

# THE ROAD TO DEVELOPMENT IN Potosí

Newsletter on the Social Situation in the Department | 2011

## CURRENT SITUATION

General Information	Bolivia	Potosí
Number of people living in extreme poverty - 2001	3,323,307	470,020
Children between 6 and 13 years of age not attending primary school - 2008	190,148	16,049
Students who completed primary school (8 <sup>th</sup> grade) - 2008	175,643	13,048
Adolescents between 14 and 17 years of age not attending secondary school - 2008	397,678	39,401
Students who completed secondary school (4 <sup>th</sup> grade) - 2008	120,440	7,846
Children who died before their first birthday - 2008	13,736	2,364
Children under three years of age suffering from chronic malnutrition - 2008	158,899	24,681
Mothers who gave birth outside the health system - 2009	91,982	9,776

## RELEVANT DATA

- Two out of three people were extremely poor in the department of Potosí in 2001.
- Primary school coverage in the department shows significant progress towards achievement of universal education as in 2008 the net enrollment rate was at 90.3%. This rate establishes Potosí slightly above the national average.
- Secondary education coverage in Potosí has shown a growing trend in time, although its rates are far from the national averages; the net enrollment rate in the department was 45.9% in 2008.
- In Potosí, infant mortality rate in 2008 was 101 children per 1,000 live births, the highest in the country. This means that in that year 2,364 children died before their first birthday.
- It is estimated that in 2008 there were 24,681 children under 3 years of age suffering from chronic malnutrition in Potosí.
- In the department, 13,191 institutional births were attended in 2009, which means that the percentage of deliveries attended by trained health care personnel was 57.4%, one of the lowest rates in the country.

The recent years have been a very important period for the improvement of living conditions of Bolivians and Potosí residents. Sustained reduction in poverty rates, increased coverage of primary and secondary education, lower infant mortality rates, improvement of the nutritional status of children, as well as increased coverage of institutional deliveries are clear examples of this development.

These advances, in part, are a result of continuity given to government policies adopted since the late twentieth century, as well as to new initiatives aimed at achieving the universal exercise of rights recognized by the Constitution. Policies such as conditional and unconditional transfers, a new health care model, and the new education law follow these lines.

In particular, the department of Potosí has shown important improvements in social indicators considering that its initial situation faced major disadvantages compared to the other departments. However, Potosí is still behind other regions in the country, especially in the areas of extreme poverty, infant mortality, and education. Also, the evolution of several indicators of well-being both at the total nationwide and departmental levels has begun to show deceleration. This phenomenon is not a problem unique to Potosí or Bolivia since it affects or has affected countries that had achieved significant improvement in social in-

dicators. This situation reveals a need for new public policy mechanisms, improved participatory processes, increased attention to public service quality, new institutional coordination frameworks, both sector and territory-based, as well as new social oversight mechanisms.

The gaps in access to education and health care, lack of quality public services, and overall backwardness of certain groups in terms of achievement of better standards of living, are a central theme in the public agenda, as they are all problems that undermine the implementation of basic statements in the new Constitution: universal exercise of rights such as education, health care, non-discrimination, fair income, and jobs. In short, there is still much work to do to achieve universal exercise of social and economic rights, which, in turn, leads to strengthened democracy and to the exercise of full citizenship rights by all Bolivians. With this goal in mind, the Analysis Unit for Social and Economic Policy (UDAPE, in Spanish) and the United Nations System in Bolivia publish this newsletter to inform on and share knowledge about the status of the social situation in Potosí, so as to promote reflection and discussion about ongoing social public policies and supplementation with new necessary interventions to achieve concrete exercise of the citizenship rights enshrined in the new Constitution.



Childrens on school party. (Fundación CONGRESOL Potosí).

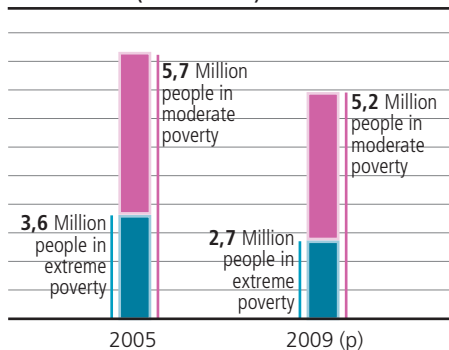
# 1 Reducing Extreme Poverty IMPROVED MATERIAL CONDITIONS FOR THE PEOPLE

In Bolivia, extreme poverty has declined significantly in recent years, particularly since 2007. In 2005, nearly four in ten people were extremely poor; by 2009 only one in four people was living in such condition. In absolute terms, in 2009 there were 2.7 million people who were not able to earn income to buy staple foods (which means extreme poverty). In the

same year, 5.2 million people lived in moderate poverty.

