

# SPOTLIGHT ON #THEINVISIBLES



  
Save the  
Children  
100 YEARS



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## **Project Manager:**

Siddhartha Pande

## **Research Team:**

### **For Save the Children**

Dr. Sonali Mukherjee  
Farrukh Shah

### **For TRIOs Development Support Pvt. Ltd.**

Dr. Keerti  
Satyendra Keshari

## **Editorial Team:**

Dr. Sonali Mukherjee  
Farrukh Shah  
Siddhartha Pande  
Madhurima Mallik  
Manu Bhatia

## **Report Design & Production:**

Papyrus Printmakers India

## **Media and Communication:**

Devendra Tak  
Madhurima Mallik

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# Abbreviations and Acronyms

<b>ASHA</b>	<b>Accredited Social Health Activist</b>
<b>CAPI</b>	<b>Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing</b>
<b>CCI</b>	<b>Child Care Institutions</b>
<b>CNCP</b>	<b>Child in Need of Care and Protection</b>
<b>CSC</b>	<b>Consortium for Street Children</b>
<b>CSPro</b>	<b>Census and Survey Processing System</b>
<b>CWC</b>	<b>Child Welfare Committee</b>
<b>DFID</b>	<b>Department for International Development</b>
<b>FGD</b>	<b>Focused Group Discussion</b>
<b>IDI</b>	<b>In- Depth Interviews</b>
<b>ICPS</b>	<b>Integrated Child Protection Scheme</b>
<b>JJB</b>	<b>Juvenile Justice Board</b>
<b>NGO</b>	<b>Non-Government Organization</b>
<b>NULM</b>	<b>National Urban Livelihoods Mission</b>
<b>NPAC</b>	<b>National Plan of Action for Children</b>
<b>MoU</b>	<b>Memorandum of Understanding</b>
<b>MRC</b>	<b>Migration Resource Centre</b>
<b>OBC</b>	<b>Other Backward Class</b>
<b>RNTCP</b>	<b>Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme</b>
<b>RTE</b>	<b>Right To Education</b>
<b>PHC</b>	<b>Primary Health Care</b>
<b>POCSO</b>	<b>Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012</b>
<b>SC</b>	<b>Scheduled Caste</b>
<b>ST</b>	<b>Scheduled Tribe</b>
<b>SSA</b>	<b>Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan</b>
<b>UID</b>	<b>Unique Identification Document</b>
<b>UIDAI</b>	<b>Unique Identification Authority of India</b>
<b>UNICEF</b>	<b>United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund</b>



Photo: CJ Clarke/ Save the Children

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Setting the Context: Purpose and Methodology

Children in street situations are one of the most underprivileged and vulnerable groups with limited access to protection, education, healthcare and adult supervision. Children end up on streets due to several reasons, including poverty, desperation and realization that they have nowhere else to go. Even though there are various welfare schemes sponsored by the government, the plight of children in street situations on the ground remains the same. Moreover, since there is no reliable estimate of number of children in street situations, it is challenging to draft a comprehensive action plan to help them.

These children are not counted by the government in Census and other national-level surveys. Therefore, this study was conducted as an effort to map and understand their socio-economic situation in detail using a sample survey. The survey was conducted in 10 cities of India (Delhi, Agra, Allahabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mughal Sarai, Mumbai, Nashik, Pune and Kolkata) and the data was collected using a mixed method approach.

For this study, definition of street children provided by UNICEF was used, which includes three types of street children:

- (1) children living on the street who have run away from their families and live alone on the streets,
- (2) children who work on the streets and spend most of their time on the streets fending for themselves but return home on a regular basis and,
- (3) children whose families live on the street.



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# Census Survey - Key Findings

## Identified Numbers



- Across the surveyed cities, 202765 children in street situations were identified. Of these, 81235 were in Delhi, followed by three cities of Maharashtra with 52535 in Mumbai, 14626 in Pune and 3894 in Nashik. In Uttar Pradesh, 30407 children were identified, of which, 5656 were in Agra, 4282 in Allahabad, 9147 in Kanpur, 10996 in Lucknow and 326 in Mughal Sarai. In Kolkata, 20068 children were found on the streets.
- In Delhi, of the 81235 children, 3025 were from Child Care Institutions (CCI).

## Classification of Children in Street Situation



- Of the children identified, 59.2% were those working on the street.
- Nearly 37.7% of the identified children were those whose families lived on the streets and only about 3% were children living on the streets.
- Around 60% of the children were in the age group of 6 to 14 years.
- Among children working on the street, the percentage of girls across all age groups was higher than boys.
- Majority of the identified children belonged to Hindu community and general caste category. This was followed by Other Backward Class (OBC) and Scheduled Caste (SC).

## Reasons for Being on Street



- The three key reasons for children to be on the streets were search for job/ income, lack of shelter and slum displacement.
- One out of two children, either those working on the street or whose families were on the street were from migrant families who came to city with or without family in search of jobs.
- Around 25% children ended up on the street after moving with the family as they were unable to find shelter. Another 23% moved with or without family due to slum displacement.

## Socio-demographic and Economic Profile



- Of the children identified, 60% were boys.
- Among the children identified in Delhi, 66.1% were between 6 to 14 years of age. One out of two children were between 6 to 14 years old in all cities except Mughal Sarai, where more than 80% children were aged 10 years or below and 47% children were 5 years old or below.

## Education



- Approximately 58.1% children in the age group of 3-5 years had no formal education and could not read or write. Only 40% children among this age group had attended pre-school or received primary level of education.
- One in two children in the age group 6-10 years was not attending primary or upper primary school.
- Around 33% children in the age group of 11-14 years were attending upper primary school.
- One out of four children in the age group of 15-18 years were attending “higher education or technical training”.

## Marital Status



- Although all the respondents were minors, yet 0.3% (around 652) children on the streets were currently married. Out of them, 51% were girls. Importantly, around 12% children in the age group of 11-14 years reported to be married.

## Occupation



- Around 25% children were involved in begging or rag picking, whereas 15% children were engaged in selling items on the street. Less than 5% children were engaged in cleaning cars and two wheelers, working at a road side stall or repair shop, working in small restaurant or tea stall or as a construction worker. Most of the young children below the age of 14 years (43.8%) were involved in begging.
- Occupation study matrix: Around 40% of children were enrolled in school along with being engaged in economic activities. Nearly half the children who were engaged in begging and rag picking had no formal education. Those who were pursuing higher education mostly sold items or worked at roadside stalls and restaurants/tea stalls. This reflects the linkages between educational status and the choice of occupation opted by children.

## Place to Sleep



- One out of four children in street situations sleep on the street or footpath. Among surveyed cities, Allahabad (57.8%) and Kolkata (47%) had a very high share of children who sleep on the street or footpath.
- One in four girls was sleeping on street or footpath, which jeopardizes her safety.
- Nearly 48.2% children sleep in slum/J.J colony/rain basera etc. and 21% sleep in a temporary shelter. In Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mughal Sarai, Nashik and Pune more than 65% children sleep in slums/JJ colonies/rain baseras.

## Identification Documents



- Around 55% children possessed Aadhaar card, 35% children had ration card and 42.2% children had birth certificate. However, 30% children did not have any identification document.
- The largest share of children who did not have an identity document belonged to SC category.
- Non-metro cities have done significantly well as compared to metro cities with respect to possession of Aadhaar cards. Nearly 56% children in Delhi, 54% in Mumbai and 46% children in Kolkata had an Aadhaar card as compared to 75.5% children in Allahabad, 63% in Kanpur and 67% in Pune.

## Bank Account



- On an average, around 2.4% children reported to have a bank account.
- With Pune reporting 7% children with a bank account and no children with a bank account in Allahabad and Kolkata showed the two ends of the spectrum as far as financial inclusion of these children is concerned.
- Even in the capital city of Delhi, only 3% children in street situations reported to have bank accounts. In fact, Kanpur performed better than several other cities, including metros, where 4.2% children reported having a bank account.

## Children in CCIs



- Nearly 50% children in the CCIs were boys and 36.3% children were in the age group of 11-14 years.
- Approximately 82% of children at CCI were unaware of the reason for being on the street, and around 18% had lost contact with their families.
- One out of two children was pursuing education at different levels. A higher percentage of girls, especially in age groups 3-5 years and 15-18 years reported to be in educational institutions.
- Nearly 35% of children in CCI reported to have no identification documents.



Photo: Vicky Roy/ Save the Children

## Sample Survey - Key Findings

Among the children identified, 3992 were interviewed in detail and various aspects related to the causal factors leading children to streets were examined.

### Gender

- Among the sample, 61.1% were boys and around 65.9% children were in the age group of 10-14 years.

### Migration

- Among children in the age group of 10-14 years, around 15% were not aware about their birth place. For 25%, the present location was not their place of birth indicating that they have migrated from another location. These proportions were 9% and 28% respectively among children in the age group of 15-18 years.
- Around 33% of children living on the street reported that the interview location was their birth place. However, 50% of these children were born somewhere else indicating they were either runaways or brought to these locations.
- The primary reason for migration was poverty and hunger.
- Ironically, nearly 12% of the total identified children were on the street for more than 10 years.

