

RECHECKED SURVEY ON DROPOUT RATES

in

URBAN AREAS

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FOREWORD

The sector of Primary Education has been given high priority in the Sixth Five Year Plan and is backed up with an allocation of seven thousand million rupees for the plan period. In spite of several efforts on the part of government, primary education has not achieved the desired results in providing universal access, to hold the students in the schools and bring excellence in the quality of education.

The limited holding power of schools which results into high dropouts is a burden on scarce national resources and also increases the opportunity cost of education. The National Development Group under the Federal Ministry of Education sanctioned a national study on dropouts to the Academy of Educational Planning and Management which was completed and presented in the National Development Group meeting held at Lahore in December, 1985. The Chairman of National Development Group desired that a mini-study "Rechecked Survey on Dropouts in Urban Areas" may be carried out by the Academy so as to confirm or otherwise the findings of the main study in Urban Areas.

This mini-study was undertaken by Mr. Mirza Tauhiduddin & Mr. Dawood Shah. They visited the cities of Lahore, Rawalpindi and Abbottabad to recheck relevant data. The findings of the study are clearly presented by Mr. Tauhid for which he needs appreciation.

The cooperation extended by the District Education authorities and their staff are gratefully acknowledged.

(A. G. MUFTI)

SUMMARY

The dropout rates in urban areas as has been reflected in the main study comes 14.1 percent for Pakki class only and 43.2 percent for Pakki & Kachi classes combined, i.e. for class I.

The follow up mini study was undertaken in three cities of Lahore, Abbotabad and Rawalpindi comprising only of urban areas. The dropout rates for both sexes in class Pakki were found out to be 14, 12 and 7.4 percent, respectively. The dropout rates for class I (Kachi & Pakki combined) were 43, 52 & 52 percent, respectively.

It is apparent that there is a consistency of findings between the Main study and the Mini study as far as the dropout in the urban areas are concerned. Although there is a small variation between the national study findings and the findings of Rawalpindi urban area which seems to be not significant.

It is, therefore, concluded that the Mini study confirms the finding, dropouts in urban areas, of Main study at National level.

INTRODUCTION

The growth and progress of education for human resource development and to enhance the general prosperity of masses is the foundation of socio-economic prosperity and as such it should get the desired recognition. Pakistan is trying hard for economic uplift, which in the final analysis, is closely linked with improvement in the field of education.

Education in our country has passed through several phases of development. The significance and importance it enjoys to-day reflect the commitment on the part of government to provide access to education at all levels especially at the primary stage to improve the low base of participation and bring excellence in educational achievement.

One of the major tasks of national reconstruction that Pakistan had to face after independence as a sovereign state in August 1947 was to provide education to huge and diversified illiterate population. According to the 1951 Population Census, the literacy rate in the country was 18.9 percent. It has been raised to 26.2 percent (Census Report) in 1981 after making many endeavours. The architects of Pakistan were further concerned with the question of reorienting the whole system of education in accordance with the needs and aspirations of the young state which was created on the basis of Islamic ideology.

In the Sixth Plan (1983-88), great emphasis has been given to Primary Education. Serious efforts are afoot to universalize primary education by ensuring that all boys and girls of the relevant age group get enrolled in class I at the latest by the terminal year of the plan. It provides a sum of seven billion rupees for the development of education facilities at the primary level.

Participation rate of children in Primary Schools is targetted to increase from 48 percent in 1982-83 to 75 percent in 1987-88. This means that over 5 million additional children will be provided with primary schooling with an increase of 80 percent over the base year (1982-83) enrolment of 6.8 million children.

In different policy documents primary education, by and large, has been emphasized for further improvement. The Education Policy, 1978 has also indicated the importance of Primary Education in the following words:

"Providing a minimum acceptable level of functional literacy and fundamental education to all citizens of the country, particularly the youngs, irrespective of their faith, caste and creed in order to enable them to participate in the total national efforts for the development of the individual as well as the community".

This also indicates that Primary Education is the base for the development of future educational structure. The international researches have concluded that about one fourth increase in the national productivity can be ensured through investment of resources in Primary Education. It is because of this reason that different developmental plans laid emphasis on the expansion of physical facilities at the level of primary education.

