



Computing Uncomputed Indicators in Response to NEP 2020 Recommendations

A Case of Samagra Shiksha, 2021-22

Arun C Mehta

Former Professor & Head of EMIS Department
NIEPA, New Delhi

Background

The National Educational Policy (NEP 2020) has recommended several changes for school education that have far-reaching implications, one of which is restructuring the composition of school education. Till recently, the Primary education level in India consisted of Grades 1 to 5 (corresponding age group 6+ to 10+ years), the Upper Primary level consisted of Grades 6 to 8 (age group 11+ to 13+ years), Secondary (Grades 9 & 10/14+ to 15+ years) and Higher Secondary level of education consisted of Grades 11 & 12/16+ to 17+ years.

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020: The New School Education Structure

Instead of present levels, the NEP 2020 proposed

- (i) Foundational stage of school education (3 years of Pre-primary education including Grades 1 and 2 with corresponding age groups 3+ to 7+ years)
- (ii) The Preparatory phase consists of 3 years, i.e., Grades 3, 4 and 5
- (iii) Middle school education of 3 years (Grades 6, 7, and 8); and
- (iv) The Secondary education phase of 4 years consists of Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. The corresponding clientele age groups of these phases would be Phase I (3+ to 7+ years), Phase II (8+ to 10+ years), Phase III (11+ to 13+ years), and Phase IV (14+ to 17+ years).

Meaning of Universalisation

Universalization of school education in India means universal access (schooling facilities to all), universal participation (all children enrolled), universal retention (all children retained and transit from one level to another), and universal quality of education (meeting satisfying criteria of minimum levels of learning).

New phases would change the meaning of universal school education in India. A new set of indicators are required to know where we stand and monitor progress. At present, the status of universalization of school education in India is viewed through a set of indicators such as Gross and Net Enrolment Ratios, Age-specific & Adjusted-Net Enrolment Ratios, Grade-to-Grade dropout, promotion and repetition rates, average annual dropout rate, retention & transition rates, and a set of quality of education indicators. Because of changes recommended in NEP (2020), the meaning of most of these indicators and their implication for planning universalization will change. Instead of the present 6+ to 18 years age group, the new system would have 3+ to 18 as its clientele, thus meaning school education in India would have 17 years instead of the current 14 years.

New Foundation and Preparatory phase indicators are required to construct in line with the existing set of indicators. However, there is no implication for the third Middle school phase, which consists of Grades 6, 7, and 8, similar to the existing Upper Primary level of education, and the 4th phase is the combination of the existing Secondary and Higher Secondary levels of education and renamed as Secondary education phase.

For the Universal Foundational Stage, Gross, Net, and other enrollment-based indicators for the clientele population of 3 to 7+ years are required to assess children's participation. Universalization means enrolling all children of 3 to 7+ years in corresponding grades, i.e., pre-primary to Grades 1 and 2, would be a necessary condition, but that itself will not serve the purpose unless children who enter into the system (through the first year of 3 years of pre-primary education) are retained, move from one grade to another and finally reach and complete Grade 2.

The primary condition of universalization would be to enroll all children of age 3, for which the entry rate is required to compute. A 100 percent entry rate (Net) will be required to achieve the goal of a universal foundation. Grade-to-grade dropout, promotion, and repetition, if any, will be required to compute between each of the five years of the foundation stage. Additionally, the transition rate from the Foundational stage to the Preparatory, the Preparatory to the Middle, Middle to the Secondary phase, and the retention rate at all these phases will be required to compute. The retention rate presents information about the retaining capacity of the system, which is, unless brought to 100, the dream of universalization may not be cherished.

Similarly, the enrolment ratio at the Preparatory phase consisting of Grades 3, 4 & 5 with the corresponding clientele age group 8+ to 10+ years is required to be worked out. Universalization at this phase means all children of age group 8 to 10 years are enrolled in corresponding grades, i.e., Grades 3, 4 & 5, but that would depend upon how many phase one graduates (those who successfully reach Grade 2) system will be producing and transit to the first grade, i.e., Grade 3 of next phase, i.e., Phase 2, Preparatory phase.

Data Requirements to Compute Indicators

It may also be interesting to know that enrolment in the absolute form and relevant age-specific child population is required to compute enrollment-based indicators. Though enrolment is available from the U-DISE, the actual age-specific population is available from the Census of India, which is the latest available for 2011. However, the projected child population from 2011 to 2036, both aggregate and single-age, is made available by the *Technical Group on Population*

Table 1: Phase-specific Details of Indicators Computed: 2021-22

net	Coverage	Age Group	Indicators Computed
Phase I. Foundational Stage of School Education (5 years)	Part I. Early Childhood Education Programme in Pre- primary/Anganwadi/Balvatika Part II. Early Primary Education Programme in School, Grades 1 & 2	Age 3 to 6 years Age 6 to 7 Years	Distributed enrolment as per the restructured phases Gross Entry Rate: Boys/Girls/Total Net Entry Rate: Boys/Girls/Total % Grade 1 Enrolment with pre-primary experience % Distribution of Grade I enrolment by previous experience: Pre-primary/Another school/Anganwadi/ECCE
Phase II. Preparatory Stage (3 years)	Grades 3, 4 & 5	Age 8 to 10 years	Gender Parity Index %age of Enrolment: Gender-specific Enrolment Ratio: Boyd/Girls/Total
Phase III. Middle School Stage (3 years)	Grades 6, 7, & 8	Age 11 to 13 years	Gross Enrolment Ratio Net enrolment Ratio Adjusted-Enrolment Ratio Age-specific Enrolment Ratio
Phase IV. Secondary Stage (4 years)	Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12	Age 14 to 17 years	Flow Rates: Boys/Girls/Total Average Annual Dropout, Repetition & Promotion Rates Transition Rates: Boys/Girls/Total Retention Rates: Boys/Girls/Total
Source of Data			Preparatory Phase (1 to 5), Middle Phase (1 to 8) & Secondary Phase (1 to12) Projected Child Population: Boys/Girls/Total 3 to 5, 6 to7, 8 to 10, 11 to 13 & 14 to 17 years:
The raw data to compute indicators per the restructured phases of school education can be exclusively based on UDISE+ data. All relevant data is available except for net enrolment of 3 to 5 years in ECCE. Indicators must be computed separately for boys and girls and all disaggregated levels, such as block, district, state, and all-India levels. District Annual Work Plan & Budget must analyze indicators per the four phases of restructured school education.			

Projections constituted by the *National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India* (July 2020), may be used in working out enrolment-based indicators.