### Access to Shelter

- With respect to place of sleep, 78.8% children slept at the same site every day.
- Around 61% boys and 47% girls living on the street did not have a permanent place to sleep.
- Nearly 83.7% children working on the street slept on the same site followed by children whose families lived on the streets (72.1%) and children living on the street (41.4%).
- At the state level, in West Bengal, 97.1% children slept at the same place, whereas, in Delhi the place of sleep kept changing with only 29.1% sleeping at the same place.
- Frequency of changing the place of stay was very high among children living on the street, especially boys, as they had various options.
- Regarding the reasons for sleeping at different places, majority stated that they have no reason for shifting (31.6%) which was followed by objection from police (24.9%).

## Drinking Water and Sanitation

- Community tap (63.8%) was the most often public facility used by the children in street situations.
- About 38% children did not have access to sanitation and defecated in the open.
- The children who had access to sanitation services, 80% of them were using toilets either free-of-cost or paid for it.

## Education and Skill Training

- About 62% children in age group of 10-14 years were not attending school because they could not afford the fees.
- Nearly 62% of children working on the streets and 57.9% children whose families are on the street primarily dropped out due to high fees, however, in both these groups, 25% shared that they were not willing to send their children to school.
- Approximately 37.6% of the children who dropped out were interested in going back to school, if given an opportunity. In fact, more girls (41.3%) than boys (35.5%) were interested in joining a school again.
- Only 17% of the children in age group of 15 years and above were aware of skill trainings provided by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government etc.
- No child in Mughal Sarai had heard of skill training programmes, but if given an opportunity, 70% showed willingness to join.
- About 39.6% children were willing to learn skilled work if given an opportunity and more girls (46%) than boys (36.2%) were willing to be trained.
- Children who were currently going to school were more inclined towards joining skill training.

## Current Work Details, Work Conditions

- Approximately 25% children were involved in begging or rag-picking, of which, majority were young children (below 14 years of age).
- About 36.4% children were not engaged in any specific economic activity.
- Nearly 42.5% and 38.7% children who were engaged in begging and rag picking respectively found work by themselves. However, more than 30% of those engaged in selling items on the road, working on road side stall / repair shop and working in small restaurants got the job through relatives and family.
- Majority of the children (47.3%) work for 4 to 6 hours, however, girls worked for longer hours. Nearly 46% of the children involved in begging and 54% in rag-picking worked for approximately 6 hours. Around 13% children engaged in any kind of work/occupation and 16% children working in construction worked for more than 8 hours.
- Overall, 47% children were earning an average income of less than Rs.100 per day and more than 63.5% of these children were paid in cash or money was directly given to them.
- A large share of the income is spent on food (71.8%) followed by domestic expenses (41.8%), clothing (36%) and health (27.4%).

## Health and Nutrition

- A total of 1169 children reported to have fallen sick in the last one year.
- About 50% children suffered from fever and 43.1% children had common cold. Nearly 25% children got cough and 21% children complained of stomach pain. Further, 8.8% children suffered from diarrhoea in the last one month preceding the survey.
- Approximately 80% children in street situations reported to have sought treatment for various ailments.
- Government hospitals were most preferred facility of treatment by children for medical issues followed by local doctors (private clinics).
- Nearly 73.3% of the children reported to have borne the medical expenses out of their

pockets while 21.5% had to borrow money.

- Disability in children stand at 2.1%, of which, 59.8% acquired their disability.

### Support and Entitlements

- Nearly 60% children were not aware of any support system that they could approach and only 6.9% children were aware of such a support system.
- About 77.8% of children did not access services of the existing support system. Of the children who approached, 19.3% did not receive any assistance.
- Among children who sought support, assistance from the support facility was taken for medicines/ health check-ups (42.5%) and clothing (31.4%).
- With respect to awareness about government schemes, one out of two children knew about Midday Meal Scheme, whereas 40% knew about Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan. Nearly 33% children knew about Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and 10% children were aware of Childline services and National Child Labour Project. Less than 10% children were aware of Integrated Programme for Street Children, Kishori Shakti Yojna, Ballika Samridhi Yojna, Shishu Greha Scheme and Scheme for Working Children in Need of Care and Protection.

## Study Recommendations

Keeping the findings from the census and sample survey in view, the study has made some suggestions for policies and programmes.

### At Policy Level

- It may be useful to have a National- and State-Level Advisory Committee involving various stakeholders including government, experts, activists, NGO representatives, legal and law enforcement authorities to suggest/advise for coordinated actions for children in street situations.
- It is highly essential to have an exact count of children in street situations, therefore, it is recommended that the related data should also be integrated in various national-level surveys such as Census. This would help in guiding the framework for policies and programmes.
- Policy-level decisions could be taken to direct various Corporate Social Responsibility (CSRs) to work for the benefit of children in street situations. This would help in involvement of additional stakeholders and resource mobilization.

### At the Programmatic Level

- Social Integration: A programme focusing on re-uniting children living on the street with their families should be conceptualized. Children should be placed in institutions or given foster placements as the last resort.
- A dual education system that combines apprenticeship in a company and vocational education at school should be developed for these children.
- Gram Sabhas should establish Migration Resource Centres (MRC) in villages to address issues of unsafe migration.
- Police aid, especially at railway stations, should be sensitized regarding the children and should be trained in best interest for identification standard procedures for children in street situations.
- Address the community's attitude and perceptions to help them understand the challenges faced by these children through awareness sessions (in schools and community), mobilization drives planned by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working on this area.
- Organize mass mobilization campaigns periodically where the service providers and other key stakeholders can meet the children in street situations and their family to link them to relevant governmental and non-governmental schemes.
- Set up a District-Level Monitoring Committee to assist in concurrent monitoring, vigilance and review of programmes related to children in street situations.
- Plan direct interventions and counselling for children in street situations for (a) behaviour management, (b) substance abuse de-addiction and (c) sexual and mental health (might include psycho-social counselling). Conducting workshops with street-based children on various child rights issues can also help enhance awareness about rights and entitlements.



# CHAPTER 1 AN INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. BACKGROUND : THE UNIDENTIFIED CHILDREN

Children in street situations are a common sight in urban India. They are one of the most underprivileged and vulnerable groups with limited access to protection, education, healthcare and adult supervision. Despite being frequently seen in cities around the country, there is negligible data on actual numbers of children in street situations in India as they are neither covered in Census or in any other national-level surveys. As per Census 2011, the homeless population in the country is estimated to be 0.15% (1.77 million) of the total population. None of the national-level policies, laws and programmes address their cause. However, children in street situations in India are included under the category of “vulnerable groups in need of care and protection”, such as those engaged in child labour or those out of school, therefore, there is lack of direct attention and focused interventions towards their well-being.

The issue of identifying children in street situations was not taken up seriously until UNICEF shared the alarming estimates of their numbers in 1994, estimating it to be about 11 million in India. Though these are rough estimates, there are no alternate sources of information on the possible count of children living in the streets in India. However, some studies have generated evidence on the number of children in street situations. Rane and Shroff (1994) in their study estimated that approximately 3,14,700 street children were present in six cities namely Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Kanpur, Hyderabad and Bangalore.

A census of children in street situations conducted by Save the Children in 2011 in Delhi identified 50,932 children. A similar study in Mumbai conducted by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) and Action Aid India (2013) estimated that there were about 37,059 who live in the streets of Mumbai. It was enumerated to be 10,427 in Pune in 2016. Very recently, a five-city survey undertaken by Save the Children (2016) found 84,563 children in street situations among which nearly 28,560 were in Hyderabad, 21,926 in Patna, 21,907 in Howrah and Kolkata and 10,771 children in Lucknow.

## 1.2. DEFINING STREET CHILDREN

UNICEF has defined three types of street children as described below:





### **I.3. EXISTING PROVISIONS/ POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR CISS**

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), adopted by the global community in 1989, was the first internationally legally binding document concerning child rights. UNCRC focuses on ensuring rights for all children but does not specify children in street situations. Each member country, therefore, includes street children under special clauses and ensures the progress and betterment of their rights. There are other efforts being made by civil society networks like the Consortium for Street Children (CSC) that have been formed globally and work towards the attainment of rights of children in street situations.

Article 15(3) of the Constitution of India directs states to make special provisions for protection of rights of children. Through Article 39, the Constitution calls the state governments to direct their policy towards preventing the abuse of children at a tender age, ensure that they are not forced by economic necessity to enter avocations unsuited to their age or strength, ensure ample opportunities to develop physically and mentally with freedom and dignity and protect childhood and youth against moral and material abandonment.

At the national level, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) ensures that all laws, policies, programmes and administrative mechanisms are in consonance with the child rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UNCRC. NCPCR defines 'child' as a person in the age group of 0 to 18 years. As the crest body working for child rights in India, its decree is to protect, promote and defend child rights, besides monitoring and implementation of the provisions of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009; the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012; and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 at the national level.

To affirm the government's commitment to the right-based approach in addressing the continuing and emerging challenges in the situation of children, the Government of India (GoI) adopted the National Policy for Children 2013. It adheres to the Constitutional mandate and guiding principles of UNCRC and reflects a paradigm shift from a "need-based" to a "rights-based" approach. It is based on the cardinal principles of right to life, survival and development, protection, non-discrimination, best interests of the child and respect for the views of the child.

