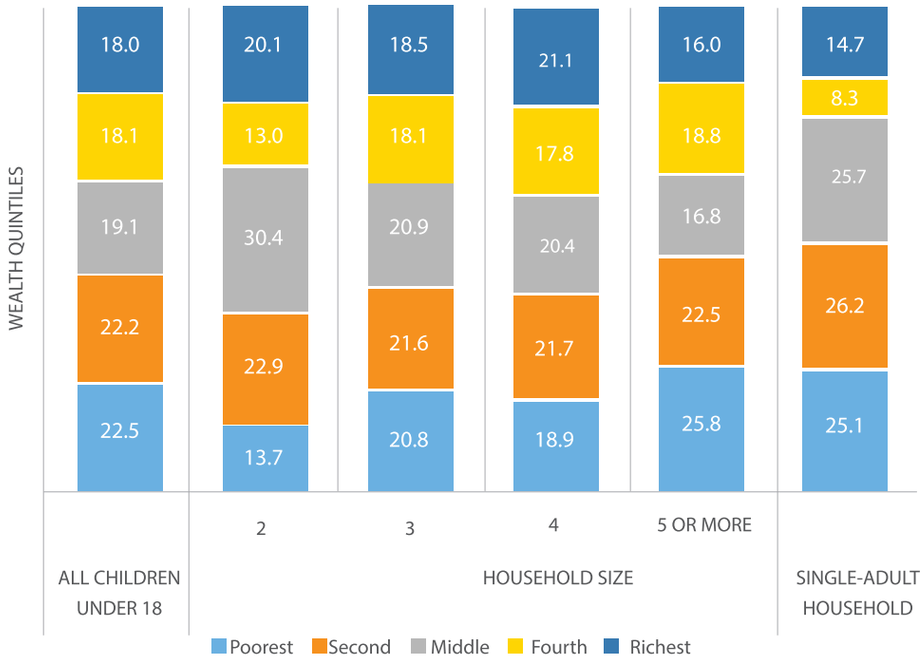
Housing, water and sanitation

In total, 63.9 per cent of children in Saint Lucia live in homes with finished floors, roofs and walls (see Table 2-1). In rural areas, this share is 64.9 per cent. In urban areas, however, children enjoying good housing conditions are a smaller percentage, 60.1 per cent. Virtually all households with children have a finished roof, while 85 per cent of all children live in homes with a finished floor, and 66.6 per cent in dwellings with finished walls[4].

When it comes to overall housing conditions, children living in female-headed households tend to be worse-off than those living in households with a male head, with well-being rates of 61.3 per cent and 66.4 per cent respectively. Children in households with a single adult (i.e. one person over the age of 18) is another group at higher risk of living in bad housing condition with the well-being rate among them being 59.6 per cent. The lowest housing well-being rate, 58.5 per cent, is found among households with three or more children. Not every household in Saint Lucia can afford to own a transportation vehicle. Only about a third of all children live in a household which owns a car,

4 For definition of proper/finished floor, roof and walls, see Annex.

Figure 2-3: Distribution of children among wealth quintiles, in %



Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* For an explanation of the wealth quintiles, please refer to the methodology section of this chapter. There is no statistically significant difference in the distribution of children living in households with different size. The difference between children in single-adult households and children on average is statistically significant at the 1% level.

truck or boat. Moreover, when looking at female-headed households or single adult homes, the share of children from households owning means of transportation is less than 20 per cent.

Table 2-2 shows that the child well-being rate for the water and sanitation domain is 70.6 per cent. Most of the children in Saint Lucia have access to safe drinking water (95.7 per cent). However, the number of children with access to a hygienic toilet is rather low (73.3 per cent) – more than a quarter of all children live in dwellings lacking proper toilet facilities. In rural areas, this problem is larger than in urban areas. The water and sanitation well-being rate is particularly low among large households with three or more children (61.6 per cent), meaning that about 38 per cent of all children from these households have no access to a hygienic toilet.

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Table 2-1: Child well-being indicators and child well-being rates, housing domain, as a percentage of all children

Housing indicators	Area		Gender of household head		Gender of the child		Size of the household				Number of children in the household			Household with a single adult	Total
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Male	Female	2	3	4	5 or more	1	2	3 or more		
Child well-being rate, age 0-17		*											**	**	
Child lives in house with proper floor	83.4	85.4	85.9	84.1	83.3	87.0	86.0	87.5	88.3	82.5	90.9	87.9	78.9	83.6	85.0
Child lives in house with proper roof	99.2	99.9	99.6	99.9	99.9	99.6	99.3	99.4	100.0	99.8	99.5	100.0	99.7	99.8	99.8
Child lives in house with proper wall	62.2	67.7	69.7	63.2	67.6	65.6	72.2	64.9	68.5	65.8	71.6	68.7	61.8	63.7	66.6
Well-being rate, children under 18 years of age	**60.1**	**64.9**	**66.4**	**61.3**	**64.5**	**63.3**	**67.2**	**61.7**	**65.9**	**63.4**	**68.5**	**67.0**	**58.5**	**59.6**	**63.9**

Source: Authors' calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* A child is considered well with respect to housing if she/he lives in a house with proper floor, roof and walls. Taking into account the development level of Saint Lucia, we consider a dwelling with natural or rudimentary (not finished) floor, roof or walls improper. Please refer to the table in the Annex for a detailed description of each indicator. * = the difference is statistically significant at the 10%-level; ** = the difference is statistically significant at the 5%-level; *** = the difference is statistically significant at the 1%-level.

Table 2-2: Child well-being indicators and child well-being rates, water and sanitation domain, as a percentage of all children

Water and sanitation indicators	Area		Gender of household head		Gender of the child		Size of the household				Number of children in the household			Household with a single adult	Total
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Male	Female	2	3	4	5 or more	1	2	3 or more		
Child well-being rate, age 0-17		***								***			***		
Access to safe drinking water	98.6	95.0	94.6	97.0	95.3	96.2	96.5	93.9	97.3	95.4	94.8	96.4	95.8	97.5	95.7
Distance to drinking water	99.4	98.4	99.0	98.1	98.6	98.6	100.0	97.4	99.3	98.5	98.4	99.2	98.3	100.0	98.6
Access to hygienic toilet	82.1	71.2	72.9	73.7	73.2	73.4	87.6	79.0	79.2	67.0	87.3	76.4	61.6	71.6	73.3
Well-being rate, children under 18 years of 18	**81.1**	**68.1**	**69.7**	**71.6**	**69.9**	**71.4**	**85.9**	**75.8**	**76.6**	**64.4**	**83.6**	**74.3**	**59.1**	**71.0**	**70.6**

Source: Authors' calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* A child is considered well with respect to water and sanitation if she/he has access to safe drinking water, if the water source is not more than 15 minutes away, and if there is a hygienic toilet in the dwelling. Please refer to the table in the Annex for a detailed description of each indicator. * = the difference is statistically significant at the 10%-level; ** = the difference is statistically significant at the 5%-level; *** = the difference is statistically significant at the 1%-level.

2.2 Health

Proper nutrition is a powerful good: children who are well nourished are more likely to be healthy, productive and able to learn. According to data from the MICS4, 89 per cent of children under the age of one in Saint Lucia are well nourished, meaning that they are not considered to be underweight, stunted or wasting. For children aged 1-2 years and 3-4 years this percentage is respectively 96.6 and 95.5 per cent.

In total, the nutrition well-being rate among children under 5 years of age is 94.7 per cent, indicating that about 5 per cent of all children under the age of 5 years in Saint Lucia are undernourished. On average, girls tend to be better nourished than boys, with well-being rates respectively 95.9 per cent and 93.5 per cent.

Children living in female-headed households are less likely to be properly nourished; the well-being rate among them is 93.3 per cent. Also, households with more children tend to have a higher risk of undernourishment. The lower nutrition well-being rate is found among children from households with a single adult; 88.3 per cent of the children in these households are considered to be well nourished (Table 2-3).