The problem of wastage (Drop-out) and stag-nation in Primary schools has also been a major concern of educators for the past several years. This is a common problem in most of the developing countries. The problem of wastage is further compounded by lack of reliable and incomplete statistics.

* Wastage and stagnation, like headache and fever are not diseases in themselves; they are symptoms of other diseases in educational system. The major reasons are poverty, parental attitude, unattractive school environment and poor physical facilities.

Wastage in an educational system occurs in two forms;

(i) Some pupils leave the system in different grades without completing the five year cycle of primary education and (ii) some repeat the same grade for one or more year; In technical terminology the former are called 'dropouts' and the later 'repeaters'.

The phenomenon of wastage occurs at all levels of education but evidences showed that its incidence is very high in early stages of primary education. The appalling dimension of educational wastage in primary schools has, therefore, been a matter of serious concern for the politicians, planners and educationists in the developing country like Pakistan. It is thus emphasized to assess the extent of this phenomenon on regular basis for diagnostic purposes and to identify strategies for improvement.

This would help in making comparisons with regard to the effectiveness of school system; bring out focal points where incidence of wastage is very high and needs special attention; providing insight to the educational planners for making enrolment projections based on outputs, and come up with viable implementation strategies to minimise the problem.

* 'Wastage' as used in this study stands for "the premature with-drawl of children from school at any stage before the completion of the primary course, while "stagnation" stands for "the retention of a child in a class for a period of more than one year".

Purpose of the Study:

This study is a 'Rechecked survey of urban areas on dropout rates'. It attempts to make a quantitative analysis of the flow of pupils in primary schools by computing flow rates only in the urban areas of Lahore, Abbotabad and Rawalpindi.

It is intended to deal with crucial issue of drop-out which have often been a subject of critical and controversial discussion in many forums, main study on Dropouts in Primary Schools in Pakistan has already been completed.

It was decided in the National Development Group (NDG) that a rechecked survey on dropouts only for urban areas may be carried out to confirm or otherwise the existing position regarding high dropouts in the urban areas. In order to select a representative sample it was proposed to confine the survey to Abbotabad, Rawalpindi and Lahore urban areas covering male and female schools.

The following were the objectives of the survey:

- to collect enrolment of pupils by grades and sex including Kachi class.
- to collect number of repeaters by grade and sex.
- to analyse the rates of drop-out for classes I and II with an overall impact on the out-put of primary schools in urban areas.

Sampling Design

The sampling design involves both non-probability (purposive) and probability (random) sampling. Purposive sampling has been adopted at the first stage to select the districts from the provinces. At the second-stage, 10 percent of the total primary schools were chosen from

selected district in urban areas. The sampling frame, i.e. list of schools was obtained from the District Education Office.

Methodology

It was a rechecked survey to confirm the actual picture of class I in primary schools. The following techniques were adopted to carry out the study:

- A questionnaire was used to collect data from each grade by sex.
- Field visits were arranged to observe the actual situation and to obtain first-hand information.

Before actually visiting the schools and class-rooms, a meeting with the District Education Officer and supervisory staff was held at the Headquarters to explain the purpose, aim and the procedure of collecting data. The questionnaire was administered to the schools' Headmaster with the help of supervisory staff. Each class of the target group of the primary school was visited personally to ascertain real position in various classes.

The following records were also consulted in each school to obtain reliable information.

- Attendance Register
- Admission Forms
- Date of Birth
- Monthly Return Forms
- Result sheets, etc. etc.

FINDINGS

Dropout Rates

- It has emerged from the study that the dropout rate in urban areas for both sexes in class I (Pakki) was 14, 12 and 7.4 percent in the cities of Lahore, Abbotabad and Rawalpindi as shown in Tables 2,3, and 4. The dropout rate for urban areas at national level, in the main study, was also 14.1 percent.
- This indicates that almost in all the places visited, the dropout rate was consistent except in Rawalpindi, where it was 7.4. It was further higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas (0.3%). Similarly, the dropout rate was consistent for males and females as compared to the dropout rate at national level (Main-study) but in Rawalpindi urban areas the dropout rate for males was just 3 percent as against about 13 percent for females.
- In Kachi & Pakki classes combined the dropout rate for both sexes in Lahore was the same, i.e. 43 percent as compared to the national study but with slight variations in Rawalpindi and Abbotabad, i.e. 52 and 51.8 percent respectively. The pattern of dropout is almost similar for male and females except in Rawalpindi where it is 53.3 percent for females and 50.2 percent for males.

