









COVID-19 AND CHILDREN

An update on the data, the impact and the ground experience







MAKING SENSE OF THE BIG PICTURE:

29,762,793 people have tested COVID-19 positive in India 177,761,738 people have tested COVID-19 positive worldwide

19th June 2021 Johns Hopkins Global Dashboard

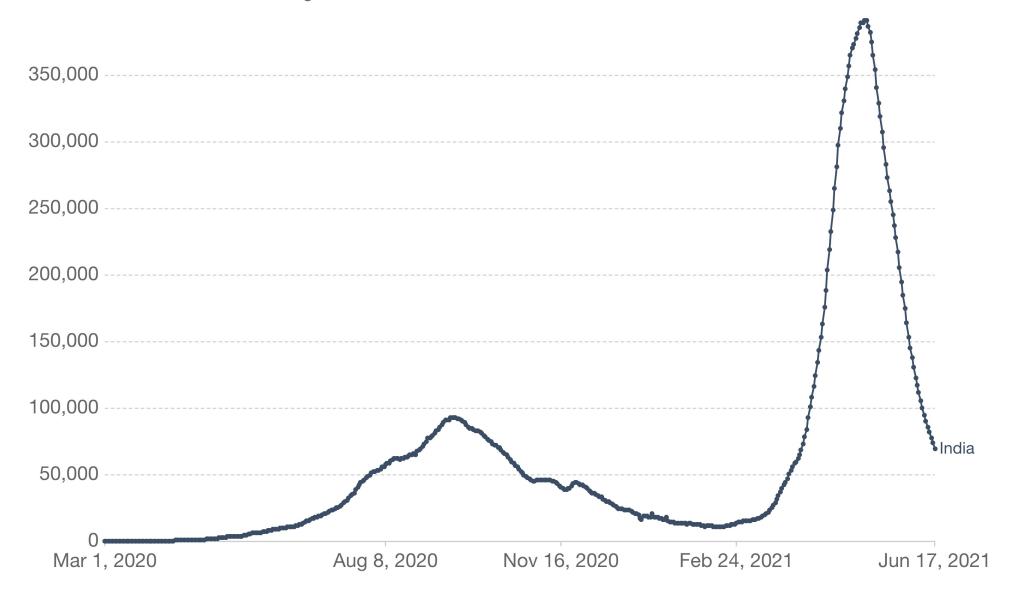




Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases



Shown is the rolling 7-day average. The number of confirmed cases is lower than the number of actual cases; the main reason for that is limited testing.







Children are not the face of this pandemic. But they risk being among its biggest victims, as children's lives are nonetheless being changed in profound ways. All children, of all ages, and in all countries, are being affected, in particular by the socioeconomic impacts and, in some cases, by mitigation measures that may inadvertently do more harm than good.

This is a universal crisis and, for some children, the impact will be lifelong.

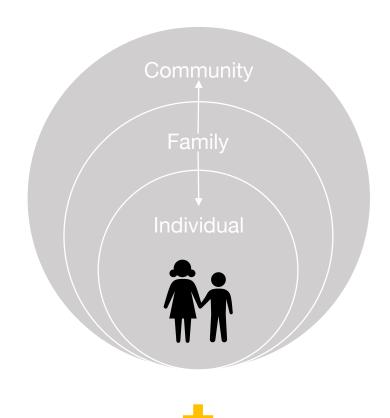
Moreover, the harmful effects of this pandemic will not be distributed equally. They are expected to be most damaging for children in the poorest countries, and in the poorest neighbourhoods, and for those in already disadvantaged or vulnerable situations.