Normally, information on immunizations of children would be used for the assessment of health well-being and deprivation of children. Previous assessments based on earlier surveys of child health in Saint Lucia show no general challenges with immunization on the island[5]. However, it is impossible to confirm that with a more recent assessment, since the MICS4 does not cover vaccinations among children. The only available survey information on immunization, is how many of the women who gave birth in the last two years received a tetanus vaccination shot during pregnancy. Of the mothers to children under the age of 1, only 38 per cent received the vaccination while pregnant. The share for 1-2-year old children whose mothers were vaccinated during pregnancy is considerably larger, 67.8 per cent. According to the survey, in total about half of the pregnant women during the period 2010-2012 did not receive a tetanus immunization (see Table A- 7 in the Annex).

Table 2-3: Child well-being indicators and child well-being rates, nutrition domain, as a percentage of all children under the age of 5 years

Nutrition indicators	Age of child				Gender of child		Total children
	0	1-2	3-4		Male	Female	0-4
Child well-being rate, age 0-4							
weight for age - not underweight	92.2	98.9	98.5	**	96.5	98.5	97.5
height for age - not stunting	97.6	96.6	98.6		96.1	99.0	97.6
weight for height - not wasting	91.3	98.9	96.9	*	96.5	96.8	96.7
Nutrition domain well-being rate	89.0	96.6	95.5	*	93.5	95.9	94.7

Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. Note: A child under 5 is considered well-nourished if she/he is not underweight, stunting or wasting. The measurement of nutrition indicators used here is based on a WHO methodology, see table in the Annex for explanation of the calculations. * = the difference is statistically significant at the 10%-level; ** = the difference is statistically significant at the 5%-level; *** = the difference is statistically significant at the 1%-level.

5 See Kairi Consultants (2006)

2.3 Education

Universal access to primary basic education was established as as an integral component to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Education – specifically free primary school for all children – is a fundamental human right and an essential aspect of child development. School attendance is an important indicator of child well-being, and the education domain is therefore included in the analysis.

In Saint Lucia, primary school education is compulsory for children from 5 to 11 years of age, after which children attend secondary school when they are 12 to 16 years of age. Children under 5 years of age attend pre-school.

For the purpose of this analysis, a child's educational well-being is based on whether she/he is attending school at an age-corresponding level. Net school attendance rates for each age group are calculated to determine education well-being rates. The education well-being rate for children 3-4 years old is the percentage of children in that age group that attend pre-school or a programme for organized learning[6] ; for 5-11-year-old children the well-being rate is the percentage attending primary school; for 12-16-year old the share attending secondary school and finally, the well-being rate of children at the age of 17 refers to the share of children at that age who attended at least one grade in secondary school.

Children of pre-school age (3-4 years old)

Attendance of pre-school educational institutions is a key factor in early childhood development. In Saint Lucia about 85.3 per cent of children at the age of three and four attend pre-school educational programmes (see Table 2-4).

There is a noticeable difference in the educational well-being between children living in households with a male head and those living in female-headed households. Children from male-headed households are more likely to attend pre-school education programmes; hence they are better-off when it comes to early childhood education (ECE). Their total well-being rate in education is 92.9 per cent, compared to 76.1 per cent for children in female-headed households. One explanation could be that female-headed households might lack financial resources necessary to enrol a child in a pre-school programme and instead rely on other adult household members for the care of young children.

Moreover, in households where there is only one adult, the rate of 3-4 year-old children attending organized learning is as low as 65.0 per cent. The fact that more than a third of young children from these households are not enrolled in pre-school education raises the question whether single parents (4 out of 5 of which are women) are forced to remain at home to care for their young children or, alternatively, whether this task is left to some of the older siblings.

Additionally, the more children there are in a household, the less likely a child in pre-school age is to be enrolled in an ECE programme. In particular, 94.7 per cent of children from households with one child attend some form of ECE programme, while this share is considerably lower, 77.9 per cent, among children from households with three or more children.

In addition to school attendance, which is used as an education indicator in the composite measure, the development of children in pre-school age (3-4 years old) is also dependent on whether adults are involved in different activities with them, such as reading books, telling stories, playing, etc. According to data from the MICS4, 91.1 per cent of children in pre-school age are regularly engaged in such activities with adult household members.

6 Being in early education does not necessarily mean a child would be worse off being with her/his parent(s). It merely indicates that she/he has access to early education.

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Children of primary school age (5-11 years old)

The primary school net enrolment rate (NER) indicates the share of 5 to 11-year-old children enrolled in primary school. According to the MICS4, 98.3 per cent of the children in this age group were attending primary school in 2011/12. The differences in the NER between urban and rural areas are statistically insignificant. There is also no statistically significant difference between the enrolment rates of girls and boys or between children from male-headed and female-headed households (see Table 2-4). When looking at household size and the number of children in the household, it seems that the enrolment rate is slightly lower for children in larger households. However, that is also not statistically significant.

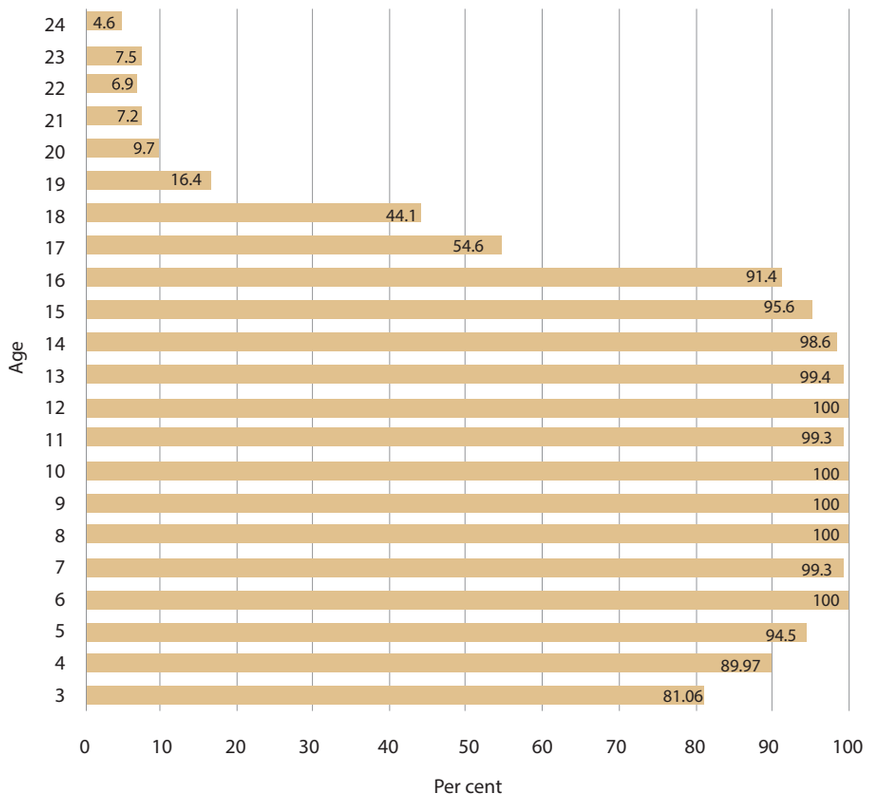
Children of secondary school age (12-16 years old)

The net attendance of secondary school is slightly lower than that of primary school. Based on the MICS4 data, the total NER in secondary school for 2011/12 was 92.4 per cent. The secondary school attendance rate among children coming from households with more than three children is visibly lower – 88.6 per cent. The enrolment rates in secondary school do not differ significantly between children of different gender or between children from male- and female-headed households.

