



## 10 Facts About Girls' Education

Education is a fundamental human right and essential for the exercise of all other human rights. It promotes individual freedom and empowerment and yields important development benefits. Yet millions of children and adults remain deprived of educational opportunities, many as a result of poverty. - UNESCO

Yet, around the world, girls and women face many barriers to education. The statistics below point to the lasting impact education has on girls, families, communities, and countries around the world.

1. 66 million girls are out of school globally. (*UNESCO*)
2. Of 163 million illiterate youth in the world, more than half – 63 percent – are female. (*UNFPA*)
3. There are 33 million fewer girls than boys in primary school. (*Education First*)
4. When 10 percent more girls go to school, a country's GDP increases on average by 3 percent. (*Council on Foreign Relations*)
5. A girl with an extra year of education can earn 20% more as an adult. (*The World Bank*)
6. Educated mothers are more than twice as likely to send their children to school. (*UNICEF*)
7. A child born to a literate mother is 50% more likely to survive past the age of 5. (*UNESCO*)
8. Girls with 8 years of education are 4 times less likely to be married as children. (*National Academies Press*)
9. 14 million girls under 18 will be married this year. That's 38 thousands today – or 13 girls in the last 30 seconds. (*UNFPA*)
10. When international development funds are allocated, less than 2 cents of every dollar is directed specifically to girls. (*The Coalition for Adolescent Girls*)

Together, we have the power to change the status quo! We are not only educating girls and women, we are changing minds and lives. Join us, and together we can impact thousands of lives in South and Central Asia.

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