

TABLE 2.2
INDICES OF MEAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION BY AREA, 1989-1995
(BASE: JAMAICA=100)

	Jamaica	KMA	Other Towns	Rural Areas
Survey				
SLC 89-2	100	138	112	78
SLC 90	100	139	108	73
SLC 91	100	141	110	72
SLC 92	100	143	106	74
SLC 93	100	131	101	79
SLC 94	100	141	99	74
SLC 95	100	135	100	77

cent. In 1992, however, there were substantial wage settlements both in the public and private sectors, which helped to raise consumption, though not to the same levels as in 1990. Jamaica on the whole showed a small increase of 3.3 per cent in real mean per capita consumption for 1993 compared with 1992. This increase was mainly due to a recovery in Rural Areas, whereas in 1992, all three regions contributed to the 8.3 per cent increase. In 1994, the three area divisions, namely KMA, Other Towns and Rural Areas, showed further improvement in

mean per capita consumption in real terms. For Jamaica, a lower rate of increase (1.8 per cent) was observed over that of 1994, the main contributor to the lower rate being the KMA which had a 2.6 per cent decline in its mean per capita consumption (See Table 2.3).

CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE BY AREA

SLC 95 showed that the mean per capita consumption expenditure for the KMA, Other Towns and Rural Areas was \$47,801, \$35,632, and \$27,216 respectively. The in-

TABLE 2.3
MEAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE BY AREA, SLC 90-95

ITEM/SURVEY	JAMAICA	KMA	OTHER TOWNS	RURAL AREAS
At Current Prices	\$	\$	\$	\$
SLC 90	7,616	10,553	8,185	5,562
SLC91	10,384	14,646	11,455	7,433
SLC92	16,998	24,311	18,068	12,627
SLC93	23,408	30,766	23,523	18,517
SLC94	32,712	46,127	32,406	24,246
SLC95	35,522	47,801	35,632	27,216
At Oct-Dec 90 Prices				
SLC90	7,616	10,553	8,185	5,562
SLC91	6,080	8,746	6,646	4,295
SLC92	6,586	9,586	6,963	4,797
SLC93	6,805	9,036	6,801	5,328
SLC94	7,652	10,897	7,586	5,612
SLC95	7,793	10,610	7,848	5,870
Variation in Mean Per Capita Consumption at Constant Prices	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
SLC91 over SLC90	-20.2	-17.1	-18.8	-22.8
	*			
SLC92 over SLC91	+8.3	+9.6	+4.8	+11.8
	*			
SLC93 over SLC92	+3.3	-5.7	-2.3	+11.1
SLC93 over SLC90	-10.6	-14.4	-16.9	-4.2
	*			
SLC 94 over SLC93	+12.5	+20.6	+11.5	+5.3
	*			
SLC94 over SLC90	+0.5	+3.3	-7.3	+0.9
SLC95 over SLC94	+1.8	-2.6	+3.4	+4.6
SLC95 over SLC90	+2.3	+0.5	-4.1	+5.5

* Statistically significant (See Appendix 11)

dices of mean per capita consumption with the average for Jamaica as 100, showed a decline in KMA and slight increases in Other Towns and Rural Areas. Overall, the 1995 regional indices were closer to those for 1993 and the wide gap in per capita consumption between the regions continued (See Table 2.2).

The positive growth in real per capita consumption in each of the three regions during 1994 did not continue in 1995. (See Table 2.3 and Figures B2-B4). The 1994 re-

sults were KMA 20.6 per cent, Other Towns 11.5 per cent, and Rural Areas 5.3 per cent. For 1995 however, Other Towns and Rural Areas showed an annual growth of 3.4 and 4.6 per cent respectively, whereas, KMA showed a negative 2.6 per cent annual growth. The net result was an annual growth of 1.8 per cent for Jamaica.

The negative growth in the real per capita consumption in the KMA means that the 1995 consumption level was only 0.5 per cent higher than that for 1990, while the

TABLE 2.4
MEAN FOOD AND NON-FOOD CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE BY AREA.
SLC 94 AND SLC 95

Region	Group	SLC 94		SLC 95	
		(\$)	(%)	(\$)	(%)
KMA	Food	21,875	47.4	23,920	50.0
	Non-food	24,252	52.6	23,881	50.0
	Total	46,127	100.0	47,801	100.0
Other Towns	Food	18,273	56.4	20,008	56.2
	Non-food	14,133	43.6	15,624	43.8
	Total	32,406	100.0	35,632	100.0
Rural Areas	Food	14,355	59.1	16,200	59.5
	Non-food	9,941	40.9	11,016	40.5
	Total	24,296	100.0	27,216	100.0
Jamaica	Food	17,462	53.4	19,439	54.7
	Non-food	15,250	46.6	16,083	45.3
	Total	32,712	100.0	35,522	100.0

TABLE 2.5
PERCENTAGE SHARE OF COMMODITY GROUPS IN TOTAL PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION,
JAMAICA, 1990-1995 (at current prices)

Commodity	Percentage Share in Total Consumption					
	SLC	SLC	SLC	SLC	SLC	SLC
	90	91	92	93	94	95
Food Beverages	53.1	55.7	54.3	53.9	53.4	54.7
Fuel and Household Supplies	7.1	7.1	5.8	5.8	5.5	5.0
Housing & Household Operational Expenses	10.5	10.8	11.9	11.9	11.3	10.9
Durable Goods	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.2
Personal Care	3.2	3.5	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.5
health Care	2.3	1.7	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.6
Clothing & Footwear	10.4	8.8	11.2	11.5	10.6	10.0
Transportation	5.9	6.2	5.1	5.6	7.2	7.5
Education and Recreation*	3.4	1.4	2.7	2.3	2.4	2.9
Recreation	n/a	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.0
Miscellaneous Consumption	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.6
Total Consumption	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

* In 1990, Education and Recreation were combined. Figures for 1991 to 1995 are for Education only

TABLE 2.6
PERCENTAGE SHARE OF COMMODITY GROUPS IN TOTAL PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION, BY AREA
1994-1995 (at current prices)

Commodity	KMA		Total Consumption in Other Towns		Rural Areas	
	94	95	94	95	94	95
	Food Beverages	47.4	50.0	556.4	56.2	59.1
Fuel and Household Supplies	4.7	4.2	6.1	5.6	6.2	5.7
Housing & Household Operational Expenses	13.8	14.5	12.3	10.4	7.8	6.9
Durable Goods	2.3	1.6	1.3	0.7	1.0	1.1
Personal Care	2.6	2.2	2.5	2.9	2.8	2.7
health Care	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.8	2.2	2.7
Clothing & Footwear	11.0	10.4	9.0	9.0	11.0	10.2
Transportation	9.5	8.2	6.1	7.9	5.0	6.3
Education Recreation	2.6	3.2	2.1	2.9	2.3	2.5
Miscellaneous Consumption	1.6	1.5	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.6
Total Consumption	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

TABLE 2.7
PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN GROUPS EXPENDITURE IN SLC 95 COMPARED WITH SLC 90, AT CONSTANT (OCT-DEC 1990) PRICES, BY AREA

Group	Jamaica	KMA	Other Towns	Rural Areas
Food Beverages	+0.5	-3.5	-0.5	+3.3
Fuel and Household Supplies	-13.9	-18.6	-18.0	-7.6
Housing & Household Operational Expenses	+35.6	+30.5	-2.1	+36.7
Durable Goods	-31.1	-7.8	-66.4	-38.4
Personal Care	-18.7	27.9	-12.6	-19.8
health Care	+19.8	+17.2	-1.2	+25.3
Clothing & Footwear	-9.1	-11.8	-16.4	-3.5
Transportation	+55.7	+49.3	+52.5	+64.1
Education & Recreation	-0.2	-7.2	-14.3	+21.0
Miscellaneous Consumption	-24.9	-40.3	-38.4	+12.9
All Groups	+24.3	+0.5	-4.1	+5.5

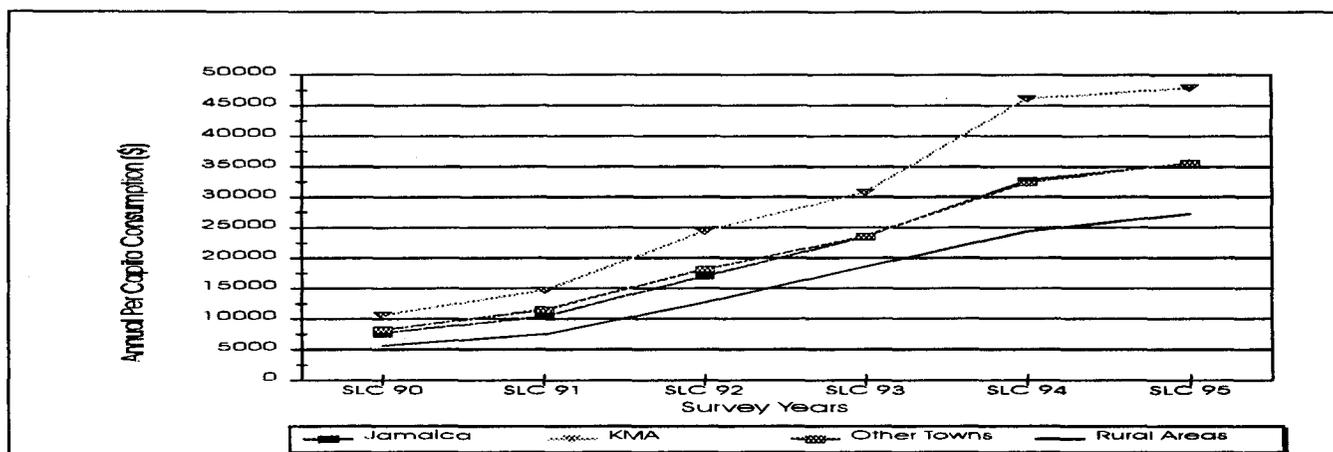
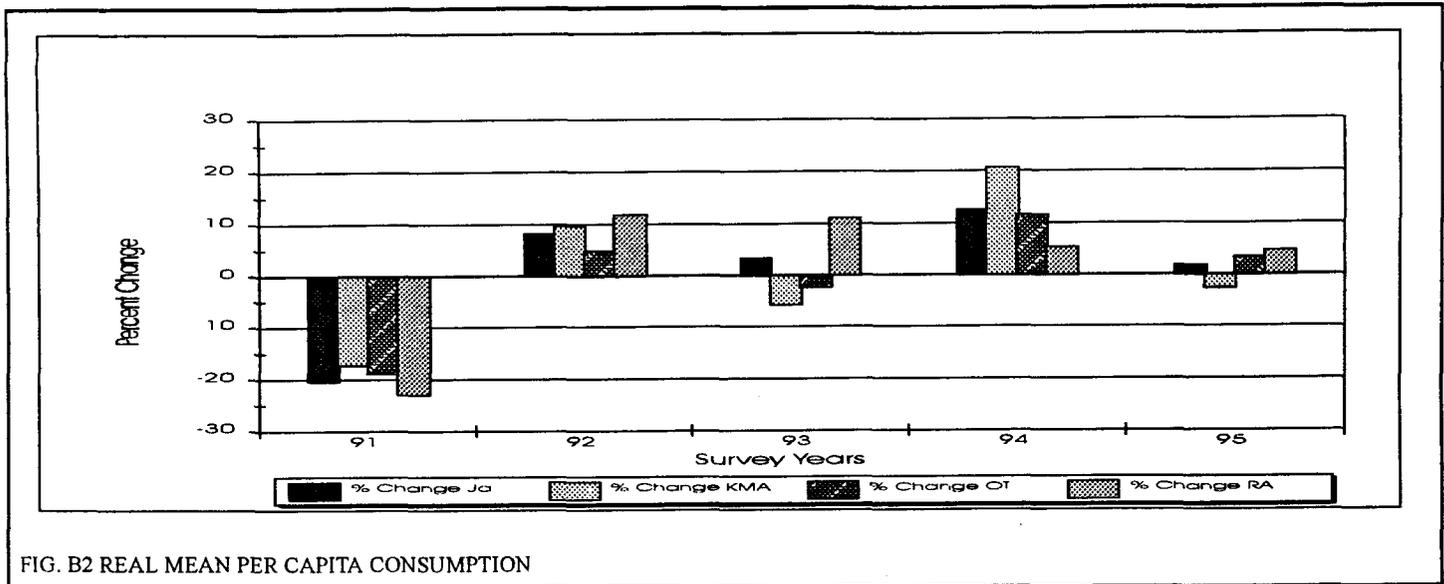


FIG. B1 MEAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION AT CURRENT AND CONSTANT PRICES



1994 level was 3.3 per cent higher than that for 1990. Using 1990 as the base year, the figures for Other Towns in 1995 showed an increase over the corresponding 1994 figures. However, it still lagged behind the 1990 figures by some 4.1 per cent. The equivalent statistic for Rural Areas on the other hand, was 5.5 per cent higher than that for 1990.