UNICEF





THE COMPOUNDED BURDEN THAT CHILDREN ARE CARRYING



Children already living in poverty

Implications for a generation of children

Learning crisis

Child labour

Increased violence

Malnutrition

Developmental delay

Mental health crisis





VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES CARRY AN UNEQUAL BURDEN



More than 115 million

children live in extreme poverty in India

150 million

additional children worldwide to plunge into poverty due to the COVID-19 pandemic

450 days

of school closures





EDUCATION

The Learning Crisis





School closures

between March 11, 2020 and February 2, 2021

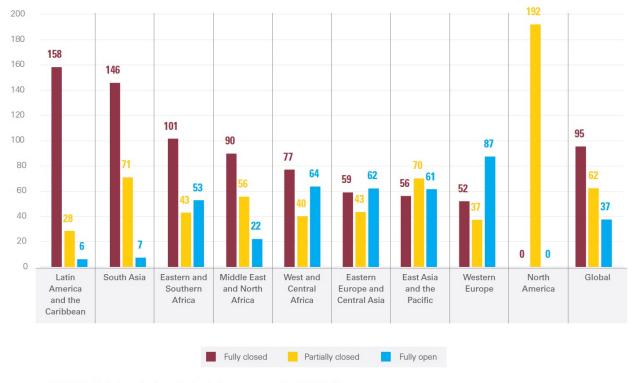
Global average

South Asia average

96 days

146 days

Number of students (in million) impacted in countries with fully closed schools as of February 2, 2021



Source: UNESCO Global monitoring of school closures caused by COVID-19

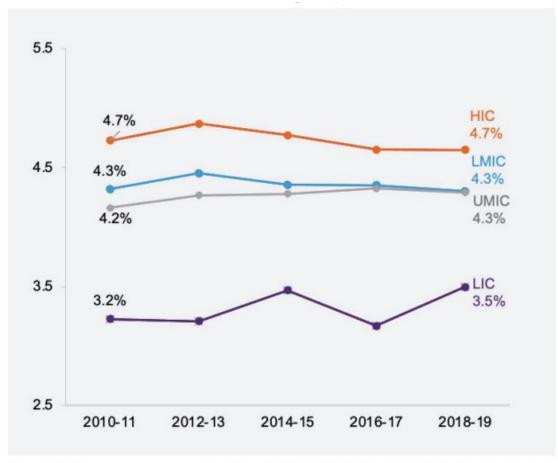
Note: Estimates are weighted by the number of students in pre-primary to upper secondary education in each country.





Government Education Spending

Government education spending as a share of GDP has remained flat in the past 10 years



Source: EFW team estimates using data from OECD, UIS, IMF and World Bank online databases.

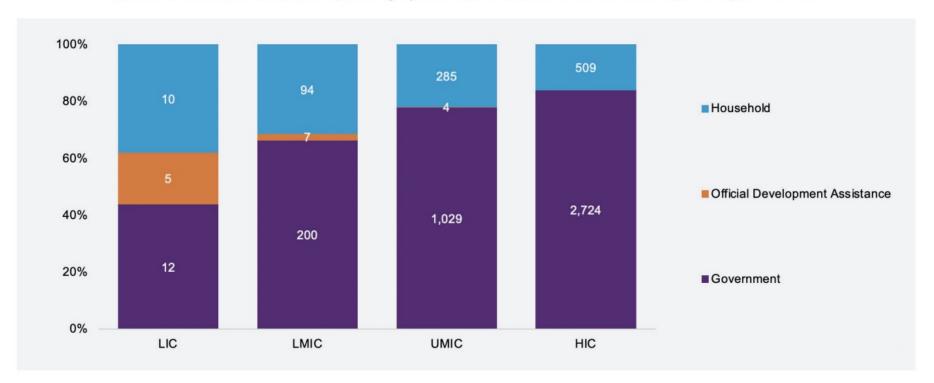




Distribution of Education Spending

Except in low-income countries, governments account for the bulk of education spending

Distribution of total education spending by source, constant 2018 US dollars (billions), 2018–2019



Source: EFW team estimates using data from OECD, UIS, IMF and World Bank online databases.





Change in Government Spending on Education during COVID-19

Education budgets declined after the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in 65% of low-and lower middle-income countries compared to only 33% of high-and upper-middle-income countries

	All countries		High- and upper-mid income		Low- and lower-middle- income	
	Pre- Covid	Post- Covid	Pre- Covid	Post- Covid	Pre- Covid	Post- Covid
Total education budget			<u> </u>	***		
Change in education budget	1.1	4.0	2.2	6.7	0.3	2.0
Share of countries decreasing education budget	44.8	51.7	41.7	33.3	47.1	64.7
Average decrease in countries that decreased their budget	-8.3	-4.6	-6.9	-7.4	-9.1	-3.6
Average increase in countries that increased their budget	8.7	13.2	8.8	13.8	8.7	12.4
Education's share of the total budget						
Average change in percentage points	-0.5	0.1	-0.3	-0.1	-0.6	0.2
Average share	13.4	13.5	13.7	13.6	13.2	13.4



Change in School Enrollment – Rural India

There has been a clear shift from private to government schools between 2018 and 2020, in all grades and among both boys and girls. Reasons may include financial distress in households and/or permanent school shutdowns among the privates schools.

