

Annual Status of Education Report 2021

Chhattisgarh RURAL

28 DISTRICTS

October-November 2021



About ASER Chhattisgarh 2021

WHEN: Survey conducted in **households** in October-November 2021

WHERE: SAMPLING:

- 60 villages in each district
- 20 households randomly selected in each village
- Children aged 3-16 surveyed
- Children aged 5-16 assessed
- Largest government primary school surveyed

WHAT: Assessment

- One-on-one assessment with each child
- **Basic reading and arithmetic** for all 5-16 year old children in sampled households

WHO: Students of District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) conducted ASER



28 districts



1,677 villages



33,432 households



45,992 children



1,647 schools

Contents



Discussion points include

Enrollment trends

Basic Learning Levels

Learning Support

School Facilities

Annual Status of Education Report
OCTOBER 2021 **असर** **ASER** **CHHATTISGARH** **RURAL**
Facilitated by PRATHAM

Compared to 2018, more children in govt schools in 2021

Table 1: % Children enrolled in different types of schools by age group and gender. 2021

Age group	Govt	Pvt	Other	Not in School	Total
Age: 6 -14 All	82.9	15.3	0.1	1.8	100
Age: 7-16 All	81.8	14.5	0.1	3.6	100
Age: 7- 10 All	82.4	16.5	0.1	1.1	100
Age: 7-10 Boys	80.4	18.4	0.1	1.1	100
Age: 7-10 Girls	84.3	14.7	0.1	1.0	100
Age: 11-14 All	83.4	13.9	0.0	2.7	100
Age: 11-14 Boys	81.4	15.5	0.0	3.0	100
Age: 11-14 Girls	85.1	12.5	0.0	2.4	100
Age: 15-16 All	77.3	11.3	0.0	11.5	100
Age: 15-16 Boys	72.7	13.3	0.0	14.0	100
Age: 15-16 Girls	81.1	9.5	0.1	9.4	100

Other' includes children going to Madarsa and EGS.

'Not in school' includes children who never enrolled or have dropped out.

Table 2: % Children enrolled in different types of schools by age group and gender. 2018

Age group	Govt	Pvt	Other	Not in School	Total
Age: 6 -14 All	76.4	20.0	0.0	3.6	100
Age: 7-16 All	74.6	18.2	0.0	7.2	100
Age: 7- 10 All	75.7	22.6	0.0	1.7	100
Age: 7-10 Boys	73.7	24.1	0.0	2.2	100
Age: 7-10 Girls	77.7	21.1	0.0	1.2	100
Age: 11-14 All	78.0	16.4	0.1	5.5	100
Age: 11-14 Boys	75.4	19.1	0.1	5.5	100
Age: 11-14 Girls	80.3	14.1	0.1	5.6	100
Age: 15-16 All	65.1	13.1	0.0	21.7	100
Age: 15-16 Boys	61.9	15.6	0.0	22.5	100
Age: 15-16 Girls	67.7	11.1	0.1	21.2	100

Other' includes children going to Madarsa and EGS.

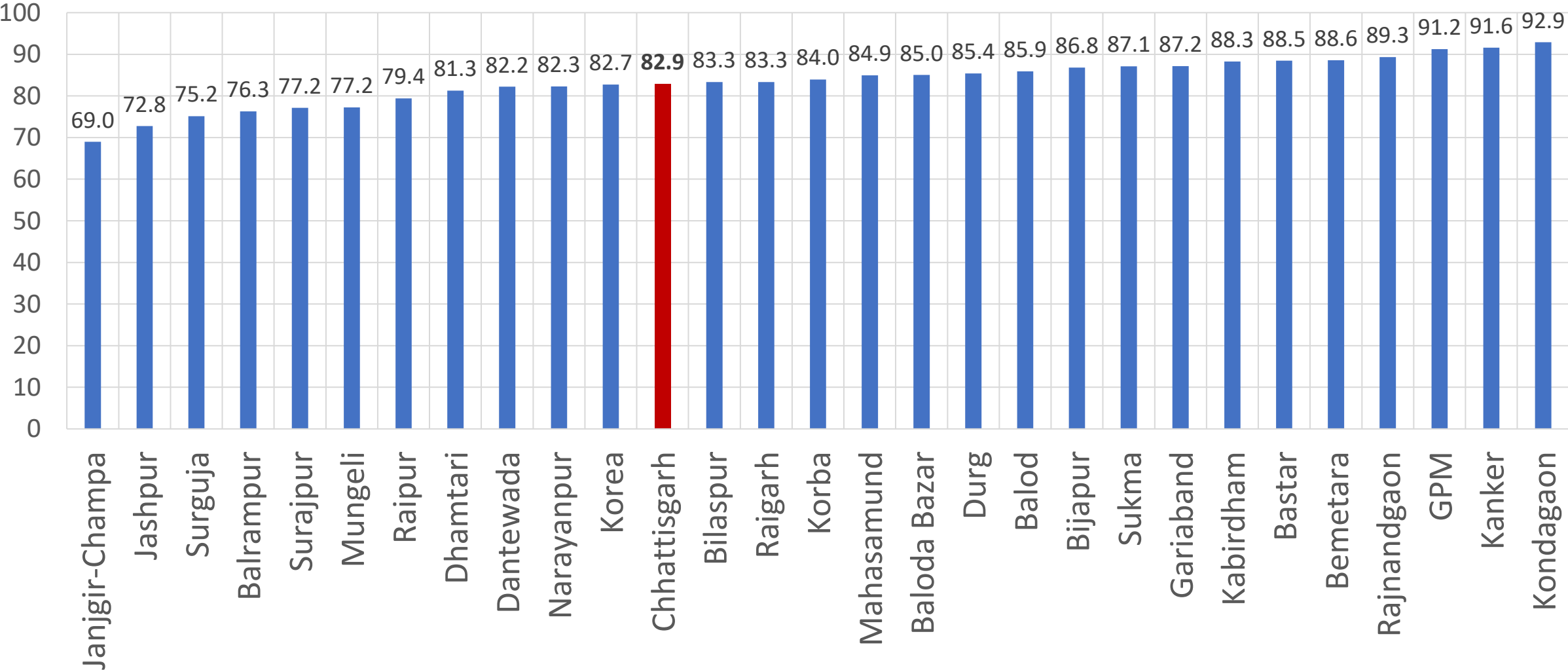
'Not in school' includes children who never enrolled or have dropped out.

