

# HOUSEHOLD POPULATION AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

# 2

This chapter provides a profile of the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the households in the 2005-06 National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3) sample and describes key housing characteristics of the household population. Information on household characteristics and housing conditions provides a context for understanding the demographic, health, and nutritional situation of the population.

NFHS-3 collected information about all usual residents as well as visitors who stayed in the selected households the night before the household interview. Those who stayed in the household on the night before the household interview, be they usual residents or visitors, together form the *de facto* population. Usual residents, whether they stayed in the household on the previous night or not, form the *de jure* population. The *de facto* and *de jure* populations will differ from each other as a result of temporary population movements. In this report, unless otherwise stated, all tables are based on the *de facto* population.

## 2.1 HOUSEHOLD POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX

Age and sex are basic demographic characteristics which have an important role in the study of family health, mortality, fertility, and nuptiality. Table 2.1 shows the distribution of the *de facto* household population in five-year age groups by residence and sex. A total of 515,507 individuals, usual residents and visitors, were enumerated in the 109,041 households interviewed

Table 2.1 Household population by age, sex, and residence

Percent distribution of the *de facto* household population by age, according to residence and sex, India, 2005-06

Age	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-4	9.3	8.8	9.1	12.4	11.1	11.8	11.4	10.4	10.9
5-9	9.9	9.8	9.8	13.5	12.5	13.0	12.4	11.7	12.0
10-14	11.3	10.2	10.8	13.1	12.0	12.5	12.5	11.4	12.0
15-19	10.0	10.0	10.0	8.9	9.5	9.2	9.2	9.7	9.5
20-24	10.1	10.0	10.0	7.3	8.7	8.0	8.2	9.0	8.6
25-29	8.7	9.4	9.0	7.0	8.2	7.6	7.5	8.5	8.0
30-34	7.5	7.6	7.5	5.9	6.8	6.4	6.4	7.1	6.7
35-39	7.3	7.6	7.5	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.8
40-44	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.1	4.9	5.0	5.4	5.1	5.3
45-49	5.2	4.8	5.0	4.6	4.0	4.3	4.8	4.2	4.5
50-54	3.9	4.4	4.1	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.5	4.0	3.7
55-59	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4
60-64	2.7	2.9	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1
65-69	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.2
70-74	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6
75-79	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7
80 +	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	82,562	77,488	160,050	175,144	180,313	355,457	257,707	257,801	515,507
Sex ratio, all ages <sup>1</sup>	na	na	939	na	na	1,030	na	na	1,000
Sex ratio, age 0-6 years <sup>1</sup>	na	na	908	na	na	921	na	na	918

na = Not applicable

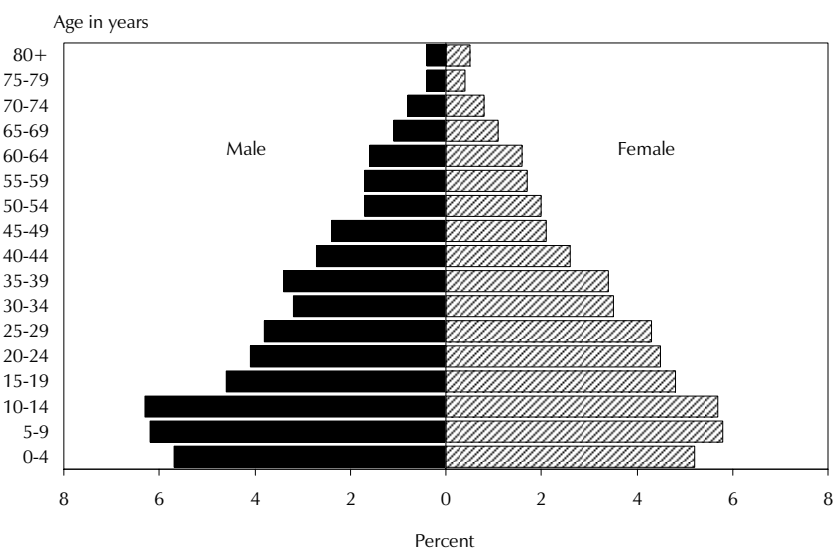
<sup>1</sup> Females per 1,000 males.

in NFHS-3. The sex ratio of the de facto population is 1,000 females per 1,000 males, implying an almost equal number of women and men in the enumerated population. The sex ratio is much higher in rural areas (1,030 females per 1,000 males), than in urban areas (939 females per 1,000 males) which is in keeping with the greater share of males in the rural-urban migration flows.

The sex ratio of the population below six years of age is affected both by the sex ratio at birth and differential mortality by sex after birth. While the sex ratio at birth can be affected by sex-selective abortions targeting the female foetus, deliberate discrimination against the girl child can result in higher mortality rates for girls than for boys. Ever since the preliminary results of the 2001 Indian census were released in April 2001 showing a sex ratio in India of 927 girls per 1,000 boys for the population age 0-6 years, the low and declining proportion of girls in the child population has been a major concern of policy makers, demographers, social scientists, and activists. The NFHS-3 results do not, however, suggest any reversal in the declining number of females relative to males in the child population. Approximately five years after the 2001 census, NFHS-3 finds the sex ratio of the population age 0-6 years (girls per 1,000 boys) to be 918 for India as a whole, lower than what the census found. The under-seven sex ratio in urban areas is the same in NFHS-3 as it is in the 2001 census; however, in rural areas, NFHS-3 finds a sex ratio for the under-seven population of 921, which is lower than the 934 found in the census.

The sex and age distribution of the population is shown in Table 2.1 and in the population pyramid in Figure 2.1. The age structure of the population is typical of a developing country which has experienced declining mortality and fertility, with faster declines in fertility in its more recent history. More than one-third of the population (35 percent) is below 15 years of age and 9 percent is above age 59, with the remaining 56 percent in the 15-59 age group. Children below age 15 comprise a larger proportion of the population in rural areas (37 percent) than in urban areas (30 percent), indicative of higher rural fertility (Table 2.1).

**Figure 2.1 Population Pyramid**



NFHS-3, India, 2005-06

## 2.2 HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Table 2.2 shows the distribution of surveyed households by sex of the head of the household and by the number of usual members of the household, separately for urban and rural areas, and for the country as a whole. Fourteen percent of households are headed by females, up from 10 percent in NFHS-2. The proportion of female-headed households is slightly higher in rural areas (15 percent) than in urban areas (13 percent).

The mean household size is 4.8 persons per household, and it is slightly larger in rural areas (4.9 persons) than in urban areas (4.6 persons). Household size has declined by more than half of one person since NFHS-2, when mean household size was 5.4 persons. The decline in household size is observed in both rural and urban households. NFHS-3 indicates a sizeable proportion of small households as one in every six households in both urban and rural areas has only one or two usual members. Although household size is shrinking, about one-fifth of households are still comprised of seven or more members. Households of seven or more members comprise a larger proportion of rural households (21 percent) than they do of urban households (15 percent).

Three in five households in India are nuclear. Nuclear households are defined in NFHS-3 as households that are comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered), with or without unrelated individuals. The proportion of nuclear households is higher in urban areas (63 percent) than in rural areas (59 percent).

The percent distribution of households by religion and caste/tribe of the head of the household is presented in Table 2.3 for India by residence and for each state. In the vast majority of households in India, the household head is Hindu (82 percent). Thirteen percent of households are Muslim, 3 percent are Christian, 2 percent are Sikh, 1 percent are Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist, less than 1 percent are Jain, and the remainder (less than 1 percent) belong to all of the other religions including Zoroastrian and Doni-polo in Arunachal Pradesh. Households headed by Muslims, Christians, Jains, and Buddhists/Neo-Buddhists comprise a slightly higher proportion of urban than rural households.

Table 2.2 Household composition			
Percent distribution of households by sex of head of household, household size, and household structure, according to residence, India, 2005-06			
Characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>Household headship</b>			
Male	86.8	85.1	85.6
Female	13.2	14.9	14.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Number of usual members</b>			
0	0.1	0.0	0.0
1	5.6	5.0	5.2
2	10.6	11.0	10.9
3	16.1	13.1	14.0
4	23.6	18.9	20.4
5	18.2	18.1	18.1
6	11.1	13.3	12.6
7	5.9	8.2	7.5
8	3.4	5.0	4.5
9+	5.5	7.4	6.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean household size	4.6	4.9	4.8
<b>Household structure<sup>1</sup></b>			
Nuclear	63.0	59.3	60.5
Non-nuclear	37.0	40.7	39.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households	35,579	73,462	109,041

Note: Table is based on de jure members, i.e., usual residents.  
<sup>1</sup> Nuclear households are households comprised of a married couple or a man or a woman living alone or with unmarried children (biological, adopted, or fostered) with or without unrelated individuals.

Table 2.3. Religion and caste/tribe of household head by state  
Percent distribution of households by religion and caste/tribe of the household head, according to residence and state, India, 2005-06

State	Religion of household head										Caste/tribe of household head					
	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	Sikh	Buddhist/ Neo- Buddhist	Jain	Other <sup>1</sup>	Missing	Total	Scheduled caste	Scheduled tribe	Other backward class	Other	Don't know	Missing	Total
<b>India</b>	81.6	12.5	2.7	1.6	0.9	0.3	0.4	0.0	100.0	19.2	8.4	39.6	31.9	0.5	0.3	100.0
Urban	78.2	14.7	3.6	1.4	1.1	0.9	0.1	0.0	100.0	16.2	2.9	37.6	42.6	0.4	0.2	100.0
Rural	83.3	11.5	2.3	1.6	0.8	0.1	0.5	0.0	100.0	20.7	11.1	40.6	26.7	0.5	0.4	100.0
<b>North</b>																
Delhi	85.9	8.6	1.6	3.3	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	100.0	17.3	1.2	14.3	67.2	0.0	0.0	100.0
Haryana	88.3	6.4	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	24.6	0.2	22.9	52.1	0.0	0.1	100.0
Himachal Pradesh	96.4	1.0	0.1	1.0	1.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	100.0	19.8	4.8	13.7	61.5	0.0	0.2	100.0
Jammu & Kashmir	37.7	60.0	0.2	2.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	100.0	12.7	8.7	10.2	68.2	0.0	0.2	100.0
Punjab	43.3	2.6	0.9	52.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	100.0	32.0	0.1	9.5	56.0	0.0	2.4	100.0
Rajasthan	88.3	10.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	18.5	14.3	45.3	21.8	0.0	0.0	100.0
Uttaranchal	87.4	7.1	0.2	4.7	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	20.5	2.8	15.1	61.6	0.0	0.0	100.0
<b>Central</b>																
Chhattisgarh	95.2	2.8	1.2	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	13.5	29.8	45.3	11.4	0.0	0.0	100.0
Madhya Pradesh	90.6	6.7	0.2	0.4	0.7	1.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	17.9	21.4	39.9	20.7	0.0	0.0	100.0
Uttar Pradesh	81.9	17.3	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	25.2	1.0	49.7	24.1	0.0	0.1	100.0
<b>East</b>																
Bihar	82.9	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	18.7	0.4	58.6	22.2	0.0	0.1	100.0
Jharkhand	73.0	13.1	3.6	0.5	0.1	0.0	9.7	0.0	100.0	11.3	27.9	44.7	16.0	0.0	0.1	100.0
Orissa	97.1	1.2	1.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	100.0	19.7	23.2	26.5	29.8	0.0	0.8	100.0
West Bengal	72.7	26.2	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	25.7	5.1	4.4	63.8	0.9	0.1	100.0
<b>Northeast</b>																
Arunachal Pradesh	33.2	2.9	27.2	0.2	9.0	0.0	27.5	0.0	100.0	6.3	62.4	5.4	25.4	0.0	0.5	100.0
Assam	70.2	24.3	4.9	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	13.3	9.6	21.5	49.7	0.0	5.9	100.0
Manipur	53.1	8.9	26.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	11.7	0.0	100.0	6.7	25.6	11.6	56.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Meghalaya	17.1	4.8	66.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	11.8	0.0	100.0	7.0	80.5	3.4	9.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Mizoram	3.1	1.4	92.5	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1.4	95.4	0.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	100.0
Nagaland	11.0	5.9	82.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	100.0	5.2	72.8	13.6	8.4	0.0	0.0	100.0
Sikkim	57.8	1.9	9.7	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	100.0	8.8	36.0	41.4	13.8	0.0	0.0	100.0
Tripura	88.5	8.8	0.4	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	100.0	22.9	17.1	20.5	39.3	0.0	0.2	100.0
<b>West</b>																
Coa	64.5	7.9	27.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	100.0	4.7	4.8	16.6	70.0	3.0	0.8	100.0
Gujarat	90.5	8.8	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	14.7	10.6	38.7	36.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Maharashtra	79.9	10.2	1.2	0.2	7.4	1.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	15.6	10.6	26.3	47.3	0.1	0.1	100.0
<b>South</b>																
Andhra Pradesh	85.0	9.3	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	17.6	6.5	49.4	26.5	0.0	0.1	100.0
Karnataka	85.2	10.3	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.1	100.0	15.2	6.2	57.3	15.2	6.1	0.1	100.0
Kerala	59.5	23.1	17.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	100.0	11.2	2.0	30.7	55.7	0.3	0.1	100.0
Tamil Nadu	89.3	3.9	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	22.2	0.8	74.5	2.4	0.0	0.0	100.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes Jews, Parsis/Zoroastrians, Doni-polo (Arunachal Pradesh), other religions, and those with no religion.

