YOUNG CHILDREN REPORT CARD

From the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2024

Annual Status of Education Report
असर ASER 2024 RURAL
Facilitated by PRATHAM

Gujarat RURAL

ANALYSIS BASED ON DATA FROM HOUSEHOLDS. 26 OUT OF 26 DISTRICTS*

Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

Enrollment trends: Children aged 3-8 (Foundational Stage)

Exposure to developmentally appropriate activities from a young age and growing up in a supportive learning environment helps children develop strong foundations for learning. Major education policy documents in India now recognise these facts. ASER 2024 data for the "foundational stage" (age 3-8) is helpful in understanding the current status of schooling and learning so that evidence can inform actions for ensuring that children enter school at the right age and are ready for formal schooling.

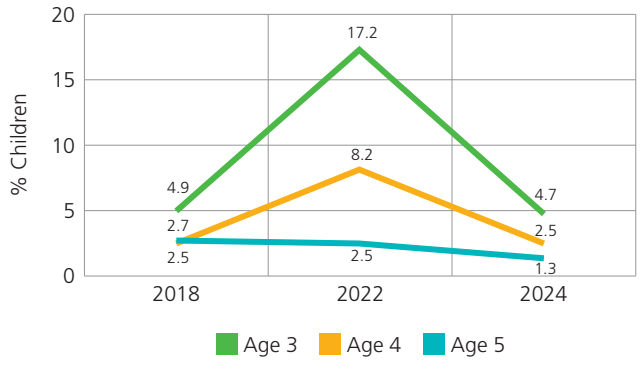
Table 1: % Children enrolled in different types of pre-schools and schools. By age. 2022

Age	Pre-school			School			Not in pre-school or school	Total
	Anganwadi	Govt pre-primary	Pvt LKG/ UKG	Govt	Pvt	Other		
Age 3	80.8	0.4	1.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	17.2	100
Age 4	81.5	5.0	4.5	0.8	0.2	0.0	8.1	100
Age 5	40.2	1.6	4.2	50.4	1.2	0.0	2.5	100
Age 6	2.9	0.2	1.9	87.7	6.8	0.0	0.5	100
Age 7	0.1	0.0	0.0	92.6	6.7	0.0	0.6	100
Age 8	0.1	0.0	0.0	92.1	7.3	0.0	0.6	100

Table 2: % Children enrolled in different types of pre-schools and schools. By age. 2024

Age	Pre-school			School			Not in pre-school or school	Total
	Anganwadi	Govt pre-primary	Pvt LKG/ UKG	Govt	Pvt	Other		
Age 3	87.6	4.1	3.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	4.7	100
Age 4	80.2	7.4	8.5	1.2	0.2	0.0	2.5	100
Age 5	54.4	23.8	14.5	4.9	1.0	0.0	1.3	100
Age 6	13.1	29.8	11.6	40.7	4.1	0.0	0.7	100
Age 7	0.8	8.3	2.6	77.4	10.6	0.1	0.4	100
Age 8	0.0	0.4	0.2	87.0	11.7	0.1	0.5	100

Chart 1: % Children age 3-5 not enrolled anywhere. 2018, 2022, 2024



Key takeaways

- **Increase in enrollment in government pre-primary institutions at age 5:** At this age, more than 75% children are in government pre-primary institutions in 2024. At age 5, enrollment in anganwadis increased from 40.2% to 54.4% between 2022 and 2024. Similarly, while only 1.6% children were enrolled in government pre-primary in 2022, this percentage increased substantially to 23.8% in 2024 (Table 1 and 2).
- **Majority of children are spread across government institutions at age 6:** In 2024, more than 80% children are in government schools, government pre-primary or anganwadis at this age. 40.7% of children are in government schools, 29.8% are in government pre-primary and 13.1% are in anganwadis at this age (Table 2). This is in sharp contrast to 2022, where 87.7% of children were in government schools at age 6. This number dropped to 40.7% in 2024 (Table 1 and 2).
- **Decrease in 'underage' enrollment in Std I:** The percentage of enrolled children who are 'underage' (age 5 or below) in Std I in government and private schools has decreased since 2018. In 2018, the percentage of 'underage' children in all schools was 16.8%. This percentage has decreased to just 3.7% in 2024 (Table 3). This suggests substantial efforts in ensuring appropriate age of entry into Std I.