Only the state-specific and all-India projections are made available in the benchmark years, namely 2016, 2021, 2026, 2031, and 2036. Of late, the Ministry of Education has also started using these projections. Using the projected child population, one can compute indicators given

the change in the school structure because of the NEP 2020. The population in any intermediary year can be obtained based on the compound growth rates. However, indicators below the state level, i.e., district and block levels, are not possible to construct, without which one has to make own projections at these levels.

The Present Article

Even after three years of implementation, the *Official Statistics* still present enrolment and indicators as per the then levels of education, such as primary, upper primary, secondary, and higher secondary education. Even though some modifications are suggested in the Annual Work Plan and Budget under *Samagra Shiksha*, neither the UDISE+ data present the data as per the modified structure, nor the district plan analysis & indicators are focussed on the modified structure.

As has already been mentioned above, given the structural changes in the school sector, there is a need to relook into the existing indicators. In this article, an attempt has been made to explore possibilities to look at the existing indicators and construct them as per the new restructured phases of education. The enrolment is also redistributed as per the restructured phases.

The official enrolment data published through the UDISE+ is used to compute indicators. Official projected child population (Expert Committee) had been used to compute a variety of enrolment ratios, including the NER, adjusted-NER, and age-specific enrolment ratios at different phases of school education. Perhaps this is the first attempt through which indicators are computed as per the modified structure.

A note presenting details of the child projections has been annexed.

Table 1 presents the details of the indicators computed. It is possible to compute necessary indicators based on the data available in the public domain through UDISE+. Indicators are computed only at the all-India level; all such indicators are possible to compute at the sub-national level.

In a nutshell, the main objectives of the present article are to:

- *Redistribute the enrolment as per the new restructured phases of school education*
- *To estimate the child population based on the official projections as per the restructured phases*
- *To review the existing indicators and explore whether new indicators are required as per the restructured school education sector/phases; and*
- *To compute a set of indicators falling under the universal enrolment & retention concerning all phases of restructured school education.*

The emphasis is on the computation of indicators through the demonstration. Before we discuss enrolment in different phases, first grade-specific enrolment in Grades 1 to 12, along with the number of repeaters, is presented in Table 2. India had a total enrolment of 255.74 million in 2021-22, of which boys constitute 51.94 percent and girls 48.06 percent, thus giving a Gender parity Index of 925 girls per thousand 1,000 boys.

Table 2: Grade-specific Enrolment & Repeaters, 2020-21 & 2021-22

Grades	Enrolment, 2021-22			Repeaters, 2021-22		
	Girls	Boys	Total	Girls	Boys	Total
Pre-Primary	4443684	5051523	9495207	-	-	-
I	11509190	12670963	24180153	59109	45734	104843
II	11392653	12447253	23839906	55392	41221	96613
III	12014805	12986499	25001304	57045	42328	99373
IV	11858010	12862354	24720364	55262	41112	96374
V	11549937	12550586	24100523	77289	81249	158538
VI	10904266	11732632	22636898	78584	79996	158580
VII	10704368	11433633	22138001	80334	77207	157541
VIII	10670308	11345485	22015793	79196	79583	158779
IX	9490065	10295662	19785727	109398	121101	230499
X	8966648	9776256	18742904	90490	99426	189916
XI	7336609	7912717	15249326	69805	67671	137476
XII	6494709	6835015	13329724	69304	72827	142131
Total	122891568	132849055	255740623	881208	849455	1730663

Source: UDISE+ 2020-21 & 2021-22 enrolment data.

Enrolment by Restructured Phases

The 2021-22 enrolment data is presented in Table 3 as per the four phases described above, which aligns with the NEP 2020 recommendation. The data has been presented for the year 2020-21 and 2021-22. It may be recalled that the first phase, namely the Foundational stage of school education, has two parts, namely Part I: Early Childhood Education Programme in Pre-primary/Anganwadi/Balvatika consisting of three years and Part II: Early Primary Education Programme in school, Grades 1 & 2 consisting two years with a total of five years of Foundational stage.

The current grade-specific enrolment presented in Table 2 above is redistributed as per the new phases. Table 3 reveals a total enrolment of 10.64 million in Pre-primary/Anganwadi/Balvatika in the year 2020-21, which during the following year, i.e., 2021-22, declined to 9.50 million; the decline may be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic maybe parents had deferred admission of their wards.

The second stage of the Foundational stage is the Early Primary Education Programme in schools consisting of Grades 1 & 2, which had a total enrolment of 48.02 million in 2021-22, of which 50.35 percent (24.18 million) alone is of Grade I; the rest children in the Foundational stage are the students of Grade 1 in the previous year who are promoted to Grade 2, the following year, i.e., 2021-22. The enrolment data in this phase further shows a decline of 353 thousand over the previous year.

**Table 3: Enrolment Distributed by Different Phases of School Education
2020-21 & 2021-22**

Phase	Corresponding Enrolment	2020-21	2021-22	Change over the Previous Year
Phase I: Foundational Stage of School Education (5 years)	ECCE	10645526	9495207	-11,50,319
	Grades 1 to 2	48372778	48020059	-3,52,719
Total Foundational Stage (5 years)		59018304	57515266	-1503038
Phase II. Preparatory stage (3 years)	Grades 3 to 5	73648513	73822191	1,73,678
Phase III. Middle School Stage (3 years)	Grades 6 to 8	65854199	66790692	9,36,493
Phase IV. Secondary stage (4 years)	Grades 9 to 12	65928971	67107681	11,78,710
Total without Pre-Primary	Grades 1 to 12	253804461	255740623	19,36,162
Total with Pre-Primary	Pre-Primary to Grade 12	264449987	265235830	7,85,843

Note: Redistributed based on UDISE+ 2020-21 & 2021-22 enrolment data.

The next Phase, II, is the Preparatory stage consisting of Grades 3 to 5 (3 years), which were earlier part of the primary level of education. Thus the primary level is bifurcated into new Phases I and II, consisting of Grades 1 and 2 & Grades 3 to 5, respectively. Unlike the

Foundational stage, enrolment at the Preparatory phase increased marginally by 174 thousand in 2021-22, with a total enrolment of 73.82 million.

The next Phase III, the Middle school stage consisting of 3 years, is, in fact, the Upper Primary level of the previous structure, consisting of Grades 6 to 8. This phase has a total enrolment of 66.79 million in 2021-22, showing an increase of 936 thousand over the previous 2020-21.

The next Phase, IV, the Secondary stage, consists of 4 years and is, in fact, the combination of previous secondary and higher secondary levels of education. It has a total enrolment of 67.11 million in 2021-22, showing an increase of 1.18 million over the previous year.

