The State of Education in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

36% children are out of school

There are 6.8 million children between the ages of 5 and 16 in KP, of which 2.5 million are out of school.

Far fewer girls are in school

Only 36% of women in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have ever been to school. 52% of all girls aged 5-16 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are out of school compared to 21% of boys within the same age bracket.

64%

Girls in particular are not staying in school

Net enrolment rate for girls in primary school is as low as 51%. This drops to just 17% in middle school and as little as 8% in high school.

51% 17% 8%

Many children drop out of school

35% of the children enrolled in primary schools drop out before finishing primary school. This is much higher for girls at 46% as compared to boys at 25%.

Overall learning outcomes are poor

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa’s children score poorly in reading and mathematics compared to children in the rest of the country.

53% of class 5 students cannot read a story fluently in Urdu or Pashto

50% of class 5 students cannot read a sentence fluently in English

52% of class 5 students cannot perform simple two-digit division

There are not enough teachers in government schools

On average, there is 1 teacher for 45 students in the primary schools of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. As many as 4,273 (19%) government primary schools in KP are single teacher schools.

Even when there are sufficient teachers, many are absent from the classroom

Out of the 123,291 teachers employed in government schools, 9% are absent on any given day.
Facilities at schools are extremely poor

The school buildings of as many as 3,294 government primary schools are in an ‘unsatisfactory’ condition.

- 14% of school buildings are in an unsatisfactory condition
- 47% of schools are without electricity
- 37% of schools have no drinking water
- 23% of schools are missing the basic facility of a toilet
- 24% of schools are without a boundary wall

1 out of 7 school buildings is in an unsatisfactory condition.
4 out of 10 schools have no drinking water.
1 out of 4 schools is missing the basic facility of a toilet.
1 out of 4 schools is without a boundary wall.

Scarce resources are being wasted

After Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has the second-highest number of ghost schools in the country.

There are 1,663 non-functional and ghost schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In Kohistan alone, out of the total 1,133 government schools, 878 are non-functional.

Despite an increase in enrolment in government schools, 5,070 sanctioned teaching posts are vacant

Enrolment has increased by 18% since 2005 but teachers and functional schools have only increased by 13% and 5% respectively. There are not enough teachers and functional schools to provide quality education for the increasing number of students.

12% government primary schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa consist of a single classroom

As many as 2,796 primary schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa consist of a single classroom.

Most children are in government schools

68% of students in KP attend government schools, compared to 30% in private schools.

Wide regional disparities exist

There are significant variations between regions in enrolment, retention, gender parity and learning outcomes. Alif Ailaan District Education Rankings show that the majority of districts from South KP lie in the lower half of the education rankings:

- The top two districts for education rankings in KP are Malakand and Mardan
- The bottom two districts for education rankings in KP are Tank and Kohistan