Open and Distance Education in India

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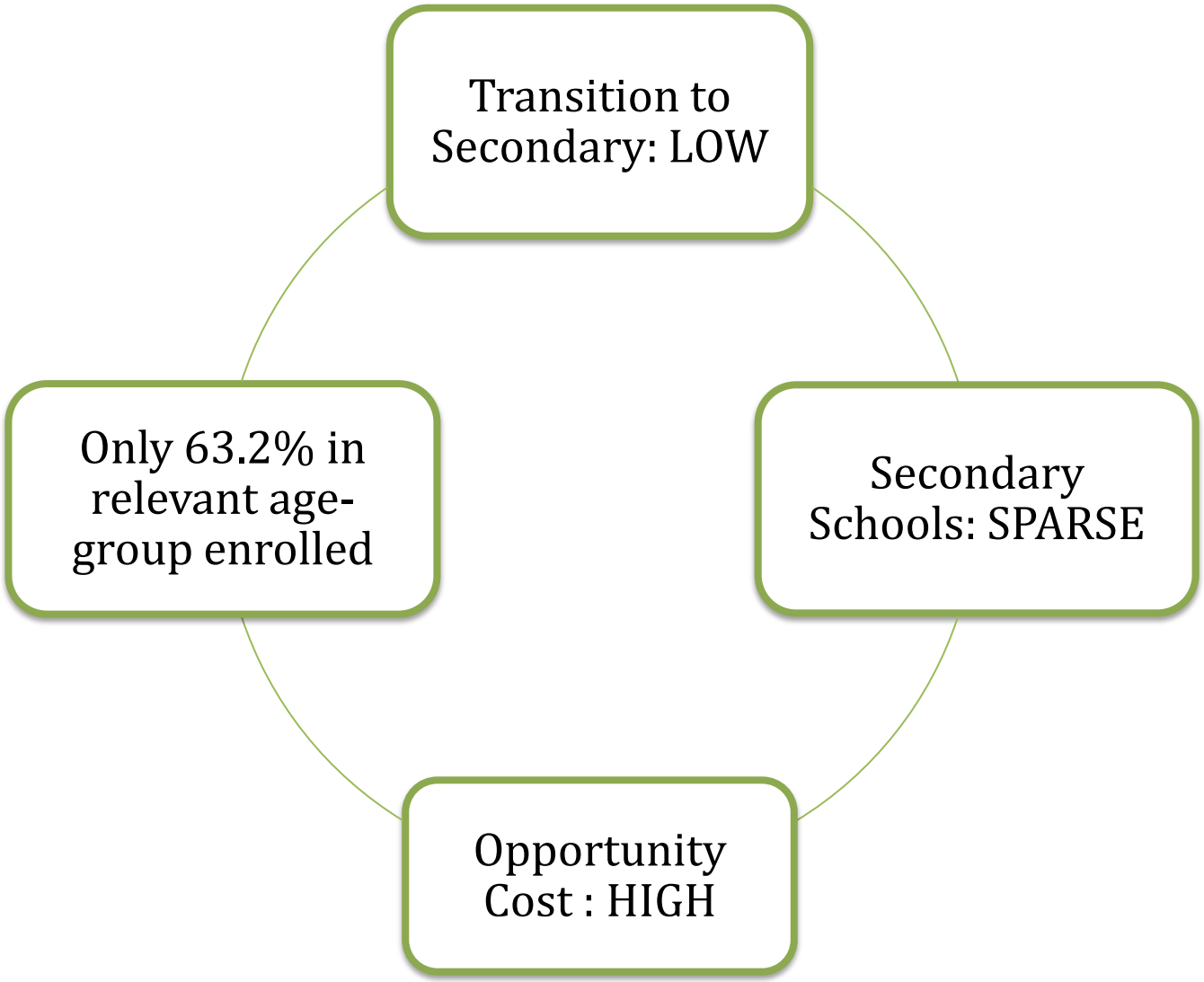
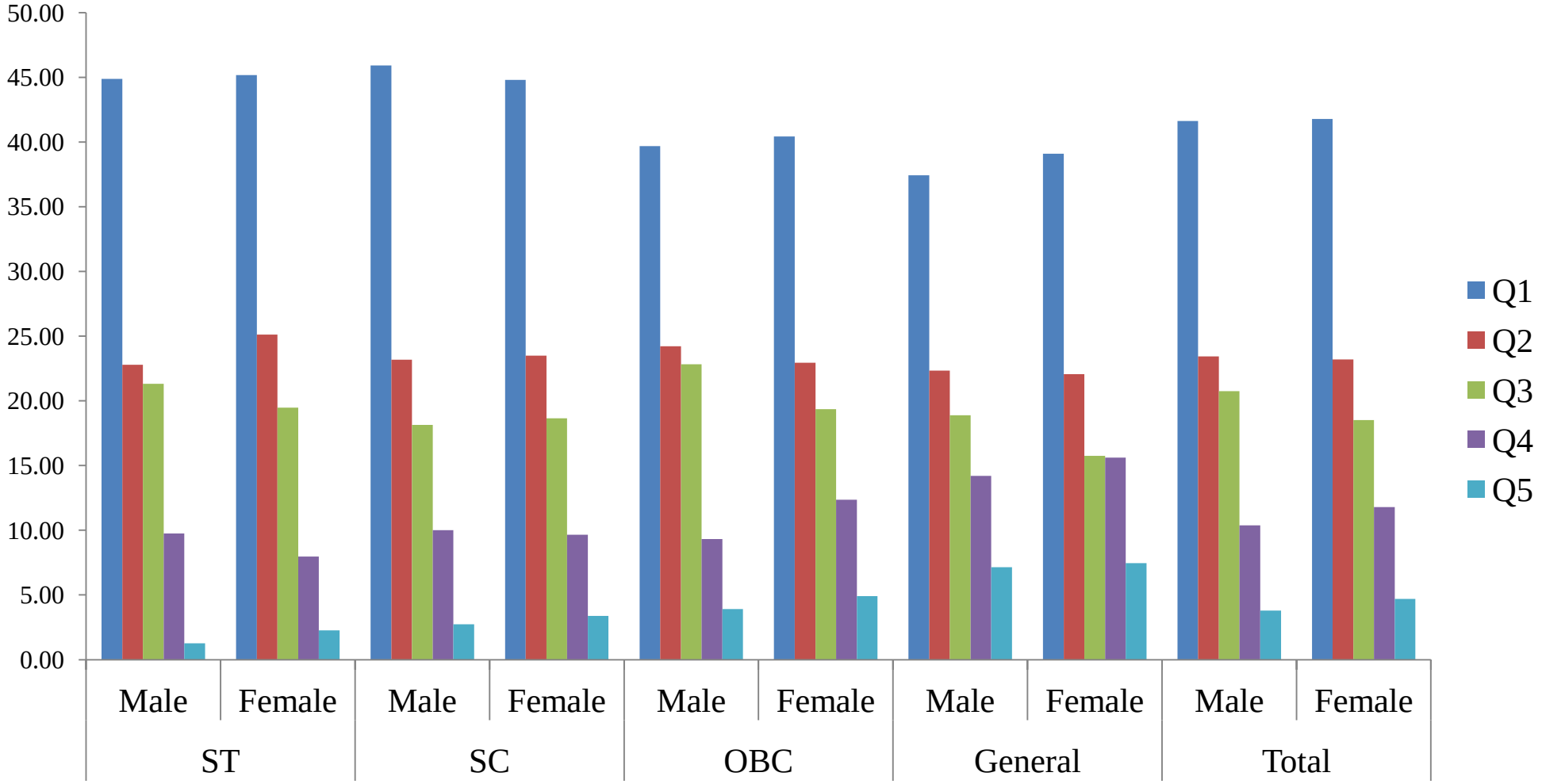
Why India Needs Open and Distance Learning