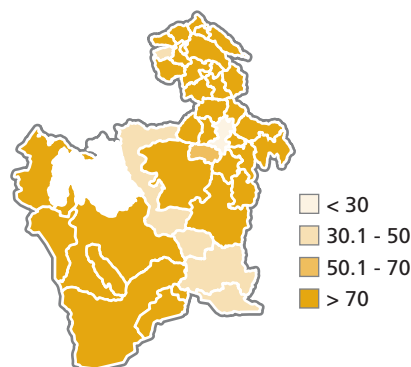
**In Potosí, data for 2001 show that 66.7% of the people were extremely poor, which means there were 470,020 people living in extreme poverty. This figure was significantly higher than the national average of 40.4% registered in 2001.**

## BOLIVIA: NUMBER OF POOR AND EXTREMELY POOR PEOPLE (IN MILLIONS)



Source: UDAPE, (2010). (p): preliminary.

## INCIDENCE OF EXTREME POVERTY (%) - 2001



Source: The authors, based on UDAPE (2010).  
Note: Data for municipalities are shown in summary table.

Within the department, of the 38 municipalities in Potosí, 14 had extreme poverty figures above 90% in 2001 (see map). On the other end, only the municipality of Potosí has an extreme poverty rate under 30% in the same year.

The figures for extreme poverty both in Bolivia and Potosí are significantly higher than the Latin American average as only 12.6% of the people in the region lived in extreme poverty in 2007.



# 2 Primary School FOR ALL CHILDREN

The road to universal primary education, measured by increased access of children to this education level, shows significant progress. In 2008, 90% of children were enrolled in primary school. In Potosí, primary school coverage in 2008 reached 90.3%; this figure placed the department in a position slightly above the nationwide average.

Of a total of 165,294 children of primary school age in Potosí, 149,245 were enrolled, which means that **there were approximately**

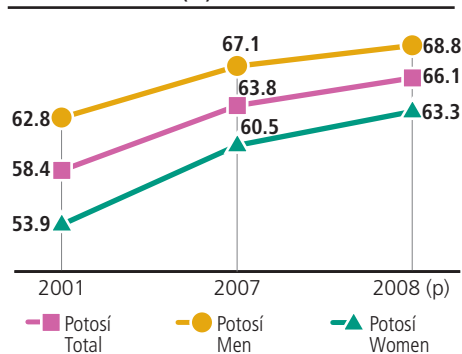
**16,049 children between 6 and 13 years of age who did not attend primary school.**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade completion rate maintained a positive trend in the department. In 2008, this rate reached 66.1%; and was below the country average. On the other hand, the gap in completion rates between men and women has been closing in time. While in 2001 the rate for men was significantly higher (in almost nine points), in 2008 the rate for men was only over five points above the rate for

women (68.8% and 63.3%, respectively).

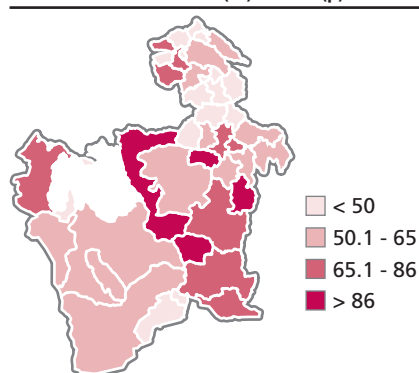
Of the total of municipalities in Potosí, only five have completion rates of 8<sup>th</sup> grade of elementary school above 90%; these are: Llallagua (95.7%), Vitichi (90.6%), Atocha (109.3%), Uyuni (102.6%) and Porco (91%)<sup>1</sup>. On the other end, the municipalities of Tinguipaya (22%) and Tacobamba (23.5%) had completion rates of 8<sup>th</sup> grade of elementary school below 25%.

