

West Bengal RURAL

ANALYSIS BASED ON DATA FROM HOUSEHOLDS. 18 OUT OF 18 DISTRICTS
 Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

School enrollment

Table 1: % Children enrolled in different types of schools. By age group and sex. 2024

Age group and sex	Govt	Pvt	Other	Not in school	Total
Age 6-14: All	89.6	8.7	0.7	0.9	100
Age 7-16: All	90.3	7.3	0.8	1.6	100
Age 7-10: All	86.4	12.8	0.4	0.4	100
Age 7-10: Boys	84.8	14.2	0.5	0.4	100
Age 7-10: Girls	87.9	11.4	0.3	0.4	100
Age 11-14: All	93.9	3.8	1.1	1.3	100
Age 11-14: Boys	93.0	4.7	0.7	1.6	100
Age 11-14: Girls	94.7	2.9	1.3	1.1	100
Age 15-16: All	91.1	2.0	1.5	5.4	100
Age 15-16: Boys	86.6	2.3	1.9	9.2	100
Age 15-16: Girls	94.4	1.8	1.2	2.6	100

'Other' includes children going to Madarsa or EGS.
 'Not in school' includes children who never enrolled or have dropped out.

Chart 1: Trends over time % Children not enrolled in school. By age group and sex. 2006-2024

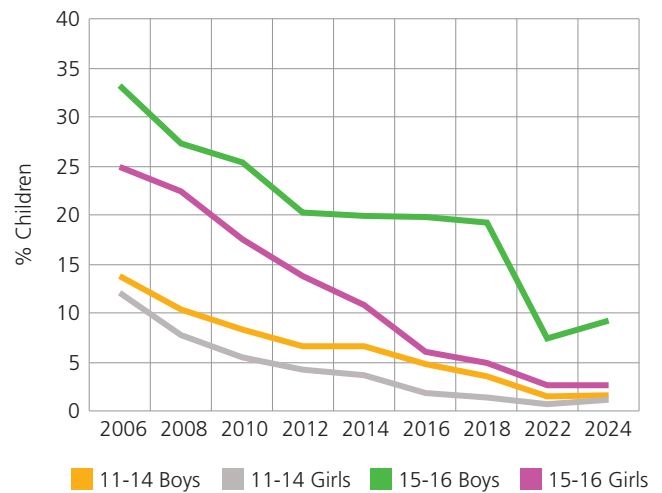
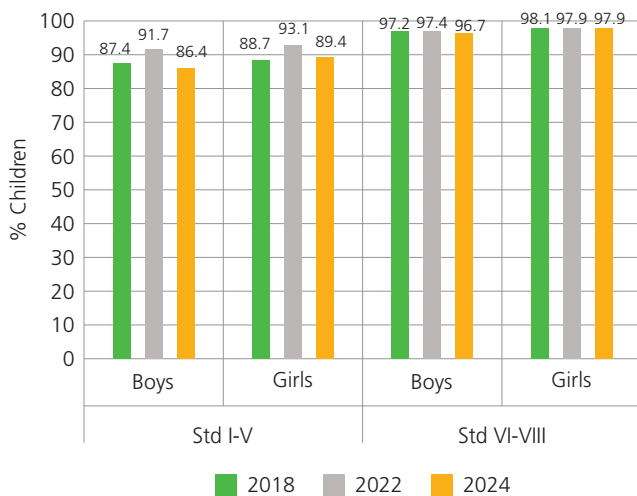


Chart 2: Trends over time % Children enrolled in govt schools in Std I-V and Std VI-VIII. By sex. 2018, 2022, 2024



Young children in pre-school and school

Table 2: % 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	88.8	0.4	2.6	1.4	0.2	0.0	6.6	100
Age 4	81.1	1.8	10.5	1.3	0.6	0.0	4.8	100
Age 5	51.6	8.8	15.9	18.3	2.0	0.2	3.2	100
Age 6	10.3	13.6	9.5	60.9	4.0	0.4	1.4	100
Age 7	0.9	2.7	4.0	82.9	8.7	0.4	0.5	100
Age 8	0.4	0.4	1.3	89.3	7.8	0.6	0.3	100

Table 3: % 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	89.4	0.7	2.9	0.9	0.3	0.0	5.9	100
Age 4	77.1	2.2	13.4	1.5	0.5	0.0	5.3	100
Age 5	55.3	10.3	23.8	6.0	1.8	0.2	2.7	100
Age 6	11.5	23.7	20.0	36.7	7.1	0.1	1.1	100
Age 7	0.8	5.8	8.4	71.5	12.5	0.4	0.7	100
Age 8	0.1	0.4	1.5	82.7	14.5	0.4	0.4	100

Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

Reading

ASER learning assessments are conducted in the household. Children in the age group of 5-16 are assessed. Assessments are conducted in 19 languages across the country. The type of school in which children are enrolled (government or private) is also recorded.

