

THE ROAD TO DEVELOPMENT IN Beni

Newsletter on the Social Situation in the Department | 2011

CURRENT SITUATION

General Information	Bolivia	Beni
Number of people living in extreme poverty - 2001	3,323,307	150,369
Children between 6 and 13 years of age not attending primary school - 2008	190,148	3,423
Students who completed primary school (8 th grade) - 2008	175,643	8,051
Adolescents between 14 and 17 years of age not attending secondary school - 2008	397,678	19,380
Students who completed secondary school (4 th grade) - 2008	120,440	4,659
Children who died before their first birthday - 2008	13,736	520
Children under three years of age suffering from chronic malnutrition - 2008	158,899	4,556
Mothers who gave birth outside the health system - 2009	91,982	2,951

RELEVANT DATA

- Four out of ten people were extremely poor in the department of Beni in 2001.
- Primary school coverage in the department shows substantial progress towards achievement of universal education, as in 2008 net enrollment rate was at 96.3%, the second highest percentage in the country.
- Secondary education coverage in Beni is below the national average, but it shows an increasing trend, as net enrollment rate increased to 53% in 2008.
- Infant mortality rate for 2008 was 39 children per 1,000 live births in the department. This means that 520 children died before their first birthday in that year.
- It is estimated that in 2008 there were 4,556 children under 3 years of age suffering from chronic malnutrition in Beni.
- In Beni, 10,321 institutional births were attended in 2009; however there is a slight decline in delivery attention compared to the previous period, from 81% to 79% in 2008 and 2009.

The recent years have been a very important period for the improvement of living conditions of Bolivians and Beni 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 model, and the new education law follow these lines. In particular, the department of Beni has shown important improvements in social indicators, particularly in education, coverage of births attended by trained personnel, and reduction of malnutrition rates. However, the evolution of several indicators of well-being has begun to show deceleration. This phenomenon is not a problem unique to Beni, as it affects all the departments and it is an unequivocal sign of the gradual exhaustion of traditional economic and social policies. This situation reveals a need for new public policy mechanisms, improved

participatory processes, increased attention to public service quality, new institutional coordination frameworks, as well as new social oversight mechanisms.

The gaps in access to education and health, 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 constitutional statements: 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 Beni, 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.



Girls of Mojeño ethnic group in Santa Rosa del Apere.

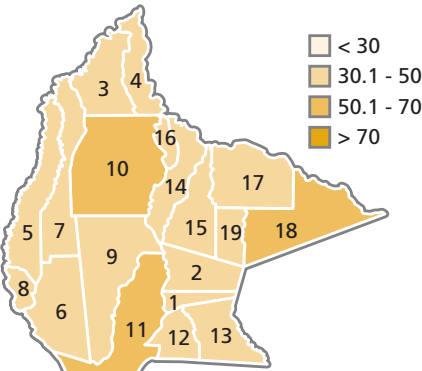
1 Reducing Extreme Poverty IMPROVED MATERIAL CONDITIONS FOR THE PEOPLE

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.

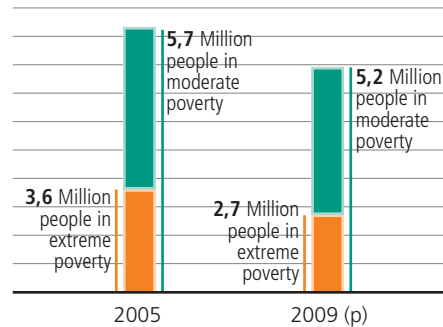
In Beni, data for 2001 show that 41% of the people were extremely poor, which means there were 150,369 people living in extreme poverty. This figure was slightly higher than the national average of 40.4% registered in 2001.

INCIDENCE OF EXTREME POVERTY (%) - 2001



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

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



Fuente: UDAPE, (2010). (p): preliminar

Within the department, the municipalities do not reveal very significant disparities in terms of extreme poverty. However, Exaltación (53%), San Ignacio (52%), and Baures (58%) have percentages of extreme poverty higher than 50% (see map).

The figures for extreme poverty both in Bolivia and the department of Beni are significantly higher than the regional average, as only 12.6% of Latin Americans 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 Beni, net primary school coverage in 2008 reached 96.3%, the second highest in the country.