The distribution of households by religion (determined here by the religion of the household head) is similar to the national pattern in most states, with the majority of households belonging to the Hindu religion. Hindus do not comprise the majority in only five states of India. In Jammu and Kashmir, Muslim households are in the majority (60 percent), in Punjab, Sikh households are in the majority (53 percent), and in Mizoram, Nagaland, and Meghalaya, Christian households are in the majority (93, 83, and 66 percent, respectively). The share of Muslim households is about one in four in Kerala, Assam, and West Bengal. Apart from the three northeastern states where Christians constitute a majority, a significant proportion of households are Christian in Kerala (17 percent), Manipur (26 percent), Goa and Arunachal Pradesh (27 percent each). A sizeable proportion of households are Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist in Sikkim (30 percent), Arunachal Pradesh (9 percent), and Maharashtra (7 percent). More than 1 in 10 households from the northeastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Meghalaya belong to the 'other' religion category (28, 12, and 12 percent, respectively).

Nineteen percent of households in India belong to the scheduled castes (as determined by the caste status of the household head), 8 percent belong to the scheduled tribes, and 40 percent belong to other backward classes; the remaining 32 percent do not belong to a scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, or other backward class. Half a percent of households were unable to provide the caste status of the household head. A higher proportion of households in rural than in urban areas belong to the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other backward classes. Forty-three percent of urban households belong to the 'other' caste/tribe category, compared with 27 percent of rural households.

Based on the caste/tribe status of the household head, one-fourth or more of households belong to the scheduled castes in Haryana (25 percent), Uttar Pradesh (25 percent), West Bengal (26 percent), and Punjab (32 percent). The proportion belonging to the scheduled tribes is very high in all northeastern states except Assam and Tripura. Households belonging to the scheduled tribes comprise the majority in Mizoram (95 percent), Meghalaya (81 percent), Nagaland (73 percent), and Arunachal Pradesh (62 percent). More than one-fifth of households belong to scheduled tribes in Sikkim (36 percent), Chhattisgarh (30 percent), Jharkhand (28 percent), Manipur (26 percent), Orissa (23 percent), and Madhya Pradesh (21 percent). One-half or more of households in Uttar Pradesh (50 percent), Karnataka (57 percent), Bihar (59 percent), and Tamil Nadu (75 percent) belong to the other backward classes.

Another aspect of household composition is the coresidence of parents and children. This topic is of particular interest since the separation of children from their parents as a result of the parental death or for any other reason is likely to have a negative influence on children's development. Accordingly, to further the study of the linkages between child development and the absence of parents, NFHS-3 collected data on the living arrangements and orphanhood status of all children below 18 years of age. Table 2.4 presents the percent distribution of de jure children under age 18 by children's living arrangements and the survival status of their biological parents, and the percentage of children with one or both parents dead, according to age of the child, residence, and sex.

Table 2.4 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood

Percent distribution of de jure children under age 18 years by their living arrangements and survival status of their parents, and percentage of children with one or both parents dead, according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06

Background characteristic	Living with both parents	Living with mother but not with father		Living with father but not with mother		Not living with either parent			Total	Percentage with one or both parents dead	Number of children	
		Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only mother alive	Only father alive				Both dead
<b>Age</b>												
<2	88.1	10.8	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	0.7	21,471
2-4	86.2	10.2	1.0	0.2	0.4	1.6	0.0	0.2	0.1	100.0	1.7	34,425
5-9	83.8	8.8	2.1	0.5	1.1	2.9	0.2	0.3	0.2	100.0	3.9	62,351
10-14	81.3	7.4	4.2	0.7	1.7	3.7	0.2	0.4	0.4	100.0	6.9	62,475
15-17	75.3	6.1	6.0	0.9	2.2	8.2	0.4	0.6	0.5	100.0	9.6	29,031
<b>Residence</b>												
Urban	86.6	4.8	2.8	0.7	0.9	3.5	0.1	0.3	0.3	100.0	4.4	57,083
Rural	81.3	9.8	3.0	0.4	1.3	3.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	100.0	5.1	152,669
<b>Sex</b>												
Male	83.4	8.4	2.9	0.5	1.3	2.8	0.2	0.3	0.3	100.0	4.9	108,241
Female	82.0	8.6	2.9	0.5	1.2	4.0	0.2	0.3	0.3	100.0	4.9	101,512
Total age <15	83.9	8.8	2.4	0.4	1.1	2.6	0.1	0.3	0.2	100.0	4.1	180,721
Total age <18	82.7	8.5	2.9	0.5	1.2	3.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	100.0	4.9	209,752

Nationally, 83 percent of children below age 18 years live with both their parents, 11 percent live with their mother but not their father, 2 percent live with their father but not their mother, and the remaining 4 percent live with neither parent. Three-quarters of the children living only with their mother have a father who is still alive but living elsewhere; whereas, for the majority of the small proportion of children living with their father but not with their mother, the mother is not alive. The proportion of children living with both parents declines with children's age, is slightly higher in urban areas (87 percent) than in rural areas (81 percent), and varies little by the sex of the child.

Five percent of children under age 18 have experienced the death of one or both parents. Three percent of children have experienced the death of their father, 2 percent have experienced the death of their mother, and a very small proportion (0.3 percent) have experienced the death of both parents. The proportion of children who have experienced the death of one or both parents increases with age and is 10 percent for children age 15-17. Among children below 15 years of age, the percentage living with both parents is slightly higher, and the extent of orphanhood is slightly lower, compared with children below 18 years of age.

Table 2.5 presents the percent distribution of de jure children under age 18 years by children's living arrangements and the survival status of their biological parents, and the percentage of children with one or both parents dead, by state. At least 70 percent of children under age 18 years live with both their parents in every state. For children not living with both parents, the most common living arrangement in all but six states is living with their mother while their father is living elsewhere. At least one in 10 children live with their mother while their father lives elsewhere in Kerala (22 percent), Bihar (21 percent), Himachal Pradesh (13 percent), Uttar Pradesh (12 percent), Goa and Tamil Nadu (10 percent each). A sizeable proportion of children below age 18 years do not live with either parent even though both parents

Table 2.5 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood by state

Percent distribution of de jure children under age 18 by children's living arrangements and survival status of parents, and percentage of children with one or both parents dead, according to state, India, 2005-06

State	Living with both parents	Living with mother but not with father		Living with father but not with mother		Not living with either parent				Total	Percentage with one or both parents dead
		Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only mother alive	Only father alive	Both dead		
<b>India</b>	82.7	8.5	2.9	0.5	1.2	3.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	100.0	4.9
<b>North</b>											
Delhi	90.0	1.6	2.9	0.5	1.2	3.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	100.0	4.8
Haryana	87.9	4.2	3.5	0.1	0.9	2.7	0.0	0.3	0.3	100.0	5.0
Himachal Pradesh	80.4	13.1	2.1	0.7	0.6	2.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	3.0
Jammu & Kashmir	86.6	5.9	2.4	0.4	1.6	2.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	100.0	4.5
Punjab	87.1	5.2	2.8	0.6	0.9	2.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	100.0	4.3
Rajasthan	85.6	5.9	2.7	0.4	1.1	3.7	0.1	0.3	0.2	100.0	4.4
Uttaranchal	84.0	8.1	3.1	0.6	1.8	1.8	0.1	0.3	0.2	100.0	5.6
<b>Central</b>											
Chhattisgarh	86.6	2.2	3.2	0.6	1.7	4.9	0.3	0.3	0.2	100.0	5.7
Madhya Pradesh	90.3	1.9	2.8	0.4	1.5	2.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	100.0	5.0
Uttar Pradesh	80.3	11.5	2.8	0.4	1.7	2.5	0.1	0.4	0.3	100.0	5.3
<b>East</b>											
Bihar	70.0	21.2	2.8	0.3	1.6	3.4	0.1	0.4	0.2	100.0	5.1
Jharkhand	80.9	8.0	4.1	0.3	1.6	3.8	0.3	0.5	0.6	100.0	7.0
Orissa	82.0	6.8	3.1	0.5	2.2	4.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	100.0	6.4
West Bengal	83.1	7.6	3.0	0.5	0.9	4.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	100.0	4.6
<b>Northeast</b>											
Arunachal Pradesh	77.1	4.2	3.8	1.3	2.1	8.1	1.4	1.0	1.0	100.0	9.4
Assam	82.3	6.4	4.3	0.3	1.3	3.8	0.5	0.5	0.7	100.0	7.2
Manipur	82.7	7.5	3.4	1.1	0.6	4.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	100.0	4.6
Meghalaya	77.4	7.9	5.1	0.8	1.3	5.7	0.1	0.8	0.9	100.0	8.3
Mizoram	78.6	9.0	1.8	3.1	0.9	5.7	0.6	0.2	0.1	100.0	3.6
Nagaland	77.5	5.5	2.7	1.7	1.6	9.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	100.0	5.7
Sikkim	74.5	4.9	2.4	2.6	2.0	11.9	0.7	0.4	0.5	100.0	6.1
Tripura	86.3	4.4	3.1	0.3	1.6	3.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	100.0	5.5
<b>West</b>											
Goa	81.5	9.9	3.5	1.1	0.2	3.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0	3.9
Gujarat	91.0	2.6	1.9	0.7	0.4	3.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	100.0	2.7
Maharashtra	87.6	3.8	2.9	0.7	0.7	3.8	0.2	0.1	0.1	100.0	4.0
<b>South</b>											
Andhra Pradesh	83.9	5.9	2.8	1.3	1.0	4.4	0.2	0.2	0.4	100.0	4.5
Karnataka	84.7	5.4	3.8	0.5	0.7	4.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	100.0	5.3
Kerala	72.8	22.0	1.5	0.7	0.1	2.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	100.0	2.2
Tamil Nadu	81.8	9.5	2.9	0.5	0.9	3.6	0.2	0.3	0.2	100.0	4.5

are alive in Sikkim (12 percent), Nagaland (10 percent), and Arunachal Pradesh (8 percent). The proportion of children who have experienced the death of one or both parents ranges from 2 percent in Kerala to 8 percent in Meghalaya and 9 percent in Arunachal Pradesh.