FOOD AND NON-FOOD CONSUMPTION

Islandwide, food expenditure continued to outweigh non-food expenditure. However, it has not surpassed the 11.0 percentage points difference observed between both groups since SLC 91. SLC 95 showed a break in the pattern of declining differences in the percentage points between consumption expenditure on food and non-food

TABLE 2.8
MEAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION BY SEX OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD, SLC 94 AND SLC 95

Sex of Head	Mean Per Capita		Mean Food		Food as a Percent of Total	
	SLC 94	SLC 95	SLC 94	SLC 95	SLC 94	SLC 95
Male	35,516	38,140	18,885	20,589	53.2	54.0
Female	29,436	32,536	15,800	18,127	53.7	55.7

TABLE 2.9
DISTRIBUTION OF CONSUMPTION BY DECILES, SLC 90 TO SLC 95

Decile	SLC 90	SLC 91	SLC 92	SLC 93	SLC 94	SLC95
1	2.53	2.22	2.58	2.42	2.52	2.94
2	3.85	3.59	3.92	3.88	3.89	4.17
3	4.84	4.73	5.00	4.98	4.89	5.15
4	5.78	5.72	5.82	6.08	5.86	6.05
5	6.90	6.83	6.92	7.17	6.87	6.99
6	8.15	8.16	8.30	8.45	8.11	8.19
7	9.83	9.65	9.98	9.94	9.82	9.77
8	12.21	11.98	12.26	12.24	12.11	12.00
9	16.31	15.70	15.63	15.98	15.39	15.59
10	29.59	31.42	29.59	28.86	30.39	29.15
JAMAICA	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
GINI COEFFICIENT	0.3811	0.3969	0.3752	0.3718	0.386	0.3624

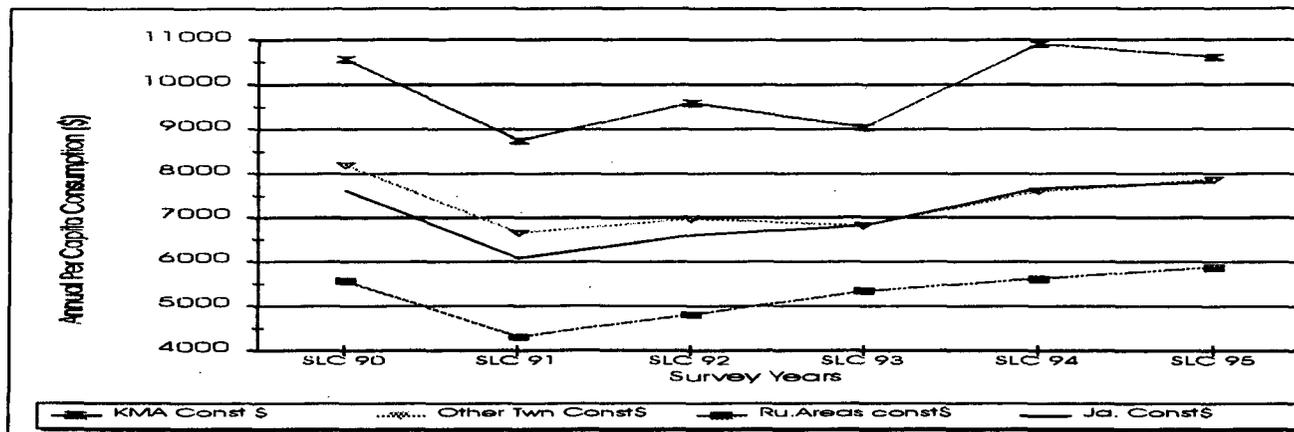


FIG. B3 MEAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION AT CONSTANT PRICES, BY AREA

TABLE 2.10
MEAN CAPITA ANNUAL VALUE OF HOME PRODUCTION AND GIFTS CONSUMED, BY AREA, SLC 95

Commodity Group	Jamaica		KMA		Other Towns		Rural Areas	
	Value (\$)	% of Group						
Non-food:								
Durable Goods	75	17.2	140	18.8	34	13.9	47	15.6
Clothing & Footwear	749	21.0	1027	20.8	542	16.9	644	23.6
Other	291	2.4	442	2.4	299	2.5	187	2.4
Total Non-food	1,115	7.0	1,608	6.7	186	5.6	878	8.0
Food:								
Meat, Poultry & Fish	119	2.6	101	2.0	875	3.8	105	2.6
Roots & Tubers	316	29.1	51	5.3	146	14.4	562	46.9
Fruits & Vegetables	178	13.0	90	5.0	82	6.3	274	25.0
Other Food & Drinks	318	2.5	309	1.9	232	1.8	358	3.6
Total Food	931	4.8	551	2.3	647	3.2	1,298	8.0
Grand Total	2,046	5.8	2,159	4.5	1,522	4.3	2,176	8.0

TABLE 2.11
HOME PRODUCTION AND GIFTS AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CONSUMPTION, BY AREA, 1990-1995

Group/Survey	Jamaica	KMA	Other Towns	Rural Area
SLC 90	6.1	0.9	4.4	12.0
SLC 91	6.0	0.8	4.8	11.7
SLC 92	6.5	1.8	4.5	8.8
SLC 93	5.4	2.8	3.6	8.6
SLC 94	7.2	3.1	5.8	12.0
SLC 95	4.8	2.3	3.2	8.0
SLC 90	4.4	3.7	4.9	5.1
SLC 91	4.2	3.4	5.0	5.0
SLC 92	4.6	3.6	4.9	5.8
SLC 93	5.2	4.4	3.9	7.0
SLC 94	7.1	7.5	3.9	8.1
SLC 95	7.0	6.7	5.6	8.0
SLC 90	5.3	2.3	4.6	9.2
SLC 91	5.2	2.1	4.9	9.1
SLC 92	5.6	2.7	4.7	7.6
SLC 93	5.3	3.6	3.8	7.9
SLC 94	7.2	5.4	5.0	10.4
SLC 95	5.8	4.5	4.3	8.0

TABLE 2.12
MEAN PER CAPITA ANNUAL EXPENDITURE ON CONSUMPTION AND NON-CONSUMPTION ITEMS BY AREA
AND QUINTILE, SLC 95

GROUP	SLC 95 PER CAPITA			% NON- CONSUMPTION	
	CONSUMPTION (\$)	NON- CONSUMPTION	TOTAL	SLC 94	SLC 95
Area					
KMA	47,801	2,871	50,671	4.8	5.7
Other Towns	35,632	2,054	37,686	3.7	5.4
Rural areas	27,216	1,316	28,532	3.4	4.6
Poorest					
1	12,449	195	12,644	2.0	1.5
2	19,692	651	20,343	1.7	3.2
3	26,685	769	27,454	2.6	2.8
4	38,069	1,448	39,517	3.4	3.7
5	78,398	6,637	84,765	5.3	7.5
JAMAICA	35,522	1,963	37,485	4.1	5.2

items observed over the past five years. In Jamaica, the 1995 mean per capita expenditure on food as a percentage of total consumption expenditure, was 54.7 per cent, compared with 53.4 per cent in SLC 94 (See Table 2.4). Thus, whereas the difference between food and non-food items moved from 6.2 percentage points in 1990 to 11.4 in 1991, it declined steadily, showing values of 8.6, 7.8 and 6.8 percentage points for 1992 through 1994. It increased in 1995 to 9.4 percentage points. These figures are at current prices and would indicate that food expenditure is increasing at a faster rate than non-food expenditure. It will be observed in Table 2.7 however, that in real terms, expenditure on Food & Beverages has increased by only 0.5 per cent, while expenditure on all commodities has increased by 2.3 per cent, showing that non-food consumption has increased at a faster rate than food consumption between 1990 to 1995. This is primarily because the food index has shown a faster rate of increase than the non-food index.

The increase in real consumption for the non-food group was due to increases in the Housing, Health Care and Transportation groups.

Among the three regions, KMA and Rural Areas showed increases in the percentage expenditure on food in 1995 compared with 1994. These increases were 2.6 and 0.4 percentage points for KMA and Rural Areas, respectively. In Other Towns, there was no significant change.

DISTRIBUTION OF CONSUMPTION BY COM-MODITY GROUPS

The percentage of total consumption spent on the various commodity groups is given in Table B-1. Table 2.5 and Figure B5 show consumption distribution by commodity groups. For Jamaica, the share of Food in total consumption increased from 53.4 per cent in 1994 to 54.7 per cent in 1995. Other increases included Healthcare (2.3% to 2.6%), Transportation (7.2% to 7.5%), and Edu-

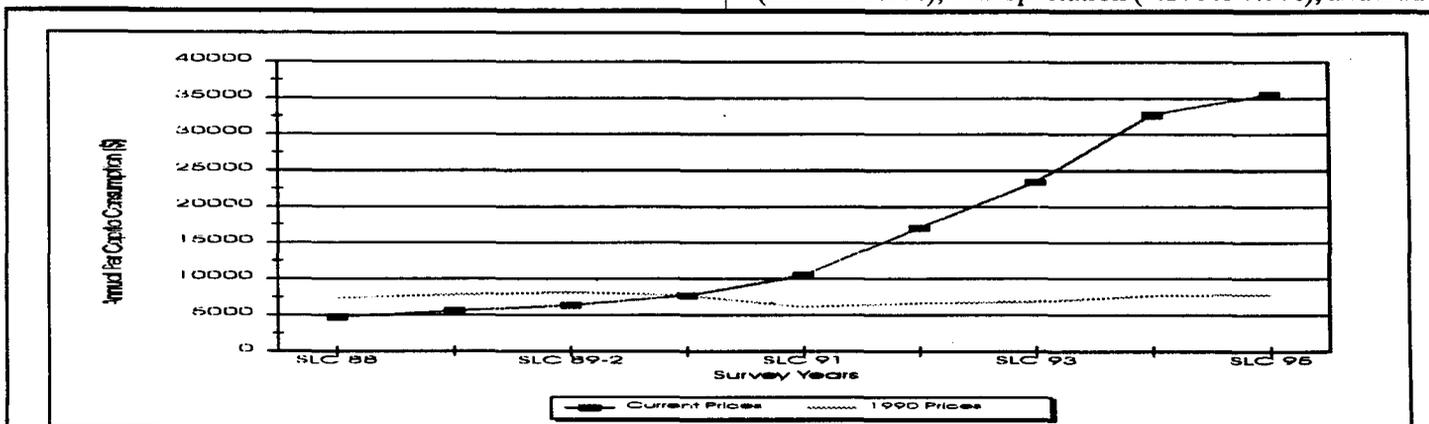
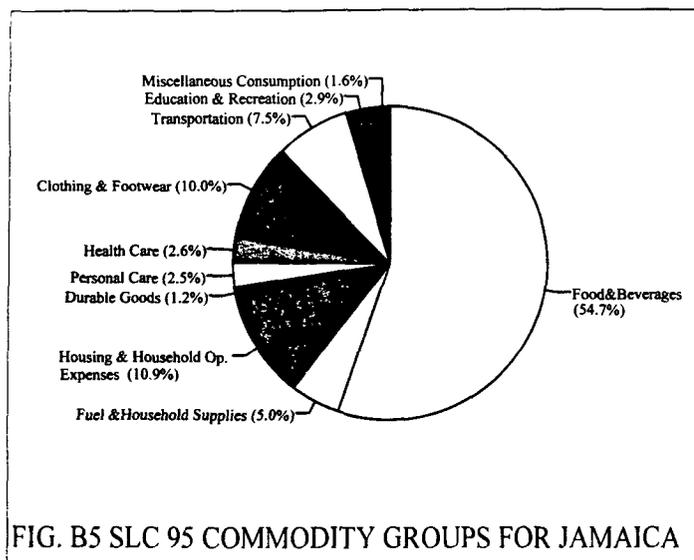


FIG. B4 MEAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION AT CURRENT PRICES, BY AREA



ation and Recreation (2.4% to 2.9%). There were concomitant decreases in Durable Goods (1.6% to 1.2%), Personal Care (2.7% to 2.5%), Clothing and Footwear (10.6% to 10.0%), and Miscellaneous Consumption (2.0% to 1.6%).

