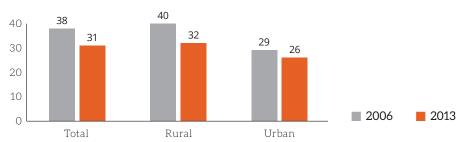
Health and Education

West Bengal has a lot of ground to cover on health and education. While on average, West Bengal's rates of infant mortality, malnutrition and open defecation are lower than in other Indian states, the state's low income households record a high incidence of malnutrition and open defecation. On education, only one in four of the state's adults have completed secondary school - among the lowest rates of secondary school completion in the country. On the positive side, the younger generation is staying longer in school, learning outcomes have improved, and today, these outcomes rank above the national average. A large majority of West Bengal's children attend public schools.

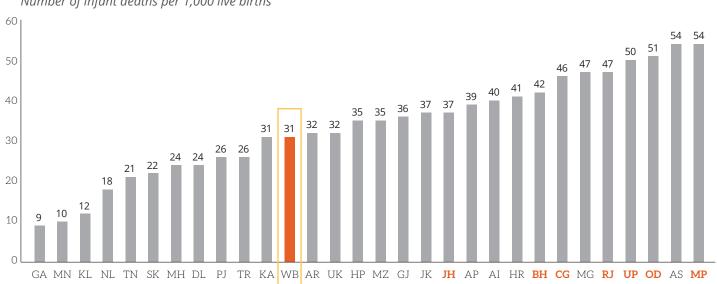
Infant mortality is declining in West Bengal

Infant mortality rate Number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births



Infant mortality in West Bengal is lower than in many other states

Infant mortality rate, 2013 Number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births



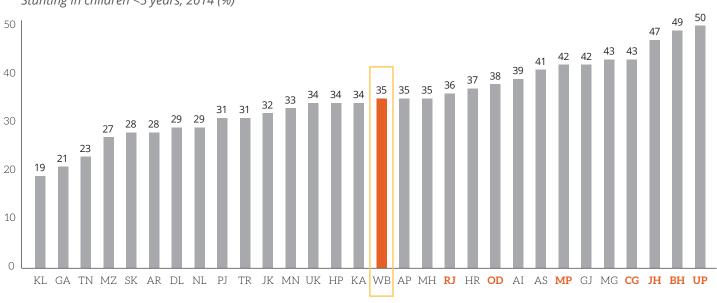
Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.



Health and Education

Malnutrition in West Bengal is below the national average

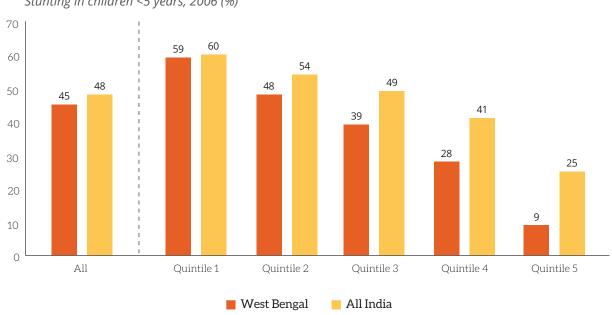
Stunting in children <5 years, 2014 (%)



Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.

More malnutrition among the low income groups in West Bengal

Stunting in children <5 years, 2006 (%)



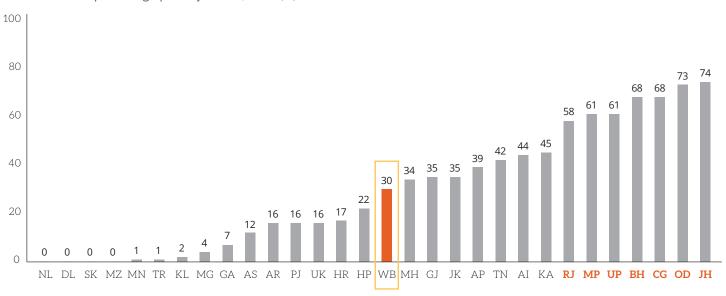
Latest stunting data by wealth class available for 2006.



Health and Education

Open defecation in West Bengal is lower than in many other states

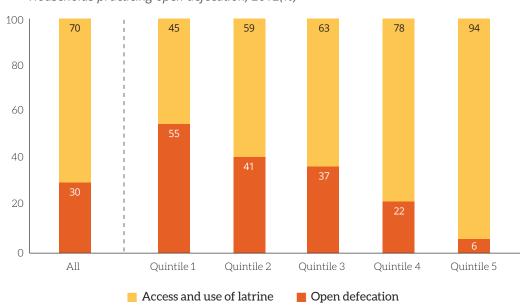
Households practicing open defecation, 2012 (%)



Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.

