

Chapter 3

LITERACY AND EDUCATION



Coverage

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Literacy and Education

Literacy level and educational attainment are vital developmental indicators in a developing nation like India as they are key variable of measure of development as they indicate quality of life, awareness level and also level of skill of people in the society. Better literacy and educational level definitely have a positive impact on the health parameters. Education parameters have an equal weightage in the Human Development Index as well. Condering the importance of education, India has enacted Right to Education to ensure free and compulsory Education for children in the age group 6- 14 years.

Following tables have been framed to analyse gender disaggregated data on literacy and education.

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Literacy Rate

As per 2011 census, literacy rate in India has been reported as 74.04% with a 14% increase to that in 2001, whereas the hike is maximum for rural women at 26% in the last decade, which may be attributed to literacy mission of Government of India. Overall female literacy rate in India much lower than that of male literacy rate. The female literacy levels according to the Literacy Rate 2011 census are 65.46% whereas the male literacy rate is over 80%.

Kerala is the state with highest literacy rate at 94% and Bihar with the lowest literacy rate at just 63.82. Being a very vast country with second largest population, India has limited resources to make aware its below poverty line population about the Government interventions and the law providing them the Right to Education.

The highest male literacy rate is also observed in Kerala at 96.1% followed by Lakshadweep at 95.6% and minimum for Bihar & Arunachal Pradesh. Female literacy is maximum for Kerala, followed by Lakshadweep and lowest for Bihar & followed by Rajasthan. A little more than half of the females are literate in these States (details may be seen in Tables 3.1,3.2,3.3 and 3.4).

Adult Literacy Rate

The adult literacy rate (15+) for male has increased from 73.4 to 78.8 whereas increase in adult literacy is more in case of females from 47.8 to 59.3 from 2001 to 2011. In 2011, just half of the rural adult females are literate against 76.9% urban females. 88.3% Urban adult males are literate against 74.1 rural adult males. Overall adult literacy is increasing over decades (details in Tables 3.5 and 3.6).

Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for females at the primary level stood at 102.65 compared with 100.20 for males in 2013-14. At the middle class level, the GER for females has been reported as 92.75 against 86.31 for males and at the higher secondary level, 51.58 and 52.77 is the Gross enrolment ratio for females and males during 2013-14.

There were 93 girls per 100 boys in primary classes, 95 in middles classes and 90 in secondary classes during 2013-14 against lesser ratios in the earlier decade (details in Table 3.7).

Drop-out Rates

The Drop-out Rates were observed to be 4.66 and 4.68 in the classes I-V, 4.01 and 2.3 in classes I-VIII for females and males respectively indicating that the drop out at primary level is at par for both the genders but the gap increases in higher classes (details may be seen in Table 3.9).

3.1 : Literacy Rates in Post Independent India

Year	Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
1951	4.87	19.02	12.1	22.33	45.6	34.59	8.86	27.15	18.32
1961	10.1	34.3	22.5	40.5	66	54.4	15.35	40.4	28.31
1971	15.5	48.6	27.9	48.8	69.8	60.2	21.97	45.96	34.45
1981	21.7	49.6	36	56.3	76.7	67.2	29.76	56.38	43.57
1991	30.17	56.96	36	64.05	81.09	67.2	39.29	64.13	52.21
2001	46.7	71.4	59.4	73.2	86.7	80.3	53.67	75.26	64.83
2011	58.75	78.57	67.8	79.92	89.67	84.1	65.46	82.14	74.04
% Increase in 2011 over 2001	26%	10%	14%	9%	3%	5%	22%	9%	14%

Source: Census of India, Office of Registrar General, India.