Who are not currently enrolled in the formal schools ?

Distribution by Income Quintile, Caste and Sex



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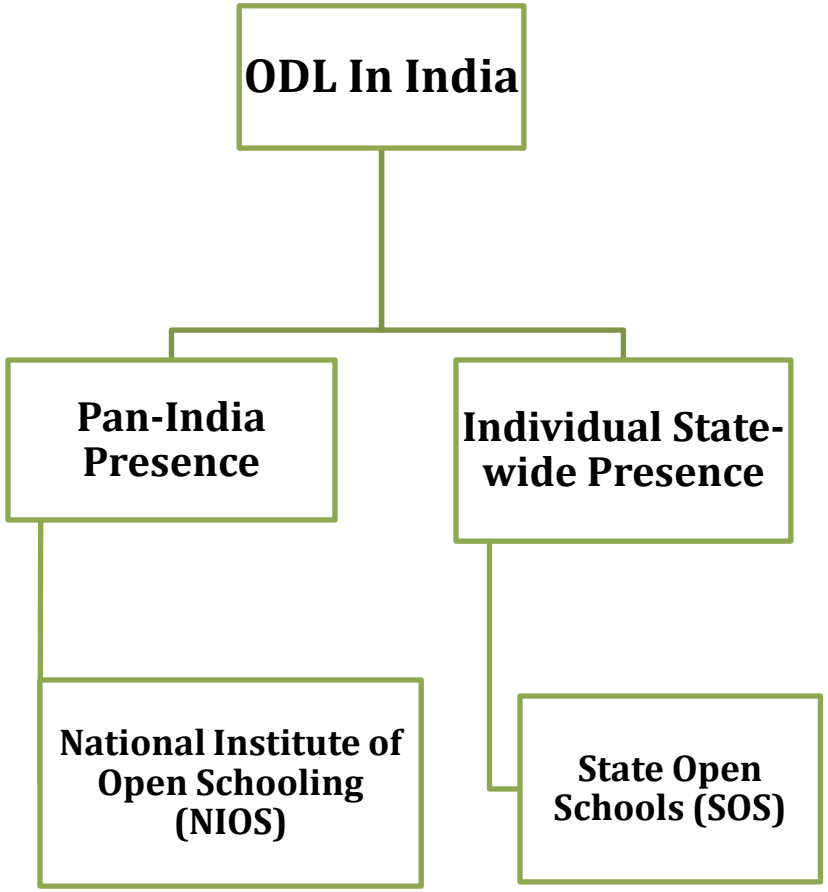
Open Schooling in India