Government school enrollment has increased across all age groups & for both boys & girls between 2018 & 2021.

Currently, 82.9% children aged 6-14 years are enrolled in government schools in Chhattisgarh as compared to 76.4% in 2018.

Govt school enrollment is over 70% in all districts currently

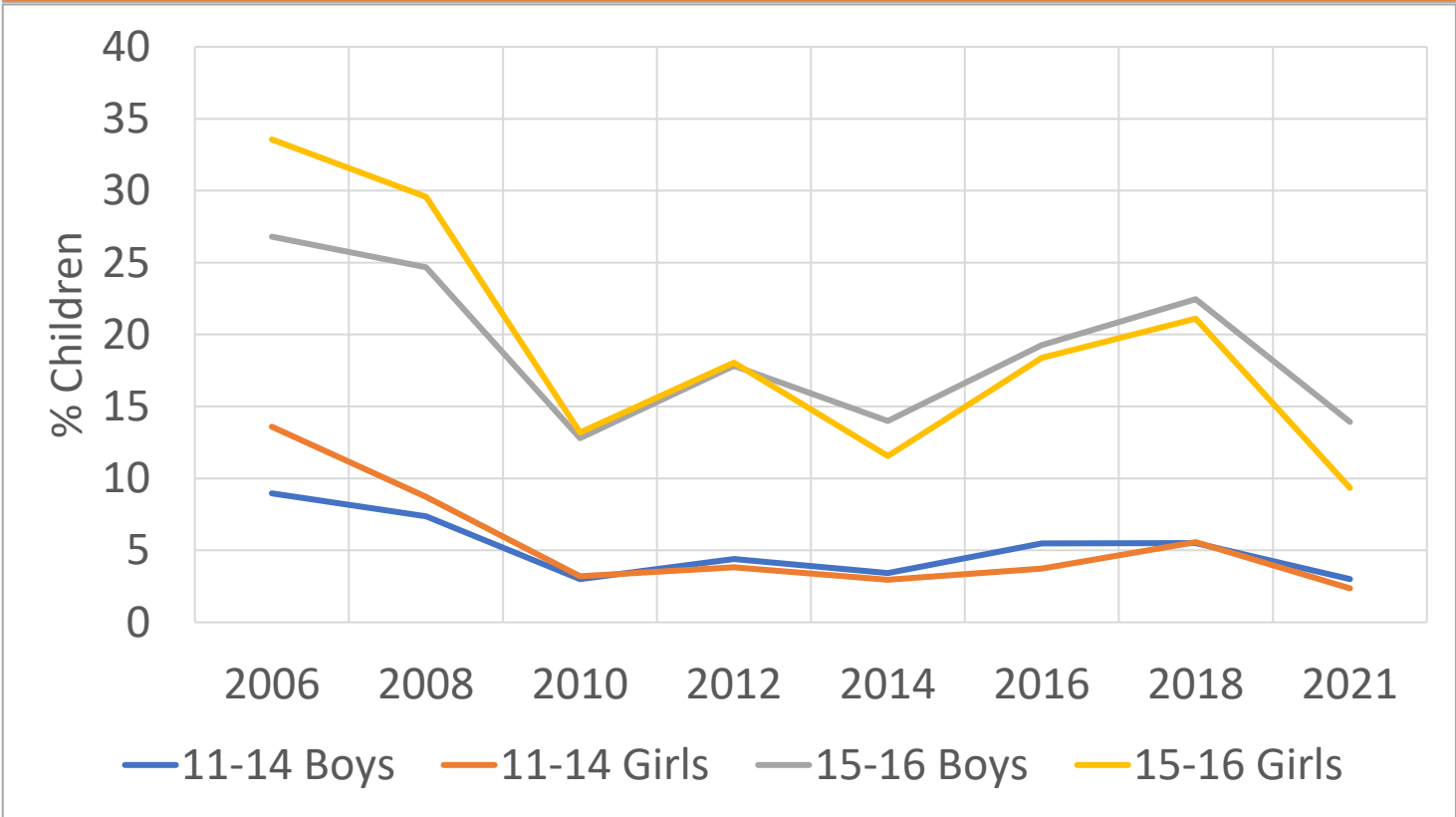
Chart 1: % Children aged 6-14 enrolled in govt school by district



The districts with more than 90% enrollment in government schools are GPM, Kanker, Kondagaon.

Decline in proportion of children not enrolled in school

Chart 2: % Children not enrolled in school. By age group and sex. 2006-2021



Enrollment rates in 2021 are higher for all age groups as compared to 2018.

District variations in 2021

- At the district level, the proportion of **6-14-year-olds** not currently enrolled in school is **below 5% for most districts**.
- Some districts are exceptions:

District	% Children not in school
Dantewada (South Bastar)	10.4
Narayanpur	11.6
Bijapur	7.0
Sukma	7.2
Chhattisgarh	1.8

Reading levels in 2021

Table 3: % Children reading at different levels by grade.
All schools. 2021

Std	Not even letter	Letter	Word	Std I level text	Std II level text	Total
I	58.2	34.7	4.3	1.2	1.7	100
II	37.6	45.0	9.6	3.9	3.9	100
III	22.5	39.5	16.8	8.9	12.3	100
IV	11.5	27.1	18.5	15.4	27.6	100
V	7.6	17.4	14.1	16.4	44.6	100
VI	4.8	13.1	11.2	14.8	56.1	100
VII	3.3	8.1	8.5	12.5	67.7	100
VIII	2.1	5.7	6.9	10.3	75.1	100

12.3% of children in Std III can read Std II level text – a proxy for grade level reading. This proportion increases in higher classes, but even **in Std VIII, almost one-fourth of the students cannot read Std II level text.**

Reading tool

Std II level text

राजू नाम का एक लड़का था। उसकी एक बड़ी बहन व एक छोटा भाई था। उसका भाई गाँव के पास के विद्यालय में पढ़ने जाता था। वह खूब मेहनत करता था। उसकी बहन बहुत अच्छी खिलाड़ी थी। उसे लंबी दौड़ लगाना अच्छा लगता था। वे तीनों रोज़ साथ-साथ मौज-मस्ती करते थे।

