



	Gross enrollment ratio				Net enrollment ratio				Adjusted net enrollment ratio, primary		Children out of school	
	Preprimary	% of relevant age group			Primary	% of relevant age group			% of primary-school-age children		thousand primary-school-age children	
		Primary	Secondary	Tertiary		Primary	Secondary	Male	Female	Male	Female	
	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	1991	2007 ^a	1991	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a
Afghanistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Albania	..	..	..	..	96	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Algeria	30	110	83	24	89	95	53	..	97	95	61	88
Angola	61	199	17	3	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Argentina	66	112	84	64	94	99	..	78	100	98	5	31
Armenia	37	110	89	34	..	85	..	86	92	95	5	2
Australia	104	105	150	73	99	96	80	87	96	97	36	27
Austria	90	102	102	50	88	97	..	..	97	98	6	3
Azerbaijan	..	..	..	..	89	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bangladesh	..	..	..	7	76	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belarus	103	97	95	69	85	91	..	87	91	89	18	21
Belgium	121	102	110	63	96	97	86	87	97	98	9	8
Benin	6	96	32	5	41	80	..	..	90	75	71	173
Bolivia	50	109	82	..	..	95	..	71	96	97	30	22
Bosnia and Herzegovina	10	98	85	..	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Botswana	15	107	76	5	88	84	39	56	83	86	27	22
Brazil	69	137	105	25	84	94	..	79	94	97	383	214
Bulgaria	82	100	105	46	..	92	..	88	94	94	8	9
Burkina Faso	3	65	16	3	27	52	..	12	58	48	514	608
Burundi	2	114	15	2	53	81	..	..	82	80	116	128
Cambodia	13	119	42	5	72	89	..	31	..	..	..	..
Cameroon	21	110	25	7	69	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canada	68	98	..	..	98	..	89	..	..	..	..	..
Central African Republic	..	80 ^b	..	1	52	61 ^b	..	..	71 ^b	51 ^b	103 ^b	174 ^b
Chad	1	74	19	1	34	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chile	55	104	91	47	89	..	55	..	..	..	..	..
China	39	111	76	22	98	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hong Kong, China	66	98	86	34	92	91	..	79	97	93	7	16
Colombia	41	116	85	32	68	87	34	67	91	91	219	194
Congo, Dem. Rep.	3	85	33	4	54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congo, Rep.	10	106	..	..	82	54	..	..	56	52	129	142
Costa Rica	61	110	87	25	87	..	38	64	..	..	..	..
Côte d'Ivoire	3	72	..	8	45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Croatia	50	99	91	44	70	90	..	87	98	100	2	0 ^c
Cuba	111	102	93	109	94	98	73	86	99	99	4	6
Czech Republic	114	100	96	50	87	93	..	..	91	94	22	15
Denmark	95	99	120	80	98	96	87	89	95	97	10	7
Dominican Republic	32	107	79	..	..	82	..	61	84	86	104	90
Ecuador	100	118	70	..	98	97	..	59	..	..	..	..
Egypt, Arab Rep.	17	105	..	35	86	96	..	..	100	95	10	222
El Salvador	49	118	64	22	..	92	..	54	93	94	32	27
Eritrea	14	55	29	..	15	41	..	25	45	40	167	181
Estonia	93	99	100	65	..	94	..	91	97	97	1	1
Ethiopia	3	91	30	3	22	71	..	24	75	69	1,667	2,054
Finland	62	98	112	93	98	97	93	96	97	97	6	5
France	116	110	114	56	100	99	..	99	99	99	18	9
Gabon	..	..	..	..	94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gambia, The	22	86	49	..	46	76	..	36	74	78	33	27
Georgia	57	99	90	37	97	94	..	82	96	93	7	11
Germany	106	103	102	..	84	98	..	..	98	99	28	19
Ghana	60	98	49	6	54	72	..	45	73	71	477	490
Greece	69	102	103	95	95	99	83	92	100	100	1	1
Guatemala	29	113	56	18	64	95	..	38	98	95	17	53
Guinea	10	91	35	5	27	74	..	28	80	70	146	216
Guinea-Bissau	..	..	..	..	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Haiti	..	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Participation in education