Repetition Rates

- The repetition rates were also calculated and it was observed that there is no great variation in case of Lahore and Abbotabad as compared to the national study except in the case of Rawalpindi where the repetition rates were much lower than others.

Promotion Rates

- The promotion rate for both sexes in class I (Kachi & Pakki combined) was almost the same in Rawalpindi and Lahore as compared to the national study, i.e. 43 percent, and lower in Abbotabad where it was 37 percent.
- The promotion rate for both sexes in Class I (Pakki only) was noticed as 74 and 75 percent in Lahore and Abbotabad, respectively as compared to 73 percent in the national study, but it was higher in Rawalpindi, i.e. 87 percent.
- The maximum promotion rate ranges from 82 to 93 percent for both sexes in class IV in all the places visited as against 83.7 percent in urban areas at national level.

MAIN STUDY
TABLE NO. I

FLOW RATES OF PUPILS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN SELECTED DISTRICTS
BY SEX AND LOCATION AT NATIONAL LEVEL BASED ON 1983-84 FOR THE YEAR 1984-85

(In percent)

		Both Sexes			Male			Female		
		Promotion	Repetition	Dropout	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout
URBAN	Pakki	73.0	12.9	14.1	71.8	14.6	13.6	74.8	10.6	14.6
	Kachl & Pakki	43.1	13.6	43.2	42.0	14.3	43.7	44.7	12.5	42.8
	II	79.6	11.7	8.7	79.9	11.9	8.2	79.1	11.6	9.3
	III	77.5	10.8	11.7	79.6	10.3	10.1	74.1	11.6	14.3
	IV	83.7	10.4	5.9	85.5	9.9	4.6	80.9	11.0	8.1
V.	-	9.0	-	-	8.4	-	-	10.0	-	-
RURAL	Pakki	77.6	12.0	10.4	79.7	10.0	10.3	68.8	20.1	11.1
	Kachl & Pakki	53.3	10.9	35.8	57.1	9.4	33.5	40.5	15.9	43.8
	II	83.1	5.8	11.1	83.7	4.6	11.7	80.7	12.0	7.3
	III	86.6	5.8	7.6	88.3	4.6	7.1	78.4	11.7	9.9
	IV	91.1	4.2	4.7	92.4	3.3	4.3	83.8	9.2	7.0
V.	-	3.5	-	-	2.7	-	-	8.4	-	-
TOTAL	Pakki	74.7	12.6	12.7	75.2	12.6	12.1	73.5	12.6	13.9
	Kachl & Pakki	46.4	12.7	41.0	47.7	12.4	39.9	43.8	13.2	43.0
	II	80.9	9.5	9.6	81.6	8.5	9.9	79.4	11.7	8.9
	III	81.0	8.9	10.1	83.6	7.7	8.7	75.0	11.6	13.4
	IV	86.6	7.9	5.5	88.7	6.8	4.5	81.5	10.7	7.8
V.	-	6.8	-	-	5.6	-	-	9.7	-	-

Table No. 2
 FLOW PATTERNS OF PUPILS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN LARGE URBAN AREA (BASED ON 1983-84) BY SEX FOR THE YEAR 1984-85.

(In Percent)

Class	Both Sexes			Male			Female		
	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout
Packd	73.7	12.3	14.0	72.4	13.3	14.3	75.6	10.8	13.6
Kachi & Packd	43.7	13.1	43.2	42.5	14.0	43.5	45.0	12.0	43.0
II.	79.6	12.4	8.0	79.8	12.0	8.2	79.0	13.0	8.0
III.	77.4	12.6	10.0	79.0	12.0	9.0	75.0	13.0	12.0
IV.	81.8	11.4	6.8	84.0	11.0	5.0	79.0	12.0	9.0
V.	-	9.7	-	-	9.0	-	-	10.0	-

Table No.3

FLW RATES OF PUPILS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN ABBOTABAD
URBAN AREA (BASED ON 1983-84) BY SEX FOR THE YEAR 1984-85.