Std I level text

हर रविवार नानी घर आती है। हमारे लिए मिठाई लाती है। मैं नानी के साथ सोता हूँ। वह मुझे कहानी सुनाती है।

Letters

ह च ट
ल न
फ म र
स त

Words

कुल बड़ा
रोटी
पानी चूना
चलो हीरा
पैर
देर कौन

Sharp drop in reading levels between 2018 & 2021

Table 4: Trends over time: Govt schools
Reading levels in Std I and II
2014, 2016, 2018 and 2021

Year	% Children who can at least read letters (Govt schools)	
	Std I	Std II
2014	40.1	70.7
2016	45.3	77.1
2018	44.0	76.3
2021	35.7	57.0

Table 5: Trends over time: Govt schools
Reading levels in Std III, V and VIII.
2014, 2016, 2018 and 2021

Year	% Children who can read Std II level text (Govt schools)		
	Std III	Std V	Std VIII
2014	15.4	47.1	73.8
2016	22.2	51.0	70.9
2018	25.0	57.1	77.0
2021	9.4	41.0	73.5

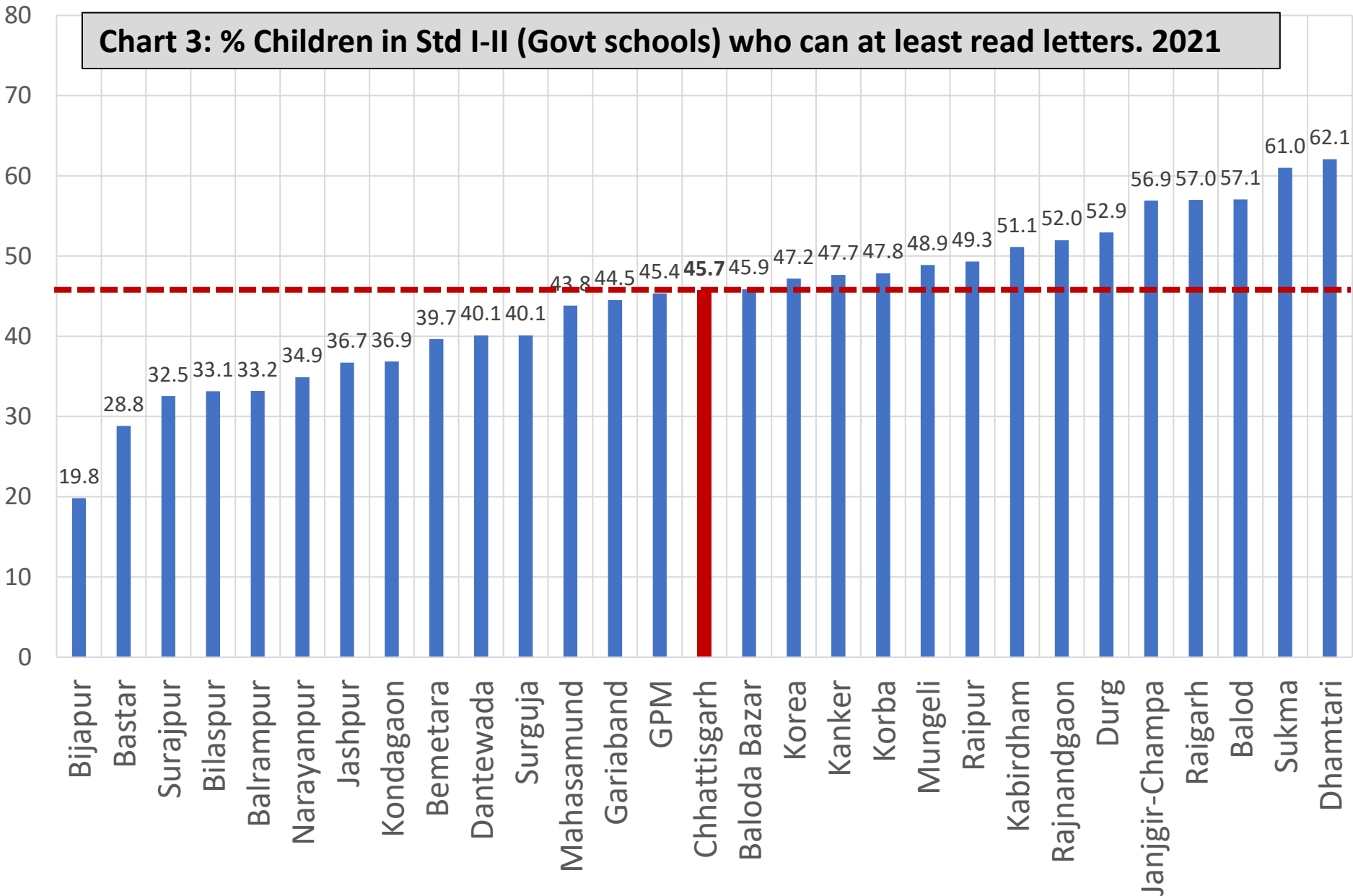
Huge drops are visible in children's reading levels in 2021 as compared to levels in the period before COVID.

For Std I, % children who can read letters has decreased by 8.3 percentage points since 2018. For Std II, this proportion has fallen by 19.3 percentage points between 2018 and 2021.

This is the lowest since 2014.

Drops of over 15 pc pts are visible in proportion of children who can read Std II level text/story in Std III and Std V in govt schools.

