



Introduction

Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the countries which progress toward EFA since 2000 was not fully reflected in the 2015 Education for All Global Monitoring Report (GMR) due to lack of sufficient data. Enrolment data were not available before 2005 while enrolment ratios for some education levels, including primary education, could not be calculated by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) due to inconsistencies between enrolment figures provided by the country and the United Nations population data from the 2012 population revision. In order to monitor progress made by Bosnia and Herzegovina across some of the EFA goals since 1999, the GMR Team used data from the UNICEF's household survey Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) of 2000, 2006 and 2011 to calculate four key EFA indicators to measure progress in attendance in early child learning programmes, primary school attendance and completion and gender parity.

Because of the use of data from the MICS household survey, indicators different from the usual enrolment ratios were used in the analysis. Participation and gender parity at primary level are measured using gross attendance rates (GAR) and net attendance rates (NAR), instead of gross enrolment ratio (GER) and net enrolment ratio (NER). Additionally, completion rates instead of survival rates are used to measure educational completion at primary level.

It is also important to note that the use of data from household survey sources meant using school age-groups that are different from the country agreed ones in the International standard classification of education system (ISCED). So for pre-primary education/early child learning programmes, the age group used in this analysis is 3-4 instead of 3-5 and for primary 6-13 instead of 6-10.

Pre-primary education/early child learning programmes

In terms of pre-primary education, data related to the gross attendance rate (GAR) suggest that, despite a slight improvement, from 9% in 2000 to 12% in 2011, the country still has a long way to go in terms of children participation in early child learning programmes.

Attendance in primary education

Since 2000, there has been an increase in primary school attendance. The net attendance rate (NAR) went from 93% in 2000 to 99% in 2006 and then decreased to 97% in 2011.

Access to school is an important step to universal primary education, but it is equally important to ensure that all children, who enrol in primary education, complete it. In Bosnia

and Herzegovina, almost all children who enter primary school complete it. In 2011, on average 98% of children completed primary education, a proportion slightly on the rise compared to 2000 (97%).

Gender Parity

Gender parity in primary school attendance has been achieved since 2000, with gender parity index (GPI) of 1.00, and was maintained over the period (GPI of 0.99 in 2011). Gender parity is also achieved in primary school completion, with gender parity index (GPI) of 1.00 in 2000 and 1.01 in 2011.

Conclusion

The analysis of education data of Bosnia and Herzegovina demonstrates that the country has made great progresses towards universal primary education and gender parity. Nevertheless, more interventions at pre-primary education level are needed in order to increase the number of pupils attending kindergartens and pre-primary education, in particular the poorest children.