

Kwame Akyeampong

# CAPITATION GRANT IN GHANA – 'HIDDEN REALITIES'

# Capitation Grant – basic facts

- SMCs and SPIPs.
- Enrolment surge – 17% rise in overall enrolment
- As percentage of unit cost per primary child (2005) = 4%
- Constitutes a minimum effect on the unit cost for a primary child, therefore minimum effect on quality

# Key points

- Introduction of capitation provides an opportunity to *increase* quality
- Capitation must be linked to classroom-based policies impacting quality
- If capitation is to be successful, measures of quality (learning) must be easily available
- As % of unit cost capitation should represent a significant increase

# Link capitation with other policies

To keep children in school, capitation must be linked to other strategies to:

- reduce dropout, repetition & overage enrolment,
- improve timely release of funds,
- Improve timely progress through school,
- Improve quality

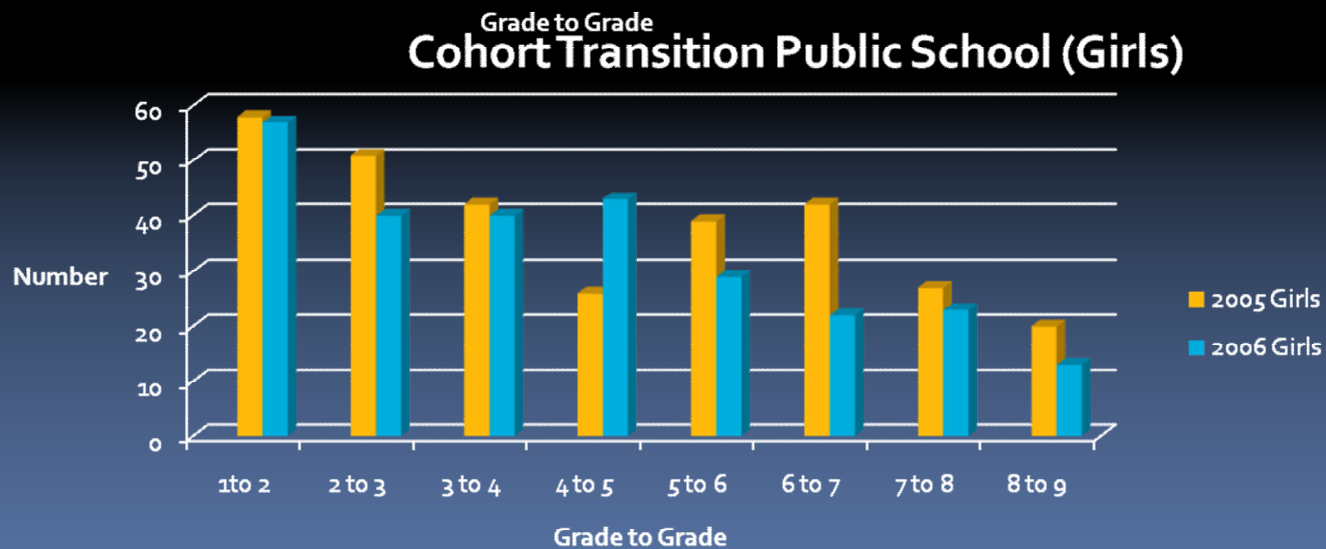
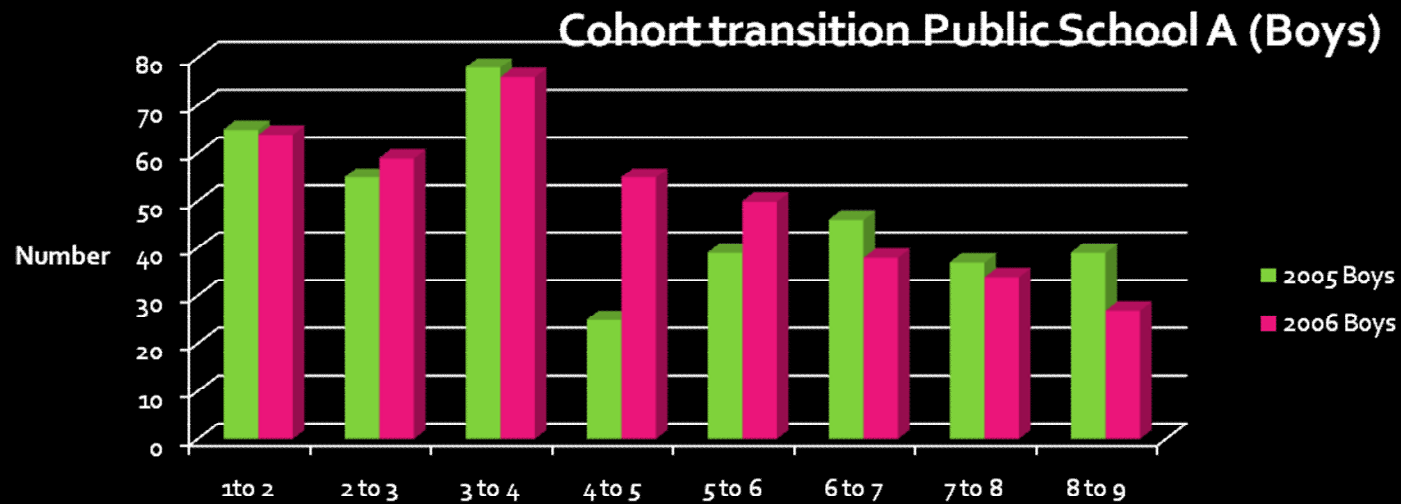
# Structural & Capacity Challenges