The distribution of consumption expenditure by commodity groups in the three regions in SLC 95 is given in Table B-1. Table 2.6 below shows the commodity groups expressed as a percentage of total consumption at current prices for the three regions in 1994 and 1995.

As noticed in the previous rounds of SLC, for the three regions, the commodity groups Food and Beverages, Housing and Household Operational Expenses, Clothing and Footwear, Transportation and Fuel and Household Supplies, accounted for a significant portion of total per capita consumption in 1995. The combined proportions of these commodity groups are approximately 86.0 to 89.0 per cent of the whole. For the KMA, this aggregate proportion increased from 86.4 per cent in 1994 to 87.3 per cent. Other Towns and Rural Areas showed small decreases from the previous year's aggregate values of 89.9 to 89.1 and 89.1 to 88.6 per cent respectively. In the case of KMA, the overall increase was due to increases in the proportions of Food & Beverages and Housing & Household Operational Expenses. The decline in the other two regions however, was due to proportionate reductions in Food & Beverages, Housing & Household Operational Expenses and Fuel & Household Supplies for Other Towns, and Clothing & Footwear, Housing & Household Operational Expenses and Fuel & Household Supplies in Rural Areas (See Table 2.6).

Of the five commodity groups mentioned above, Food and Beverages accounted for the largest share in all three regions. This was the highest (59.5%) in the Rural Areas followed by Other Towns (56.2%) and the KMA (50.0%). Housing still ranked second to Food in both the KMA (14.5%) and Other Towns (10.4%), while in the Rural Areas, Clothing ranked second (10.2%). The 1995 Housing proportions increased by 0.7 percentage points

TABLE 2.13
CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION (%) OF HOUSEHOLDS BY MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE, BY AREA, SLC 95

Monthly Household consumption Expenditure	KMA	Other Towns	Rural Areas	Jamaica
Less than 1,000	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.5
Less than 2,000	1.8	2.9	4.5	3.3
Less than 3,000	3.8	6.0	11.0	7.6
Less than 4,000	7.6	10.1	18.6	13.2
Less than 5,000	11.5	16.6	26.2	19.3
Less than 6,000	17.1	26.2	35.8	27.5
Less than 7,000	20.6	25.4	44.6	34.6
Less than 8,000	27.7	41.3	53.4	42.2
Less than 9,000	33.9	48.9	60.7	49.2
Less than 11,000	45.6	60.2	72.1	60.7
Less than 13,000	57.1	70.4	81.8	71.1
Less than 15,000	64.8	80.0	86.5	77.8
Less than 17,000	72.5	86.0	90.8	83.6
Less than 19,000	76.6	88.9	93.5	86.8
Less than 20,000	79.1	90.0	94.8	88.5
20,000+	20.9	10.0	5.2	11.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

in the KMA and decreased by 1.9 percentage points in Other Towns. Rural Areas also showed a decline of 0.9 percentage points for this group.

The three remaining commodity groups ranked as follows; Clothing & Footwear third, Transportation fourth, and Fuel fifth, for both KMA and Other Towns. Rural Areas showed similar rankings except that Clothing & Footwear switched positions with Housing & Household Operational Expenses. Transportation showed a decline for KMA at 8.2 per cent and increases of 7.9 and 6.3 per cent for Other Towns and Rural Areas respectively. Fuel and Household Supplies on the other hand, declined in all three regions.

Health Care, as well as Education and Recreation, showed small increases across all three regions for 1995.

In 1995, Jamaica had a 2.3 per cent increase in total consumption at constant 1990 prices. Reflected in this expenditure on consumption was 35.6 per cent more spent on Housing & Household Operational Expenses, 19.8 per cent on Health Care and 55.7 per cent on Transportation. Durable Goods, Personal Care and Miscellaneous Consumption were the groups showing large reductions (See Table 2.7).

Relative to 1990 prices, the KMA and Rural Areas increased their consumption expenditures by 0.5 and 5.5 per cent respectively. The figure for Other Towns' still showed a shortfall of 4.1 per cent. Transportation showed the largest increase for all the areas, at 64.1 per cent in Rural Areas, 49.3 per cent in KMA, and 52.5 per cent in Other Towns.

KMA had increases in three other groups, namely, Transportation 49.3 per cent, Housing & Household Expenses 30.5 per cent, and Health Care 17.2 per cent. Correspondingly, the largest drop in real consumption expenditure was in Miscellaneous Consumption at 40.3 per cent, followed by Personal Care at 27.9 per cent.

Rural Areas also had substantial increases in Housing & Household Operational Expenses, Health Care, Education & Recreation and Miscellaneous Consumption. Food & Beverages however, increased by only 3.3 per cent for the same period. This was the only region showing an increase of 21.0 per cent in education and recreation. The groups showing declines were Fuel and Household Supplies, Durable Goods, and Personal Care. Of these, Durable Goods had the largest decline of 38.4 per cent (Table 2.7).

Transportation was the only commodity group to increase in Other Towns. All other groups showed shortfalls in real consumption expenditure, the largest being 66.4 per cent for Durable Goods. Only in Other Towns were there shortfalls in Food & Beverages, Housing and Household Expenses, and Health Care.

FOOD CONSUMPTION PATTERNS

The 1995 survey did not indicate any difference in food consumption patterns either in Jamaica as a whole or in any of the three areas (See Table B-4). Meals Away From Home continued to capture the greatest portion of total food expenditure in all three regions and in fact increased in each region over 1994 figures. The percentages for 1995 at current prices were as follows; Jamaica 27.5, KMA 33.8, Other Towns 27.1 and Rural Areas 21.5.

The Meat, Poultry and Fish sub-group is the next largest portion of food expenditure, followed by Cereals and Cereal Products. Regionally, both sub-groups showed small reductions in percentages with the exception of Other Towns, where Cereal and Cereal Products increased slightly. All other sub-groups had minor percentage changes relative to SLC 94 (Table B-4).

CONSUMPTION BY SEX OF HOUSEHOLD HEAD

According to the survey, the mean per capita consumption of household with a male as head was \$38,140 compared with \$32,536 for households with a female as head (See Table 2.8 and Table B-6). This is consistent with the findings in earlier rounds of the SLC, which indicated that, on the average, the households with females as head have lower consumption levels than those with males as head.

Compared with SLC 94, the mean per capita consumption expenditure of a male-headed household increased, at current prices, by 7.4 per cent, while the corresponding increase for a female-headed household was 10.5 per cent. Thus, although the rates of expenditure have increased, overall they were at reduced levels, with the rate being greater for female-headed households. This rate difference signified that the mean per capita consumption of a female-headed household was 85.3 per cent of that of a male-headed household. Whereas this is an improvement over the 1994 figure of 83 per cent, it is 0.7 percentage points short of the 1993 figure, and 5.7 percentage points short of the 1992 figure.

Female-headed households continued to spend proportionately more on Food and Beverages (55.7%) and Clothing and Footwear (10.7%) than male-headed households (53.7% and 9.6% respectively). Conversely, for the Transportation group, male-headed households spent proportionately more (9.0%) than households headed by females (5.4%) (See Table B-3).

DISTRIBUTION OF CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE BY DECILES

Population Deciles

The distribution of consumption expenditure by population deciles, serves to focus the analysis on a much narrower spectrum than afforded by quintile observations. This facilitates a closer look at specific inequities across consumption groups, and allows for keener analysis.

The mean per capita annual consumption expenditure for the wealthiest ten per cent of the population is 10 times greater than that of the poorest ten per cent, according to SLC 95 figures. The actual figures were \$10,294 for decile 1 and \$102,091 for decile 10. In 1994, the figure for the wealthiest decile was 12 times that of the poorest decile (See Table B-8).

The mean consumption in the wealthiest consumption quintile of the population was equivalent to 44.7 per cent of the national consumption (See Table 2.9). This represents a decrease from 45.9 per cent in 1994. Nevertheless, for 1995, the poorest consumption quintile showed an increase (7.1%) over the corresponding 1994 percentage of 6.4. All deciles excepting deciles 7, 8, and 10, increased their share in consumption.

Food consumption expenditure decreased gradually from decile 1 to decile 10. It formed 65.5 per cent of total consumption for the poorest decile and 44.5 per cent for the wealthiest decile.

Consumption Inequality

In the Survey of Living Conditions, total consumption expenditure is used as a proxy for income. In order to measure the degree of equality in income distribution, the Gini Coefficient was calculated using the consumption expenditure data from the 1990 to 1995 surveys (Table 2.9).

A Gini Coefficient of zero indicates perfect equality, whereas a coefficient of 1.0, indicates total inequality. Table 2.9 shows the coefficient for SLC 95 as 0.3624 and 0.3816 for SLC 94, thereby implying that the disparity in consumption expenditure between the rich and the poor was less in 1995 compared with 1994. The inequality level in 1994, however, was of the same magnitude as in 1990. In 1991, the Gini Coefficient was the highest at 0.3969, showing the largest disparity in consumption in recent years.

CONSUMPTION OF HOME PRODUCTION AND GIFTS

The category Home Production and Gifts was 5.8 per cent (\$2,047) of total consumption (\$35,522) in 1995. In 1994, it was 7.2 per cent. This is closer to the 1992 level of 5.6 per cent (See Table 2.10). The components of Home Production and Gifts are non-food and food items.

Non-food gift items made up 7.0 per cent of all non-food expenditures in 1995, compared with 7.1% in 1994 and 5.2% in 1993. Home produced or gift items of food, was 4.8 per cent of all food items, again compared with 7.2% in 1994 and 5.4% in 1993.

Clothing and Footwear continued to be the largest portion of non-food gifts in all three regions, contributing 63.9, 61.9 and 73.4 per cent of all Non-food gifts in the KMA, Other Towns and Rural Areas respectively, and 67.2 per cent for Jamaica as a whole.

In the Food category, the combined sub-groups of Roots & Tubers, and Fruits & Vegetables, formed the largest portion of all home produced and food gift items in Rural Areas (64.4%). For Jamaica as a whole, this was 53.1%, whereas the KMA and Other Towns showed different finding. In these two areas, the sub-group Other Food and Drinks dominated, with percentages of 56.1 and 35.9 respectively. The combined sub-groups mentioned earlier had percentages of 25.6 and 35.2 for the KMA and Other Towns.

Table 2.10 indicates that within the Clothing & Footwear, Roots & Tubers, and Fruits & Vegetables commodity groups, a substantial portion was made up of gifts, or home produced items. Therefore, gifts or home produced items from these sub-groups contributed significantly to total consumption.

Table 2.11 shows the trends in consumption of Home Production and Gifts between 1990 and 1995.