Std I-II reading levels: Large variations across districts



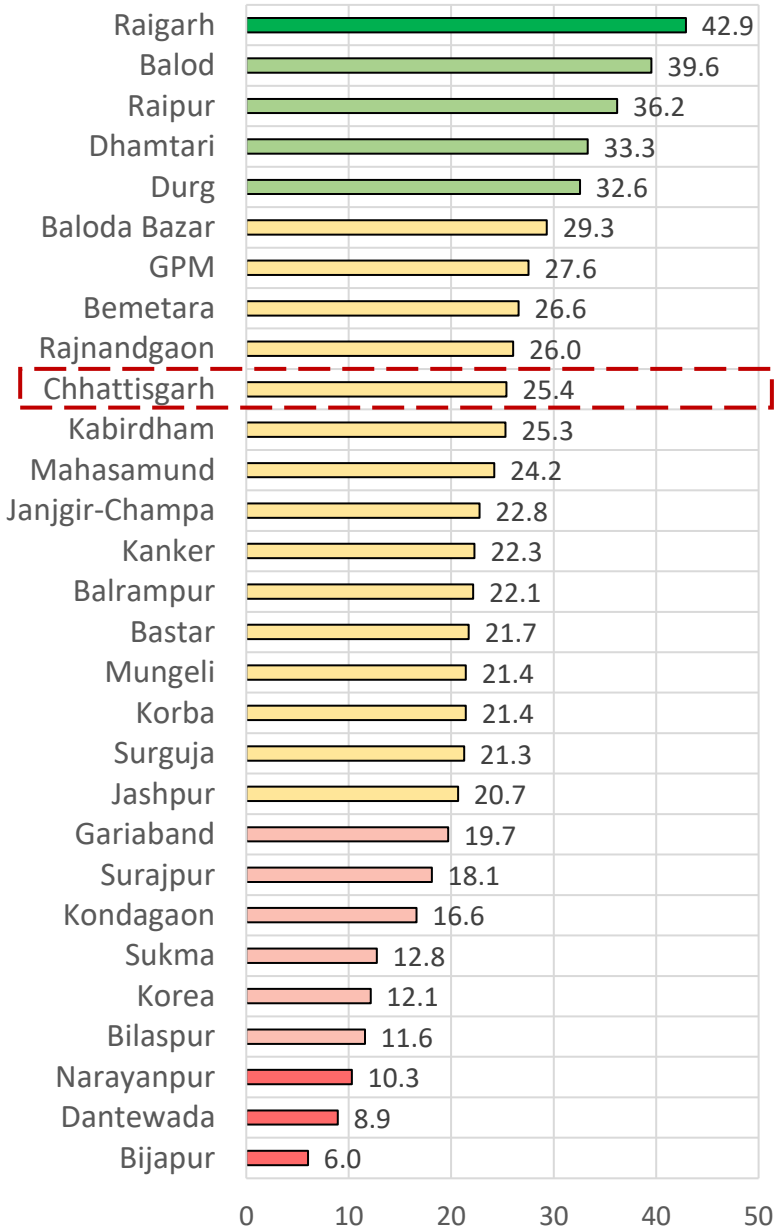
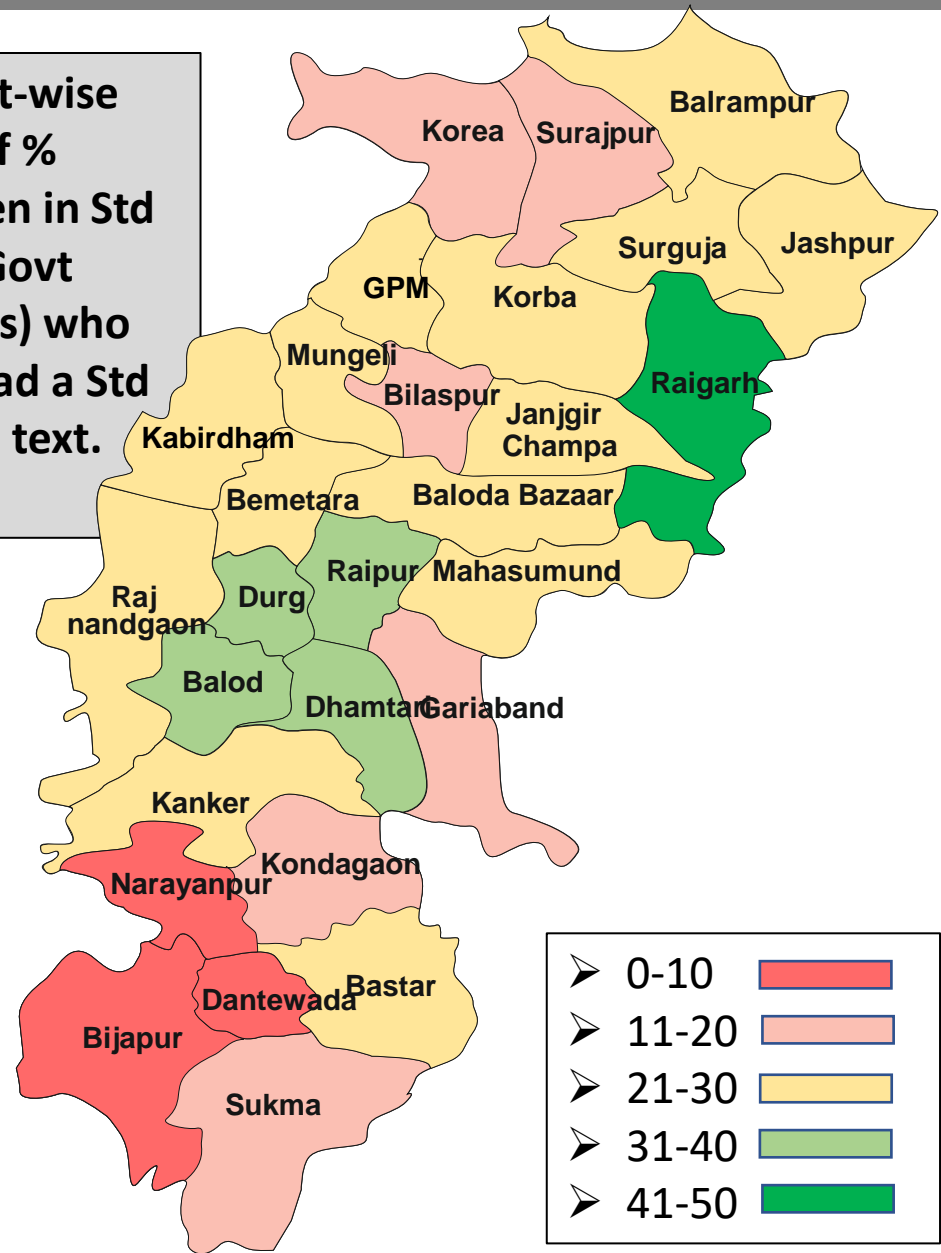
Overall, in Chhattisgarh, over **45% children in govt schools in Std I-II can at least recognize letters.**

Districts with more than 60% children in this category are Sukma and Dhamtari.