Features of ODL System in India

Flexibility

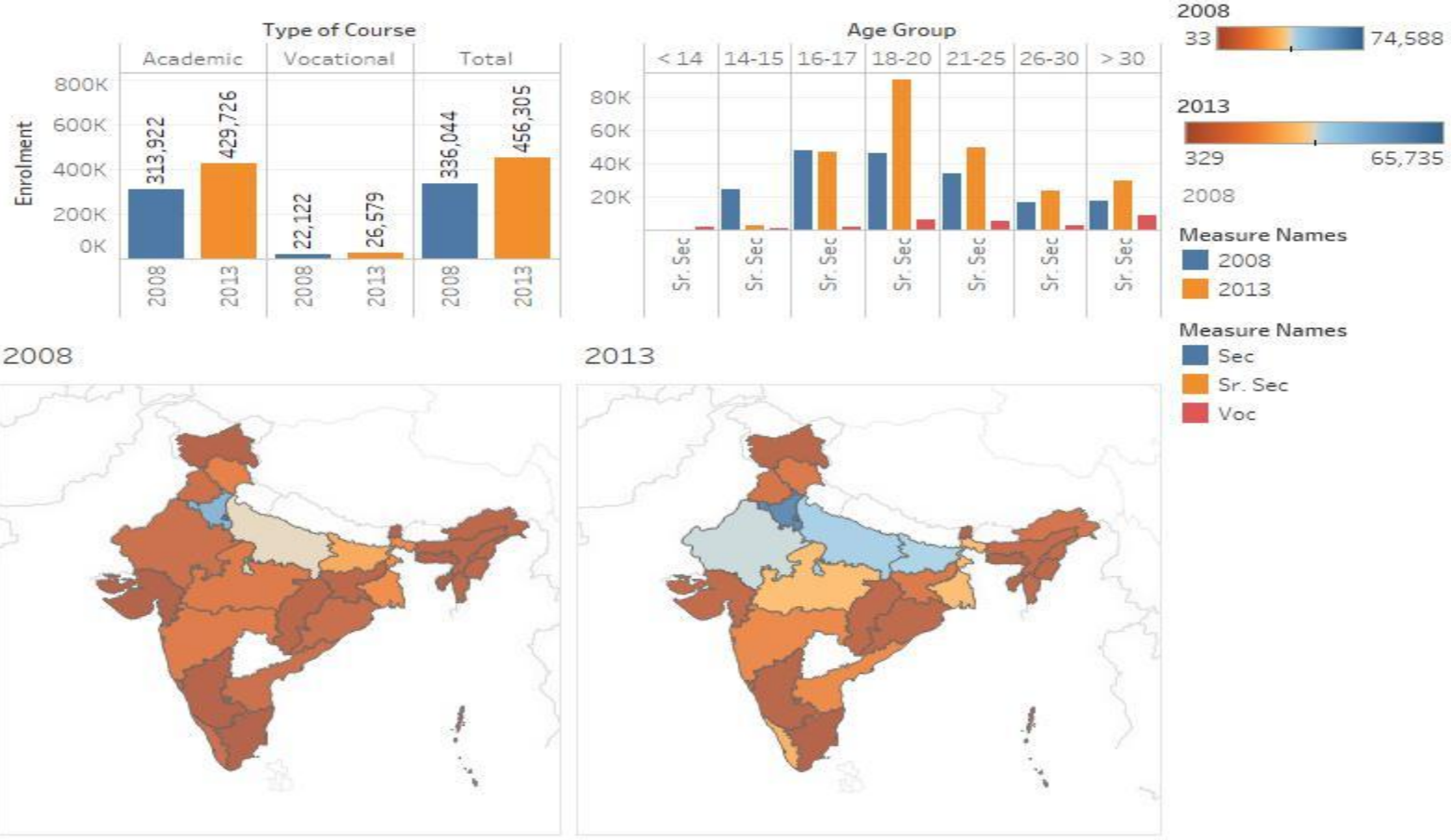
- All year Admissions
- Wide Range of Subjects
- Bi-Annual and On-Demand Examinations
- Five Years for completion

Accessibility

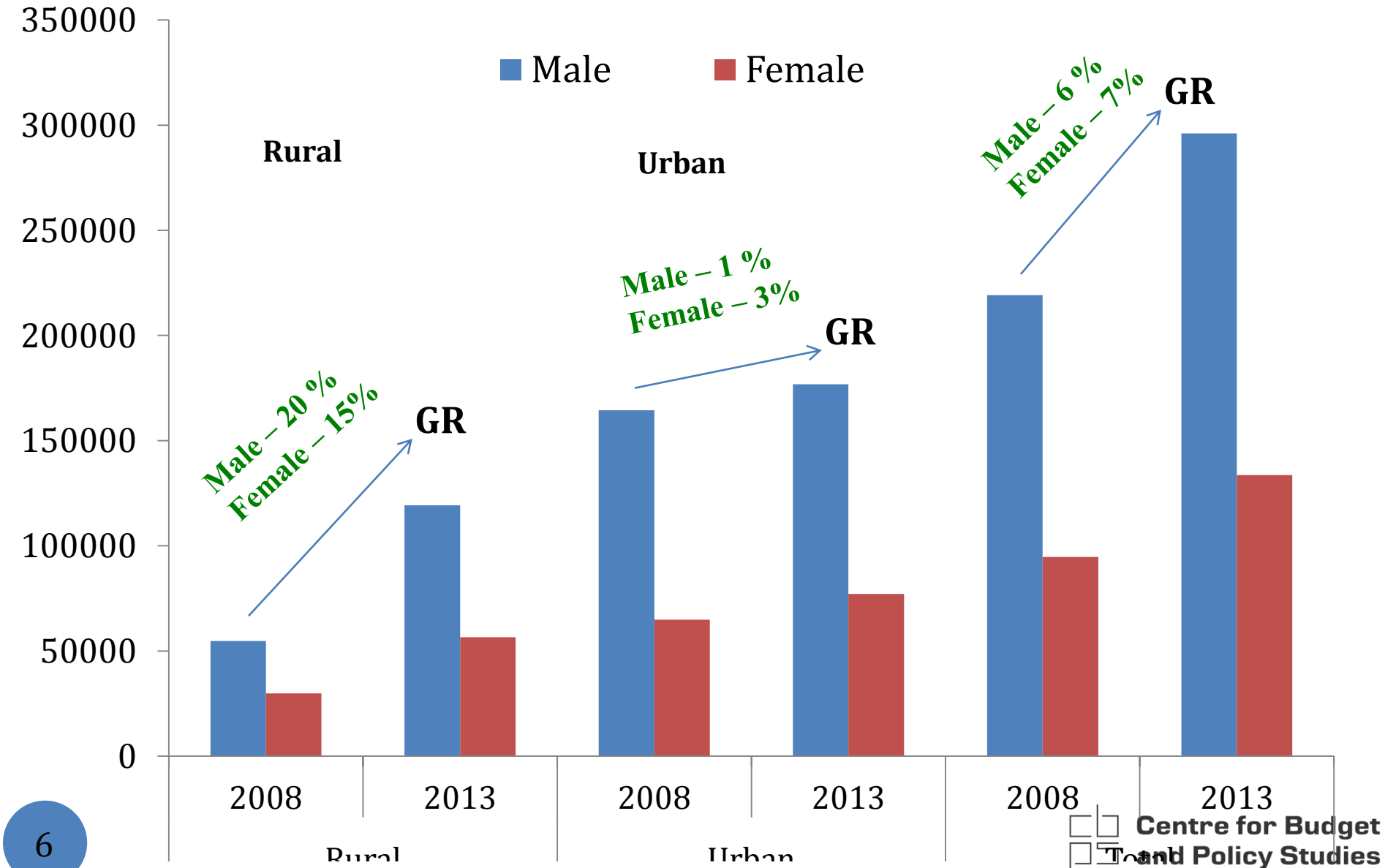
- Rural and Urban Centers
- Different languages
- Online resources