With ECCE, India had 265.24 million enrolment in ECCE to Grade 12 in 2021-22, as against 264.45 million in the previous year. Enrolment in different Phases further reveals that except Phase I of the Foundational stage, the rest of the phases show a marginal increase in enrolment in 2021-22 during the previous year.

The gender-specific enrolment is presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Enrolment Distributed by Gender, Different Phases of School Education: 2020-21 & 2021-22

Phase	Girls		Change	Boys		Change
	2020-21	2021-22		2020-21	2021-22	
ECCE	4942317	4443684	-498633	5703209	5051523	-651686
Grades I to II	23144010	22901843	-242167	25228768	25118216	-110552
Total Foundational	28086327	27345527	-740800	30931977	30169739	-762238
Grades 3 to 5	35347630	35422752	75122	38300883	38399439	98556
Grades VI to VIII	31889045	32278942	389897	33965154	34511750	546596
Grades IX to XII	31691946	32288031	596085	34237025	34819650	582625
Grades I to XII	122072631	122891568	818937	131731830	132849055	1117225
With Pre-primary	127014948	127335252	320304	137435039	137900578	465539

Note: Redistributed based on UDISE+ 2020-21 & 2021-22 enrolment data.

Projected Child Population

An attempt has been made in the present article to explore and work out all possible indicators in the case of each of the four restructured phases. One set of such indicators falls under the enrolment ratio, which needs an age-specific child population as per the specification of a phase. It may be observed that the last Census was conducted in the year 2011, and since the 2021 Census is delayed because of COVID-19, there is no option but to use the projected child population in a year in which an indicator is required to be worked out.

Both for the Country as a whole and state-wise, the *Report of the Technical Group On Population Proiecttions* entitled **Population Projections for India and States: 2011–2036**, released in July 2020, by the *National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi* is available which is based up to the 2011 Census and presents projected

population on the quinquennial basis, i.e., 2016, 2021, 2026, 2031 and 2036. The total male and female population, as well as the population in different age groups and the single-age population, is available through the report of the Technical Group, which is good enough to compute the enrolment ratio as the child population made available by the Technical Group is available in the ready to use form.

Since the UDISE+ is the latest available for the year 2021-22, phase-wise enrolment ratios need the corresponding child population in the year 2021, which is estimated by using the projections made available by the Technical Group as described above and presented below in Table 5. *Details are annexed, which the state-level planning officers find useful.*

Table 5: Child Population corresponding to Different Phases of School Education, 2021

Phase	Grades	Corresponding Age Groups (In Years)	Sex Ratio: Child Population (Females per thousand Males)	Projected Population, 2021 (In thousand)		
				Total	Male	Females
Foundational Stage	ECCE	3 to 5	910	69293	36285	33007
	Grades I to II	6 to 7	884	47,099	25,001	22,098
	ECCE+ Grades I & II	3 to 7	899	116392	61286	55105
Preparatory Phase	Grades III to V	8 to 10	902	70,743	37,200	33,544
Middle Phase	Grades VI to VIII	11 to 13	931	70,550	36,539	34,012
Secondary Phase	Grades IX to XII	14 to 17	931	98,072	51,075	46,997
Total from Pre-primary to Grade XII	Pre-Primary to Grade XII	3 to 17	912	3,55,757	1,86,100	1,69,658
Total I to XII	Grades I to XII	6 to 17	912	2,86,464	1,49,815	1,36,651

Source: Estimated based on Population Projections for India and States: 2011-2036, Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi, July 2020.

The Clientele Population: 2021

Table 5 indicates a total of 116.4 million population in the age group 3 to 7 years corresponding to the Foundational stage as against a total of 70.74 million for the Preparatory, 70.6 million for the Middle, and 98.1 million for the Secondary phase, which gives a total of 355.8 million for the entire restructured school education consisting of Pre-school to Grade 12 in the year 2021. It may be recalled that without the pre-school, the previous structure consisting of Grades 1 to 12 would have had a total child population of 284.6 million in 2021-22. The restructured school sector now has an additional 69.3 million students, which is more than 24 percent of the clientele population previously, with the Foundational stage the lion's share (116.4 million).

A cursory look at Table 5 further reveals that there are more boys than girls in the case of the age groups corresponding to each of the four restructured phases, which is indicated in the child sex ratio.

Enrolment Ratio

With the projected child population (Table 5) and corresponding redistributed enrolment, let us now compute the enrolment ratio at different phases of the school education.

The enrolment ratio, the *Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER)*, is obtained by considering the total enrolment at an educational phase which is then divided by the corresponding child population and multiplied by 100 to obtain GER; the same at different phases is presented in Table 6.

For Example, GER at the Foundational stage is obtained by dividing the total enrolment, i.e., 5,75,15,266 (ECCE: 94,95,207 & Grades 1 and 2: 4,80,20,059) by the corresponding 3 to 7 years projected population (1,16,392 thousand), which is then multiplied by 100 to obtain a GER of 49.42 percent at this phase of education. This is repeated to obtain GER separately in the case of Girls (49.62 percent) and Boys (49.23 percent).

A GER of 49.42 percent at the Foundational phase of education indicates that almost 50 percent of children, including overage seven and underage three years, are enrolled in ECCE, including the pre-schools. No difference is, however, observed in the case of GER in boys and girls. GER has been treated as a crude indicator and thus may present a misleading picture of children's participation.

Table 6: Gross Enrolment Ratio (%), 2021-22

Phase	Total	Girls	Boys
ECCE (3 to 5 Years)	13.70	13.46	13.92
Grades I to II (6 to 7 Years)	101.96	103.64	100.47
Foundational (3 to 7 years) Stage	49.42	49.62	49.23
Preparatory Phase: Grades 3 to 5 (8 to 10 Years)	104.35	105.60	103.22
Middle Stage: Grades VI to VIII (11 to 13 Years)	94.67	94.90	94.45
Secondary Phase: Grades IX to XII (14 to 17 Years)	68.43	68.70	68.17
Grades I to XII (6 to 17 Years)	89.27	89.93	88.68
With Pre-primary (3 to 17 Years)	74.56	75.05	74.10

By following the same methodology, GER at other phases of school education is calculated, which is presented in Table 6.

It is observed that as we move from one phase to the next phase, the GER shows a consistent decline over the previous phase. Even though GER is considered a crude indicator but at the same time, it gives information about the quantum of the unfinished task.

Table 6 further shows a GER of 104.35 percent in the Preparatory, 94.67 percent in the Middle, and 68.43 percent in the Secondary phase of education, all of which suggest that a good number of children of the corresponding age are yet to be enrolled.