- Unpredictable delays in funds arriving in schools
- Requires significant capacity development support
- Head teachers complaints about additional burden on top of existing tasks. *Approval of SPIPS linked to delay in release of capitation*

# Quality and costs

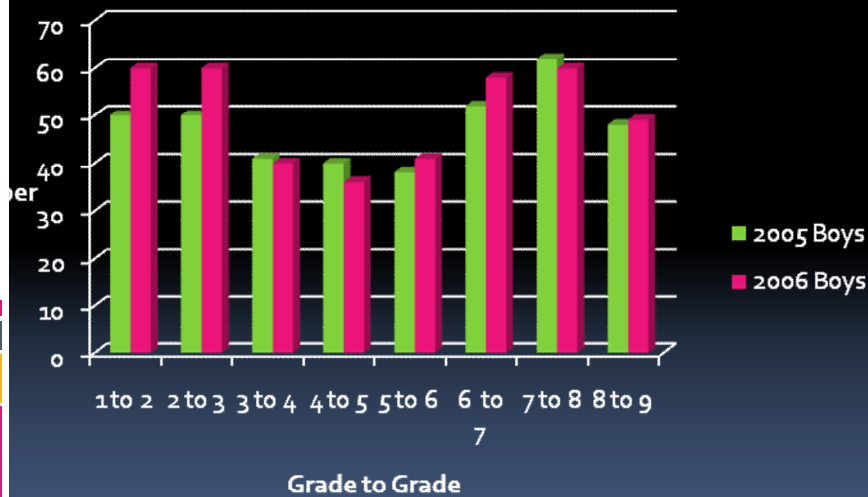
- Cost to families significantly higher than capitation fee e.g. food & travel costs
- Capitation not delivering tangible evidence of improved quality – schools using capitation disproportionately e.g. teacher refreshments
- Ghanaian children are engaged in learning activities 39% of the time compared to 79% in Tunisia