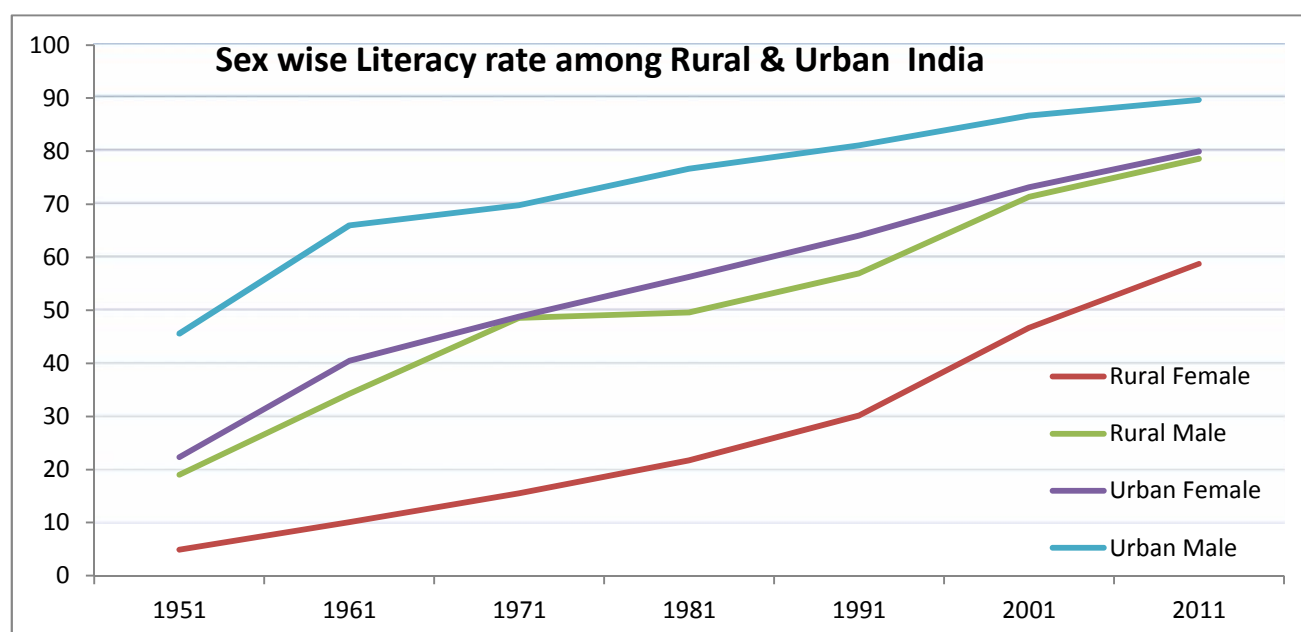
For 1951, the population male, female and persons refers to effective literacy rates and the break up of Rural, Urban and male- female components are crude literacy rates.

Notes: 1. Literacy rates for 1951, 1961 and 1971 relate to population aged 5 years and above whereas literacy rates for 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011 relate to the population aged 7 years and above.

2. The 1981 literacy rates exclude Assam where the 1981 Census could not be conducted.

3. The 1991 literacy rates exclude Jammu & Kashmir where the 1991 Census could not be conducted due to disturbed conditions.

4. The 2001 and 2011 literacy rates exclude Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul Sub-divisions of Senapat district of Manipur.



3.2 Literacy Rates of SC/ST by Sex and Urban-Rural Distribution

Scheduled Castes									
Year	Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
1961	2.52	15.06	8.89	10.04	32.21	21.81	3.29	16.96	10.27
1971	5.06	20.04	12.77	16.09	38.93	28.65	6.44	22.36	14.67
1981	8.45	27.91	18.48	24.34	47.54	36.60	10.93	31.12	21.38
1991	19.45	45.95	33.25	42.29	66.90	55.11	23.76	49.91	37.41
2001	37.84	63.66	51.16	57.49	77.93	68.12	41.90	54.69	34.76
2011	52.60	72.60	62.80	68.60	83.30	76.20	56.50	75.20	66.10
% Increase in 2011 over 2001	39%	14%	23%	19%	7%	12%	35%	38%	90%

Scheduled Tribes									
Year	Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
1961	2.90	13.37	8.16	13.45	37.09	22.41	3.16	13.83	8.53
1971	4.36	16.92	10.68	19.64	37.09	28.84	4.85	17.63	11.30
1981	6.81	22.94	14.92	27.32	47.60	37.93	8.04	24.52	16.35
1991	16.02	38.45	27.38	45.66	66.56	56.60	18.19	40.65	29.60
2001	32.44	57.39	45.02	59.87	77.77	41.90	59.17	47.10	
2011									
% Increase in 2011 over 2001									

Source: Census of India, Office of Registrar General, India.