It need not necessarily mean that all remaining children are unenrolled, as a few of them may also be enrolled one level above. However, more clear picture of children's participation emerges when we next discuss the Net Enrolment Ratio, which like the GER, is also computed for all the four restructured phases of school education.

Net Enrolment Ratio

Net enrolment in an educational phase corresponding to the clientele age group of that phase is required to calculate NER, which is available through the online portal of UDISE+ and is available for all four restructured phases of school education. The raw data of net as well as age-specific enrolment is annexed.

For example, the NER at the preparatory phase is calculated by dividing the net enrolment of Grades 3 to 5 of the corresponding age group 8 to 10 years which is then multiplied by 100. In this case, the net enrolment at the preparatory phase comes out to be 5,68,25,952, and the projected child population of age 8 to 10 years in 2021-22 is 70,743 thousand; this gives us a NER of 80.33 percent. By following the same methodology, NER for boys and girls comes out

Table 7: Net Enrolment Ratio (%), 2021-22

Phase	Girls	Boys	Total
ECCE* (3 to 5 Years)	13.46	13.92	13.70
Grades I to II (6 to 7 Years)	69.57	67.03	68.22
Foundational (3 to 7 years) stage*	35.96	35.59	35.76
Preparatory Phase: Grades 3 to 5 (8 to 10 Years)	81.39	79.37	80.33
Middle Stage: Grades VI to VIII (11 to 13 Years)	71.66	71.00	71.32
Secondary Phase: Grades IX to XII (14 to 17 Years)	53.43	52.82	53.11
Grades I to XII (6 to 17 Years)	67.44	66.22	66.80
With Pre-primary (3 to 17 Years)	56.94	56.02	56.46

* ECCE Total Enrolment, age-specific ECCE enrolment is not available.

to be 79.37 and 81.39 percent, respectively. A NER of 80.33 percent at the Preparatory phase indicates that 80.33 percent of children aged 8 to 10 are enrolled in the corresponding Grades 3 to 5. Are the remaining 19.67 percent of children of this age group termed out of school? It is unnecessary, as few of them may even be enrolled in one phase above, i.e., the Middle stage, the preparatory phase, which is not reflected in the Net Enrolment Ratio. Alternatively, the adjusted net enrolment ratio is calculated, which is considered a better indicator of children's participation. It may also be observed that NER in the case of Part II of the Foundational stage

consisting of Grades 1 & 2/6 to 7 years is 68.22 percent, indicating that many children of this age group were not enrolled in Grades 1 & 2 in 2021-22.

The NER at other phases of school education comes out to be 71.32 and 53.11 percent, respectively, in the case of the Middle and Secondary phases, all of which indicate that a good number of children are yet to be enrolled in the corresponding grades. Less than 50 percent of children aged 14 to 17 were unenrolled in Grades 9 to 12. Still, we are unsure that all of them are out of school as a few may currently be enrolled in the lower phases of school education.

Adjusted Net Enrolment Ratio

Next, we calculate the Adjusted Net Enrolment Ratio, which, as described above, is considered a better indicator than the NER because it also considers the enrolment of children of an age group one phase above the prescribed phase for that age group. Adjusted NER is bound to be more or equal to the NER. Since the enrolment above the Secondary phase is not readily available, the Adjusted NER for the Secondary phase of education is not possible to compute.

Table 8: Adjusted-Net Enrolment Ratio (%), 2021-22

Phase	Girls	Boys	Total
*Foundational Phase I: Grades 1 & 2 (6 to 7 Years)	98.98	94.89	96.81
Preparatory Phase: Grades 3 to 5 (8 to 10 Years)	99.20	96.49	97.77
Middle Phase: Grades VI to VIII (11 to 13 Years)	87.54	86.99	87.25

* Excluding ECCE Enrolment, age-specific ECCE enrolment is not available.

It is observed that a good number of children of an age group that seemed to be out-of-school, a majority of them are enrolled in one phase above. Heartening to observe that only a few children are unenrolled, which is valid for both Phases 1 & 2 as the adjusted enrolment at these phases is almost universal.

In the Middle phase, 12.75 percent of the total 11 to 13 years children remained out of school; in absolute terms, it is as high as 89,95,125, which is considered huge. These children are neither enrolled in Grades 6 to 8 nor in one phase above, i.e., Grades 9 to 12. It may be recalled that NER at this phase is 71.32 percent, thus indicating that about 16 percent of children of the relevant age group are enrolled in the next higher phase. This is also very much true for the Preparatory phase having a NER of 68.22 percent against a high adjusted NER of 96.81 percent. This also indicates that children do enter the system much earlier than the prescribed age. As we move towards universalization, children enter the system at the prescribed age, and eventually, both the GER and GER will become the same.

Age-Specific Enrolment Ratio

We have discussed GER, NER, and adjusted NER, each of which has a limitation. Which enrolment ratio is then best to use? One can use a particular ratio depending on the objective and availability of data. Still, there is another ratio, namely the age-specific enrolment ratio, which presents coverage of children of a single age or age group and considers the total enrolment of that age/age group irrespective of the grade/phase of education. ASER is computed for the age groups 6 to 7, 8 to 10, 11 to 13, and 14 to 17, which correspond to Grades 1 & 2, Grades 3 to 5 of preparatory, Grades 6 to 8 of middle, and Grades 9 to 12 of secondary phases of school education.

ASER presented in Table 8 indicates that good progress has already been made concerning the foundational and preparatory phases, as above 96 percent of children of the relevant age groups are enrolled. However, all those enrolled are not necessarily enrolled in the corresponding grades/phase as the ASER considers the total enrollment irrespective of grade/phase. However, the same, especially for the 14 to 17 age group, is not true as only 57.38 percent of children in this age group are enrolled. Further, the ASER of the age group 11 to 13 years is reported to be 92.22 percent as against a NER of 71.32 percent, indicating that a good number of children of this age group are enrolled in other than the prescribed Grades of 6 to 8.

Table 9: Age-specific Enrolment Ratio (%), 2021-22

Phase	Girls	Boys	Total
Age 6 & 7/Grades I to II	98.98	94.89	96.81
Age 8 to 10/Grades 3 to 5	101.88	99.40	100.58
Age 11 to 13/Grades VI to VIII	92.27	92.17	92.22
Age 14 to 17/Grades IX to XII	57.59	57.19	57.38

Note: Theoretically, ASER cannot exceed 100; maybe it is because of data abnormalities.

Is 100 percent Enrolment Sufficient?