### 2.3 EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Education is not only one of the most important socioeconomic factors that is known to significantly influence individual behaviour and attitudes, but educational attainment is a fundamental indicator of a country's level of human capital development. Table 2.6 shows the percent distribution of the de facto female and male population age six and over by level of education and the median number of years of schooling, according to age and residence. In order

Table 2.6 Educational attainment of household population

Percent distribution of the de facto female and male household populations age six and over by highest number of years of education completed and median number of years completed, according to age and residence, India, 2005-06, and NFHS-2 and NFHS-1

Background characteristic	Level of education							Total	Median number of years of schooling completed
	No education	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete	Don't know/missing		
<b>FEMALE</b>									
<b>Age</b>									
6-9	24.9	73.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	100.0	0.5
10-14	12.9	33.6	41.2	11.9	0.4	0.0	0.1	100.0	4.2
15-19	20.3	7.4	19.5	24.7	18.3	9.9	0.1	100.0	7.3
20-24	30.4	6.3	16.0	16.3	11.1	19.6	0.2	100.0	6.5
25-29	40.4	7.2	14.2	13.1	9.7	15.2	0.2	100.0	4.4
30-34	48.2	7.7	13.4	10.7	8.0	11.8	0.1	100.0	1.6
35-39	54.7	7.7	12.5	8.8	7.3	8.9	0.1	100.0	0.0
40-44	55.8	8.7	13.0	7.9	6.7	7.7	0.1	100.0	0.0
45-49	59.0	8.6	12.7	6.9	6.2	6.6	0.1	100.0	0.0
50-54	63.2	8.4	11.0	5.2	5.7	6.1	0.4	100.0	0.0
55-59	69.6	8.6	9.4	3.9	4.3	3.8	0.3	100.0	0.0
60-64	78.5	6.3	7.4	2.8	2.6	2.0	0.4	100.0	0.0
65+	81.2	7.1	6.0	1.8	1.8	1.3	0.8	100.0	0.0
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	25.3	15.5	17.4	13.3	11.4	17.1	0.2	100.0	5.5
Rural	48.6	19.3	14.9	8.9	4.6	3.4	0.2	100.0	0.0
Total	41.5	18.1	15.7	10.2	6.7	7.6	0.2	100.0	1.9
NFHS-2 (1998-99)	44.4	20.9	14.8	8.1	6.0	5.6	0.2	100.0	0.6
NFHS-1 (1992-93)	54.7	14.6	12.5	6.6	5.0	4.2	2.4	100.0	0.0
<b>MALE</b>									
<b>Age</b>									
6-9	23.0	75.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	100.0	0.5
10-14	7.7	35.5	44.5	11.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	100.0	4.4
15-19	9.8	7.0	20.0	31.7	21.8	9.7	0.1	100.0	8.1
20-24	12.4	7.0	16.1	21.7	15.4	27.2	0.1	100.0	8.4
25-29	17.3	7.3	15.8	20.5	14.1	24.8	0.2	100.0	8.1
30-34	21.1	8.2	14.7	17.3	14.1	24.4	0.3	100.0	7.8
35-39	26.0	9.9	15.0	15.8	13.5	19.6	0.2	100.0	6.8
40-44	29.7	10.9	14.5	14.2	12.6	17.8	0.2	100.0	5.9
45-49	30.1	10.8	16.8	13.6	12.2	16.3	0.1	100.0	5.3
50-54	29.3	11.3	15.8	12.6	14.2	16.6	0.2	100.0	5.7
55-59	32.3	11.9	15.5	10.9	13.2	15.9	0.3	100.0	4.7
60-64	45.5	12.7	13.6	7.9	10.0	9.7	0.5	100.0	2.1
65+	49.4	15.0	13.5	7.0	7.6	6.8	0.6	100.0	0.1
<b>Residence</b>									
Urban	12.5	15.9	17.4	16.2	14.4	23.5	0.2	100.0	7.6
Rural	26.5	23.4	18.9	14.1	8.7	8.1	0.2	100.0	4.0
Total	21.9	20.9	18.4	14.8	10.6	13.2	0.2	100.0	4.9
NFHS-2 (1998-99)	21.7	24.3	18.6	13.0	10.8	11.2	0.4	100.0	4.5
NFHS-1 (1992-93)	29.2	19.3	17.3	11.6	10.2	9.5	3.0	100.0	4.0

Note: Total includes persons whose age is not known or missing, who are not shown separately.

to observe trends in educational attainment at different points of time, comparative figures from NFHS-1 and NFHS-2 are also provided.

A large proportion of the Indian population continues to have little or no education, and this proportion is much higher for females than males. Among the population age six and over, 42 percent of females and 22 percent of males have never attended school, and 18 percent of females and 21 percent of males have less than 5 years of completed education. Eight percent of females and 13 percent of males have completed 12 or more years of schooling; 7 percent of females and 11 percent of males have completed 10-11 years of schooling. This shows that only



14 percent of females and 24 percent of males six or more years of age have completed 10 or more years of education. The median number of completed years of schooling for women age 6 years or more is 2 years; for men the corresponding figure is 5 years.

Although educational attainment in rural areas is lower than in urban areas for both females and males, the urban-rural differential is greater for females than males. For females, the urban-rural differential in the median years of schooling is 6 years, whereas for males, it is 4 years. Testifying to the spread of education is the fact that among females and males age 10 and above, the proportion having no education declines steadily with decreasing age and the proportion with 10 or more years of schooling among those age 20 years or more increases steadily with declining age. A comparison of NFHS-3 data on education with data from NFHS-2 and NFHS-1, however, reveals a rather slow rate of change for the population as a whole. The proportion with no education in the population age 6 and above among females has declined between NFHS-2 and NFHS-3 by only three percentage points but has not declined at all for males. Also, the proportions of females and males who have completed at least 12 years of education has increased by only 2 percentage points each in the seven years between the two surveys. The pace of change had also been similar between NFHS-1 and NFHS-2.

The percent distribution of females and males by education, according to state is shown in Table 2.7. Among all the states, Kerala ranks first with the lowest proportion of females and males with no education (10 and 5 percent, respectively), followed closely by Mizoram. Delhi ranks first in terms of educational attainment. Twenty-eight percent of females and 32 percent of males in Delhi have completed 12 or more years of education. While males in Delhi also have the highest median number of years of education (9 years) of any state, it is females in Kerala who have the highest median number of years of education (8 years) of any state. Other states with relatively higher educational attainment for both females and males are Manipur, Himachal Pradesh, and Goa, where the median number of years of schooling for females is five or more years and for males is 8 years. At the other extreme, Bihar has the highest proportions of both females (60 percent) and males (35 percent) who have no education. Other states in which at least half of females age six years or more have no education, include Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and Jharkhand. At least one in four males have no education in Nagaland, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya. The lowest level of educational attainment for males is found in Bihar, Meghalaya, and Arunachal Pradesh, where the median number of years of schooling for males is three years or less.

Table 2.7 Educational attainment of household population by state

Percent distribution of the de facto female and male household populations age six and over by highest number of years of education completed and median number of years completed by sex, according to state, India, 2005-06

State	Level of education							Total	Median number of years of schooling completed
	No education	<5 years complete	5-7 years complete	8-9 years complete	10-11 years complete	12 or more years complete	Don't know/missing		
<b>FEMALE</b>									
<b>India</b>	41.5	18.1	15.7	10.2	6.7	7.6	0.2	100.0	1.9
<b>North</b>									
Delhi	22.5	12.2	14.8	10.3	12.1	27.7	0.4	100.0	7.0
Haryana	40.2	13.5	18.5	9.8	9.2	8.7	0.0	100.0	3.0
Himachal Pradesh	26.7	12.7	20.1	11.9	15.4	13.1	0.2	100.0	4.9
Jammu & Kashmir	42.3	14.4	12.0	13.1	8.4	9.6	0.2	100.0	1.8
Punjab	33.0	12.5	18.0	10.7	13.1	12.7	0.1	100.0	4.4
Rajasthan	56.2	17.1	13.0	6.4	2.7	4.5	0.0	100.0	0.0
Uttaranchal	34.9	14.9	16.2	13.2	7.3	13.2	0.3	100.0	4.0
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	46.6	20.7	16.5	8.2	3.4	4.6	0.0	100.0	0.1
Madhya Pradesh	48.0	19.5	15.0	8.5	3.3	5.6	0.0	100.0	0.1
Uttar Pradesh	49.6	17.8	12.8	8.8	4.5	6.4	0.3	100.0	0.0
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	60.3	15.4	10.4	5.8	5.0	2.7	0.3	100.0	0.0
Jharkhand	53.3	19.0	10.4	7.3	4.9	4.7	0.4	100.0	0.0
Orissa	42.2	20.2	16.3	11.3	4.9	4.8	0.3	100.0	1.6
West Bengal	36.0	25.9	16.4	10.8	4.8	6.2	0.0	100.0	2.6
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	44.5	23.1	13.3	9.4	3.3	5.8	0.6	100.0	0.5
Assam	29.5	26.1	14.8	16.6	6.0	6.6	0.3	100.0	3.3
Manipur	29.8	17.5	12.5	17.7	8.6	13.7	0.3	100.0	4.5
Meghalaya	33.7	24.5	15.6	11.7	5.9	8.5	0.1	100.0	2.6
Mizoram	10.5	29.3	23.4	19.5	8.5	8.9	0.0	100.0	5.4
Nagaland	31.5	23.0	18.2	14.8	6.2	6.4	0.0	100.0	3.3
Sikkim	34.6	22.9	17.1	10.8	6.7	8.0	0.0	100.0	2.8
Tripura	24.3	26.9	20.9	16.9	5.7	4.9	0.3	100.0	3.8
<b>West</b>									
Goa	21.5	14.5	15.1	14.0	15.4	19.0	0.5	100.0	6.8
Gujarat	34.2	18.6	20.0	11.2	6.9	8.6	0.4	100.0	3.4
Maharashtra	29.4	19.3	17.5	12.9	9.9	10.8	0.3	100.0	4.2
<b>South</b>									
Andhra Pradesh	45.1	14.9	19.2	7.0	7.8	5.8	0.2	100.0	1.4
Karnataka	37.4	15.3	18.0	10.3	9.6	9.0	0.4	100.0	3.4
Kerala	10.0	19.0	17.9	20.9	15.5	16.5	0.3	100.0	7.5
Tamil Nadu	30.6	14.5	19.3	14.9	9.0	11.6	0.0	100.0	4.5
<b>MALE</b>									
<b>India</b>	21.9	20.9	18.4	14.8	10.6	13.2	0.2	100.0	4.9
<b>North</b>									
Delhi	10.8	12.4	16.1	13.4	15.6	31.5	0.2	100.0	8.5
Haryana	19.0	15.9	21.4	13.3	16.1	14.3	0.0	100.0	6.3
Himachal Pradesh	11.6	13.5	19.1	14.1	22.5	19.2	0.1	100.0	7.7
Jammu & Kashmir	22.0	15.5	15.4	19.7	13.2	13.9	0.1	100.0	6.4
Punjab	20.8	16.1	19.2	13.4	17.2	13.2	0.1	100.0	6.1
Rajasthan	25.2	21.7	20.5	14.6	7.2	10.8	0.0	100.0	4.3
Uttaranchal	14.2	18.1	18.3	18.9	12.1	18.2	0.2	100.0	6.8
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	22.4	26.8	20.8	12.5	6.8	10.6	0.1	100.0	4.1
Madhya Pradesh	26.5	20.6	21.1	13.6	6.4	11.8	0.0	100.0	4.3
Uttar Pradesh	25.6	21.6	16.0	15.9	8.4	12.1	0.3	100.0	4.3
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	35.3	21.1	13.1	10.1	10.0	10.2	0.2	100.0	2.5
Jharkhand	28.2	21.7	15.9	13.8	9.1	11.1	0.2	100.0	4.0
Orissa	22.4	25.0	20.1	15.5	7.2	9.6	0.1	100.0	4.3
West Bengal	22.1	26.8	16.8	14.0	7.9	12.3	0.1	100.0	4.2
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	28.9	25.1	17.1	13.1	5.1	10.0	0.7	100.0	3.3
Assam	16.7	28.4	16.8	18.4	8.6	10.6	0.6	100.0	4.9
Manipur	12.8	19.5	13.4	20.4	11.8	21.6	0.6	100.0	7.5
Meghalaya	31.6	25.3	14.3	12.3	6.4	10.0	0.1	100.0	2.8
Mizoram	6.8	26.4	24.7	20.3	9.3	12.5	0.0	100.0	6.1
Nagaland	25.0	22.9	18.9	15.3	8.1	9.8	0.0	100.0	4.3
Sikkim	21.5	25.7	19.4	12.9	7.8	12.7	0.0	100.0	4.3
Tripura	15.5	27.9	19.9	19.0	8.0	9.1	0.6	100.0	4.7
<b>West</b>									
Goa	10.8	15.9	16.3	16.3	19.2	21.2	0.4	100.0	8.0
Gujarat	16.1	20.9	21.0	17.3	11.9	12.3	0.5	100.0	6.0
Maharashtra	12.1	20.6	17.8	17.5	14.3	17.4	0.2	100.0	6.9
<b>South</b>									
Andhra Pradesh	27.0	18.7	20.4	9.0	12.1	12.6	0.2	100.0	4.4
Karnataka	21.6	17.8	19.5	13.2	12.3	15.3	0.3	100.0	5.8
Kerala	4.9	18.4	19.0	24.5	16.1	16.7	0.3	100.0	8.0
Tamil Nadu	14.6	16.0	23.7	16.9	13.1	15.6	0.0	100.0	6.3

Information on school attendance any time during the school year 2005-06 was collected for the household population age 5-18 years. The net attendance ratios (NAR) and gross attendance ratios (GAR) for the de facto household population are shown in Table 2.8 by sex and residence for the primary and middle, secondary, and higher secondary school levels. The NAR indicates participation in primary schooling for the population age 6-10 years and middle, secondary or higher secondary schooling for the population age 11-17 years. The GAR measures participation at each level of schooling among those of any age. The GAR is nearly always higher than the NAR for the same level of schooling because the GAR includes participation by those who may be older or younger than the official age range for that level<sup>1</sup>. A NAR of 100 percent would indicate that all those in the official age range for the level are attending at that level. The GAR can exceed 100 percent if there is significant overage or underage participation at a given level of schooling.