In Bijapur and Bastar proportion of children who can at least recognize letters is less than 30% .

Std III-V Reading levels: Large variations across districts

District-wise map of % children in Std III-V (Govt schools) who can read a Std II level text. 2021



For Chhattisgarh as a whole, about **25% of children in Govt schools in Std III-V can read a Std II level text.**

The only district where this proportion is more than 40% is Raigarh.

Bijapur and Dantewada have less than 10% children in Std III-V who can read at Std II level.

Arithmetic levels in 2021

Table 6: % Children doing arithmetic at different levels by grade. 2021

Std	Not even 1-9	Recognise numbers		Subtract	Divide	Total
		1-9	11-99			
I	50.2	40.3	7.9	1.0	0.6	100
II	24.3	54.8	17.2	3.3	0.3	100
III	12.8	48.8	29.4	7.4	1.6	100
IV	6.5	35.8	35.7	17.7	4.3	100
V	4.5	24.4	31.5	26.7	13.0	100
VI	2.4	19.0	34.3	26.1	18.2	100
VII	1.8	11.7	32.7	27.8	26.0	100
VIII	1.5	8.1	32.1	26.1	32.3	100

Arithmetic tool

Number recognition 1–9		Number recognition 11–99		Subtraction		Division
1	4	28	81	$\begin{array}{r} 36 \\ - 18 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 74 \\ - 59 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$4 \overline{)591}$
7	3	92	13	$\begin{array}{r} 62 \\ - 24 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 57 \\ - 18 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$7 \overline{)872}$
6	9	49	63	$\begin{array}{r} 73 \\ - 54 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 85 \\ - 67 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$6 \overline{)759}$
5	2	78	34	$\begin{array}{r} 98 \\ - 79 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 43 \\ - 26 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$8 \overline{)986}$

Ask the child to recognize any 5 numbers. At least 4 must be correct.

Ask the child to recognize any 5 numbers. At least 4 must be correct.

Ask the child to do any 2 subtraction problems. Both must be correct.

Ask the child to do any 1 division problem. It must be correct.

Less than 10% children in Std III can do at least double digit subtraction, usually taught in Std II. This proportion increases to almost 60% in Std VIII. **Over 40% of children in Std VIII still cannot do double digit subtraction.**

Decline in arithmetic levels between 2018 & 2020

Table 7: Trends over time: Govt schools
 Arithmetic levels in Std I, Std II and Std III
 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2021

Year	% Children who can recognise single digit numbers (Govt schools)		% Children who can do at least subtraction (Govt schools)
	Std I	Std II	Std III
2014	47.3	78.2	9.6
2016	52.6	84.7	14.5
2018	53.0	86.3	16.0
2021	44.1	72.2	6.1

Learning losses are visible in arithmetic like in reading.
 There is ~10 pc pts drop in proportion of children in Std III in govt schools who can do subtraction when 2018 levels are compared to 2021.

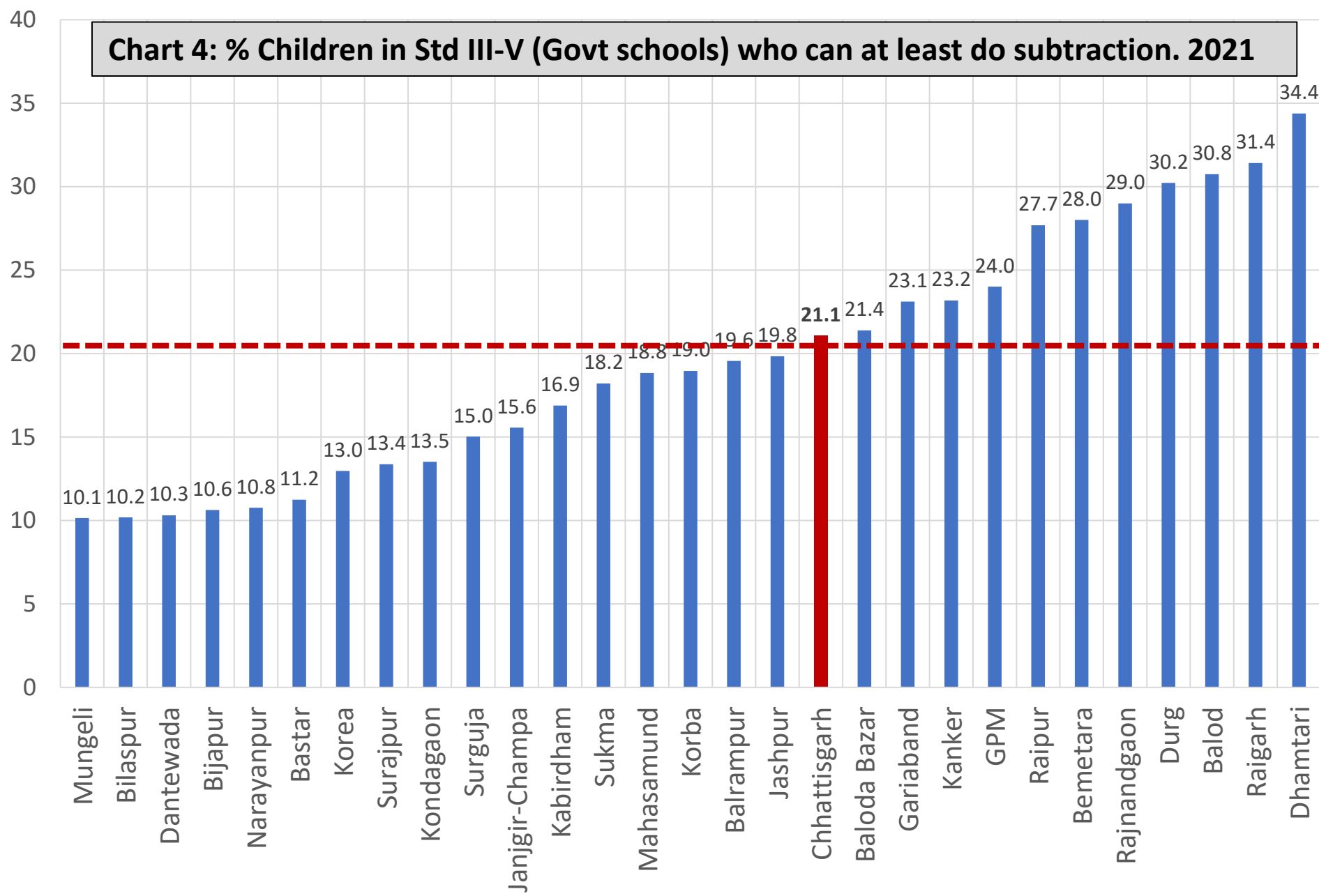
Table 8: Trends over time: Govt schools
 Arithmetic levels in Std V and Std VIII
 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2021