No, just having a hundred percent NER or Adjusted-NER itself doesn't guarantee that we shall achieve the goal of universal enrolment unless all the children enter into the system through Grade 1 at the prescribed age, which can be measured by a variety of indicators, like intake, admission or more popularly known as entry rate but this most crucial indicator doesn't find a place in most of District Annual Plans & Budget being formulated annually as a part of the flagship *Samagra Shiksha* program of the Government of India.

Along with the entry rate, in view of NEP 2020, it would also be of interest to view the Grade 1 enrolment with previous experience, information on which is available through UDISE+.

Meaning of Entry/Intake Rate

The basic indicator that gives an idea about coverage of child population (in a system) is the intake (entry) rate which is simply the division of enrolment in Grade I to the corresponding population at which a child is supposed to enter into the system (6-year). However, while calculating the entry rate, repeaters, if any, are not considered, and only fresh (new) entrants in Grade I are considered. This is because repeaters are not the members of the present cohort, but they entered into the system some one or two years back.

In the case of gross enrolment (including children below & above '6' in Grade 1), the entry rate calculated is known as Gross Entry Rate; otherwise, it is known as Net Entry Rate. The entry rate, also known as the Admission or Intake rate, demonstrates the capacity of the system concerning the availability of schooling facilities.

Calculation of Entry Rate

Table 10 presents both the raw data and calculation procedure of the entry rate. Total enrolment in Grade 1 in 2021-22 is reported to be 2,41,80,153, of which girls constitute 47.60 percent or a GPI of 0.91, thus indicating a wide gap between boys' and girls' participation in Grade 1. The projected age-6 population in 2021-22 is 2,34,94,000, of which 46.92 percent are girls (GPI, 0.88).

Using the Grade 1 enrolment and age-6 population gives us an entry rate of 102.92 percent, which, if repeaters are considered, gives us a Gross Entry Rate of 102.47 percent, which also includes over and under age-6 children because this rate is considered a crude indicator of the participation of age-6 children. Alternatively, the Net Entry rate, which is considered a better indicator, is calculated.

Instead of total Grade 1 enrolment, while calculating the net entry rate, net enrolment (new entrants) in Grade 1 of age '6' is considered. Table 10 shows a total enrolment of age 6 in Grade 1 to be 1,07,64,297, which, if divided by a projected child population of 2,34,94,000, gives a Net Entry Rate of 45.82 percent.

A gross entry rate of 102.47 percent means that more than 102 percent of children (of entry age), including the overage and underage, are enrolled. However, a net entry rate of 46 percent means that 54 percent of children of entry age are out of the system or are yet to be enrolled, or a few of them may even be enrolled in a higher phase of school education.

Further, it is heartening to observe a high Net Entry Rate in the case of Girls (46.66 percent) than their counterpart Boys (45.07 percent); however, the difference between the two is marginal. In view of the low net entry rate, concerted efforts are required to bring the remaining children under the fold of education. In addition, the net entry rate is required to be computed at the sub-national level and by social category, without which it can not be used as input to planning exercises. Entry rate is also useful in projecting grade-specific enrolment but is not presently seen in use.

Needless to mention that unless the net entry rate is brought to a hundred, the goal of universal enrolment cannot be achieved. Except for the initial period of the DPEP, now district plans do not present an entry rate which is true for both the [Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan](#) and the newly launched [Samagra Shiksha: An Integrated Scheme for School Education](#).

Table 10: Entry Rate at All-India Level: 2021-22

Enrolment/Repeaters/Entry Rate	Grade I Enrolment, 2021-22			
	Boys	Girls	Total	
Total Grade I Enrolment	12670963	11509190	24180153	Girls% 47.60
Grade I Enrolment of Age 6	5621276	5143021	10764297	
With Pre-School Experience	9973180	9124076	19097256	Boys% 52.40
Projected Age-6 Population	12471000	11023000	23494000	
Gross Entry Rate (%) (without repeaters)	101.60	104.41	102.92	Gender Parity Index (Enrolment) 0.91
Net Entry Rate	45.07	46.66	45.82	
Repeaters in Grade I	45734	59109	104843	
Freshers (Grade I Enrolment - Repeaters)	12625229	11450081	24075310	
Gross Entry Rate	101.24	103.87	102.47	GPI in Age- 6 Population 0.88

Source: Calculated based on UDISE+ 2021-22 data by Prof. Arun C Mehta. Expert Committee Population Projections: 2011 to 2036 have been considered in getting a single age-6 population for the year 2021-22.

Grade I Enrolment with Pre-School Experience

It may be recalled that the NEP 2020 extended coverage of school education to early childhood care education, which is part of the foundational stage of education along with Grades 1 & 2 and the corresponding age groups 3 to 7 years because of which it is essential to know how many

Table 11: Grade I Enrolment with Pre-School Experience, 2021-22

Grade I Enrolment with Pre-School Experience in	Pre-School	Another School	Anganwadi/ECCE	Total with Pre-Experience
Total	4348419	1476371	4357390	10182180
Boys	2285734	784821	2239766	5310321
Girls	2062685	691550	2117624	4871859
% Grade I Enrolment by Previous Experience				
Total	42.71	14.50	42.79	42.11
Boys	43.04	14.78	42.18	41.90
Girls	42.34	14.19	43.47	42.33
	Boys	Girls	Total	
Total Enrolment in Grade I	12670963	11509190	24180153	
Grade I Enrolment without Experience	7360642	6637331	13997973	
% Grade 1 without Previous Experience	58.09	57.67	57.89	

Source: Calculated based on UDISE+ 2021-22 data by Prof. Arun C Mehta.

children in Grade 1 have had pre-school experience for which the UDISE+ 2021-22 data is analysed. Experience in pre-school, from another school, and Anganwadi/EECE are three pre-experiences children in Grade 1 have.

It may be recalled that the total enrolment in Grade 1 at the all-India level in 2022-23 is 2,41,80,153, of which 1,39,97,973 reported pre-experience, which indicates that only 42.11 percent of the total students in Grade 1 had pre-experience compared to which 41.90 percent Boys and 42.33 percent Girls have had pre-experience. Since the pre-school/Anganwadi/ECCE has recently formally made part of the school education, it is expected that the percentage of students with pre-experience in Grade 1 will gradually improve in the coming years. This also indicates that about 58 percent of those enrolled in Grade 1 in 2021-22 did not have any pre-experience and entered the system without prior experience.

Grade 1 enrolment with the nature of pre-experience in 2021-22 further indicates that children had an almost equal percentage in the case of pre-schools (42.71 percent) and Anganwadi/ECCE (42.79 percent). As many as 14.50 percent of students in Grade 1 have pre-experience but in a different school than the present one in which they are enrolled. An almost similar percentage is obtained in the case of boys and girls in Grade I. It may also be observed that the percentage of Grade 1 students without pre-experience in 2021-22 is as high as 57.89, almost similar for boys and girls. In other words, it means that as many as 1,39,97,973 students entered the system without pre-experience, all of whom may be considered freshers.