Table 3: % Children aged 5 or below enrolled in Std I. By school type. 2018, 2022, 2024

Year	All	Govt	Pvt
2018	16.8	15.8	24.2
2022	36.4	37.6	15.8
2024	3.7	3.5	4.6

*The number of districts in the state is based on Census 2011, which has been used as the sampling frame for ASER surveys since 2016.

Table 4: Performance of states: % Children not enrolled anywhere by age and % children in Std I who are "underage" (age 5 or below). 2018, 2022, 2024

State	% Children not enrolled anywhere. By age. 2018, 2022, 2024									% Children who are "underage" (age 5 or below) enrolled in Std I. By school type. 2018, 2022, 2024								
	Age 3			Age 4			Age 5			Govt			Pvt			Govt & Pvt		
	2018	2022	2024	2018	2022	2024	2018	2022	2024	2018	2022	2024	2018	2022	2024	2018	2022	2024
Andhra Pradesh	18.2	9.2	1.6	4.2	1.6	0.5	2.0	0.5	0.1	27.5	15.6	12.4	16.9	16.8	12.3	22.6	16.1	12.3
Arunachal Pradesh	39.7	35.7	28.8	18.2	21.8	18.4	6.8	10.9	11.9	37.0	30.6	23.9	19.0	19.8	17.8	30.9	27.4	21.3
Assam	21.4	13.3	8.8	10.7	5.3	2.6	4.3	2.5	2.0	28.2	21.8	20.0	18.9	11.0	10.6	25.6	18.6	16.9
Bihar	33.3	23.0	23.1	17.8	12.9	14.6	11.5	7.0	8.8	31.2	26.5	23.1	15.2	12.0	10.3	27.1	23.2	19.4
Chhattisgarh	14.5	11.4	8.8	7.6	6.0	3.6	5.0	4.7	2.7	16.6	12.4	9.5	18.1	15.4	15.1	17.1	13.1	11.0
Gujarat	4.9	17.2	4.7	2.5	8.2	2.5	2.7	2.5	1.3	15.8	37.6	3.5	24.2	15.8	4.6	16.8	36.4	3.7
Haryana	22.4	12.3	14.4	10.7	6.6	9.8	4.4	3.3	4.3	53.9	49.2	32.0	32.8	28.7	19.1	40.3	38.0	24.2
Himachal Pradesh	6.6	17.7	10.2	3.1	5.4	3.8	1.7	2.1	1.3	38.3	43.4	21.5	28.2	33.0	9.1	33.2	39.6	13.7
Jammu and Kashmir	24.2	14.4	11.9	15.5	6.9	5.5	6.1	1.6	2.6	30.6	20.5	18.7	14.1	14.5	6.8	22.9	17.9	13.4
Jharkhand	17.3	23.0	12.3	10.4	11.5	8.5	5.5	6.2	5.3	37.3	25.2	26.5	20.0	11.0	12.4	33.2	22.6	22.7
Karnataka	7.8	5.7	7.1	1.8	0.9	1.6	0.6	0.1	0.7	6.9	3.4	2.9	6.0	3.0	4.4	6.6	3.3	3.4
Kerala	15.0	29.7	18.8	3.9	6.9	3.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	15.8	14.7	10.4	4.7	8.2	3.5	9.9	12.2	6.1
Madhya Pradesh	13.7	9.6	7.5	8.4	7.5	4.3	6.7	4.1	2.9	39.3	33.5	23.7	30.8	29.8	22.6	36.3	32.3	23.3
Maharashtra	8.7	4.0	3.7	2.7	1.0	1.1	1.5	1.2	0.5	7.4	5.0	3.7	9.3	7.2	4.9	7.8	5.4	4.0
Meghalaya	65.4	43.4	60.0	26.4	25.3	27.0	8.9	5.2	9.0	10.9	10.0	9.7	10.2	8.5	6.7	10.5	9.3	7.9
Mizoram	0.0	2.3	8.1	0.4	1.4	3.1	0.3	1.4	1.3	24.4	24.1	20.1	21.5	10.7	4.8	23.4	19.7	13.4
Nagaland	59.9	46.6	37.0	18.6	7.1	9.9	3.9	1.2	1.9	11.8	6.5	6.1	7.8	6.4	3.7	10.1	6.4	4.8
Odisha	6.3	2.1	3.4	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.7	20.6	11.5	7.9	21.0	11.2	13.6	20.6	11.4	9.0
Punjab	22.1	21.7	10.1	4.2	5.1	1.3	1.8	1.2	0.3	46.4	29.7	33.3	15.2	9.2	9.8	25.9	19.7	21.1
Rajasthan	49.5	30.4	35.2	25.7	19.1	19.6	8.9	6.8	8.1	49.4	49.7	40.3	40.9	43.1	36.7	46.2	47.4	38.5
Sikkim	0.7	3.3	6.0	0.3	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.0	1.1	24.9	29.0	18.3	15.9	9.2	12.0	19.8	20.9	15.5
Tamil Nadu	10.6	2.5	3.4	3.8	0.8	1.0	1.3	0.4	0.6	35.7	34.1	33.2	28.9	32.4	27.6	32.6	33.5	30.6
Telangana	13.5	4.4	3.3	2.5	1.2	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.0	33.8	26.8	31.5	12.1	11.6	11.2	21.7	20.8	20.6
Tripura	10.6	3.3	3.7	3.5	0.8	2.9	0.3	0.6	0.0	3.0	1.9	4.4	8.6	3.0	6.1	4.1	2.2	5.1
Uttar Pradesh	64.7	51.9	52.1	42.3	33.0	30.0	18.0	11.9	14.9	35.7	27.1	19.7	19.6	16.6	13.1	27.7	23.4	16.3
Uttarakhand	23.4	20.3	18.9	9.4	9.8	5.4	4.3	2.9	2.7	39.7	26.2	18.8	18.0	18.1	16.5	28.0	22.3	17.7
West Bengal	18.8	6.6	5.9	9.9	4.8	5.3	5.1	3.2	2.7	15.5	12.3	6.3	18.3	14.6	7.6	15.9	12.5	6.5
All India	**28.8**	**21.7**	**20.7**	**15.6**	**12.3**	**11.4**	**8.1**	**5.5**	**6.2**	**28.5**	**24.2**	**17.7**	**20.5**	**18.7**	**15.0**	**25.6**	**22.7**	**16.7**

1. Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated into Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in 2014. As a result, the sample frames of Census 2011 do not have the new state divisions. Of the 22 districts in undivided Andhra Pradesh, 9 rural districts are located in Telangana and the remaining 13 districts are located in Andhra Pradesh. ASER estimates for the two states are based on this separation of districts.
2. Estimates for the Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir have been presented in a combined form for comparability with ASER estimates of previous years.
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Foundational learning in Std II

Achieving Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) in primary school is a national priority (NEP 2020). The policy states that every student will attain foundational literacy and numeracy by Std III. The tables below describe reading and arithmetic levels in Std II. Why should we focus on Std II? At the time of testing for ASER 2024, children would have completed about half of their academic year in Std II. Therefore, it is important to track children's progress and understand how far they have come in their journey of meeting FLN goals.

Table 5: % Children enrolled in Std II. By school type. 2024

% Children in Std II enrolled in	Govt	Pvt	Total
	84.6	15.4	100

Chart 2: % Children enrolled in Std II. By age and school type. 2022 and 2024

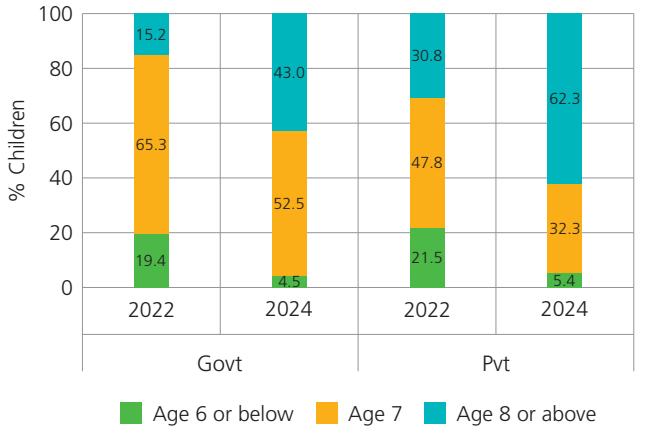


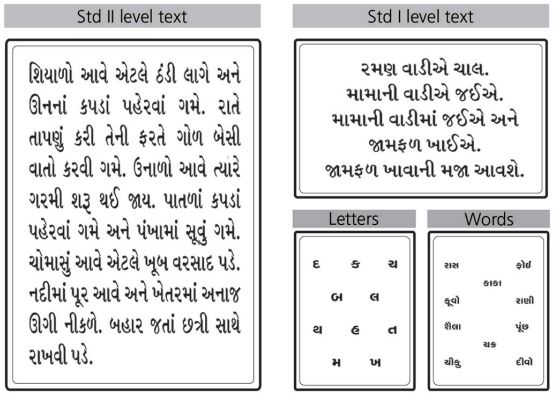
Table 6: Reading and arithmetic levels of children in Std II. By age and school type. 2022 and 2024

