MINISTRY OF HEALTH

County Sanitation Profiles

wsp water and sanitation program

State of Sanitation in West Pokot County

POPULATION[1]

512,690

Urban

8%

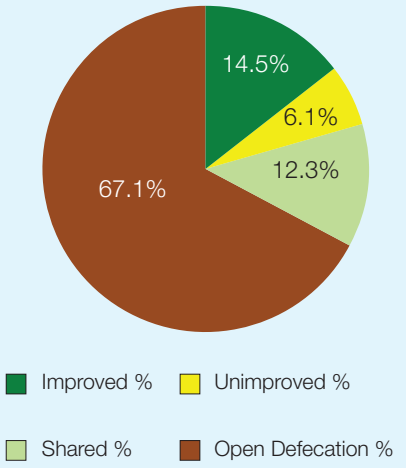
Population under 5 years

11.3%

Population density

56 / km²

Sanitation coverage[2]



Why does coverage matter?

Sanitation is a constitutional right in Kenya, the responsibility for which rests on the shoulders of the County Government.

Universal access to improved sanitation yields maximum health, social and economic benefits.

West Pokot is ranked number 26 out of 47[3] in the county sanitation benchmarking by the MOH according to the following key indicators:

RANK out of 47	Timely Reporting	Budget for Sanitation /5	Number of ODF Claim /10	Cost per ODF Claim /10	Economic Costs of Poor Sanitation /10	Pupil: Latrine Coverage Girls /10	Pupil: Latrine Coverage Boys /10	Household Latrine Coverage Rate /15	Number of Handwashing facilities per school /10	Rate of Open Defecation /10	Number of ODF Villages (DPHO Certified) /10	Percent of ODF Targets Achieved /10	Percent of ODF Villages /10
26	⚑	0	10	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	8	5	5

West Pokot County loses 587 million KES each year due to poor sanitation[4]. This includes losses due to access time, premature death, health care costs and productivity. This estimate does not include some costs that could be significant (such as water pollution and tourism) and is therefore likely to under-estimate the true cost of poor sanitation.

47.3%[5] **of children in West Pokot are stunted**

Why does stunting matter?

Unimproved sanitation and open defecation have been linked to low height for age scores in children. Stunted children suffer a higher mortality due to infectious diseases such as diarrhoea, pneumonia and measles as well as being more likely to have poorer cognitive and educational outcomes. Adults who are stunted are more likely to earn less.

Self evaluation of the enabling environment for sanitation in West Pokot County showed the following strengths and challenges.

Enabling Environment Area	Indicator	West Pokot
Policy, strategy and direction	The county has a clear advocacy plan to gain support for sanitation.	
	As a county, we have a shared vision for sanitation.	
	The county strategic plan includes sanitation targets.	
Institutional arrangements	In the county, roles and responsibilities for sanitation are clear and there is a clear operational structure.	
	There is a clear mechanism for coordinating sanitation in the county.	
	The county has a dedicated budget line for sanitation in place.	
Program methodology	The program methodology for sanitation in the county has been established.	
	The program methodology is being implemented by government.	
	The program methodology is being implemented by all stakeholders.	
Implementation capacity	There is a sanitation capacity building plan in place for the county.	
	There is a sufficient number of government staff in place to implement sanitation activities	
	Government staff have the required knowledge, skills and experience to implement sanitation activities.	
Availability of products and tools	Sanitation products and services exist in the county which respond to consumer preferences.	
	There are sanitation products and services available in the county which are affordable to the poorest members of the community.	
	The county undertakes quality assurance controls of sanitation products and services.	
Financing	The county has developed a sanitation funding plan.	
	Adequate funding is available from county government to implement planned sanitation activities.	
	Funding is being utilized effectively for sanitation activities.	
M&E	A monitoring and evaluation system for sanitation is in place.	
	The county has the capacity and resources to carry out M&E activities.	
	M&E results are used to inform and improve sanitation program implementation in the county.	

KEY: Strongly agree Agree Partially Agree Disagree

Why does this matter?

A thorough understanding of the strengths and challenges of coverage rates, ranking and enabling environment provides the county with an opportunity to put the building blocks in place for accelerated access to improved sanitation.

April 2014

The Water and Sanitation Program is a multi-donor partnership administered by the World Bank to support poor people in obtaining affordable, safe, and sustainable access to water and sanitation services.

ABOUT THE COUNTY SANITATION PROFILES

This county sanitation profile has been compiled as part of a series of information sheets to provide an overview of the state of sanitation in each of the 47 counties in Kenya. The sanitation information sheets have been prepared by the Ministry of Health, with technical support from the Water and Sanitation Program. The county sanitation profiles were prepared by Sophie Hickling (consultant) and Pascal Riungu, under the task management of Yolande Coombes (WSP).

REFERENCES

[1]Kenya County Factsheets, Commission of Resource Allocation, June 2013

[2]2009 Kenya population and housing census, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics

[3]Sanitation County Benchmarking, Ministry of Health, 2013. For details see full national benchmarking or contact Ministry of Health

[4]Economics of Poor Sanitation in Kenya, WSP

[5]Kenya County Factsheets, Commission of Resource Allocation, June 2013 (inverse adequate height for age data)

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