

BHUTAN: EDUCATION TODAY ¹

1. The *Dzongkhag* (District) with the highest illiteracy rate is Gasa (53.20%)
2. The *Dzongkhag* with the highest literacy rate is Thimphu (73.3%)
3. Samtse and Mongar have the highest female illiteracy rate (29.8%)
4. Samtse has the highest male illiteracy rate (20.4%)
5. The literacy rate for women in Bhutan is 48.7%
6. The overall literacy rate of Bhutan is 59.5%
7. 47% of population above 6 years never attended any form of schooling/institute
8. 56% of people arrested for drug abuse/dealing in Bhutan are students
9. 91% of people arrested for drug abuse/dealing in Bhutan are below the age of 26 years
10. Grade VII has the highest consistent repetition rate (ave. 10.7%) in Bhutan
11. Basic education level in Bhutan require the completion of class 10.
12. In the 9th Five Year Plan alone, around 10,000 students are expected to leave schools as illiterates without even finishing the first 5 years of schooling
13. Non-Formal Education (NFE) is a second chance to literacy for individuals who have missed out on the opportunity to attend formal schooling
14. There are 747 NFE centers in Bhutan with 13,829 learners
15. About 16,500 primary-age children were not enrolled in formal schools in 2007
16. Thimphu has the highest youth unemployment rate in the whole nation
17. EFA stands for “Education for All”
18. ECCE stands for “Early Childhood Care and Education”
19. ECCE refers to programs and services, which help optimize the growth and development of child from birth to age 8.
20. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) states that all individuals below the age of 18 is considered a child under the law (Article 1)
21. According to CRC, All State Parties should recognize the right of every child to Education (Article 28)
22. The second Millennium Development Goal (MDG) is to “Achieve Universal Primary Education” by 2015
23. The third MDG is to “Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women” by 2015
24. Only 33% of students studying under the Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) institutes are girls
25. 82% of students in Bhutan receiving scholarship abroad are Boys.

¹ The information listed was taken from: *Population and Housing Census 2005* (National Statistics Bureau), *General Statistics 2008* (Ministry of Education-MoE), *Status Report on Drug Abuse in Bhutan, 2007* (Bhutan Narcotic Control Agency), *Education Without Compromise, 2008* (Education Sector Review Commission, MoE), *Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)*, and *EFA Mid-Decade Assessment* (UNESCO)