Year	% Children who can do at least division (Govt schools)	
	Std V	Std VIII
2014	14.1	25.4
2016	18.6	25.3
2018	26.1	28.0
2021	10.7	30.8

More than a 15 pc pts decrease is seen in the percentage of children in Std V in govt schools who can do division.

Std III-V: Arithmetic levels vary across districts

Chart 4: % Children in Std III-V (Govt schools) who can at least do subtraction. 2021



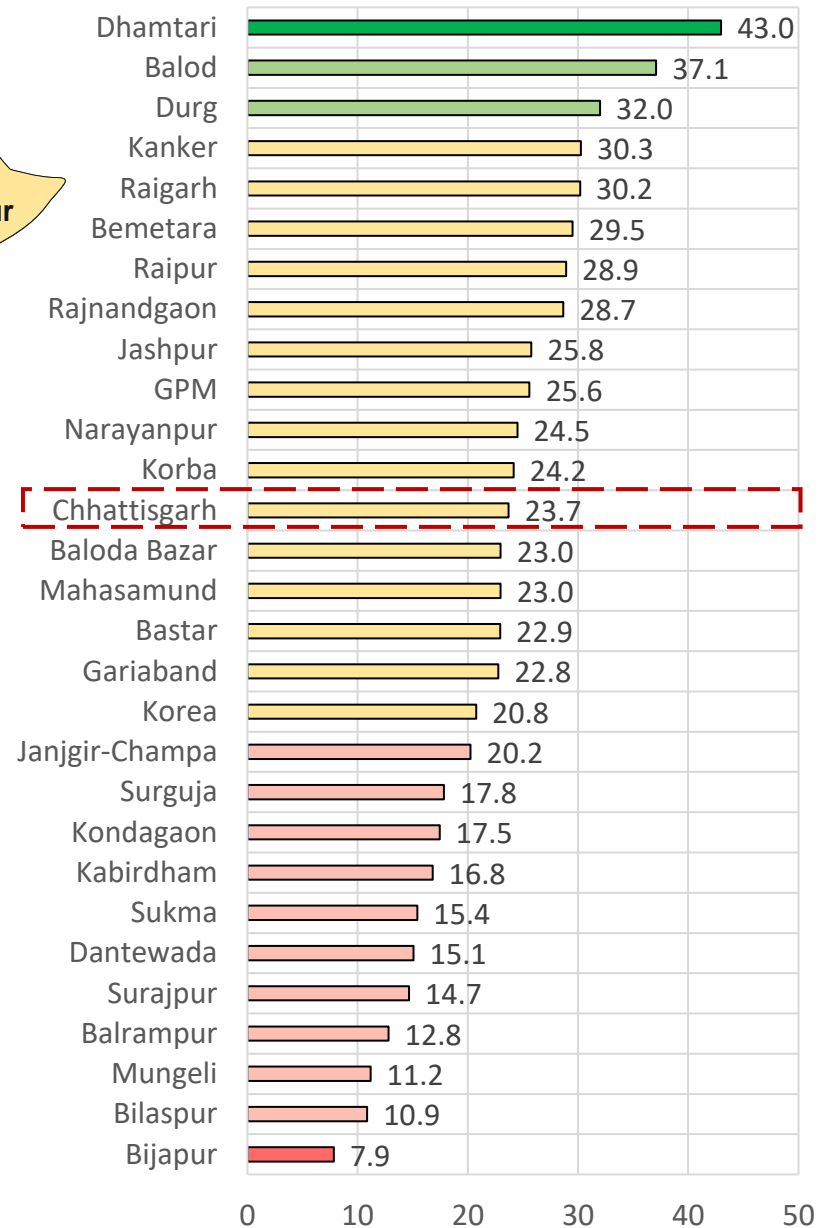
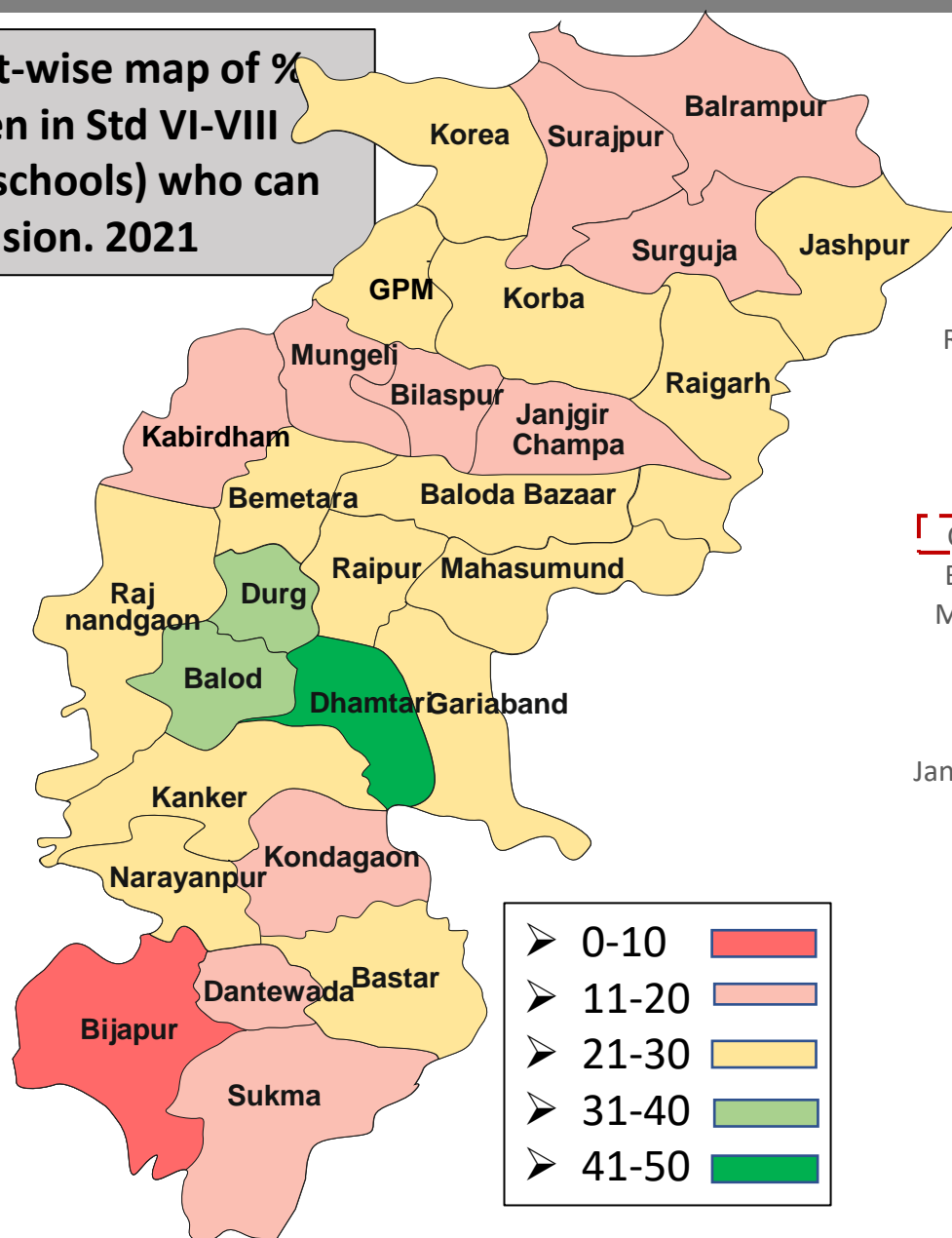
For Chhattisgarh as a whole, about **20% children in Std III-V can do at least subtraction.**