The National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC) 2016, resulting from National Policy for Children 2013, stands as the country's practical expression of commitment to national progress. This is a declaration of foundational investment. In setting out goals, strategies and actions for the coming years, GoI is carrying forward efforts to ensure a safe, dignified and fruitful life for all children.

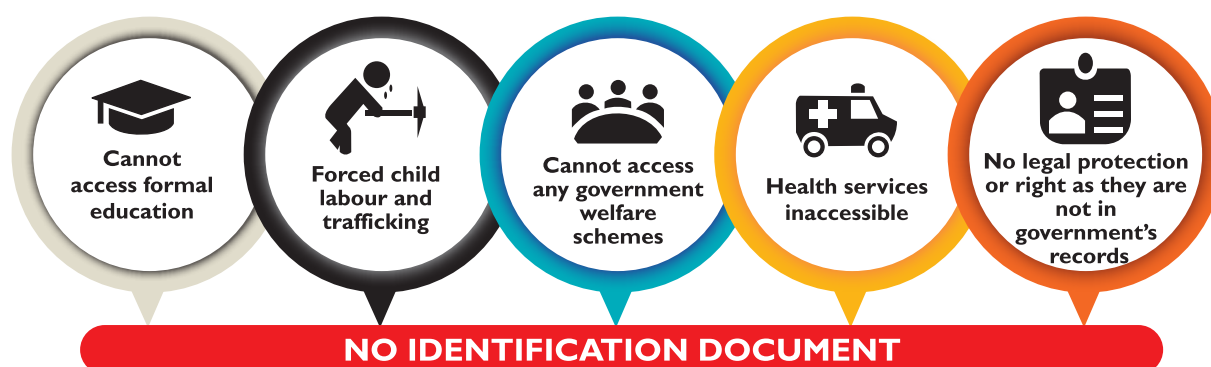
The focus of NPAC is to reach and serve vulnerable children due to gender, socio-cultural and economic or geographic exclusion, including other vulnerable children etc. NPAC will assure special attention, care and protection to all such children by tracking and identifying them, and ensuring all services are accessible to them in an inclusive manner and providing them with an overarching social protection network. The plan aims at giving due attention to the inter-relatedness of deprivations and needs, and thus of measures to address each of them, while ensuring all children from all strata develop to their full potential in a holistic manner.

Further, especially to help children living on the street fulfil their rights, the Integrated Programme for Street Children was initiated in 2009-10. The programme provides provisions for shelter, nutrition, health care, education, recreation facilities to street children, and seeks to protect them against abuse and exploitation. The Integrated Programme for Street Children is now under the umbrella of Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) programmes. The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) is the nodal ministry to implement ICPS.

## I.4. CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATION AND DENIAL OF BASIC RIGHTS

Children in street situations, as a high-risk and insecure group, are vulnerable to various forms of exploitation and abuse. They are denied not only of their rights as children, but also their childhood. Usually, they lack an identity document which manifolds the dangers and risks that the children in street situations are exposed to already.

The identified risks are depicted in the chart. These facts are realized by the government, NGOs and other active players who work towards the betterment of these children. Though, few of them have supported some children to access their identification documents.



## I.5. NEED FOR IDENTIFICATION

There are multiple existing legal binding and governmental provisions for child care and protection which integrates additional interventions for protecting children and preventing harm. Welfare, education and healthcare are all difficult for them to access because they do not have any legal identity. The lack of a legal identity severely limits what they can achieve in life. In a study conducted by researcher Raju, Ericharla on street children of coastal Andhra region suggested that one of the short measures / solutions to improve the situation of street children is “to know the precise numbers of street children in each city and to know their lifestyles”.

Any individual, irrespective of age and gender, who is a resident of India, may voluntarily enrol to obtain an Aadhaar number. Person willing to enrol has to provide minimal demographic and biometric information during the enrolment process which is free of cost. An individual needs to enrol for Aadhaar only once; after de-duplication one Aadhaar is generated, as the uniqueness is achieved through the process of demographic and biometric de-duplication.

## I.6. PRESENTATION OF REPORT

This report is based on quantitative research that includes an enumeration of children in street situations and a sample survey in 10 cities supported by qualitative data collected through focus group discussions (FGDs) with mainly children in street situations and parents, and in-depth interviews (IDIs) with various stakeholders including NGO representatives and officials, Child Welfare Committee (CWC) members, Railway Police as they directly deal with this segment of children. Brief description of each chapter is given below:

**Chapter - I :** introduction covers background for the study and discussion regarding the need for identification.

**Chapter - II :** objectives and methodology adopted in the survey. The procedure of data collection and the tools used with data quality, management and processing is discussed. Limitations of the study are mentioned at the end of the chapter.



Photo: CJ Clarke/ Save the Children

**Chapter - III :** deals with the enumeration survey and focuses on characteristics of children in street situations, category, socio-demographic characteristics, marital status, education, religion, caste/social group, reasons for being on street and place to sleep. This chapter also covers the status of identification documents the children possess and whether they have bank accounts. A discussion on children at CCI is also included.

**Chapter - IV :** elaborates about children in street situations through a detailed questionnaire. This chapter addresses their access to shelter, migration, geographic mobility, education and skill training, current work details, work conditions, financial inclusions, food security, clothing, health and nutrition and awareness and services availed from government or any other support and entitlements.

**Chapter -V :** discusses the conclusion and recommendations derived from the study.

# CHAPTER 2 STUDY METHODOLOGY

## 2.1. STUDY CONTEXT

Although there are no official statistics on the magnitude of the problem of children living in street situations in India, some efforts have been made to estimate this number. In lieu of the described issues and reasons, it becomes highly essential to mainstream the children in street situations and help them access their rights. To address this challenge, Save the Children initiated the project “The Invisibles”. The goal of the project is “to create an enabling environment for all children living in street situations in India, thereby strengthening their access to right to survival, development, participation, and protection, eventually unlocking their limitless potential”. To enable this, it was important to undertake a mapping exercise to identify and list children living in street situations. Further, through a sample survey, socio-economic and other related conditions were understood in detail. This study was carried out in Delhi, Agra, Allahabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mughal Sarai, Mumbai, Nashik, Pune and Kolkata-Howrah.

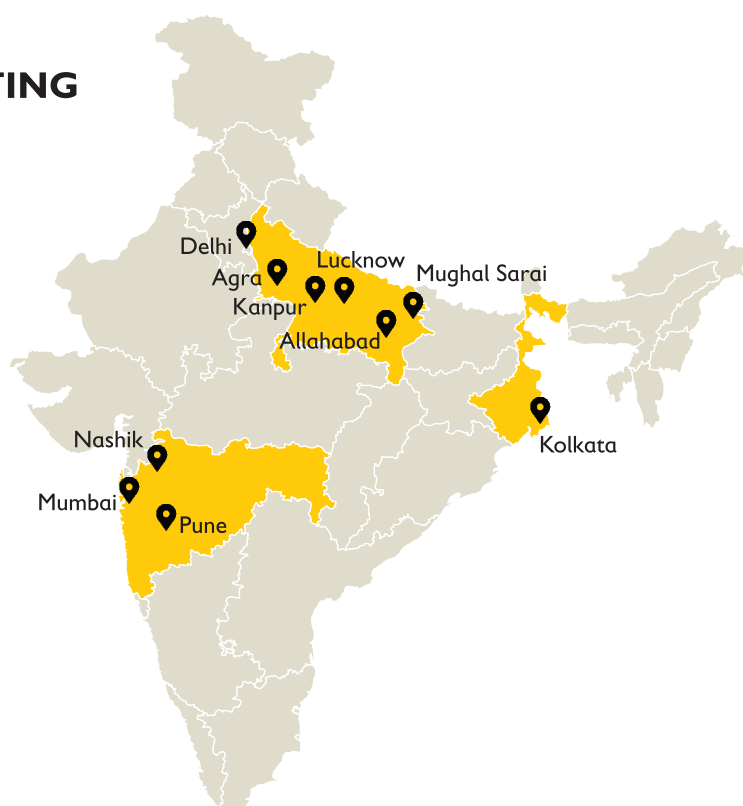
## 2.2. STUDY OBJECTIVES

The study was undertaken with the key objectives to:

- Carry out a complete enumeration of the children in street situations in the 10 cities through a census survey.
- Examine the status of children in street situations in terms of their access to the legal proof of identity-Aadhaar card.
- Conduct an in-depth study of the socio- economic and related status of children in street situations through interviews of a sample of children under different instances of the possession of legal identity and their access to various social security schemes.