In Beni, of a total of 91,941 primary school aged children, 88,518 were actually enrolled, which means that **there were approximately**

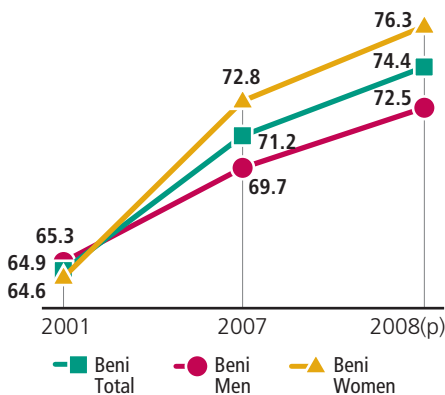
3,423 children between 6 and 13 years of age who did not attend primary school.

The 8th grade completion rate maintained a positive trend in the department. In 2008, this rate reached 74%; however, this rate is below the national average of 77%.

On the other hand, women gained, in relative terms, higher levels of completion than men. Of the 19 municipalities of the department of Beni, nine have rates of 8th grade

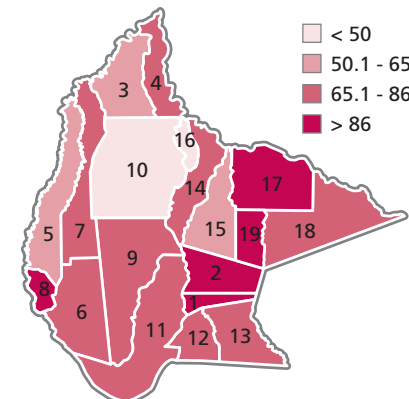
completion higher than the national average; these are San Andrés (79%), San Joaquin (79%), Santa Ana del Yacuma (79%), Puerto Guayaramerín (82%), Puerto Rurrenabaque (87%), Huacaraje (87%), Trinidad (88%), San Javier (99%), and Magdalena (106%)¹. Among the municipalities with 8th grade completion lower than 50% are Exaltación (12%) and Puerto Siles (32%).

8TH GRADE COMPLETION RATE (%)



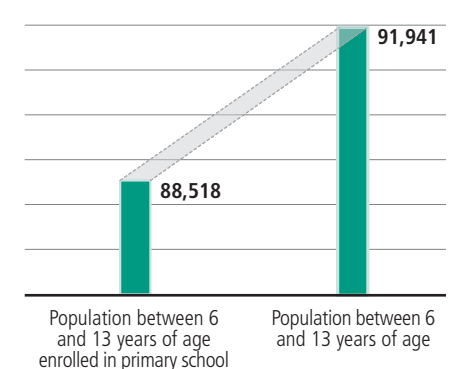
Source: SIE, (2010). (p): preliminar.

8TH GRADE COMPLETION RATE BY MUNICIPALITY (%) - 2008 (p)



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

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



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

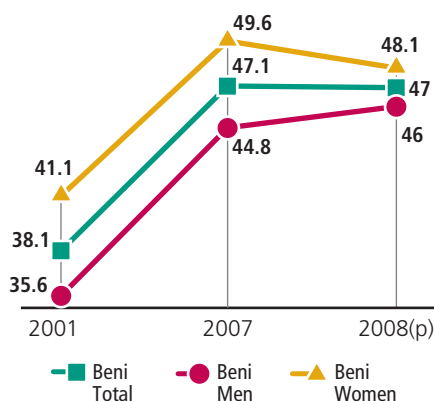
¹ Rates over 100% in some municipalities may be due to: (i) the fact that the population age range applied to the numerator and denominator is not the same, (ii) errors in population projection for people between 6 and 13 years of age.

3 Universal Secondary Education THE NEW CHALLENGE

Coverage and completion rate of secondary school, at the nationwide scale, 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 4th grade, was 56%.

In the department of Beni, secondary school coverage is below the national average, but it shows a growing trend. Net coverage increased

4TH GRADE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL COMPLETION RATE (%)

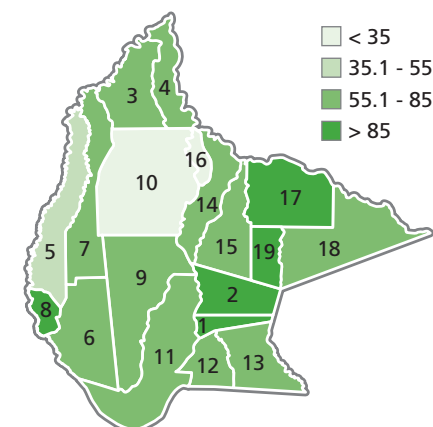


Source: SIE, (2010). (p): preliminary.

