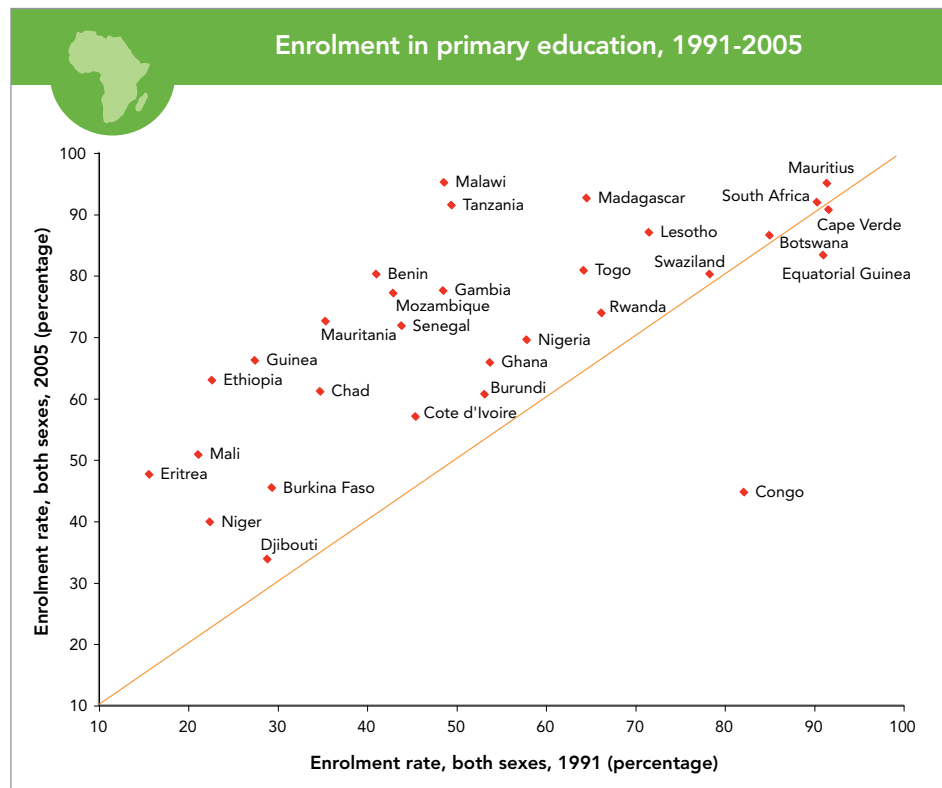


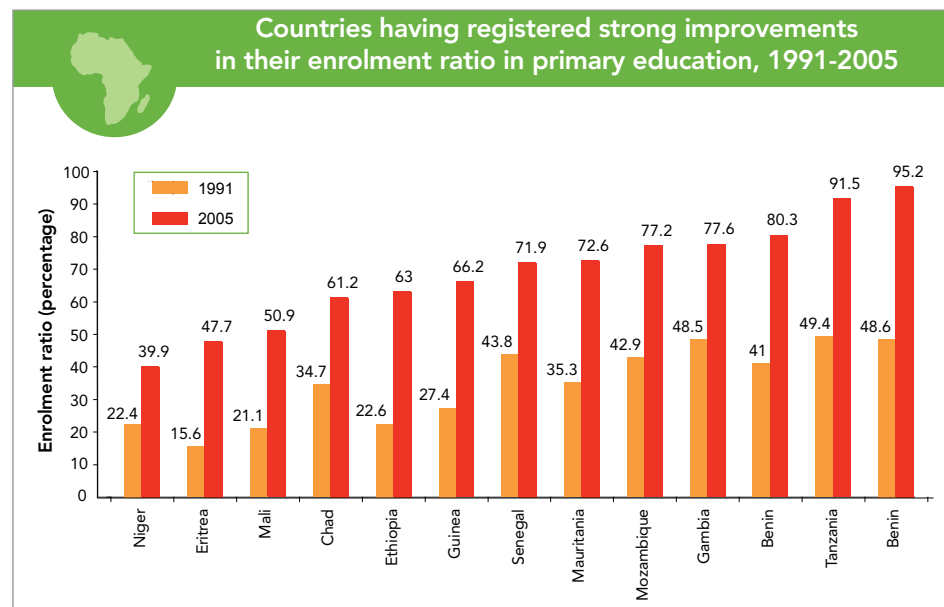
EDUCATION



Source: UN MDG website, 2007.