Children at the age of 17

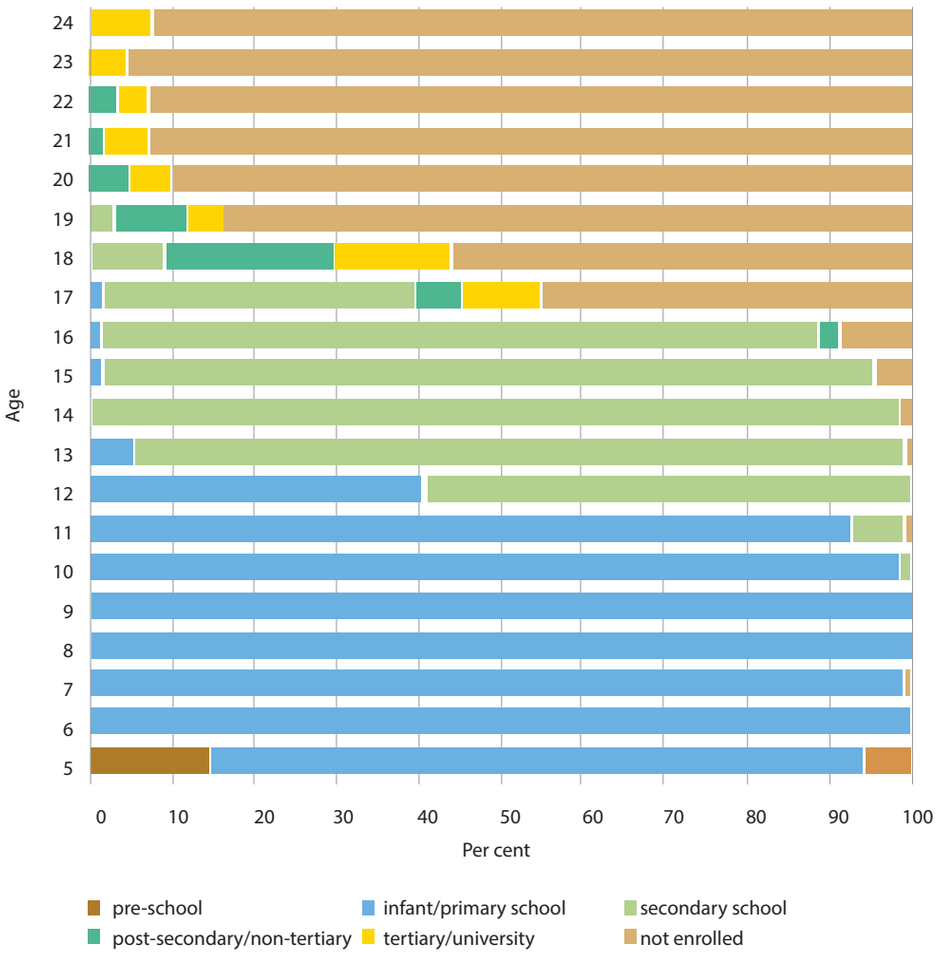
Children older than school age are considered educationally well-off if the highest education level they attended is at least secondary school. In Saint Lucia, 54.6 per cent of 17-year-olds are enrolled in some level of education and 95.3 per cent have attended at least secondary school (see Figure 2-4 and Figure 2-5) .

Figure 2-4: School attendance of children and youth (3 to 24 years old), by single age, as a percentage of all children at a certain age



Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* Children and youth counted as attending school are all children/youth attending school at any level (pre-school, primary, secondary, or tertiary).

Figure 2-5: School attendance of children and youth (3 to 24 years old), by single age and type of school, as a percentage of all children at a certain age



Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* "Infant school" refers to the first cycle (first three years of education) of primary education in Saint Lucia.

Table 2-4: Child well-being indicators and child well-being rates, education domain, by age groups, as a percentage of all children in the age group

Education domain	Area		Gender of household head		Gender of the child		Size of the household				Number of children in the household			Household with a single adult	Total
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Male	Female	2	3	4	5 or more	1	2	3 or more		
Child 3-4 attending pre-school	81.6	86.1	92.9	76.1 *	87.2	83.5	90.5	91.6	87.2	81.9	94.7	86.8	77.9 *	65.0 ***	85.3
Well-being rate, age 3-4	**81.6**	**86.1**	**92.9**	**76.1**	**87.2**	**83.5**	**90.5**	**91.6**	**87.2**	**81.9**	**94.7**	**86.8**	**77.9**	**65.0**	**85.3**
Child 5-11 attending primary school	98.5	98.2	98.7	97.9	98.2	98.4	100.0	100.0	98.5	97.4	98.9	98.9	97.4	100.0	98.3
Well-being rate, age5-11	**98.5**	**98.2**	**98.7**	**97.9**	**98.2**	**98.4**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**98.5**	**97.4**	**98.9**	**98.9**	**97.4**	**100.0**	**98.3**
Child 12-16 attending secondary school	92.6	92.4	91.7	93.2	92.2	92.7	100.0	97.1	92.9	90.1	94.9	95.4	88.6 **	98.6 *	92.4
Well-being rate, aged 12-16	**92.6**	**92.4**	**91.7**	**93.2**	**92.2**	**92.7**	**100.0**	**97.1**	**92.9**	**90.1**	**94.9**	**95.4**	**88.6**	**98.6**	**92.4**
Child of age 17 attended at least secondary school	97.7	94.6	98.8	92.6	96.4	94.0	100.0	85.0	97.0	97.6	85.4	98.3	100.0 **	100.0	95.3
Well-being rate, children aged 17	**97.7**	**94.6**	**98.8**	**92.6**	**96.4**	**94.0**	**100.0**	**85.0**	**97.0**	**97.6**	**85.4**	**98.3**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**95.3**

Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* To be considered educationally well-off, a child has to attend school at a level formally corresponding to her/his age. Thus, children aged 3-4 are well-off if they attend pre-school; children aged 5-11 are well if they attend primary school; children aged 12-16 are well if they attend secondary school; and children aged 17 are considered well if the highest level they have attended is at least secondary school. See table in the Annex for a more detailed explanation of each indicator. * = the difference is statistically significant at the 10%-level; ** = the difference is statistically significant at the 5%-level; *** = the difference is statistically significant at the 1%-level.

Table 2-5: Child well-being indicators and child well-being rates, access to information domain, as a percentage of all children in the age group

Access to information domain	Area		Gender of household head		Gender of the child		Size of the household				Number of children in the household			Household with a single adult	Total
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Male	Female	2	3	4	5 or more	1	2	3 or more		
Child 5-17 has access to information															
Well-being rate, children of age 5-17	**96.8**	**97.5**	**98.4**	**96.3** *	**97.4**	**97.4**	**97.9**	**95.0**	**98.2**	**97.6**	**97.7**	**97.5**	**97.0**	**96.1**	**97.4**

Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* See table in the Annex for a more detailed explanation of this indicator. * = the difference is statistically significant at the 10%-level; ** = the difference is statistically significant at the 5%-level; *** = the difference is statistically significant at the 1%-level.

2.4 Access to Information

Access to information is recognized as an important factor for a child's development from a certain age (Neubourg, Chai, Milliano, Plavgo, & Wei, 2012). Thus, access to information and communication technologies is included as a dimension in the well-being index for children aged 5-17 years. The well-being rate pertaining to access to information shows the share of children living in households that own either i) a TV/radio and a fixed-line/mobile phone, or ii) a computer or internet service, or all of these. In total, the access to information well-being rate is very high, 97.4 per cent. That is not surprising given the development level of the island. Table 2-6 shows the well-being rates in access to information across different demographic groups. The only statistically significant difference is that children from female-headed households are less likely to be well-off with regards to access to information than children from male-headed households, with respective well-being rates of 96.3 per cent and 98.4 per cent.

Table 2-6: Child well-being indicators and child well-being rates, access to information domain, as a percentage of all children in the age group

Access to information	Area		Gender of household head		Gender of the child		Size of the household				Number of children in the household			House-hold with a single adult	Total
domain	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Male	Female	2	3	4	5 or more	1	2	3 or more		
Child 5-17 has access to information															
Well-being rate, children of age 5-17	**96.8**	**97.5**	**98.4**	**96.3** *	**97.4**	**97.4**	**97.9**	**95.0**	**98.2**	**97.6**	**97.7**	**97.5**	**97.0**	**96.1**	**97.4**

Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. Note: See table in the Annex for a more detailed explanation of this indicator. * = the difference is statistically significant at the 10%-level; ** = the difference is statistically significant at the 5%-level; *** = the difference is statistically significant at the 1%-level.