According to the 1995 survey, Home Production and Gifts as a percentage of total consumption has declined for the nation as a whole, and for the three regions, when compared with SLC 94. The percentages stand at 5.8 for Jamaica, 4.5 for KMA, 4.3 for Other Towns and 8.0 for Rural Areas. Rural Areas maintained its position of contributing the largest portion of home produced or gift items to total consumption, with the figure being close to the 1993 figure of 7.9 per cent.

Home produced food and food gift items are important elements in the consumption pattern of households in the Rural Areas. The increase observed in 1994, for the proportion of home produced foods and food gifts relative to total food, in these areas was eroded to some extent in 1995. It fell from 12.0 per cent to 8.0 per cent, the lowest value since 1990. There has been a general decrease in this proportion in all the areas. The 4.8 per cent recorded for Jamaica is the lowest since 1990, and represents a reduction of 2.4 percentage points over the figure for 1994. The portion contributed by gifts to the total of non-food items remained virtually the same in 1995 for the Rural Areas (8.0%) and Jamaica (7.0%). The KMA's percentage declined from 7.5 per cent in 1994 to 6.7 per cent in 1995, while Other Towns' increased by 1.7 percentage points to 5.6 per cent over the same period. Overall, these proportions reflect substantial increases over the corresponding 1990 proportions.

NON-CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE

In all rounds of the SLC, one module was devoted to collecting information on non-consumption expenditures. The items covered included, inter alia, insurance payments, repayment of loans and interest, payments for supporting children living elsewhere, maintenance of relatives living outside the home, legal services, donations and gifts.

Table 2.12 gives the data on per capita non-consumption expenditures, with comparative figures for consumption, by regions and quintiles for SLC 95.

The per capita non-consumption expenditure as a percentage of total household expenditure in the country, increased from 4.1 per cent in 1994 to 5.2 per cent in 1995, an increase which was reflected in all three regions. There was a similar increase in all except the poorest quintile which showed a decline from 2.0 to 1.5 per cent.

As observed in the earlier SLC rounds, the per capita non-consumption in SLC 95 was negligible at \$195 in the poorest quintile and this progressively increased to \$6,637 in the wealthiest quintile. These values translated

into percentages of 1.5 per cent in the poorest quintile and 7.5 per cent in the wealthiest quintile.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS BY TOTAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE

Tables B-9 to B-11 give the distribution of households according to 16 ranges of total annual household consumption expenditure, by regions, quintiles and sex of household head, respectively. Table 2.13 summarizes the frequency of households by certain monthly expenditure classes for the regions, for 1995.

In Jamaica, 11.5 per cent of the households had total consumption expenditures of \$20,000 or more per household per month, while for 49.2 per cent of the households it was less than \$9000. The corresponding regional, household percentages for monthly consumption expenditures of \$20,000 or more were KMA 20.9%, Other Towns 10.0% and Rural Areas 5.2%. Households spending less than \$9,000 on the other hand, were more concentrated in Rural Areas with 60.7 per cent followed by Other Towns with 48.9 per cent and the KMA with 33.9 per cent. Overall the KMA still has the highest consumption levels in Jamaica (See Tables 2.2 and 2.13).

EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an analysis of the 1995 data collected on student enrolment and attendance throughout the education system, participation in the school feeding programme, the out-of-school population, and assistance provided to students through the Government's Student Assistance Programme and other sources. This is the second year for which data pertaining to the last item have been collected.

The analysis on enrolment and attendance covers the 3 to 24 year olds defined as belonging to the school age population. Closest scrutiny is, however, given to the 6 to 14 age group, for whom the provision of basic education is geared.

ENROLMENT

A total of 3,519 persons in the sample belonged to the school age population. Some 69.0 per cent were enrolled in school. This was a 2.0 percentage point increase over that of 1994. Percentage enrolment among those younger than 15 years continued to be high. This finding is in keeping with the policy of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture (MOEYC) to provide basic education to persons between 6 and 14 years, as well as Government's commitment to and support of early childhood education. While educational coverage is usually quite good for students up to age 14, it declines significantly thereafter (See Tables E-1 and 3.1). This is largely due to the lack of financial and other resources to provide education for all. This year, however, saw a marked increase in school enrolment of 17 to 19 year olds.

TABLE 3.1
PERCENTAGE ENROLMENT BY AGE GROUP AND EDUCATION LEVEL, 1989-1995

Age, Education Level	1989 (2) ^a	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
3-5 Years							
Early Childhood	77.0	77.0	77.3	70.0	81.4	81.0	80.8
Primary	6.0	0.0	5.2	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.3
None	16.0	23.0	17.5	25.2	14.0	14.2	14.9
6-11 Years							
Early Childhood	4.0	2.0	3.7	5.6	2.4	0.3	0.8
Primary	87.0	93.0	87.1	86.1	94.5	95.3	96.8
Secondary	7.0	3.0	7.7	6.6	2.6	3.9	1.5
None	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.7	0.5	0.5	0.8
12-14 Years							
Primary	17.0	16.0	18.4	21.6	17.3	15.0	25.4
Secondary	80.0	81.0	78.1	74.9	80.0	79.8	72.8
None	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.5	2.7	5.2	1.7
15-16 Years							
Primary	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Secondary	69.0	78.0	76.2	79.2	77.1	81.2	76.9
Tertiary	1.0	0.0	2.0	0.7	1.5	0.4	0.9
None	28.0	22.0	21.8	19.7	21.4	18.4	22.2
17-19 Years	Years						
Secondary	14.0	11.0	15.9	20.4	19.1	11.9	22.0
Tertiary	5.0	2.0	5.2	4.9	6.6	7.4	6.3
None	81.0	86.0	78.9	74.7	74.4	80.7	71.7
20-24 Years ^b							
Secondary	0.0	-	0.6	0.5	1.2	0.1	0.5
Tertiary	2.0	-	3.3	2.4	5.6	2.8	2.5
None	98.0	-	96.1	97.1	93.1	97.1	97.0

a - Second Round of the 1989 SLC

b - Data not available for this age group for 1990

NOTE: Percentages adjusted to one decimal place

TABLE 3.1A
DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SECONDARY
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS,
BY SCHOOL TYPE (1993/94 - 1994/95)

School Type	1993/94	1994/95
All Age (Grades 7-9)	442	430
Primary & Junior High	20	28
New Secondary	47	37
Secondary High	56	56
Comprehensive	23	33
Technical High	12	12
Vocation/Agricultural	6	6

Because the State is the major provider of schooling, the vast majority of students, some 97.0 per cent, were enrolled in the public school system. The impact of enrolment in the private school system was generally most noticeable at the early childhood level of the education system, where a large number of the schools are community-run and privately owned.

Enrolment by Age Group and School Level

The individuals of school age have been divided into specific age groups representative of particular levels within the education system (See Table 3.1). These age groups are 3-5 years, the Early Childhood level; 6-11 years, the primary level (Grades 1-6); the 12-14 age cohort, (Grades 7-9) first cycle secondary education; the 15-16 and 17-19 age groups, respectively, the upper ends of the secondary level or second cycle secondary education; and the 20-24 year olds, the tertiary level.

Early Childhood Education

3-5 Age group

As Tables 3.1 and E-1 show, some 85.1 per cent were enrolled in school. This was basically the same as that in 1993 and 1994. Approximately 81.0 per cent were enrolled at the early childhood level, and 4.3 per cent at the primary level. As seen in Table E-3, percentage enrolment at the early childhood level of private sector schools declined from 19.7 per cent in 1994 to 8.5 per cent, while that in public sector schools increased from 80.3 per cent to 91.5 per cent over the year.

Public sector schools at the early childhood level are Government Infant schools and Infant departments as well as subsidized Basic schools which are mainly community sponsored, and supported by the Government. Basic schools are of two types, recognised and unrecognised.

Basic Education - Primary and first cycle Secondary 6-11 Age group

As Tables 3.1 and E-1 show, some 99.2 per cent of this age group were enrolled in school. This universal enrolment is consistent with national enrolment data and with Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture's efforts aimed at the provision of primary education for all children of this age group. At the primary level, some 96.8 per cent were enrolled, while 1.5 per cent were enrolled at the sec-

ondary level. The latter is a function of the Common Entrance Examination which places the successful 11 year olds in Secondary and Comprehensive High schools.

Secondary Education

Secondary level education refers to that offered in All Age Grades 7-9 schools, New Secondary Schools, Comprehensive High, Secondary High and Technical High schools. This report does recognize, however, that there have been two recent additions to the school types offering this level of education - Primary and Junior High, and Junior High school. These were not included in this year's survey, but will be reflected in the 1996 report.

Secondary - First Cycle

12-14 Age group

Among this age cohort, approximately 98.0 per cent were enrolled. This was 3.0 percentage points higher than in 1994. Table 3.1 shows that this percentage enrolment was the highest since the inception of the SLC.

Some 25.4 per cent were enrolled at the primary level. This represented an increase of 10.4 percentage points over that in 1994. Further, it was the highest percentage enrolment at this level by 12-14 year olds. One possible explanation for this increase could be the recent change of status of some All Age schools to Primary and Junior High schools. Where the receiving schools were not ready (in terms of adequacy of facilities) to receive the Grade 7-9 students of the All Age schools which were converted to Primary schools, these new Primary schools had to retain their Grade 7-9 students. This would then have reflected an increase in Primary school enrolment. With the increased enrolment at the primary level, there was a corresponding decline in percentage enrolment at the secondary level, by 7.0 percentage points, to 72.8 per cent.

Secondary - Second Cycle (I)

15-16 Age group

Among this age group, approximately 78.0 per cent were enrolled in school. This percentage enrolment is usually significantly lower than that of the younger age groups. The education system has no policy commitment to provide education for all beyond Grade 9, which in terms of age, refers to children 14 years and above. Universal access to education thus tends to end after the provision of basic education, resulting in low percentage enrolment by persons older than 14 years. The lack of financial and other resources, as well as school spaces at the upper secondary level, hinder universal access after age 14.

Among the 15 and 16 year olds, percentage enrolment reverted to that in 1990 (See Tables 3.1 and E-1). This was a complete reversal of what obtained in 1994 when percentage enrolment recorded was the highest since 1989. Approximately 77.0 per cent were enrolled at the upper secondary level.

Secondary - Second Cycle (ii)

17-19 Age group

This phase of the cycle represents the smallest proportion of students enrolled in the formal education system. This year saw an unprecedented 28.3 per cent enrolled, the largest per cent since 1989 (See Table 3.1). The percentage enrolment of this age group was not consistent over the 1989 to 1995 period, fluctuating between 13.0 per cent and 28.3 per cent. At the secondary level, percentage enrolment was 22.0 per cent, more in keeping with that recorded in 1992. This represented an almost 100.0 per cent increase over the 11.9 per cent recorded in 1994.

Summary - Secondary level

The Reform of Secondary Education (R.O.S.E) programme introduced by the Government in 1993, has aimed at upgrading certain types of secondary level schools in order to provide equity. As a result, All Age (Grades 7-9) schools and New Secondary schools were targeted. Some All Age schools were converted to Primary schools or Primary and Junior High schools.

One Junior High school was also created, while some New Secondary schools were upgraded to Comprehensive and Technical High schools.

According to MOEYC data, the number of All Age schools declined from 442 in the 1993/94 school year to 430 in the 1994/95 school year. The number of Primary schools increased from 330 to 334. New Secondary schools declined in number from 47 to 37, while the number of Comprehensive High schools increased from 23 to 33 over the period. Further, the relatively new Primary and Junior High schools increased in number from 20 to 28 over the period (See Table 3.1a).

With respect to total secondary level enrolment, the data presented in Table 3.2 seem to suggest increased enrolment in All Age and New Secondary schools and decreased enrolment in Comprehensive and Secondary

High schools, over 1994. Percentage enrolment in All Age and New Secondary schools was 21.5 per cent and 23.4 per cent, respectively, up from 19.8 per cent and 20.5 per cent. On the other hand, percentage enrolment in Comprehensive and Secondary High schools was 11.3 per cent and 32.6 per cent, respectively, down from 13.0 per cent and 33.7 per cent. These differences in percentage enrolment over the year were not statistically significant.

