Overage Enrolment in Basic Schools in Ghana: Why does it Matter?

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Introduction

• Distribution of children into primary education relative to official age in 2005 shows 2 years or more over-age in countries in
  a. Sub-saharan Africa
  b. East Asia and the Pacific
  c. South and West Asia
  d. Latin America and the Caribbean
• Ethiopia, Mozambique and Ghana had the highest proportion of over-age children (15% or more)

• Cuba, Iceland had no over-age children in primary one and Tunisia no children over-age by more than 2 years and virtually no children overage by 1 year.
Age distribution of primary one enrolment in Savelugu-Nanton and Mfantseman districts
Enrolment age distribution of children in Savelugu-Nanton and Mfantseman districts
Age Distribution of Dropouts

Mfantseman
• Out of a total cohort of 1069 pupils in the four cohorts in the 2006/07 academic year, 177 (16.6%) had dropped out by 2009/2010
• Dropouts was highest (19.0%) for the primary 1 cohort and lowest for the JHS1 cohort (12.4%).

Savelugu-Nanton
• Out of a total cohort of 1470 pupils in the four cohorts in the 2006/07 academic year, 238 (16.2%) had dropped out by 2009/2010.
• Dropouts was (12.7%) for the primary 1 pupils and lowest for the JHS1 cohort (6.8%).
Age distribution of dropouts by district