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPLETION RATE (%)



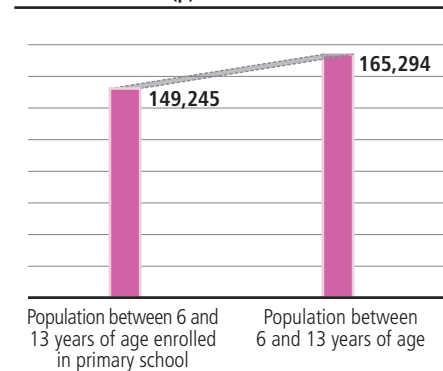
Source: SIE, (2010). (p): preliminary.

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPLETION RATE BY MUNICIPALITY (%) - 2008 (p)



Source: The authors, based on SIE, (2010). (p): preliminary.  
Note: Data for municipalities are shown in summary table.

## NUMBER OF ENROLLED STUDENTS AND POPULATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE IN POTOSÍ - 2008 (p)



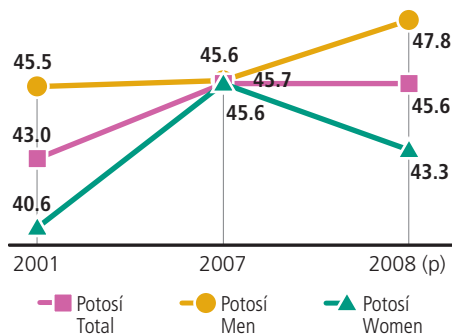
Source: SIE and INE for population projections, (2010). (p): preliminary.

1. Rates over 100% in some municipalities may be due to: (i) the fact that the population age range applied to the numerator and denominator is not the same, (ii) errors in population projection for people between 6 and 13 years of age.

### 3 Universal Secondary Education THE NEW CHALLENGE

In Bolivia, the coverage and completion rates of secondary school show a growing trend; however, these indicators are lower than those of primary school. In 2008, the percentage of adolescents between 14 and 17 years enrolled in school was 55% and secondary school completion rate, at 4<sup>th</sup> grade, was 56%. In the department of Potosí, secondary school coverage was significantly below the national average; secondary school coverage was 45.9% in 2008.

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL COMPLETION RATE (%)

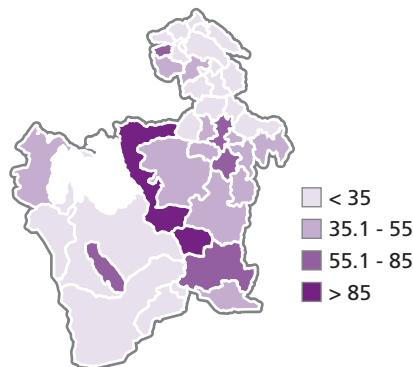


Source: SIE, (2010). (p): preliminary.

Of a total of 72,839 adolescents of secondary school age in Potosí, 33,438 were enrolled, which means there were 39,401 young people between 14 and 17 years of age (54.4%) who did not attend secondary school in that department.

The completion rate of 4<sup>th</sup> grade of secondary school in Potosí maintains a positive trend, although it is below the national average. In 2008, it was 45.6%. Also, the gap between men and women is still wide. In 2008, the gender

#### 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL COMPLETION RATE BY MUNICIPALITY (%) - 2008 (p)

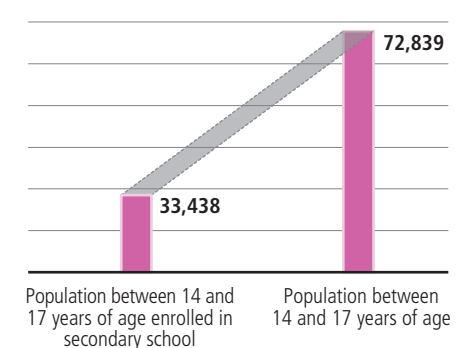


Source: The authors, based on SIE (2010). (p): preliminary. Note: Data for municipalities are shown in summary table.

gap was 4.5 points higher for men (47.8% for men and 43.3% for women).

Of the 38 municipalities in the department of Potosí, four have completion rates of 4<sup>th</sup> grade of secondary school below 10%: Tinguipaya (3.7%), Tacobamba (8.4%), Colquechaca (8.6%), and Ravelo (7.5%). Among the municipalities with completion rates of 4<sup>th</sup> grade of secondary school above 70% are Llallagua (79.9%), Tupiza (74.8%), Atocha (89.5%), and Uyuni (104.8%)<sup>2</sup>.

