

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



THE SCENARIO OF SCHOOLING OF CHILDREN BY STANDARD OF LIVING AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE IN KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

An effort in this paper is made to understand the scenario of schooling at primary stage by using education data from two data sets i.e., NFHS II and NFHS III. The major aim of the present analysis is to study the scenario of schooling by Standard of Living Index (SLI) and place of residence (Rural/Urban) in the state of Karnataka. While the focus of analysis is on the state of Karnataka, for the sake of comparison two of its neighboring states i.e., Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu are also considered. Major finding of the present analysis is that the variation in school attendance is distinct across all the three sample state. According to both the NFHS II (1998-2000) and NFHS III (2005-2006) SLI and place of residence (Rural/Urban) are important determinants of schooling at primary stage for children aged between 6-10 years.

Keywords : *Standard of Living Index (SLI) and place of residence (Rural/Urban).*

INTRODUCTION:

Achieving universal primary education (UPE) by certain target time period is one of the goals set in 'Education For All' and 'Millennium Development Goals'. In India the flagship programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) takes care of UPE besides having other programmatic goals. Effort is made in this paper to understand the scenario of primary schooling by using data from a large scale household survey. Attempts in the past have been made to analyse the educational data of some large scale household surveys. For instance, Filmer & Pritchett, (1999), Ramachandran, (2002), Durdhawale, (2004), Chatterjee, et al (2004), World Bank Report, (1997), Tilak, (2000), Jaychandran, (2001) are some important studies. The present paper analyses the education data from NFHS II and NFHS III corresponding to years 1998-2000 and 2005-2006 respectively.

OBJECTIVES:

The present study has the following objective

- To study the scenario of schooling by Standard of Living Index (SLI) and place of residence (Rural/Urban) in the state of Karnataka.

While the focus of analysis is on the state of Karnataka, for the sake of comparison two of its neighboring states i.e., Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu are also considered.

Results:

The Table 1 (A) and Table 1 (A) are given in Appendix. The table 1(A) shows school attendance of boys and girls according to SLI. In NFHS II, according to the SLI, the percent of boys never attended school recorded in Karnataka is 17.63 and 5.52 from low and medium SLI group, where as high SLI group boys have shown only 2.30 %. The corresponding figures for the state of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu and also for India can be seen from the Table 1(A). Similar situation is observed in the case of girls never attended school in NFHS II as shown in Table 1 (A).

The table 1(A) also shows school attendance of boys and girls according to SLI for NFHS III, according to the SLI. The percent of boys never attended school recorded in Karnataka is 21.20 and 15.80 from low and medium SLI group, where as high SLI group boys have shown 11.10 %. The corresponding figures for the state of Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu and also for India can be seen from the Table 1(A). Similar situation is observed in the case of girls never attended school in NFHS III as shown in Table 1 (A).

The Table 1 (A) also shows the drop out percentages for boys and girls by SLI from both NFHS II and NFHS III for the three sample states and for India.

The table 1(B) shows school attendance of boys and girls according to place of residence. At all India level, the percent never attended school according to NFHS II among boys (13.46) and girls (21.07) is highest in the countryside. It steadily decreases with the size of the city except in case of town and small city. In Karnataka the percent of never attended school for boys (11.99) and for girls (15.80) in countryside and a steady decrease with the size of the city. Other two states also show the similar picture except for some fluctuations between small city and towns.

According to NFHS III, the percent never attended school at all India level, among boys (20.9) and girls (23.5) is highest in the countryside. It steadily decreases with the size of the city except in some cases. The corresponding figures for the state of Karnataka and other two states can be seen from the Table 1 (B).

The Table 1 (B) also shows the drop out percentages for boys and girls by place of residence from both NFHS II and NFHS III for the three sample states and for India.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION:

Major finding of the present analysis can be listed as below:

1. Variation in school attendance is distinct across all the three sample states.
2. According to both the NFHS II (1998-2000) and NFHS III (2005-2006) SLI and place of residence (Rural/Urban) are important determinants of schooling at primary stage for children aged between 6-10 years.

APPENDIX

Table 1 (A) Primary school attendance of boys and girls by standard of living index

States	Attributes	SLI											
		NFHS II						NFHS III					
		Boys			Girls			Boys			Girls		
		Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High
Karnataka	%IL	17.63	5.52	2.30	24.07	7.18	1.38	21.2	15.8	11.1	18.3	15.8	8.8
	%Do	5.00	2.05	0.00	4.24	1.11	0.47	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.0	0.4	0.0
Maharashtra	%IL	9.79	4.39	1.50	15.57	4.56	1.04	19.5	9.0	5.9	23.2	9.7	4.6
	%Do	2.61	0.82	0.00	2.38	0.67	0.13	1.3	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.6	0.2
Tamil Nadu	%IL	2.51	1.38	1.03	3.87	1.17	0.00	6.1	3.3	3.8	5.9	3.0	3.7
	%Do	2.35	0.28	0.00	2.05	0.71	0.00	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
India	%IL	23.09	7.46	1.55	33.27	12.87	2.76	31.5	19.2	11.9	34.3	21.6	11.1
	%Do	2.54	1.09	0.30	2.74	1.58	0.40	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.2

IL= never attended school, Do= drop out

Table 1 (B) Primary school attendance of boys and girls by Place of residence

States	Attributes	Place of Residence															
		NFHS II				NFHS II				NFHS III				NFHS III			
		Boys				Girls				Boys				Girls			
		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
Karnataka	%IL	1.66	0.80	6.34	11.99	0.00	3.92	8.14	15.58	13.9	17.9	16.5	15.8	11.0	9.5	15.7	15.2
	%Do	0.00	0.83	2.51	3.34	1.50	0.99	0.85	2.68	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Maharashtra	%IL	1.98	2.72	4.43	7.51	4.12	7.12	5.11	9.65	5.6	3.5	8.1	15.2	4.8	4.5	15.0	16.1
	%Do	0.34	0.55	1.76	1.70	1.62	1.10	0.00	1.53	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.8
Tamil Nadu	%IL	1.52	0.77	0.70	2.22	1.47	1.04	0.63	2.71	6.0	4.2	4.9	2.6	4.1	0.0	3.7	4.3
	%Do	0.51	0.77	1.40	1.11	0.49	0.00	0.00	1.69	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
India	%IL	4.71	6.79	6.62	13.46	5.57	10.46	9.45	21.07	15.5	16.8	19.5	20.9	15.1	16.6	19.2	23.5
	%Do	1.16	1.26	1.13	1.51	1.01	1.07	1.32	1.94	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5

IL= never attended school, Do= drop out, A= Large City, B= Small City, C= Town
 D=Countryside

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