(In percent)

Class	Both Sexes			Male			Female		
	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout
Packd	75.0	13.0	12.0	72.0	16.0	12.0	79.0	10.0	11.0
Kachd & Packd	37.0	11.0	52.0	36.0	13.0	51.0	38.0	10.0	52.0
II.	78.0	12.0	10.0	77.0	11.0	12.0	81.0	10.0	9.0
III.	77.0	10.0	13.0	80.0	9.0	11.0	75.0	10.0	15.0
IV.	82.0	11.0	7.0	82.0	11.0	7.0	82.0	10.0	8.0
V.	-	9.0	-	-	10.0	-	-	9.0	-

Table 4

FLOW RATES OF PUPILS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN RAWALPINDI SAMPLE DISTRICT BY SEX AND LOCATION (BASED ON 1983-84) FOR THE YEAR 1984-85. IN PERCENT

	Both sexes				Male			Female		
	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout		Promotion	Repetition	Dropout	Promotion	Repetition	Dropout
<u>URBAN:</u>										
Puckl	87.0	05.5	07.4	94.7	02.4	02.9	78.9	08.5	12.6	
Kuehl & Puckl	42.7	05.5	51.8	46.2	03.6	50.2	39.1	07.6	53.3	
II	93.3	03.9	02.8	96.5	02.8	00.7	89.4	05.2	05.4	
III	92.4	04.5	03.1	98.0	01.1	00.9	85.2	00.9	05.8	
IV	93.1	03.8	03.1	98.0	00.9	01.1	87.9	06.8	05.3	
V	-	03.9	-	-	01.0	-	-	07.7	-	
<u>RURAL:</u>										
Puckl	92.8	04.2	00.3	97.7	01.3	00.1	85.9	08.3	05.8	
Kuehl & Puckl	47.1	03.4	49.5	49.2	01.9	48.9	44.0	05.5	50.5	
II	91.4	04.4	04.2	94.9	00.1	04.1	86.3	09.5	04.2	
III	91.8	00.7	01.2	95.5	03.5	00.1	85.4	01.3	01.6	
IV	96.2	02.2	01.6	97.9	00.9	01.2	93.0	04.8	02.2	
V	-	02.5	-	-	01.8	-	-	03.8	-	
<u>TOTAL:</u>										
Puckl	89.1	05.0	05.9	95.9	02.0	02.1	81.2	08.5	10.3	
Kuehl & Puckl	44.3	04.8	50.9	47.4	02.9	49.7	40.7	06.9	52.4	
II	92.6	04.1	03.3	95.9	02.0	02.1	88.3	06.7	05.0	
III	92.2	05.5	02.3	96.9	01.1	01.0	85.3	10.4	04.3	
IV	94.4	03.1	02.5	98.0	00.9	01.1	89.7	05.1		
V	-	03.4	-	-	01.3	-	-	06.1	-	

GRADE WISE NUMBER OF PUPILS (BOTH SEXES) AND REPEATERS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN URBAN AREAS OF LAHORE FOR THE YEAR 1983-84 AND 1984-85.

	<u>KACI</u>	<u>PAKI</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	809	1170 (1975)	1103	1225	1333	1340
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1984-85.</u>	952	880	1000	1032	1100	1221
<u>Repeaters</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	166	144 (260)	137	154	152	130

NOTE: Figures in parenthesis shows the addition of enrolment of Kachi & Paki class.

GRADE WISE NUMBER OF PUPILS (MALE) AND REPEATERS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN URBAN AREAS OF LAHORE FOR THE YEAR 1983-84 AND 1984-85.