Table 4: % Children by grade and reading level. All children. 2024

Std	Not even letter	Letter	Word	Std I level text	Std II level text	Total
I	15.9	33.4	27.9	12.9	9.9	100
II	9.2	20.2	22.7	21.5	26.4	100
III	6.1	15.3	19.9	22.4	36.3	100
IV	5.2	11.1	16.4	20.3	47.0	100
V	3.5	9.5	13.8	18.6	54.6	100
VI	2.7	7.5	10.8	17.3	61.7	100
VII	1.8	6.6	11.1	15.8	64.8	100
VIII	2.0	3.4	8.3	15.1	71.3	100

The reading tool is a progressive tool. Each row shows the variation in children's reading levels within a given grade. For example, among children in Std III, 6.1% cannot even read letters, 15.3% can read letters but not words or higher, 19.9% can read words but not Std I level text or higher, 22.4% can read Std I level text but not Std II level text, and 36.3% can read Std II level text. For each grade, the total of these exclusive categories is 100%.

Reading tool

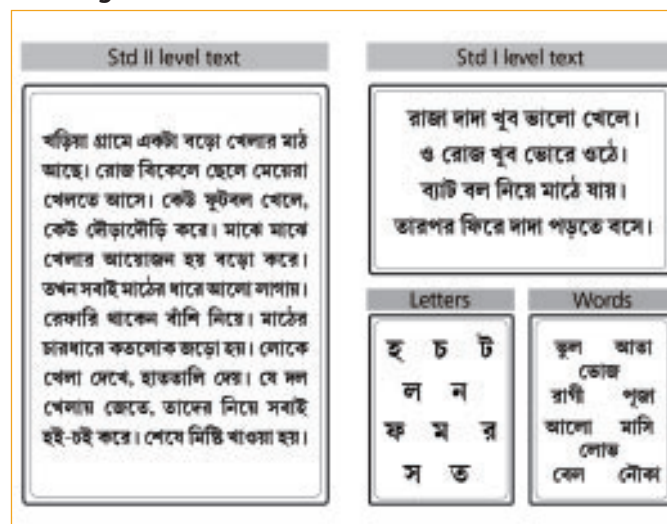


Table 5: Trends over time Reading in Std III. By school type. 2014, 2016, 2018, 2022, 2024

Year	% Children in Std III who can read Std II level text		
	Govt	Pvt	Govt & Pvt*
2014	32.9	DATA INSUFFICIENT	36.3
2016	34.0		38.5
2018	36.6		39.9
2022	32.6		33.1
2024	34.0		36.3

The highest level in the ASER reading assessment is a Std II level text. Table 5 shows the proportion of children in Std III who can read a Std II level text. This figure is a proxy for "grade level" reading for Std III. Data for children enrolled in government schools and private schools is shown separately.

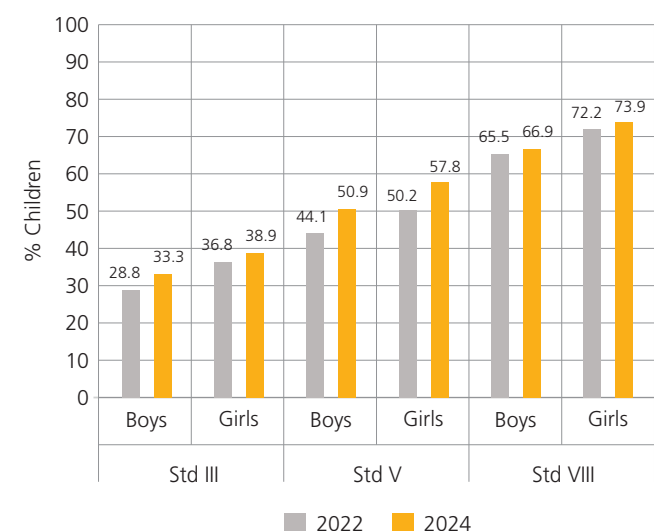
*This is the weighted average for children in government and private schools only.

Table 6: Trends over time Reading in Std V and Std VIII. By school type. 2014, 2016, 2018, 2022, 2024

Year	% Children in Std V who can read Std II level text			% Children in Std VIII who can read Std II level text		
	Govt	Pvt	Govt & Pvt*	Govt	Pvt	Govt & Pvt*
2014	51.8	DATA INSUFFICIENT	53.1	76.3	DATA INSUFFICIENT	76.3
2016	50.2		51.1	72.3		72.7
2018	50.5		51.3	63.0		62.9
2022	47.1		47.5	69.8		69.7
2024	53.9		54.6	71.3		71.3

*This is the weighted average for children in government and private schools only.