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2.5 Child Protection

The child protection domain includes indicators of domestic violence, birth registration rates and child labour. Taking into account whether a child has been subject to harsh discipline at home and evaluating adults' perception of physical punishment allows the approximation of the child well-being in domestic violence. That, in combination with birth registration for younger children and child labour rates for older children gives an indication of the well-being of children in the child protection domain. The child protection domain reveals rather low well-being rates for children in Saint Lucia. For younger children, 0-4 and 5-11 years old, the child protection well-being rates are 46.4 per cent and 49.7 per cent respectively. From the age of 12 onwards the well-being rates are slightly higher. as shown in Table 61 the share of children not being subject to harsh discipline is quite low – 57.2 per cent, this proportion being even lower among households with more than one child. Also, approximately one in five children lives with adults who favour severe methods of punishment (see Table 2-7).

Birth registration rates among children under the age of 5 years are 88.7 per cent. Children living in larger households, which have more children, are less likely to be registered than children from smaller households: 85 per cent of children from households with 3 or more children are registered after birth, compared to 92.3 per cent of children from 1-child households and 93.6 per cent of single children from households with a single adult.

As for child labour, the data indicates that it does exist, but in low percentages. Less than 2% of children indicate that they are engaged in some form of work.

A more complete picture of child protection challenges in Saint Lucia could be determined by incorporating children with disabilities into the analysis. Data related to disability status and its related indicators in Saint Lucia is currently unavailable as part of the MICS4 analysis.

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Table 2-7: Child well-being indicators and child well-being rates, child protection domain, by age groups, as a percentage of all children in the age group

Child protection	Area		Gender of household head		Gender of the child		Size of the household				Number of children in the household			Household with a single adult	Total
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Male	Female	2	3	4	5 or more	1	2	3 or more		
Child well-being rate, age 0-4															
Child not subject to harsh discipline	54.6	61.4	57.8	63.2	56.8	63.3	51.8	62.4	48.1	65.2	66.2	51.7	62.5	54.2	60.2
Adult doesn't approve harsh punishment	83.3	80.9	81.5	81.1	83.4	79.3	64.1	80.4	75.1	85.3	83.9	75.3	84.2	71.9	81.3
Child registered at birth	90.1	88.4	89.8	87.3	88.2	89.2	93.6	91.0	87.5	88.2	92.3	90.1	85.0	81.5	88.7
Well-being rate, age 0-4	**42.9**	**47.2**	**47.3**	**45.1**	**43.3**	**49.3** *	**30.9**	**48.5**	**27.1**	**55.1**	**57.2**	**32.4**	**49.7** ***	**27.7**	**46.4**
Child well-being rate, age 5-11															
Child not subject to harsh discipline	54.6	57.9	59.1	55.2	53.4	61.4	47.0	57.9	53.5	59.9	56.5	56.1	58.6	53.4	57.2
Adult doesn't approve harsh punishment	78.5	81.3	81.9	79.5	78.8	82.8	82.5	81.4	75.6	82.8	77.5	78.1	84.9	83.0	80.7
Child not involved in child labour	99.0	97.9	98.9	97.2	96.6	99.8	94.4	98.6	98.9	98.0	97.8	99.7	97.0	96.6	98.1
Well-being rate, age 5-11	**48.0**	**50.2**	**52.6**	**46.6**	**45.9**	**53.9** **	**47.0**	**45.5**	**44.6**	**54.1**	**48.5**	**48.6**	**51.4**	**46.6**	**49.7**
Child Well Being rate, age 12-16															
Child not subject to harsh discipline	66.9	66.1	70.8	61.2	64.6	68.2	95.8	81.0	65.5	59.3	89.8	63.1	53.5	69.5	66.2
Adult doesn't approve harsh punishment	80.5	82.6	84.0	80.3	82.2	82.2	90.8	92.1	81.5	79.1	92.0	79.4	78.2	84.7	82.2
Child not involved in child labour	98.9	100.0	100.0	99.6	100.0	99.6	100.0	98.5	100.0	100.0	99.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.8
Well Being rate, age 12-16	**60.7**	**57.8**	**62.5**	**53.7** *	**59.8**	**56.6**	**86.6**	**76.4**	**60.0**	**49.3** ***	**83.7**	**55.3**	**44.4** ***	**63.4**	**58.3**
Child well-being rate, age 17															
Child not subject to harsh discipline	70.6	75.9	68.9	79.0	73.5	76.0	100.0	100.0	60.8	65.2	100.0	81.9	51.8	81.4	74.7
Adult doesn't approve harsh punishment	86.1	91.5	94.4	87.3	84.8	96.3	100.0	100.0	83.2	87.3	100.0	96.3	79.3	88.1	90.3
Well-being rate, age 17	**68.4**	**72.6**	**65.9**	**75.9**	**70.1**	**73.3**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**58.0**	**60.4** ***	**100.0**	**81.9**	**44.4** ***	**78.9**	**71.6**

Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. *Note:* See table in the Annex for a more detailed explanation of each indicator. To be considered well-off in the domain, the child has to be well in at least 70% of the indicators. * = the difference is statistically significant at the 10%-level; ** = the difference is statistically significant at the 5%-level; *** = the difference is statistically significant at the 1%-level.

3 Overall Child Well-being

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The total child well-being rates per age group are displayed in Table 3-1. The overall child well-being rate in Saint Lucia is 66.1 per cent, meaning that two out of three children on the island are relatively well-off in the overall child well-being index.

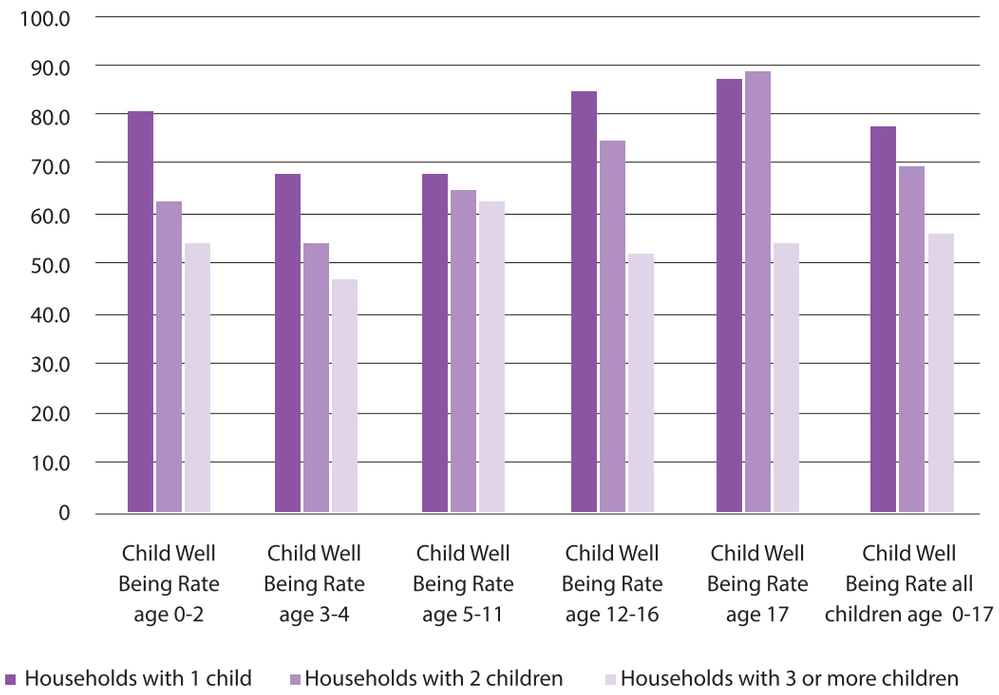
Table *3*-1: Overall well-being rates, by age group, as a percentage of all children in the age group