Background – enrolment in NIOS

Enrolment in NIOS has grown by 7.6 per cent per year from 2008, mostly driven by higher levels of enrolment in Academic courses.
Academic constitutes about 94 percent of enrolment in 2013. Within Academic courses, enrolment in Sr. Sec constitutes 57 percent of total enrolment.



Distribution of Enrolment



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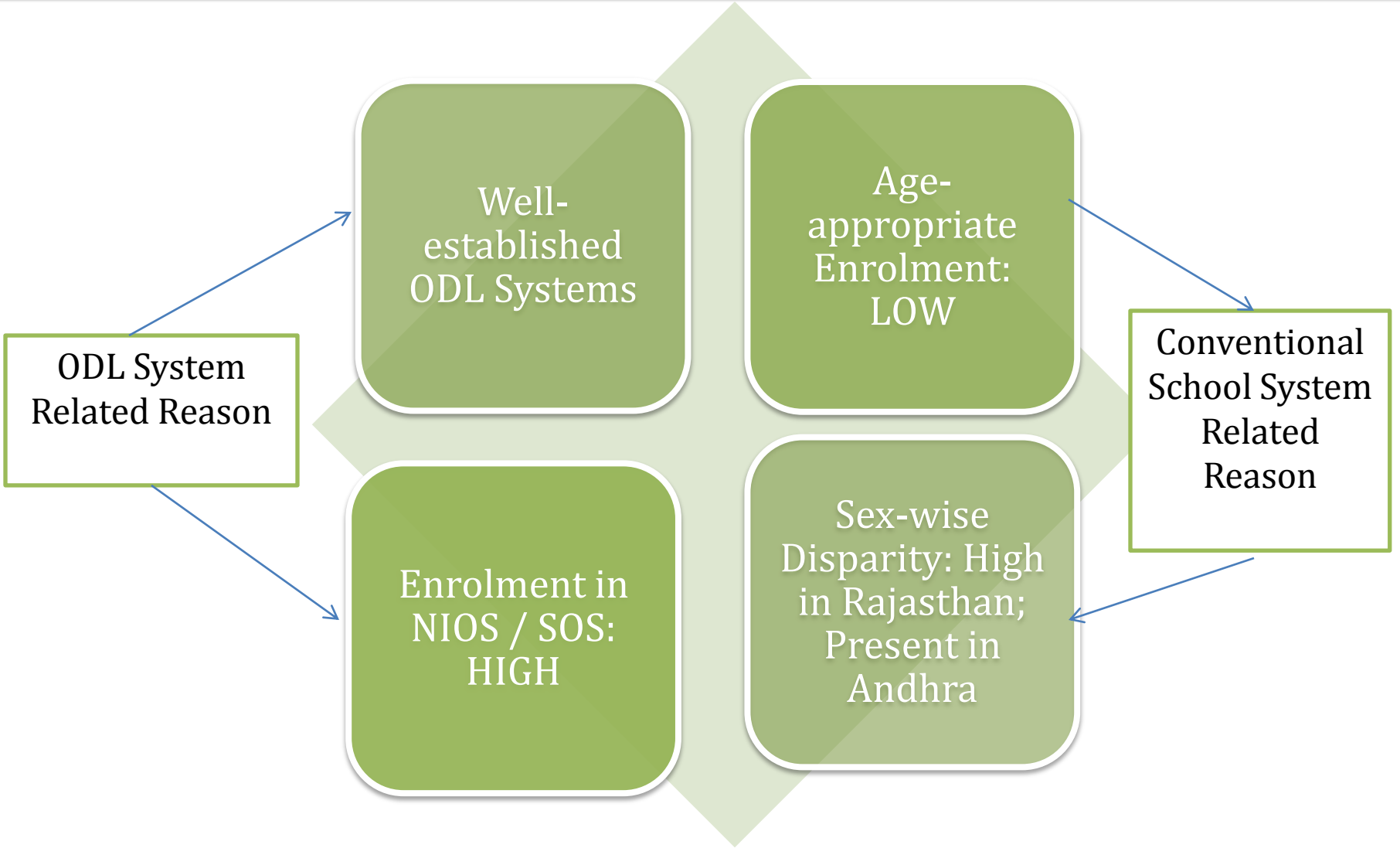
Understanding the practices (NIOS/SOS) and experiences of learners

Primary survey data in two Indian states: Rajasthan and Andhra

- **Objective**
  - Understanding intended and actual practices of flexibility and accessibility for various stages in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) in India
  - Understanding experiences of learners and tutors in the ODL system in India

- **Sample**
  - Purposive sample
    - Rajasthan: (1000 Learners) – NIOS: 700 SOS: 300
    - Andhra: (1000 learners) – NIOS: 563, SOS: 437
    - Two sates combined: Secondary – 1096;
      Senior Secondary – 894

Why Rajasthan and Andhra ?



