

Kerala RURAL

ANALYSIS BASED ON DATA FROM HOUSEHOLD SURVEY. 14 OUT OF 14 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.

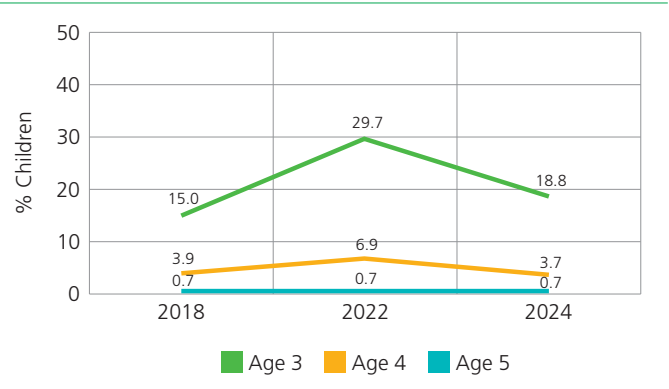
Table 1: % Children enrolled in different types of pre-schools and schools. By age. 2022

Table with 9 columns: Age, Pre-school (Anganwadi, Govt pre-primary, Pvt LKG/UKG), School (Govt, Pvt, Other), Not in pre-school or school, Total. Rows for Age 3 to Age 8.

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

Table with 9 columns: Age, Pre-school (Anganwadi, Govt pre-primary, Pvt LKG/UKG), School (Govt, Pvt, Other), Not in pre-school or school, Total. Rows for Age 3 to Age 8.

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



Key takeaways

- High enrollment in anganwadi for children aged 3 years: In 2024, the percentage of 3-year-old children enrolled in anganwadis is 68.7% (Table 2). This data needs to be kept in mind while planning for this age.
- Increase in proportion of children not enrolled in preschool at age 3: The percentage of children aged 3 who are not enrolled anywhere has increased slightly from 15% in 2018 to 18.8% in 2024 (Chart 1). These figures indicate that substantial efforts are still required to achieve universal pre-primary coverage.
- Decrease in 'underage' enrollment in Std I: The percentage of children who are 'underage' (age 5 or below) enrolled in Std I in government and private schools has decreased from 9.9% in 2018 to 6.1% in 2024 (Table 3).
- Enrollment in private institutions has increased: Enrollment in private institutions has increased across ages, while enrollment in government institutions declined. For example, at age 7, private school enrollment increased from 40.2% in 2022 to 55.8% in 2024. In contrast, government school enrollment decreased from 57.9% to 40.8% at this age (Table 1 and 2).

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

Table with 4 columns: Year, All, Govt, Pvt. Rows for 2018, 2022, 2024.



*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.

Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

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.

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3. ASER 2024 was not conducted in Goa and Manipur.

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
	43.0	57.1	100

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

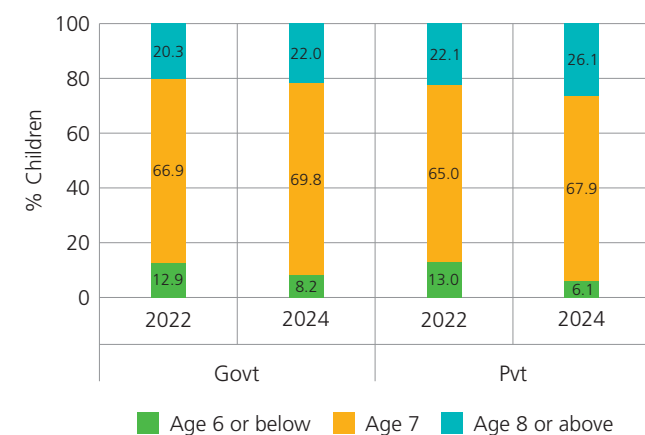


Table 6: Reading and arithmetic levels of children in Std II. By age and school type. 2022 and 2024

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	DATA INSUFFICIENT			
Age 7	65.2	74.0	79.3	89.2
Age 8 or above	75.9		77.6	86.3
All	65.8	72.8	77.3	86.5
Private schools				
Age 6 or below	DATA INSUFFICIENT			
Age 7	75.3	77.4	89.5	89.8
Age 8 or above		81.3		92.1
All	72.4	77.7	87.4	90.1

Key takeaways

- Enrollment preference towards private schools in Std II:** 57.1% of children enrolled in Std II attend private schools, compared to 43% attending government schools (Table 5).
- Improvement in reading and arithmetic levels across government and private schools:** The overall proportion of children enrolled in both government and private schools who were able to at least read words and at least recognise numbers till 99 improved from 2022 to 2024. For example, in government schools, the percentage of children who can at least read words increased from 65.8% to 72.8% between 2022 and 2024 (Table 6).
- Significant improvement in arithmetic levels in government schools:** While arithmetic levels have also increased in private schools, the jump is more significant in government schools. In 2022, 77.3% of children in government schools could at least recognise numbers till 99. This figure increased to 86.5% in 2024 (Table 6).

Reading tool

Std II level text

കണ്ണൻ മാനന്തേക്കൽ നോക്കി. മാനന്തേക്കൽ അമ്മ മഴവില്ല് എന്ത് രസമാ മഴവില്ല് കാണാൻ. മഴവില്ല് എന്ത് നിറമാ. കണ്ണനറിയാ. മഴവില്ല് മാഞ്ഞാൽ മാനം കറുക്കും. പിന്നെ മഴ പെയ്യും. മുറ്റത്ത് വെള്ളം നിറയും. മഴവെള്ളത്തിൽ കടലാസു തോണി ഒഴുക്കി കളിക്കാം. അമ്മ കണ്ടാൽ വഴക്കു പറയും. മഴ നനഞ്ഞാൽ പനി വരും എന്നാ അമ്മ പറയണമ്.