Overall well-being rates	*Number of observations in the sample*	*Gender of household head*		*Gender of child*		*Number of children in the household*			*Total*
		M	*F*	*M*	*F*	*1*	*2*	*3 or more*	
Child well-being rate, age 0-2	*176*	74.8	64.8	64.9	65.7	81.7	63.0	55.2	65.5
Child well-being rate, age 3-4	*124*	90.5	63.8	50.1	53.5	69.1	54.8	47.5	55.8
Child well-being rate, age 5-11	*484*	59.9	61.4	63.2	68.1	68.5	65.2	63.2	65.2
Child well-being rate, age 12-16	*452*	95.8	77.9	76.6	58.0	85.4	75.3	52.1	68.3
Child well-being rate, age 17	*102*	92.8	85.0	80.1	65.3	88.1	89.7	54.2	74.6
Child well-being rate, all children 0-17	***1338***	**81.2**	**68.7**	**68**	**62.7**	**77.8**	**69**	** **56.1**	**66.1**

Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012. Note: The differences in total child well-being rates are not statistically significant across age groups, between children of different gender, or between children living in male- and female-headed households. * = the difference is statistically significant at the 10%-level; ** = the difference is statistically significant at the 5%-level; *** = the difference is statistically significant at the 1%-level.

Comparing overall child well-being rates between rural and urban areas, between households with different gender of the household head, or between girl and boys does not show consistent results across different age groups. Also, with respect to overall well-being, as measured by the composite index, there is no statistically significant difference between these groups.The overall child well-being scores indicate that households with more children are associated with lower overall well-being rates among children (Figure 3-1). That is valid for all age groups and for most of the individual indicators.

Figure 3-1: Overall child well-being rates per age group, by number of children in the household, as a percentage of all children in the respective household type



Source: Authors' own calculations based on the MICS4 from 2012.

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4 Conclusions

This report presented a detailed assessment of Saint Lucia's children's well-being based on five different dimensions: material well-being, health and nutrition, education, child protection and access to information.

Primary and secondary school attendance rates in Saint Lucia are high, both among boys and girls. Also, there are hardly any children without access to information and communication technologies: 97.5 per cent of children have access to a computer, TV/radio and a phone at home. The only exception is in households with a female head where children are slighltly more likely to have the same kind of access.

The study revealed corporal punishment to be a major concern in the area of child protection that requires further examination. An estimated 35 per cent of children are subjected to harsh discipline at home, and close to 20 per cent of parents are in favour of physical punishment.

In general, the well-being rates in the housing and water and sanitation domains are low considering the state of Saint Lucia's development. According to the MICS4, about 36 per cent of children did not live in proper dwellings in 2012, and 30 per cent did not have access to hygienic toilets or drinking water. Children from households with a single adult and children from urban areas seem to be worse-off with respect to housing conditions. Children living in rural areas, on the other hand, are characterized by even lower well-being rates in the water and sanitation domain, mainly due to a lack of proper toilet facilities. The majority of households on the island do not own a means of transportation, and therefore rely on public transportfor mobility.

When it comes to material well-being, children in Saint Lucia are, on average, worse off than adults. Analysis of child well-being in the health and nutrition domain revealed that approximately 5 per cent of children are undernourished. With respect to education, the analysis indicated that most of the children in Saint Lucia attend primary school education, whereas attendance rates are considerably lower for secondary school, particularly among children living in large households.

All in all, the overall average child well-being rate in Saint Lucia amounts to 66.1 per cent, which meansthat approximately two out of three children are well-off when a relaxed measure of well-being is applied (the measure allows a child to be considered well-off even when she/he is deprived in one dimension). Potentially, overall child well-being rates can be improved by interventions in the areas of child protection and sanitation, especially in rural areas. Children living in large families and those living with a single adult deserve extra attention since these children are frequently comparatively worse off.

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6 Annex

Table *A*- 1: Number of households and individuals in the sample

MICS4 SAMPLE	TOTAL
Total number of households in the sample:	1,718
Total number of individuals in the sample:	4,922

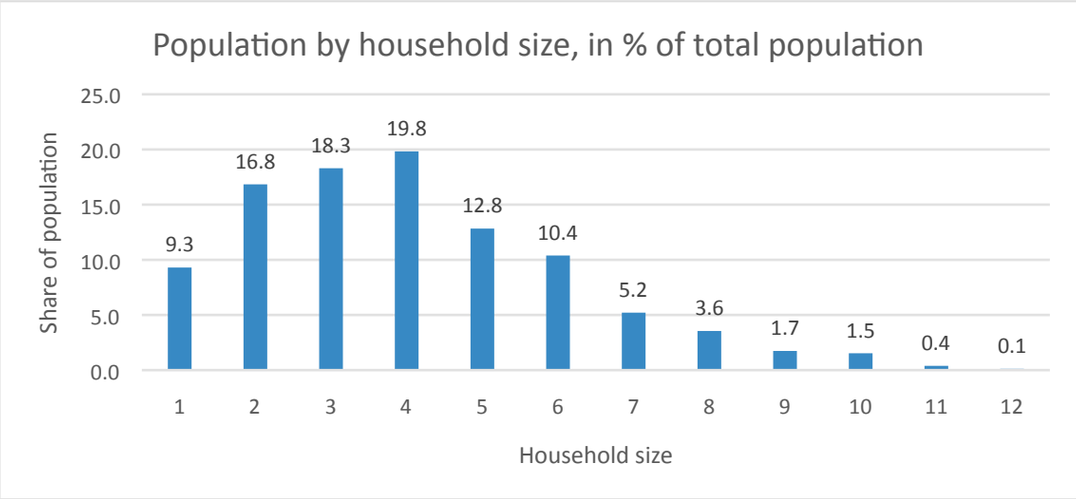
Source: Authors' calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table *A*- 2: Households sample, by region

MICS4 SAMPLE Rural/ Urban Area	Sample	%	Weighted sample (%)
Urban	1,884	38.3	19.8
Rural	3,038	61.7	80.2
Total	4,922	100	100

Source: Authors' calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Figure *A*- 1: Population in the sample, by household size, as a percentage of individuals



Source: Authors' calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 3: Households and individuals in the sample, by region, household size, number of children under the age of 18 years and gender of the household head, as a percentage of all households / individuals

		Households, as a percentage of all households	Individuals in households, as a percentage of all individuals
Households with children underthe age of 18 years		42.5	63.7
Households with children under the age of 5 years		15.4	26.6
Rural / Urban area	Urban	19.8	19.0
	Rural	80.2	81.0
	Total	100	100
Size of the household	1	26.8	9.3
	2	24.3	16.8
	3	17.6	18.3
	4	14.3	19.8
	5 or more	17.0	35.8
	Total	100	100
Number of children under the age of 18 years in the household	no children	57.5	36.3
	1	20.9	24.6
	2	12.6	19.2
	3 or more	9.0	19.9
	Total	100	100
Gender of household head	Male	58.6	57.1
	Female	41.4	42.9
	Total	100	100

Source: Authors' calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 4: Households with children under the age of 5 years, by age of household head, as a percentage of *all* households with children under 5

Age of household head	Households with children under 5 years of age (%)
18-25	7.2
26-35	24.1
36-45	26.6
46-55	23.4
56-65	9.7
Over 65	8.9
Total	100

Source: Authors' calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 5: Distribution of children between male- and female-headed households, as a percentage of all children

Gender of household head	% of all children
Male head	52.5
Female head	47.5
Total	100

Source: Authors' calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 6: Distribution of individuals in the sample over wealth index quintiles, as a percentage of all individuals

