

Morocco

Project Info Sheet



Morocco allocates 20% of its budget to education, building schools to accommodate the rapidly growing population. Education is mandatory for children between the ages of 7 and 13 years.

Urban areas have good attendance, although attendance drops significantly in rural areas. In the desert areas frequented by Nomads, government schools cannot be found.

About 75% of school-age males attend school, but only about 50% of school-age girls; these proportions drop markedly in rural areas. Slightly more than half of the children go on to secondary education, including trade and technical schools. Of these, few seek higher education. Poor school attendance, particularly in rural areas, has meant a low rate of literacy, which affects about two-fifths of the population.

The education system in Morocco faces significant challenges with high drop-out rates, only 53 percent of students enrolled in middle school continuing to high school and less than 15 percent of first grade students likely to graduate from high school. Low levels of daily attendance, teacher absenteeism, and a multi-lingual environment at school contribute to the low literacy rates in Morocco.

Those unable to complete a high school education have far fewer employment opportunities.