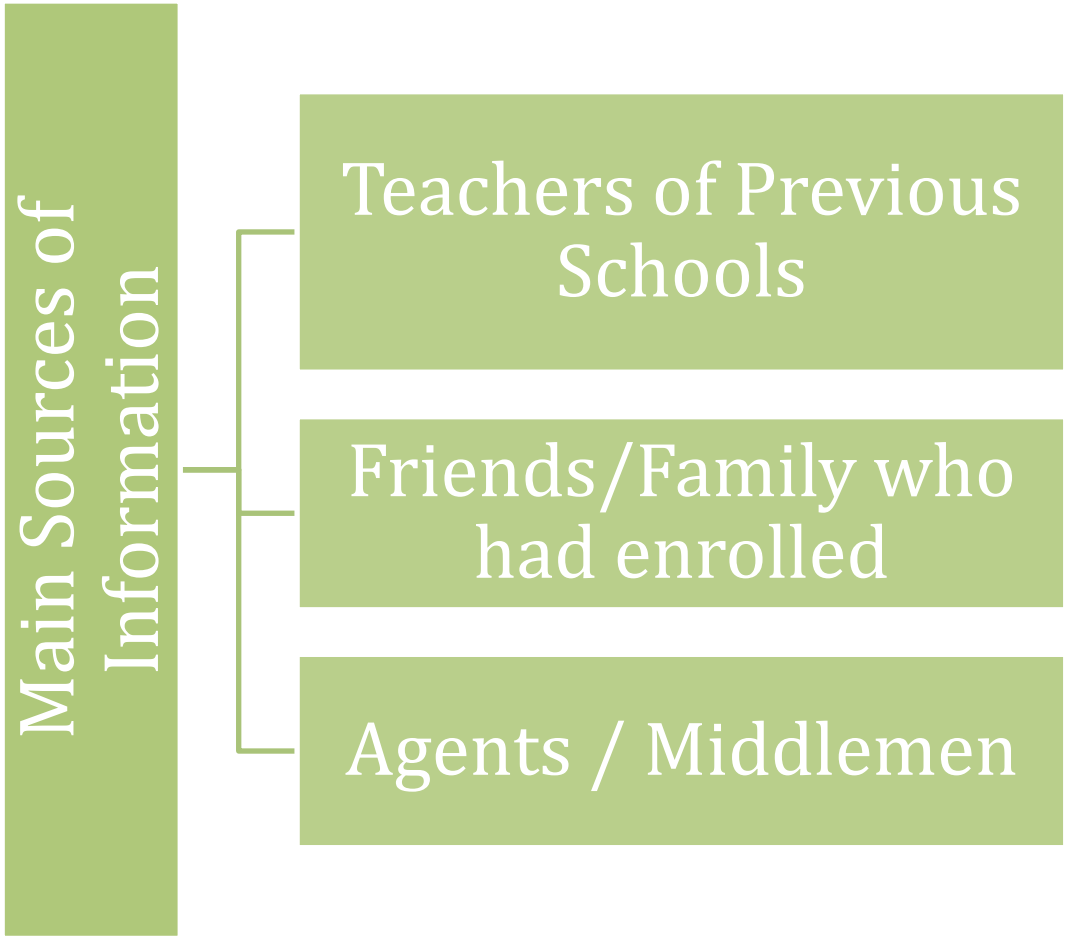
Who accesses the ODL System?

Rajasthan	Andhra
Self-employed in non-agricultural activities-3.5% Full time students-33%	Self-employed in non-agricultural activities- 11% Full time students-34%
32% passed the last class attended (higher for SOS)	71% passed the last class attended (equal for NIOS and SOS)
Age group % 15 to 18 years - 47.8% 19 to 30 years - 42.4% 31 to 40 years - 6.8%	Age group% 15 to 18 years - 64.36% 19 to 30 years - 13.96% 31 to 40 years - 2.11%

Reaching Prospective Learners: Design/Intended vs Actual

Intended Means of Reach (Source: Institutional documents)	Actual reach (Source: Primary Survey)
Mass Media (Newspaper / Radio / TV)	NIOS: 6.7% in Rajasthan and 4.5% in Andhra had seen advertisement in national daily SOS: 1% in Rajasthan and Andhra
Awareness drives by Accredited Institutions (AIs)	Teachers (15.95) in AIs acted as important source of information
Website for Information	NIOS : 30% in Rajasthan and 4% in Andhra Rajasthan SOS: 9% Andhra SOS: 1.8 %

Reaching Prospective Learners: Who were the real sources?



Flexibility in the ODL System

INTENDED	ACTUAL PRACTICES
All-year Round	✓
Transfer for Credits	✓
Different Streams for those who passed/failed previous class	✓
Wide Range of Subjects without pre-categorisation	✓
Minimal fee with concessions for disadvantaged groups	✓
No Maximum Age specified	✓
Easy Availability of Prospectus	✓
Easy-to-fill Form	10% in Rajasthan 50% in Andhra self-filled forms

Academic Support

INTENDED	ACTUAL PRACTICES
Self-learning materials	Available but learners find it difficult to understand on their own
Contact Classes at registered Accredited Institutions	NIOS: Not conducted in both states. Rajasthan SOS: Not conducted **Andhra SOS: Regular contact classes**
Website for different resources	NIOS: 23% (Raj); 20% (AP): 23% Rajasthan SOS: 16.7%
Tutor-Marked Assignments	No uniformity across Rajasthan AIs APSOS learners – at least submitted one assignment
Special Tutor Training for ODL classes	None of the Tutors interviewed had attended any such training

ODL System: Deviations

- Role of Agents/Middlemen prominent in
  - Accessing prospectus
  - Filling out forms
  - Selection of subjects
- High Out-of-Pocket expenditure despite low fees – due to private tuitions for academic support, books, transport and stationary

	Fee	Out of Pocket Expenditure	
		Rajasthan	Andhra Pradesh
NIOS	Max. INR 2,200	INR 5,153	INR 6,332
SOS		INR 3,119	INR 5,512