3.3 State-wise Literacy Rates in Last 3 Decades

State/Union Territory	1991			2001			2011		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
A & N Islands	65.5	79.0	73.0	75.2	86.3	81.3	82.4	90.3	86.6
Andhra Pradesh	32.7	55.1	44.1	50.4	70.3	60.5	59.1	74.9	67.0
Arunachal Pradesh	29.7	51.5	41.6	43.5	63.8	54.3	57.7	72.6	65.4
Assam	43.0	61.9	52.9	54.6	71.3	63.3	66.3	77.8	72.2
Bihar	22.0	51.4	37.5	33.1	59.7	47.0	51.5	71.2	61.8
Chandigarh	72.3	82.0	77.8	76.5	86.1	81.9	81.2	90.0	86.0
Chhattisgarh	27.5	58.1	42.9	51.9	77.4	64.7	60.2	80.3	70.3
D & N Haveli	27.0	53.6	40.7	43.0	73.3	60.0	64.3	85.2	76.2
Daman & Diu	59.4	82.7	71.2	70.4	88.4	81.1	79.5	91.5	87.1
Delhi	67.0	82.0	75.3	74.7	87.3	81.7	80.8	90.9	86.2
Goa	67.1	83.6	75.5	75.4	88.4	82.0	84.7	92.6	88.7
Gujarat	48.6	73.1	61.3	58.6	80.5	70.0	69.7	85.8	78.0
Haryana	40.5	69.1	55.9	45.7	78.5	67.9	65.9	84.1	75.6
Himachal Pradesh	52.1	75.4	63.9	67.4	85.4	76.5	75.9	89.5	82.8
Jammu & Kashmir	NA	NA	NA	43.0	66.6	55.5	56.4	76.8	67.2
Jharkhand	-	-	-	38.9	67.3	53.6	55.4	76.8	66.4
Karnataka	44.3	67.3	56.0	56.9	76.1	66.6	68.1	82.5	75.4
Kerala	86.1	93.6	89.8	87.9	94.2	90.9	92.1	96.1	94.0
Lakshadweep	72.9	90.2	81.8	80.5	92.5	86.7	87.9	95.6	91.8
Madhya Pradesh	29.4	58.5	44.7	50.3	76.1	63.7	59.2	78.7	69.3
Maharashtra	52.3	76.6	64.9	67.0	86.0	76.9	75.9	88.4	82.3
Manipur	47.6	71.6	59.9	60.5	80.3	70.5	72.4	86.1	79.2
Meghalaya	44.9	53.1	49.1	59.6	65.4	62.6	72.9	76.0	74.4
Mizoram	78.6	85.6		86.8	90.7	88.8	89.3	93.3	91.3
Nagaland	54.8	67.6	61.7	61.5	71.2	66.6	76.1	82.8	79.6
Odisha	34.7	63.1	49.1	50.5	75.4	63.1	64.0	81.6	72.9
Puducherry	65.6	83.7	74.7	73.9	88.6	81.2	80.7	91.3	85.8
Punjab	50.4	65.7	58.5	63.4	75.2	69.7	70.7	80.4	75.8
Rajasthan	20.4	55.0	38.6	43.9	75.7	60.4	52.1	79.2	66.1
Sikkim	46.7	65.7	56.9	60.4	76.0	68.8	75.6	86.6	81.4
Tamil Nadu	51.3	73.8	62.7	64.4	82.4	73.5	73.4	86.8	80.1
Tripura	49.7	70.6	60.4	64.9	81.0	73.2	82.7	91.5	87.2
Uttar Pradesh	24.4	54.8	40.7	42.2	68.8	56.3	57.2	77.3	67.7
Uttarakhand	41.6	72.8	57.8	59.6	83.3	71.6	70.0	87.4	78.8
West Bengal	46.6	67.8	57.7	59.6	77.0	68.6	70.5	81.7	76.3
India	39.3	64.1	52.2	53.7	75.3	64.8	65.5	82.1	74.0

