

Annex 10: Per-pupil premium for PSL schools in disadvantaged counties

In consultation with PSL operators, funders, and partners, the Ministry of Education supports an additional \$10 per pupil premium subsidy in the Year 2 funding model for schools in the following counties:

Gbarpolu
 Grand Gedeh
 Grand Kru
 Maryland
 Rivercess
 River Gee
 Sinoe

This decision was taken in recognition of the higher transaction and operation costs associated with serving schools in these areas. The Ministry of Education based PSL expansion on a pro-poor model and the need to ensure national coverage of the program, which required providers to take clusters of schools in counties that were not adequately served in Year 1.

COUNTY ADVANTAGE MATRIX

County	Household Wealth Rank	Accessibility Rank (Proximity to Monrovia, Road coverage)	PSL Year 1 Coverage	Primary Gross Enrollment Rate	Average Rank
River Gee	2	1	0	1	1
River Cess	1	2	1	1	1.25
Grand Kru	1	1	1	3	1.5
Sinoe	2	2	1	1	1.5
Gbarpolu	1	3	1	1	1.5
Maryland	4	1	1	2	2
Grand Gedeh	3	2	0	3	2
Grand Bassa	4	4	1	2	2.75
Grand Cape Mount	3	4	3	1	2.75
Lofa	2	3	5	2	3
Bong	3	4	5	2	3.5
Nimba	5	3	5	2	3.75
Margibi	5	5	3	3	4
Bomi	4	5	5	3	4.25
Montserrado	5	5	5	3	4.5

The County Advantage Matrix was based on the following indicators and analysis:

Household Wealth Rank: Household income data was retrieved from the 2013 Demographic and Health Survey, which is the most recent comprehensive nationwide survey conducted in Liberia that provided county-level disaggregation. Counties were ranked from 1-15 based on the proportion of households in the lowest two quintiles of household wealth, 1 having the highest proportion of low-income households and 15 the lowest proportion. The counties were then grouped into rankings from 1-5, with the 3 poorest counties receiving a rank of “1” and the 3 wealthiest receiving a rank of “5.”

Accessibility Rank: Counties were again assigned to groups of 3 and ranked from 1-5 based on proximity to Monrovia and road coverage, “1” being the most remote counties of the Southeast, “5” being Montserrado and its immediate neighbors.

PSL Year 1 Coverage: Counties received a ranking of “0” if they had no PSL schools in Year 1, “1” if they had only 1-2 PSL schools in Year 1, “3” if they had 3-9 schools in Year 1, and “5” if they had 10 or more schools in Year 1.

Primary Gross Enrollment Rate: EMIS 2015-2016 data was used to confirm the primary gross enrollment rate of each county, as an indication of education access. The counties were then assigned into groups such that the 5 counties with the lowest GER were ranked “1” and the 5 with the highest GER were ranked “3.”