## 2.3. CRITERIA FOR SELECTING CITIES

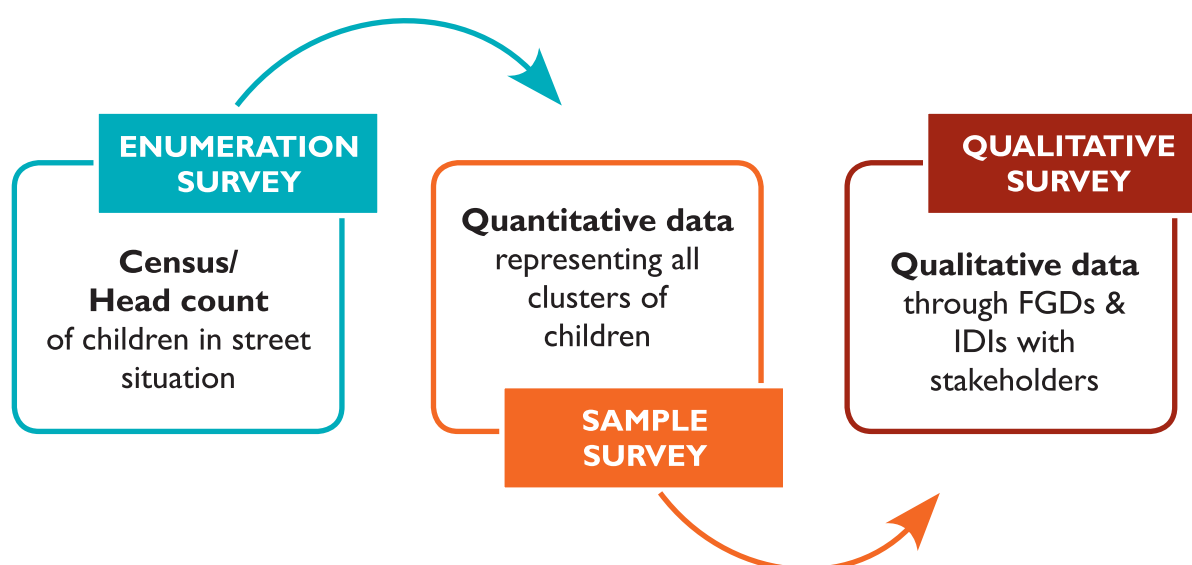
- Availability of data on children in street situations present in the city.
- Strategic high-priority regions where Save the Children has been working with children in street situations.
- Cities with high demand from the government to engage with children in street situations.
- Presence of large number of children in street situations in Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata while Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of cities with a population of more than a million people.



## 2.4. COMPONENTS OF THE STUDY

The methodology for the study was designed to achieve the primary objective of developing a comprehensive and accurate estimate of the prevalence of children in street situation and understanding their socio-economic and demographic characteristics in detail. The study used a pragmatic blend of mixed method approach involving quantitative and qualitative techniques to examine the status of children in street situations in terms of their access to legal proof of identity and social protection schemes as well as their socio-economic and related conditions. Together, the study had three major components: (a) Enumeration Survey (Headcount / Census Survey); (b) Sample Quantitative Survey of Children in Street Situations and, (c) Qualitative Survey.

The methodology followed for each of these components is summarized below.

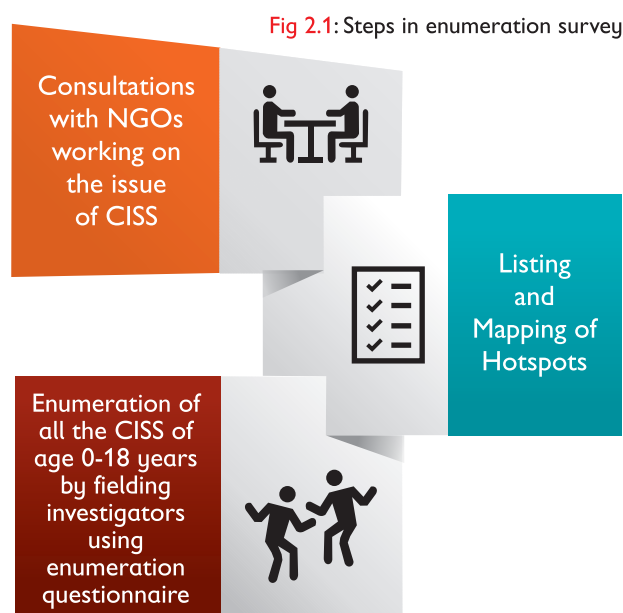


### Enumeration Survey

Under the study, a complete enumeration was conducted for the children living in street situations within the municipal limits of the 10 cities. The study undertook a headcount of all the children in the street situation following specific definition and criteria for identifying them. In addition to these, children in CCI were also enumerated in Delhi to develop an understanding about their living situation.

#### Area of Enquiry:

The survey captured individual-level identification and socio-demographic information, education status, occupation, usual place of sleeping at night and reason for being on the street. Information on access to Aadhaar card and government social protection services was also gathered. Based on this information, the child was classified into one of the three categories of child in street situations.



## Steps in Enumeration Survey :

Steps in enumeration survey: At first, the local NGOs working for children in street situation were identified in each city and consultations with the NGO representatives were conducted. The hot spot locations where children in street situation were most often found were mapped and listed with the support of the NGOs. After completion of listing, a detailed field movement plan was sketched to conduct the headcount enumeration survey. Places like railway platforms, bus stands, tourist locations, places of religious worship of all communities, traffic interjections, markets, under flyovers, major construction sites were commonly covered in all the cities.

There are different types of children in street situation, which includes children who live with family on streets, children living on their own with unrelated people on the streets, children who are on streets for work etc. A common understanding of the types of children in the street and clarity on classifying them in the study was developed in order to maintain uniformity in classification across the study locations/cities. Based on the above, for the purpose of the study, the children in street situations were classified in following categories:

- children living on the street;
- children working on the street;
- children whose families are on the street.

The following inclusion and exclusion criteria for identification and systematic enumeration of children in street situations were set for the study:

### Inclusion Criteria:

The groups of individuals identified and included as children in street situations in the headcount enumeration survey were:

- Anyone who sleeps rough under the open sky.
- Anyone who sleeps in a katchi abadi structure on the street or in a public space.
- Any child found in a katchi abadi structure alone or with related or unrelated peers.
- Anyone who sleeps at night in a government night shelter / children's home.
- Anyone who sleeps at night in a railway station.
- Anyone who sleeps at night in a place of worship.
- Anyone who works as a beggar, waste picker, scavenger, flower seller, car cleaner, footpath stall seller, etc.

### Exclusion Criteria:

There were certain groups of children who, though looked like children in street situations, but were not in reality from the streets. Identifying these children and excluding them from the headcount was crucial for the study. Therefore, the following criteria for children to be excluded from the headcount were also set for the study:

- Children in school uniforms.
- Children living in a pukka abadi house which is not a shelter.
- Children wearing leather shoes and/or a belt.
- Children with bicycles, or carrying school bags or a water bottle.
- Children accompanied by older, well-dressed parents.
- Children playing in parks with sports gear such as a cricket bat, ball etc.

Applying these inclusion and exclusion criteria, a complete enumeration of the children in street situation in the 10 cities was done using a listing form. The listing form was a Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI)-based short questionnaire.



## Quantitative Survey

For conducting the sample survey of children in street situations, a sub-set of enumerated children (children older than 10 years) was selected as a sample for a detailed quantitative survey.

### Steps in Quantitative Survey:

Based on study by Save the Children in 2016, the overall number of children in street situations in each city was estimated. The same estimation was used to arrive at a sample size for each city for the quantitative survey. The sample size was calculated for each city at Level of Confidence Measure: 1.96, Margin of Error (MOE) = 0.05 and Design Effect = 1. Table 2.1 shows the estimated sample in each location vis-a-vis total covered sample:

**Table 2.1:** Location-wise estimates of CISS and sample size for the study

No	Location	Expected Quantitative Sample	Covered Sample
1.	Delhi	382	629
2.	Agra	366	369
3.	Allahabad	359	368
4.	Kanpur	374	380
5.	Lucknow	374	431
6.	Mughal Sarai	226	53
7.	Mumbai	382	551
8.	Nasik	365	370
9.	Pune	375	424
10.	Kolkata	378	417
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3581</b>	<b>3992</b>

Since the estimated quantitative sample of children was different in each city; different sampling intervals were applied in each location. The CAPI programme was designed in a way that it automatically opened the detailed survey form for a child above 10 years of age after specific interval for each city.

The quantitative sample survey was a detailed CAPI-based survey, through which information was gathered on various aspects using a questionnaire. The questionnaire collected details regarding children's current work details and working conditions, food security, clothing, health and nutrition status, disability etc. The government support and entitlement status was examined by capturing details on ownership of identification card and the benefits received as a card holder, awareness of various child-related schemes, access to the schemes, awareness on the means - facility or authority to seek support and the assistance received etc.