Source: Office of Registrar General, India.

Notes: 1. Literacy rates pertain to the population aged 7 years and above.

2. Literacy rates for 1991 exclude Jammu & Kashmir and for 2001 and 2011 exclude Mao Maram, Paomata and Purul Sub-divisions of Senapat district of Manipur.

3.4 State-wise Gap in the Literacy rates of Males and Females over decades

State/Union Territory	Gender Gap			% decline in gap	
	1991	2001	2011	1991-2001	2001-2011
A & N Islands	13.5	11.1	7.8	18.0	29.3
Andhra Pradesh	22.4	19.9	15.7	11.2	20.9
Arunachal Pradesh	21.8	20.3	14.9	6.7	26.8
Assam	18.8	16.7	11.6	11.5	30.5
Bihar	29.4	26.6	19.7	9.6	25.8
Chandigarh	9.7	9.7	8.8	0.3	9.0
Chhattisgarh	30.6	25.5	20.0	16.4	21.5
D & N Haveli	26.6	30.3	20.9	-14.1	31.2
Daman & Diu	23.3	18.0	12.0	22.5	33.5
Delhi	15.0	12.6	10.2	16.0	19.3
Goa	16.6	13.1	8.0	21.1	38.8
Gujarat	24.5	21.9	16.1	10.6	26.6
Haryana	28.6	32.8	18.1	-14.4	44.7
Himachal Pradesh	23.2	17.9	13.6	22.8	24.1
Jammu & Kashmir		23.6	20.3	-	13.9
Jharkhand		28.4	21.4	-	24.7
Karnataka	22.9	19.2	14.4	16.1	25.2
Kerala	7.5	6.3	4.0	15.3	36.3
Lakshadweep	17.3	12.1	7.6	30.2	36.9
Madhya Pradesh	29.2	25.8	19.5	11.7	24.4
Maharashtra	24.2	18.9	12.5	21.9	34.0
Manipur	24.0	19.8	13.7	17.6	30.9
Meghalaya	8.3	5.8	3.1	29.6	47.3
Mizoram	7.0	4.0	4.1	43.4	-2.8
Nagaland	12.9	9.7	6.6	24.6	31.6
Odisha	28.4	24.8	17.6	12.6	29.2
Puducherry	18.1	14.7	10.6	18.4	28.1
Punjab	15.3	11.9	9.7	22.2	18.2
Rajasthan	34.6	31.9	27.1	7.8	15.0
Sikkim	19.1	15.6	10.9	17.9	30.0
Tamil Nadu	22.4	18.0	13.3	19.8	25.9
Tripura	20.9	16.1	8.8	23.0	45.4
Uttar Pradesh	30.5	26.6	20.1	12.6	24.4
Uttarakhand	31.2	23.7	17.4	24.1	26.4
West Bengal	21.3	17.4	11.2	18.1	36.0
India	24.8	21.6	16.3	13.1	24.7

