Enrolment, Drop Out Rates, and Out- of-School Children in Public Primary Schools

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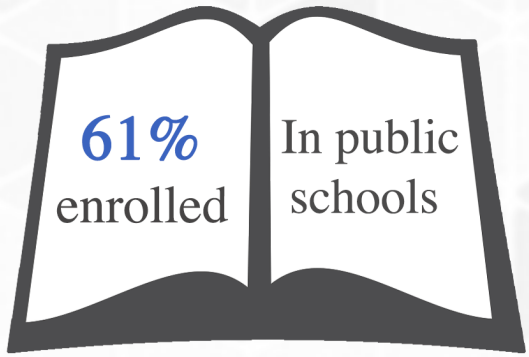
"The State shall provide ***free*** and ***compulsory*** education to all children of the age of five to sixteen years in such manner as may be determined by law."

Article 25-A, Constitution of Pakistan



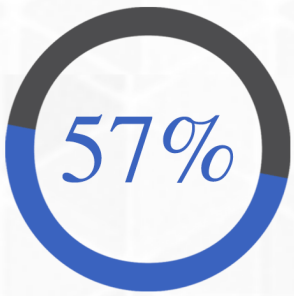
There are a total of **145,829** primary schools across Pakistan.

Source: Pakistan Education Statistics 2016

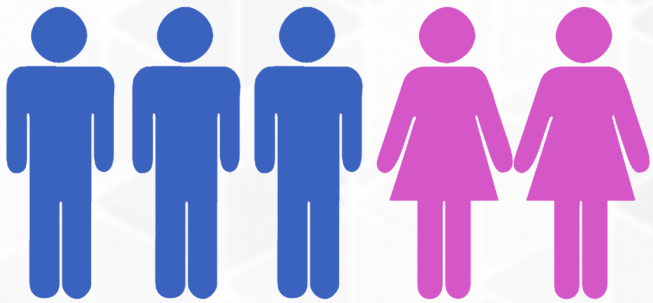
18.751 million students enrolled in primary education in Pakistan. Out of which **11.461 million (61%)** are in public sector.

Source: Pakistan Education Statistics 2016

86% of primary schools are in the public sector, while remaining 14% are in the private sector.[1]



Net enrolment at Primary Level is at 57%.[2]



61% boys, 54% girls

Source: 25 Million Broken Promises 2014

Gilgit Baltistan **ranks lowest in primary school enrolment among the provinces, while** ***Balochistan*** **has the highest primary school enrolment ratio.**

Source: Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2015

Balochistan - 71% boys, 29% girls[3]

Sindh - 64% boys, 36% girls[3]

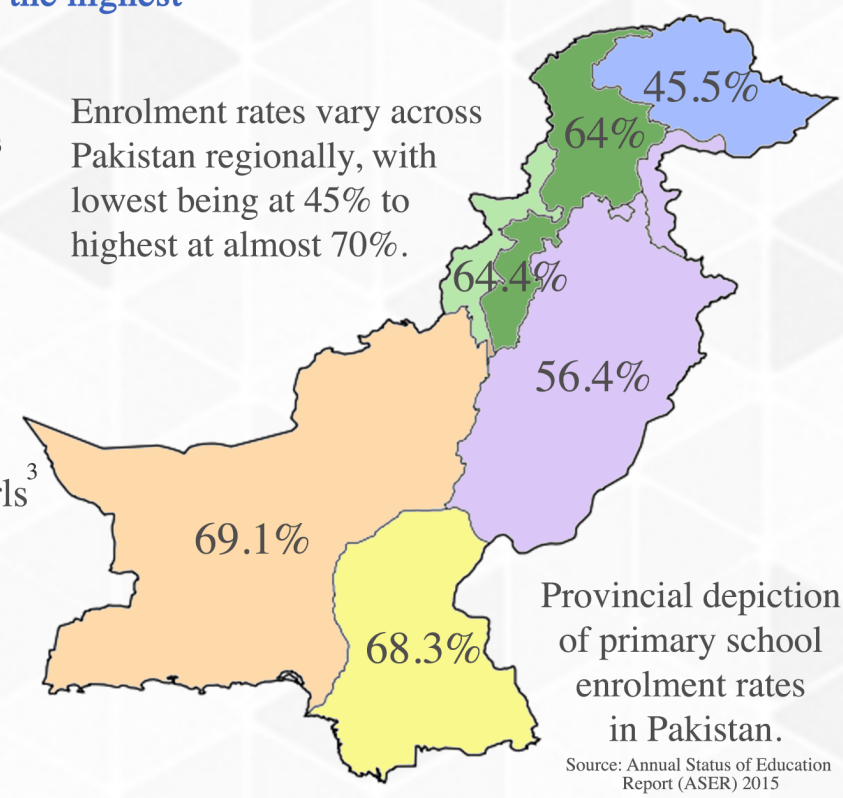
Punjab - 60% boys, 40% girls[3]