Retaining Capacity of System

The intake rate fails to give an idea about children who entered and then remained in the system in the years that followed. Enrolling all children of age six does not guarantee that the goal of universal enrolment will be achieved on its own; it is a necessary condition but not a sufficient condition. Children are to be retained in the system and should also acquire minimum levels of competencies. For that purpose, other indicators, such as dropout & retention rate, the transition from foundational to preparatory, and preparatory to middle and from middle to the secondary phase of education, may also be analysed.; for this purpose, indicators concerning the enrolment ratio at different phases and retention and transition rate from one phase to another need to be analyzed and the same have been presented below.

Dropout Rates

With the data available in the public domain, an effort has been made to compute flow rates at all the phases of restructured school education for which grade-specific enrolment corresponds to a phase for the years 2020-21 and 2021-22 and the number of repeaters in the latest year, i.e., 2021-22 has been considered.

It may be observed that because of consideration of all schools, the dropout rate often presents absurd results; following the same methodology at the all-India level does not present an accurate picture of retaining the system's capacity. Though the average annual dropout rate must be based on the common schools, from the UDISE+ portal, it is not possible to download

enrolment data based on the common schools, given that an attempt is made to compute the dropout rate at the all-India level for different phases of school education.

The flow rates for the Cohort 2020-21 (the year 2021-22) are presented in Tables 12 & 13. The impact of considering all schools instead of common schools is reflected in the average annual dropout rate at the Foundational phase, which is for both boys and girls is negative. Even otherwise, the same is an underestimate of the actual dropout rates. The average annual dropout rate for the preparatory phase obtained is 2.14 percent for all and 2.08 and 2.19 percent, respectively, in the case of girls and boys. In view of the large child population (70,743 thousand) corresponding to the preparatory phase, as many as 15,13,90 children dropped out from Grades 3 to 5 between the years 2020-21 and 2021-22.

In the Middle phase, the average annual dropout is 3.02 percent which has increased from 1.9 in the previous cohort; in absolute numbers, as many as 2.35 million students dropped out from Grades 6 to 8 between the year; thus, would severely impact efforts being currently made through *Samagra Shiksha*. Further, it is observed that more girls (3.31 percent) dropped out from these grades than their counterparts boys (2.74 percent), which needs quick intervention. Please refer to Table 13, presenting the number of dropped-out children in the Middle phase between the years 2020-21 and 2021-22, indicating that the number of dropped-out children is 2.25 million.

Table 12
Average Annual Flow Rates as per Different Phases of Restructured School Education
Cohort 2020-21 (The year 2021-22)

Foundational Phase/Grades 1 to 2	Total	Girls	Boys
Repetition Rate	0.42	0.51	0.34
Promotion Rate	100.56	100.64	100.49
Dropout Rate	-0.98	-1.15	-0.83
Preparatory Phase/Grades 3 to 5	Total	Girls	Boys
Repetition Rate	0.54	0.58	0.49
Promotion Rate	97.32	97.34	97.32
Dropout Rate	2.14	2.08	2.19
Middle Stage/Grades 5 to 8	Total	Girls	Boys
Repetition Rate	0.72	0.75	0.70
Promotion Rate	96.26	95.94	96.56
Dropout Rate	3.02	3.31	2.74
Secondary Phase/Grades 9 to 11*)	Total	Girls	Boys
Repetition Rate	1.06	1.21	1.20
Promotion Rate	89.18	101.51	101.34
Dropout Rate	9.76	-2.72	-2.54

* Since enrolment data post Grade XII is not available, it is not possible to compute the dropout rate for Grades IX to XII.

Lakshadweep has the lowest number of 64 dropped-out children in Middle phase grades; however, Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of 3,76,206 in Middle classes. On the other hand, as many as eight states reported no student dropping out during this phase between 2020-21 and 2021-22. Madhya Pradesh is followed by Bihar (3,23,289 students), Uttar Pradesh (3,22,617 students), Rajasthan (1,81,757 Students), Assam (1,71,921 students), Odisha (1,56,407 students), etc. Further, it is observed that at least eight states reported more than 100 thousand dropped-out students in Grades 6 to 8 in 2021-22.

Table 13 Number of Dropped out Children at Middle Phase III

State/ UT	Enrolment in Middle Phase, Grades 6 to 8: 2020-21	Dropout Rate, Middle Phase 2021-22	Number of Dropped-out Children between 2020-21 & 2021-22
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	17959	1.0	180
Andhra Pradesh	2157288	1.6	34517
Arunachal Pradesh	85587	6.7	5734
Assam	1953646	8.8	171921
Bihar	7028016	4.6	323289
Chandigarh	63824	0.0	0
Chhattisgarh	1472887	4.1	60388
Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu	34439	0.0	0
Delhi	1153258	0.0	0
Goa	71777	0.0	0
Gujarat	3082327	5.0	154116
Haryana	1443313	0.2	2887
Himachal Pradesh	339892	0.6	2039
Jammu and Kashmir	576755	3.0	17303
Jharkhand	2055203	3.9	80153
Karnataka	3158190	1.1	34740
Kerala	1490417	0.0	0
Ladakh	12078	1.1	133
Lakshadweep	2457	2.6	64
Madhya Pradesh	4275073	8.8	376206
Maharashtra	5846586	1.5	87699
Manipur	155783	5.6	8724
Meghalaya	242417	10.6	25696
Mizoram	69520	2.7	1877
Nagaland	98469	4.0	3939
Odisha	2142561	7.3	156407
Puducherry	62953	2.4	1511
Punjab	1456184	8.0	116495
Rajasthan	4226917	4.3	181757
Sikkim	31267	0.0	0
Tamil Nadu	3110765	0.0	0
Telangana	1794753	3.1	55637
Tripura	184264	4.5	8292
Uttar Pradesh	11124734	2.9	322617
Uttarakhand	594201	2.7	16043
West Bengal	4238439	0.0	0
India			22,50,364

Source: Calculated based on UDISE+ 2020-21 & 2021-22 data.

Since the enrolment data past Grade XII is not available, it is not possible to work out the dropout rate at the Secondary phase, which is the combination of the previous secondary and higher secondary levels of education. Instead, we have calculated dropout rates in Grades 9 to 11 and presented them in Table 12, which reveals a remarkably high dropout rate of 9.76 percent.

