Dikgale Health and Demographic Surveillance Site, South Africa

Brief Introduction

Dikgale HDSS is located in the Capricorn district, Limpopo Province approximately 40 km from Polokwane, the capital city of Limpopo province and 15-50 km from the University of Limpopo (Turfloop campus). The site covers an area of approximately 200 square kilometres. Initially the total population was 8000 but the fielsite was expanded in 2010 and now includes approximately 35000 people who are members of approximately 7000 households. The households are present in 15 villages of varying sizes. The population is se-Pedi speaking. All households have electricity. Some households have piped water either inside the house or in their yards, but most fetch water, but most fetch water from taps situated at strategic points in the villages. Most households have a pit latrine in their yards. A large proportion of adults are migrant workers, while others work as farm labourers on neighbouring farms, or as domestic workers in nearby towns. Many are pensioners. The unemployment rate in the area is high.

The full eligibility criteria for the Dikgale HDSS cohort, individuals must be a member of a household within the surveillance area but not necessarily resident within it. Crucially it means that Dikgale HDSS collects information on resident and non-resident members of households and makes a distinction between membership (self-defined on the basis of links to other household members) and residency.

During data collection,
Fig. 1 Male and female population by age and sex, Dikgale HDSS, 2011

Demographic Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crude Birth Rate (CBR)</td>
<td>12.3 per 1000 population</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Fertility Rate (TFR)</td>
<td>1.5 children per woman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crude Death Rate (CDR)</td>
<td>7.4 per 1000 population</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neonatal Mortality</td>
<td>0.0 per 1000 live births</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-neonatal Mortality</td>
<td>0.0 per 1000 live births</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infant Mortality</td>
<td>0.0 per 1000 live births</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Mortality (1-4 years)</td>
<td>10 per 1000 children aged 1-4 years</td>
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<td>Rate of Natural Increase</td>
<td>5.0 per 1000 population</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-Migration</td>
<td>10.6 per 1000 population</td>
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<tr>
<td>Out-Migration</td>
<td>32.6 per 1000 population</td>
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<tr>
<td>Growth</td>
<td>1.0 per 100 population</td>
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Objectives
The primary purpose of the surveillance system is to generate relevant health, demographic and socio-economic information.

**Priority research areas**

The primary purpose is the study of the prevalence of chronic diseases and their risk factors and to introduce an intervention for the prevention and management of chronic diseases.

**Funders**

VLIR
University of Limpopo

**Collaborators**

University of Antwerpen, Belgium
Wits University

**Key Publications**


