

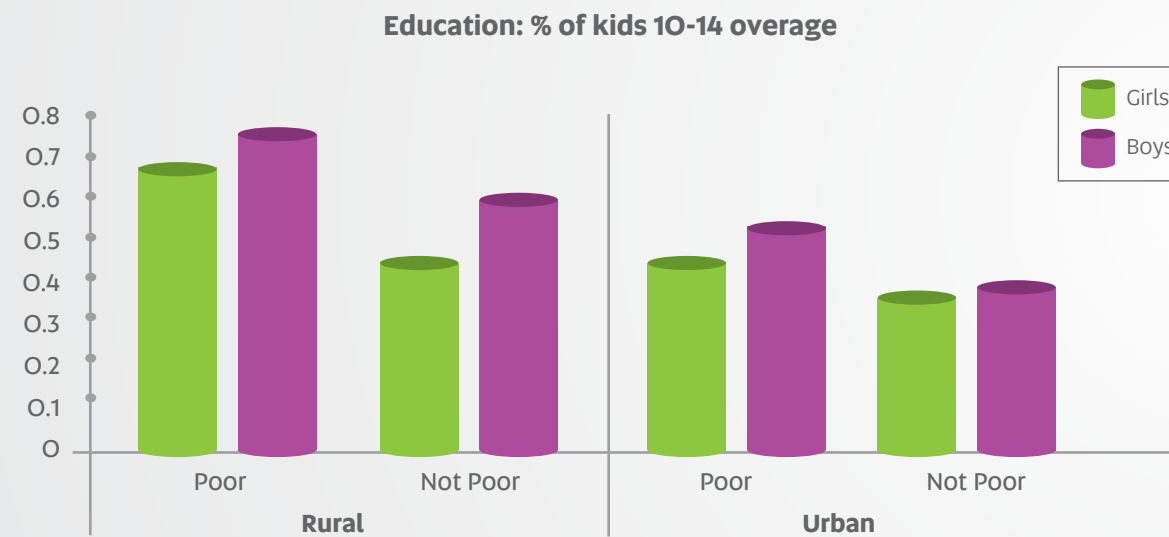


Improve health and education for sustainable poverty reduction



Despite overall improvements in health and education, the poor in Haiti continue to face greater barriers than the nonpoor when accessing basic services.

Despite the progress achieved in school participation rates of 6- to 14-year-olds (rising from 78 to 90% between 2001 and 2012) 87% of children in poor households were in school in 2012, compared to 96 % of children in nonpoor households. 62% of children 10- to 14-years-old in poor households are average for their grade, versus 38% among nonpoor. In the poorest 20 % less than one in 10 women received assistance during childbirth, compared to 7 out of 10 among the more affluent households¹.



1. Welfare quintiles are based on households' asset index, and not on household consumption. Source : DHS/EMMUS V (2012).



There are signs of intergenerational transmission of poverty in Haiti.

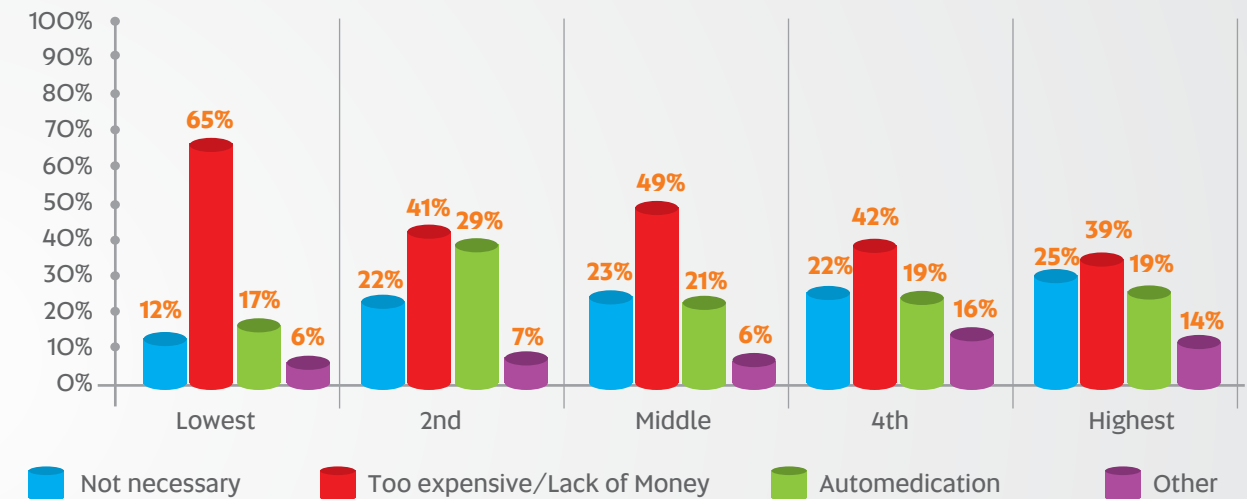
Low levels of adult literacy have intergenerational effects: 34% of children whose mothers have no education are stunted, compared to 12% of children whose mothers have secondary or higher education.

The cost of services constrains their use and affects educational and health outcomes, especially in rural areas.

Households spend on average 10% of their budget on education and 3% on health. Cost is the main reason children are kept out of school or do not benefit from medical care.



Reason not to use health services (%)



Increasing the supply and quality of basic services (primary education and basic health services) is essential to break the vicious circle of poverty sustainably.

Recommendations include:

- Develop an information system to better identify and target vulnerable populations, establish clear standards for health and education service provision and monitor access to and quality of services provided.
- In the education sector, formulate a strategic and financial plan for basic education, for the short and medium term, to maintain and expand access, and focus on the development of early childhood.
- In the health sector, improve coordination between technical and financial partners to increase efficiency, use and quality of services and expand primary health care services to the vulnerable population.
- Collect further evidence to improve the understanding of limited learning at school or health service utilization.