Chart 3: Trends over time % Children who can read Std II level text. By grade and sex. 2022 and 2024



Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

Arithmetic

ASER learning assessments are conducted in the household. Children in the age group of 5-16 are assessed. Assessments are conducted in 19 languages across the country. The type of school in which children are enrolled (government or private) is also recorded.

Table 7: % Children by grade and arithmetic level. All children. 2024

Std	Not even 1-9	Recognise numbers		Subtract	Divide	Total
		1-9	11-99			
I	14.3	42.8	31.2	9.0	2.7	100
II	6.6	28.2	34.6	17.4	13.2	100
III	4.4	19.5	35.2	18.6	22.3	100
IV	2.8	14.1	35.2	18.8	29.2	100
V	2.4	11.8	32.9	17.9	35.0	100
VI	2.3	8.2	37.9	17.3	34.2	100
VII	1.0	7.1	38.9	20.2	32.8	100
VIII	1.4	5.6	39.6	19.6	33.7	100

The arithmetic tool is a progressive tool. Each row shows the variation in children's arithmetic levels within a given grade. For example, among children in Std III, 4.4% cannot even recognise numbers from 1 to 9, 19.5% can recognise numbers up to 9 but cannot recognise numbers up to 99 or higher, 35.2% can recognise numbers up to 99 but cannot do subtraction, 18.6% can do subtraction but cannot do division, and 22.3% can do division. For each grade, the total of these exclusive categories is 100%.

Arithmetic tool

সংখ্যা পরিচয় ১-৯	সংখ্যা পরিচয় ১১-৯৯	বিয়োগ	ভাগ
২ ৭	৭৬ ৫৮	৭৪ - ৫৭ = ১৭	৬৩ - ২৭ = ৩৬
৫ ৩	৪৮ ৯৯	৪৭ - ২৯ = ১৮	৮৪ - ৩৫ = ৪৯
৯ ৮	৩৪ ৬৯	৪১ - ১৫ = ২৬	৩২ - ১৭ = ১৫
৪ ১	৪৬ ২৫	৩১ - ১৮ = ১৩	৬৮ - ৪৯ = ১৯

Table 8: Trends over time Arithmetic in Std III. By school type. 2014, 2016, 2018, 2022, 2024

Year	% Children in Std III who can do at least subtraction		
	Govt	Pvt	Govt & Pvt*
2014	33.0	DATA INSUFFICIENT	36.2
2016	35.5		40.4
2018	35.5		38.7
2022	32.4		34.3
2024	37.5		41.0

In most states, children are expected to do 2-digit by 2-digit subtraction with borrowing by Std II. Table 8 shows the proportion of children in Std III who can do subtraction. This figure is a proxy for "grade level" arithmetic for Std III. Data for children enrolled in government schools and private schools is shown separately.

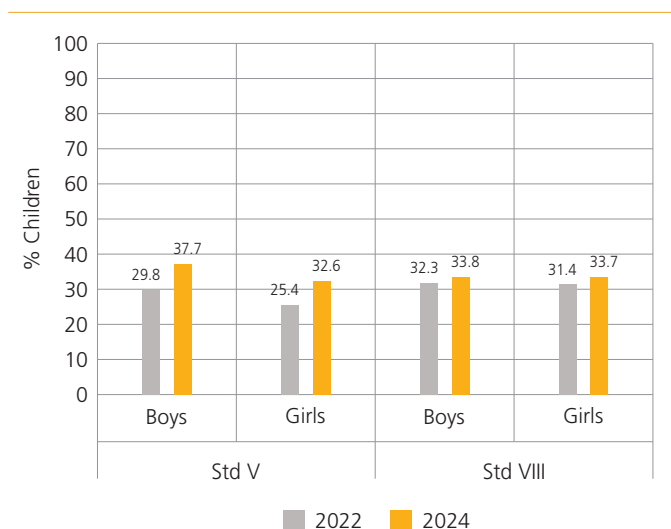
*This is the weighted average for children in government and private schools only.

Table 9: Trends over time Arithmetic in Std V and Std VIII. By school type. 2014, 2016, 2018, 2022, 2024

Year	% Children in Std V who can do division			% Children in Std VIII who can do division		
	Govt	Pvt	Govt & Pvt*	Govt	Pvt	Govt & Pvt*
2014	31.3	DATA INSUFFICIENT	32.5	40.4	DATA INSUFFICIENT	40.8
2016	28.6		29.7	32.5		32.7
2018	29.2		29.7	28.9		29.1
2022	26.9		27.7	32.0		32.5
2024	34.3		34.9	33.5		33.8

*This is the weighted average for children in government and private schools only.