and reached 53% in 2008. Of a total of 41,168 youths of secondary school age in Beni, 21,788 were enrolled, which means **there were 19,380 young people of that department (47%) between 14 and 17 years of age who did not attend secondary school.**

The completion rate of 4th grade of secondary school in Beni maintains a positive trend for 2008, at 47%; however, this rate has stagnated since 2007. Secondary school completion rates have grown at the expense of men. Only four

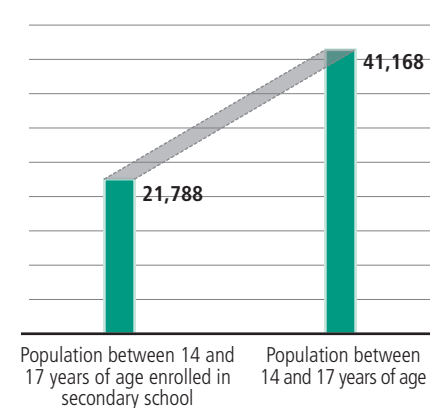
4TH GRADE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL COMPLETION RATE BY MUNICIPALITY (%) - 2008 (p)



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

of the 19 municipalities have completion rates of 4th grade of secondary school higher than the national average; those are Puerto Guayaramerín (63%), Trinidad (64%), Magdalena (75%), and Baures (135%)². Among the municipalities with completion rates of 4th grade of secondary school below 20% are Exaltation (4%), San Andrés (11%), Santa Rosa (13%), Loreto (15%), San Javier (15%), Puerto Siles (16%), and Reyes (19%).

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

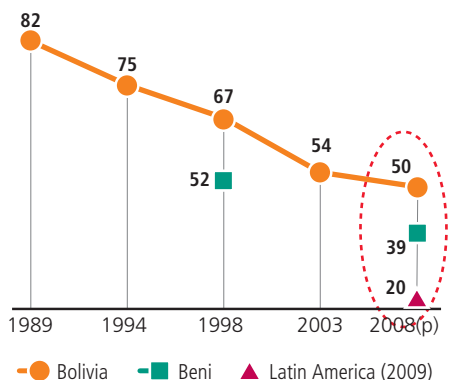


Source: SIE and INE for population projections, (2010). (p): preliminary.

4 Preventing Infant Mortality: A DUTY FOR ALL

While infant mortality indicators have improved 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.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE (FOR 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)

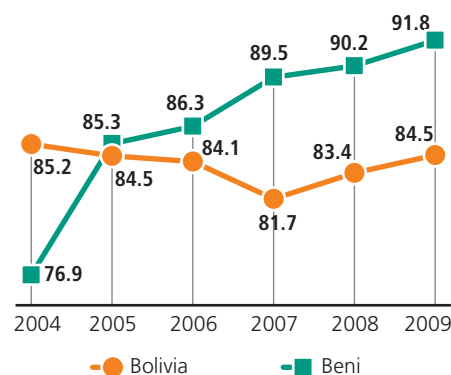


Source: INE (2010); ECLAC (2010), (p): preliminary

In 1989, out of every 1,000 live births, 82 children died before their first birthday. In 2008, this figure dropped to 50.

The departments with the lowest mortality rates are Santa Cruz (31 per 1,000 live births)

PENTAVALENT VACCINE IN THIRD DOSE COVERAGE (%)



Source: UDAPE, (2010)

and Tarija (37 per 1,000 live births). In addition, the department with the highest infant mortality rate is Potosi (101 per 1,000 live births).

In the case of Beni, infant mortality for 2008 was 39 children per 1,000 live births. **This means that in 2008, 520 children died before reaching one year of age.**



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

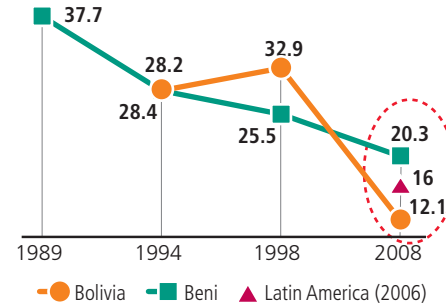
The nutritional status of children in Bolivia has improved in recent years. In 1989, 37.7% of the children under the age of three were suffering from chronic malnutrition, which meant that they had insufficient height for their age. By 2008, this figure fell to 20 out of every 100. Chronic malnutrition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



It is estimated that in 2008 there were about 4,556 children less than three years of age suffering from chronic malnutrition in Beni.