3.5 Adult Literacy Rate (Age 15 Years and Above)

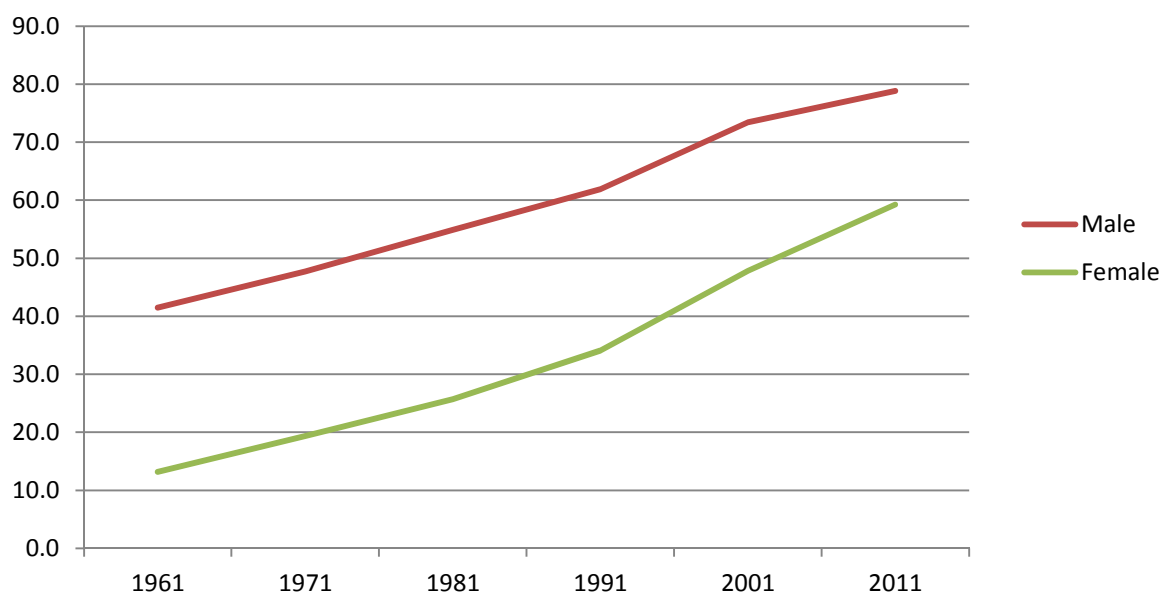
Year	Male	Female	Total	Gender Parity Index
1961	41.5	13.2	27.8	32%
1971	47.7	19.4	34.1	41%
1981	54.9	25.7	40.8	47%
1991	61.9	34.1	48.5	55%
2001	73.4	47.8	61.0	65%
2011	78.8	59.3	69.3	75%

3.6 Rural Urban Adult Literacy Rate - 2011

Residence	Male	Female	Total	Gender Parity Index
Rural	74.1	50.6	62.6	68%
Urban	88.3	76.9	82.8	87%
Total	78.8	59.3	69.3	75%
Residence Parity Index	84%	66%	76%	

Source: Census of India, Office of the Registrar General, India.

Change in Adult Literacy rates



3.7 Gross Enrolment Ratio in Different Stages of Education as Percentage of Population in the Appropriate Age-groups

Year	Primary Classes I-V (6-10 years)			Middle Classes VI-VIII (11-13 Years)			Higher Secondary Classes IX-XII (14-18 Years)		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
2001	85.90	104.90	95.70	49.90	66.70	58.60	35.03	24.60	30.09
2001-02	86.91	105.29	96.30	52.09	67.77	60.20	27.74	38.23	33.26
2002-03	93.10	97.50	95.30	56.20	65.30	61.00	33.21	41.29	37.52
2003-04	95.58	100.63	98.20	57.62	66.76	62.40	34.26	42.94	38.89
2004-05	104.67	110.70	107.80	65.13	74.30	69.93	35.05	44.26	39.91
2005-06	105.75	112.80	109.40	66.41	75.15	70.10	35.80	44.58	40.42
2006-07	108.00	114.60	111.40	69.60	77.41	73.80	36.80	45.00	41.10
2007-08	112.60	115.30	114.00	74.40	81.50	78.10	41.90	49.40	45.81
2008-09	114.00	114.70	114.30	76.60	82.70	79.80	43.50	51.00	47.40
2009-10	113.80	113.80	113.80	79.00	84.30	81.70	46.10	52.50	49.40
2010-11	116.30	114.90	115.50	82.90	87.50	85.20	48.50	55.70	52.20
2011-12@									
2012-13*			105.98			82.50			40.76
2013-14	102.65	100.20	101.36	92.75	86.31	89.33	51.58	52.77	52.21

