

Young Children: Enrollment and Learning Status – Telangana

Analysis based on data from households. 9 out of 9 districts were surveyed in ASER 2018.

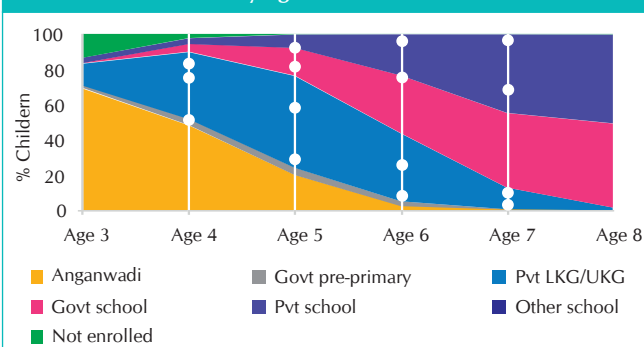
Early access to a supportive environment and exposure to developmentally appropriate activities can help children develop a solid foundation for future learning, both for school and for life. All major education policy and program documents in India now recognize this fact. However, recent ASER data shows major gaps between official norms and actual practice. These gaps are evident both when young children enter school and in what they are able to do in terms of foundational skills like reading and arithmetic. The gap between expectations and ground realities starts very early and needs to be addressed urgently. Once children fall behind, it is very difficult to catch up.

Age 3 to 8 years: Where are young children enrolled?

Table 1: % Children enrolled in different types of pre-schools and schools by age 2018

| Age | Pre-school | | | School | | | Not enrolled | Total |
|-------|------------|------------------|-------------|--------|------|-------|--------------|-------|
| | Anganwadi | Govt pre-primary | Pvt LKG/UKG | Govt | Pvt | Other | | |
| Age 3 | 69.2 | 1.7 | 12.4 | 0.2 | 3.1 | 0.0 | 13.5 | 100 |
| Age 4 | 48.3 | 3.6 | 37.9 | 4.4 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 2.5 | 100 |
| Age 5 | 20.2 | 4.2 | 51.9 | 15.7 | 7.7 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100 |
| Age 6 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 38.3 | 32.5 | 23.3 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 100 |
| Age 7 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 12.2 | 41.9 | 44.4 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100 |
| Age 8 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 47.3 | 50.2 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 100 |

Chart 1: % Children enrolled in different types of pre-schools and schools by age 2018



This table shows the proportion of children enrolled in different types of pre-schools and schools by age. For example, at age 3, 69.2% children are enrolled in anganwadis, 1.7% in government pre-primary classes, 12.4% in private LKG/UKG, 0.2% in government schools, and 3.1% in private schools. 'Other' includes children going to any other type of institution. 13.5% children are not enrolled anywhere. Chart 1, a stacked area chart, is a visual representation of Table 1.

Key takeaways:

Children's pathways through pre-school and school do not always follow policy prescriptions or curriculum expectations.

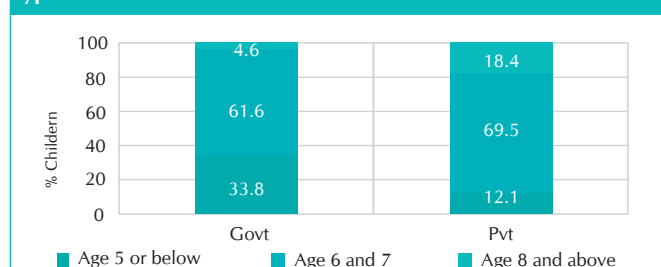
- **High enrollment in pre-school age group:** At age 4 and 5, most children are enrolled in pre-school (89.8% at age 4, 76.3% at age 5). At age 3 and 4, majority of children are enrolled in government institutions. (Table 1)
- **Private school enrollment increases with age:** A larger percentage of children attend anganwadis at age 4 (48.3%), as compared to private LKG/UKG (37.9%). However, this trend gets reversed at age 5, with more children attending private LKG/UKG (51.9%), as compared to anganwadis (20.2%) and government schools (15.7%). In Std. I, 55.7% children are in private schools and 44.3% children are in government schools. (Table 1 and Table 2)
- **Private school children enter school at an older age:** Children enrolled in private schools are older when they enter Std I as compared to children in government schools. For example, 33.8% of children in Std I in government schools are 5 years or younger, whereas this figure is 12.1% in private schools. However, grade expectations are the same for all children regardless of age. (Chart 2)
- **Children aged 6 and 7 years in Std I in private schools do better than their government school counterparts:** While 87.8% children aged 6 and 7 years in Std I in private schools can read at least letters, the corresponding number is 59.2% for government schools. Similar trends can be seen in terms of ability to recognize numbers. (Table 3)

Std I: Can young children read letters and recognize numbers?

