

The determinants child mortality in Botswana

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The purpose of this study is to estimate and determine the level and effect of socio-economic factors on child mortality in Botswana using 2001 cross-sectional data and Probit regression analysis. Specifically, it seeks to identify factors that could have contributed to the increasing trend of child mortality in Botswana during the period under study. The results indicate that education and cleaner forms of energy used for cooking reduces child mortality. They further show that poor sanitation facilities, unsafe water source, poor housing, and larger household size all contribute to the increasing trend in child mortality over the study period. These findings imply that, policies aimed at promoting education and use of cleaner forms of energy should be emphasized in order to reduce child mortality. Hence, intervention such as regulated privatization and social investment funds are needed to improve access to safe water and adequate and sustainable sanitation so as to reduce child mortality.