The districts where this proportion is the highest are Dhamtari, Raigarh and Balod.

Mungeli, Bilaspur and Dantewada are districts, with only 10% children in Std III-V who can do subtraction.

Std VI-VIII: Arithmetic levels vary across districts

District-wise map of % children in Std VI-VIII (Govt schools) who can do division. 2021



For Chhattisgarh as a whole, close to **25% children in Govt schools in Std VI-VIII can do division.**

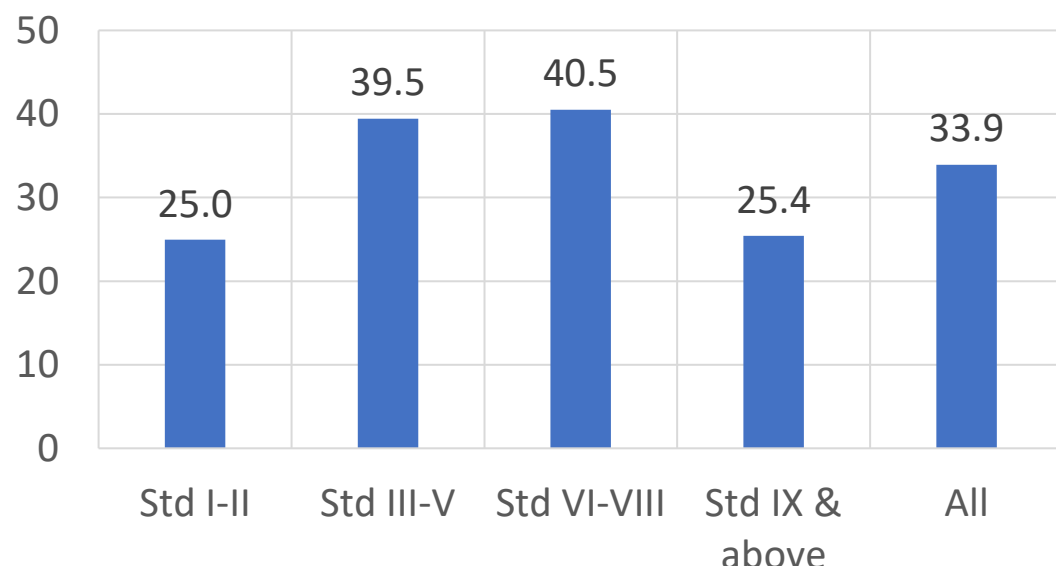
The only district where this proportion is more than 40% is Dhamtari.

Bijapur is a district with less than 10% children able to do division.

Table 9: % Children with learning resources available at home. By school type. 2021

School type	Smart-phone	Radio	Tele-vision	Reading Material
Govt	79.1	5.2	63.4	4.7
Pvt	88.5	7.7	79.3	8.9

Chart 5: % Children who attended community classes even once before schools reopened. By grade. 2021



Note: These community classes were facilitated by government schools.