#### NUMBER OF ENROLLED STUDENTS AND POPULATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL AGE IN POTOSÍ - 2008 (p)



Source: SIE and INE for population projections, (2010). (p): preliminary.

### 4 Preventing Infant Mortality A DUTY FOR ALL

While infant mortality decreased significantly in the past 20 years in the country, Bolivia continues to be in the second to last position in terms of infant mortality in Latin America, only ahead of Haiti.

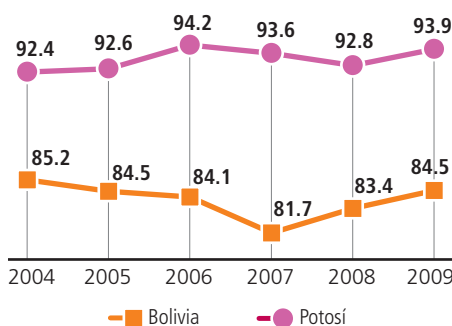
In 1989, out of every 1,000 live births, 82 children died before their first birthday at the

national level. In 2008, this figure dropped to 50.

The departments with the lowest mortality rates are Santa Cruz (31 per 1,000 live births) and Tarija (37 per 1,000 live births). In addition, the department with the highest infant mortality rate is Potosí (101 per 1,000 live births).

In the case of Potosí, infant mortality in 2008 was 101 children per 1,000 live births, which is the highest mortality rate among the departments in the country. **This means that 2,364 children died before reaching one year of age in that department in 2008.**

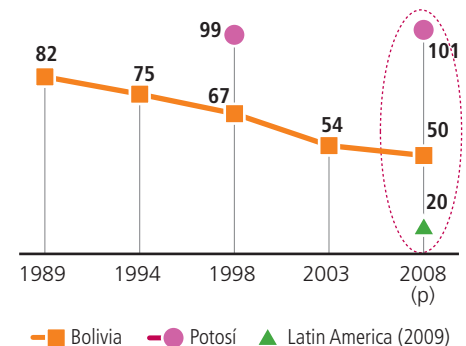
#### PENTAVALENT VACCINE IN THIRD DOSE COVERAGE (%)



Source: UDAPE, (2010).



#### INFANT MORTALITY RATE (FOR 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)



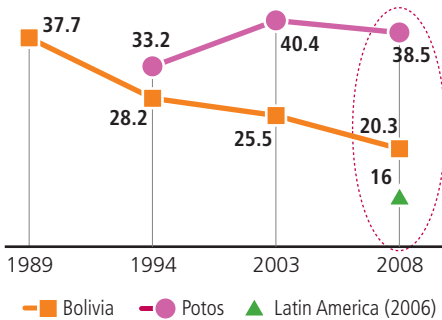
Source: INE (2010); ECLAC (2010), (p): preliminary.

2. Rates over 100% in some municipalities may be due to: (i) the fact that the population age range applied to the numerator and denominator is not the same, (ii) errors in population projection for people between 14 and 17 years of age.

## 5 Malnutrition ACHIEVING ADEQUATE NUTRITION FOR CHILDREN

The nutritional status of children in Bolivia has improved in recent years. In 1989, 37.7 out of every 100 children under the age of three were suffering from chronic malnutrition, which meant that they had insufficient height for their age. By 2008, this figure fell to 20 out of every 100. Chronic malnutrition is the most serious

### ▶ INFANT CHRONIC MALNUTRITION RATE AMONG CHILDREN UNDER 3 YEARS OF AGE (%)

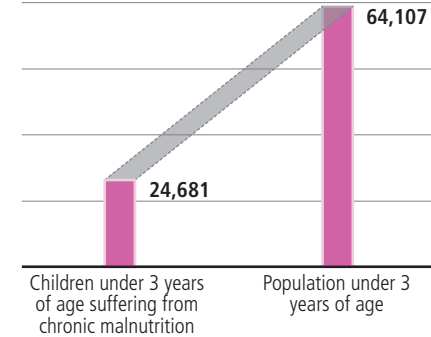


Source: UDAPE (2010), ECLAC (2010).

type of malnutrition, since it affects the prospects of physical and mental development of children.

**It is estimated that in 2008 there were about 24,681 children less than three years of age suffering from chronic malnutrition in Potosí.** The department had a rate of 38.5%

### ▶ NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 3 YEARS OF AGE AND THOSE SUFFERING FROM CHRONIC MALNUTRITION IN POTOSÍ, 2008



Source: UDAPE (2010).

in 2008, which is the highest chronic malnutrition rate in the country.