2.12

PEOPLE

	Gross enrollment ratio				Net enrollment ratio				Adjusted net enrollment ratio, primary		Children out of school	
	Preprimary	% of relevant age group			% of relevant age group				% of primary-school-age children		thousand primary-school-age children	
		Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary		Male	Female	Male	Female	
		2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a		1991	2007 ^a					1991
Honduras	36	117	61	..	88	96	21	..	96	98	21	12
Hungary	86	97	96	69	87	88	..	90	94	95	12	11
India	40	112	55	12	..	89	..	..	96	92	2,529	4,613
Indonesia	37	114	66	17	96	95	39	60	99	96	142	544
Iran, Islamic Rep.	54	121	73	31	92	94	..	77	..	..	..	..
Iraq	..	..	..	..	94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ireland	..	104	112	59	90	95	80	87	94	95	13	10
Israel	91	110	92	58	..	97	..	89	96	98	13	9
Italy	104	103	100	67	100	99	..	94	100	99	5	12
Jamaica	92	95	87	..	96	90	64	78	91	91	16	15
Japan	86	100	101	57	100	100	97	99	..	..	..	..
Jordan	32	97	89	39	95	90	..	82	93	95	31	22
Kazakhstan	39 ^b	109 ^b	92 ^b	47 ^b	88	90 ^b	..	86 ^b	99 ^b	100 ^b	6 ^b	2 ^b
Kenya	49	106	50	..	..	75	..	43	76	77	708	662
Korea, Dem. Rep.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Korea, Rep.	101	105	98	93	100	98	86	96	..	..	..	..
Kuwait	77	98	91	18	49	88	..	77	95	93	5	7
Kyrgyz Republic	16	95	86	43	92	84	..	81	93	92	16	16
Lao PDR	13	118	44	9	62	86	..	35	88	84	44	59
Latvia	89	95	99	74	94	90	..	..	90	94	4	3
Lebanon	66	95	81	52	66	83	..	73	84	83	38	38
Lesotho	18	114	37	4	72	72	15	24	71	74	54	47
Liberia	125 ^b	83 ^b	..	..	..	31 ^b	..	..	32 ^b	30 ^b	221 ^b	226 ^b
Libya	9	110	94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lithuania	69	95	99	76	..	89	..	92	92	92	7	6
Macedonia, FYR	33	98	84	30	..	92	..	81	97	97	2	1
Madagascar	8	141	26	3	64	98	..	17	99	100	17	3
Malawi	..	116	28	0 ^c	49	87	..	24	84	91	198	117
Malaysia	63	100	69	29	93	100	..	69	..	..	..	..
Mali	3	83	32	4	25	63	6	..	70	56	312	452
Mauritania	2	103	25	4	36	80	..	16	79	83	51	38
Mauritius	99	101	88	14 ^b	91	95	..	73	95	96	3	2
Mexico	106	113	87	26	98	98	45	70	100	99	12	61
Moldova	70	94	89	41	86	88	..	81	90	90	8	9
Mongolia	54	100	92	48	90	89	..	81	96	99	5	1
Morocco	60	107	56	11	56	89	..	..	92	87	157	237
Mozambique	..	111	18	1	42	70	..	3	72	67	578	671
Myanmar	..	..	..	..	99	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Namibia	32	109	59	6	86	87	..	49	84	89	30	21
Nepal	57 ^b	124 ^b	48 ^b	..	63	80 ^b	..	..	82 ^b	78 ^b	338 ^b	376 ^b
Netherlands	90	107	118	60	95	98	84	88	99	98	7	14
New Zealand	92	102	120	80	98	99	85	..	99	100	1	1
Nicaragua	52	116	66	..	70	90	..	43	91	92	38	34
Niger	2	53	11	1	24	45	6	9	52	39	574	689
Nigeria	15	97	32	10	55	63	..	..	69	60	3,608	4,582
Norway	90	98	113	78	100	98	88	96	98	98	5	4
Oman	31	80	90	25	69	73	..	79	74	76	46	41
Pakistan	52	84	33	5	33	66	..	32	73	57	2,705	4,116
Panama	70	113	70	45	92	98	..	64	99	99	2	3
Papua New Guinea	..	55	..	..	66	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paraguay	34	111	66	26	94	94	26	57	95	95	23	19
Peru	68	116	94	35	88	96	..	72	..	..	..	..
Philippines	45	110	83	28	96	91	..	60	91	93	553	400
Poland	57	98	100	66	96	96	..	94	96	97	55	44
Portugal	79	115	97	55	98	98	..	82	99	99	2	3
Puerto Rico	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..



