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A Snapshot of the Status of Girls Education in Pakistan



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Pakistan Alliance for Girls Education (PAGE) is a strategic organization that serves as a platform to encourage and facilitate synergy amongst stakeholders, donors, policy makers and practitioners to address the gender gap in education literacy as well as to address the comprehensive challenges the education sector faces in Pakistan.

The Alliance aims to link financial as well as human resources to strategies that promote education reforms, formulate innovative policies, and further promote public awareness for quality female education. PAGE intends to concentrate upon seeking solutions to the problems faced by girls in their struggles to attain education and also try and overcome the challenges faced by benefactors in their campaign/interventions to promote education for girls.

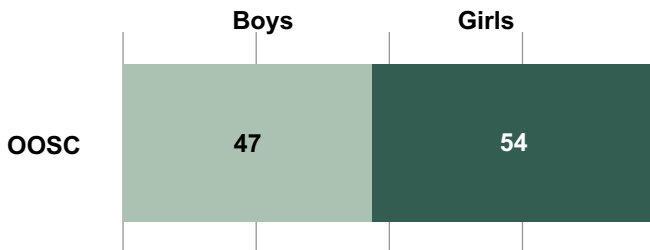
This platform aims to expedite its associates by providing them with the latest data as well as comprehensive linkages and sustenance to increase the literacy rate, enrolment and retention of students as to improve the quality of education in Pakistan.

This report on the status of girls education has been published with the intent of creating a diagnostic reference document that visually represents a multitude of variables characterizing the prevailing gender crisis in education in Pakistan. It should serve as a guide for stakeholders in creating effective policies and programs to improve the overall well-being of girls and women in the country.



Out of School Children

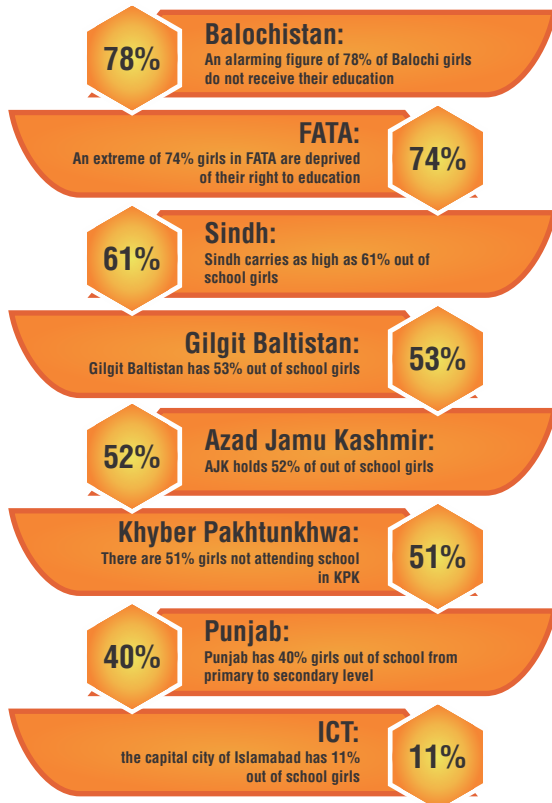
In 2016, a total of 22,637,942 children were out of school between primary and higher secondary level i.e. 47% of children between the age of 5-16. Of these children 12,108,687 are girls and 10,529,255 are boys. The proportion of girls out of school is much greater than the proportion of boys.¹



Percentage of Out of School Children by region

The percentage of Out of School children by region reveals stark gender-wise differences in terms of enrollment and drop out rates, which vary greatly at the regional level. The situation is much more dire in regions such as Balochistan, FATA and KPK.

Percentage of Out of School girls by region



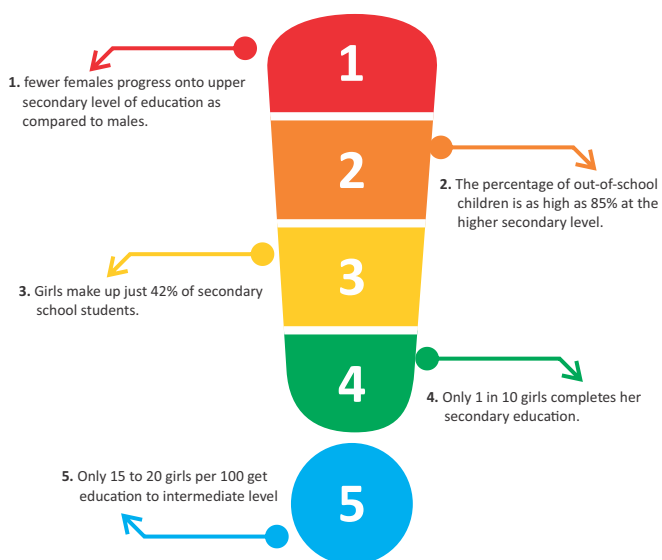
¹ <http://library.aepam.edu.pk/Books/Pakistan%20Education%20Statistics%202015-16.pdf>