Table 2.8 School attendance ratios								
Net attendance ratios (NAR), gross attendance ratios (GAR), and Gender Parity Index (GPI) for the de facto household population by level of schooling and sex, according to residence, India, 2005-06								
Residence	Net attendance ratio <sup>1</sup>			Gender Parity Index <sup>3</sup>	Gross attendance ratio <sup>2</sup>			Gender Parity Index <sup>3</sup>
	Male	Female	Total		Male	Female	Total	
PRIMARY SCHOOL								
Urban	73.9	73.7	73.8	1.00	82.9	80.7	81.9	0.97
Rural	72.9	69.4	71.2	0.95	85.6	81.2	83.5	0.95
Total	73.2	70.5	71.9	0.96	84.9	81.1	83.1	0.95
MIDDLE, SECONDARY, AND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL								
Urban	61.4	59.5	60.5	0.97	71.5	70.1	70.8	0.98
Rural	54.7	40.1	47.2	0.73	64.8	47.7	56.0	0.74
Total	56.8	45.6	51.2	0.80	66.9	54.1	60.5	0.81

Note: In this table, children's age refers to their age at the start of the 2005-06 school year (assumed here to be April 2005).

<sup>1</sup> The NAR for primary school (standards 1-5) is the percentage of the primary-school age population (6-10 years) that is attending primary school. The NAR for middle, secondary, and higher secondary school (standards 6-12) is the percentage of the population in the appropriate age group for those school levels (11-17 years) that is attending those school levels. By definition the NAR cannot exceed 100.0 percent.

<sup>2</sup> The GAR for primary school (standards 1-5) is the total number of primary school students, expressed as a percentage of the official primary-school-age population (6-10 years). The GAR for middle, secondary, and higher secondary school (standards 6-12) is the total number of students in those school levels, expressed as a percentage of the official population that is the appropriate age to be attending those school levels. If there are significant numbers of overage and underage students at a given level of schooling, the GAR can exceed 100.0.

<sup>3</sup> The Gender Parity Index for primary school is the ratio of the primary school NAR (GAR) for females to the NAR (GAR) for males. The Gender Parity Index for middle, secondary, and higher secondary school is the ratio of the NAR (GAR) for females to the NAR (GAR) for males at those levels of school.

Only 72 percent of children who should have been attending primary school (children age 6-10 years) did attend primary school (standards 1-5) during the 2005-06 school year and 51 percent of middle, secondary, or higher secondary-school-age children (children age 11-17) who should have been attending this level of schooling (standards 6-12) attended this level during the 2005-06 school year. Overall, 43 percent of boys age 11-17 did not attend middle, secondary, or higher secondary school as they should have in 2005-06, and among girls, this proportion is even higher at 54 percent. At the primary level, the rural and urban NARs are similar for boys, but for girls the urban NAR is somewhat higher. The rural-urban differential in the NAR is much greater at the higher level of schooling. Sixty-one percent of boys and 60 percent of girls age 11-17 are

<sup>1</sup> Students who are overage for a given level of schooling may have started school overage, may have repeated one or more grades in school, or may have dropped out of school and later returned.

attending middle, secondary, and higher secondary school in urban areas, compared with 55 percent of boys and 40 percent of girls in rural areas. These data indicate that a significant proportion of children in India are not attending standards appropriate for their age, and the situation is worse at schooling levels beyond primary and in rural than in urban areas.

The gross attendance ratios (GAR) for primary school and for middle, secondary, or higher secondary school are 83 and 61, respectively. The GAR at the primary-school level in rural areas is higher than that in the urban areas by 2 percentage points overall, indicating that there is greater underage and/or overage primary school attendance in rural than in urban areas. However, at higher levels of schooling, GARs in rural areas are much lower than in urban areas, especially for girls. At both the primary-school level and the middle, secondary, and higher secondary school level, the NAR and GAR Gender Parity Index (GPI) is 1 or almost 1 in urban areas; however, in rural areas the index is somewhat below 1 for primary school and far below 1 for the higher level of schooling. This suggests that although there is relative gender equality in age-appropriate access to education in urban areas; in rural areas, girls' access to age-appropriate education is much less than that of boys, particularly at schooling levels beyond the primary.

The school attendance rate for the de facto population age 6-17 years is shown in Table 2.9 for each state, by sex and residence. School attendance rates indicate participation in schooling at any level, from primary through higher levels of education. Less than three in four children in India age 6-17 years are attending school (Figure 2.2). The school attendance rate for boys is about the same in urban and rural areas, and in urban areas, school attendance rates of girls and boys are about the same. In rural areas, however, the school attendance rate for girls is lower than that of boys by 12 percentage points, and among girls, school attendance is lower in rural than in urban areas by 13 percentage points. School attendance rates for both boys and girls in urban and rural areas decrease as age increases. At age 15-17, 49 percent of boys and 34 percent of girls were attending school.

With the exception of a few outliers, states do not differ much in terms of children's school attendance rates. In every state except Bihar, more than three-fifths of children age 6-17 are attending school. School attendance for children varies from 90 percent in Kerala, 89 percent in Himachal Pradesh, and 85 percent in Tamil Nadu to 56 percent in Bihar and 64 percent in Jharkhand. In most states, school attendance rates are higher in urban areas than in rural areas. The only exceptions are Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, and Sikkim. School attendance rates are lower among girls than among boys in all states except Delhi, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Kerala. Notably, however, in urban areas, school attendance rates are higher among girls than among boys in about half (13) of the states.

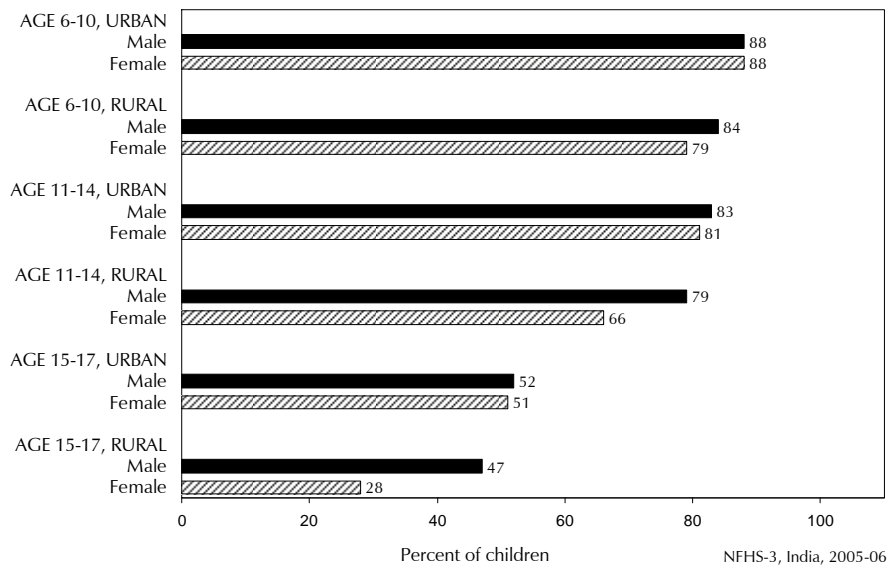
**Table 2.9 School attendance by state**

Percentage of de facto household population age 6-17 years attending school in the 2005-06 school year by sex, residence, age, and state, India, 2005-06

Age/state	Male			Female			Total		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>									
<b>Age</b>									
6-10 years	87.6	83.6	84.6	88.3	78.5	81.0	87.9	81.1	82.9
11-14 years	82.8	78.6	79.9	80.8	66.4	70.4	81.9	72.6	75.3
15-17 years	52.1	47.1	48.8	50.5	27.7	34.4	51.3	36.7	41.3
6-14 years	85.4	81.5	82.6	84.9	73.4	76.4	85.2	77.5	79.6
6-17 years	77.1	74.7	75.4	76.1	62.9	66.4	76.6	68.8	71.0
<b>North</b>									
Delhi	78.0	77.0	77.9	81.8	80.1	81.6	79.7	78.4	79.5
Haryana	77.3	79.0	78.5	79.8	69.5	72.0	78.4	74.5	75.5
Himachal Pradesh	86.8	90.9	90.5	89.9	87.8	88.0	88.1	89.3	89.2
Jammu & Kashmir	83.2	81.3	81.7	84.1	72.3	74.9	83.6	76.8	78.4
Punjab	75.0	78.2	77.1	79.3	73.1	75.1	76.8	75.9	76.2
Rajasthan	79.6	76.5	77.2	70.6	53.2	57.2	75.4	65.2	67.6
Uttaranchal	78.5	87.9	85.5	78.8	78.2	78.4	78.6	83.2	82.0
<b>Central</b>									
Chhattisgarh	83.9	74.7	76.6	85.1	61.7	66.6	84.5	68.1	71.5
Madhya Pradesh	73.9	73.3	73.4	76.0	64.8	67.4	74.9	69.1	70.5
Uttar Pradesh	69.4	75.6	74.2	70.4	62.4	64.2	69.9	69.1	69.3
<b>East</b>									
Bihar	68.0	64.3	65.0	66.3	45.8	48.7	67.2	54.4	56.4
Jharkhand	77.2	69.2	71.2	73.6	51.6	56.5	75.5	60.1	63.8
Orissa	75.4	69.5	70.5	74.6	57.2	60.0	75.0	63.3	65.2
West Bengal	74.1	68.7	70.1	73.3	67.4	68.7	73.8	68.0	69.4
<b>Northeast</b>									
Arunachal Pradesh	72.5	72.1	72.2	66.4	63.9	64.5	69.4	68.2	68.5
Assam	78.7	76.9	77.2	78.6	74.0	74.7	78.6	75.5	75.9
Manipur	86.9	79.2	81.4	84.1	74.2	77.0	85.5	76.7	79.2
Meghalaya	83.9	57.4	63.1	87.1	62.4	68.0	85.5	59.8	65.5
Mizoram	88.2	76.7	82.5	84.1	74.9	79.4	86.3	75.8	81.1
Nagaland	76.8	67.5	70.1	79.2	71.8	73.8	78.0	69.7	72.0
Sikkim	78.3	74.1	74.7	71.8	77.3	76.3	75.0	75.6	75.5
Tripura	82.1	78.0	78.5	83.2	77.2	78.0	82.7	77.6	78.3
<b>West</b>									
Goa	87.3	85.7	86.6	82.8	82.9	82.8	85.1	84.3	84.8
Gujarat	76.3	74.3	75.2	70.9	62.8	65.8	73.9	68.7	70.8
Maharashtra	83.4	78.2	80.7	80.9	69.6	74.7	82.2	73.9	77.8
<b>South</b>									
Andhra Pradesh	76.7	76.8	76.7	73.3	62.6	66.1	74.9	69.6	71.3
Karnataka	78.6	76.1	77.0	77.8	65.3	69.7	78.2	70.5	73.3
Kerala	90.0	88.5	89.0	90.1	90.6	90.4	90.1	89.5	89.7
Tamil Nadu	86.2	88.6	87.5	86.1	79.9	82.5	86.1	84.3	85.1

Note: In this table, children's age refers to their age at the start of the 2005-06 school year (assumed here to be April 2005).

**Figure 2.2 School Attendance by Age, Sex and Residence**



The main reason for not attending school was sought for all children age 6-17 years who were not attending school during the 2005-06 school year. Table 2.10 gives the percent distribution of de facto children age 6-17 years who have dropped out of school at some time before the 2005-06 school year by the main reason for not attending school during 2005-06, according to sex and residence. The survey reveals that the most common reason for school drop out is ‘not interested in studies’. This reason is given for 36 percent of boys and 21 percent of girls age 6-17 years for dropping out of school. The next most commonly reported reason for dropout is ‘costs too much’ for both boys and girls, followed by ‘required for outside work for payment in cash or kind’ for boys and ‘required for household work’ for girls. Other reasons given relatively often include ‘repeated failure’ for both boys and girls and ‘required for work on family farm/family business’ for boys. For 7 percent of boys who have dropped out of school, the main reason is ‘required for household work’ suggesting that the demands of work at home is a reason not only for school drop out among girls (15 percent), but also for almost one out of 10 boys. For 6 percent of girls in rural areas and 2 percent of girls in urban areas who dropped out of school, marriage is the main reason given for having dropped out.

