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Women's Health Seeking Behavior in Rural Uganda

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Image 1. Map of Africa Highlighting Uganda.

WOMENS HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOR IN RURAL UGANDA



Image 2: View of Kiwoko Hospital.

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BACKGROUND

- o Based out of Kiwoko Hospital, Luwero, Uganda.
- o Data from survey of 510 households from 11 villages.
- o 300+ variables of interest in the survey.
- o Survey conducted to inform hospital on efficacious outreach activities.

METHODS

To determine what factors were most influential to decision making I used data on socio-economic factors and place of delivery, and used the following statistical tests to examine relationships:

- o T-tests
- o Correlations
- o Multiple Regressions

HYPOTHESIS

- o Age and education level of the pregnant woman are the most influential factors on choice of place to deliver.

QUESTION

Why do Ugandan women chose to use a biomedical facility or a Traditional Birth Attendant for their antenatal and delivery needs?

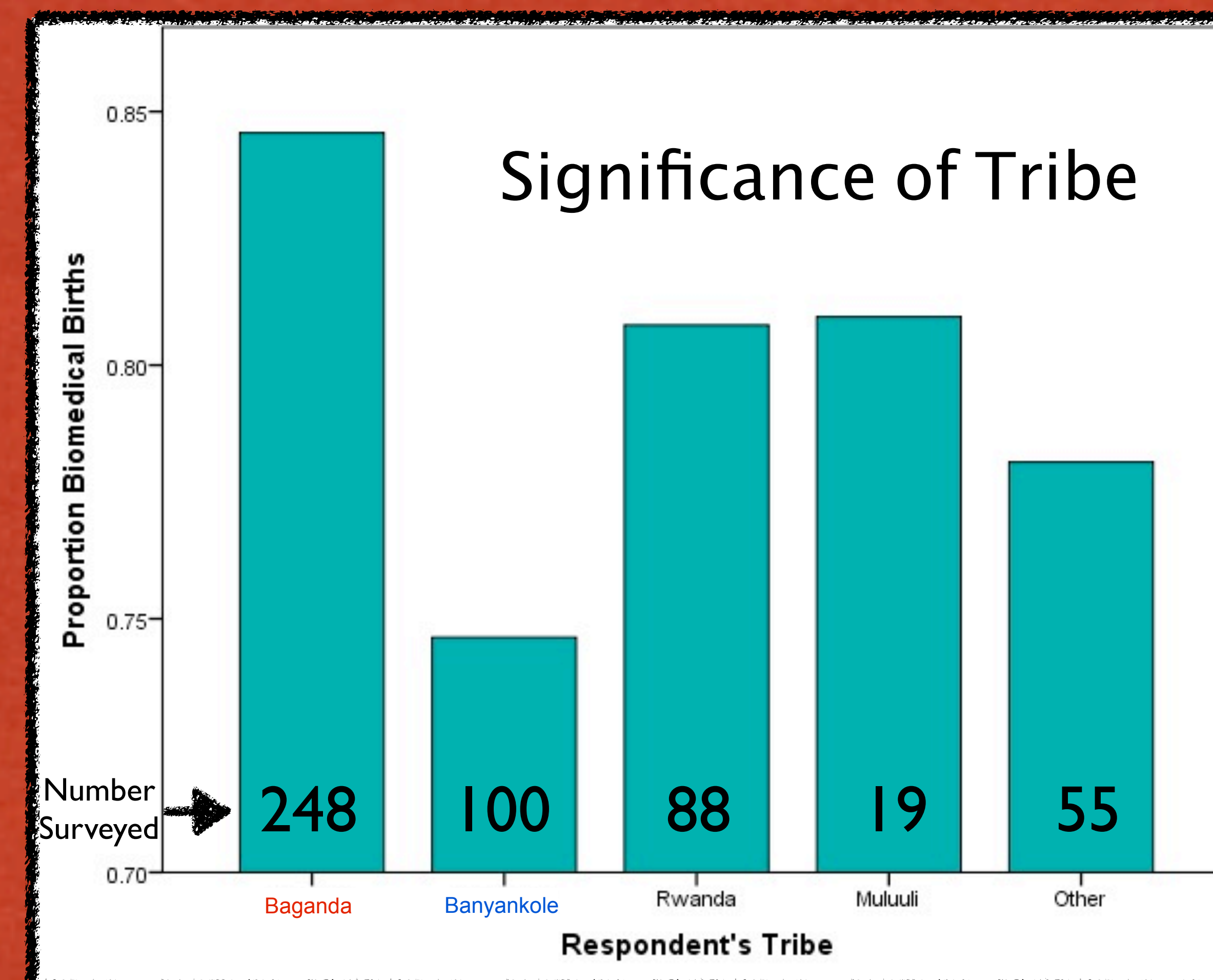


Figure 2: Tribe and Their Proportion of Births at Biomedical Facilities.