Transition rate from Primary to Secondary Level

The effective transition rate has improved in the last year, particularly for girls. However, there are still fewer females that progress onto upper secondary level of education than there are males.²

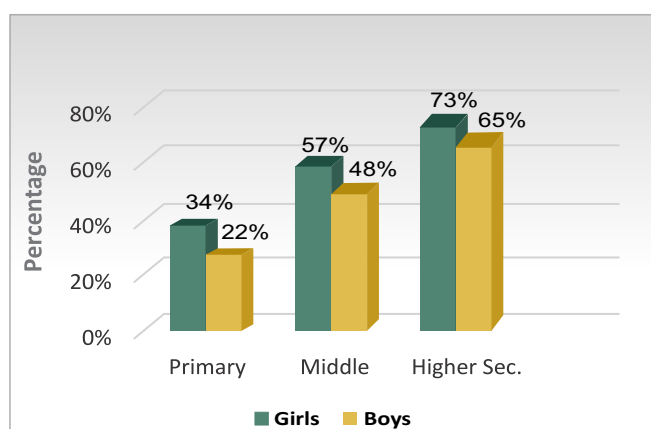
The percentage of out-of-school children is as high as 85% at the higher secondary level.³ Girls make up just 42% of secondary school students, and only one in 10 will complete their secondary education.⁴

Transition rate from Primary to Secondary Level:



Drop Out Rates

As the level of education gets higher, the percentage of Out of School Children rises, demonstrating a crucial facet of the education crisis in Pakistan; alarming drop out rates.



² <http://library.aepam.edu.pk/Books/Pakistan%20Education%20Statistics%202015-16.pdf>

³ Alif Ailaan.

⁴ https://d3n8a8pro7vnm.cloudfront.net/alifailaan/pages/545/attachments/original/1415982972/1939420_783731245023967_892766001149_570715_n.png?1415982972 UIS.Stat, 2016, UNESCO Institute for Statistics, http://data.uis.unesco.org/?ReportId=184&IF_Language=eng

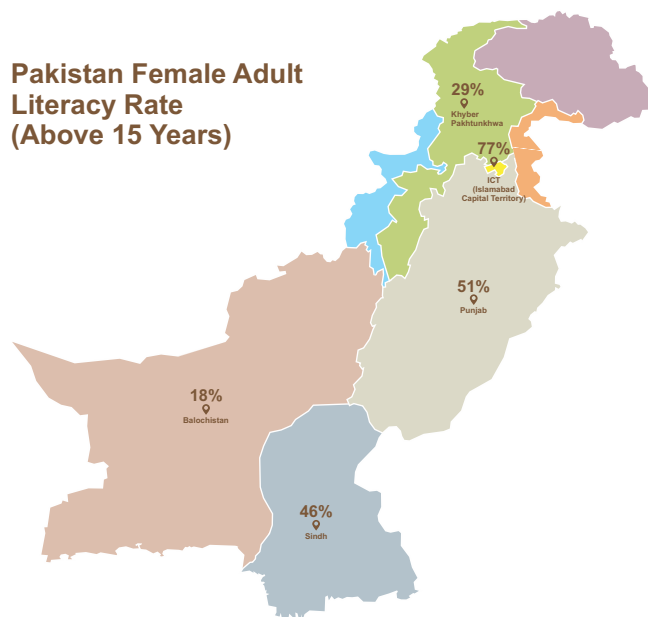
⁵ <http://library.aepam.edu.pk/Books/Pakistan%20Education%20Statistics%202015-16.pdf>

⁶ <http://library.aepam.edu.pk/Books/Pakistan%20Education%20Statistics%202015-16.pdf>

Literacy Rate

The alarming gender gap that exists in terms of literacy in Pakistan primarily reflects the inequity of the education system. Although the youth literacy rate reflects improvement in access to education over the last decade or so, the gap is still considerable. The burgeoning youth demographic holds the potential to render devastating effects if policy measures are unable to improve the state of education in the Country, especially in terms of female rights.⁵

Pakistan Female Adult Literacy Rate (Above 15 Years)



Enrolment by Gender

The distribution of enrollment by gender reflects how the overall education system in Pakistan is facilitating 56% male students as compared to 44% female students.⁶

Primary:

At Primary, 10.471 million (55%) are boys and 8.280 million (45%) are girls.

Middle:

The total boys enrolment at middle stage is 3.647 million, whereas, the girls enrolment is 2.798 million.

High Stage:

The total boys enrolment at high stage is 1.961 million (57%), whereas, the girls enrolment is 1.475 million (43%).

Higher Secondary :

The total boys enrolment at higher secondary schools/ inter colleges stage is 1.022 million (60%), whereas, the girls enrolment is 0.674 million (40%).

Degree Colleges:

The total boys' enrolment excluding Punjab at degree colleges' stage is 0.101 million (54%), whereas, the girls enrolment is 0.086 million (46%).

Universities:

There are total 163 universities providing their services in both public and private sector of education.