Access to primary education has progressed strongly in most countries.

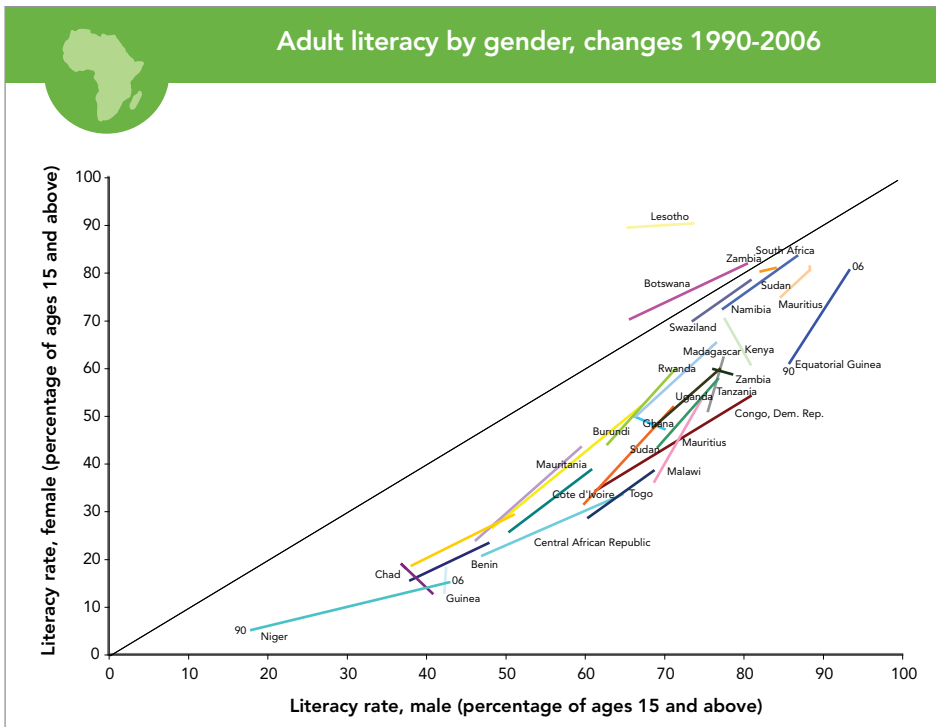
Trends in education are encouraging, with a marked increase in primary enrolment for most countries over time, as well as a reduction in the gender gap in school attendance. Ghana is successfully implementing a national school feeding programme using locally produced foods. Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and many other countries have abolished fees for primary schools resulting in dramatic increases in enrolment during the space of a few years.⁵



Source: UN MDG website, 2007.

“Instruction in youth is like engraving in stones.”

African proverb



Adult literacy is improving.

Although there are important differences across African countries in literacy rates, adult literacy has shown consistent improvement over time in most countries. Across countries as well as over time, male literacy rates tend to increase first, female literacy catching up at a later stage. According to international statistics, Lesotho and Botswana are exceptions to this rule, with higher literacy rates for females than for males. Zambia, Swaziland, South Africa and Namibia all have both high literacy rates and very similar literacy rates for men and women.

Emigration of skilled workers remains pervasive.

Africa has often been highlighted as the continent that suffers most from brain drain. The region has remained an area of net out-migration to the rest of the world, especially for skilled migrants. Among the 10 countries with more than 4 million inhabitants having the highest emigration rates of skilled workers to OECD countries, six are African countries. Somalia is estimated to be second only to Haiti in terms of emigration of skilled workers.⁶