# Cohort transition - less progress in the South?

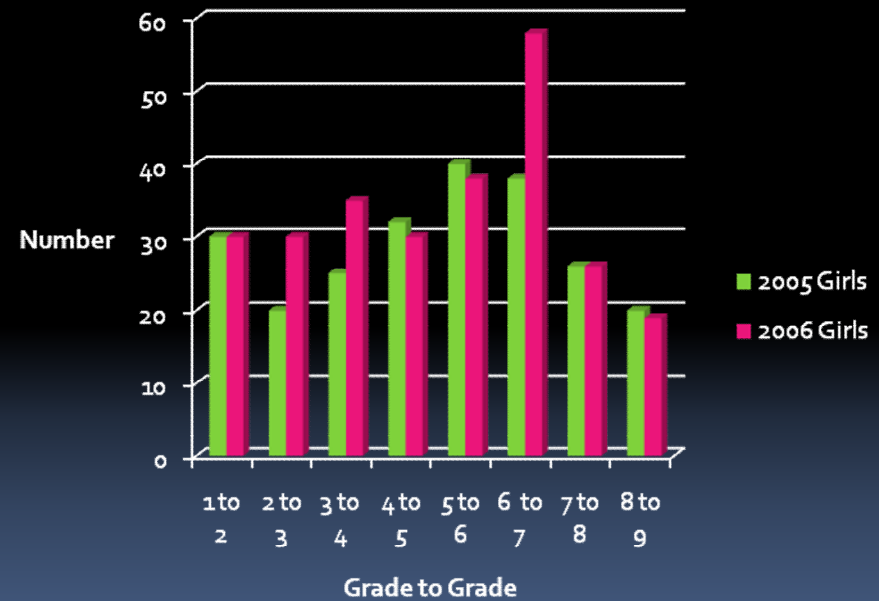


# Cohort transition – more progress in north?

## Cohort Transition Public School A (Boys)

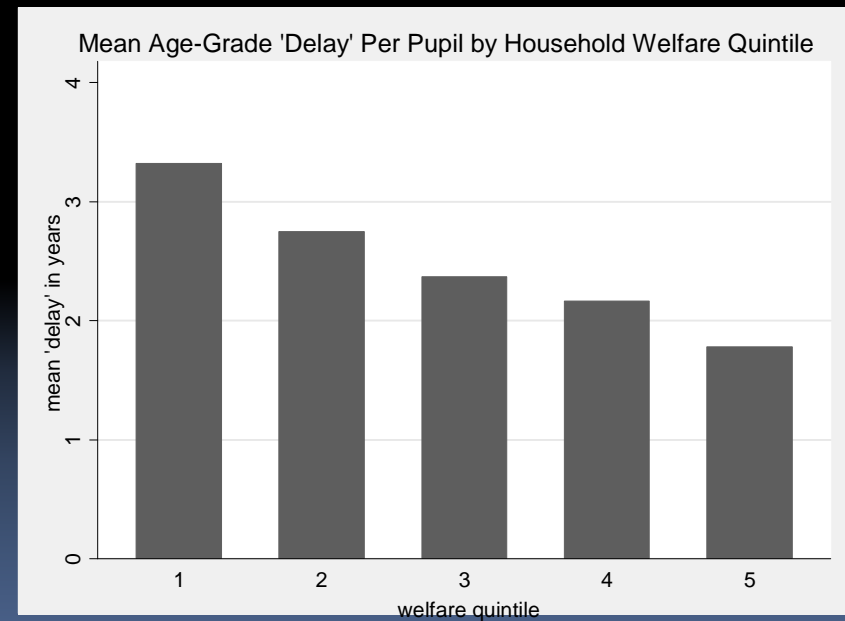
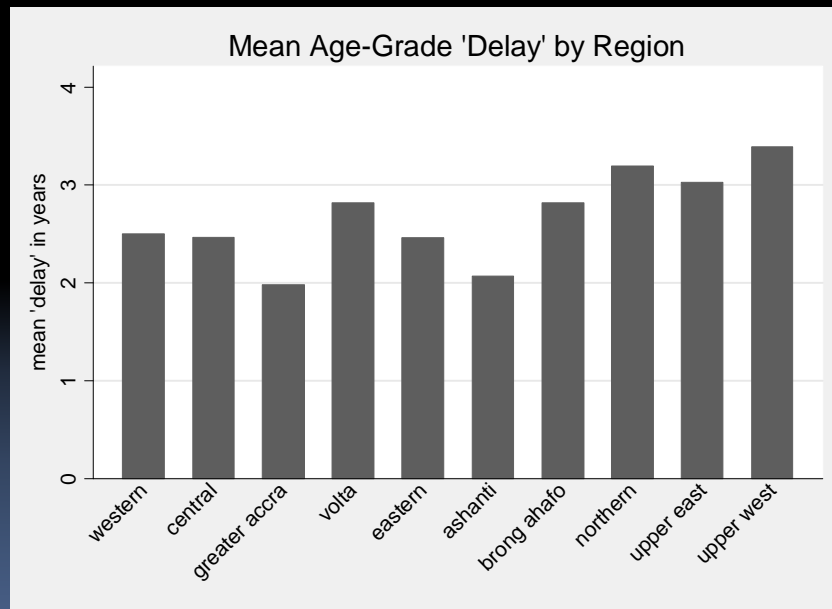