	<u>KACHT</u>	<u>PAKTI</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1983-84</u>	485	690 (1175)	625	675	708	730
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1984-85</u>	520	480	575	580	610	661
<u>Repeaters from</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	73	92 (165)	75	84	97	66

NOTE: FIGURES IN PARENTHESIS SHOWS THE ADDITION OF ENROLMENT OF KACHT & PAKTI CLASS.

GRADE WISE NUMBER OF P.U.T.S (FINAL) AND REPEATERS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN URBAN AREA OF LAHORE FOR THE YEAR 1983-84 AND 1984-85.

	<u>KACH</u>	<u>PACH</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	320	480 (800)	478	550	525	610
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1984-85.</u>	350	318	425	452	490	560
<u>Repeaters from</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	43	52 (95)	62	73	75	64

NOTE: Figures in parenthesis shows the addition of enrolment of Kach & Pach Class.

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GRADE WISE NUMBER OF PUPILS (BOTH SEXES) AND REPEATERS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN URBAN AREAS OF ABBOTABAD FOR THE YEAR 1983-84 AND 1984-85.

	<u>KACHI</u>	<u>PAKLI</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1983-84</u>	861	840 (1701)	801	781	610	583
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1984-85.</u>	967	800	715	702	673	557
<u>Repeaters</u>	83	112 (195)	86	75	67	55

NOTE: *Figures in parenthesis shows the addition of enrolment of Kachi & Pakli class.*

GRADE WISE NUMBER OF PUPILS (PALE) AND REPEATERS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN URBAN AREAS OF ABOOTABAD FOR THE YEAR 1983-84 AND 1984-85.

	<u>KACHI</u>	<u>PACHI</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrollment</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	475	480 (955)	505	428	426	310
<u>Enrollment</u> <u>1984-85.</u>	580	410	401	425	390	381
<u>Repeaters</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	45	75 (120)	55	38	48	30

NOTE: Figures in parenthesis shows the addition of enrolment of Kachi & Pachi class.

GRADE WISE NUMBER OF PUPILS (FEMALE) AND REPEATERS AT PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN URBAN AREAS OF ABBOTABAD FOR THE YEAR 1983-84 AND 1984-85.

	<u>KACHI</u>	<u>PAKHI</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	386	360 (746)	296	353	184.	273
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1984-85.</u>	387	390	314	277	283	176
<u>Repeaters</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	38	37 (75)	31	37	19	25

NOTE: Figures in parenthesis shows the addition of enrolment of Kachi & Pakhi class.

NUMBER OF PUPILS (BOTH SEXES) AND REPEATERS IN PRIMARY EDUCATION IN
UPPAR AREA, FAWALPINDI DISTRICT 1983-84 & 1984-85.

	<u>KACHI</u>	<u>PACKI</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1983/84</u>	1624	1571 (3195)	1375	1277	1156	1024
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1984/85</u>	1906	1568	1421	1341	1225	1117
<u>Repeaters</u> <u>1984/85</u>	92	86 (178)	54	58	44	40

Note: Figures in parenthesis shows the addition of enrolment of Kachi and Packi classes.

GRADE WISE NUMBER OF PUPILS (MALES) AND REPEATERS IN PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN URBAN AREA, RAIPUR DISTRICT, 1983-84 AND 1984-85.

	<u>I</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1983/84</u>	840	801 (1641)	750	723	601
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1984/85</u>	980	820	780	732	715
<u>Repeaters</u> <u>1983/84</u>	140	20 (60)	21	6	6

Note: Figures in parenthesis shows the addition of enrolment of Kachl and Pachel classes

GRADE WISE NUMBER OF PUPIL (TOTALS) AND REPEATERS IN PRIMARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN URBAN AREA, RAVALPINDI DISTRICTS, 1983-84 AND 1984-85.

	<u>KACHI</u>	<u>PACKI</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>	<u>IV</u>	<u>V</u>
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	784	770 (1554)	625	551	555	439
<u>Enrolment</u> <u>1984-85</u>	928	748 (1676)	641	609	510	522
<u>Repeaters</u> <u>1983-84.</u>	52	66 (118)	33	50	38	31

Note: Figures in parenthesis show the addition of enrolment of Kachi and Packi classes