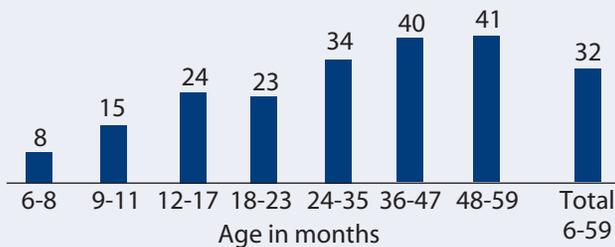


# Key Findings from the 2009 Liberia Malaria Indicator Survey

The 2009 Liberia Malaria Indicator Survey (LMIS) assessed malaria knowledge, prevention, and treatment practices and malaria and anemia prevalence. Over 4,000 households were interviewed, and about 4,000 children were tested for both anemia and malaria.

## Malaria Prevalence in Children

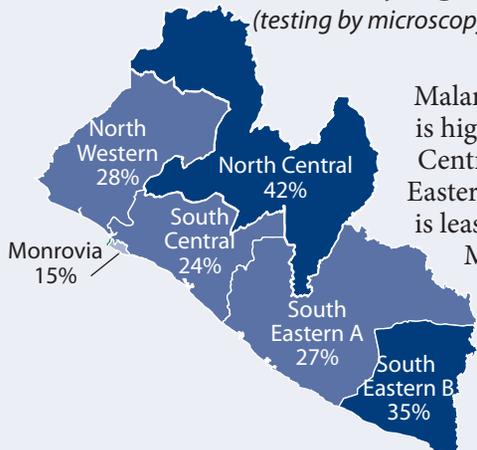
Percent of children age 6-59 months testing positive for malaria by microscopy



Almost one-third of children under age five tested positive for malaria according to blood smears. Malaria is most common in older children.

## Prevalence of Malaria in Children by Region

(testing by microscopy)



Malaria prevalence is highest in North Central and South Eastern B regions. It is least common in Monrovia.

## Anemia Prevalence in Children

Percent of children 6-59 months with moderate or severe anemia

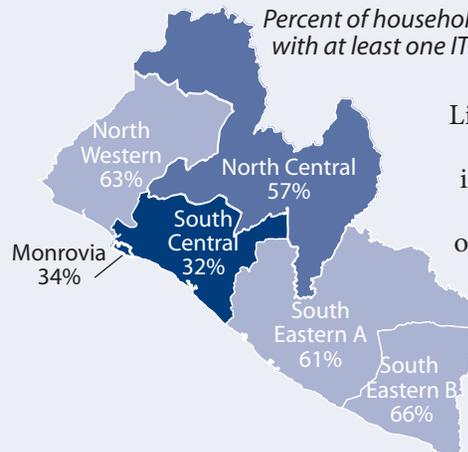


Anemia is a common symptom of malaria infection. More than 60% of children under age 5 have some degree of anemia, while 34% have moderate or severe anemia (shown above). Anemia is most common in younger children.

Over 90% of women know that malaria can be avoided and among them, 76% know that using mosquito nets can prevent malaria.

## Ownership of ITNs by Region

Percent of households with at least one ITN

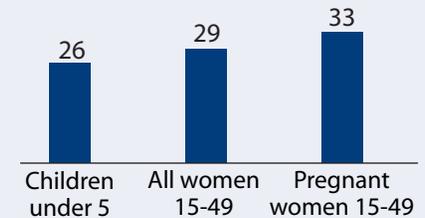


Overall, 47% of Liberian households own at least one insecticide-treated net (ITN). ITN ownership is lowest in Monrovia and South Central region.

Over three-quarters (78%) of household nets were obtained for free.

## Use of ITNs

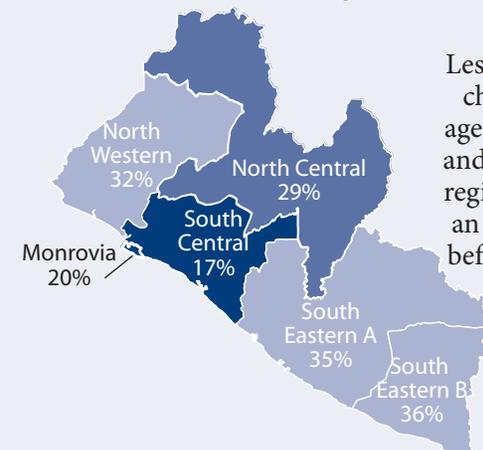
Percent of children and women who slept under an ITN the night before the survey



Children and pregnant women are the most vulnerable to malaria. Only about one-quarter of children and one-third of pregnant women slept under an ITN the night before the survey.

## Children's Use of ITNs by Region

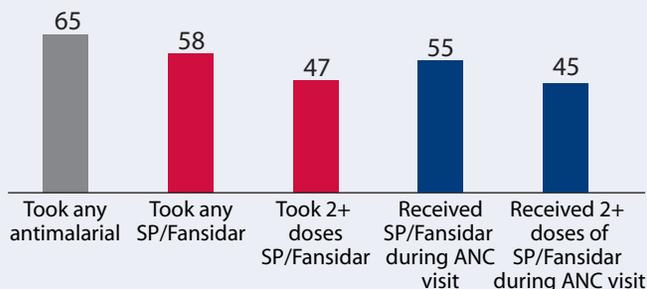
Percent of children under age five who slept under an ITN the night before the survey



Less than 1 in five children under age 5 in Monrovia and South Central region slept under an ITN the night before the survey.

## Intermittent Preventive Treatment of Pregnant Women

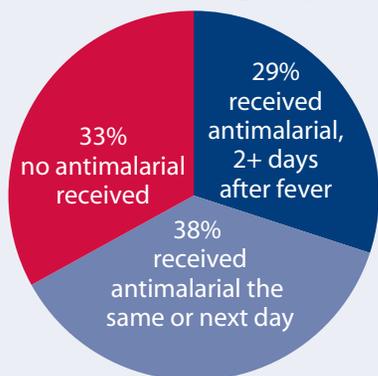
Percent of women pregnant in the two years before the survey, based on their last birth



Pregnant women should receive at least two doses of the antimalarial SP/Fansidar during an antenatal visit to prevent malaria. Almost half (45%) of pregnant women received this recommended treatment.

## Treatment of Fever in Children

Percent among children under 5 with fever in the 2 weeks before the survey



More than one-third of children with fever received an antimalarial the day of or day after the fever. ACT and Chloroquine were the most commonly used antimalarials.

## Response rates and methodology:

Malaria and anemia testing were carried out on all children age 6-59 months living in selected households. Malaria testing was done through both Paracheck rapid diagnostic blood testing, as well as blood smear microscopy. Anemia testing was carried out on a blood drop using the HemoCue system. Of the 4,110 eligible children, 98% provided blood spots for anemia and malaria testing.

For more information on the results of the 2009 Liberia Malaria Indicator Survey, please contact:

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The 2009 Liberia Malaria Indicator Survey (LMIS) was implemented by the National Malaria Control Program of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOHSW). The Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) assisted in the design of the survey, as well as the training and monitoring of data collection staff. The Laboratory at the China-Liberia Malaria Center implemented the microscopic reading of malaria slides. Technical assistance was provided by ICF Macro, an ICF International company, through the worldwide MEASURE DHS program. Funding was provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the MEASURE DHS program, and the President's Malaria Initiative.



# 2009 Liberia Malaria Indicator Survey (LMIS)

## Key Findings