Tertiary level

20-24 Age group

As shown in Table 3.1, percentage enrolment at the tertiary level University/Post Secondary and Adult/Night school) was 2.5 per cent, showing minimal change over that in 1994 and 1992.

Summary - All levels

Percentage enrolment at the early childhood level remained almost the same over the year. This year saw a marked increase in the support for the public sector type Basic schools, at the expense of those privately owned.

With respect to basic education (the Primary (6-11 age group) and the first cycle secondary level (12-14 year olds)), percentage enrolment was universal, at approximately 99.0 per cent.

At the secondary level, there was no significant difference in the percentage enrolment at All Age (grades 7-9), New Secondary, Secondary High and Comprehensive High schools, over that in 1994. At the tertiary level, enrolment at 5.9 per cent, was also essentially the same as in 1994.

Enrolment by Quintile

After age fourteen when the provision of basic education ends, there tends to be a close relationship between welfare status and school enrolment (See Tables 3.3 and E-4). Limited access to higher levels of education (Grade 10 and above) affect the poor.

TABLE 3.2
ENROLMENT IN SECONDARY AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, 1989-1995

School Type	1989(2) ^a	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Age (Grades 7-9)	27.0	22.0	28.0	23.0	20.2	19.8	21.5
New Secondary	32.0	37.0	30.6	28.8	27.9	20.5	23.4
Comprehensive High	3.0	3.0	3.9	5.0	8.6	13.0	11.3
Secondary High	29.0	28.0	27.6	30.7	29.4	33.7	32.6
Technical High	3.0	4.0	3.6	3.3	5.7	5.0	3.7
Vocational/Agric.	0.8	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.6	1.8	1.7
University/Post Sec.	3.4	4.0	3.8	6.5	5.6	4.4	4.5
Adult/Night School	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	1.4
Jamaica	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

a - Second Round of the 1989 SLC

NOTE: Percentages adjusted to one decimal place

TABLE 3.3
SCHOOL ENROLMENT OF 3-24 YEAR OLDS, BY QUINTILE, 1989-1995

Age. Quintile	Year						
	1989(2) ^a	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
3-5 Years							
Poorest	74.0	72.0	75.0	63.0	76.0	82.0	78.0
2	83.0	75.0	77.0	69.0	86.0	82.0	85.0
3	84.0	78.0	83.0	82.0	87.0	80.0	86.0
4	87.0	83.0	91.0	79.0	93.0	87.0	89.0
5	89.0	83.0	93.0	81.0	95.0	95.0	91.0
6-11 Years							
Poorest	98.0	99.0	99.0	97.0	99.0	98.0	99.0
2	100.0	99.0	98.0	98.0	100.0	100.0	99.0
3	99.0	100.0	98.0	99.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
4	98.0	100.0	99.0	98.0	100.0	100.0	99.0
5	99.0	98.0	99.0	99.0	100.0	100.0	99.0
12-14 Years							
Poorest	95.0	95.0	95.0	93.0	93.0	93.0	98.0
2	98.0	97.0	95.0	95.0	97.0	91.0	98.0
3	98.0	98.0	96.0	98.0	99.0	96.0	97.0
4	98.0	96.0	100.0	99.0	99.0	98.0	100.0
5	97.0	100.0	98.0	98.0	100.0	95.0	98.0
15-16 Years							
Poorest	59.0	75.0	65.0	65.0	71.0	73.0	58.0
2	73.0	73.0	74.0	72.0	73.0	60.0	78.0
3	75.0	71.0	73.0	80.0	80.0	91.0	83.0
4	83.0	87.0	99.0	89.0	82.0	89.0	84.0
5	84.0	88.0	92.0	92.0	93.0	93.0	92.0
17-19 Years							
Poorest	9.0	11.0	17.0	11.0	16.0	12.0	12.0
2	14.0	6.0	12.0	19.0	15.0	9.0	21.0
3	19.0	13.0	18.0	26.0	25.0	18.0	28.0
4	14.0	15.0	31.0	26.0	33.0	18.0	39.0
5	19.0	29.0	31.0	40.0	37.0	37.0	43.0
20-24 Years^b							
Poorest	0.0	-	4.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
2	1.0	-	0.0	1.0	2.0	4.0	1.0
3	2.0	-	3.0	2.0	7.0	2.0	1.0
4	3.0	-	5.0	3.0	7.0	3.0	3.0
5	5.0	-	8.0	5.0	12.0	8.0	7.0

a - Second Round of the 1989 SLC

b - Data not available for this age group for 1990

NOTE: Percentages adjusted to one decimal place

At the early childhood level (3-5 year olds), enrolment increased as welfare status improved. Among the children of the poorest consumption group, 78.0 per cent were enrolled, compared with 91.0 per cent of the wealthiest group. Generally, the vast majority of children in this age group, regardless of welfare status, access public sector education.

With respect to the 6-11 year olds of all consumption groups, percentage enrolment was universal, ranging between 99.0 per cent and 99.5 per cent. Certainly with respect to Primary level education, it was evident that access was universal. Among the 12-14 year olds of all consumption groups, percentage enrolment was also near total, ranging from 97.5 per cent to 99.0 per cent. Percent-

age enrolment of the poorest children of this age group rose from 93.0 per cent in 1994 to 98.0 per cent.

Among the older age groups (15-16; 17-19; 20-24), percentage enrolment also increased as welfare status improved. In Table 3.3 the impact of poverty on enrolment is definitely seen with respect to these older age groups. In the case of the 15 and 16 year olds, the age group at which important qualifying examinations are taken, percentage enrolment among the poorest group was approximately 58.0 per cent, compared with 92.0 per cent by their wealthiest counterparts.

In the 17-19 age cohort, percentage enrolment by all consumption groups except the poorest, saw marked increases over the year. Among the persons in the second

**TABLE 3.4
PERCENTAGE ENROLMENT BY AGE AND AREA, 1990-1995**

Age. Area	Year					
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
3-5 Years						
KMA	83.0	90.6	81.5	94.4	94.0	90.4
Other Towns	77.0	85.9	77.9	90.3	84.3	82.3
Rural Areas	75.0	77.5	71.3	79.5	81.7	82.7
6-11 Years						
KMA	99.0	98.7	99.0	99.3	100.0	99.4
Other Towns	99.0	98.8	96.2	100.0	100.0	99.6
Rural Areas	99.0	98.3	98.6	99.4	99.1	99.0
12-14 Years						
KMA	96.0	95.5	100.0	99.3	96.0	99.1
Other Towns	99.0	100.0	95.4	98.0	91.7	97.8
Rural Areas	97.0	96.1	95.3	95.9	95.3	98.0
15-16 Years						
KMA	87.0	83.5	94.0	79.7	88.2	83.1
Other Towns	84.0	93.4	80.2	81.5	87.7	78.4
Rural Areas	72.0	70.2	73.9	76.6	76.1	73.8
17-19 Years						
KMA	18.0	32.3	33.5	36.3	26.1	32.6
Other Towns	13.0	19.1	24.4	24.6	22.3	33.4
Rural Areas	11.0	15.0	21.6	17.7	13.7	23.9
20-24 Years^a						
KMA		5.2	5.3	11.0	4.8	5.5
Other Towns		7.9	2.3	6.0	1.8	3.6
Rural Areas		1.6	1.7	3.5	1.8	0.6

a - Data not available for this age group for 1990

NOTE Percentages adjusted to one decimal place

quintile, some 21.0 per cent were enrolled, an increase of 12.0 percentage points over the year. Percentage enrolment by persons belonging to the fourth quintile more than doubled, moving from 18.0 per cent to 39.0 per cent. Percentage enrolment by this age group also increased tremendously over the year. It represented the highest enrolment since 1989.

Percentage enrolment of persons in the 20-24 year age group has generally been low. Among the sample, no one from the poorest quintile was enrolled in any school. Some 7.0 per cent of the wealthiest quintile were enrolled at the tertiary level. This was virtually the same as in the previous year.

An examination of enrolment by school sector showed some relationship to students' welfare status. The data in Table E-3 show enrolment in private schools as being greatest among the children of the wealthiest consumption group, approximately 10.0 per cent, compared with 1.5 per cent of the poorest. In spite of the existing relationship between welfare status and school sector enrolment, the data showed that public education is still overwhelmingly accessed by all consumption groups.

Table E-5 shows that percentage enrolment in All Age schools (Grades 7-9) and New Secondary schools was greatest among children of the poorest consumption group. Approximately 71.0 per cent of the poor were enrolled in these schools, compared with 37.7 per cent of children from quintile 4, and approximately 19.0 per cent from the wealthiest consumption group. These schools do not enjoy the same social currency as the other secondary level school types. The policy to upgrade these schools, together with the introduction of a common curriculum for Grades 7 to 9, is welcomed, especially as it relates to students of the poorest consumption group.

With respect to enrolment in the secondary institutions which enjoy a higher status (Comprehensive, Secondary and Technical High schools), some 27.8 per cent of the students of the poorest consumption group were enrolled, compared with 65.3 per cent from the wealthiest group.

A close relationship existed between tertiary level enrolment and welfare status. Table E-5 shows that as welfare status improved, percentage enrolment increased. Approximately 0.7 per cent of the poorest consumption group was enrolled in University and Post Secondary in-

stitutions, as compared with 10.1 per cent of the wealthiest. Enrolment of students belonging to the poorest consumption group declined from 6.6 per cent in 1994 to 2.7 per cent in 1995, while that of students from the wealthiest quintiles increased from 13.0 per cent to 15.0 per cent. Enrolment in Adult/Night school was 1.4 per cent of the students of the poorest quintile enrolled, compared with 4.7 per cent from the wealthiest quintiles.

Enrolment by Area

Generally, the highest percentage enrolment among all age groups was recorded by students from the KMA (See Table 3.4). Among the 3-5 year olds in the KMA, percentage enrolment declined, reverting to the 1991 level. Despite this, however, only in the KMA was percentage enrolment of this age group higher than that of the All Jamaica sample for the 3-5 year olds.

Among the 6-11 age group, there was basically no change in percentage enrolment across all areas. In all of the areas, percentage enrolment was approximately the same as that of the All Jamaica sample for this age group. With respect to the 12-14 year olds, percentage enrolment increased over the year. The largest increase was by students in Other Towns, from 91.7 per cent to 97.8 per cent. This increase resulted in enrolment reverting to levels which existed before 1994. However, it should be noted that the percentage recorded by Other Towns in 1994 was unexpectedly low.

Table 3.4 shows that percentage enrolment among the 15 and 16 year olds declined in all three areas. However, that in the KMA (83.1 per cent) was higher than for the All Jamaica sample of this age group. In Other Towns, the percentage enrolment (78.4 per cent) was virtually the same as for the All Jamaica sample, while that for Rural Areas (73.8 per cent), was lower.

Among the 17-19 age cohort, percentage enrolment increased in all areas. The increases were most marked in the Other Towns and Rural Areas. With respect to the 20-24 year olds, there was a slight increase in the percentage enrolment of students from the KMA, while it doubled for students in Other Towns, and declined marginally in the Rural Areas.

With regard to the distribution of enrolment among school types at the secondary level, the data on percentage enrolment in Table 3.5, show no significant change from that in 1994, despite apparent increased enrolment in All Age and New Secondary schools and apparent reductions in Comprehensive and Secondary High schools in the KMA and Other Towns.

In both the KMA and Other Towns, Secondary High school students represented the largest percentages of students enrolled in the two areas. Of the students in the Rural Areas, the largest percentages, 21 per cent each, were enrolled in All Age and New Secondary schools.

With regard to enrolment at the tertiary level, the KMA had the largest proportion of its students, 9.5 per cent, enrolled. This was the same as in 1994. Among the students from Other Towns, enrolment increased from 3.6 per cent to approximately 8.0 per cent. Among students from the Rural Areas, however, enrolment declined from 4.8 per cent to 2.3 per cent.