CONCLUSIONS ABOUT TRIBE SIGNIFICANCE

- o Agriculturalists (Baganda) are more likely than pastoralists (Banyankole) to give birth in a biomedical facility.
- o Even in remote settlements, people prefer to give birth in a biomedical facility.
- o Distance is not the only factor that limits availability of medical services. Indicators of socio-economic status (such as cash crop coverage, income of husband and wife, and education level) are very important as well.

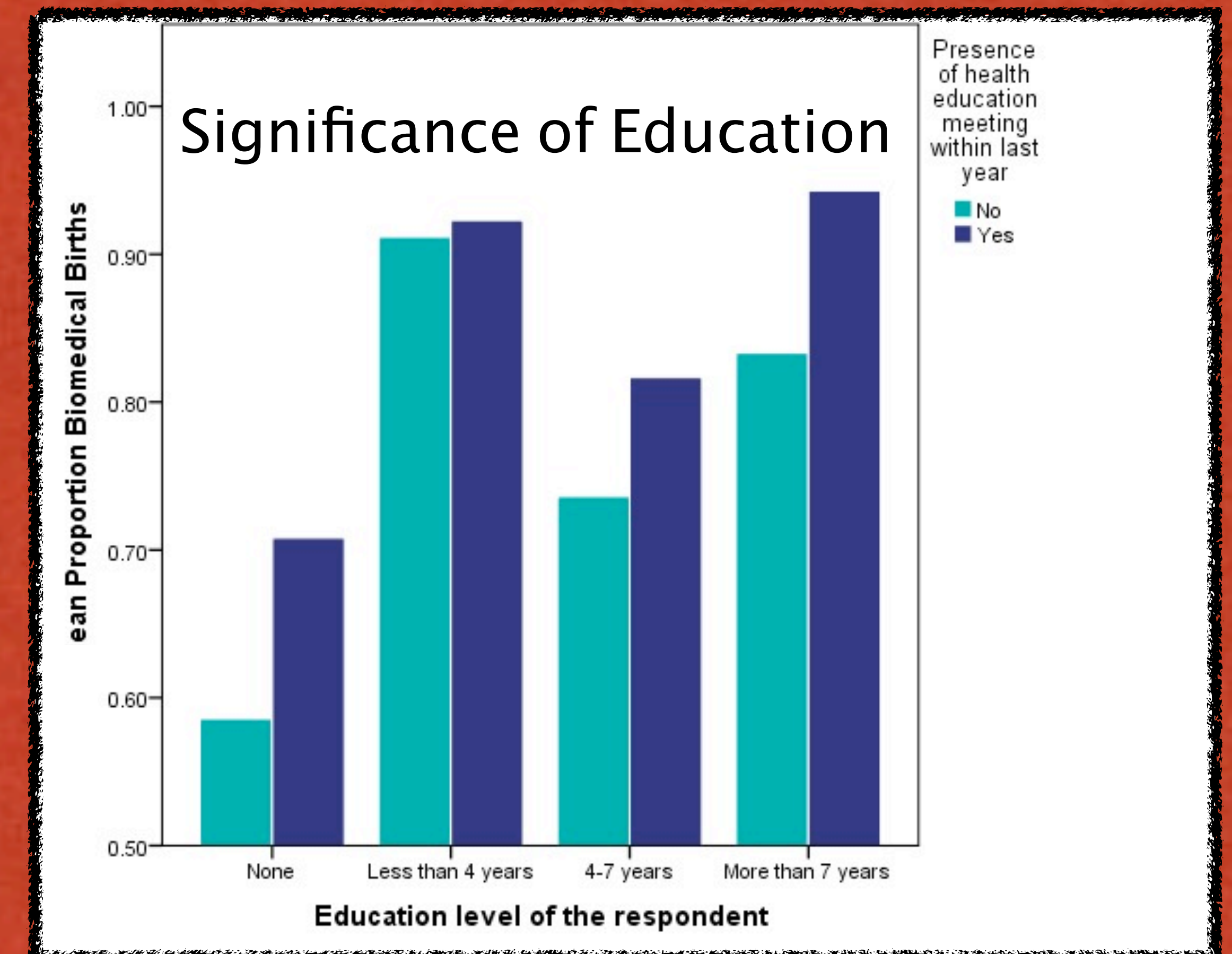


Figure 3: Proportion of Biomedical Births by Years of Education.

CONCLUSIONS ABOUT EDUCATION

- o Any amount of education increases the likelihood that a woman will give birth in a biomedical facility, especially with health education.
- o Indicates that what type of education received matters and that local health meetings are important and working.
- o Most important to target those meetings to the under-educated to see more percentages of women using biomedical facilities.

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Figure 1: Image of Uganda with Tribe Distribution in the Catchment Area.