

Education attainment and illiteracy

Introduction

This indicator reflects the level and distribution of the knowledge and skills base of the labour force i.e. human capital formation which is essential for development in general

Use of the indicator

In all countries, human resources represent, directly or indirectly, the most valuable and productive resource; countries traditionally depend on the health, strength and basic skills of their workers to produce goods and services for consumption and trade. The advance of complex organizations and knowledge requirements, as well as the introduction of sophisticated machinery and technology, means that economic growth and improvements in welfare increasingly depend on the degree of literacy and educational attainment of the total population. The population's predisposition to acquire such skills can be enhanced by experience, informal and formal education, and training.

Percentage of illiterate person 15+ in the labour force)

	2000/01			2006		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
Total	32.6	15.9	37.0	28.7	12.1	35.0
Male	23.6	9.5	27.3	20.5	7.3	25.6
Female	41.1	21.8	46.2	36.4	16.7	43.7