2.12

Participation in education

	Gross enrollment ratio				Net enrollment ratio				Adjusted net enrollment ratio, primary		Children out of school	
	Preprimary	% of relevant age group			Primary	% of relevant age group			% of primary-school-age children		thousand primary-school-age children	
		Primary	Secondary	Tertiary		Primary	Secondary	Male	Female	Male	Female	
	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	1991	2007 ^a	1991	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a	2007 ^a
Romania	72	105	86	52	81	93	..	73	95	96	21	19
Russian Federation	83	96	84	70	98	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rwanda	..	147	18	3	67	94	8	..	92	95	56	38
Saudi Arabia	11	98	94	30	59	85	31	73	85	84	245	252
Senegal	9	84	24	6	45	72	..	20	73	73	254	253
Serbia	59	97	88	..	..	95	..	..	95	95	8	7
Sierra Leone	5	147	32	..	43	..	..	23	..	..	..	..
Singapore	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Slovak Republic	93	100	96	45	..	92	..	..	92	92	10	9
Slovenia	81	100	95	83	96	95	..	90	97	97	2	1
Somalia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Africa	43	103	96	15	90	86	45	72	91	92	332	274
Spain	121	105	119	67	100	100	..	94	100	99	1	6
Sri Lanka	..	108	..	..	84	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sudan	27 ^b	72 ^b	35 ^b	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Swaziland	17	106	47	4	75	78	30	32	78	79	23	22
Sweden	95	96	103	79	100	95	85	99	95	95	17	17
Switzerland	99	97	93	46	84	89	80	82	93	94	18	17
Syrian Arab Republic	10	126	72	..	91	..	43	66	..	..	..	..
Tajikistan	9 ^b	100 ^b	84	20 ^b	77	98 ^b	..	81	99	96	2	15
Tanzania	35 ^b	112 ^b	..	1	51	98	..	..	99	97	50	93
Thailand	94	106	83	50	88	94	..	76	..	..	..	..
Timor-Leste	10	91	53	..	..	63	..	..	64	62	35	36
Togo	4	97	39	5	64	77	15	..	84	74	83	139
Trinidad and Tobago	85	95	76	11	89	85	..	65	89	90	8	7
Tunisia	..	108	85	31	93	96	..	..	97	98	18	9
Turkey	13	94	79	35	89	91	42	69	93	89	291	439
Turkmenistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uganda	3	117	18	..	51	..	..	16	..	..	..	..
Ukraine	94	100	94	76	81	89	..	84	90	90	85	82
United Arab Emirates	85	107	92	23	99	91	60	79	99	98	2	3
United Kingdom	72	105	98	59	98	98	80	92	99	100	16	0 ^c
United States	61	98	94	82	97	92	84	88	92	94	1,004	723
Uruguay	79	115	101	46	91	100	..	..	98	97	4	4
Uzbekistan	27	95	102	10	78	91	..	92	95	92	60	86
Venezuela, RB	62	106	79	52	91	92	..	68	94	94	105	90
Vietnam	..	..	..	..	90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
West Bank and Gaza	30	80	92	46	..	73	..	89	77	78	56	52
Yemen, Rep.	1	87	46	9	..	75	..	37	85	65	275	632
Zambia	..	119	43	..	78	94	..	41	95	96	60	48
Zimbabwe	..	101	40	..	84	88	..	37	88	89	149	132
World	41 w	105 w	66 w	25 w	81 w	86 w	.. w	58 w	90	87 w		
Low income	22	94	38	6	56	73	..	34	77	70		
Middle income	44	111	70	24	87	91	..	62	95	93		
Lower middle income	39	111	65	19	85	90	..	..	94	92		
Upper middle income	68	111	91	42	90	94	..	76	96	96		
Low & middle income	37	106	61	19	79	85	..	54	89	86		
East Asia & Pacific	42	110	73	21	96	93	..	..	94	94		
Europe & Central Asia	52	97	88	53	89	91	..	81	94	92		
Latin America & Carib.	65	118	89	31	86	94	..	70	95	96		
Middle East & N. Africa	33	105	71	25	83	90	..	67	93	90		
South Asia	36	108	49	10	69	85	..	..	92	87		
Sub-Saharan Africa	14	94	32	5	53	70	..	25	73	68		
High income	78	101	101	67	95	95	..	90	96	96		
Euro area	106	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

a. Provisional data. b. Data are for 2008. c. Less than 0.5.