Potosí (38.5%), Oruro (28.5%), and Chuquisaca (26.3%) had high prevalence of chronic malnutrition among children under the age of three. The departments with better

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

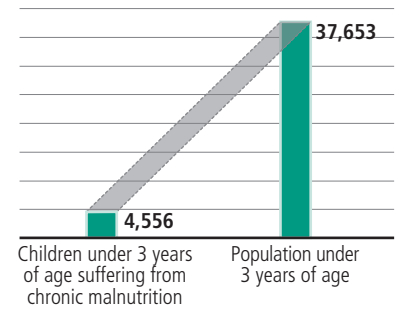


Source: UDAPE (2010), ECLAC (2010).

indicators are Santa Cruz (7.1%) and Pando (10.3%)

By comparing these figures, we conclude that Bolivia and Beni are behind the rest of Latin America, since, on average, only 16% of children suffer from chronic malnutrition in the region.

► NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 3 YEARS OF AGE AND THOSE SUFFERING FROM CHRONIC MALNUTRITION IN BENI - 2008



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

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)³. 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.

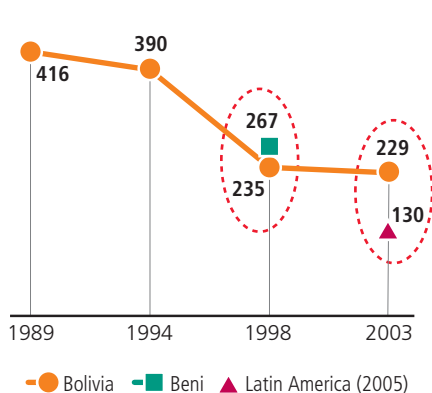
In terms of delivery attendance provided by qualified personnel, Bolivia shows a positive trend and a 2-percent growth compared

to 2008 (from 65% to 67% between 2008 and 2009, respectively).

In the department of Beni, 10,321 births were attended institutionally by qualified personnel in 2009; however, this rate shows a reduction in the percentage of delivery care compared to that of the previous period, from 81% to 79% in 2008 to 2009. This means that **approximately 2,951 Beni mothers did not give birth within the health system.**

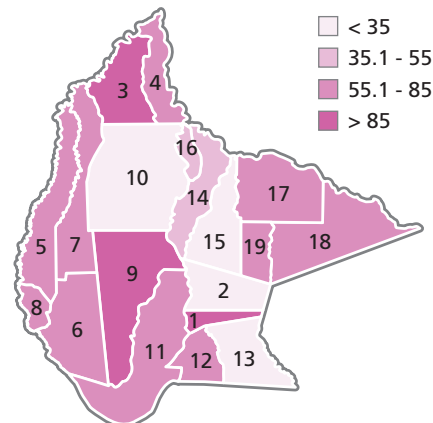
Of all the municipalities in Beni, only 8 of them have rates of institutional delivery coverage above the national average; those are: Santa Rosa (69%), Puerto Rurrenabaque (71%), San Ignacio (73%), Puerto Guayaramerín (78%), Magdalena (79%), Trinidad (94%), Santa Ana del Yacuma (94%), and Riberalta (95%). At the other extreme, Exaltación (6%) and San Javier (12%) have an institutional delivery coverage rate below 20%.

► MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS)



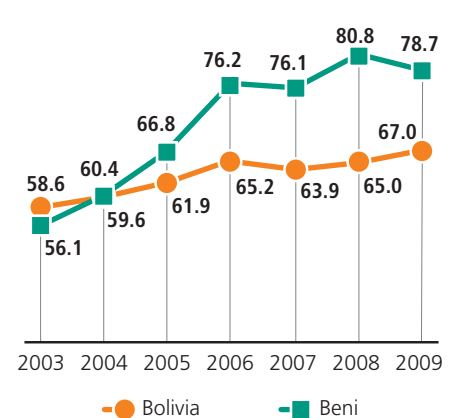
Source: UDAPE, (2010); ECLAC, (2010)

► INSTITUTIONAL DELIVERY COVERAGE BY MUNICIPALITY (%) - 2009



Source: The authors, based on UDAPE, (2010).
Note: 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 th 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 th 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/a
Institutional delivery coverage (%) - 2009	67.0	64.5	62.7	68.4	86.3	57.4	70.9	68.0	77.8	78.3