Age	% Children who can at least read words		% Children who can at least recognise numbers till 99	
	2022	2024	2022	2024
Government schools				
Age 6 or below	28.1		21.4	
Age 7	49.8	49.4	36.8	34.7
Age 8 or above	50.5	62.1	40.7	41.0
All	45.7	55.1	34.3	36.3
Private schools				
Age 6 or below	DATA INSUFFICIENT			
Age 7				
Age 8 or above				
All	63.2		48.3	

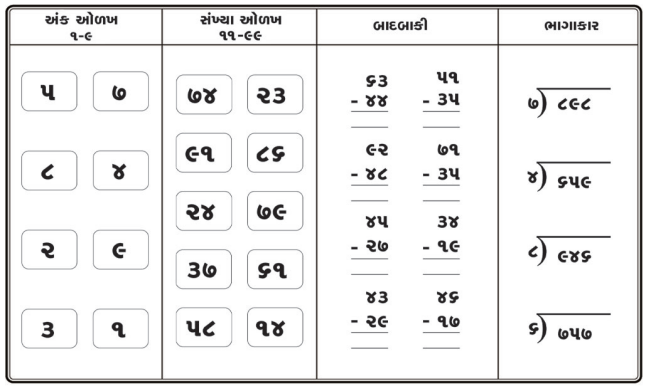
Key takeaways

- **Majority of Std II students are in government schools:** In 2024, 84.6% of children in Std II were enrolled in government schools, while only 15.4% attended private schools (Table 5).
- **Improvement in reading levels in government schools:** The percentage of children in government schools who can at least read words increased from 45.7% in 2022 to 55.1% in 2024 (Table 6).
- **Arithmetic levels in government schools remain low:** While the percentage of children who could at least recognise numbers till 99 increased slightly from 34.3% in 2022 to 36.3% in 2024, this number remains low (Table 6).

Reading tool



Arithmetic tool



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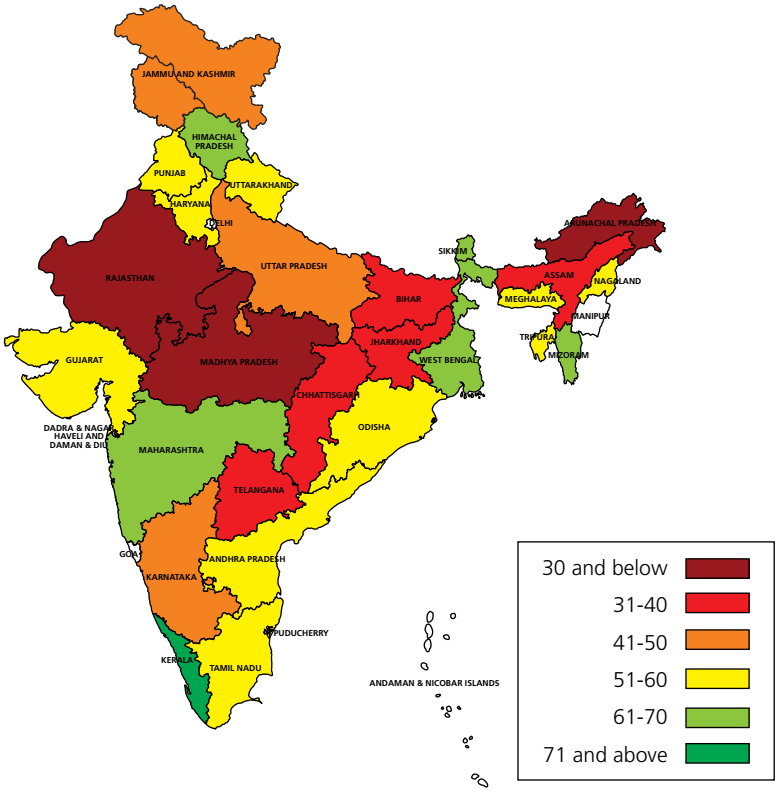
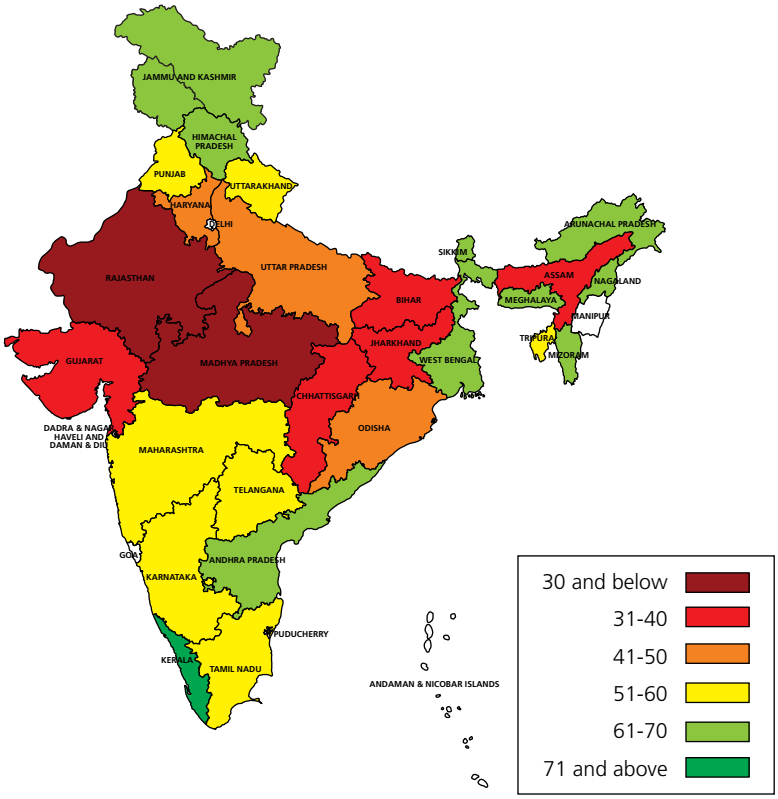
State-wise map showing % of government school children enrolled in Std II who can at least read words. 2024