THE OUT-OF-SCHOOL POPULATION

For purposes of this report, the out of school population refers to individuals between 12 and 19 years who were not enrolled in school at the time of the survey. This age group was chosen since the MOEYC considers such individuals to be the official secondary school age population. Sections 24 (1) and 35 (4) of the Ministry's Proclamations, Rules and Regulations which address the age of admission at the various cycles of the education system

TABLE 3.5
PERCENTAGE ENROLMENT IN SECONDARY AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, BY AREA, 1990-1995

School Type	Area Year																	
	KMA						Other Towns						Rural Areas					
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
All Age (7-9)	15.0	21.5	13.0	11.9	13.6	18.6	8.0	17.2	14.9	21.9	16.9	15.9	32.0	35.5	31.7	25.7	25.4	26.1
New Secondary	36.0	27.6	25.1	27.8	14.8	17.8	36.0	28.5	35.3	13.7	17.9	26.3	37.0	33.0	28.9	33.5	25.5	26.1
Comprehensive	3.0	4.7	7.4	9.1	11.7	6.5	0.0	2.0	2.1	9.4	11.2	7.3	3.0	4.2	4.5	7.9	14.8	16.7
Secondary High	36.0	35.1	38.0	36.3	44.8	42.3	41.0	40.4	37.7	35.8	40.8	33.8	18.0	19.0	24.2	21.9	23	24.9
Technical High	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.3	4.1	3.7	8.0	3.3	3.4	10.3	7.6	4.9	5.0	4.7	3.9	6.3	4.6	3.1
Vocational/Age	1.0	3.7	2.5	1.6	1.2	1.6	1.0	2.7	0.2	5.8	2.1	4	2.0	1.7	3.2	2.1	2.0	0.7
University/Post Sec	6.0	5.6	11.8	11.0	6.3	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.3	3.1	2.8	7.3	3.0	2.0	3.6	2.6	3.7	1.9
Adult/Night School ^a	-	-	-	-	3.4	3.3	-	-	-	-	0.8	0.6	-	-	-	-	1.1	0.4
Jamaica	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100

NOTE: Percentages adjusted to one decimal place

a- This category is given separately in 1994 and 1995, whereas in previous years it was included in the University/Post Secondary category.

and the length of stay at a secondary level school, indicate that the official age of admission to the secondary level is 11 years, and that such students may be allowed a maximum of seven years to complete secondary education. The secondary school age is therefore defined as beginning at age 11 and ending at age 18. This report however, speaks to persons between 12 and 19 years old because this age group can be accommodated by the standard age groupings used in SLC analysis.

Some 362 persons between the ages 12 and 19, were not enrolled in school. They represented approximately 30.0 per cent of this age cohort in the sample. As was expected, percentage non-enrolment increased with age. Of the out of school population, 2.2 per cent were between 12 and 14 years, 19.1 per cent were in the 15-16 age group, and 78.7 per cent were in the 17-19 age cohort.

As Table E-6 shows, there existed a close relationship between consumption status and the grade at which one completed school. Persons from the wealthiest consumption groups, completed school at a higher grade than those

who were poor. This is naturally associated with the school type in which they are enrolled. Where the school type ends at Grade 9 or even Grade 11, one cannot therefore perceive this as indicating drop out rates. Within the poorest group, the largest percentage, 56.8 per cent, completed school at the level of first cycle secondary education (between Grades 7 and 9). With respect to those belonging to the wealthiest consumption group, some 26.2 per cent completed school at this level. Among the wealthiest group also, 72.3 per cent completed school at grade 10 or 11, while among the poorest group, some 37.8 per cent had completed school at those grades.

Some 1.8 per cent of the poor who were out of school completed school at the highest secondary level (grade 12 or 13). With respect to their counterparts of the wealthiest group, some 5.1 per cent completed either grade 12 or 13.

The data show that in the KMA and Other Towns, more than 60.0 per cent of individuals completed either grade 10 or 11 (See Table E-6). The comparable figure for

TABLE 3.6
PERCENTAGE FULL ATTENDANCE BY SEX, SCHOOL TYPE, QUINTILE AND AREA, 1989-1995

Group	1989	1990	1991	1992 ^a	1993	1994	1995
Sex							
Male	69.0	78.6	76.1	-	78.9	84.5	79.4
Female	72.0	78.7	79.7	-	78.5	83.3	81.1
School Type^b							
Primary						83.4	78.8
All Age (1-6)	70.0	75.4	76.4	-	78.7	84.3	82.8
All Age (7-9)	61.0	75.7	75.7	-	77.6	79.2	78.6
New Sec.	74.0	81.0	81.5	-	75.8	84.8	78.5
Compreh. High	72.0	85.7	79.3	-	79.2	85.1	84.9
Technical High	81.0	72.7	78.6	-	92.4	89.3	71.8
Secondary High	74.0	91.6	85.0	-	81.2	85.5	80.5
Quintile							
Poorest	63.0	67.6	70.6	-	71.4	79.6	73.4
2	71.0	72.8	77.4	-	77.7	83.2	80.6
3	71.0	79.5	83.5	-	78.5	85.7	79.7
4	76.0	87.9	80.0	-	82.1	87.1	84.0
5	70.0	89.9	79.5	-	89.6	89.3	88.0
Area							
KMA	75.0	91.8	87.9	-	83.5	84.0	84.7
Other Towns	69.0	73.6	82.8	-	80.5	92.4	84.4
Rural Area	69.0	73.2	72.0	-	75.2	80.8	76.2
Jamaica	70.0	79.0	78.0	-	78.7	83.9	80.3

^a - Data on school attendance not collected in SLC 1992

^b - An average percentage based on the combined percentages for Primary for the period 1989 - 1993. Thereafter individual percentages are given

the Rural Areas was 49.1 per cent. (See Table E-6). The KMA recorded not only the largest proportion completing school after attaining grade 10 or 11, but also the largest percentage (2.1 per cent) completing school at grade 12 or 13. This is largely due to the fact that school types which offer second cycle secondary education, are concentrated in the KMA.

A gender distribution of the out of school population showed that approximately 62.0 per cent of the females compared with some 52 per cent of males, had completed either grade 10 or 11. The percentage of both sexes completing school at the primary level, declined over the year. There were no out of school females who had completed school at this level.

ATTENDANCE

The analysis of school attendance is related only to the primary and secondary levels of the education system. The reference period for which data were collected was the 5 school days prior to the interview date. The data showed a decline in full attendance (attendance for all 5 days) over the year, of approximately 4.0 percentage points, to approximately 80.0 per cent (See Table E-7). This was conducted between the months of May and July, and one possible explanation for some of the decline in percentage full attendance could be the granting of study leave to students for purposes of sitting CXC and GCE examinations. However, as shown in Table 3.6, the percentage full attendance for the All Jamaica sample, 80.3 per cent, seemed more consistent with that for the period 1990-1993.

Attendance by Gender

Full attendance of girls, at 81.1 per cent, was slightly better than that of boys, at 79.4 per cent. This marked the first time since 1991 that attendance of males and females was different (See Table 3.6). The percentages this year reflected declines of 5.0 per cent and 2.0 per cent, respectively, over 1994.

Males recorded a percentage full attendance slightly lower than the All Jamaica sample percentage, while females recorded a percentage slightly higher (See Table E-7). Although the numbers are small, analysis of non-attendance or absenteeism for all 5 days showed increases, with males and females recording the same percentages. For males, the percentage increased from 3.3 per cent in 1994 to 5.4 per cent, while for females, percentage absenteeism more than doubled, increasing from 2.1 per cent to 5.4 per cent.

Attendance by School Type

In keeping with the decline in percentage full attendance for the All Jamaica sample over the year, percentage full attendance declined in four school types, and remained virtually the same in three. In Comprehensive and Secondary High schools, and at the primary level of All Age schools, percentage full attendance exceeded that of the All Jamaica sample (See Table E-7). Primary, New Secondary, Technical High, and Secondary High schools

recorded declines in percentage full attendance of between 5.0 percentage points and 17.0 percentage points. For Technical High schools, percentage full attendance saw a marked decline, from 89.3 per cent in 1994 to 71.8 per cent in 1995. Of all school types, this was the lowest percentage full attendance recorded. Attendance for 4 days, however, increased from 5.8 per cent to 19.8 per cent. These findings were unexpected for this school type, since Technical High schools usually record very high levels of full attendance. Comprehensive High schools recorded the highest proportion (approximately 85.0 per cent) of full attendance. Although percentage full attendance by Secondary High school students was above the All Jamaica percentage, absenteeism among the students of this school type grew seven-fold over the year, moving from 1.2 per cent to 8.7 per cent. This was the largest percentage of absenteeism among all school types.

Attendance by Area

In the KMA, percentage full attendance remained unchanged. Other Towns and Rural Areas recorded decreases in percentage full attendance over the previous year, moving from 92.4 per cent to 84.4 per cent, and 80.8 per cent to 76.2 per cent, respectively. The reasons for these declines might be worth exploring. Only in the Rural Areas was percentage full attendance at 76.2 per cent, lower than that of the All Jamaica sample, 80.3 per cent. The percentage absenteeism of 6.6 per cent for students from the Rural Areas was also higher than that of the All Jamaica sample which was 5.4 per cent.

Attendance by Quintile

Although there was a general decline in percentage full attendance, the data continued to show a close relationship between attendance and welfare status (See Table E-7). Percentage full attendance of the poor, at 73.4 per cent, was the only attendance rate which fell below that of the All Jamaica sample. This percentage recorded by the poor was approximately 15.0 percentage points lower than that of their wealthier counterparts.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

The SLC examines the participation of students in the School Feeding Programme (SFP). Under this programme, a milk and nutribun snack or a cooked meal (obtained at a higher cost to the student) is provided by the school. Students can receive one of these or both.

Participation in the SFP saw an increase over 1994, moving from 31.8 per cent to 44.3 per cent. Of the participants, approximately 43.0 per cent had the milk and nutribun snack, 31.0 per cent had the cooked meal, and 26.0 per cent had "both".

Participation by School Type

The increase in participation in the School Feeding Programme was reflected across all school types with the exception of the secondary level of All Age schools. Here, percentage participation declined marginally, by

2.0 percentage points. As seen in Table E-8, primary level schools (Primary schools, 55.5 per cent; and All Age (grades 1-6), 53.8 per cent) recorded the largest proportion of beneficiaries. This is consistent with the programme's intention to ensure that the majority of primary level students are served. The lowest percentage participation in the SFP was recorded by Comprehensive High schools, at 21.0 per cent.

For students at the Primary schools and primary and secondary levels of the All Age school system, the major provision was the milk and nutribun snack. With the exception of the Comprehensive High schools where the main provision was "both", the main provision for the students of the other secondary level schools, was the cooked meal.

Participation by Quintile

As expected, there existed a relationship between participation in the SFP and welfare status. The students from the wealthiest consumption group recorded the lowest percentage participation in the SFP (33.0 per cent) and vice versa (See Table E-8). Of the wealthy students who participated, the majority had the cooked meal.

Among the students of the poorest consumption group, approximately 57.0 per cent participated in the programme. Of all consumption groups, this was the largest share of participation. This reality was also in keeping with another aim of the School Feeding Programme, that of providing a meal to needy students. The main provision for the poor students was the milk and nutribun snack.

Participation by Area

The same pattern of participation in 1994 was observed in 1995. Rural Areas recorded the largest proportion of participants, approximately 48.0 per cent, and the Other Towns the smallest, approximately 36.0 per cent. The shares of participation in the three areas were between 10.0 and 14.0 percentage points higher than those for 1994. Among students from the KMA and the Rural Areas, the main provision was the milk and nutribun snack. For students from Other Towns, it was "both"

SCHOOL EXPENDITURE AND ASSISTANCE TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

During the 1993/1994 academic year, the Government introduced a policy of cost-sharing at the secondary level, with parents being asked to make a greater contribution to the economic cost of their children's education. The policy, however, took full effect in September 1994. This principle of cost-sharing specifies that Government retains responsibility for paying the salaries of teachers, as well as related expenses, while operating expenses should be met at the school level, through fees collected. In order to assist needy students to meet the fees charged, a Student Assistance Programme was established by the Government. The operating principle of this programme is that no child should be barred from school because of the inability to pay fees.