Source: Secondary Education in in India, Flash Statistics
 Statistics of School Education 2010-11, 2013-14
 @=Figures under finalisation by M/o HRD
 *= Male-Female break-up is not available

3.8 Number of Girls per 100 Boys Enrolled in Schools

Year	Primary Classes (I-V)	Middle Classes (VI-VIII)	Secondary Classes (IX-X)
2000-01	78	69	63
2001-02	79	72	65
2002-03	88	78	70
2003-04	88	79	70
2004-05	88	80	71
2005-06	87	81	73
2006-07	88	83	73
2007-08	91	84	77
2008-09	92	89	78
2009-10	92	88	81
2010-11	92	89	82
2011-12	94	95	NA
2012-13	94	95	89
2013-14 (Till Sep, 2013)	93	95	90

Source: Flash Statistics 2013-14
DISE Statistics 2013-14

3.9 Drop-out Rate at Different Stages of School Education

Year	I-V Classes		I-VIII Classes		I-X Classes	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
2000-01	41.90	39.70	57.70	50.30	71.50	66.40
2001-02	39.88	38.36	56.92	52.91	68.59	64.16
2002-03	33.72	35.85	53.45	52.28	64.97	60.72
2003-04	28.57	33.74	52.92	51.90	64.92	60.98
2004-05	25.42	31.81	51.28	50.49	63.88	
2005-06	21.77	28.70	49.00	48.67	63.56	60.10
2006-07	26.80	24.60	45.20	46.40	61.50	58.60
2007-08	24.41	25.70	41.34	43.72	57.33	56.55
2008-09	25.80	29.60	36.90	41.10	54.40	54.00
2009-10	28.50	31.80	44.20	41.10	51.80	53.30
2010-11	25.40	29.00	41.20	40.60	47.70	50.20
2011-12	5.34	5.89	3.20	2.13	NA	NA
2012-13	4.66	4.68	4.01	2.30	14.54	14.54

Source: Elementary Education in India 2013-14, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Statistics of School Education 2010-11

Flash Statistics 2013-14

Note: Total dropouts during a course (stage) as percentage of intake in the first year of the course (stage) has been taken. Primary, Middle and Secondary stages consist of classes I-V, I-VIII, I-X, respectively.

3.10 Number of Female Teachers per 100 Male Teachers at Different Levels of Education

Year	Primary school	Middle school	Secondary/Intermediate School
2000-01	55	62	54
2001-02	59	59	60
2002-03	64	69	62
2003-04	66	69	61
2004-05	64	60	62
2005-06	65	67	61
2006-07	66	65	63
2007-08	80	67	61
2008-09	73	71	60
2009-10	84	75	63
2010-11	76	80	61

Source: Statistics of School Education 2010-11, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

3.11 Number of Females per 100 Males in University Education in Major Disciplines

Year	Arts	Science	Commerce	Engineering & Technical	Medicine
2000-01	81.40	61.40	55.30	28.7	68.20
2001-02	77.80	64.20	63.10	33.1	68.40
2002-03	82.24	60.55	57.95	29.17	71.19
2003-04	85.70	75.90	51.20	17.5	72.50
2004-05	87.30	84.30	51.60	31.1	53.10
2005-06	77.70	71.20	65.20	36.1	90.1*
2006-07	76.90	71.20	60.90	35.8	89.5*
2007-08	79.60	71.00	63.53	39.3	79.66
2008-09	86.80	66.90	65.30	39.7	88.31
2009-10	86.00	72.70	67.30	40.3	90.90

Source: Department of Secondary & Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

* Includes dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, Ayurvedic and Unani. P: Provisional.