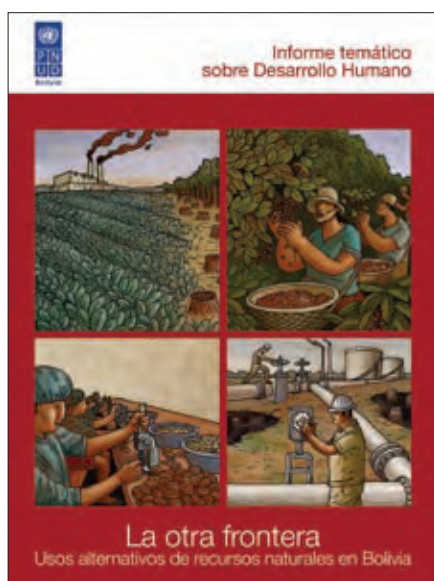
Source: UDAPE, (2010); SIE (2010).

MUNICIPAL SUMMARY OF SOCIAL INDICATORS IN BENI

Map Code	Municipality	Extreme poverty incidence 2001	Net primary school coverage 2008	8 th grade of primary completion rate 2008	Net secondary school coverage 2008	4 th grade of secondary completion rate 2008	Infant mortality rate 2001	Institutional delivery coverage 2009
1	Trinidad, capital	33.7	103.1	87.8	65.0	63.6	53.6	93.7
2	San Javier	33.8	139.1	99.0	23.1	15.4	70.3	12.0
3	Riberalta	46.0	98.8	65.0	45.4	37.7	66.6	94.8
4	Puerto Guayaramerín	30.6	99.4	82.0	78.3	63.0	55.3	77.4
5	Reyes	42.0	73.5	54.7	28.3	18.8	53.7	55.8
6	San Borja	42.4	102.7	67.0	39.6	35.0	53.5	61.6
7	Santa Rosa	49.9	91.3	74.9	34.9	12.9	54.6	68.8
8	Puerto Rurrenabaque	41.2	94.6	87.1	51.7	51.0	62.3	70.7
9	Santa Ana del Yacuma	45.2	100.4	79.5	57.7	50.8	51.5	93.7
10	Exaltación	52.6	33.0	12.1	4.3	3.7	56.1	5.9
11	San Ignacio	51.6	94.8	73.1	53.0	46.2	64.8	72.7
12	Loreto	42.0	127.9	71.3	41.7	15.0	77.8	62.5
13	San Andrés	49.5	106.8	78.6	36.5	11.0	62.8	33.4
14	San Joaquín	43.3	97.5	79.3	46.1	38.9	53.8	47.3
15	San Ramón	42.7	61.4	62.4	42.5	32.7	42.4	0.0
16	Puerto Siles	43.5	66.2	31.7	36.9	15.6	70.1	46.0
17	Magdalena	47.7	95.3	106.2	67.7	75.0	38.0	78.6
18	Baures	58.4	78.2	75.0	81.2	135.0	50.5	58.8
19	Huacaraje	42.9	87.1	87.3	63.0	44.8	52.3	59.4

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

A green Bolivia has a future!



The thematic report 2008 entitled “*La otra frontera: usos alternativos de los recursos naturales*” (*The Other Frontier: Alternative Uses of Natural Resources*) is a research project which, on the bases of over 24 case studies in 7 different regions of Bolivia (northern Amazonian region, savannas, forests of southeastern region, Chaco, Yungas, the valleys, and the altiplano), identifies successful experiences of organic trade, sustainable forest management, bio-trade, eco-tourism, and management of environmental services.

La Otra Frontera show cases half a million small and medium producers of an alternative and diverse sector which contributes about USD 300 million to our economy and generates about 370,000 direct jobs.

This report, produced in Bolivia by a national team of researchers, won the 2008 award for excellence in policy analysis, awarded worldwide by the UNDP. The report can be purchased in all good bookshops or can be found 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 ENSDA. 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 ENSDA. 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 ENSDA.

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

Calle 14 esq. Av. Sánchez Bustamante
Edificio Metrobol II, Calacoto
Phone: 591 - 2 - 2795544
www.nu.org.bo
La Paz - Bolivia



Analysis Unit for Social and Economic Policy (UDAPE)

Av. Mariscal Santa Cruz
Edif. Centro de Comunicaciones La Paz, piso 18
Phone: 591 - 2 - 2375512
www.udape.gob.bo
La Paz - Bolivia

REFERENCE MAP

BENI