Table 2: % Children enrolled in Std I by school type 2018

| % Children in Std I enrolled in | Govt | Pvt | Total |
|---------------------------------|------|------|-------|
| | | 44.3 | 55.7 |

Chart 2: % Children enrolled in Std I by age and school type 2018



This chart shows the distribution of Std I children enrolled in different types of schools by age.

Table 3: Reading and arithmetic levels for Std I children by age and school type 2018

| Age | % Children who | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Can read at least letters | Can recognize at least numbers (1-9) |
| Government schools | | |
| Age 5 | Data insufficient | Data insufficient |
| Age 6 and 7 | 59.2 | 69.4 |
| Age 8 and above | Data insufficient | Data insufficient |
| All | 59.3 | 68.4 |
| Private schools | | |
| Age 5 | Data insufficient | Data insufficient |
| Age 6 and 7 | 87.8 | 89.1 |
| Age 8 and above | Data insufficient | Data insufficient |
| All | 89.6 | 89.6 |

This table shows the proportion of children in Std I who can read at least letters and recognize at least numbers up to 9.

Young Children: Enrollment and Learning Status by Sex – Telangana

Analysis based on data from households. 9 out of 9 districts were surveyed in ASER 2018.

Age 4 to 8 years: Where are young boys and girls enrolled?

Table 4: % Children age 4-8 enrolled in Govt pre-schools/schools by sex 2018

| Age | Enrolled in govt pre-schools/schools | | Sex-wise difference in enrollment in percentage points |
|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|--|
| | Boys | Girls | |
| Age 4 | 57.6 | 55.2 | -2.5 |
| Age 5 | 38.2 | 41.8 | 3.6 |
| Age 6 | 35.7 | 40.6 | 4.9 |
| Age 7 | 33.4 | 54.3 | 20.9 |
| Age 8 | 46.2 | 49.1 | 2.9 |

Note: Government pre-schools/schools include anganwadis, government pre-primary classes and government primary schools.

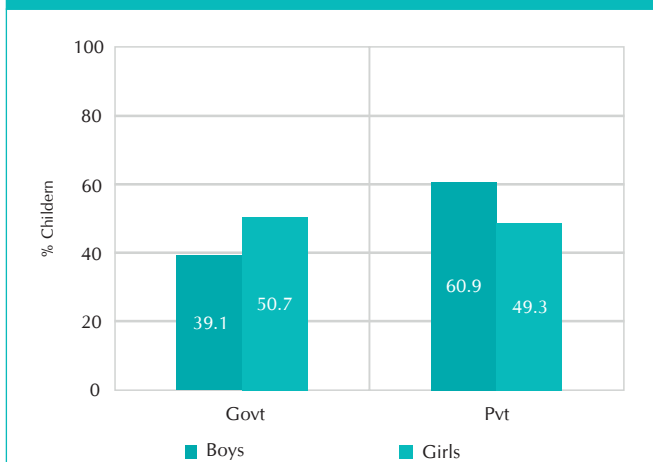


Key takeaways:

- **Sex-wise difference in enrollment:** Between 5 to 8 years, a higher percentage of girls are enrolled in government institutions (anganwadis and government schools) as compared to boys. This difference is particularly stark at age 7, where the sex-wise difference in enrollment is 20.9 percentage points.

Std I: Can young boys and girls read letters and recognize numbers?

Chart 3: % Children enrolled in Std I by sex and school type 2018



The chart shows the distribution of Std I children enrolled in different types of schools by sex. For example, of all boys enrolled in Std I, 39.1% of boys are enrolled in government schools and 60.9% of boys are enrolled in private schools. Of all girls enrolled in Std I, 50.7% of girls are enrolled in government schools and 49.3% of girls are enrolled in private schools.

Table 5: Reading and arithmetic levels for Std I children by age, sex, and school type 2018

| Age | % Children who | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| | Can read at least letters | | Can recognize at least numbers (1-9) | | | | | |
| | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | | | | |
| Government schools | | | | | | | | |
| Age 5 | Data insufficient | | | | | | | |
| Age 6 and 7 | | | | | | | | |
| Age 8 and above | | | | | | | | |
| All | Data insufficient | | | | | | | |
| Private schools | | | | | | | | |
| Age 5 | | | | | | | | |
| Age 6 and 7 | | | | | | | | |
| Age 8 and above | Data insufficient | | | | | | | |
| All | | | | | | | | |

This table shows the proportion of children in Std I who can read at least letters and recognize at least numbers up to 9. The data shows patterns by age and sex.