
- **Out-of-school children**
  - Number
  - Per cent
  - Pre-primary
  - Primary
  - Lower secondary

- **Dimensions of Exclusion**
  - Dimension 1
  - Dimension 2
  - Dimension 3
  - Dimension 4
  - Dimension 5

2. The Five Dimensions of Exclusion

- **Out of school**
  - Dimension 1
  - Dimension 2
  - Dimension 3

- **At risk of dropping out**
  - Dimension 4
  - Dimension 5

- **In school**
  - Pre-primary
  - Primary
  - Lower secondary
  - Upper secondary

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1. UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) 2011.
2. Administrative data 2013. Refugees and stateless persons are excluded from the statistics.
3. Classification of the out-of-school population (Dimensions 2 and 3) by school exposure

- **Primary**
  - Left school: 16%
  - Likely to enter school in the future: 0.4%
  - Unlikely to ever enter school: 30%
  - More than half of primary school-aged out-of-school children will never enter school.

- **Lower secondary**
  - Left school: 32.7%
  - Likely to enter school in the future: 66.9%
  - Unlikely to ever enter school: 4%
  - Two thirds of lower secondary school-aged out-of-school children enter school but drop out.

4. Schooling pathways of school aged children

Reference population: upper secondary age (15-17 years old)

- Entered primary school: 91%
  - Did not enter primary school: 9%
- Completed primary school: 66%
  - Still attending lower secondary due to repetition or average: 4%
  - Did not complete primary school: 22%
- Entered lower secondary: 58%
  - Did not enter lower secondary: 7%
- Completed lower secondary: 26%
  - Still attending lower secondary due to repetition or average: 27%
  - Did not complete lower secondary: 6%
- Entered upper secondary: 24%
  - Did not enter upper secondary: 1%

- In 2011, around 580,000 5-14 year old children were engaged in child labour.
- Failing the required exam causes repetition and even dropout for fifth and sixth graders.

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3 Calculated from MICS 2011.
4 Calculated from MICS 2011.
5. Out-of-school children by background characteristics (Dimensions 2 and 3)\(^5\)

Out-of-school rates for the poorest children are much higher than those for the richest: 10 times higher at primary school age and 4 times higher at lower secondary school age.

Out-of-school rates are also higher for girls, rural children and children whose mothers are uneducated or absent.

6. Cumulative out-of-school risk related to combined characteristics\(^6\)

A child with all four risk characteristics is 4 times more likely to be out-of-school at both primary school age and lower secondary school age.

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\(^5\) Calculated from MICS 2011. Uneducated mothers refer to those not finishing any formal education.

\(^6\) Calculated from MICS 2011 using multivariate logit regressions. Marginal effects are presented.
7. Out-of-school children (Dimensions 2 and 3) by governorate

Baghdad, Basra, and Ninewa have relatively high out-of-school children numbers

Missan, Al-Muthanna, Al-Qadisiya, Salahaddin, and Wasit have relatively high out-of-school children percentages

Out of school %
- 23 – 30
- 18 – 22
- 10 – 17
- 3 – 9

Number of out-of-school children
- < 20,000
- 20,001 – 80,000
- 80,001 – 150,000
- > 150,000

8. Barriers and policies/strategies

Policies/strategies
- Comprehensive National Strategy for Education and Higher Education 2012-2022
- Special law approved in 2013 requires the Ministry of Education to support children with disabilities in schooling

Barriers
- A shortfall of 14,440 primary schools/kindergartens and 4,200 secondary schools
- Over 50% of children who have dropped out say they leave schools because either they or their families are not interested in schooling
- Around 500,000 children are internally displaced. 1,329 schools are occupied by the displaced community
- Other than "lack of interest", boys cite work as a major cause of dropping out, while girls cite social reasons

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7 Calculated from MICS 2011.
8 Extracted from survey and policy reports published between 2007 and 2014.