% Children enrolled in school. By grade, sex and school type. 2018 and 2020*

	ASER 2018						ASER 2020					
Std		Boys		Girls			Boys			Girls		
	Govt	Pvt	Total	Govt	Pvt	Total	Govt	Pvt	Total	Govt	Pvt	Total
Std I-II	57.9	42.1	100	65.1	34.9	100	61.1	38.9	100	66.7	33.4	100
Std III-V	62.7	37.3	100	71.2	28.8	100	65.6	34.4	100	73.3	26.7	100
Std VI-VIII	65.8	34.3	100	73.3	26.7	100	68.3	31.7	100	77.0	23.0	100
Std IX & above	64.6	35.4	100	68.9	31.2	100	69.7	30.4	100	72.7	27.3	100
All	62.8	37.2	100	70.0	30.0	100	66.4	33.6	100	73.0	27.0	100



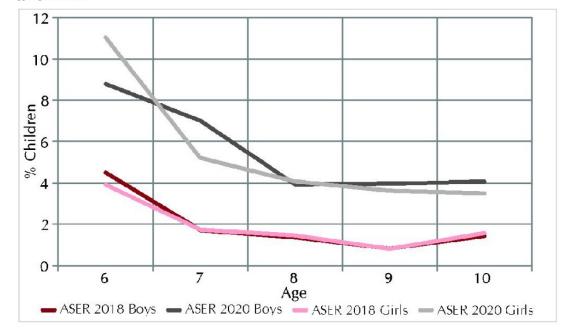
Increase in children not enrolled in school

Because schools are closed, many young children have not yet secured admission to Std 1. The increase in not enrolled children in the 6-10 age group is therefore likely to be more a reflection of children waiting to enroll in school rather than of children who have indeed dropped out.

% Children not enrolled in school. By age group and sex. 2018 and 2020*

	% Children								
Age group	A	SER 201	8	ASER 2020					
	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls	All			
Age 6-10	1.8	1.8	1.8	5.3	5.2	5.3			
Age 11-14	2.9	3.6	3.2	3.9	3.9	3.9			
Age 15-16	11.4	12.6	12.0	8.8	11.1	9.9			
All	3.7	4.2	4.0	5.3	5.7	5.5			

% Children not enrolled in school. By age and sex. 2018 and 2020*





CHILD LABOUR



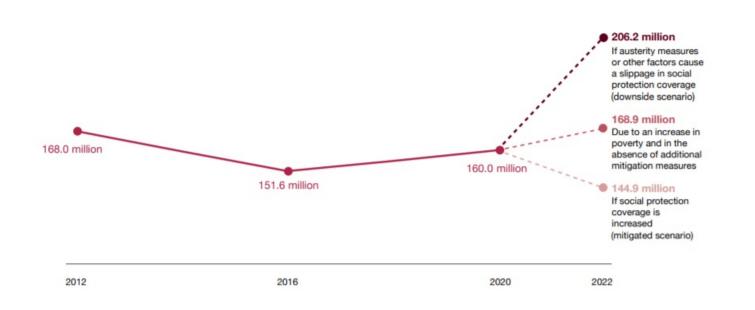


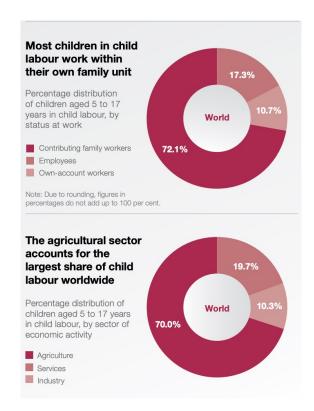
Child Labour

Increase in child labour from 28.2% to 79.6% out of the 818 children who were surveyed, mainly because of the COVID-19 pandemic and closure of schools, reveals a study conducted by Campaign Against Child Labour in India.