About the data

School enrollment data are reported to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics by national education authorities and statistical offices. Enrollment ratios help monitor whether a country is on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education by 2015 (a net primary enrollment ratio of 100 percent), and whether an education system has the capacity to meet the needs of universal primary education, as indicated in part by gross enrollment ratios.

Enrollment ratios, while a useful measure of participation in education, have limitations. They are based on annual school surveys, which are typically conducted at the beginning of the school year and do not reflect actual attendance or dropout rates during the year. And school administrators may exaggerate enrollments, especially if there is a financial incentive to do so.

Also, as international indicators, the gross and net primary enrollment ratios have an inherent weakness: the length of primary education differs across countries, although the International Standard Classification of Education tries to minimize the difference. A relatively short duration for primary education tends to increase the ratio; a relatively long one to decrease it (in part because more older children drop out).

Overage or underage enrollments are frequent, particularly when parents prefer children to start school at other than the official age. Age at enrollment may be inaccurately estimated or misstated, especially in communities where registration of births is not strictly enforced.

Other problems of cross-country comparison stem from errors in school-age population estimates. Age-sex structures drawn from censuses or vital registrations, the primary data sources on school-age population, commonly underenumerate (especially young children) to circumvent laws or regulations. Errors are also introduced when parents round children's ages. While census data are often adjusted for age bias, adjustments are rarely made for inadequate vital registration systems. Compounding these problems, pre- and postcensus estimates of school-age children are model interpolations or projections that may miss important demographic events (see discussion of demographic data in *About the data* for table 2.1).

Gross enrollment ratios indicate the capacity of each level of the education system, but a high ratio may reflect a substantial number of overage children

enrolled in each grade because of repetition rather than a successful education system. The net enrollment ratio excludes overage and underage students to capture more accurately the system's coverage and internal efficiency but does not account for children who fall outside the official school age because of late or early entry rather than grade repetition. Differences between gross and net enrollment ratios show the incidence of overage and underage enrollments.

Adjusted net primary enrollment (called total net primary enrollment in the 2008 edition), recently added as a Millennium Development Goal indicator, captures primary-school-age children who have progressed to secondary education, which the traditional net enrollment ratio excludes.

The data on children out of school (primary-school-age children not enrolled in primary or secondary education) are compiled by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics using administrative data. Children out of school include dropouts, children never enrolled, and children of primary age enrolled in preprimary education. Large numbers of children out of school create pressure to enroll children and provide classrooms, teachers, and educational materials, a task made difficult in many countries by limited education budgets. However, getting children into school is a high priority for countries and crucial for achieving the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education.

In 2006 the UNESCO Institute for Statistics changed its convention for citing the reference year. For more information, see *About the data* for table 2.11.

Definitions

- **Gross enrollment ratio** is the ratio of total enrollment, regardless of age, to the population of the age group that officially corresponds to the level of education shown.
- **Preprimary education** refers to the initial stage of organized instruction, designed primarily to introduce very young children to a school-type environment.
- **Primary education** provides children with basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills along with an elementary understanding of such subjects as history, geography, natural science, social science, art, and music.
- **Secondary education** completes the provision of basic education that began at the primary level and aims at laying the foundations for lifelong learning and human development by offering more subject- or skill-oriented instruction using more specialized teachers.
- **Tertiary education** refers to a wide range of post-secondary education institutions, including technical and vocational education, colleges, and universities, whether or not leading to an advanced research qualification, that normally require as a minimum condition of admission the successful completion of education at the secondary level.
- **Net enrollment ratio** is the ratio of total enrollment of children of official school age based on the International Standard Classification of Education 1997 to the population of the age group that officially corresponds to the level of education shown.
- **Adjusted net enrollment ratio, primary**, is the ratio of total enrollment of children of official school age for primary education who are enrolled in primary or secondary education to the total primary-school-age population.
- **Children out of school** are the number of primary-school-age children not enrolled in primary or secondary school.

Data sources

Data on gross and net enrollment ratios and out of school children are from the UNESCO Institute for Statistics.