Data were collected on issues related to the Secondary school system, such as assistance provided by the Government through its Student Assistance Programme (SAP), and assistance from other agencies and persons such as Members of Parliament through the Social and Economic Support Programme (SESP), Civic organizations, Churches and Private sector organizations (See Table E-10). In addition to School Fees, data on expenditure for Extra Lessons, Transportation, Lunch and Snacks for school, Uniforms, Books, Other Supplies, and Room and Board throughout the education system were collected and analyzed (See Table E-9). The data on Room and Board will not be analyzed since only ten persons reported expenditure.

For the SLC, respondents were asked to state how much their families spent on the particular items listed. The analysis presented reports on mean annual expenditure on these items. This analysis is somewhat different from that in 1994 since it gives a mean annual expenditure by item and provides the actual numbers of persons (although very small) who benefitted from the SAP, by area, quintile and school type. These new provisions allow for an easier way of interpreting and understanding the data.

Expenditure on Primary Level Education

Primary Schools

As shown in Table E-9, the largest mean expenditure valued at \$3031.00 was on Lunch and Snacks. This was in spite of the heavily subsidized meals available to students through the School Feeding Programme and the increased participation in the programme over the year. However, when compared with the other items, this item is unique in that expenditure is not confined to a specified time, but is incurred on a daily basis.

The relatively high cost of Tuition and Fees found at the primary level can perhaps be explained by the high fees charged by the private Preparatory schools. These fees sometimes surpass the fees charged by secondary level schools. At the public Primary schools, however, fees are not sanctioned, but some schools request a small contribution for incidentals.

Mean annual expenditure on books was \$800.00, virtually the same as 1994. This was one of the lowest levels of expenditure for Primary school students, a fact explained by Government's assistance to Primary school students through the free provision of books covering the four core curriculum areas.

All Age Schools (Grades 1-6)

When compared with 1994, the 1995 data reflect a general increase in mean annual expenditure on all items except Transportation which reflected a marginal decline, and Books which remained basically the same (See Table E-9). In spite of the non-sanctioning of fees, mean annual expenditure on Tuition and Fees was \$1,660.00

This was less than half that for the Primary school students.

The expenditure on transportation was also slightly lower than that for Primary school students. This was an unexpected finding, especially since All Age Schools are predominantly located in Rural Areas where distance makes transportation cost higher than in urban areas. However, over the year, there was an increase in the cost of transportation in the Kingston Metropolitan Area where the primary level schools are mainly Primary schools.

Like that for Primary schools, mean annual expenditure on Lunch and Snacks, was the largest of all items. This was in spite of the benefits derived from participation in the School Feeding Programme.

Expenditure on Secondary Level Education and Assistance with Tuition Fees

As seen in Table E-9, generally, there was a disparity in mean annual expenditure on the selected items, by the various school types. Expenditure was lowest overall for the All Age schools and highest for the Secondary High and Technical High schools.

With respect to expenditure on Tuition and Fees, that by students in Secondary High schools was the highest, at \$3946.00. This was compared with \$1585.00 spent by New Secondary school students, \$1899.00 by Comprehensive High school students, and \$3140.00 spent by those attending Technical High schools. Expenditure on Tuition and Fees for Secondary High and Technical High school students was much greater than the All Jamaica mean for all secondary level schools.

Students from Comprehensive High schools received the highest mean value of assistance (\$1195.00) sourced through the Government's Student Assistance Programme. This value was greater than 70.0 per cent of the school fees for that school type (See Table E-10). In the previous year, the value of assistance was worth 65.0 per cent of the school fees. (Most Comprehensive High schools are located in Rural Areas where poverty is greatest.) Students from the other school types, Secondary High, Technical High and New Secondary schools, received assistance to the value of between 30.0 per cent and 40.0 per cent of their school fees.

Whereas in the previous year the value of assistance from Other sources to students attending Secondary and Technical High schools was higher than the cost of their school fees, it was lower this year. Valued at approximately 50.0 per cent of their school fees, the value of assistance to Technical High school students was the smallest when compared with that received by other students. With the exception of Comprehensive High school students, the mean value of assistance from Other sources to students attending the other secondary level schools was greater than that provided by the Student Assistance Programme. Individually, these represented between 54.0

per cent and 99.0 per cent of the mean value of the students' school fees. Secondary High school students benefited most, with almost total assistance with school fees. It is believed that some of these students had in fact received private sector scholarships.

As Table E-9 shows, of all secondary level schools, the largest mean expenditure on Extra Lessons was recorded by Technical High schools, \$2414.00. Secondary High and New Secondary school students recorded practically the same mean annual expenditure on this item. This was an unexpected finding given the great disparity in the consumption status of the student population at these schools.

Only in the case of All Age school students did mean annual expenditure on Transportation fall below that of the All Jamaica sample, (\$1771.00). Technical High school students recorded the largest mean annual expenditure on transportation, \$3233.00. This is due to the fact that there are only 12 Technical High schools in Jamaica, and many of the students are required to travel long distances.

With respect to expenditure on Books, the students from the All Age schools spent the least, \$713.00 (See Table E-9). All students attending public secondary level schools are provided text books under the Secondary Schools Textbook Programme (SSTP). Secondary High school students recorded the largest mean annual expenditure on Books, followed by students attending Technical High and Comprehensive High schools.

School Expenditure and Assistance by Area

School expenditure is largely a function of school type, but to the extent that there is a concentration of a particular school type in an area, school expenditure becomes a function of area.

Table E-9 shows that with the exception of Transportation, the KMA had the highest mean expenditure on all items. These were also greater than the All Jamaica sample means for the particular items. As was expected, in the case of students from Rural Areas, the exact opposite held for all items except Transportation. The differences between mean annual expenditure by students from the KMA and the Rural Areas were not significant. On Extra Lessons, families in the KMA spent about two times more than persons in the other areas.

With respect to Tuition and Fees, the fact that the KMA had the highest mean expenditure could be partly due to the preponderance of private Preparatory schools and Secondary High schools where the fees are high. Compared with students from the other areas, these students received the largest mean value of assistance from the Government's Student Assistance Programme. This was valued at \$1346.00, representing approximately 45.0 per cent of the mean value of their school fees. Students attending Preparatory schools do not, however, receive Government assistance. Students from the Rural Areas

received some \$976.00, approximately 39.0 per cent of their fees. This difference in the value of Government assistance was significant. For students from Other Towns, the mean value of Government's assistance was \$707.00, representing some 31.0 per cent of the value of their school fees. It can thus be argued that the Student Assistance Programme (SAP) is not progressively targeted, as the child in the KMA who is likely to be wealthier, receives assistance to cover a greater percentage of school fees than the child from the other areas.

Assistance from Other Sources was much greater than that received through the Student Assistance Programme and was skewed in favour of the students from the KMA. The mean value of assistance received by students from the KMA and Other Towns was greater than the cost of their school fees. Students from the Rural Areas were at a disadvantage, receiving a mean value of assistance of approximately 65.0 per cent of their school fees. When compared with students from the KMA, the value of their assistance was significantly lower.

School Expenditure and Assistance by Quintile

As was expected, there was a direct relationship between welfare status and expenditure on the various items relevant to school. As Table E-9 shows, the wealthier students were able to spend more on all items than their poorer counterparts. Some of the disparities in expenditure were great, as in the case of Books and Tuition and Fees, for which the students of the wealthiest consumption group spent between three and four times more, respectively, than did their poorest counterparts. The difference in the expenditure on Transportation between the poorest and wealthiest students, was significant, with the wealthiest students spending significantly more.

With respect to the disparity in expenditure on Tuition and Fees, this is a function of the type of school. The poor attend the less socially prominent schools where Tuition and Fees are small relative to that paid by the wealthiest students who attend the more prominent schools. The poorest students however received the largest mean value of assistance from the Student Assistance Programme, \$1400.00. As a proportion of the cost of their school fees, this represented close to 65.0 per cent. None of the students from the wealthiest consumption group received Government assistance.

With respect to assistance from Other Sources, the data in Table E-10 seem to suggest that there is a relationship between students' consumption status and the mean value of assistance from Other Sources. The difference between the values of assistance to the poorest and wealthiest students was however not significant, suggesting that assistance is independent of students' consumption status. However, students from the two wealthiest quintiles received assistance worth more than their school fees. It is suspected that these students received scholarships, perhaps through their parents' work places.

The expenditure on Books showed an association with consumption status, which may also be associated, in part, with school type. Most of the primary level children of the wealthiest consumption group attend private Preparatory schools and are thus not eligible to obtain textbooks issued to Primary school and All Age (grades 1-6) students under the Primary Textbook Programme.

On Extra Lessons, the expenditure disparity between the poorest and the wealthiest, although seemingly small, was significant. Although, with respect to Lunch and Snacks, the poorest students spent less than one-half that spent by their wealthiest counterparts, under the School Feeding Programme, they would have been provided with a milk and nutribun snack.

CONCLUSION

Generally, with respect to basic education, percentage enrolment by students from the Rural Areas improved, approaching the level recorded by students from Other Towns. Among the out of school population from the Rural Areas, the educational attainment saw an improvement with the majority, some 60.0 per cent compared with approximately 55.0 per cent in 1994, completing school at grade 10 or 11. Percentage full attendance deteriorated over the year, and in the Rural Areas it continued to be lower than that at the national level.

In terms of the out-of-school population, the largest percentage of the poorest consumption group, some 53.2 per cent, had completed school at the level of first cycle Secondary education. This was compared with 74.3 per cent of the wealthiest group who had completed school at grade 10 or 11. Perhaps the need for a policy which ensures compulsory secondary education up to grade 11, and the effecting of the necessary inputs which would facilitate this, must be stressed.

Percentage full attendance declined over the year, moving from approximately 84.0 per cent to 80.0 per cent. With regard to participation in the School Feeding Programme, there was a 13.0 percentage point increase. Targeting continued to be good, with the bulk of the nutribun and milk provisions being made to Primary and All Age school students and the children of the poorest consumption groups.

On the matter of school expenses, there continued to be a direct relationship between welfare status and expenditure on the various items relevant to school. The disparities in expenditure on important items such as Books and Tuition and Fees continued to be great. The Government through its Student Assistance Programme continued to target the poor. No student from the wealthiest consumption group received assistance from the fund. Although assistance from other sources continued to be more than that from the Government, it was skewed in favour of the wealthiest students, since the value of assistance increased as welfare status improved.

The continued bifurcation of the economically well-off and the poor into educational institutions which are qualitatively distinct is inimical to the development of an equitable social order. Efforts by the ROSE programme to correct this are well placed. However, it is important that changes which are instituted under this programme result in meaningful transformation of the curriculum of

the All Age and New Secondary schools to allow their students access to the same content as exists in the more well established educational institutions. In addition, the greatest effort has to be made to ensure that All Age and New Secondary schools, even in the deepest of Rural Jamaica, are equipped with the necessary facilities and resources.

HEALTH

INTRODUCTION

The 1995 health module of the Survey Living Conditions attempts to provide data for the monitoring and analysis of selected primary and secondary health care programmes in Jamaica. The survey provides data on reported illness/injury, allowing for an analysis of the demand for curative and preventive services at health facilities. Severity of illness is evaluated from reported duration of illness, while the levels of utilization of public and private health facilities provide an indicator of access to and availability of health care services.

Child health is reported in terms of immunization coverage, the registration of births, the prevalence of diarrhoea and the nutritional status of children under the age of 5 years.

As in previous years, the chapter will also review data from earlier surveys.

