

Top Ten Education Facts – Pakistan

An education remains a promise unkept to millions of illiterates in Pakistan.

1. Over 50 percent of the country aged 15 and above are illiterate. Only 1 in 3 women can read and write.
<http://www.efareport.unesco.org/> (2007)
2. Pakistan has one of the lowest education budgets in the world, spending just 2 percent of its national GDP on education in 2004.
<http://www.efareport.unesco.org/> (2007)
3. For every 100 men, 57 women are illiterate giving Pakistan one of the highest gender disparities in the world.
<http://www.efareport.unesco.org/> (2007)
4. In rural Balochistan province, only 7 percent of girls can read and write.
<http://www.statpak.gov.pk/depts/fbs/statistics/pslm2004-05/pslm2004-05.html>
5. 6.5 million children under 9 years old out of school in Pakistan, one of the highest numbers in the world, with many working.
<http://www.efareport.unesco.org/> (2007)
6. In Pakistan a legal right to free education does not exist and compulsory education is only stated necessary from ages 5 to 9.
<http://www.efareport.unesco.org/> (2007)
7. 42 percent of all children shun the public school system to attend private schools and the numbers are not slowing down.
http://www.moe.gov.pk/state_of_edu_pakistan.pdf
8. If it's 1 out of 2 children that begin school, it's likely another 1 in 2 drop out before they even complete it in Pakistan.
http://www.unescobkk.org/fileadmin/user_upload/appeal/gender/review_pakistan.doc
9. By 2050, Pakistan will have the 4th largest population in the world behind, China, India and the USA.
http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/WPP2004/WPP2004_Vol3_Final/Chapter1.pdf
10. Over a third of all public schools have no boundary wall, no toilet or drinking water facility on site. One in five villages have no school at all.

<http://www.statpak.gov.pk/depts/fbs/publications/nec2005/summary.pdf>

Other Facts

- An astonishing 40 percent of all children in South Asia are stunted due to lack of nutrition from poverty.

<http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php->

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