

# Infrastructure in govt. schools catching up with private ones in 2024

The latest UDISE+ report shows that infrastructure in rural schools is on a par with urban schools, compared to a decade ago

## DATA POINT

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Government schools have notably improved in the provision of basic infrastructure facilities to students over the past 10 years, and are almost on a par with private schools, data show. More than 80% of government schools in India are equipped with functional electricity, ramps, boys' and girls' toilets, handwash, and libraries.

Table 1 shows the shares of government and private schools that provide various infrastructural amenities as mentioned in the latest data released by the Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE+), maintained by the Ministry of Education.

Compared to 2013-14, the share of government schools providing functional electricity has doubled from 45% to 90% in 2023-24, while the share of those equipped with computers has tripled from 15% to 51% in the same period. The share of government schools having libraries and ramps, and conducting medical checkups, has surpassed that of private schools equipped with the same in 2024.

Table 2 shows the share of rural and urban schools equipped with various infrastructure facilities in 2014 and 2024. Facilities such as drinking water, electricity, functional toilets, libraries, ramps, and playgrounds are available in more than 75% of rural schools across India in 2024.

The latest report shows the gap between the share of rural and urban schools in select infrastructure facilities has narrowed. The share of rural schools with ramps and regular medical checkups has surpassed the share of urban schools with the same. Drinking water, toilets, libraries, and playgrounds were provided in almost the same share of rural and urban schools. However, schools in rural

areas continue to lag in the availability of computers, rainwater harvesting systems, and internet connection.

Table 3 compares the availability of select infrastructure facilities in 2013-14 and 2023-24. The data is provided for all major States across government and private schools. The greener the cell, the greater the percentage of schools (by management) with the facility and vice versa.

Data show that the share of schools with a functional toilet facility has increased and is at least 90% across all States in the latest year. While States such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, and Delhi have sustained their values, there has been a considerable improvement in government and private schools in Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal.

Compared to 2013-14, more schools have equipped themselves with functional electricity. A decade ago, the share of government schools with functional electricity was less than 50% in States such as Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. The share has increased close to 80% and above in all these States.

However, the availability of computers is higher among private schools compared to government schools. Except for Kerala whose figures have always been above 90%, the share of government schools having computers is above 80% only in six other States.

The share of government schools equipped with computers is still as low as 12% in Bihar, 19% in West Bengal, and 29% in Uttar Pradesh. However, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Haryana, and Odisha have shown considerable improvement compared to 2013-14.

Interestingly, the tables turn when we look at the share of schools with the availability of ramps. More government schools are equipped with ramps compared to private schools. The trend has been true in 2013-14 as well, not just in the latest year.

## Report card

The data for the charts were sourced from Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) Reports of 2013-14 and 2023-24, released by the Ministry of Education

Acing all tests: Students in a public school at Laggere in Bengaluru in May 2024.



Table 1

The table shows the shares of government and private schools that provide various infrastructural amenities (in %)

|                           | Government |     | Private |     |
|---------------------------|------------|-----|---------|-----|
|                           | 14'        | 24' | 14'     | 24' |
| Functional electricity    | 44         | 90  | 80      | 92  |
| Functional toilet         | 86         | 96  | 91      | 96  |
| Functional boys' toilets  | 77         | 90  | 88      | 96  |
| Functional girls' toilets | 81         | 93  | 90      | 95  |
| Availability of ramps     | 65         | 85  | 35      | 59  |
| Availability of computer  | 15         | 51  | 51      | 76  |
| Rainwater harvesting      | 2          | 26  | 10      | 34  |
| Internet                  | 3          | 46  | 19      | 74  |
| Medical checkup           | 66         | 81  | 57      | 59  |
| Handwash                  | 39         | 95  | 55      | 96  |
| Library                   | 78         | 93  | 72      | 82  |

Table 2

The table shows the share of rural and urban schools equipped with various infrastructure facilities in 2014 and 2024 (in %)

| Rural/Urban                | Rural |     | Urban |     |
|----------------------------|-------|-----|-------|-----|
|                            | 14'   | 24' | 14'   | 24' |
| Functional electricity     | 47    | 88  | 85    | 96  |
| Availability of computer   | 19    | 53  | 52    | 77  |
| Functional toilet facility | 86    | 95  | 91    | 97  |
| Functional boys' toilet    | 78    | 89  | 80    | 91  |
| Functional girls' toilet   | 81    | 93  | 85    | 94  |
| Internet                   | 5     | 50  | 21    | 73  |
| Medical checkup            | 63    | 76  | 64    | 71  |
| Playground                 | 66    | 81  | 73    | 87  |
| Rainwater harvesting       | 3     | 27  | 10    | 36  |
| Library                    | 76    | 89  | 81    | 89  |
| Availability of ramps      | 59    | 78  | 45    | 71  |