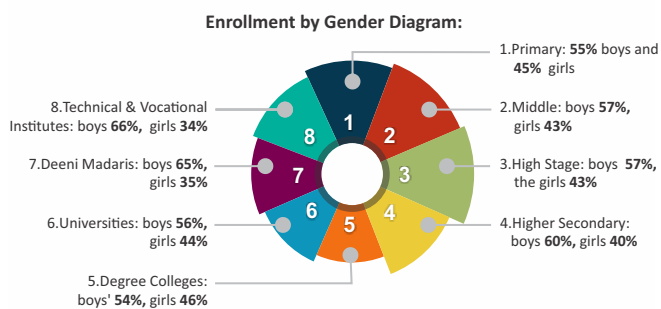
The total male enrolment in the universities is 0.753 million (56%), whereas, the female enrolment is 0.602 million (44%).

Deeni Madaris:

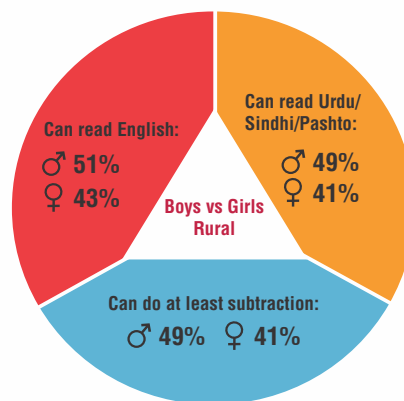
The total male enrolment in Deeni Madaris is 1.46 million (65%), whereas, the female enrolment is 0.800 million (35%).

Technical & Vocational Institutes:

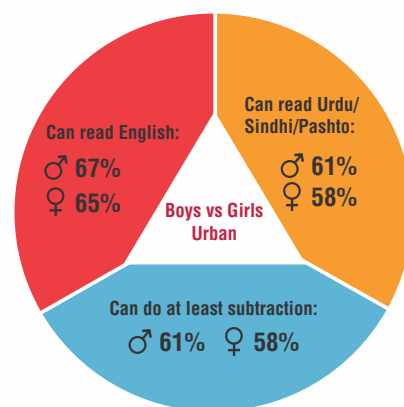
The total male enrolment in the teachers training institutions is 0.480 million (66%), whereas, the female enrolment is 0.242 million (34%).



Gender Gap in Learning Outcomes (Rural)



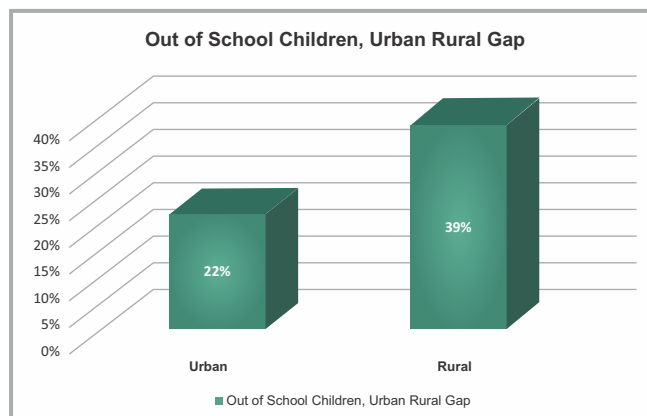
Gender Gap in Learning Outcomes (Urban)



Urban - Rural Gap

Children in rural areas are more likely to be out of school compared to those growing up in large towns and cities. Among children of primary-school-going age, 39% in rural areas are out of school compared to 22% in urban areas.^{8,9}

This Urban-Rural disparity eludes to the scarcity of educational institutions in less developed regions, large distances acting as a deterrent to school attendance as well as the absence of facilities such as boundary walls and toilets



Gender gap in learning outcomes

Boys outperform girls in literacy and numeracy skills. The gap is higher in rural areas in comparison to urban areas. The gap between boys and girls is biggest in poorer households, and it increases as children get older.⁷

⁷ http://aserpakistan.org/document/asere/2015/reports/national/ASER_National_Report_2015.pdf

⁸ <http://www.ilmideas2.pk/assets/uploads/2016/12/Problem-Brief-Enrolment.pdf>

⁹ Annual Status of Education Report 2015. Urban. http://aserpakistan.org/document/asere/2015/reports/Urban_2015.pdf



Enrolment in Public and Private Schools

Amongst the enrolled students in government schools, 44% were girls and 56% were boys whereas in private schools 58% enrolled children were boys and 42% were girls.

**Factors contributing to gender disparity have not been dealt with in this infographic. E.g. number of female school, female teachers, and facilities such as boundary walls and toilets.

Other status of girls education infographics:

ASER :

http://aserpakistan.org/document/aser/Pakistan_Fact_Sheet2016.pdf

ALIF AILAN :

https://d3n8a8pro7vmtx.cloudfront.net/alifailan/pages/496/attachments/original/1473164784/Female_Education_in_Pakistan.pdf?1473164784