## Cohort Transition Public School A (Girls)



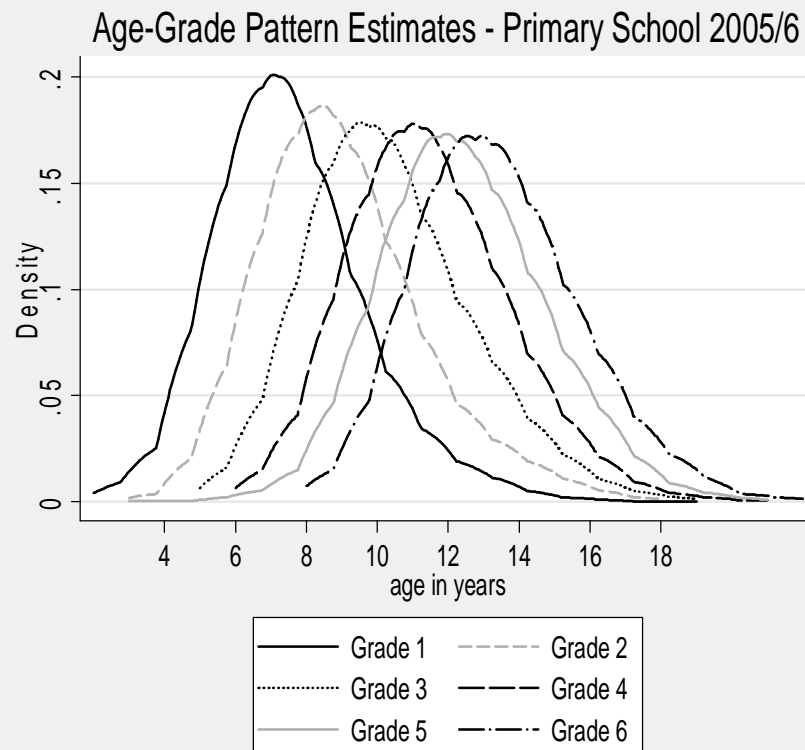


# Delayed Enrolment



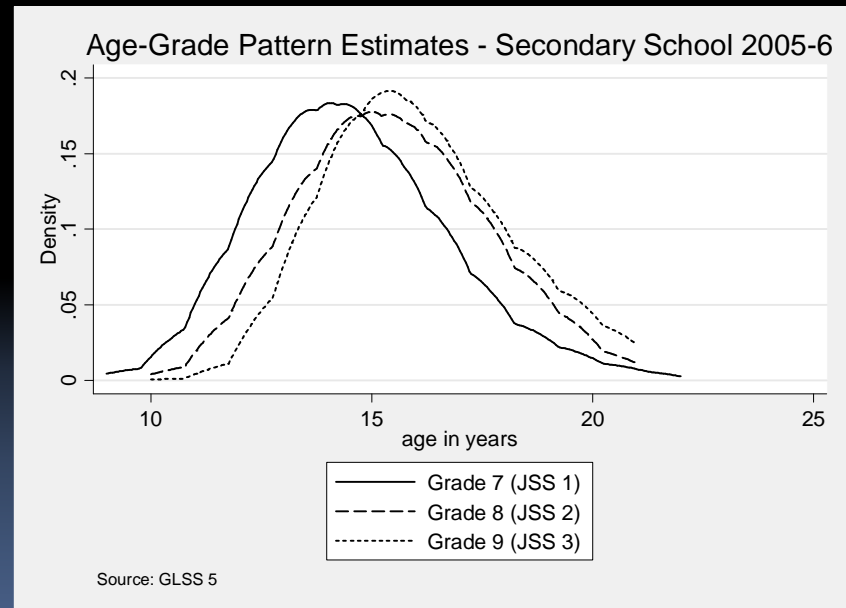
# Age-grade

## Primary School



Source: GLSS 5

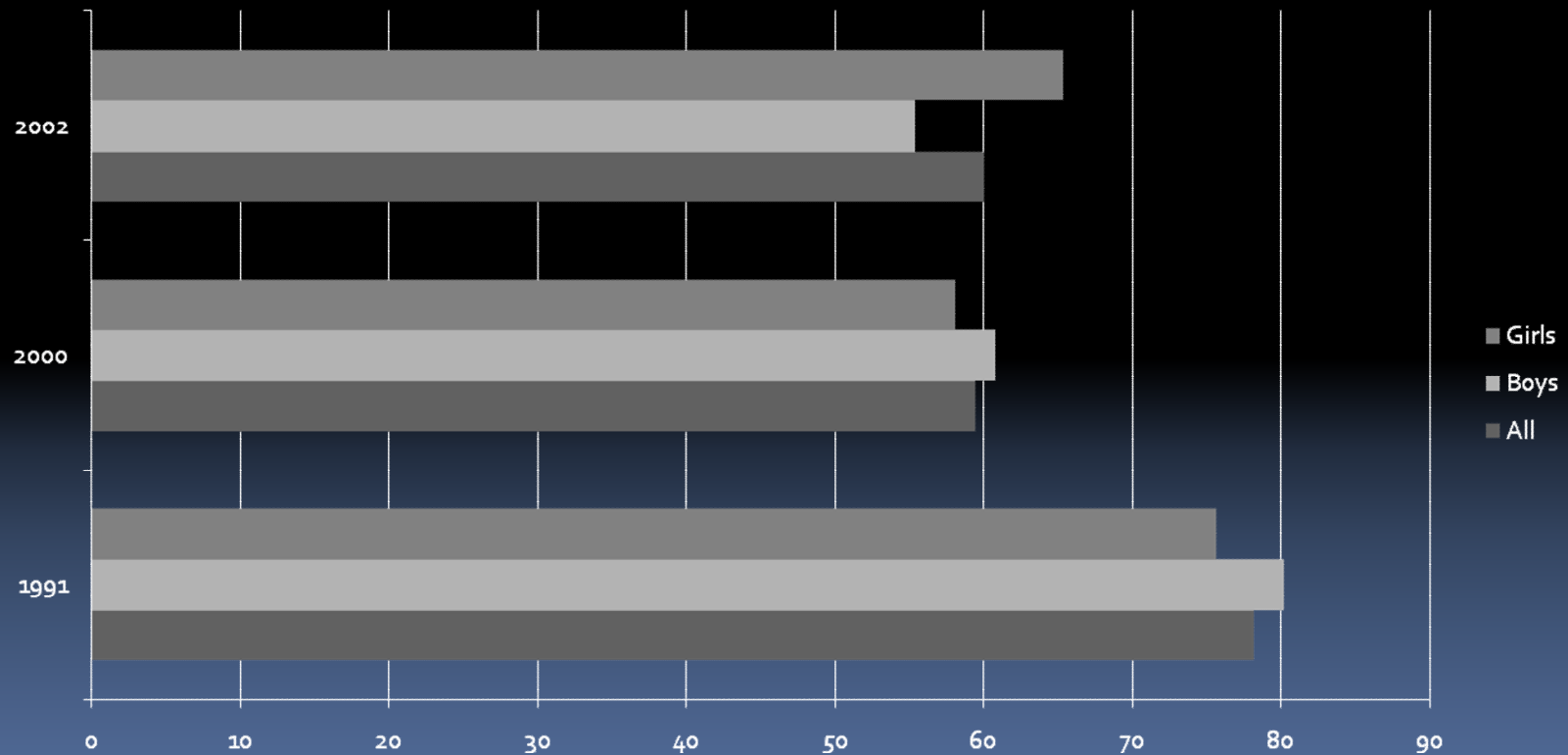