Without mitigation measures, 8.9 million more children will likely be engaged in child labour by the end of 2022

Fig 33. Number of children aged 5 to 17 years in child labour, observed and projected









Child labour is frequently associated with children being out of school.

More than 25% of children aged 5 to 11 and over 33% of children aged 12 to 14 who are in child labour are out of school.





HEALTH AND NUTRITION





A drop of at least 10% in coverage for health services such as routine vaccinations, outpatient care for childhood infectious diseases, and maternal health services. Fear of infection is a prominent reason.

40% decline in the coverage of nutrition services for women and children across 135 countries. As of October 2020, 265 million children were still missing out on school meals globally. More than 250 million children under 5 could miss the life-protecting benefits of vitamin A supplementation programmes.

An estimated 2 million additional child deaths and 200,000 additional stillbirths could occur over a 12-month period with severe interruptions to services and rising malnutrition.

An additional 6 to 7 million children under the age of 5 will suffer from wasting or acute malnutrition in 2020, a 14% rise that will translate into more than 10,000 additional child deaths per month – mostly in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.





WHAT WE HAVE LEARNT FROM THE FIELD

Children Living on the Periphery: A Field Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on Vulnerable Children in South India



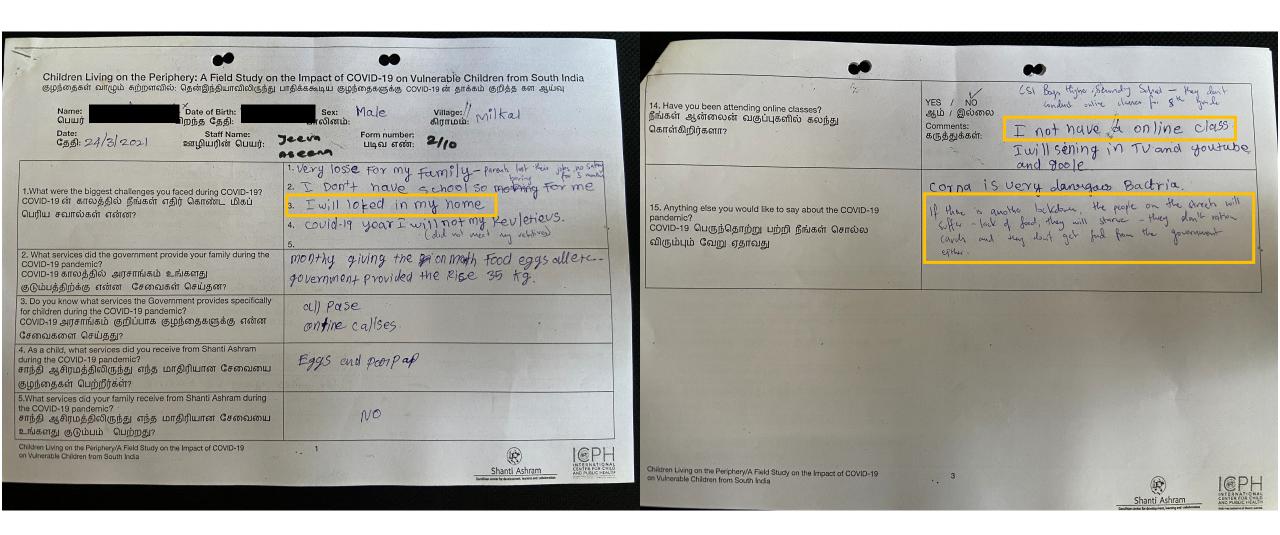
KEY FINDINGS

- A minimum of 3 months of income loss
- Visible poverty and food insecurity
- No online classes for rural children
- Increase in violence against children
- Increase in child labour
- Increase in mental health problems
- "Students got unequal education knowledge"





WHAT WE HAVE LEARNT FROM THE FIELD







SHANTI ASHRAM'S COVID-19 RESPONSE



May 2020 - May 2021: 30,000 children served

We prioritized CHILDREN & VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

400 days
34 villages
112 Partner Institutions
130 Volunteers & 9,428 volunteering hours
28 countries