Chart 4: Trends over time % Children who can do division. By grade and sex. 2022 and 2024



Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

Digital literacy: For children aged 14-16

The digital literacy section in ASER 2024 consists of two parts: a set of self-reported questions as well as a one-on-one assessment.

Access, ownership, and use of smartphones (Self-reported)

Table 10: Smartphone availability and use. By age. 2024

Age	% Children who:			Of those who can use a smartphone, % who have their own smartphone
	Have a smartphone at home	Could bring a smartphone to do digital tasks*	Can use a smartphone	
14	82.6	62.2	82.6	6.8
15	84.3	67.8	85.5	11.0
16	87.2	71.7	86.8	25.8
All	84.4	66.6	84.7	13.4

Table 11: Smartphone availability and use. By sex. 2024

Sex	% Children who:			Of those who can use a smartphone, % who have their own smartphone
	Have a smartphone at home	Could bring a smartphone to do digital tasks*	Can use a smartphone	
Boys	86.1	71.6	88.2	19.0
Girls	83.1	63.3	82.4	9.5
All	84.4	66.6	84.7	13.4

Table 12: Of those who know how to use a smartphone, % children who used a smartphone in the reference week for any educational activity or social media activity, and know how to use safety features. By age. 2024**

Age	% Children who did any education-related activity in the reference week	% Children who used any social media in the reference week	Of those who used social media, % children who can:		
			Block/report a profile	Make a profile private	Change password
14	40.5	73.5	40.0	26.9	37.4
15	42.5	76.2	53.1	41.0	46.5
16	47.8	79.6	58.9	50.3	56.0
All	43.2	76.1	49.7	38.3	45.7

Table 13: Of those who know how to use a smartphone, % children who used a smartphone in the reference week for any educational activity or social media activity, and know how to use safety features. By sex. 2024**

Sex	% Children who did any education-related activity in the reference week	% Children who used any social media in the reference week	Of those who used social media, % children who can:		
			Block/report a profile	Make a profile private	Change password
Boys	44.5	78.8	48.7	42.8	56.5
Girls	42.2	74.2	50.5	34.9	37.7
All	43.2	76.1	49.7	38.3	45.7

Digital tasks (Administered one-on-one to surveyed children)

ALARM	BROWSING FOR INFORMATION	FINDING AND SHARING A YOUTUBE VIDEO
আগামীকাল সকাল 8:30 মিনিট	ভারতবর্ষের প্রথম মহিলা রাষ্ট্রপতি	PMGDISHA Module 1
Question: Set an alarm for 8:30 in the morning.	Question: Search on the phone and tell me the name of the first woman President of India.	Question a: Find the "PMGDISHA Module 1" video on YouTube. Question b: If could find video, then send/share it with a friend/family member using WhatsApp or Telegram.

Table 14: % Children who could do digital tasks on a smartphone. By age and sex. 2024

Age	% Children who could bring a smartphone to do digital tasks*			Of those who could bring a smartphone, % who could do the following tasks:											
				Setting an alarm			Browsing for information			Finding YouTube video			Of those who found video, % able to share it		
	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls	All
14	67.2	58.8	62.2	64.2	50.3	56.3	59.4	56.3	57.7	81.9	78.8	80.1	85.5	73.2	78.6
15	72.2	65.2	67.8	68.1	53.0	58.9	59.1	61.6	60.6	84.0	83.7	83.8	89.3	82.4	85.1
16	77.3	67.6	71.7	78.4	57.5	67.1	69.2	61.6	65.1	91.8	85.7	88.5	91.4	88.4	89.8
All	71.6	63.3	66.6	69.9	53.3	60.3	62.4	59.7	60.9	85.7	82.4	83.8	88.6	80.9	84.3

*Children were asked to bring a smartphone with good connectivity during the survey to do the digital tasks.

**Reference week implies the 7 days prior to the survey.

Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

School observations

In each sampled village, the largest government school with primary sections is visited on the day of the survey. Information about schools in this report is based on these visits.