Individuals in households:		Wealth index quintiles						
		Poorest	Second	Middle	Fourth	Richest	Total	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	
Area	Urban	19.3	24.1	24.0	18.2	14.3	100	**
	Rural	20.1	19.1	19.1	20.4	21.3	100	
Size of the household	1	40.4	23.4	19.2	11.9	5.2	100	***
2		17.1	20.4	25.3	17.6	19.7	100	
3		14.9	22.0	22.0	21.1	20.1	100	
4		14.9	18.4	19.9	22.3	24.6	100	
5 or more		21.4	18.9	16.8	21.4	21.5	100	
At least one child under 18 in the household	Yes	20.3	20.8	19.1	19.7	20.1	100	***
Number of children in the household	no children	19.4	18.8	21.5	20.5	19.8	100	***
	1 child	13.1	18.4	20.6	21.9	26.0	100	
	2 children	20.0	19.0	20.4	19.9	20.7	100	
3 or more children		29.4	25.4	16.0	16.9	12.3	100	
Age of household head	Under 18	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	100	***
	18-25	26.9	24.2	29.5	13.0	6.5	100	
	26-35	24.7	26.9	20.9	15.6	11.8	100	
	36-45	16.7	21.9	23.2	18.9	19.3	100	
	46-55	21.0	18.7	14.4	23.2	22.7	100	
	56-65	17.3	15.1	19.0	22.2	26.5	100	
	Over 65	20.0	18.3	23.6	19.0	19.1	100	
Gender of household head	Male	19.5	17.8	16.9	20.5	25.3	100	***
	Female	20.6	23.0	24.2	19.3	12.9	100	
Household head female of over 55 years of age		21.9	18.8	26.8	17.7	14.8	100	**
No adult men in the household	1	19.1	20.3	27.9	17.3	15.3	100	***
Total		20.0	20.1	20.0	20.0	20.0	100	

Source: Authors' calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 7: Tetanus immunization of mothers during pregnancy, by age of child, as a percentage of all children in the age group

Health	Age of child	
	0	1-2
Mother immunized against tetanus during pregnancy	38.0	67.8

Source: Authors' calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 8: Description of well-being indicators within each domain

Well-being domains	*Well-being indicators*	*Description*	*Age groups*				
			0-2	*3-4*	*5-11*	*12-16*	*17*
Housing	Child lives in house with proper floor	Only finished floor is considered proper floor. Therefore living in a house with floor made of soil/sand, wood planks and plywood is considered a deprivation.	.7	.	.	.	.
	Child lives in house with proper roof	Finished roofing is considered a proper roof. Living in a house with no roof or roof made of wood planks, thatch / coconut leaf is considered a deprivation.	.	.	.	.	.
	Child lives in house with proper walls	Proper walls are finished walls. Walls made of dirt, plywood, cardboard, and galvanized iron/aluzink are considered not proper.	.	.	.	.	.
Water and sanitation	Means of transport	A household is considered to own means of transport if any member owns a car/ truck, a boat for livelihood or a boat for pleasure.	.	.	.	.	.
	Access to safe drinking water	A child is considered well when he or she lives in a household with piped water into dwelling, compound to neighbor or public tap/standpipe or drinking bottled water.	.	.	.	.	.
	Distance to drinking water	A child is considered well if the source of drinking water is less than 15 minutes away.	.	.	.	.	.
	Access to hygienic toilet	A child is considered well if he or she lives in a house with a flush toilet to sewage or a septic tank or pit, or in a house with a ventilated improved pit latrine.	.	.	.	.	.
Health	Immunization	Vaccination against tetanus during the last pregnancy of the mother	.				

Source: Authors' methodology, based on Roelen & Gassmann (2012) and Neubourg et al. (2012). Note: The indicators in grey are not included in the composite index in order to maintain consistency of the measure across age groups. However, they are calculated separately and elaborated in the text.

Table A – 8 (continued): Description of well-being indicators within each domain

Well-being domains	*Well-being indicators*	*Description*	*Age groups*				
			0-2	*3-4*	*5-11*	*12-16*	*17*
Nutrition	Weight for age (underweight)	WHO malnutrition indicators: child has sufficient level of well-being if it does not experience any type of malnutrition as indicated by the z-score. A child is malnourished if the z-score of a variable is lower than -2, which means that the standard is at least 2 standard deviations away from the mean.	.	.			
	Height for age (stunting)		.	.			
	Weight for height (wasting)		.	.			
Education	Activities with adult	Pertains to family support for learning and refers to the engagement of adult household members with their children in activities such as reading books, telling stories, singing songs, taking them outside of the homestead, playing and spending time naming, counting or drawing. If a child has taken part in at least four of these activities in the last 3 days, he or she is considered to fare well with respect to this indicator.		.			
	Early childhood education	This indicator pertains to the attendance of early childhood education programmes, including both formal and pre-school as well as non-formally organized early learning programmes at kindergartens or community child care.		.			
	Net enrollment rates in primary school (NER)	UNICEF definition (for primary school): The number of children enrolled in primary school who belong to the age group that officially corresponds to primary schooling, divided by the total population of the same age group.			.		
	Net enrollment rates in secondary school (NER)					.	
	Child age 17 attended secondary school						.

Source: Authors' methodology, based on Roelen & Gassmann (2012) and Neubourg et al. (2012). Note: The indicators in grey are not included in the composite index in order to maintain consistency of the measure across age groups. However, they are calculated separately and elaborated in the text.

Table A – 8 (continued): Description of well-being indicators within each domain

Well-being domains	Well-being indicators	Description	Age groups				
			0-2	3-4	5-11	12-16	17
Child Protection	Not subject to harsh discipline	A child is considered well if in the past month s/he was not hit with a hard object; slapped on the face, head or ears; slapped on the hand, arm, or legs; called names; or bitten hard.	·	·	·	·	·
	Perception of physical punishment	A child is considered to be well if s/he lives in a household where the head does not believe that in order to bring up or educate a child properly, the child needs to be physically punished.	·	·	·	·	·
	Birth registration	A child is considered registered if it has a birth certificate or if the birth has been registered with the registry.	·	·			
	Child labour	This indicator is positive if the child is not involved in child labour. UNICEF definition: A child is considered to be involved in child labour activities under the following classification: (a) children 5 to 11 years of age that during the week preceding the survey did at least one hour of economic activity or at least 28 hours of domestic work, and (b) children 12 to 14 years of age that during the week preceding the survey did at least 14 hours of economic activity or at least 42 hours of economic activity and domestic work combined.			·	·	
Access to information	Assets for information and communication	This indicator is positive when the household has a combination of i) *a TV or Radio* and ii) *fixed line phone or a mobile phone*, or just iii) *computer or internet service,* or all of these.	·	·	·	·	·

Source: Authors' methodology, based on Roelen & Gassmann (2012) and Neubourg et al. (2012). Note: The indicators in grey are not included in the composite index in order to maintain consistency of the measure across age groups. However, they are calculated separately and elaborated in the text.