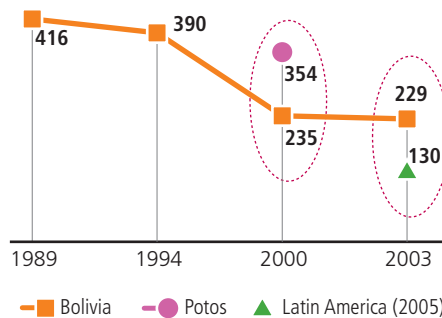
If we compare these figures, we conclude that Potosí has malnutrition rates significantly above the national average and that those even double the average in Latin America, where 16% of children suffered from chronic malnutrition in 2008.



## 6 Maternal Health FOR THE HEALTH OF ALL MOTHERS

In Bolivia, for every 100,000 live births, 229 mothers died from complications during pregnancy or childbirth, (according to the latest data available for 2003)<sup>3</sup>. Bolivia is far from achieving the Latin American maternal mortality levels, where the regional average was 130 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2005.

### ▶ MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS)



Source: UDAPE, (2010); ECLAC, (2010).

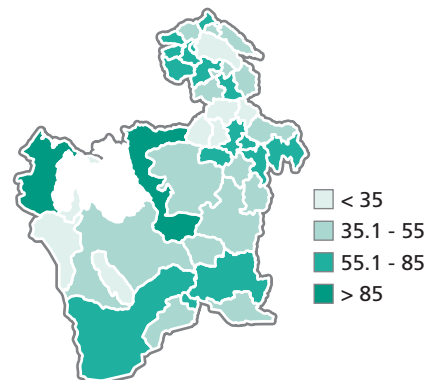
Delivery attendance provided by qualified personnel in Bolivia shows a positive trend and a 2-percent growth compared to 2008 (from 65% to 67% between 2008 and 2009, respectively).

In the department of Potosí, 13,191 births were attended by qualified personnel (institutional delivery) in 2009, which in terms of percentage meant 57.4%. This implies that ap-

**proximately 9,776 Potosí mothers did not give birth within the health system.**

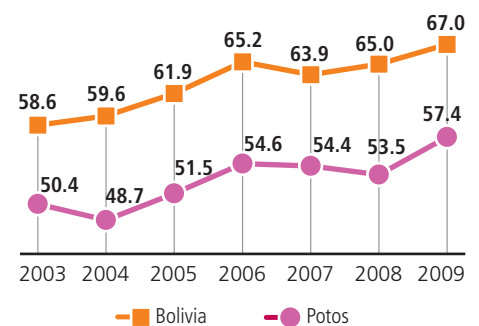
Of all municipalities in Potosí, three of them had rates of institutional delivery coverage under 20% in 2009: Yocalla (22.4%), San Pedro de Quemes (18.1%), and Tahua (15%). On the other end, there are two municipalities with institutional delivery rates above 90%: Uyuni (92.9%) and Llica (95.6%).

### ▶ INSTITUTIONAL DELIVERY COVERAGE BY MUNICIPALITY (%) - 2009



Source: The authors, based on UDAPE, (2010).  
Note: Data for municipalities are shown in summary table.

### ▶ INSTITUTIONAL DELIVERY COVERAGE (%)



Source: UDAPE, (2010).

3. The maternal mortality rate for 2008 was estimated at 310 per 100,000 live births. However, the data have been observed due to problems of statistical significance in the Demographic and Health Survey of the National Institute of Statistics and the Ministry of Health and Sport.