## Qualitative Survey

FGDs were conducted with children and their parents to understand their lives, fears, aspirations and perspectives. This was augmented with in-depth interviews (IDIs) of key stakeholders working with children or on the issue of children in street situations. Details of IDIs and FGDs are given in Table 2.2:

Table 2.2: Number of FGDs and IDIs conducted in the study

	FGDs				Total	IDIs					Total
	Boys	Girls	Parents			Selected Local NGO Representative	Inspector/ Sub-inspector of Police/Railway Police	Member Juvenile Justice Board	Member Child Welfare Committee	Local Employer	
Delhi	1	1	1		3	1	1	1	1	1	5
Agra	1	1	1		3	1	1		1	1	4
Allahabad	1	1	1		3	1	1	1	1	1	5
Kanpur	1	1	1		3	1	1		1	1	4
Lucknow	1	1	1		3	1	1		1	1	4
Mughal Sarai	1	1	1		3	1	1		1	1	4
Mumbai	1	1	1		3	1	1	1	1	1	5
Nasik	1	1	1		3	1	1		1	1	4
Pune	1	1	1		3	1	1			1	3
Kolkata	1	1	1		3	1	1	1	1	1	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>43</b>

## 2.5. QUALITY CONTROL

The following quality control measures were followed during the study:

- **CAPI Program:** A comprehensive CPro-based program was developed with inbuilt features to avoid incorrect data entries due to missing fields, skips or invalid data ranges etc. On such errors, the program had a feature to pop up a caution message to the investigator and stopped accepting further entries until the errors were rectified. This helped in minimizing incorrect data recording.
- **Data Checks:** A data operator checked all data sets daily and any discrepancy was flagged and recorded which was cross-checked by a supervisor. These checks ensured that data quality was maintained to address different dimensions of correctness, completeness, consistency and timeliness. Around 1% spot and back check was conducted by the coordinator and core team to assure robust probing and administration of questionnaire.

## 2.6. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Given the sensitive nature of the subject, few prominent limitations of the survey are described below:

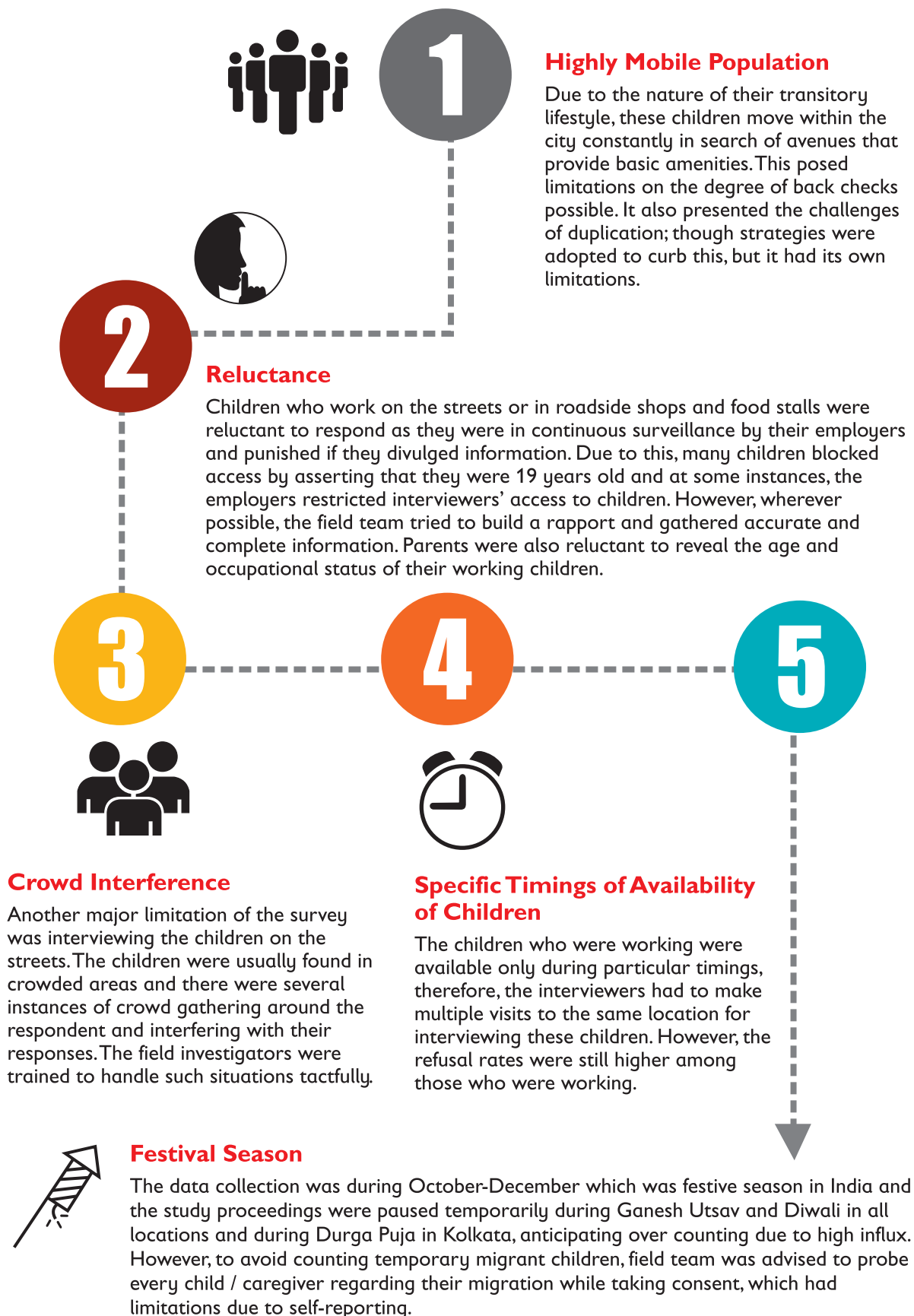




Photo: CJ Clarke/ Save the Children

## 2.7. COVERAGE OF THE CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATION

Across the 10 study locations, more than two lakh children (202765) children were identified as children in street situations. However, 1560 children out of the identified children refused to be a part of the interview. Therefore, data was collected for 201205 children. Delhi accounted for the highest number (80068) followed by Mumbai (52426), Kolkata (20068), Pune (14483) and Lucknow (10931). In other cities, the identified or interviewed children were less than 10000, with the least in Mughal Sarai (326).

# ENUMERATION OF CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATION

In this chapter, the findings emerged from the enumeration survey have been presented for all ten cities for children in street situations and children in CCIs. The initial section discusses about the findings pertinent to identified children in street situations in detail and the subsequent section on children at CCI showcases the related findings in brief.

## 3.1. POPULATION OF CHILDREN IDENTIFIED IN STREET SITUATIONS

The study attempted to enumerate the children in street situations in the ten study cities. All persons up to the age of 18 years who matched the definition and inclusion criteria of children in street situations were counted and listed in each city.

Table 3.1: Population of children identified in street situations

Locations	Projected Population 2019 (Census 2011)	Total urban population 0-18 yrs (Census 2011)	Children in street situations identified in the study	As a percentage of projected population	As a percentage of urban population 0-18 yrs
Delhi	19609641	5757301	81235	0.41	1.41
Agra	1891414	844627	5656	0.30	0.67
Kanpur	2946014	1017151	9147	0.31	0.90
Allahabad	1305437	527508	4282	0.33	0.81
Lucknow	3459906	1042593	10996	0.32	1.05
Mugal Sarai	131001	104419	326	0.25	0.31
Kolkata	4436713	1145113	20068	0.45	1.75
Pune	3695652	1748909	14626	0.40	0.84
Nasik	1930326	922720	3894	0.20	0.42
Mumbai	12827157	2776997	52535	0.41	1.89
<b>Total</b>	<b>52233261</b>	<b>15887338</b>	<b>202765</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>1.28</b>

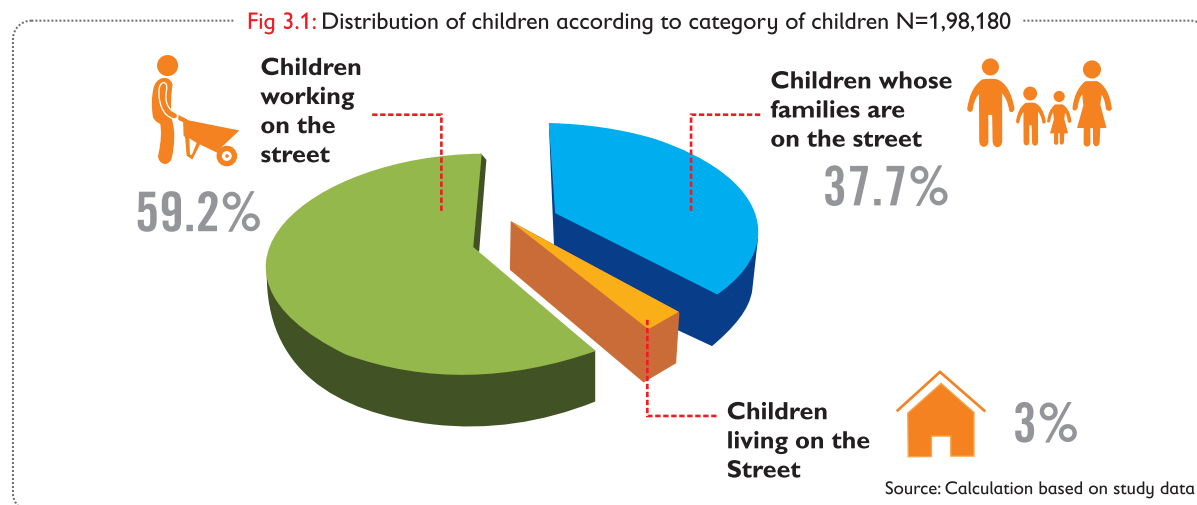
Table 3.1 reflects the percentage of children in street situations vis-a-vis projected population in 2019 and total urban population of 0-18 years. The data revealed that percentage of children in street situations among urban population of 0-18 years of age was highest in Mumbai (1.89%) followed by Kolkata (1.75%) and Delhi (1.41%). A similar trend was also observed for percentage of children in street situations with projected population. Highest percentage of children in street situations was observed in Kolkata (0.45%) followed by Delhi and Mumbai (0.41% each).