7 Symbol indicated the existence of an indicator for the respective age group.

Table A- 9: Well-being rates for age group 3-4

	Area		Gender of household head			Gender of child		Size of the household				Number of children in the household			Household with no adult men		Household with single adult and children		Total
	Urban	Rural	Male	Fem.		Male	Fem.	2	3	4	5 +	1	2	3 +					
Well-being: weight for age - not underweight	97.8	98.7	97.3	100.0		100.0	97.1	100.0	97.8	95.9	100.0	98.7	96.4	100.0		100.0	100.0		98.5
Well-being: height for age - not stunting	97.8	98.7	99.3	97.7		97.8	99.3	100.0	97.8	100.0	98.0	98.7	100.0	97.5		100.0	100.0		98.6
Well-being: weight for height - not wasting	100.0	96.3	98.0	95.6		100.0	94.0	100.0	94.1	95.9	98.1	100.0	93.2	97.6		86.7	84.8		96.9
Nutrition Domain Well Being rate	97.8	95.0	97.3	93.2		97.8	93.3	100.0	91.9	95.9	96.1	98.7	93.2	95.0		86.7	84.8	***	95.5
Child has books	88.6	88.7	91.2	85.5		89.9	87.5	100.0	100.0	86.7	85.2	96.3	89.8	82.6		94.5	96.8		88.7
Activities with adults	90.8	91.2	90.8	91.5		90.0	92.2	100.0	97.5	86.8	90.6	91.0	89.2	92.6		83.9	81.6		91.1
Well-being: early childhood development	81.6	86.1	92.9	76.1		87.2	83.5	90.5	91.6	87.2	81.9	94.7	86.8	77.9		66.7	65.0		85.3
Education Domain Well Being rate	81.6	86.1	92.9	76.1	*	87.2	83.5	90.5	91.6	87.2	81.9	94.7	86.8	77.9	*	66.7	65.0		85.3
Well-being: child lives in house with proper floor	81.9	78.9	87.5	69.4		76.2	82.4	90.5	91.6	75.0	77.0	93.3	79.7	69.8		70.9	72.6		79.4
Well-being: child lives in house with proper roof	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0		100.0
Well-being: child lives in house with proper wall	59.8	56.5	64.3	48.0		50.8	62.8	90.5	61.5	63.3	49.9	66.6	60.7	47.8		68.4	69.8		57.0
Household owns means of transportation	16.6	40.1	53.1	14.9		34.2	37.8	25.3	30.0	43.3	35.1	35.9	47.6	27.5		18.5	18.9		36.1
Housing Domain Well Being rate	59.8	54.1	62.5	45.7	*	48.8	60.9	90.5	61.5	59.6	48.0	66.6	60.7	43.0		61.7	62.2		55.1
Well-being: access to safe drinking water	100.0	94.8	98.1	92.8		97.7	93.9	100.0	100.0	95.9	94.0	96.3	96.4	94.9		100.0	100.0		95.7
Well-being: distance to drinking water	97.7	98.7	100.0	96.6		100.0	97.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	97.1	100.0	98.7	97.3		100.0	100.0		98.5
Well-being: access to hygienic toilet	72.7	74.1	78.2	68.5		69.7	77.7	90.5	83.0	75.8	68.7	88.6	83.3	56.8		64.2	59.3		73.9
Water&Sanitation Domain Well Being rate	72.7	70.3	76.3	63.8	*	67.4	73.8	90.5	83.0	71.7	64.9	84.8	79.7	54.4	**	64.2	59.3	**	70.7
Well-being: discipline	40.9	54.5	55.7	47.8		54.7	49.8	34.8	40.6	38.8	64.0	40.0	47.3	64.1		46.7	48.7		52.2
Well-being: child has a birth registration	93.4	95.1	91.3	99.2		95.1	94.5	100	97.8	93.5	94.1	94.9	95.5	94.1		97.5	97.1		94.8
Well-being: physical punishment	84.3	79.9	82.1	78.9		85.7	76.1	46.5	64.2	83.5	87.1	77.5	71.9	89.5		72.7	64.1		80.7
Child Protection Domain Well Being rate	38.7	52.1	52.1	47.0		49.8	49.8	34.8	40.6	33.8	62.1	40.0	44.1	60.8		44.2	45.9		49.8
Assets for info and communication	90.5	97.6	100.0	91.9		97.2	95.7	90.5	94.8	96.3	97.4	93.5	98.6	96.6		92.0	93.9		96.4
Child Well Being rate, age 3-4	59.3	57.6	62.4	52.3		53.9	61.6	90.5	63.8	54.3	55.4	69.1	61.6	47.5		61.7	59.3		57.9

Source: Author's calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 10: Well-being rates for age group 5-11

		Area			Gender of household head		Gender of child		Size of the household					Number of children in the household				Household with no adult men		Household with a single adult and children		Total
		Urban	Rural		Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	2	3	4	5 or more		1	2	3 or more						
NER: child 5-11 attended primary school	%	98.5	98.2		98.7	97.9	98.2	98.4	100.0	100.0	98.5	97.4		98.9	98.9	97.4		100.0		100.0		98.3
Education Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**98.5**	**98.2**		**98.7**	**97.9**	**98.2**	**98.4**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**98.5**	**97.4**		**98.9**	**98.9**	**97.4**		**100.0**		**100.0**		**98.3**
well-being: child lives in house with proper floor	%	82.7	86.5		86.6	84.7	83.4	88.2	82.3	87.2	87.2	84.8		88.5	87.4	82.5		87.0		81.7		85.7
well-being: child lives in house with proper roof	%	99.0	100.0		99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	98.0	100.0	100.0	99.8		99.6	100.0	99.7		99.5		99.4		99.8
well-being: child lives in house with proper wall	%	61.0	68.0		69.5	63.3	70.5	62.3	58.0	60.5	65.7	70.1		64.5	68.3	66.3		63.8		58.2		66.5
household owns means of transportation	%	26.6	34.9		47.5	17.7	31.6	34.8	7.6	34.9	39.1	32.2		32.5	40.1	27.7		12.3		21.1		33.1
Housing Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**59.5**	**65.0**		**66.0**	**61.4**	**66.8**	**60.6**	**49.2**	**59.0**	**62.1**	**68.0**		**60.5**	**66.5**	**63.7**		**61.0**	**	**53.9**		**63.8**
well-being: access to safe drinking water	%	98.5	96.8		96.6	97.8	96.0	98.4	95.0	96.5	99.5	96.5		96.4	98.5	96.5		98.8		98.5		97.2
well-being: distance to drinking water	%	100.0	99.3		100.0	98.9	98.9	100.0	100.0	98.5	99.0	100.0		98.9	99.2	100.0		100.0		100.0		99.5
well-being: access to hygienic toilet	%	82.0	71.1		73.0	73.9	73.7	73.1	85.1	75.1	77.2	69.7		87.2	70.4	67.3		72.7		68.2		73.4
Water & Sanitation Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**80.9**	**68.6**	***	**70.8**	**71.7**	**70.3**	**72.3**	**85.1**	**73.0**	**75.7**	**66.9**	*	**85.7**	**69.3**	**63.9**	***	**72.7**		**68.2**		**71.2**
well-being: discipline	%	54.6	57.9		59.1	55.2	53.4	61.4	47.0	57.9	53.5	59.9		56.5	56.1	58.6		53.7		53.4		57.2
well-being: child labour	%	99	97.9		98.9	97.2	96.6	99.8	94.4	98.6	98.9	98.0		97.8	99.7	97.0		96.2		96.6		98.1
well-being: physical punishment	%	78.5	81.3		81.9	79.5	78.8	82.8	82.5	81.4	75.6	82.8		77.5	78.1	84.9		81.2		83.0		80.7
Child Protection Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**54.1**	**57.6**		**59.1**	**54.4**	**52.9**	**61.1**	**47.0**	**57.9**	**53.5**	**59.1**		**56.5**	**56.1**	**57.7**		**52.5**		**53.4**		**56.8**
well-being: assets for info and communication	%	97	96.8		97.4	96.3	96.8	97.0	94.8	93.3	98.5	97.6		97.4	96.4	97.0		95.4		91.9		96.9
Information Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**97.0**	**96.8**		**97.4**	**96.3**	**96.8**	**97.0**	**94.8**	**93.3**	**98.5**	**97.6**		**97.4**	**96.4**	**97.0**		**95.4**		**91.9**		**96.9**
Child Well Being rate, age 5-11	**%**	**67.8**	**66.6**		**67.4**	**66.2**	**66.0**	**67.8**	**59.9**	**64.5**	**65.3**	**69.2**		**71.7**	**66.5**	**64.1**		**64.2**	**	**53.9**		**66.8**

Source: Author's calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 11: Well-being rates for age-group 12-16