Table 3: \*The greener the cell, the greater the % of schools with the facility. In contrast, cells coloured red indicate lesser % of schools with the facility

The table compares the availability of select infrastructure facilities in 2013-14 and 2023-24. The data is provided for all major States across government and private schools (in %)

| Location        | Functional toilet facility |     |         |     | Functional electricity |     |         |     | Availability of computers |     |         |     | Availability of ramps |     |         |     |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----|---------|-----|------------------------|-----|---------|-----|---------------------------|-----|---------|-----|-----------------------|-----|---------|-----|
|                 | Govt                       |     | Private |     | Govt                   |     | Private |     | Govt                      |     | Private |     | Govt                  |     | Private |     |
|                 | 14'                        | 24' | 14'     | 24' | 14'                    | 24' | 14'     | 24' | 14'                       | 24' | 14'     | 24' | 14'                   | 24' | 14'     | 24' |
| Andhra Pradesh* | 61                         | 95  | 68      | 100 | 87                     | 95  | 94      | 100 | 17                        | 80  | 66      | 96  | 30                    | 48  | 18      | 90  |
| Bihar           | 65                         | 94  | 79      | 96  | 4                      | 77  | 58      | 87  | 2                         | 12  | 36      | 68  | 60                    | 55  | 33      | 35  |
| Chhattisgarh    | 90                         | 96  | 90      | 99  | 48                     | 90  | 81      | 98  | 5                         | 67  | 39      | 73  | 66                    | 83  | 27      | 50  |
| Delhi           | 100                        | 100 | 100     | 100 | 100                    | 100 | 100     | 100 | 76                        | 100 | 91      | 100 | 91                    | 100 | 64      | 100 |
| Gujarat         | 100                        | 99  | 100     | 100 | 100                    | 100 | 100     | 100 | 69                        | 98  | 87      | 97  | 96                    | 96  | 40      | 52  |
| Haryana         | 97                         | 100 | 100     | 100 | 97                     | 99  | 100     | 100 | 27                        | 98  | 84      | 95  | 73                    | 84  | 47      | 56  |
| Himachal        | 97                         | 100 | 96      | 100 | 85                     | 99  | 98      | 100 | 13                        | 40  | 78      | 94  | 68                    | 94  | 16      | 27  |
| Jharkhand       | 81                         | 98  | 88      | 99  | 6                      | 93  | 70      | 96  | 4                         | 77  | 66      | 90  | 45                    | 77  | 16      | 27  |
| Karnataka       | 100                        | 99  | 99      | 100 | 97                     | 98  | 93      | 99  | 19                        | 38  | 68      | 85  | 79                    | 88  | 16      | 40  |
| Kerala          | 98                         | 100 | 97      | 100 | 91                     | 100 | 97      | 100 | 92                        | 100 | 91      | 99  | 77                    | 95  | 22      | 51  |
| Madhya Pradesh  | 90                         | 92  | 97      | 95  | 11                     | 82  | 81      | 95  | 5                         | 41  | 49      | 78  | 62                    | 99  | 46      | 80  |
| Maharashtra     | 98                         | 94  | 99      | 99  | 82                     | 81  | 97      | 99  | 37                        | 73  | 85      | 97  | 92                    | 97  | 42      | 86  |
| Odisha          | 70                         | 100 | 70      | 99  | 23                     | 96  | 57      | 98  | 9                         | 56  | 31      | 81  | 66                    | 97  | 13      | 89  |
| Punjab          | 99                         | 99  | 98      | 99  | 100                    | 100 | 100     | 100 | 39                        | 100 | 87      | 97  | 84                    | 89  | 25      | 56  |
| Rajasthan       | 94                         | 89  | 97      | 89  | 36                     | 89  | 83      | 94  | 13                        | 38  | 47      | 80  | 51                    | 76  | 31      | 56  |
| Tamil Nadu      | 97                         | 97  | 99      | 96  | 97                     | 100 | 99      | 96  | 49                        | 72  | 86      | 88  | 77                    | 100 | 22      | 96  |
| Uttar Pradesh   | 96                         | 97  | 98      | 95  | 28                     | 89  | 61      | 81  | 6                         | 29  | 20      | 56  | 84                    | 90  | 54      | 52  |
| Uttarakhand     | 93                         | 93  | 92      | 93  | 61                     | 88  | 79      | 96  | 22                        | 87  | 62      | 88  | 59                    | 85  | 14      | 53  |
| West Bengal     | 83                         | 100 | 62      | 100 | 38                     | 98  | 62      | 93  | 9                         | 19  | 23      | 49  | 58                    | 85  | 8       | 32  |

\*2024 data includes numbers for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana for the sake of comparison