Breakup of Costs (INR)

	Rajasthan (INR)	Andhra (INR)
Tution	1443.95 (0 --40000)	890.534 (0--3200)
Examination	1474.267 (0--80000)	1030.95 (0 --12000)
Other	1126.76 (0--74000)	1145.65 (0--7700)
Books	134.437 (0--6600)	273.16 (0--5000)
Stationary	103.1128 (0--1900)	554.46 (0--5000)
Uniform	30.78698 (0 --3000)	11 (0--4000)
Transport	19.17306(0--7000)	2022.7 (0--6000)
Private tution	19.17306 (0--6000)	47.4 (0--5000)

Conducting Examinations

INTENDED PRACTICES	ACTUAL PRACTICES
Bi-Annual Public Examinations	✓
Weekly On-Demand Examinations for NIOS	✓
Can appear for as many number of subjects per public examination	✓
Five years / Nine attempts per subject to complete the course	✓ **Probability of completion is highest in Year 1; declines sharply in next 4 years** (Paper presented by CBPS in PCF)
Local Language allowed for writing examinations	✓
Examination center close to the learner	NIOS: Learners reported that they had to travel longer distances
Strict and rigorous monitoring	Accredited Institute Management officials hinted at non-substantial monitoring Agents had **guaranteed completion**

10वीं फेल विद्यार्थी साल बचायें
NIOS बोर्ड का Authorised स्टडी सेन्टर
R.K. Public Sr. Sec. School मान्यता प्राप्त संस्थान से
NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling)
राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान
(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय का CBSE के समकक्ष
भारत सरकार का एक मात्र परीक्षा बोर्ड)
10वीं फेल केवल 3 विषयों की परीक्षा
अक्टूबर में देकर 10वीं इसी वर्ष पास करें
विशेष : 10वीं फेल इसी वर्ष उत्तीर्ण कर 11वीं में प्रवेश लें।
8वीं/9वीं फेल 10वीं में प्रवेश लेकर अप्रेल में परीक्षा दें।
प्रवेश हेतु दस्तावेज (Documents)
1. X^th फेल की मूल अंकतालिका
2. 5 पासपोर्ट साईज रंगीन फोटो।
3. पता-(कोई एक) आधार कार्ड/बिजली/पानी/टेलीफोन बिल
4. SC/ST जाति प्रमाण पत्र
5. 8वीं/9वीं की अंकतालिका।
100% परीक्षा परिणाम
माध्यम हिन्दी व अंग्रेजी
Registration open
अन्तिम तिथि पूर्व सम्पर्क करें सीटें सीमित

कक्षा 7वीं, 8वीं, 9वीं, 11वीं
फेल
विद्यार्थी निराश न हों
10वीं, 12वीं पास करें।
अपना साल Confirm बचाएं
X XII
Call on.

फेल छात्र पास करें
X, XII इसी वर्ष
Through NIOS (CBSE pattern)

8वीं, 9वीं, फेल 10वीं करें। 11वीं फेल 12 वीं पास करे।
Also Available Coaching Classes
NIOS
राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान
National Institute of Open Schooling
(The Largest Open Schooling System in the World)
8वीं, 9वीं, फेल 10वीं करें।
11वीं फेल 12 वीं पास करे।

ADMISSION FOR FAIL CBSE , ICS OR WBBSE CANDIDATES
CLASS X & XII !!!!
NIOS EDUCATION HAS BEEN THE LAST HOPE FOR
A FAILED STUDENTS OF CBSE , ICS OR WBBSE
BY HELPING THEN PASS THROUGH
NIOS BOARD
HURRY!!!! HURRY!!! HURRY!!!
LIMITED SEATS FOR ADMISSION

प्रवेश प्रारंभ Admission प्रवेश प्रारंभ Admission प्रवेश प्रारंभ
राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान
Education
National Institute of Open Schooling
(भारत सरकार, मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय का संस्थान)
CBSE के समकक्ष पाठ्यक्रम
10वीं एवं 12वीं सभी विषय का
प्रवेश एवं परीक्षा फार्म
नेशनल ओपन स्कूल के द्वारा भरें
परीक्षाएं हर 6 माह में संचालित
हिन्दी एवं अंग्रेजी माध्यम
कोई अधिकतम आयु सीमा नहीं
कक्षा 5,8,9,10 फेल या पास छात्र/छात्राओं के लिये
अधिक जानकारी के लिये सम्पर्क करें :-
Fresh Batch For
CBSE & NIOS Students
Starts from: 1st April,2015
Class Available X, XI, XII CBSE
Class Available X,XII NIOS Students
Special Classes for Commerce Students CBSE & NIOS
Morning Batch 7 AM to 11 AM
Evening Batch 4 PM to 7 PM

राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान
National Institute of Open Schooling
(The Largest Open Schooling System in the World) ISO 9001:2008 CERTIFIED
10 वीं व 12 वीं फेल विद्यार्थी
इसी वर्ष माह अक्टूबर–नवम्बर
में मात्र 3 विषयों की परीक्षा
देकर साल बचायें।
Contact:

Profiles of Learners who access NIOS

Logit model

$Yi = \alpha + \beta_1 Location + \beta_2 Sex + \beta_3 Employment + \beta_4$ marital status$+ \beta_5$ Religion$+ \beta_6$ Age$+ Ei;$

where, Y = whether a learner is enrolled in NIOS and SOS, and Ɛ = error variable.