		Area			Gender of household head			Gender of child		Size of the household					Number of children in the household				Household with no adult men		Household with a single adult and children		Total
		Urban	Rural		Male	Female		Male	Female	2	3	4	5 or more		1	2	3 or more						
NER: child 12-16 attended secondary school	%	92.6	92.4		91.7	93.2		92.2	92.7	100.0	97.1	92.9	90.1		94.9	95.4	88.6		94.2		98.6		92.4
Education Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**92.6**	**92.4**		**91.7**	**93.2**		**92.2**	**92.7**	**100.0**	**97.1**	**92.9**	**90.1**		**94.9**	**95.4**	**88.6**	**	**94.2**		**98.6**	*	**92.4**
well-being: child lives in house with proper floor	%	82.4	87.6		87.3	85.9		87.0	86.3	91.0	88.3	91.7	83.0		94.3	89.9	79.3		91.0		85.6		86.7
well-being: child lives in house with proper roof	%	98.8	100.0		99.6	100.0		99.8	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.6		100.0	100.0	99.5		100.0		100.0		99.8
well-being: child lives in house with proper wall	%	61.8	72.0		71.9	68.3		70.9	69.2	87.8	71.5	73.7	65.7		80.0	71.6	62.8		76.0		72.8		70.2
household owns means of transportation	%	21.9	37.1		46.6	21.1		34.8	34.0	33.2	34.6	42.3	30.3		46.0	36.6	25.4		12.3		22.3		34.4
Housing Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**58.2**	**70.3**	**	**69.6**	**66.6**		**69.2**	**66.9**	**83.6**	**68.2**	**72.8**	**63.7**		**78.2**	**70.9**	**59.6**	**	**72.9**		**67.7**		**68.1**
well-being: access to safe drinking water	%	98.2	93.3		91.4	97.2		94.2	94.1	95.8	89.2	95.9	94.3		92.7	95.1	94.4		98.5		96.2		94.2
well-being: distance to drinking water	%	98.8	97.6		97.7	97.9		97.7	97.9	100.0	97.0	99.0	97.0		98.5	98.8	96.5		100.0		100.0		97.8
well-being: access to hygienic toilet	%	84.7	70.5		71.9	74.3		74.4	71.5	89.7	83.2	80.2	64.6		86.3	80.3	59.0		76.2		78.3		73.0
Water & Sanitation Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**83.5**	**66.6**	***	**67.3**	**72.2**	*	**70.9**	**68.1**	**85.5**	**76.9**	**77.1**	**61.8**	**	**80.1**	**77.5**	**56.9**	***	**74.7**		**76.4**	*	**69.6**
well-being: discipline	%	66.9	66.1		70.8	61.2		64.6	68.2	95.8	81.0	65.5	59.3		89.8	63.1	53.5		64.8		69.5		66.2
well-being: child labour	%	99.4	100		100.0	99.8		100.0	99.8	100.0	99.2	100.0	100.0		99.6	100.0	100.0		100.0		100.0		99.9
well-being: physical punishment	%	80.5	82.6		84.0	80.3		82.2	82.2	90.8	92.1	81.5	79.1		92.0	79.4	78.2		84.2		84.7		82.2
Child Protection Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**66.9**	**66.1**		**70.8**	**61.2**	*	**64.6**	**68.2**	**95.8**	**81.0**	**65.5**	**59.3**	***	**89.8**	**63.1**	**53.5**	***	**64.8**		**69.5**		**66.2**
well-being: assets for info and communication	%	96.9	98		99.2	96.2		98.0	97.6	100.0	97.9	98.1	97.3		99.0	98.3	96.7		98.9		100.0		97.8
Information Domain Well Being rate	**%**	**96.9**	**98.0**		**99.2**	**96.2**	**	**98.0**	**97.6**	**100.0**	**97.9**	**98.1**	**97.3**		**99.0**	**98.3**	**96.7**		**98.9**		**100.0**		**97.8**
Child Well Being rate, age 12-16	**%**	**72.7**	**68.6**		**71.4**	**67.1**		**71.1**	**67.1**	**95.8**	**77.9**	**78.2**	**59.1**	***	**85.4**	**77.2**	**53.0**	***	**74.5**		**74.7**		**69.3**

Source: Author's calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

Table A- 12: Well-being rates for age 17[8]

		Area			Gender of household head		Gender of child		Size of the household					Number of children in the household				Household with no adult men		Household with a single adult and children	Total
		Urban	Rural		Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	2	3	4	5 or more		1	2	3 or more					
well-being: child 17 attended at least secondary school	%	97.7	94.6		98.8	92.6	96.4	94.0	100.0	85.0	97.0	97.6		85.4	98.3	100.0		93.6		100.0	95.3
Education domain well-being rate	**%**	**97.7**	**94.6**		**98.8**	**92.6**	**96.4**	**94.0**	**100.0**	**85.0**	**97.0**	**97.6**		**85.4**	**98.3**	**100.0**	******	**93.6**		**100.0**	**95.3**
well-being: child lives in house with proper floor	%	86.5	84.6		80.9	88.0	80.0	90.4	74.1	93.0	94.1	79.9		88.9	89.1	79.4		94.0		85.2	85.0
well-being: child lives in house with proper roof	%	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0	100.0		100.0		100.0	100.0
well-being: child lives in house with proper wall	%	66.0	64.3		66.5	63.3	60.4	69.2	60.7	72.9	70.7	61.0		70.3	68.0	58.3		70.3		63.7	64.6
household owns means of transportation	%	14.0	29.9		36.4	18.8	24.6	28.2	20.0	14.7	33.3	30.5		19.5	25.4	31.8		12.4		16.0	26.3
Housing domain well-being rate	**%**	**63.7**	**62.6**		**62.3**	**63.3**	**57.9**	**68.2**	**60.7**	**72.9**	**67.6**	**58.6**		**70.3**	**66.3**	**55.1**		**70.3**		**63.7**	**62.8**
well-being: access to safe drinking water	%	97.4	94.7		95.5	95.1	96.3	94.2	100.0	93.1	88.6	97.3		100.0	88.9	96.5		94.5		92.9	95.3
well-being: distance to drinking water	%	100.0	96.4		100.0	95.1	97.4	97.0	100.0	93.0	100.0	97.3		95.3	100.0	96.5		100.0		100.0	97.2
well-being: access to hygienic toilet	%	86.5	70.5		71.4	76.0	73.8	74.3	92.8	78.0	89.4	63.9		88.1	84.2	56.9		79.3		76.9	74.0
Water and sanitation Domain well-being rate	**%**	**83.9**	**68.7**	*****	**70.1**	**73.6**	**70.0**	**74.3**	**92.8**	**78.0**	**78.1**	**63.9**		**88.1**	**77.6**	**56.9**	******	**73.8**		**76.9**	**72.1**
well-being: discipline	%	70.6	75.9		68.9	79.0	73.5	76.0	100.0	100.0	60.8	65.2		100.0	81.9	51.8		79.7		81.4	74.7
well-being: physical punishment	%	86.1	91.5		94.4	87.3	84.8	96.3	100.0	100.0	83.2	87.3		100.0	96.3	79.3		88.8		88.1	90.3
Child protection domain well-being rate	**%**	**70.6**	**75.9**		**68.9**	**79.0**	**73.5**	**76.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**60.8**	**65.2**	*******	**100.0**	**81.9**	**51.8**	*******	**79.7**		**81.4**	**74.7**
well-being: assets for info and communication	%	95.5	98.2		98.9	96.7	97.4	97.9	100.0	93.0	97.1	99.0		93.6	100.0	98.8		97.9		100.0	97.6
Information domain Well-being rate	**%**	**95.5**	**98.2**		**98.9**	**96.7**	**97.4**	**97.9**	**100.0**	**93.0**	**97.1**	**99.0**		**93.6**	**100.0**	**98.8**		**97.9**		**100.0**	**97.6**
Child Well Being rate, age 17	**%**	**72.7**	**77.4**		**74.1**	**78.0**	**76.9**	**75.7**	**92.8**	**85.0**	**83.0**	**67.7**		**88.1**	**89.7**	**58.5**	*******	**73.3**		**78.7**	**76.3**

Source: Author's calculations based on MICS4 from 2012.

8 There are 102 children age 17 in the sample.

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