Table 10: Status of Padhai Tunhar Dwar portal. By grade. 2021

	Std I-II	Std III-V	Std VI-VIII	Std IX & above	All
% Children who knew about the portal	13.4	16.4	22.6	34.6	21.4
Of these, % children who did an activity even once using it	56.9	58.4	60.8	66.1	61.6

Learning devices:

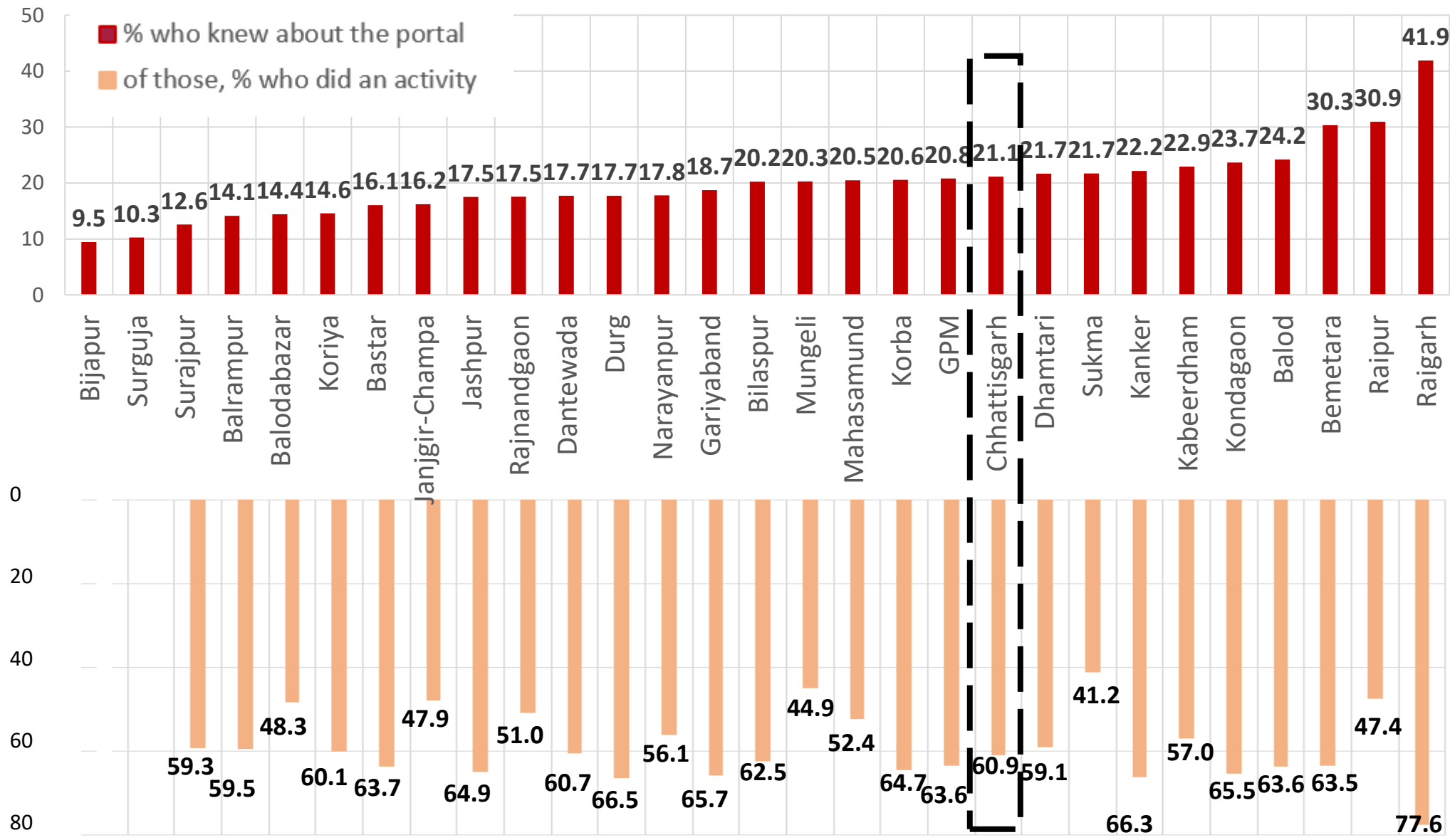
- Children in **private schools are more likely to have access to remote learning resources such as smartphones.**

Padhai Tunhar Dwar:

- Around 20% of all enrolled children knew about the portal.
- Of these, around 60% made use of it at least once.
- Older children were much more likely to know about and use the portal.**

Padhai Tunhar Dwar: District variations

Chart 6: Status of Padhai Tunhar Dwar portal in districts. All grades. 2021



Awareness about the portal was **highest in Raigarh (41.9%), Raipur (30.9%) Bemetera (30.3%).**

The portal was least known and used the least in Bijapur, Surguja and Surajpur.

Facilities: Some indicators declined between 2018 & 2020

Table 11: Trends over time: % Schools meeting selected RTE norms. 2016, 2018 and 2021

All schools (Std I-IV/V and Std I-VII/VIII)	2016	2018	2021
Mid-day meal on day of visit	80.1	91.7	95.0
Drinking water available	85.0	82.5	79.0
Toilet available and useable	78.1	85.7	78.5
Girls' toilet available and useable	70.2	75.7	67.8
Playground available	67.2	68.8	71.6
Library books available in school	14.0	10.3	15.4

Infrastructural facilities in schools, especially those related to sanitation have declined between 2018 & 2021. For example, **the number of schools with the facility for drinking water has reduced slightly, and the likelihood of the presence of a separate girls' toilet has fallen.**

Table 12: % Schools that are following COVID prevention measures in observed grades. 2021

Type of measure	Std II	Std IV
Social distancing	49.8	49.4
Most children wearing masks	22.7	23.1
Teacher wearing a mask	42.3	41.0

- Less than one-fourth of Std II & IV classes had most children wearing masks.
- **Close to 70% schools had soap to wash hands, over 80% reported having a sanitiser, while only 41% said they had extra masks.**
- Over one-third of teachers for both grades reported that they were revising last year's curriculum in the class in the week before survey

- **For several years in the pre COVID period (2014-2018) basic learning outcomes in Chhattisgarh had been improving. But COVID-19 has caused very serious ‘learning loss’.**
Children’s foundational reading and arithmetic levels have dropped substantially between 2018 and 2021 especially for primary classes.
- **For Std III and above, “catch up” is urgently required with focus on building foundational skills of reading and arithmetic.**
Before the grade level curriculum can be taught, providing the support needed to ensure that every child acquires basic skills is key to their ability to get back on track with their education.
- **For children in Std I & II, time and attention needs to be paid to readiness skills.**
These children have not had the benefit of exposure to pre-school. Before moving into teaching-learning activities at grade level, it is essential that they are given time and opportunity to develop appropriate physical, socio-emotional, cognitive, pre-math and language skills.



For more information:
ASER Centre or Pratham
contact@asercentre.org or info@pratham.org
Gaurav Sharma gaurav.sharma@pratham.org
Saneet Kumar saneet.kumar@pratham.org