Among 80,068 interviewed children in Delhi, 3,025 were from CCI. Therefore, out of total interviewed children, 1,98,180 children were considered for analysis of children in street situations. A separate analysis of the children at CCI is presented in the last section.

### 3.2. CLASSIFICATION OF CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATION

As per the findings of this study, children in street situations can be segregated into three categories: (1) children living on the street, (2) children working on the street and (3) children whose families are on the street.

#### Categories of Children



As shown in Fig 3.1, of the total children, 59.2% were those working on the street followed by children whose families are on the street (37.7%). It is to be noted that “children working on the street” does not always imply that the child was engaged in any kind of occupation. This category also includes children who spent most of the time wandering on the street, may or may not be in search of job and returned to their families at night.

The smallest group (3%) of children was of those who were living on the street on their own and possibly the most vulnerable among all the three groups of children. This group mainly comprised of runaway children.

#### Gender and Age

Table 3.2: Category of children by age and gender (in %)

Age	Gender	Children living on the Street	Children working on the Street	Children whose families are on the Street	Total
0-5 yrs	Total	0.4	58.4	41.2	44710
	Boy	0.4	57.7	41.9	23995
	Girl	0.4	59.3	40.3	20715
6-10 yrs	Total	2.5	57.8	39.7	66521
	Boy	2.8	56.1	41.1	39023
	Girl	1.9	60.4	37.7	27498
11-14 yrs	Total	3.7	60.7	35.5	53014
	Boy	4.4	59.8	35.8	33422
	Girl	2.5	62.4	35.1	19592
15 – 18 yrs	Total	6.5	60.7	32.8	33935
	Boy	8.0	59.6	32.3	22540
	Girl	3.5	62.7	33.7	11395
Total	Total	3.0	59.2	37.7	198180
	Boy	3.8	58.1	38.1	118980
	Girl	1.9	60.9	37.2	79200

Source: Calculation based on study data

Among the children identified, about 6.5% were in the age group 15-18 years, 3.7% were in the age group of 11- 14 years and 2.5% of the children in were between 6-10 years. Further, the percentage of boys was higher as compared to girls across the age group of 6-18 years.

Among children working on the street, around 61% each were in the age group of 11-14 years and 15-18 years. Additionally, around 57.8% children were in the age group between 6-10 years and 58.4% of children were in age group of 0-5 years. The percentage of girls across all age groups of this category was higher than boys, which should be highlighted as a concern.

Among children whose families are on the street, about 41.2% were in the age group of 0-5 years, followed by 40% in the age group of 6-10 years, 35% children were between the age of 11-14 years and 33% children were in the age group of 15-18 years. The area of concern in this category was the higher percentage of girls than boys in the age group of 11- 18 years.

## Religion and Caste

Table 3.3: Category of children by religion and caste (in %)

		Children living on the Street	Children working on the street	Children whose families are on the street	Total
Religion	Hindu	76.2	72.3	74.7	73.3
	Muslim	14.9	26.9	24.8	25.7
	Others	9.0	0.8	0.5	0.9
Caste	Schedule Caste	20.3	21.0	19.4	20.4
	Schedule Tribe	5.5	6.3	5.0	5.8
	Other Backward Class	21.1	27.2	27.0	26.9
	General	34.1	38.6	38.3	38.3
	Don't Know	19.0	6.9	10.4	8.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>6018</b>	<b>117391</b>	<b>74771</b>	<b>198180</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

It was observed that majority of the identified children living on the street were Hindus (76.2%). A similar trend was observed for children working on street (72.3%) and children whose families are on the street (74.7%). The remaining children were mostly Muslims with about 14.9%, 26.9% and 24.8% respectively among children living on the street, working on the street and whose families are on the street. Among the different caste groups, majority belonged to general caste category followed by OBC and SC.

Photo: Vicky Roy/ Save the Children

## Reason for Being on Street

The survey attempted to understand the reasons for which the children ended up on the streets in order to identify the root causes and plan appropriate strategies. Identified reasons among the children for being on street are presented in Table 3.4.

Table 3.4: Reasons for being on the street (in %)

Reasons for being on the street	Children living on the Street	Children working on the street	Children whose families are on the street	Total
Live with/ without family -In search of jobs/ income	41.6	54.1	50.4	52.3
Live with/ without family - Moved due to slum displacement	16.5	20.8	27.0	23.0
Came to city with family members but could not find a shelter	7.6	27.5	23.1	25.2
Lost contact with family	18.9	0.3	0.3	0.9
No money to rent a place	8.9	8.5	8.6	8.5
Family feud/separation of parents	5.5	0.1	0.4	0.4
Don't Know/ Can't Say	24.6	11.6	13.7	12.7
<b>Total number of children</b>	<b>6018</b>	<b>117391</b>	<b>74771</b>	<b>198180</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

The three key reasons for children to be on the streets were search for job/income (52.3%), inability to find shelter (25.2%) and slum displacement (23%). In many cities like Delhi, forced evictions were carried out for city beautification projects and infrastructure development. Housing and Land Rights Network India (HLRN) study suggests that due processes for demolition of homes/slums in various parts of the city was not followed, which resulted in injury, adverse effects on children, loss and destruction of possessions and loss of livelihood and income. Similar forced evictions were reported in various other surveyed cities including Kolkata and Mumbai.

Among the three categories, children in search of jobs/income had higher proportions (54.1%) of children working on the street followed by slightly lower proportions (50.4%) of children whose families are on the street and children living on the street (41.6%). Additionally, 27% children whose families are on the street were forced to live on the street due to slum displacement followed by 20.8% children working on the street. It was critical to note that 18.9% of children living on the street said that they were on street because they had lost contact with their families. This vulnerable population should be tapped and attempts should be made to reunite them with their families.

The results also suggest that one out of four children (either children working on the street or those whose families are on the street) on average were from migrant families who came to the city with family members but could not find shelter. Across all cities, the chief reason for being on the streets as cited by stakeholders, families and the children themselves, during FGDs and IDIs, was poverty. During IDIs with the key stakeholders, it emerged that economic opportunities in urban areas were the biggest motivating factor for massive migration from rural to urban areas. Additionally, children run away to urban settings because of abuse, both physical and sexual, failure and misplaced expectations.

**“** The main reason they (children) run away is poverty and hunger. There often is a misconception that, where they are running to, is better than what they are running from. **”**

- NGO Member, Mumbai

The table also shows that around 0.4% children ended up on the street due to family feud or separation of parents, among which the highest proportion was observed among children living on the street (5.5%). Additionally, it emerged during discussions and interviews that, due to frequent fights at home and alcoholism, home environment became unbearable forcing children to run away.

“ Cities are the face of growth where buildings are rising high, but pavements of those where children reside. This highlights the irony of the situation and so called development.  
- CWC Member Delhi ”

“ You must understand the gravity of the situation that had forced the child to take such an extreme step of running away from his/ her own home. Mainly runaway children were those who were physically abused by alcoholic father or step parents  
- Railway Police (Lucknow) ”

### 3.3. PROFILE OF IDENTIFIED CHILDREN

#### City-wise Gender and Age

The gender-wise distribution of the data reveals that a vast majority of children in street situation in the study cities were boys. As shown in Table 3.2, girls represented 40% of the total identified children in street situations.

Table 3.5: Demographic profile identified children by age and gender (in %)

Age Group	Gender	Delhi	Agra	Allahabad	Kanpur	Lucknow	Mughal Sarai	Mumbai	Nasik	Pune	Kolkata	Total
0-5 yrs	Total	16.3	23.5	36.6	25.5	23.5	47.2	26.4	20.3	26.6	28.6	22.6
	Boy	13.8	21.3	35.4	23.7	20.8	48.5	24.8	17.8	25.5	28.2	20.2
	Girl	21.3	26.5	38.4	28.0	27.9	45.5	28.2	23.4	28.0	29.0	26.2
6-10 yrs	Total	34.2	34.7	41.9	33.0	35.0	37.1	32.7	24.7	33.2	32.6	33.6
	Boy	33.3	32.4	43.4	31.9	32.2	34	32.1	23.6	32.6	32.8	32.8
	Girl	36.2	38.1	39.6	34.5	39.4	41.7	33.3	26.1	34.1	32.4	34.7
11-14 yrs	Total	31.9	24.5	13.9	22.5	22.6	8.0	25.0	26.3	22.6	22.4	26.8
	Boy	33.2	25.7	13.8	23.5	24.3	7.2	26.2	26.2	22.4	22.1	28.1
	Girl	29.2	22.6	14.0	21.2	19.9	9.1	23.6	26.4	22.8	22.8	24.7
15-18 yrs	Total	17.6	17.3	7.6	19.0	18.9	7.7	15.9	28.8	17.6	16.4	17.1
	Boy	19.7	20.6	7.4	20.9	22.8	10.3	16.8	32.4	19.5	16.9	18.9
	Girl	13.2	12.7	7.9	16.3	12.8	3.8	14.8	24.1	15.1	15.8	14.4
Total identified children		77043	5632	4282	9111	10931	326	52426	3878	14483	20068	198180

Source: Calculation based on study data



In Delhi, 66.1% children were in the age group of 6-14 years. A similar trend was seen in all other cities where one out of two children were between this age group except Mughal Sarai. In Mughal Sarai, more than 80% children were aged 10 years or below, of which, 47% children were 5 years old or below. In Delhi, the percentage of girls below 10 years of age was higher than boys, whereas, in the age group of 11-18 years, the percentage of boys was more than girls. A similar trend was observed in all the cities except Allahabad where marginally more girls were observed in the age group of 11-18 years.