Table 2.10 Reasons for children dropping out of school

Percent distribution of de facto children age 6-17 years who dropped out of school before the 2005-06 school year by the main reason for not attending school in that school year, according to residence and sex, India, 2005-06

Main reason	Urban		Rural		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
School too far away	0.6	2.1	1.4	7.0	1.1	5.8
Transport not available	0.0	0.2	0.4	1.9	0.3	1.5
Further education not considered necessary	3.7	5.4	2.5	3.8	2.9	4.2
Required for household work	6.5	15.6	7.2	15.0	7.0	15.2
Required for work on farm/family business	6.0	2.1	7.7	3.4	7.2	3.1
Required for outside work for payment in cash or kind	10.8	5.6	7.9	2.6	8.8	3.3
Costs too much	16.7	21.2	18.4	17.4	17.9	18.3
No proper school facilities for girls	0.2	0.6	0.3	2.3	0.2	1.9
Not safe to send girls	0.0	1.6	0.2	2.9	0.1	2.6
No female teacher	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3
Required for care of siblings	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.7
Not interested in studies	37.7	22.6	35.3	20.5	36.0	21.0
Repeated failures	7.0	6.6	5.5	5.5	5.9	5.8
Got married	0.0	2.4	0.2	5.8	0.1	4.9
Did not get admission	1.8	2.9	3.2	2.8	2.8	2.8
Other	5.7	6.9	5.6	4.8	5.6	5.3
Don't know/missing	3.0	3.4	4.0	3.3	3.7	3.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of children	2,110	1,929	4,745	5,968	6,855	7,897

## 2.4 HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

Access to basic amenities, such as proper housing, safe drinking water and sanitation, and clean cooking fuel, is not only an important measure of the socioeconomic status of the household but is also fundamental to the health of its members. NFHS-3 provides information on several household characteristics that affect living conditions. In this section, household access to water and sanitation facilities is discussed first, followed by a discussion of other household characteristics including type of housing and fuel used for cooking. Information on household characteristics is based on questions answered by the respondents of the Household Questionnaire and, in the case of the type of housing, interviewer observations.

Respondents to the Household Questionnaire were asked for the main source of drinking water for the household. Table 2.11 presents the percent distribution of households by source of household drinking water, time to obtain drinking water, person who usually collects the drinking water (for households that do not have water on the premises), and the treatment of drinking water to make it potable by residence. Also included in the table is the percent distribution of the de jure population by each of these household characteristics.

Most households in India (88 percent) have access to an improved source of drinking water, with access in urban areas being higher than in rural areas (95 percent and 85 percent, respectively). An improved source of drinking water includes, in addition to water piped into the dwelling, yard or plot, water available from a public tap or standpipe, a tube well or borehole, a protected dug well, a protected spring, and rainwater. Additionally, households that drink bottled water are defined as having an improved source of water only if the source of water they use for cooking and/or hand washing is from an improved source. The most common improved source

Table 2.11 Household drinking water

Percent distribution of urban, rural, and total households and de jure population by source, time to collect, and person who usually collects drinking water, and the percentage of urban, rural, and total households and de jure population by treatment of drinking water, India, 2005-06

Drinking water characteristics	Urban	Rural	Total	De jure population
<b>Source of drinking water</b>				
Improved source	95.0	84.5	87.9	87.6
Piped water into dwelling/yard/plot	50.7	11.8	24.5	23.5
Public tap/standpipe	20.3	16.1	17.5	15.3
Tube well or borehole	21.3	53.2	42.8	45.8
Protected dug well	1.8	2.8	2.5	2.4
Protected spring	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
Rainwater	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1
Bottled water, improved source for cooking, handwashing <sup>1</sup>	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.3
Non-improved source	4.8	15.4	11.9	12.2
Unprotected dug well	2.9	12.4	9.3	9.6
Unprotected spring	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.6
Tanker truck/cart with small tank	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.5
Surface water	0.8	1.8	1.5	1.5
Bottled water, non-improved source for cooking, handwashing <sup>1</sup>	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other source	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Time to obtain drinking water (round trip)</b>				
Water on premises	70.5	42.1	51.3	52.9
Less than 30 minutes	22.4	43.3	36.5	34.7
Thirty minutes or longer	6.9	14.4	11.9	12.1
Don't know/missing	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Person who usually collects drinking water<sup>2</sup></b>				
Adult female 15+	74.2	82.7	81.0	81.8
Adult male 15+	20.3	10.7	12.6	10.8
Female child under age 15	3.3	4.7	4.4	5.5
Male child under age 15	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.3
Other	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3
Missing	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Water treatment prior to drinking<sup>3</sup></b>				
Boil	16.0	7.7	10.4	9.4
Use alum	2.1	0.9	1.3	1.3
Add bleach/chlorine	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.3
Strain through cloth	19.1	15.4	16.6	16.8
Use ceramic, sand or other water filter	13.4	3.3	6.6	6.0
Use electronic purifier	3.4	0.1	1.2	1.1
Allow water to stand and settle	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.6
Other	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4
No treatment	51.0	72.7	65.6	66.8
Number	35,579	73,462	109,041	522,027

<sup>1</sup> Because the quality of bottled water is not known, households using bottled water are classified according to the source of water used for cooking and handwashing.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes those who have source of water on premises.

<sup>3</sup> Total percentages may add to more than 100.0 because multiple answers are allowed.

of drinking water for urban dwellers is piped water: 51 percent of households use water that is piped into their living area and 20 percent use a public tap. On the other hand, only 28 percent of households in rural areas have access to piped water. Most people in rural areas obtain their drinking water from a tube well or borehole (53 percent); however, one in eight rural households get their drinking water from unprotected wells or springs.

In NFHS-3, households that did not have access to water on their residential premises, were asked for the typical time it takes to go to the water source, get water, and return with the water, and for the person who usually goes to collect the water. Half the households in India reported having drinking water on their premises, 37 percent of households do not have water on



their premises and it takes less than 30 minutes for a round trip to fetch drinking water and for the remaining 12 percent who also do not have water on their premises, one round-trip to fetch water takes more than half an hour. Urban households are more likely to have a source of drinking water on their premises (71 percent) than are rural households (42 percent). In rural areas, for one in seven households, each round trip to collect water takes at least half an hour. In 81 percent of households that do not have a source of drinking water on the premises, it is an adult female who usually collects the water. Female children under age 15 are more than four times as likely as male children the same age to go to fetch drinking water.

In NFHS-3, all households were asked whether they treat their drinking water prior to drinking it. A majority of households (66 percent) do not treat drinking water. Urban households are somewhat more likely than rural households to treat drinking water. Straining water through a cloth (17 percent) and boiling (10 percent) are the most commonly used methods.

Table 2.11 also shows that 88 percent of the population of the country has access to an improved water source, 53 percent lives in households with water on the premises, and 67 percent do not treat their drinking water to improve its potability.

Table 2.12 gives the percent distribution of households and the de jure population by type of toilet facilities. A majority of households (55 percent) and a similar majority of the population (56 percent) in India have no toilet facility. The proportion of households without any toilet facility is much greater in rural areas (74 percent) than in urban areas (17 percent). Overall, 29 percent of households have toilet facilities that are improved and not shared with any other household. Improved toilet facilities include toilet facilities with a flush or a pour flush that is connected to a sewer system, septic tank or pit latrine, a ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine, a biogas latrine, a pit latrine with slab, and a twin pit, composting toilet. If a household has any of these types of toilet facilities but shares them with other households, the household is considered not to have an improved toilet facility. Urban households are three times as likely as rural households to have access to improved toilet facilities (53 and 18 percent, respectively). The most commonly used improved facility in both urban and rural areas is a system that flushes or pours to a septic tank.

Type of toilet/latrine facility	Urban	Rural	Total	De jure population
<b>Improved, not shared</b>	52.8	17.6	29.1	29.4
Flush/pour flush to piped sewer system	18.8	0.6	6.6	6.5
Flush/pour flush to septic tank	27.6	10.6	16.1	16.3
Flush/pour flush to pit latrine	4.7	4.1	4.3	4.4
Ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrine/biogas latrine	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Pit latrine with slab	1.4	2.2	1.9	2.0
Twin pit, composting toilet	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Not improved</b>	46.7	82.2	70.6	70.3
Any facility shared with other households	24.2	5.3	11.5	10.2
Flush/pour flush not to sewer/septic tank/pit latrine	4.4	0.2	1.6	1.4
Pit latrine without slab/open pit	0.7	2.2	1.7	1.8
Dry toilet	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.7
No facility/open space/field	16.8	74.0	55.3	56.2
Other	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2
Missing	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	35,579	73,462	109,041	522,027

Information on housing characteristics such as availability of electricity, type of house, number of rooms for sleeping, type of fuel used for cooking, place for cooking and type of cooking facility among households using biomass are shown in Table 2.13. Two-thirds of households (68 percent) in India have electricity, up from 60 percent in NFHS-2. However, the proportion of households with electricity varies widely by place of residence. Ninety-three percent of households in urban areas have access to electricity, compared with 56 percent of rural households. Overall, 14 percent of households live in *kachha* houses, 40 percent live in semi-*pucca* houses, and the remaining 46 percent live in *pucca* houses. A large majority of urban households live in *pucca* houses (81 percent), whereas the majority of rural households live in semi-*pucca* houses (52 percent). Note that houses made from mud, thatch, or other low-quality materials are called *kachha* houses, houses that use partly low-quality and partly high-quality materials are called semi-*pucca* houses, and houses made with high quality materials throughout, including the floor, roof, and exterior walls, are called *pucca* houses.

To assess levels of residential crowding, data were collected on the number of rooms that are used for sleeping, and Table 2.13 presents the percent distribution of households and population by the number of usual members per sleeping room. Forty-four percent of households have little or no crowding with only 0-2 persons per sleeping room; notably, however, only a third of the population lives in such households. In 34 percent of households, three to four persons share a single room for sleeping. Although households with five or more persons per one sleeping room account for one in five households, almost one-third of the population (29 percent) lives in such households. Residential crowding is only marginally higher in rural households than in urban households.

Housing characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total	De jure population
<b>Electricity</b>				
Yes	93.1	55.7	67.9	67.2
No	6.9	44.3	32.1	32.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Type of house<sup>1</sup></b>				
<i>Kachha</i>	2.5	19.1	13.7	13.4
Semi- <i>pucca</i>	15.8	51.6	39.9	41.6
<i>Pucca</i>	81.2	28.8	45.9	44.5
Missing	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Persons per room used for sleeping</b>				
<3	47.3	41.9	43.7	34.1
3-4	34.3	34.5	34.4	36.7
5-6	14.2	17.1	16.2	19.7
7+	4.0	6.4	5.6	9.4
Missing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Cooking fuel</b>				
Electricity	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.4
LPG/natural gas	58.7	8.2	24.7	22.9
Biogas	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Kerosene	8.2	0.8	3.2	2.6
Coal/lignite	4.3	0.8	1.9	1.9
Charcoal	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4
Wood	22.0	61.7	48.7	49.3
Straw/shrubs/grass	0.5	7.6	5.3	5.4
Agricultural crop waste	0.8	5.4	3.9	4.0
Dung cakes	2.8	14.4	10.6	12.6
Other	0.8	0.2	0.4	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Continued...

Table 2.13 Housing characteristics—*Continued*

Housing characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total	De jure population
<b>Place for cooking</b>				
In the house, separate room	58.9	34.1	42.2	43.0
In the house, no separate room	27.2	33.9	31.7	30.7
In a separate building	4.3	9.9	8.1	8.5
Outdoors	8.7	21.8	17.5	17.5
Other	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.1
Missing	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	35,579	73,462	109,041	522,027
<b>Type of fire/stove among households using solid fuels<sup>2</sup></b>				
Stove with chimney	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Open fire/ <i>chullah</i> under a chimney	9.0	8.2	8.3	8.5
Stove without chimney	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2
Open fire/ <i>chullah</i> not under a chimney	89.6	90.8	90.7	90.5
Other	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number using solid fuel	10,986	66,251	77,236	383,715

<sup>1</sup> Houses made from mud, thatch, or other low-quality materials are called *kachha* houses, houses that use partly low-quality and partly high-quality materials are called *semi-pucca* houses, and houses made with high quality materials throughout, including the floor, roof, and exterior walls, are called *pucca* houses.

<sup>2</sup> Includes coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crop waste, and dung cakes.

Smoke from solid cooking fuels is a serious health hazard. Solid cooking fuels include coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw, shrubs, grass, agricultural crop waste and dung cakes. To study the potential for exposure to cooking smoke from solid fuels, NFHS-3 collected information on the type of fuel used for cooking, the place that the cooking is done, and whether cooking is done under a chimney or not. Forty-nine percent of households in India cook with wood and 25 percent cook with LPG/natural gas (Table 2.13). These percentages, however, mask the vast difference in the types of cooking fuel used in rural and urban areas. In rural areas, cooking is largely done with solid fuels. Sixty-two percent of households in rural areas use wood for cooking, 14 percent cook with dung cakes, and 13 percent use straw, shrubs, grass, and agricultural crop waste. Although the majority of urban households (59 percent) cook with LPG/natural gas, it is notable that even in urban areas, 22 percent of households use wood as their cooking fuel. Additionally, 8 percent of urban households cook with kerosene.