- Model estimated separately for Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh

Learner Profiles: NIOS vs SOS

Parameter	Rajasthan	Andhra
Location	**No difference**	**No difference**
Sex	**NIOS: Male; SOS: Female**	**NIOS: Male; SOS: Female**
Employed	NIOS: No; SOS: Yes	No difference
Economic status	NIOS: Higher ; SOS: Lower	No difference
Marital status	**NIOS: Unmarried** **SOS: Married**	**NIOS: Unmarried** **SOS: Married**
Religion	NIOS: Minority SOS: Hindu	NIOS: Hindu SOS: Minority
Age	NIOS: Younger SOS :Older	NIOS: Older SOS: Younger

What's Being Used and What's Not?

What's Being Used

- On-Demand Examinations
- Subject-choice – however for different reasons

What's Not Being Used

- Flexibility for completion
- Contact Classes
- Tutor-Marked Assignments
- Technology focus
- Awareness campaigns
- Use of Reading Materials

MAJOR CONCLUSIONS

- Wide Information Gaps
- Education vs Certification
- Challenging Technology
  - Lack of Access to Computers & Internet
  - Lack of Skills to Maneuver Websites
  - Complexity of the Design
  - Inaccessibility due to ALL ONLINE processes

Rise of Agents / Middlemen due to Technology and Information Gaps

Less focus on education ↔ **Motivation for Certification**

Doesn't encourage Girls to break cultural barriers

Higher Enrolment of Boys

No Bridge-course Element

Never-Enrolled Not Reached

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Thank You!

Annexure

Does flexibility increase the probability of completion?