Transition Rates

The average annual dropout rates presented above indicate that they are high, especially in the case of Middle and Higher Secondary phases of school education. Still, there is no guarantee that those who have not dropped out will complete a phase and transit to the next phase, for which we have computed and presented the transition rate from one phase to another.

*For example, the transition rate from the Preparatory to Middle phase/Grades 5 to 6 is obtained by dividing enrolment in Grade 6' (minus repeaters) in 2021-22 by enrolment in the previous grade, i.e., Grade V in 2020-21, then multiplied by 100 to get transition rate, i.e. [(22636898 - 158580)/ 24124090]*100 = 93.18 percent]*

The transition rates are above 90 percent except in the Middle to Secondary phase, thus indicating that those who reach the end of the phase could transit to the next phase. However, the same from the Middle to Secondary phase of education indicate that only 89 percent of children transit between these level, and about 11 percent of children drop out from the system between one level of education to another, which is in addition to about 3 percent children those who dropped out in between the Grades of Middle phase. An almost equal percentage of boys and girls transit from one phase to another which is true for all the phases of school education (Table 14).

Table 14: Transition Rate, 2020-21

Level	Girls		Boys		Total	
	Without Repeaters	With Repeaters	Without Repeaters	With Repeaters	Without Repeaters	With Repeaters
Foundational Stage I. Grade 2 to 3	99.42	98.95	99.18	98.86	99.30	98.90
Preparatory to Middle Phase/Grades 5 to 6	94.05	93.37	93.64	93.00	93.84	93.18
Middle to Secondary Phase/Grade 8 to 9	88.86	87.84	90.79	89.73	89.86	88.81

Retention Rate

Still, there is no guarantee that all the students who have not dropped out will remain up to the final grade of a phase. To know this retention rate at the end grade of a phase is computed. The retention rate is calculated in relation to enrolment in Grade 1 from where students enter the system. The current retention rates (Grades 1 to 5, 1 to 8, and 1 to 12) prior to the restructuring

of the school education level will continue, which is presented in Table 15 all, which shows that a significant number of children dropped out from the system and did not reach to Grades 5, 8 and 12 which is true for both the boys and girls. This has got serious implications for India's efforts towards universal school education with 100 percent GER by 2030.

*For example, the retention rate at the Preparatory Phase (1 to 5) is obtained by dividing enrolment in Grade V (minus repeaters) in 2021-22 by enrolment in Grade I in 2017-18, which is then multiplied by 100, i.e. $[(2,41,00,523 - 1,58,538)/2,50,87,310]*100$*

Table 15: Retention Rates, 2021-22

Phase	Boys	Girls	Total
Preparatory Phase (Grades 1 to 5)	94.9	96.0	95.4
Middle Phase (Grades 1 to 8)	80.5	82.1	81.2
Secondary Phase (Grades 1 to 12)	43.1	44.2	43.6

Source: UDISE+ 2021-22.

Concluding Observations

From the above discussion, one gets the idea of how to build a set of indicators per the requirements of the restructured school education: foundational, preparatory, middle, and secondary phases. By taking examples, the computation of indicators is explained, which the state and the district planning teams working to formulate the annual work plan and budget must compute for their state and district.

All the demonstrated indicators can be worked out separately at any level of education in the case of boys and girls. Raw data to construct such indicators are available in ready-to-use form from UDISE+. If the districts do not have access to raw data, the national-level authorities must provide all states/districts with disaggregated data.

Initially, districts may not be able to construct indicators per the restructured phases for which the state MIS unit can compute and provide the same to the district so that the district planning teams can use the same while formulating annual work plans. Alternatively, the state must design a unique spreadsheet and provide the same to the district to generate block-specific indicators at their own gender-specific wherever required.

We cannot afford to use indicators as per the previous structure in the absence of which progress on different aspects of the program can not be monitored and make mid-course corrections.

The national-level institutions engaged in planning, such as NIEPA, must be entrusted with developing a planning module that has become necessary because of the changes in the school structure. How long we continue to plan as per the previous structure of education? Not only this, NIEPA must take responsibility and orient both the state and district planning teams with the new structure and new set of indicators in mind, with further loss of time.

It is hoped that UDISE+ will present modified indicators in its forthcoming publications both at the all-India and state levels. In the absence of phase-specific indicators, it is impossible to monitor the progress or to review and suggest mid-course corrections, nor can the targets be set as per the modified phases of education

Projected Child Population

An attempt has been made in the present article to explore and work out all possible indicators in the case of each of the four restructured phases. One set of such indicators falls under the enrolment ratio, which needs an age-specific child population as per the specification of a phase. It may be observed that the last Census was conducted in the year 2011, and since the 2021 Census is delayed because of COVID-19, there is no option but to use the projected child population in a year in which an indicator is required to be worked out.

Both for the Country as a whole and state-wise, the *Report of the Technical Group On Population Proiectttons* entitled **Population Projections for India and States: 2011–2036**, released in July 2020, by the *National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi* is available which is based up to the 2011 Census and presents projected population on the quinquennial basis, i.e., 2016, 2021, 2026, 2031 and 2036. The total male and female population, as well as the population in different age groups and the single-age population, is available through the report of the Technical Group, which is good enough to compute the enrolment ratio as the child population made available by the Technical Group is available in the ready to use form.

Since the present paper is written, the state and district level officers engaged in the annual work plan and budget under the aegis of *Samagra Shiksha* in mind, the use of the projections made available by the Technical Group is demonstrated by taking the example of the actual data of India, which the user can replicate at the state and district level and compute enrolment ratios, subject to availability of data by different phases of restructured school level, such as the foundational stage, the preparatory phase, the middle stage, and the combined secondary level corresponding to the age structure.

Since the UDISE+ is the latest available for the year 2021-22, phase-wise enrolment ratios need the corresponding child population in the year 2021, which is available in the ready-to-use form from the report of the Technical Group as specified above. Below, we present the projected single-age population at the all-India level, which the state and district officers can use at their level as per the requirement. A separate article is soon being prepared to demonstrate the projection of the district-wise child population.

In the past, it was observed that in the absence of a projected child population, either the enrolment ratios at the sub-national level were not computed or the same were based on an unrealistic projected child population because of which most of the time the indicators computed were of little use.