Table 15: Trends over time
Number of schools visited. 2010, 2018, 2022, 2024

	2010	2018	2022	2024
Primary*	406	437	470	467
Upper primary or higher*	2	4	10	2
Total schools visited	408	441	480	469

Table 16: Trends over time
Student and teacher attendance on the day of visit.
2010, 2018, 2022, 2024

All schools**	2010	2018	2022	2024
% Enrolled children present (Average)	68.5	54.9	68.2	64.3
% Teachers present (Average)	85.6	76.7	86.3	83.8

Table 17: Trends over time
% Schools with total enrollment of 60 or less.
2010, 2018, 2022, 2024

	2010	2018	2022	2024
All schools	10.1	20.2	22.5	30.0

Table 18: Multigrade classes. 2024

% Schools	Std I children observed sitting with any other Std	Std II children observed sitting with any other Std
All schools	66.5	57.0

Table 19: Observation of Teaching Learning Material (TLM) in classrooms. 2024

% Schools	TLM observed in classroom (apart from textbooks)		Of those schools with TLM, work done by students displayed in classroom	
	Std I	Std II	Std I	Std II
All schools	76.7	74.4	65.1	66.1

School facilities

Table 20: Trends over time
% Schools with selected facilities. 2010, 2018, 2022, 2024

% Schools with		2010	2018	2022	2024
Mid-day meal	Mid-day meal served in school on day of visit	63.4	81.6	92.5	84.9
	Kitchen/shed for cooking mid-day meal	86.3	94.0	95.8	93.8
Drinking water	No facility for drinking water	19.3	8.0	12.3	11.4
	Facility but no drinking water available	13.5	10.7	9.6	13.1
	Drinking water available	67.2	81.3	78.1	75.5
	Total	100	100	100	100
Toilet	No toilet facility	7.6	0.7	1.0	1.3
	Facility but toilet not useable	40.3	18.2	15.0	16.4
	Toilet useable	52.1	81.1	84.0	82.3
	Total	100	100	100	100
Girls' toilet	No separate provision for girls' toilet	44.5	14.5	14.0	19.5
	Separate provision but locked	14.5	12.2	5.6	5.4
	Separate provision, unlocked but not useable	17.4	5.7	9.0	8.9
	Separate provision, unlocked and useable	23.7	67.7	71.5	66.2
	Total	100	100	100	100
Library	No library	50.5	33.9	53.0	47.1
	Library but no books being used by children on day of visit	17.8	27.7	12.9	19.4
	Library books being used by children on day of visit	31.8	38.4	34.0	33.5
	Total	100	100	100	100
Electricity	Electricity connection		97.7	98.1	99.4
	Of schools with electricity connection, % schools with electricity available on day of visit		91.0	91.3	96.3
Computer	No computer available for children to use	98.7	93.3	94.8	95.3
	Computer available but not being used by children on day of visit	0.8	5.5	4.4	3.6
	Computer being used by children on day of visit	0.5	1.2	0.8	1.1
	Total	100	100	100	100

*Primary schools offer Std I-IV/V; upper primary schools offer Std I-VI/VII/VIII.

**All schools include primary schools and upper primary schools.



Data is not presented where sample size is insufficient.

Other school indicators

In each sampled village, the largest government school with primary sections is visited on the day of the survey. Information about schools in this report is based on these visits.

Table 21: Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) activities. 2024

% Schools		Received a directive from govt to implement FLN activities with Std I-II / III	At least one teacher received training on FLN		Received Teaching Learning Material (TLM) for FLN activities**	Received funds for TLM for FLN activities**	School readiness program held for Std I
			Offline	Online			
All schools*	Current academic year (2024-2025)	10.3	8.6	7.7	30.7	26.1	33.4
	Previous academic year (2023-2024)	14.5	8.9	10.3	47.5	53.9	34.0

**Table 22: Trends over time
Distribution of language and math textbooks. 2022 and 2024**

% Schools		Textbooks distributed			
		All grades	Some grades	No grades/ don't know	Total
All schools	2022	98.5	1.5	0.0	100
	2024	97.0	2.6	0.4	100

**Table 23: Trends over time
Distribution of uniforms. 2022 and 2024**

% Schools		Uniforms distributed				If not distributed in all grades, then % schools where funds given
		All grades	Some grades	No grades/ don't know	Total	
All schools	2022	86.6	8.8	4.6	100	
	2024	96.4	3.2	0.4	100	

**Table 24: Trends over time
Physical education. 2018, 2022, 2024**

% Schools with		All schools		
		2018	2022	2024
Weekly time allotted for physical education for every class			77.0	85.3
Physical education teacher	Separate teacher	2.8	2.3	3.0
	Any other teacher	70.9	71.9	74.2
	No teacher	26.3	25.8	22.8
	Total	100	100	100
Playground in the school		52.6	57.8	60.0
Sports equipment available		54.3	57.7	61.3



*All schools include primary schools and upper primary schools.

**Schools could have received TLM, funds to purchase TLM, or both.