More open defecation among the low income groups in West Bengal

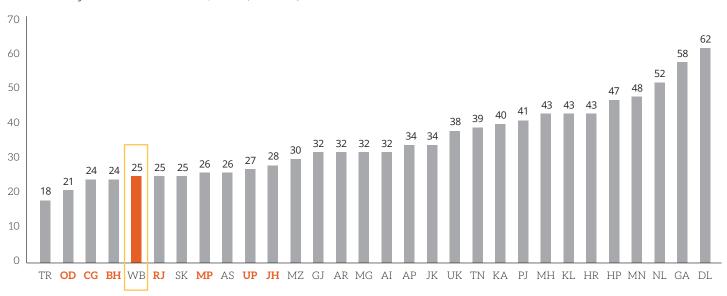
Households practicing open defecation, 2012(%)



Health and Education

Secondary school completion among adults in West Bengal is among the lowest in the country

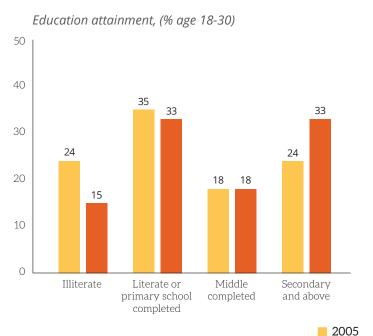
Secondary education attainment, 2012 (% adults)

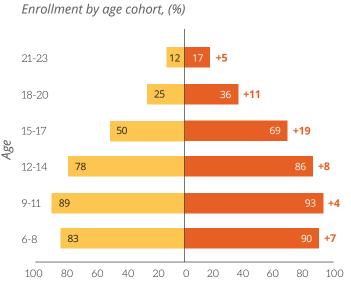


2012

Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.

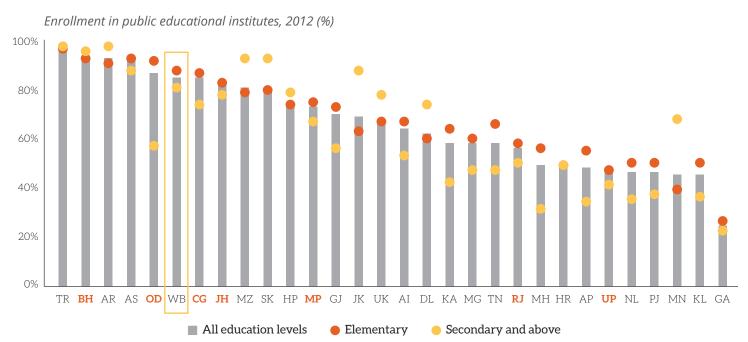
There are gains in schooling for the young in West Bengal





Health and Education

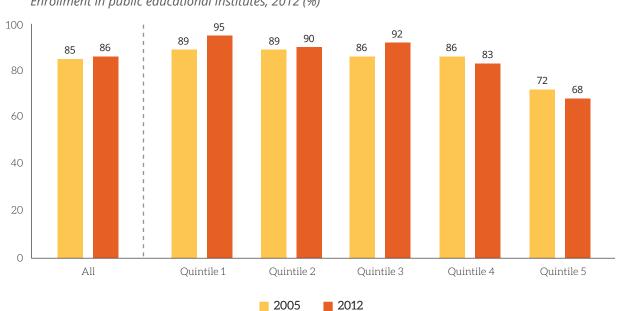
Enrollment in public schools is high in West Bengal in comparison to other Indian states



Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.

Enrollment in public schools is high across income levels in West Bengal

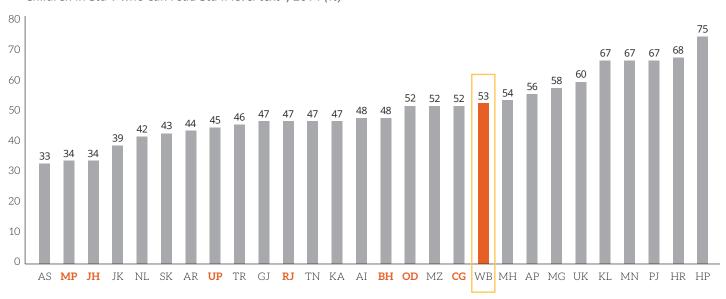
Enrollment in public educational institutes, 2012 (%)



Health and Education

Learning outcomes of children in West Bengal is higher than the national average

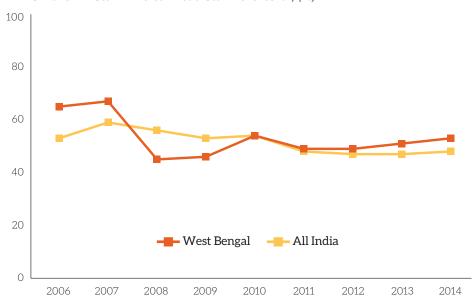
Children in Std V who can read Std II level text*, 2014 (%)



Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.

Learning outcomes have increased, albeit marginally, in West Bengal after 2012

Children in Std V who can read Std II level text*, (%)



^{*}Data on learning outcomes available for rural areas only.