Overall, these data show that the vast majority of rural households (90 percent) and one-third of urban households (31 percent) use solid fuels for cooking that generate smoke and unhealthy conditions when inhaled. Additionally, 74 percent of households cook their meals in the house; the remaining quarter cook outside the house or in a separate building. About one-third of households (32 percent) cook inside the house, without having a separate room for cooking. In both urban and rural areas, 9 in 10 households that use solid fuels, cook on an open fire, without diverting the smoke through a chimney.

## 2.5 HOUSEHOLD POSSESSIONS

In order to further assess the living standard of the population, NFHS-3 collected information on household ownership of 19 different types of durable goods and four different means of transportation, possession of a bank account, and coverage by a health scheme. Households were also asked if they had a Below Poverty Line (BPL) card which is issued by the

government and identifies households below the official poverty line. Information was also sought on whether households have a mosquito net that can be used for sleeping. This information is presented for households and the de jure population in Table 2.14.

Of the items asked about, only a few are owned by a majority of households: a cot/bed (83 percent), a watch/clock (78 percent), a mattress (57 percent), a chair (54 percent), and an electric fan (54 percent). Various forms of media or communication are still owned by a minority of the population. Forty-four percent of households have a television, 31 percent have a radio or a transistor, 17 percent have a mobile telephone, and 14 percent have any other (non-mobile) telephone. Computers are owned by 3 percent of all households, but 8 percent of urban households. In general, households in rural India are much less likely to possess consumer items such as televisions, telephones, or refrigerators. A small proportion of both rural and urban households possess a water pump (10 percent). A thresher and tractor are each owned by 2 percent of rural households. One percent of urban households and 4 percent of rural households do not possess any of the 19 sets of items asked about in the survey.

Household possessions	Urban	Rural	Total	De jure population
<b>Household goods</b>				
Mattress	75.4	48.7	57.4	59.4
Pressure cooker	69.9	22.1	37.7	38.6
Chair	76.1	43.8	54.3	55.4
Cot or bed	86.3	81.2	82.9	85.0
Table	65.0	32.9	43.4	44.6
Electric fan	84.7	38.6	53.7	54.0
Radio or transistor	38.9	27.0	30.9	32.4
Television (black and white)	25.6	18.7	21.0	22.8
Television (colour)	51.5	12.5	25.2	25.6
Any television	73.2	30.1	44.2	45.9
Sewing machine	30.9	12.6	18.6	21.2
Mobile telephone	36.3	7.4	16.8	17.6
Any other type of telephone	26.7	8.0	14.1	14.6
Computer	8.0	0.6	3.0	2.8
Refrigerator	33.5	6.6	15.3	15.7
Watch or clock	91.0	71.4	77.8	80.5
Water pump	11.0	9.9	10.2	11.7
Thresher	0.4	2.2	1.6	2.4
Tractor	0.5	2.3	1.7	2.6
None of the above	1.2	4.4	3.4	2.5
<b>Means of transport</b>				
Bicycle	50.1	51.6	51.1	56.5
Motorcycle or scooter	30.5	10.8	17.2	19.0
Animal-drawn cart	1.0	7.4	5.3	6.7
Car	6.1	1.0	2.7	2.8
None of the above	36.4	43.0	40.9	35.6
Percentage having a bank account/post office account <sup>1</sup>	56.6	32.3	40.2	42.0
Percentage covered by a health scheme/health insurance <sup>1</sup>	10.4	2.2	4.9	4.7
Percentage owning a BPL card	15.8	32.9	27.3	27.5
Percentage with a mosquito net that can be used for sleeping	32.2	37.1	35.5	37.3
Number	35,579	73,462	109,041	522,027

<sup>1</sup> Any usual household member.  
BPL = Below poverty line

Bicycles continue to be the most commonly owned means of transport, owned by 50 percent of urban and 52 percent of rural households. About one-third of urban households own a motorcycle or a scooter, and 6 percent own a car. By contrast, 11 percent of rural households own a motorcycle or a scooter, 7 percent own an animal driven cart, and only 1 percent owns a car. Thirty-six percent of urban households and 43 percent of rural households do not possess any of the four means of transportation asked about in the survey.

Nationally, two in five households have a bank account or an account with the post office. The proportion of households with a bank or post-office account is 57 percent in urban areas and 32 percent in rural areas. Only a small proportion of households (5 percent) are

covered under any health scheme or insurance. The proportion of urban households covered under a health scheme or insurance is 10 percent, compared with only 2 percent of rural households.

About one-fourth (27 percent) of households in India have a BPL card. In rural areas, the proportion of households having a BPL card (33 percent) is about double that in urban areas (16 percent). Thirty-six percent of households in India have a mosquito net that can be used while sleeping and mosquito-net ownership is somewhat higher in rural than in urban areas.

Table 2.15 presents information by residence on ownership of agricultural land (irrigated and non-irrigated), a house, and farm animals. Farm animals asked about were cows, bulls, buffaloes, camels, horses, donkeys, mules, goats, sheep, chickens, and ducks. Most households in India do not own any agricultural land (54 percent); although this proportion is much higher for urban households (81 percent) than for rural households (42 percent). Among rural households, 30 percent own only irrigated agricultural land, 20 percent own only non-irrigated agricultural land, and 9 percent own both irrigated and non-irrigated land. Most households that own land have parcels of land that are of five or less acres.

The vast majority of households, 88 percent, own a house, and this proportion is higher in rural areas (93 percent) than in urban areas (78 percent). Two-thirds of rural households own a farm animal, compared with only 15 percent of urban households. Overall, about half of all households own a farm animal.

Table 2.15 Household ownership of agricultural land, house, and farm animals				
Percent distribution of urban, rural, and total households and de jure population owning agricultural land and percentage owning a house and farm animals, India, 2005-06				
Asset	Urban	Rural	Total	De jure population
No agricultural land	81.0	41.5	54.4	50.6
<b>Irrigated land only</b>				
<1 acre	2.9	11.2	8.5	9.1
1-5 acres	5.6	15.1	12.0	13.3
6+ acres	1.9	3.2	2.8	3.5
<b>Non-irrigated land only</b>				
<1 acre	1.2	5.4	4.1	4.0
1-5 acres	3.7	12.3	9.5	9.6
6+ acres	1.0	2.3	1.9	2.1
<b>Both irrigated and non-irrigated land</b>				
<1 acre	0.2	0.9	0.7	0.7
1-5 acres	1.1	5.0	3.7	4.0
6+ acres	0.9	2.7	2.1	2.6
Missing	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percentage owning a house	78.2	93.2	88.3	89.9
Percentage owning farm animals <sup>1</sup>	15.1	65.1	48.8	55.0
Number	35,579	73,462	109,041	522,027

<sup>1</sup> Cows, bulls, buffaloes, camels, horses, donkeys, mules, goats, sheep, chickens, or ducks.

Table 2.16 reveals the substantial variation across states in basic housing characteristics. While more than 95 percent of households have electricity in four states (Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Goa, and Punjab), there are five states where fewer than half the households have electricity: Orissa (45 percent), Uttar Pradesh (43 percent), Jharkhand (40 percent), Assam (38 percent), and Bihar (28 percent). While household access to improved sources of drinking water exceeds 95 percent in three states (Punjab, Haryana, and Bihar), there are four states in which more than one-third of households obtain drinking water from an unimproved source (Manipur, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, and Nagaland). The proportion of households with access to a toilet facility ranges from 25 percent or less in four states: (Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, and Bihar) to over 95 percent in Manipur, Kerala, Tripura, and Mizoram.

State	Percentage of households:					Mean number of persons per room used for sleeping
	With electricity	With improved source of drinking water <sup>1</sup>	With toilet facility	Using solid fuel for cooking <sup>2</sup>	Living in a pucca house	
<b>India</b>	67.9	87.9	44.6	70.8	45.9	3.3
<b>North</b>						
Delhi	99.3	92.1	92.4	9.3	94.9	3.1
Haryana	91.5	95.6	52.4	69.1	61.1	3.3
Himachal Pradesh	98.4	88.4	46.4	68.9	52.7	2.5
Jammu & Kashmir	93.2	80.8	61.7	59.5	50.3	2.9
Punjab	96.3	99.5	70.8	54.9	68.9	3.1
Rajasthan	66.1	81.8	30.8	77.2	50.1	3.6
Uttaranchal	80.0	87.4	56.8	61.7	49.8	3.0
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	71.4	77.9	18.7	86.7	21.7	3.0
Madhya Pradesh	71.4	74.2	27.0	80.3	26.2	3.6
Uttar Pradesh	42.8	93.7	33.1	81.7	28.8	3.8
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	27.7	96.1	25.2	89.7	20.4	3.3
Jharkhand	40.2	57.0	22.6	89.1	28.3	3.2
Orissa	45.4	78.4	19.3	88.6	31.9	3.1
West Bengal	52.5	93.7	59.6	79.2	39.5	3.1
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	76.9	85.0	80.6	67.7	20.8	2.7
Assam	38.1	72.4	76.4	75.8	19.8	2.7
Manipur	87.0	52.1	95.6	64.7	10.7	2.6
Meghalaya	70.4	63.1	71.3	72.2	35.1	2.9
Mizoram	92.3	85.0	98.0	34.1	22.9	3.5
Nagaland	82.9	62.8	85.6	76.0	20.7	2.6
Sikkim	92.1	77.6	89.0	52.4	51.0	2.3
Tripura	68.8	76.1	96.7	80.4	12.1	2.9
<b>West</b>						
Goa	96.4	80.1	76.0	33.3	73.6	2.7
Gujarat	89.3	89.8	54.6	52.3	67.3	3.6
Maharashtra	83.5	92.7	52.9	48.1	59.0	3.5
<b>South</b>						
Andhra Pradesh	88.4	94.0	42.4	66.3	56.3	3.2
Karnataka	89.3	86.2	46.5	63.8	55.1	3.4
Kerala	91.0	69.1	96.1	71.4	85.1	2.2
Tamil Nadu	88.6	93.5	42.9	60.5	69.9	2.9

<sup>1</sup> See Table 2.11 for list of improved sources.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crop waste, and dung cakes.

The smoke from solid fuels poses a health hazard when inhaled. The proportion of households relying on solid fuels for cooking range from a low in Delhi (9 percent) to a high of over 85 percent in four states: Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, and Bihar. Other states with particularly low use of solid fuels are Mizoram and Goa, where only one-third of households rely on solid fuels for cooking. In fact, with the exception of Delhi, in all other states, at least one in three households rely on solid fuels for cooking.

The highly urbanized state of Delhi has the highest proportion of households living in a *pucca* house (95 percent). Two-thirds or more of households live in a *pucca* house in five other states: Kerala (85 percent), Goa (74 percent), Tamil Nadu (70 percent), Punjab (69 percent), and Gujarat (67 percent). At the other extreme are the states in which fewer than 15 percent of households live in a *pucca* house, namely Tripura (12 percent) and Manipur (11 percent).

Mean number of persons per room used for sleeping is an indicator that assesses the level of crowding in a house. The number of persons per sleeping room lies in the narrow range of 3.0 to 3.5 in most states, while Uttar Pradesh has the largest number of persons per room (3.8), and Kerala (2.2) and Sikkim (2.3) have the least.

## 2.6 WEALTH INDEX

One of the background characteristics used throughout this report is an index of the economic status of households called the wealth index. The wealth index has been developed and tested in a large number of countries in relation to inequalities in household income, use of health services, and health outcomes (Rutstein et al., 2000). It is an indicator of the level of wealth that is consistent with expenditure and income measures (Rutstein, 1999). The economic index was constructed using household asset data and housing characteristics<sup>2</sup>.

Each household asset is assigned a weight (factor score) generated through principal components analysis, and the resulting asset scores are standardized in relation to a normal distribution with a mean of zero and standard deviation of one (Gwatkin et al., 2000). Each household is then assigned a score for each asset, and the scores were summed for each household; individuals are ranked according to the score of the household in which they reside. The sample is then divided into quintiles i.e., five groups with an equal number of individuals in each. In NFHS-3, one wealth index has been developed for the whole sample and for the country as a whole. Thus, at the national level, 20 percent of the household population is in each wealth quintile although this is not necessarily true at the state level.