State-wise map showing % of government school children enrolled in Std II who can at least recognise numbers till 99. 2024



State-wise table showing % of government school children enrolled in Std II who can at least read words and can at least recognise numbers till 99. 2018, 2022, 2024

State	% Children who can at least read words			% Children who can at least recognise numbers till 99		
	2018	2022	2024	2018	2022	2024
Andhra Pradesh	59.7	38.9	52.9	65.9	53.5	66.2
Arunachal Pradesh	31.8	34.0	29.3	69.7	75.9	70.0
Assam	48.0	35.0	39.6	42.2	31.0	37.5
Bihar	22.6	23.5	30.6	27.1	33.5	40.1
Chhattisgarh	32.2	29.8	36.2	30.6	33.3	35.7
Gujarat	61.4	45.7	55.1	39.2	34.3	36.3
Haryana	49.9	46.8	56.5	44.7	49.8	48.7
Himachal Pradesh	68.4	48.0	66.8	63.5	59.6	64.4
Jammu & Kashmir	43.2	46.0	46.2	54.7	62.8	63.0
Jharkhand	23.7	24.2	33.9	24.8	30.1	39.6
Karnataka	49.8	43.9	50.2	58.1	53.1	59.0
Kerala	82.3	65.8	72.8	89.8	77.3	86.5
Madhya Pradesh	17.8	15.6	25.7	16.4	20.2	24.7
Maharashtra	63.8	57.6	66.6	46.0	45.7	54.5
Meghalaya	46.0	47.3	59.5	73.7	71.6	70.7
Mizoram	71.4	58.9	65.7	76.5	80.0	85.6
Nagaland	60.6	61.4	60.0	74.7	75.9	86.3
Odisha	55.1	49.9	52.6	46.8	45.6	50.2
Punjab	60.2	48.2	57.3	57.6	50.2	57.2
Rajasthan	20.4	16.1	21.4	19.0	17.5	19.9
Sikkim	69.3	51.0	70.0	75.3	74.7	82.2
Tamil Nadu	57.7	41.8	51.8	57.8	48.2	56.5
Telangana	47.9	36.6	36.8	61.4	60.6	52.6
Tripura	55.2	49.2	53.6	48.8	59.6	55.6
Uttar Pradesh	21.7	27.2	44.4	22.5	31.9	41.8
Uttarakhand	53.2	32.9	52.4	41.5	31.8	52.7
West Bengal	66.2	62.6	67.3	56.2	56.7	61.6
All India	**39.7**	**35.7**	**44.6**	**37.5**	**38.7**	**45.7**

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3. ASER 2024 was not conducted in Goa and Manipur.
4. Map may not be accurate or to scale. This is a mere representation.