- Ordinal Logit Model Estimation

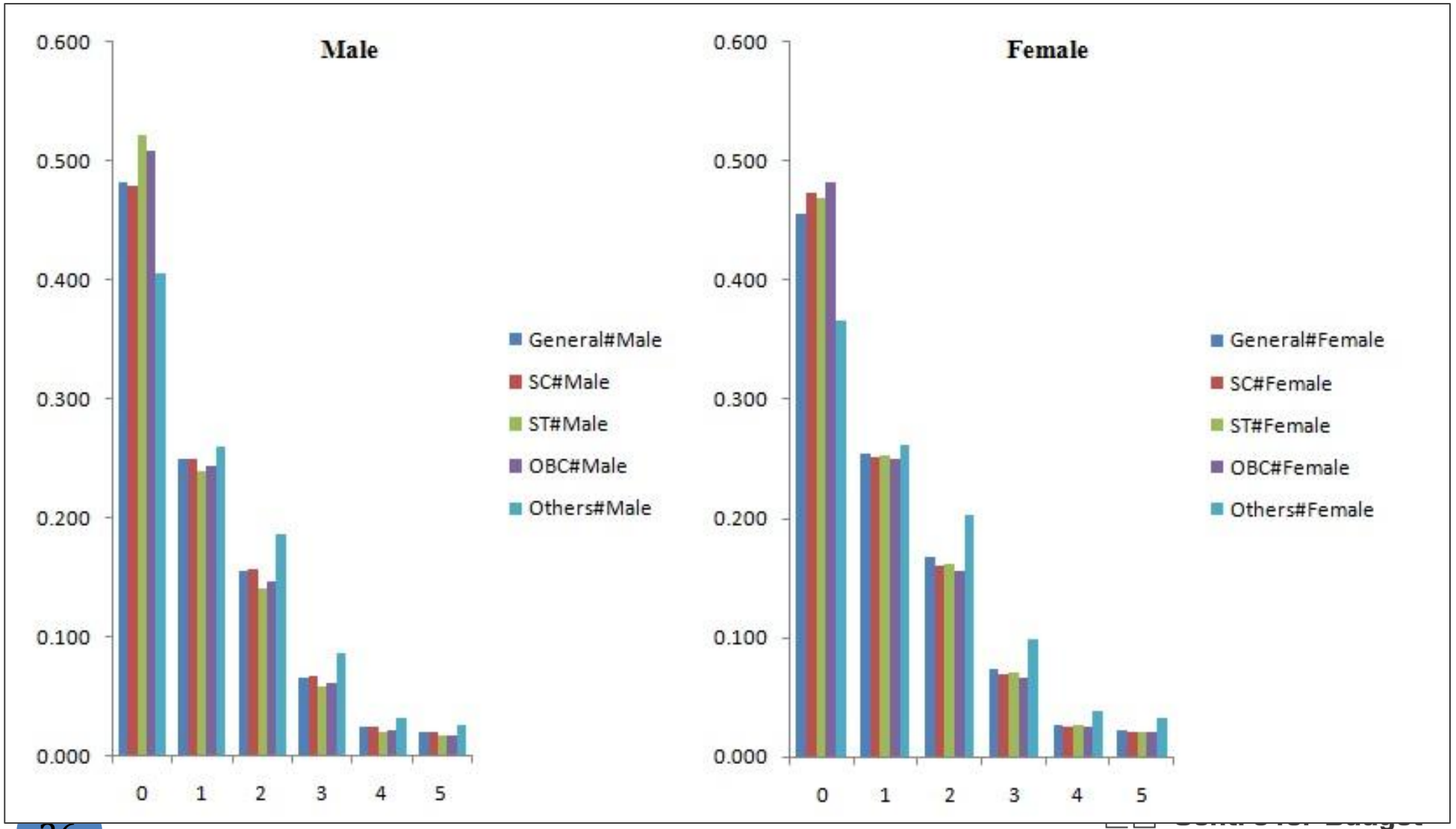
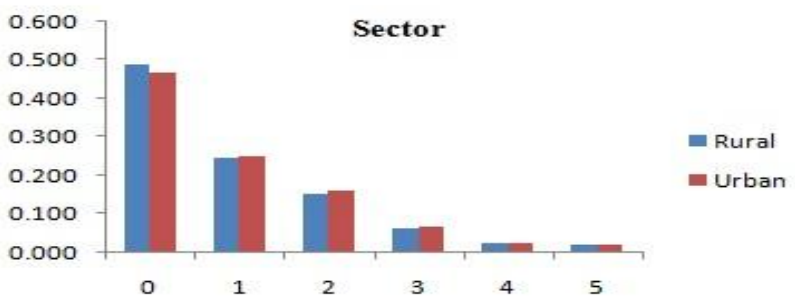
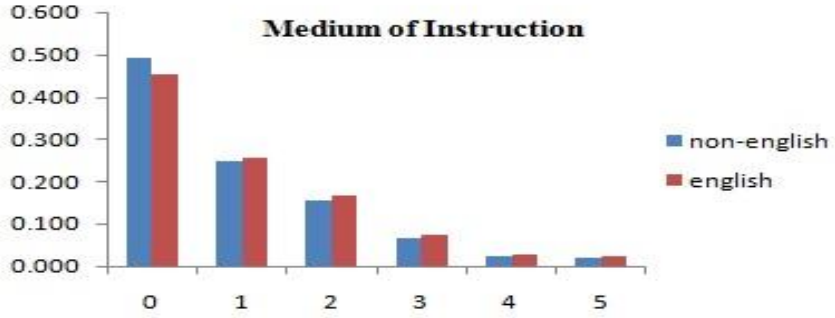
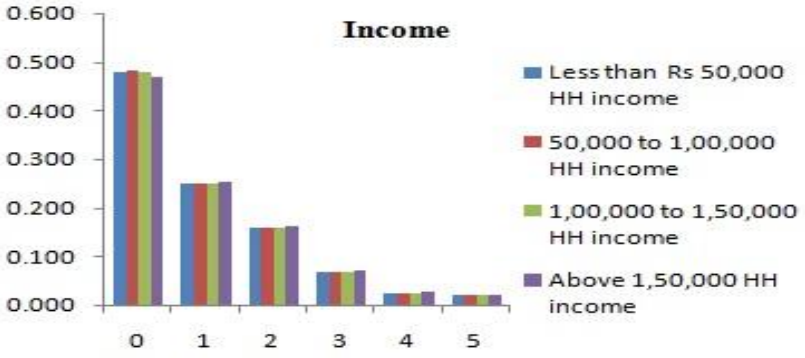
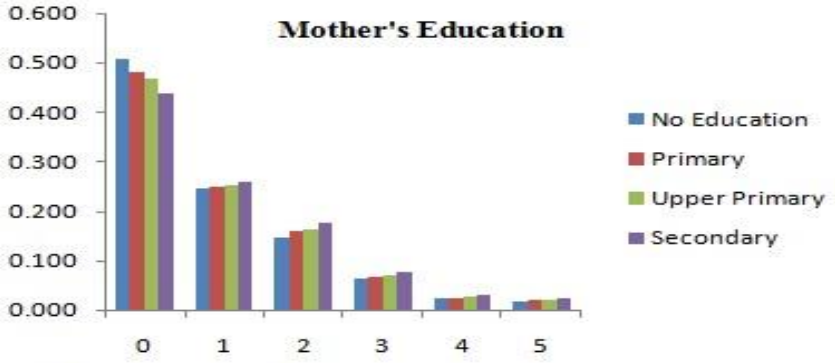
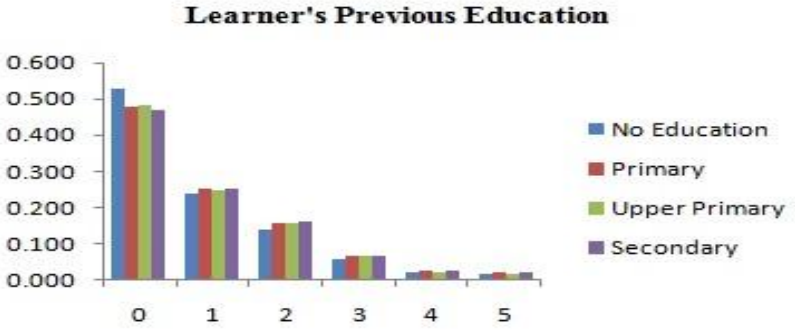
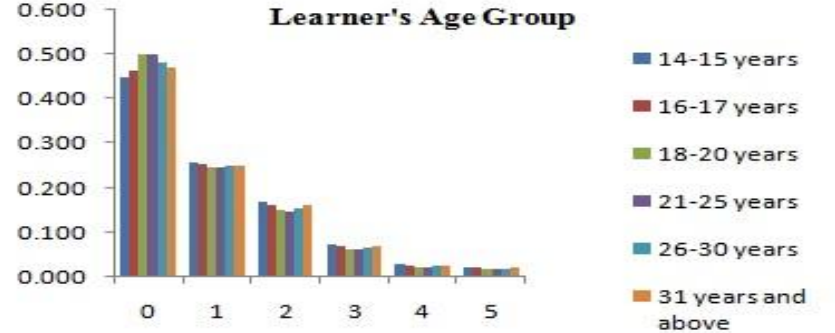
$$\mathbf{Y_{i,d,s,t} = \alpha_{i,d,s,t} + \beta 1\ Caste*Sex_{i,d,s,t} + \beta 2\ X_{i,d,s,t} + \beta 3\ state\ dummies + B4\ time\ dummies + \varepsilon_{i,d,s,t}}$$

- Y (Dependent Variable)
  - 0 – Not completed;
  - 1 – Completed in one year
  - 2 – Completed in 1.5 years
  - 3 – Completed in 2 years
  - 4 – Completed in 2.5 years
  - 5 – Completed in 3 – 5 years.

Does flexibility increase the probability of completion?

- X includes
  - Age group (Categorical Variable)
  - Education qualification before enrolling with NIOS (Categorical Variable)
  - Mother's Education (Categorical Variable)
  - Transfer of credit (Dummy Variable)
  - Total number of subjects taken (Continuous Variable)
  - Medium of Instruction (Dummy Variable)
  - Sector (Dummy Variable)
  - Income (Categorical Variable)

Predicted Probabilities



Predicted Probabilities