Table 2.17 presents the population separated into wealth quintiles by urban-rural residence and by state. Forty-eight percent of the population in urban areas is in the highest wealth quintile; in contrast only 7 percent of the rural population is in the highest wealth quintile. The distribution of the population across wealth quintiles shows large variations across states,

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<sup>2</sup> The NFHS-3 wealth index is based on the following 33 assets and housing characteristics: household electrification; type of windows; drinking water source; type of toilet facility; type of flooring; material of exterior walls; type of roofing; cooking fuel; house ownership; number of household members per sleeping room; ownership of a bank or post-office account; and ownership of a mattress, a pressure cooker, a chair, a cot/bed, a table, an electric fan, a radio/transistor, a black and white television, a colour television, a sewing machine, a mobile telephone, any other telephone, a computer, a refrigerator, a watch or clock, a bicycle, a motorcycle or scooter, an animal-drawn cart, a car, a water pump, a thresher, and a tractor.

with Delhi (70 percent) and Goa (55 percent) having over one-half of their populations in the highest quintile and Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Bihar, and Tripura, having only about one-tenth or less of their populations in the highest quintile. In Jharkhand, half of the population falls into the lowest wealth quintile. By contrast, in about half of the states, less than 10 percent of households are in the lowest wealth quintile.

**Table 2.17 Wealth quintiles**  
Percent distribution of the de jure population by wealth quintiles, according to residence and state, India, 2005-06

Residence/state	Wealth quintile					Total
	Lowest	Second	Middle	Fourth	Highest	
<b>India</b>	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	100.0
Urban	3.0	6.4	13.8	28.9	47.9	100.0
Rural	27.7	26.1	22.8	16.0	7.4	100.0
<b>North</b>						
Delhi	0.2	2.7	8.6	18.9	69.6	100.0
Haryana	4.1	12.6	24.6	27.8	31.0	100.0
Himachal Pradesh	1.2	8.8	24.1	30.8	35.1	100.0
Jammu & Kashmir	2.8	12.3	29.8	29.5	25.6	100.0
Punjab	1.4	6.3	15.3	28.8	48.1	100.0
Rajasthan	24.2	17.7	21.8	17.3	19.1	100.0
Uttaranchal	6.0	15.3	22.1	23.8	32.8	100.0
<b>Central</b>						
Chhattisgarh	39.6	26.9	14.7	8.7	10.2	100.0
Madhya Pradesh	36.9	24.2	13.1	12.7	13.1	100.0
Uttar Pradesh	25.3	24.9	19.4	16.8	13.6	100.0
<b>East</b>						
Bihar	28.2	29.2	18.7	14.6	9.4	100.0
Jharkhand	49.6	15.5	11.1	11.9	11.9	100.0
Orissa	39.5	19.9	17.3	13.4	9.9	100.0
West Bengal	25.2	24.4	18.7	17.8	13.9	100.0
<b>Northeast</b>						
Arunachal Pradesh	21.1	25.6	20.8	16.1	16.4	100.0
Assam	19.8	30.7	22.6	15.0	11.8	100.0
Manipur	2.4	15.7	33.4	31.8	16.7	100.0
Meghalaya	11.3	21.8	26.5	24.0	16.4	100.0
Mizoram	2.5	6.1	19.2	33.4	38.8	100.0
Nagaland	7.8	22.6	28.9	25.7	15.0	100.0
Sikkim	1.9	10.6	22.9	31.7	32.8	100.0
Tripura	11.0	24.4	42.0	15.0	7.6	100.0
<b>West</b>						
Goa	2.2	5.3	14.2	22.9	55.3	100.0
Gujarat	7.2	14.2	19.1	27.6	31.9	100.0
Maharashtra	10.9	14.9	17.4	24.3	32.5	100.0
<b>South</b>						
Andhra Pradesh	10.8	17.6	29.2	25.4	17.1	100.0
Karnataka	10.8	22.2	24.0	23.2	19.8	100.0
Kerala	1.0	4.1	12.2	37.8	44.8	100.0
Tamil Nadu	10.6	15.6	29.9	24.4	19.5	100.0

The percent distribution of the de jure population by wealth quintiles, according to the religion and the caste/tribe of the head of household is shown in Table 2.18. Hindu, Muslim and Buddhist/Non-Buddhist households (as defined by the religion of the household head) are almost evenly distributed across the wealth quintiles. However, the majority of persons in Jain (87 percent) and Sikh (53 percent) households and almost one-third of persons in Christian households are in the highest wealth quintile. Half of the persons in scheduled-tribe households and about one in four (27 percent) persons in scheduled-caste households are in the lowest wealth quintile. Among the four caste/tribe groups, those in the other backward classes are the



Table 2.18 Religion and caste/tribe by wealth quintiles  
Percent distribution of the de jure population by wealth quintiles, according to religion and caste/tribe, India, 2005-06

	Wealth quintile					Total	De jure population
	Lowest	Second	Middle	Fourth	Highest		
<b>Religion of household head</b>							
Hindu	20.7	20.6	20.2	19.2	19.2	100.0	418,056
Muslim	18.9	19.7	20.6	23.6	17.2	100.0	74,718
Christian	12.1	13.0	20.8	22.9	31.1	100.0	11,885
Sikh	1.5	6.3	12.6	26.9	52.7	100.0	8,988
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	18.2	21.0	18.0	20.5	22.3	100.0	4,342
Jain	1.6	1.8	1.6	8.3	86.8	100.0	1,784
Other	54.6	14.9	14.6	9.2	6.7	100.0	2,120
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>							
Scheduled caste	27.9	24.6	20.8	16.6	10.2	100.0	99,556
Scheduled tribe	49.9	23.6	13.4	8.0	5.2	100.0	44,231
Other backward class	18.1	22.1	23.2	21.1	15.6	100.0	209,000
Other	9.8	13.6	17.1	23.9	35.6	100.0	165,517
Don't know	12.1	25.6	29.6	23.7	9.0	100.0	2,115
Total	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	100.0	522,027

Note: Total includes de jure population with missing information on religion of household head and caste/tribe of household head, which is not shown separately.

most typical of the population as a whole: they are most evenly distributed across the wealth quintiles.

## 2.7 BIRTH REGISTRATION

India is signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child that has recognized birth registration as one of the first rights of children. It is the right of every child to have his or her birth registered and provided with a birth certificate free of charge. A birth certificate is the first legal document confirming identity of the individual. In India, the registration of births and deaths is compulsory under the Registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act of 1969. Under this act, institutional heads are responsible for registering all births that take place within their institution within 21 days of their occurrence. Heads of households are responsible for registering any births that take place within their homes. After registration, the birth certificate is obtained by applying to the registrar or sub-registrar of the area, either on plain paper or by filling in a form. The National Population Policy 2000 has set the goal of achieving universal birth registration by the year 2010.

In NFHS-3, information was obtained for all children in the household age 0-4 years on whether they have a birth certificate, and if not, whether their birth was registered with the civil authority. Table 2.19 shows the percentage of de jure children whose births are registered and whose birth certificate is available, by background characteristics.

Nationally, 41 percent of children under age five years have had their births registered with the civil authorities. However, only 27 percent of children under age five years have a birth certificate. The extent of registration of births among children age less than two years and age two to four years is about the same; this suggests that, despite efforts to increase birth registration, there is as yet no change in registration. Girls and boys are equally likely to have their births registered and to have birth certificates. It is the children with more educated mothers and fathers and children from the higher wealth quintiles who are more likely to have their births

registered and to have birth certificates. The births of less than one-fourth of children who belong to households in the lowest wealth quintile have been registered and only 1 in 10 have a birth certificate. Children living in households headed by Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists/Neo-Buddhists are more likely to have their births registered than are children living in households headed by members of other religions.

Table 2.19 Birth registration of children under age five				
Percentage of de jure children under age five years whose birth was registered with the civil authorities, according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06				
Background characteristic	Percentage of children whose birth was registered			De jure children
	Registered, has a birth certificate	Registered, does not have a birth certificate	Total registered	
<b>Age</b>				
<2	25.0	15.5	40.5	21,471
2-4	28.1	13.5	41.5	34,425
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	27.1	13.9	41.0	29,123
Female	26.7	14.6	41.3	26,773
<b>Residence</b>				
Urban	46.0	13.3	59.3	14,448
Rural	20.2	14.6	34.8	41,448
<b>Mother's education</b>				
No education	13.0	10.8	23.8	27,321
<5 years complete	33.1	18.5	51.6	3,824
5-7 years complete	32.6	19.7	52.3	7,793
8-9 years complete	38.0	16.7	54.6	6,520
10-11 years complete	46.9	17.0	63.9	4,314
12 or more years complete	58.1	16.1	74.2	4,987
Mother not listed in the household schedule	25.6	13.9	39.5	1,028
<b>Father's education</b>				
No education	15.2	11.8	27.0	13,463
<5 years complete	26.3	20.1	46.4	4,438
5-7 years complete	28.8	17.6	46.4	8,088
8-9 years complete	28.9	14.0	42.9	8,783
10-11 years complete	35.1	15.6	50.8	6,031
12 or more years complete	42.8	15.5	58.3	7,982
Father not listed in the household schedule	20.1	9.1	29.3	7,016
<b>Religion of household head</b>				
Hindu	25.6	14.7	40.4	43,474
Muslim	28.6	10.7	39.3	9,761
Christian	41.7	15.1	56.8	1,130
Sikh	56.1	22.3	78.4	708
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	31.1	33.5	64.5	427
Jain	59.5	27.1	86.7	108
Other	12.9	5.6	18.4	277
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>				
Scheduled caste	23.8	12.9	36.7	11,539
Scheduled tribe	17.6	21.4	39.0	5,288
Other backward class	21.6	12.4	34.1	22,815
Other	39.5	15.5	55.0	15,835
Don't know	50.7	13.2	63.9	210
<b>Wealth index</b>				
Lowest	11.2	12.7	23.9	14,057
Second	17.3	13.8	31.0	12,351
Middle	25.0	14.4	39.4	11,021
Fourth	37.6	16.2	53.8	10,210
Highest	57.3	15.1	72.4	8,256
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>55,895</b>

Note: Total includes children with missing information on mother's education, father's education, religion of household head, and caste/tribe of household head and children whose mother's education or father's education is not known, who are not shown separately.

Table 2.20 shows the percentage of de jure children under five years of age whose births have been registered with the civil authorities, according to residence and state. The extent of birth registration varies substantially across states, ranging from the highest in Goa (95 percent) to the lowest in Bihar (6 percent). Four-fifths or more children below age five years are registered in Mizoram (93 percent), Himachal Pradesh and Kerala (both at 89 percent), Sikkim, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu (all at 86 percent), and Maharashtra (80 percent). On the other hand, more than four-fifths of children have not had their births registered in Rajasthan, Jharkhand, and Uttar Pradesh. Registration of births generally tends to be higher in urban areas than in rural areas in most states; however, those states with overall high levels of registration tend to have much narrower urban rural differentials.

## 2.8 CHILDREN'S WORK

While the Government of India has been proactive in tackling the problem of child labour in India, child labour continues to pose a challenge for the nation. Article 32 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child recognizes the right of children to be protected from economic exploitation, from performing any work that is hazardous, interferes with their education, or is harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. The article calls on states to provide for a minimum age for admission to employment and for appropriate regulation of work hours.