Additionally, in Mughal Sarai, around 87% of young girls (10 years or below) were in street situations, which is a critical and high-priority issue with respect to the safety of the girl child. Another city highlighting a similar concern was Allahabad where close to 78% children in street situations were girls of 10 years of age or below.

An inference drawn from Table 3.5 is the need to focus on cities with high percentage of girl children are on the street. It is also important to focus on the children in the age group of 6- 14 years who should ideally be in schools as per the Right to Education Act, 2009. In addition, age-wise data of children on street in each city can be used to develop a city specific and target group-wise intervention strategies.

## City-wise Religion and Caste

The distribution of children based on their religion and caste across the study locations reveals that in all the cities, most of the children belonged to the Hindu community with almost all the children in Allahabad and Mughal Sarai being Hindus. However, a significant percentage of children were from the Muslim community in Kolkata (44.7%), Mumbai (39.5%) and Lucknow (31.5%). Overall, one out of four children were from the Muslim community across surveyed cities.

Table 3.6: Demographic profile of identified children by religion and caste (in %)

Characteristics		Delhi	Agra	Allahabad	Kanpur	Lucknow	Mughal Sarai	Mumbai	Nasik	Pune	Kolkata	Total
Religion	Hindu	84	76.8	98.6	82	68.3	100	59.4	74.7	81	55	73.3
	Muslim	14.9	23.1	1.4	17.9	31.5	-	39.5	22.9	17.7	44.7	25.7
	Others	1.1	0.1	-	0.1	0.2	-	1.1	2.4	1.3	0.3	0.9
Caste	Schedule Caste	15.5	59.1	75.3	57.7	42.1	99.7	10.9	26.5	28.9	4.1	20.4
	Schedule Tribe	5.3	0.1	-	0.7	1.4	-	7.9	15.7	16	0.1	5.8
	Other Backward Caste	26.5	38.7	1.4	33.8	46.8	0.3	23.7	26.5	28.9	24.4	26.9
	General	42.8	1.9	-	7.4	4.2	-	55.3	29.9	24.3	40.5	38.3
	Don't Know	10	0.2	23.3	0.5	5.6	-	2.2	1.5	1.9	30.8	8.6
<b>Total Children</b>		<b>77043</b>	<b>5632</b>	<b>4282</b>	<b>9111</b>	<b>10931</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>52426</b>	<b>3878</b>	<b>14483</b>	<b>20068</b>	<b>198180</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

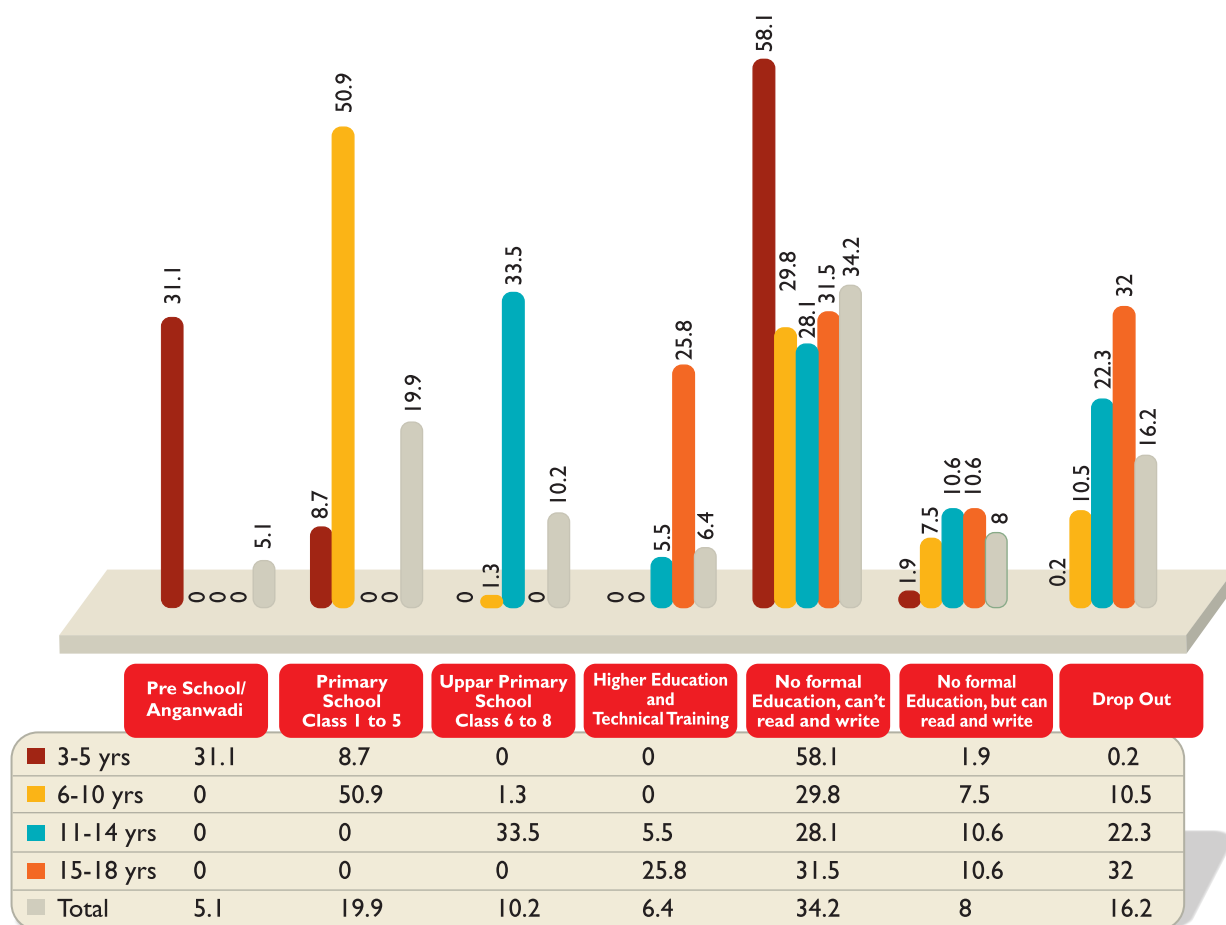
A little over 50% of the children were categorized as Scheduled Tribe (ST), SCs and OBC and 38% belonged to general category. All the children in Mughal Sarai belonged to SC followed by 59% in Agra. Lucknow had a higher proportion of OBC while Delhi and Mumbai had higher proportions of general category children. Significantly high proportions of children in Kolkata were not aware of their caste. This finding is supported with anecdotal evidences which suggests that Bengalis having nourished a casteless society since the pre independence era. Allahabad also had a higher share of children who did not know their caste.

### 3.4. EDUCATIONAL STATUS

Understanding the educational levels of children in street situations is critical to provide them basic education and skill training. The study analysed the current education status for children in the age group of 3-18 years. The study focused on understanding the educational level of the children and divided the literate group into four categories of preschool/anganwadi, primary school, upper primary school and higher education.

Further, children who had no formal education were divided into two categories - children with formal education and cannot read and write and second, and those with no formal education but can read and write. Children who had no formal education but can read and write are those children who were taught by some local NGO or volunteer or workers in the area. One more category of drop out was also included in the study.

The education status is analysed in terms of age and the findings are presented Fig 3.2.



Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 3.2: Percent distribution of children according to education status by age (N=183253)

The analysis of the education status of children in terms of age groups revealed that 58.1% children in the age group of 3-5 years had no formal education and cannot read or write. Only 40% children in this age group attend pre-school or primary level of education. Further, one in two children in the age group of 6-10 years was not attending primary or upper primary school. Around 33% children in the age group of 11-14 years were attending upper primary school. Additionally, one out of four children in the age group of 15-18 years were attending “higher education or technical training”. The results also show that there were 22.3% and 32% drop-outs in age groups of 11-14 years and 15-18 years respectively.

An interesting finding that emerges from Table 3.7 is that the proportions of girls attending formal school was higher in all the age groups as compared to boys. Consequently, the proportions of girls unable to read and write was lower than boys. Yet, there were slightly higher proportions of drop-outs among girls in all age groups as compared to boys.

It is critical to note that in each age group, higher proportion of children fell in the category of 'no formal education and cannot read or write'. Programmes should take this in to consideration while selecting the mode and medium of communication with this group and planning other strategic interventions.