PREVALENCE OF ILLNESS/INJURY

Self-reported illness/injury during a four week reference period, although a subjective evaluation of health status, provides a reasonable indicator of the demand for curative health care services.

Self reported injury was recorded separately for the first time in 1995, due to concerns regarding the increase in deaths and injury caused by violence and motor vehicle accidents. This resulted in a heavy burden being placed on the health care system for the treatment of victims of these incidents. Injury from the categories: 'motor vehicle accident'; 'accident at work place'; 'was shot'; 'was stabbed'; 'other accident'; or 'other', was reported by 54 individuals, less than 1.0 per cent of the sample.

Some 9.8 per cent of the respondents reported illness during the reference period of four weeks prior to the survey (see Table C-1). The prevalence of reported illness was highest in the Rural Areas at 11.0 per cent, indicating the high demand for health care services in these geographic locations where some health care services have been reported to be lacking.¹ There was no marked difference in the prevalence of reported illness in the KMA and Other Towns, with 8.9 and 8.5 per cent respectively.

More females, 11.3 per cent, than males, 8.3 per cent, reported illness. In keeping with epidemiological expectations, respondents 65 years and over reported the highest levels of illness.

Reported illness/injury in the four week reference period for the 1989-1995 surveys is shown in Table 4.1². Between 1990 and 1992 there was a decline in self-reported illness/injury. Viewed as an indicator of health status, this suggests an improvement in health for this period. In 1993 however, the prevalence of self-reported illness/injury increased from 10.6 per cent to 12.0 per cent, and remained at that level between 1993 and 1994. In 1995, a significant reduction in the prevalence of self-

TABLE 4.1
PERCENTAGE REPORTING ILLNESS IN 4-WEEK
REFERENCE PERIOD, 1989-1995

CLASSIFICATION	YEAR						
	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
AREA							
KMA	12.0	17.4	11.8	9.3	10.7	11.2	8.9
Other Towns	18.2	22.3	17.7	11.1	13.3	11.9	8.4
Rural Areas	18.2	17.5	13.3	11.1	12.4	14.4	11.0
QUINTILE							
Poorest	14.9	17.3	12.1	10.1	12.1	13.5	10.4
2	17.1	16.0	14.4	9.8	12.8	13.6	10.5
3	17.1	16.3	14.1	11.0	12.5	13.9	7.5
4	17.9	22.1	11.7	10.8	10.4	11.3	10.1
5	17.1	19.8	16.0	11.4	13.3	12.2	10.7
SEX							
Male	15.0	16.3	12.1	9.9	10.4	11.6	8.3
Female	18.5	20.3	15.0	11.3	13.5	14.3	11.3
AGE (Years)							
0 - 4					17.23	22.3	17.3
5 - 9				12.8	9.7	11.8	8.3
10 - 19				5.9	6.7	6.5	4.9
20 - 29				4.7	6.3	8.2	5.5
30 - 39				7.0	8.1	8.0	6.4
40 - 49				10.5	11.0	12.9	8.2
50 - 59				13.5	13.2	16.0	15.1
60 - 64				18.2	26.0	21.8	15.8
65+				28.6	33.0	30.0	26.8
JAMAICA	16.8	18.3	13.7	10.6	12.0	12.9	9.8

TABLE 4.2
PERCENTAGE REPORTING PROTRACTED
ILLNESS\INJURY DURING REFERENCE PERIOD,
1989-1995

CLASSIFICATION	YEAR					
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
AREA						
KMA	18.2	23.1	31.3	28.5	36.8	36.0
Other Town	15.5	25.9	27.4	33.6	27.6	31.6
R.ural Areas	22.1	26.4	37.5	40.2	28.9	30.0
QUINTILE						
Poorest	24.9	26.8	40.8	37.1	32.8	25.0
2	24.8	27.8	34.6	34.6	29.8	30.4
3	17.6	34.5	35.2	26.1	26.4	35.4
4	16.9	23.9	35.4	43.9	36.4	34.0
5	15.6	15.9	28.6	36.7	26.2	36.3
SEX^a						
Male	18.4	25.4	31.6	35.0	26.3	28.4
Female	20.6	25.5	36.2	35.8	34.4	34.6
AGE						
0-4				15.2	15.6	12.9
5-9			16.5	20.4	20.0	18.1
10-19			15.2	19.4	17.0	17.5
20-29			18.5	22.5	21.6	12.0
30-39			22.4	29.4	27.7	29.4
40-49			39.4	32.8	26.2	26.4
50-59			46.1	41.3	38.7	44.9
60-64			57.3	61.4	43.2	53.5
65+			63.4	62.4	61.3	66.8
JAMAICA		34.87	35.5	30.9	32.0	

a - value for 0-9 year age group

reported illness/injury, from 12.9 percent in 1994 to 9.8 per cent was recorded. This was the lowest prevalence of self-reported illness/injury recorded since the start of the survey in 1989, and coincides with the Ministry of Health's efforts to develop a new approach to the provision and financing of health services, a key element

TABLE 4.3
MEAN NUMBER OF DAYS OF ILLNESS AND IMPAIR-
MENT AND PERCENTAGE REPORTING PRO-
TRACTED ILLNESS, 1989-1995

YEAR	Mean No. of Days of Illness	Mean No. of Days of Impairment
S.C. 89 ^a	11.4	5.5
S.C. 90	10.1	4.7
S.C.91	10.2	4.9
S.C.92	10.8	6.0
S.C. 93	10.4	6.3
S.C.94	10.4	6.2
S.C.95	10.7	5.6

^a - 2nd round of SLC

being strategies to change the way people think about their own health.³ This reduction in the prevalence of self-reported illness/injury, was significantly marked in the age groups 0-4, 40-49, and 60-64 years old.

Protracted illness/injury, - conditions starting before the four week reference period, was reported by 32.0 per cent of the respondents (see Table C-1). The highest prevalence was reported in the KMA, while females reported more protracted conditions than males. As expected the prevalence of protracted conditions was lowest in the very young and increased with age, with the highest prevalence reported in the 60-64 and 65+ age groups. The prevalence of protracted illness was also found to be highest in the wealthier quintiles.

Protracted illness was first reported in 1990, (see Table 4.2).⁴ Protracted illness increased steadily over the 1990 to 1993 period, from 19.6 per cent to 35.5 per cent. In 1994 however, there was a reduction in the prevalence of reported protracted illness to 30.9 per cent and this remained fairly stable to 1995 at 32.0 per cent. This apparent stability in the prevalence of protracted conditions could be linked to the provision of improved preventive health care services. The lowest prevalence of protracted illness was reported in quintile 5 between 1989-1992 and in 1994; however, in 1993, the lowest prevalence was reported in quintile 3 and in 1995 in quintile 2. Protracted illness was most prevalent in the Rural Areas between 1990-1993, but this shifted to the KMA in 1994 and 1995. These trends will require further investigation and discussion.

DURATION OF ILLNESS/INJURY

The health module uses two measurements in the evaluation of severity of illness/injury: i)The mean number of days of illness/injury, or duration of illness/injury ii)The mean number of days restricted from normal activities, or impairment (see Table C-1).

Respondents in the KMA reported the lowest Mean Days of Illness/Injury (9.3 days), as well as the lowest Mean Days of Impairment (4.0 days). Mean Days of Illness/Injury, appeared to be uniform between Other Towns and Rural Areas, however, Mean Days of Impairment was slightly higher in Other Towns than in the Rural Areas (see Table C-1). By consumption group, Mean Days of Illness/Injury was higher in the two poorest quintiles than in the two wealthiest quintiles. Mean Days of Impairment, was highest in the poorest quintile at 6.7 days and lowest in the wealthiest quintile at 4.7 days (see Table C-1). Males reported higher Mean Days of Impairment than females and marked differences were recorded between age groups, with the Mean Days of Illness/Injury being much shorter for children and young adults⁵, than for adults over the age of 30 years (See Table C-1).

For the period 1990-1995, Mean Days of Illness/Injury has fluctuated between 10-11 days. Mean Days of

Impairment has however displayed more variation. The lowest Mean Days of Impairment was reported in 1990 at 4.7 days, while the highest was reported in 1993 at 6.3 days (see Table 4.3).

USE OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

In 1995, 58.9 per cent of those reporting illness/injury sought medical care (see Table C-1). The Rural Areas had the highest proportion of ill/injured persons seeking medical care (62.8 per cent), while the KMA had the lowest proportion of ill/injured persons seeking medical care (52.6 per cent). In the KMA, health seeking behaviour was associated with the length of impairment. In the Rural Areas there was a strong relationship between severity of illness (measured by both Mean Number of Days of Illness/Injury and Mean Number of Days of Impairment), and the health seeking behaviour of individuals (association evaluated using Spearman's Correlation). These findings suggest significant differences in individual attitude to the use of health care facilities by geographic location and warrants further investigation.

When examined by consumption level, the ill/injured in the poorest quintile exhibited the lowest health seeking activity. This was found to be associated with Mean Number of Days of Impairment and may have economic implications. Children less than 5 years old, and persons over 30 years were more likely to seek medical care than any other age group, while the ill/injured in the 10-19 age group, sought medical care the least. There was no difference in the health seeking behaviour of males and females.

Those seeking medical care have the option of doing so from the public and/or private sectors. A major element in the reform of health services is the contraction of Government's role as the main provider of health care. A main thrust of the Ministry of Health is for the establishment of an appropriate public/private sector mix, in the provision and financing of health care services. In 1995, private sector health care services continued to be the preferred source of care, accounting for some 66.4 per

cent of the health care seekers. This compared with 27.2 per cent seeking care from the public sector and 6.3 per cent from both the public and private sectors. Source of medical care was found to be closely linked to consumption level. In Quintile 5, 80.0 per cent of the health care seekers did so from the private sector, compared with 49.4 per cent of the health care seekers in the poorest quintile.

Analyzed by age the health care seekers in the 50-59 age group used the public sector health services the most. Concurrently, the ill/injured in the 20-29 and 30-39 year age groups were more likely to use private health care facilities. Males were more likely than females to seek care from both private and public facilities.

Some 81.9 per cent of the persons purchasing medication did so from private providers (see Table C-2). It should be noted however that only users of public health facilities can access 'drugs' from the public dispensary. Of the 33.5⁶ per cent of the ill/injured seeking public health care, only 18.1⁷ per cent purchased medication from a public dispensary. This observable deficit in the utilization of public sector drug providers is not surprising, as physical access to private sector drug providers is greater. The shortfall in the use of public drug windows by public health service users was most pronounced in Other Towns where 31.8 per cent of those seeking medical care did so from public providers yet only 11.2 per cent purchased drugs from the public sector.

Only a small proportion of 'Those Seeking Medical Care' was hospitalized, (6.2 per cent), with the majority being admitted to public institutions (see Table C-3). Hospitalization was highest in the 60-64 age group, and was associated with the high prevalence of protracted conditions reported earlier. Females were more likely to be hospitalized than males. This coincided with reports of a higher prevalence of protracted conditions in this group.

TABLE 4.4

USE OF PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR BY ILL/INJURED FOR MEDICAL CARE, PURCHASE OF MEDICATION, AND HOSPITALIZATION DURING THE FOUR WEEK REFERENCE PERIOD, 1990-1995

YEAR	Percentage of Those Seeking Medical Care			Percentage Purchasing Medication			Percentage Hospitalization of Those Seeking Medical Care	
	Pub.	Priv.	Both	Pub.	Priv.	Both	Public	Private
1989 ^a	39	61	na	na	na	na	na	na
1990	39.4	60.6	na	na	na	na	na	na
1991	35.6	57.7	6.7	na	na	na	na	na
1992	28.5	63.4	8.1	8.7	8.7	2.5	1.0	0.4
1993	30.9	63.8	5.3	15.9	15.9	4.2	6.9	0.5
1994	28.8	66.7	4.5	21.4	21.4	3.0	4.6	0.8
1995	27.2	66.4	6.3	16.4	16.4	1.7	6.0	0.2

^a - 2nd round of SLC 1989 na - not available