## NATIONWIDE SUMMARY OF SOCIAL INDICATORS

Indicator	Bolivia	Chuquisaca	La Paz	Cochabamba	Oruro	Potosí	Tarija	Santa Cruz	Beni	Pando
Extreme poverty percentage (%) - 2001	40.4	61.5	42.4	39.0	46.3	66.7	32.8	25.1	41.0	34.7
Net primary school coverage (%) - 2008	90.0	84.3	90.1	92.0	93.5	90.3	85.3	88.9	96.3	96.8
Completion rate through 8 <sup>th</sup> grade (%) - 2008	77.3	57.5	87.8	73.6	88.9	66.1	74.8	77.8	74.4	63.1
Net secondary school coverage (%) - 2008	54.7	36.5	63.4	52.5	70.1	45.9	51.1	53.5	52.9	40.2
Completion rate through 4 <sup>th</sup> grade of high school - 2008	56.3	38.0	69.3	56.1	74.9	45.6	51.3	51.5	47.0	37.5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (%) - 2008	50	42	63	63	56	101	37	31	39	47
Percentage of chronic malnutrition in children under 3 years of age (%) - 2008	20.3	26.3	20.6	24.0	28.5	38.5	11.0	7.1	12.1	10.3
Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births (%) - 2000	235	140	326	142	224	354	124	207	267	n.d.
Institutional delivery coverage (%) - 2009	67.0	64.5	62.7	68.4	86.3	57.4	70.9	68.0	77.8	78.3

Source: UDAPE, (2010); SIE (2010).

## MUNICIPAL SUMMARY OF SOCIAL INDICATORS IN POTOSÍ

Map Code	Municipality	Extreme poverty incidence 2001	Net primary school coverage 2008	8 <sup>th</sup> grade of primary completion rate 2008	Net secondary school coverage 2008	4 <sup>th</sup> grade of secondary completion rate 2008	Infant mortality rate 2001	Institutional delivery coverage 2009
1	Sección Capital Potosí	25.1	107.0	85.6	64.9	62.0	78.0	75.8
2	Primera Sección Tinguipaya	97.0	79.6	22.0	6.2	3.7	115.6	30.4
3	Segunda Sección Yocalla	76.6	72.0	63.0	41.3	39.2	78.5	22.4
4	Tercera Sección Urmiri	89.9	43.8	37.7	17.6	17.5	115.6	25.0
5	Primera Sección Uncía	76.2	96.0	72.0	45.7	47.3	137.0	71.5
6	Segunda Sección Chayanta	87.1	100.2	67.2	46.0	31.5	122.8	58.6
7	Tercera Sección Llallagua	41.1	109.6	95.7	80.2	79.9	95.1	71.9
8	Primera Sección Betanzos	85.8	77.9	52.2	26.4	28.9	93.6	46.8
9	Segunda Sección Chaquí	85.6	72.3	70.8	47.7	53.5	73.2	31.9
10	Tercera Sección Tacobamba	95.7	70.0	23.5	10.7	8.4	113.6	26.7
11	Primera Sección Colquechaca	93.6	73.9	28.5	11.6	8.6	128.5	47.8
12	Segunda Sección Ravelo	96.5	80.0	32.8	9.8	7.5	107.2	39.2
13	Tercera Sección Pocoata	92.7	84.8	54.8	37.3	39.0	123.4	58.4
14	Cuarta Sección Ocurí	95.4	75.6	29.7	16.1	10.2	115.0	57.1
15	Primera Sección San Pedro de Buena Vista	96.8	88.3	50.4	22.8	24.4	131.0	26.6
16	Segunda Sección Toro Toro	94.3	96.6	54.1	24.3	20.6	118.9	40.1
17	Primera Sección Cotagaita	80.4	92.1	73.5	49.4	45.7	92.9	50.4
18	Segunda Sección Vítichi	85.3	88.8	90.6	46.8	54.5	90.0	52.3
19	Primera Sección Sacaca (Villa de Sacaca)	93.7	87.2	38.3	14.7	15.4	138.1	42.4
20	Segunda Sección Caripuyo	94.2	91.8	77.3	46.4	26.8	170.4	61.2
21	Primera Sección Tupiza	48.4	90.9	80.2	60.6	74.8	69.1	68.9
22	Segunda Sección Atocha	39.8	127.0	109.3	80.0	89.5	102.9	38.5
23	Primera Sección Colcha "K" (Villa Martín)	77.4	75.0	62.8	38.4	32.9	99.6	39.5
24	Segunda Sección San Pedro de Quemes	71.1	34.2	63.9	22.8	25.6	80.7	18.1
25	Primera Sección San Pablo de López	85.2	84.7	55.6	28.3	20.9	113.5	77.1
26	Segunda Sección Mojinete	90.3	73.8	28.8	36.1	19.9	120.1	75.3
27	Tercera Sección San Antonio de Esmoruco	95.7	60.3	36.1	13.8	25.0	91.7	45.9
28	Primera Sección Puna (Villa Talavera)	84.6	81.9	58.1	37.2	37.9	95.1	57.3
29	Segunda Sección Caiza "D"	78.5	75.4	58.7	49.7	69.3	78.3	48.5
30	Primera Sección Uyuni	42.2	115.0	102.6	90.4	104.8	81.1	92.9
31	Segunda Sección Tomave	83.4	75.4	59.2	39.4	43.7	105.1	39.8
32	Tercera Sección Porco	65.9	136.4	91.0	56.3	52.2	85.2	65.2
33	Primera Sección Arampampa	95.1	69.9	38.0	12.3	10.2	103.3	64.8
34	Segunda Sección Acasio	94.7	86.8	65.9	34.8	30.3	122.3	50.6
35	Primera Sección Llica	72.4	102.3	75.1	46.0	53.7	78.4	95.6
36	Segunda Sección Tahua	79.4	50.8	36.1	12.6	18.2	105.5	15.0
37	Primera Sección Villazón	37.9	82.5	82.2	59.3	40.3	76.7	52.4
38	Primera Sección San Agustín	88.7	69.7	64.1	35.7	55.9	93.7	33.1

