Punjab has made significant progress in health and education. Infant mortality and open defecation rates are lower than the national average. And, more adults have completed secondary school than in many other states. What’s more, children’s learning outcomes are among the highest in the country. Nonetheless, malnutrition levels are high for many households across different income groups. And, while children from poor families go to public school, those from richer families mainly attend private school.

**Infant mortality has been declining in Punjab**

![Infant mortality rate graph](image)

**Punjab's infant mortality rate is below the national average**

![Infant mortality rate graph](image)

*Low Income States are highlighted in orange, AI is All India.*
Malnutrition in Punjab is below the national average

Stunting in children <5 years, 2014 (%)

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

Barring the rich, malnutrition levels are higher than the national average for most households in Punjab

Stunting in children <5 years, 2006 (%)

Latest stunting data by wealth class available for 2006.
Open defecation in Punjab is lower than in other states

Households practicing open defecation, 2012 (%)

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

Open defecation is higher among low income groups in Punjab

Households practicing open defecation, 2012(%)
The share of adults with secondary schooling in Punjab is greater than the national average

Since 2005, Punjab has made significant progress in secondary schooling and above
Public school enrollment in Punjab is lower than in most states

Enrollment in public educational institutes, 2012 (%)

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

Enrollment in private schools is increasing in Punjab, a lot more for the rich

Enrollment in public educational institutes, 2012 (%)

2005  2012
Learning outcomes of children in Punjab are among the highest in the country

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

Since 2012, learning outcomes have been declining in Punjab

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

*Data on learning outcomes available for rural areas only.