To assess how much children are working in India, NFHS-3 included a set of questions on the participation by each child age 5-14 years in the household in different types of work. The types of work asked about included work for persons other than members of the household, work in a household business, farm, or selling goods in the street, and work doing household chores. The number of hours worked in the seven days preceding the survey was recorded for all children engaged in any type of work. For work that was done for any person who is not a member of the household, a question was also asked to determine whether the child was paid or not paid for the work. Table 2.21 presents the percentage of de jure children age 5-14 years, who were engaged in different activities in the seven days preceding the interview, by background characteristics. A child worker is defined by UNICEF as any child age 5-11 who, in the seven days preceding the survey, worked for someone who is not a member of the household, with or without pay, or did household chores for 28 or more hours, or engaged in any family business

State	Urban	Rural	Total
<b>India</b>	59.3	34.8	41.1
<b>North</b>			
Delhi	61.9	67.6	62.4
Haryana	75.5	70.5	71.7
Himachal Pradesh	86.7	89.2	89.0
Jammu & Kashmir	56.1	30.6	35.8
Punjab	76.7	76.9	76.8
Rajasthan	38.3	10.8	16.4
Uttaranchal	56.1	32.4	38.4
<b>Central</b>			
Chhattisgarh	76.2	72.3	73.0
Madhya Pradesh	37.3	27.5	29.7
Uttar Pradesh	22.7	3.2	7.1
<b>East</b>			
Bihar	13.7	4.7	5.8
Jharkhand	21.8	6.0	9.1
Orissa	62.8	56.1	57.0
West Bengal	85.4	73.2	75.8
<b>Northeast</b>			
Arunachal Pradesh	49.4	26.8	32.4
Assam	67.4	40.0	43.0
Manipur	40.4	26.6	30.4
Meghalaya	66.0	38.8	43.3
Mizoram	94.6	92.1	93.3
Nagaland	43.8	35.0	36.9
Sikkim	93.3	84.2	85.7
Tripura	84.3	72.8	74.4
<b>West</b>			
Goa	95.3	93.9	94.7
Gujarat	88.4	84.0	85.6
Maharashtra	84.5	76.2	80.0
<b>South</b>			
Andhra Pradesh	49.4	35.6	40.3
Karnataka	72.3	49.8	58.3
Kerala	91.0	87.5	88.6
Tamil Nadu	90.3	81.9	85.8

Table 2.21 Children's work

Percentage of de jure children age 5-14 who were engaged in different activities in the seven days preceding the interview by type of work, according to background characteristics, India, 2005-06

Background characteristic	Work for someone who is not a member of the household <sup>1</sup>		Household chores for 28 or more hours per week	Other family work <sup>2</sup>	Total working <sup>3</sup>	Number of children
	Paid work	Unpaid work				
<b>Sex and age</b>						
Male	2.4	3.2	1.6	5.5	11.6	64,749
5-7 years	0.7	3.1	0.2	1.5	5.2	19,405
8-11 years	2.0	5.1	1.1	7.0	13.9	25,539
12-14 years	4.7	0.8	3.5	7.5	15.0	19,806
Female	2.0	2.6	4.7	4.0	11.9	60,077
5-7 years	0.6	2.6	0.5	1.1	4.6	18,224
8-11 years	1.9	4.2	3.0	5.4	13.0	23,682
12-14 years	3.6	0.4	11.1	5.0	17.7	18,171
<b>Residence</b>						
Urban	2.2	3.3	1.7	1.9	8.6	33,336
Rural	2.3	2.7	3.5	5.8	12.9	91,490
<b>Mother's education</b>						
No education	2.8	2.6	3.8	6.1	13.7	71,329
<5 years complete	1.8	3.5	2.1	4.9	11.2	8,289
5-7 years complete	1.3	3.6	1.7	2.6	8.5	14,398
8-9 years complete	1.1	3.6	0.9	2.3	7.5	9,688
10-11 years complete	0.8	3.1	0.8	1.1	5.6	6,829
12 or more years complete	0.6	3.3	0.4	0.8	5.0	6,494
Mother not listed in the household	3.5	2.4	6.5	6.5	16.9	7,611
<b>Father's education</b>						
No education	3.2	2.6	3.9	6.6	14.6	35,962
<5 years complete	2.8	3.4	3.3	5.7	13.6	11,440
5-7 years complete	2.0	3.0	2.8	4.3	11.0	16,484
8-9 years complete	1.4	3.5	2.3	4.0	10.4	15,633
10-11 years complete	0.9	3.8	1.9	3.3	9.0	11,961
12 or more years complete	0.7	2.8	1.3	2.1	6.6	13,879
Father not listed in the household	3.0	2.1	4.1	4.7	12.5	19,234
<b>Religion of household head</b>						
Hindu	2.2	3.1	3.1	5.1	12.1	97,755
Muslim	2.8	2.1	2.9	3.6	10.8	20,875
Christian	1.3	1.5	2.7	2.5	7.4	2,452
Sikh	1.2	4.1	2.5	2.5	9.5	1,843
Jain	0.0	3.3	0.1	3.7	7.1	288
Buddhist/Neo-Buddhist	2.6	1.5	1.4	5.0	9.7	1,010
Other	2.5	1.9	7.5	4.5	15.3	564
<b>Caste/tribe of household head</b>						
Scheduled caste	2.6	2.8	3.0	4.3	11.6	24,906
Scheduled tribe	3.6	3.3	4.5	7.3	16.6	11,643
Other backward class	2.0	2.8	3.4	5.4	12.2	51,652
Other	1.9	2.9	2.2	3.4	9.7	35,786
Don't know	2.0	0.9	2.9	3.2	8.6	467
<b>Wealth index</b>						
Lowest	3.1	2.0	4.5	6.4	14.2	31,068
Second	2.7	2.7	3.8	6.4	14.0	28,194
Middle	2.2	3.2	3.0	5.2	12.2	24,957
Fourth	1.6	3.7	1.8	2.9	9.3	22,270
Highest	0.9	3.3	1.2	1.2	6.4	18,338
Total	2.2	2.9	3.1	4.8	11.8	124,826

Note: Total includes children with missing information on mother's education, father's education, religion of household head, and caste/tribe of household head and children whose mother's education or father's education is not known, who are not shown separately.

<sup>1</sup> Any work, paid or unpaid, for someone who is not a member of the household by children age 5-11 and for 14 or more hours by children age 12-14.

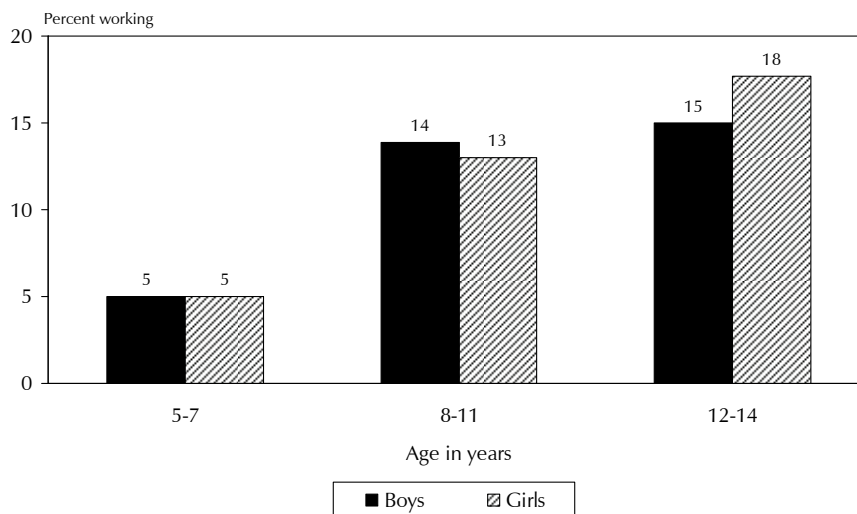
<sup>2</sup> Includes any work on the farm, in a business, or selling goods in the street by children age 5-11 and for 14 or more hours by children age 12-14.

<sup>3</sup> Includes children age 5-11 years who in the 7 days preceding the survey, worked for someone who is not a member of the household, with or without pay, or did household chores for 28 or more hours or engaged in any other family work and children age 12-14 years who in the 7 days preceding the survey, worked for someone who is not a member of the household, with or without pay, for 14 or more hours or did household chores for 28 or more hours or engaged in any other family work for 14 or more hours.

and any child age 12-14 years who, in the seven days preceding the survey, worked for someone who is not a member of the household, with or without pay, for 14 or more hours, or did household chores for 28 or more hours, or engaged in any other family work for 14 or more hours.

Nearly one in every eight (12 percent) children age 5-14 years works either for their own household or for somebody else. Two percent of children are engaged in paid work, 3 percent are engaged in unpaid work for someone who is not a member of their household, 3 percent are engaged in household chores for 28 or more hours in a week, and 5 percent are engaged in work in a family business. Since children are involved in multiple activities, the total work participation rate of 12 percent is less than the sum of the percentages of children engaged in each type of work. The work participation rate is the same for girls (12 percent) as it is for boys (12 percent). The age and sex specific work participation rates show increasing work participation with age (Figure 2.3) Rates increase from 5 percent among boys age 5-7 years to 15 percent among boys age 12-14 years, and from 5 percent among girls age 5-7 years to 18 percent among girls age 12-14 years. The very young children (age 5-7 years), both boys and girls, are mainly doing unpaid work for someone who is not a member of their household. The older boys age 12-14 are mainly engaged in paid work or family work, whereas girls in these ages are involved mainly in household chores or family work. Notably, at all ages, girls are more likely than boys to be doing chores and boys are more likely than girls to be working for someone who is not a member of the household or doing other family work.

**Figure 2.3 Children’s Work by Sex and Age**



Note: See Table 2.21 for definition of children’s work.

NFHS-3, India, 2005-06

Rural children age 5-14 (13 percent) are more likely to be engaged in work than their urban counterparts (9 percent). The percentage of children engaged in work activities decreases steadily with mother’s increasing education, father’s increasing education, and increasing wealth quintile. With parents’ higher education and greater household wealth, there is a substantial reduction in the extent of paid work, involvement in household chores, and other family work,

Table 2.22 Children's work by state

Percentage of de jure children age 5-14 who were engaged in different activities in the seven days preceding the interview by type of work, according to state, India, 2005-06

State	Work for someone who is not a member of the household <sup>1</sup>		Household chores for 28 or more hours per week	Other family work <sup>2</sup>	Total working <sup>3</sup>
	Paid work	Unpaid work			
<b>India</b>	2.2	2.9	3.1	4.8	11.8
<b>North</b>					
Delhi	1.7	8.9	1.5	1.3	12.8
Haryana	1.5	3.4	3.3	1.8	9.6
Himachal Pradesh	0.5	0.3	1.7	3.1	5.0
Jammu & Kashmir	0.8	0.2	1.3	3.9	5.8
Punjab	1.9	6.3	1.8	2.0	11.2
Rajasthan	1.7	7.0	4.6	9.2	19.6
Uttaranchal	1.3	0.9	3.8	9.6	13.5
<b>Central</b>					
Chhattisgarh	0.7	0.1	1.9	2.6	5.1
Madhya Pradesh	2.1	1.9	4.3	4.6	12.1
Uttar Pradesh	1.5	1.8	3.3	6.0	11.7
<b>East</b>					
Bihar	1.6	1.4	5.2	5.6	12.2
Jharkhand	2.2	1.0	5.3	3.0	10.6
Orissa	3.2	0.6	2.9	5.2	11.1
West Bengal	2.7	1.3	2.2	4.3	9.7
<b>Northeast</b>					
Arunachal Pradesh	1.7	1.4	8.2	12.8	20.1
Assam	3.6	3.0	2.2	3.9	11.7
Manipur	0.8	3.4	1.7	3.2	8.4
Meghalaya	0.8	0.1	5.8	1.0	7.2
Mizoram	0.5	0.1	1.9	1.9	4.0
Nagaland	1.0	0.4	5.3	2.1	8.3
Sikkim	0.9	0.3	3.3	2.5	6.7
Tripura	1.8	7.3	3.5	3.4	14.2
<b>West</b>					
Goa	0.8	0.4	0.7	1.3	3.0
Gujarat	5.5	19.5	3.7	7.3	31.6
Maharashtra	2.3	2.4	1.6	3.6	9.0
<b>South</b>					
Andhra Pradesh	4.6	0.6	1.5	4.7	9.2
Karnataka	3.2	0.2	2.9	3.5	8.8
Kerala	0.8	1.7	0.3	0.4	3.0
Tamil Nadu	1.2	3.6	0.8	1.0	6.1

<sup>1</sup> Any work, paid or unpaid, for someone who is not a member of the household by children age 5-11 and for 14 or more hours by children age 12-14.

<sup>2</sup> Includes any work on the farm, in a business, or selling goods in the street by children age 5-11 and for 14 or more hours by children age 12-14.

<sup>3</sup> Includes children age 5-11 years who, in the 7 days preceding the survey, worked for someone who is not a member of the household, with or without pay, or did household chores for 28 or more hours or engaged in any other family work and children age 12-14 years who in the 7 days preceding the survey, worked for someone who is not a member of the household, with or without pay, for 14 or more hours or did household chores for 28 or more hours or engaged in any other family work for 14 or more hours.

but involvement in unpaid work for someone who is not a member of the household remains more or less the same. Children from households headed by Hindus or by a member of a scheduled tribe are somewhat more likely to be engaged in work, compared with most of their counterparts.

The percentage of children engaged in work activities is shown by state in Table 2.22. The percentage of children age 5-14 who worked in the seven days preceding the survey varies

from 5 percent or less in Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Goa, and Kerala to 20 percent in Rajasthan and Arunachal Pradesh and 32 percent in Gujarat. One in five children in Gujarat is engaged in unpaid work for a non-household member; whereas, in Rajasthan and Arunachal Pradesh, a larger proportion of working children are engaged in family work. With the exception of Chhattisgarh, school attendance rates are very high in states with lower percentages of working children (see Table 2.9).