## Junior High School



Source: GLSS 5

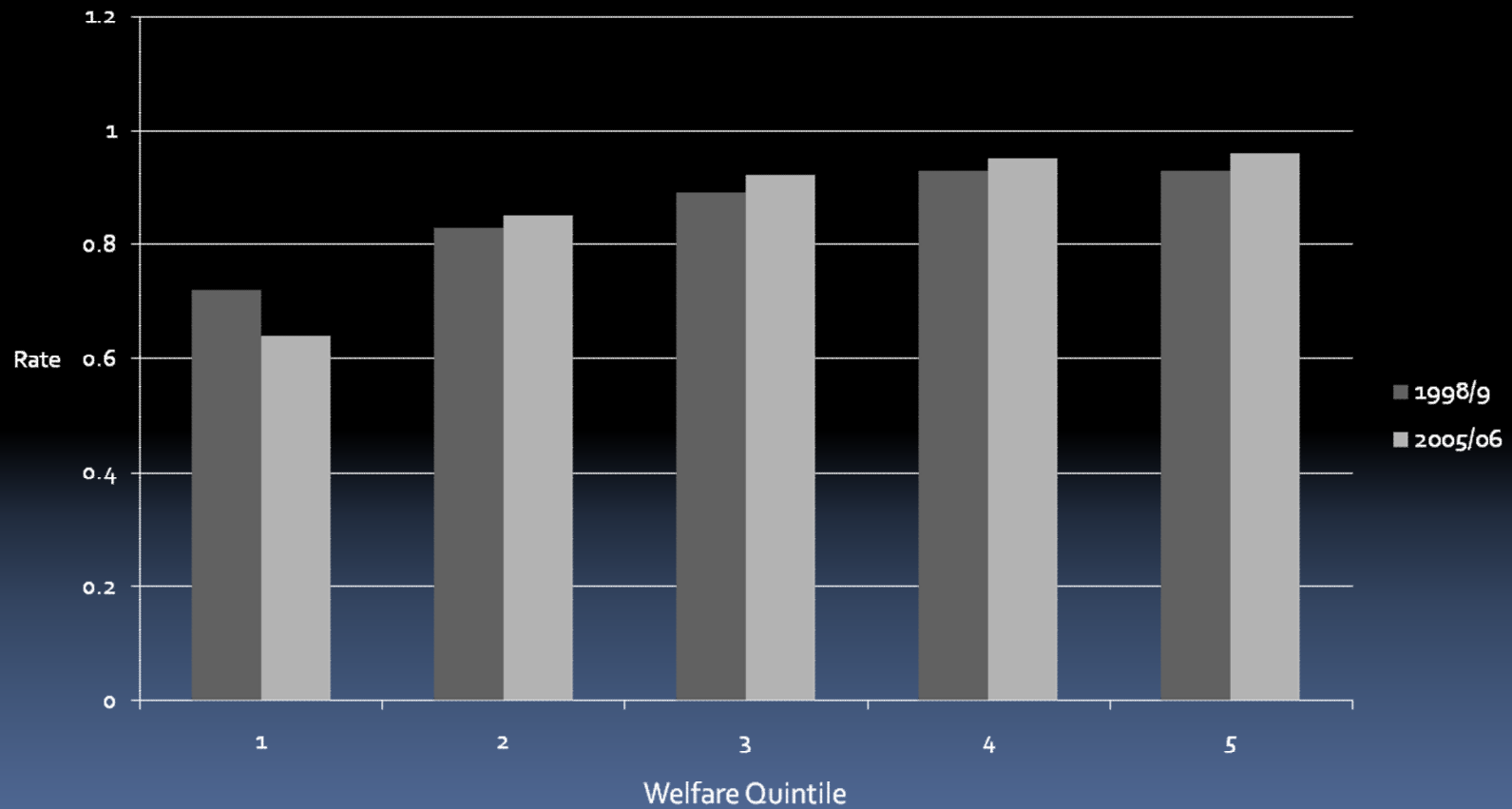
# Grade 1 pupils reaching primary 6

Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary



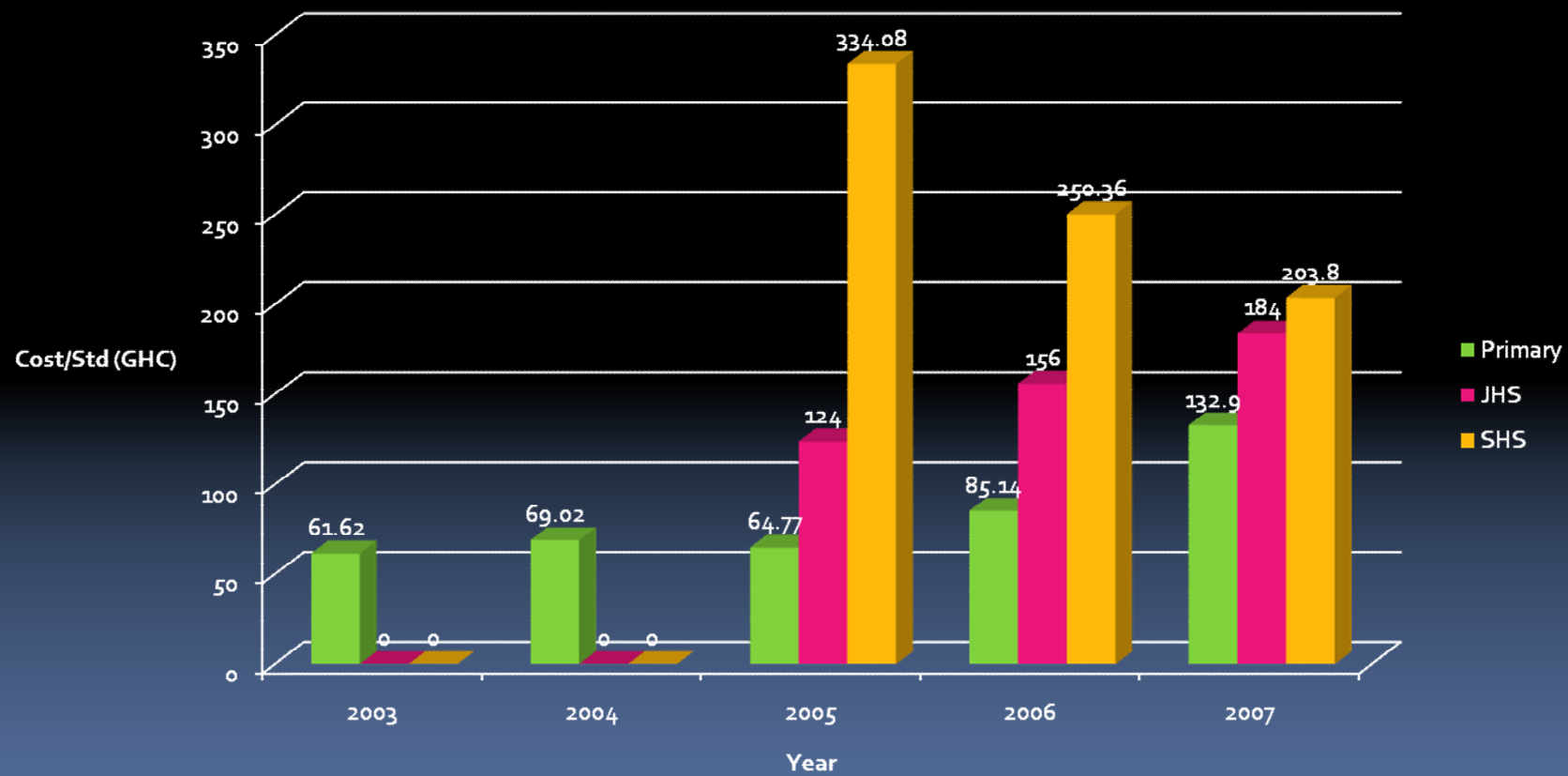
# Poorest need more attention

Mean attendance rates by Welfare Quintile - 6 to 11 years



# Pre-tertiary unit cost (2003-2008)

## Pre-tertiary Unit Cost by Year



# Policy issues

- Increase capitation and target assistance according to most disadvantaged groups/districts/regions
- Incentivise schools with good record of progression and completion
- Link to early enrolment,
- Shorten the capitation delivery chain

Hope for this child?