Std I level text

മനുവിന്റെ സ്കൂൾ വലുതാണ്. അവിടെ വലിയ മുറ്റം ഉണ്ട്. മുറ്റത്ത് ധാരാളം മരങ്ങളുണ്ട്. മരത്തിൽ നിറയെ പൂക്കളും ഉണ്ട്.

Letters

ക ണ ത
മ വ
സ ശ മ
ച റ

Words

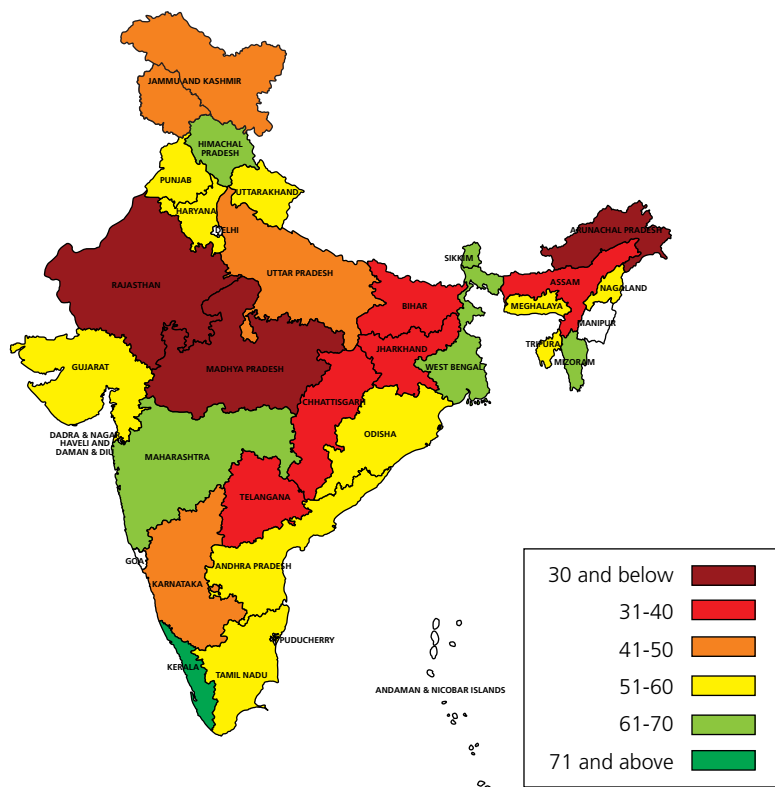
ആമ പക്ഷി
മാൻ ദോര
കിളി തിര
കാക്ക
വാൽ മീൻ

Arithmetic tool

സംഖ്യ തിരിച്ചറിയൽ 1 - 9	സംഖ്യ തിരിച്ചറിയൽ 11 - 99	വ്യവകലനം	ഹരണം
3 7	65 38	41 - 13 64 - 48	7) 928
1 4	92 23	84 - 49 73 - 36	6) 769
8 2	47 72	56 - 37 31 - 13	8) 987
5 9	54 87	45 - 18 53 - 24	4) 519
	29 11		

Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

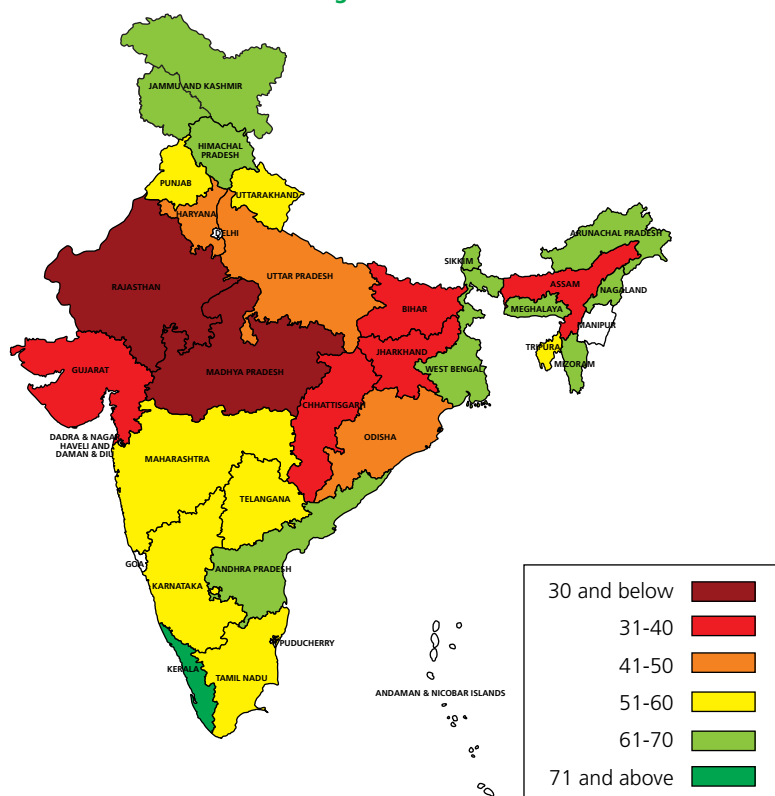
State-wise map showing % of government school children enrolled in Std II who can at least read words. 2024



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

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



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