Gilgit Baltistan-62% boys, 38% girls[3]

KP - 67% boys, 33% girls[3]

FATA - 74% boys, 26% girls[3]

Enrolment rates vary across Pakistan regionally, with lowest being at 45% to highest at almost 70%.



Provincial depiction of primary school enrolment rates in Pakistan.

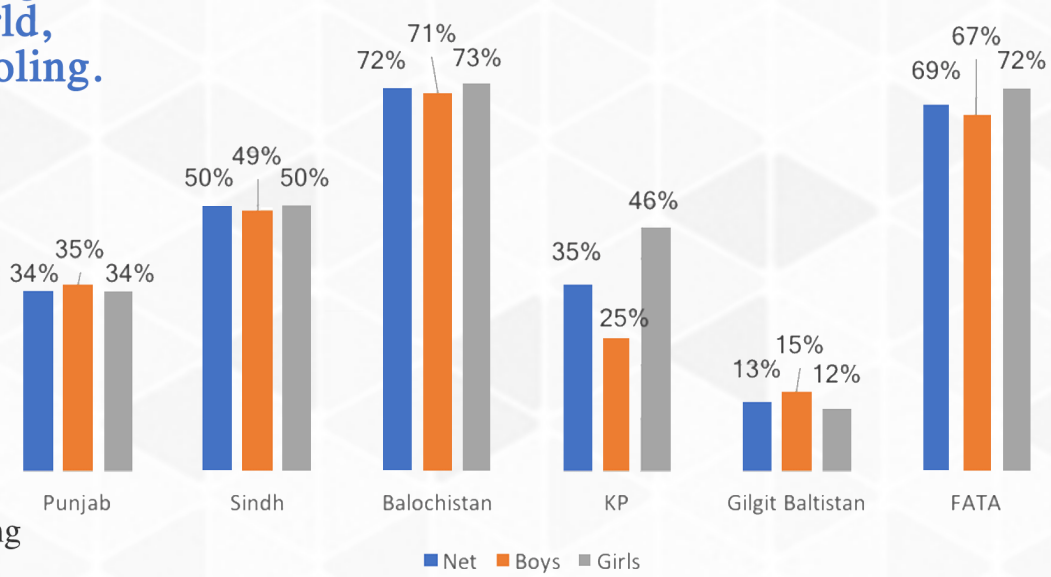
Source: Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2015

Pakistan has one of the *highest* drop-out rates in the world, at 41% for primary schooling.

Source: Pakistan District Education Rankings 2016

In Pakistan, as net total, 40% of primary drop-outs are boys, and 42% are girls, as most children do not make it past primary level of education, and drop out of school due to various reasons such as distance to school, helping at home, corporal punishment, or lack of funding and a lack of understanding of the benefit of education.[4]

Primary Level Drop Out Rates

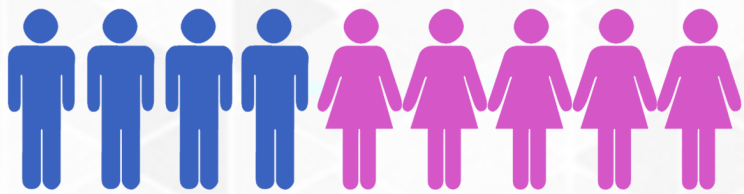


Source: Pakistan District Education Rankings 2016

25 Million children in Pakistan are out of school.

Source: 25 Million Broken Promises 2014

Out of this, 5.03 million children are of primary-school going age, and do not have access to their basic right to primary education.[1]



Out of total girls in Pakistan, ***52%*** are out of school, while ***43%*** of total boys are out-of-school.