Source: UDAPE, (2010); SIE (2010).

## Bolivian stories and legends come to life!



*Revista del Futuro* is the best radio news program in the opinion of a majority of 1,500 listeners surveyed by Ruizmier Company in December 2007. The survey was conducted in the Bolivian intermediate cities of Camargo, Mizque, Punata, Villa Tunari, Copacabana, Guaqui, Pucarani, Challapata, Huanuni, Llallagua, Tupiza, Concepción, San Julian, and Villamontes. In order to innovate and reinvent the program, the producers of this radio show dedicated several programs in 2009 to broadcast Bolivian stories and legends such as the one about the Fox and the Star (narrated by anthropologist Xavier Albo); the now world-famous story of the Israelites saved from death by the *Tacana* indigenous people; the legend of the *Tigregente*; the sad story about an American tycoon drowned in Rio Beni; the unspeakable nightmare of a woman running away from *El Duende* (*the Goblin*); the damned of the mine; and the intriguing story of the *Chupagrasa* (*Fatsucker*).

All these stories can be listened to at:  
<http://idh.pnud.bo>.

## REFERENCES

### Extreme poverty:

The nationwide indicator can be obtained periodically on the basis of household surveys. However, the representativeness of the estimates is insufficient to disaggregate indicators for smaller geographic areas such as department, province, and municipality. The calculation of this indicator for departmental and municipal levels was performed by UDAPE, INE, and the World Bank, by combining consumer spending estimates in the 2001 Census and three household surveys (1999, 2000, and 2001). This methodology cannot be replicated annually and data are available only for 2001.

### Primary and secondary school:

Data at nationwide, departmental, and municipal levels are obtained from administrative records available from the Ministry of Education Information System, and population projection from the National Institute of Statistics.

### Infant mortality:

The infant mortality rate is estimated by both direct and indirect methods. The 2001 Census is one of the sources to measure the indicator by an indirect method and the National Demographic and Health Survey (ENDSA) provides historical information on births to estimate the indicator by means of a direct method.

### Child Malnutrition:

This indicator is calculated on the basis of ENSA. It measures and shows the nutritional status of children under three years of age and provides a more accurate assessment of their condition.

### Maternal mortality rate and coverage of institutional deliveries:

The number of maternal deaths is calculated on the basis of ENSA. For departmental disaggregation, the 2002 Post Census Maternal Mortality Survey was taken into account, but it collects information on maternal deaths which occurred in the year 2000. This information is not comparable to that obtained by means of ENSA.

Institutional delivery is the childbirth that occurs within healthcare facilities or outside of those (i.e. at home), but is attended by skilled health care personnel (doctor, nurse and/or nurse auxiliary). It does not include home childbirth attended by midwives, although they may have been trained by health care personnel.

This newsletter is a joint effort by the Analysis Unit for Social and Economic Policy (UDAPE, in Spanish) and the United Nations Program for Development (UNDP). Its goal is to disseminate information on social indicators to promote and prioritize development topics in the national agenda. The ultimate goal of this initiative is to contribute toward achieving poverty reduction, access to education and health, gender equality, basic services, and protection of the environment. Information contained in this publication is based on official data from the Government of Bolivia and/or data provided by international organizations in the case of comparative information from the Latin American region.



### United Nations System in Bolivia

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# REFERENCE MAP

## POTOSI

