

Summary of Malawi Schooling and Adolescent Study (MSAS) survey instruments (2007-2013)

Topics/areas	Round(s) administered						Key elements
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Adolescent instruments							
Adolescent survey							
Household characteristics	●	●	●	●	●	●	Household structure & resources
Parent characteristics	●	●	●	●	●	●	Survival & residency status; Education, marital status & employment
Schooling history/experiences	●	●	●	●	●	●	Age at entry, grade progression, transitions, repetition, withdraws; absenteeism; grade attainment; teacher practices
PSLE, JCE & MSCE scores ¹		●	●	●	●	●	Grades for each exam subject
Relationships & marriage	●	●	●	●	●	●	Marital status & timing; marriage process; partner characteristics
Fertility intentions						●	Desired number & spacing of children
Contraception, pregnancy & childbirth	●	●	●	●	●	●	Contraceptive use; unwanted pregnancy; miscarriage/survival of infants; timing of births
Well-baby care & child health				●	●	●	Antenatal care; place/assistance at childbirth; child vaccinations
Parenting practices						●	Family care practices, parental co-residence; fathers' financial support
Children's education						●	Preschool enrollment; age at primary school entry
Social capital & community engagement	●	●	●	●	●	●	Club/sports participation
Subjective expectations						●	Perceived likelihood: of own secondary school completion; marriage & divorce; child fostering; child primary school entry
Health	●	●	●	●	●	●	Self-reported health, nutrition; reproductive and HIV knowledge; HIV and AIDS risk perception
Academic and cognitive skills							
Literacy	●	●	●	●	●	●	Reading ability: Chichewa and English
Reading Comprehension		●	●	●	●	●	Reading comprehension: Chichewa and English
Numeracy	●	●	●	●	●	●	Standard 3 and Standard 5 mathematics assessments
Non-verbal cognitive skills						●	Raven's Colored Progressive Matrices
Anthropometric measurement							
Height	●					●	
Weight	●					●	
Biomarker testing							
HIV testing				●	●	●	Rapid HIV testing following Ministry of Health guidelines
HSV-2 testing				●	●	●	Laboratory testing for HSV-2: Kalon ELISA antibody test
Qualitative in-depth interviews							
Relationships & sexual behavior			●				Boyfriends/girlfriends; first sexual experience, forced sex, sexual pressures/expectations; interview mode preferences
Gender attitudes & agency				●			Relationship norms; masculinity & femininity
Child health & family resource networks					●		Social networks; cell phone use; health facility visits; attitudes towards child vaccination
Marital status & the marriage process						●	Familial support for marriage, ceremony type, marital home & marriage dissolution; community attitudes towards marriage practices
Child instruments							
Child anthropometric measurement						●	Length/height and weight (children 0-5 years)
Teacher/school instruments							
Teacher characteristics	●	●	●				Education, training & experience; attendance
Classroom practices & pedagogy	●	●	●				Assignment of chores; gender attitudes & treatment of students
Health & nutrition programs	●	●	●				Deworming, bilharzia & iron supplementation; school feeding
School characteristics	●	●	●				Electricity & water source; accessibility; staffing & resources
School facilities inventory	●	●	●				Classroom features & school facilities; quality of record keeping

¹ PSLE = Primary School Leaving Examination, taken after primary standard 8; JCE = Junior Certificate Examination, taken after secondary form 2; MSCE = Malawi School Certificate Examination, taken after secondary form 4