Source: Female Education in Pakistan 2016

There are 22.7% total out-of-school children are at primary level.

Source: Pakistan Education Statistics 2016

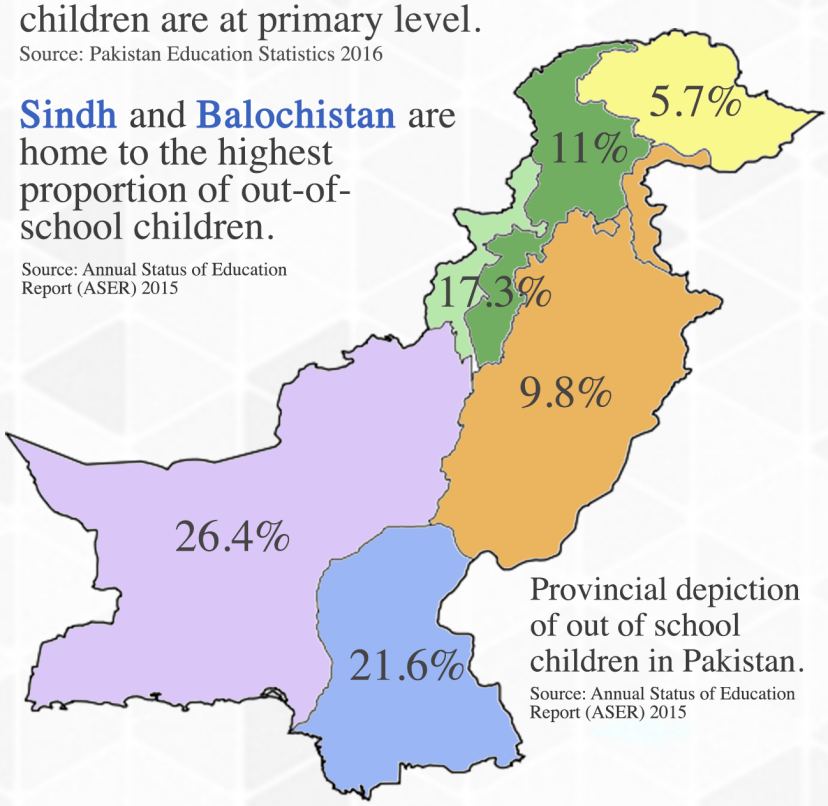
Pakistan has the *2nd highest* out of school female children.[5]

Source: Female Education in Pakistan 2016

The gender ratio for out of school children in Pakistan is negatively skewed away from girls. Girls constitute 53% of the out of school children, while boys only constitute 47% of the children.[5]

Sindh and **Balochistan** are home to the highest proportion of out-of-school children.

Source: Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2015



Provincial depiction of out of school children in Pakistan.

Source: Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2015

Vast majority of children are out of school

due to lack of schools in nearby vicinity, lack of basic facilities such as toilets, boundary walls, drinking water etc, and poverty at home, and necessity of parents for children to lend a working hand.

There are vast regional disparities in providing equal opportunities of schooling for girls, with greatest disparity in FATA and KP.[4]

Source: Pakistan District Education Rankings 2016

52% girls in KP are out of school, compared to 21% boys, showing gender discrimination against girls in enrolment.[4]

References:

1 *Pakistan Education Statistics 2016* (2016). Islamabad: National Education Management information System

2 *25 Million Broken Promises* (2014). Islamabad: Alif Ailaan.

3 *Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2015* (2015). Islamabad: South Asian Forum for Education Development

4 *Pakistan District Education Rankings 2016.* (2016). Islamabad : Alif Ailaan and SDPI.

5 *Female Education in Pakistan* (2016). Islamabad: Alif Ailaan