Table 1: Single-age Projected Population, All-India, 2021

Age	2021			2026			2031			Total	M
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female		
5	23,310	12,335	10,974	22,289	11,718	10,570	21,144	11,064	10,081	19,954	10
6	23,494	12,471	11,023	22,476	11,831	10,644	21,363	11,191	10,172	20,141	10
7	23,605	12,530	11,075	22,652	11,937	10,715	21,576	11,315	10,261	20,348	10
8	23,645	12,515	11,130	22,819	12,036	10,783	21,781	11,434	10,347	20,576	10
9	23,612	12,425	11,188	22,976	12,128	10,848	21,980	11,549	10,431	20,824	10
10	23,486	12,260	11,226	23,194	12,275	10,918	22,197	11,673	10,523	21,085	11
11	23,408	12,146	11,262	23,418	12,427	10,990	22,418	11,800	10,617	21,334	11
12	23,470	12,143	11,327	23,551	12,496	11,055	22,612	11,914	10,699	21,561	11
13	23,672	12,250	11,423	23,593	12,483	11,111	22,781	12,013	10,767	21,768	11
14	24,015	12,467	11,548	23,545	12,386	11,158	22,922	12,099	10,823	21,954	11
15	24,410	12,712	11,698	23,406	12,219	11,187	23,127	12,242	10,885	22,160	11
16	24,712	12,883	11,829	23,328	12,106	11,222	23,349	12,394	10,956	22,380	11
17	24,935	13,013	11,922	23,385	12,101	11,284	23,477	12,460	11,017	22,570	11
18	25,079	13,103	11,977	23,577	12,202	11,375	23,511	12,442	11,069	22,730	11
19	25,146	13,152	11,994	23,904	12,410	11,494	23,451	12,339	11,112	22,861	12
20	25,377	13,293	12,084	24,282	12,646	11,637	23,301	12,166	11,135	23,053	12
21	25,660	13,461	12,199	24,570	12,810	11,761	23,213	12,049	11,164	23,265	12
22	25,696	13,492	12,205	24,782	12,933	11,849	23,261	12,038	11,223	23,384	12
23	25,485	13,384	12,100	24,918	13,016	11,901	23,444	12,133	11,311	23,411	12
Total	4,62,217	2,42,034	2,20,182	4,46,664	2,34,162	2,12,502	4,30,910	2,26,317	2,04,593	4,15,359	2,18

Source: Population Projections for India and States: 2011-2036, Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi, July 2020.

Based on the single-age population presented in the table, next, we obtain the child population corresponding to different phases of a school structure presented in Table 4. The table reveals that from the projected technical group's projections, it is not possible to obtain a child population in the age group 3 to 5 years in any year because it has provided a single-age population only from age five onwards and no single-age population of age 3 and 4 is made available. The moot question is, therefore, how to obtain a child population in the age group 3 to 5 years in the absence of which neither the GER nor NER is possible to compute for the fundamental stage of education? What is the alternative? Let us explore.

We are re-emphasizing the importance of projections of the child population which, as mentioned above, is crucial to construct enrolment-based indicators in each of the four newly restructured phases. We want to ensure that each state uses technical group projections hassle-free.

It is proposed to use the actual single-age Population of Census 2011 to obtain the percentage of 3 to 5 years to total 0 to 14 years population, which is then applied to 2021 Technical Group projections to obtain a total 3 to 5 population in 2021 and the subsequent years.

**Table 2: Census of India 2011 (Actual) Single-age Population
All-India**

	Persons	Males	Females
All Ages (Total)	1210854977	623270258	587584719
0	20311234	10633298	9677936
1	21755197	11381468	10373729
2	23056268	11952853	11103415
3	23974041	12331431	11642610
4	23710038	12333024	11377014
5	26054230	13725480	12328750
6	25654245	13394700	12259545
7	24826640	12903364	11923276
8	26968373	14061937	12906436
9	23424638	12214985	11209653
10	30552107	16089436	14462671
11	24740946	12962604	11778342
12	27877307	14637892	13239415
13	24280683	12563775	11716908
14	25258169	13165128	12093041
15	25899454	13739746	12159708
16	24592293	13027935	11564358
17	21217467	11349449	9868018
18	27958147	15020851	12937296
19	20859088	10844415	10014673
20	28882735	14892165	13990570
Total 0 to 14 Years	372444116	194351375	178092741
Total 3 to 5 years	73738309	38389935	35348374
%age 3 to 5 years to 0 to 14 years Population	19.80	19.75	19.85
Projected 0 to 14 Population, 2021	3,49,990000	183695000	166295000
Projected 3 to 5 Population, 2021	69298020	36279763	33009558

Source: Calculated on the basis of Census of India 2011 figures.

Table 3: Population Projections: All India, 2021
(In thousands)

Age Group	Persons	Male	Female
0 to 4	114273	60153	54120
5 to 9	117666	62276	55390
10 to 14	118051	61266	56785
0 to 14	349990	183695	166295
3 to 5 % of 0 to 14, 2011	19.80	19.75	19.85
3 to 5 Pp, 2021	69293	36285	33007
in '000	69292733	36284997	33006723

Source: Estimated based on 2011 single-age population.

Table 4: Child Population Corresponding to Different Phases of School Education
All India: 2021

Phase	Grades	Corresponding Age Groups (In Years)	Projected Population, 2021 (In thousand)		
			Total	Male	Females
Foundational Stage	ECCE	3 to 5	69293	36285	33007
	Grades I to II	6 to 7	47,099	25,001	22,098
	ECCE+ Grades I & II	3 to 7	116392	61286	55105
Preparatory Phase	Grades III to V	8 to 10	70,743	37,200	33,544
Middle Phase	Grades VI to VIII	11 to 13	70,550	36,539	34,012
Secondary Phase	Grades IX to XII	14 to 17	98,072	51,075	46,997
Total I to XII	Grades I to XII	6 to 17	2,86,464	1,49,815	1,36,651

Source: Estimated based on Population Projections for India and States: 2011-2036, Report of the Technical Group on Population Protections, National Commission on Population, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, New Delhi, July 2020.

Table 5: Net Enrolment: 2021-22

Phase	Girls	Boys	Total
ECCE*	4443684	5051523	9495207
Grades I to II	15373576	16758626	32132202
Total Foundational	19817260	21810149	41627409
Grades 3 to 5	27300944	29525008	56825952
Grades VI to VIII	24371948	25942956	50314904
Grades IX to XII	25108299	26978744	52087043
Grades I to XII	92154767	99205334	191360101
With Pre-primary	96598451	104256857	200855308

* ECCE Total Enrolment, age-specific ECCE enrolment is not available.

Table 6: Adjusted Enrolment (One Phase Above), 2021-22

Phase	Girls	Boys	Total
Foundational Phase I: Grades 1 & 2 (6 to 7 Years)	21872976	23722665	45595641
Preparatory Phase: Grades 3 to 5 (8 to 10 Years)	33273996	35894286	69168282
Middle Stage: Grades 6 to 8 (11 to 13 Years)	29773136	31785106	61558242

Source: UDISE+ 2021-22 enrolment.