**Table 3.7:** Educational status of children by age and gender (in %)

Age Group	Gender	Pre-School/ Anganwadi	Primary School (Class 1 to 5)	Upper Primary school (Class 6 to 8)	Higher Education (class 9 to 12) & Technical Training	No formal education, and cannot read and write	No formal education, but can read and write	Drop out	Total Children of age 3-18 years
0-5 yrs	Total	31.1	8.7			58.1	1.9	0.2	<b>29783</b>
	Boy	31.1	9.1			57.7	1.9	0.2	<b>16176</b>
	Girl	31.1	8.1			58.7	2.0	0.1	<b>13607</b>
6-10 yrs	Total		50.9	1.3		29.8	7.5	10.5	<b>66521</b>
	Boy		48.8	1.3		31.3	8.1	10.4	<b>39023</b>
	Girl		53.8	1.3		27.6	6.6	10.6	<b>27498</b>
11-14 yrs	Total			33.5	5.5	28.1	10.6	22.3	<b>53014</b>
	Boy			31.5	4.9	29.7	11.9	22	<b>33422</b>
	Girl			36.9	6.5	25.5	8.3	22.9	<b>19592</b>
15-18 yrs	Total				25.8	31.5	10.6	32	<b>33935</b>
	Boy				22.9	33.7	11.4	31.9	<b>22540</b>
	Girl				31.6	27.1	9.0	32.3	<b>11395</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>183253</b>
	<b>Boy</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>111161</b>
	<b>Girl</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>72092</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Close to 60% of the total identified children fall under the category of no formal education and dropout (34.2% and 8% in the two categories of no formal education and 16.2% in dropout). FGD findings with parents in all cities show that they were aware that education leads to a dignified life but as they do not have any permanent place to sleep and sufficient food, they are unable to prioritise education.

As per the findings presented in Table 3.7, among the age group of 15-18 years, around 32% girls were attending higher education and technical education compared to only 23% boys. The possible reason could be the higher expectations and pressure on boys to economically support their families. Moreover, higher drop-out rates were observed in this age group because children are legally allowed to work under the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act which permits 15-18-year-olds to work in 'non-hazardous' occupations.

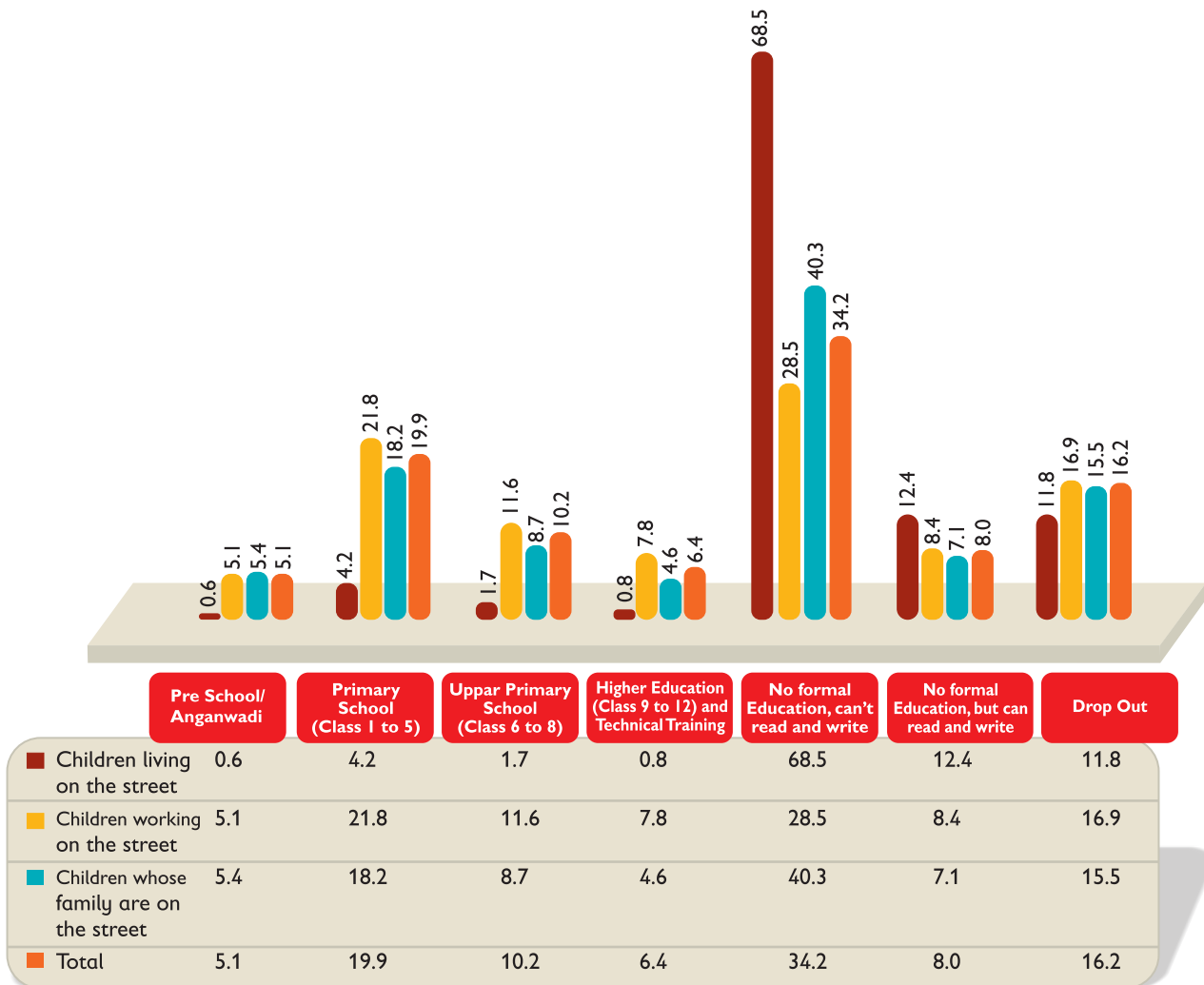
**“**

**We don't have roof above our head. Sometimes we sleep without having food and you are talking about education. Where they will get ready for school? They should work if they have to survive.**

**”**

- FGD with parents in Pune

IDI with CWC member suggested that sometimes if they enrol children in school, they don't attend classes regularly as they were not interested in studies. They are more interested in becoming independent so that they can have economic freedom. CWC members in Delhi also stated that sometimes when these children are brought to mainstream education, they face discrimination and find it difficult to cope with the regular education pedagogy.



Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 3.3: CISS category-wise education status of children (in %) (N= 183253)

The category-wise education status of children in street situation reveals that children living on the street were attending primary school level but the percentage of such children was dismally low (4.2%) as most of them reported to have no formal education or had dropped out. A significant percentage (41%) of children working on the street were attending primary, upper primary or higher level of education. In fact, the percentage of children working on the street attending higher education was highest among all the three categories. Even among children whose families are on the street, about 40% had no formal education and were unable to read and write.

City-wise analysis of educational status of children reveals that in cities such as Pune, Kolkata, Nashik and Mumbai, a significant percentage of children were attending educational institutions. The situation is critical in Agra, Allahabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mughal Sarai and Delhi where 60% or more children do not have any formal education or have dropped out of the education system. The worst performing city is Allahabad (88%) closely followed by Mughal Sarai (72%) where children reported to have no formal education and were unable to read and write. Please refer to Annexure - Table 3A.1)

### 3.5. MARITAL STATUS

Although all the respondents were minors, yet 0.3% (around 652) children on the streets in the surveyed cities were married. The study further analysed the currently married children by age, gender and category. The findings are presented in Table 3.8.

Of the total children currently married (652), a nearly equal proportion of girls (50.6%) and boys (49.4%) was observed. A critical observation here is that around 12% of married children were in the age group of 11-14 years and the remaining about were in age group of 15-18 years. Minor proportions of 0.2% and 0.3% were in age groups of 0-5 years and 6-10 years respectively.

Among the children who were married, 53.2% were children working on the street followed by children whose families are on the street (40.2%) and 6.6% were children living on the street.

Further, around 45% of the total married children were from Delhi, highest among all the cities, followed by Allahabad (14.1%), Mumbai (12.1%), Pune (11%) and Kolkata (10.9%). In other cities, percentage of married children was less than 10%. The high percentage of child marriage in Delhi could be because the city has maximum migratory population from states like Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand etc. where child marriages are still prevalent.

**Table 3.8:** Currently married children according to age, gender, category & city (in %)

	Background	Percentage
Gender	Boy	49.4
	Girl	50.6
Age Group	0-5 yrs	0.2
	6-10 yrs	0.3
	11-14 yrs	12.4
	15-18 yrs	87.1
Category	Children living on the street	6.6
	Children working on the street	53.2
	Children whose families are on the street	40.2
City	Delhi	44.9
	Agra	2.3
	Allahabad	14.1
	Kanpur	2.5
	Lucknow	7.4
	Mughal Sarai	0.0
	Mumbai	12.1
	Nasik	0.6
	Pune	5.2
	Kolkata	10.9
<b>Total Currently Married Children</b>		<b>652</b>

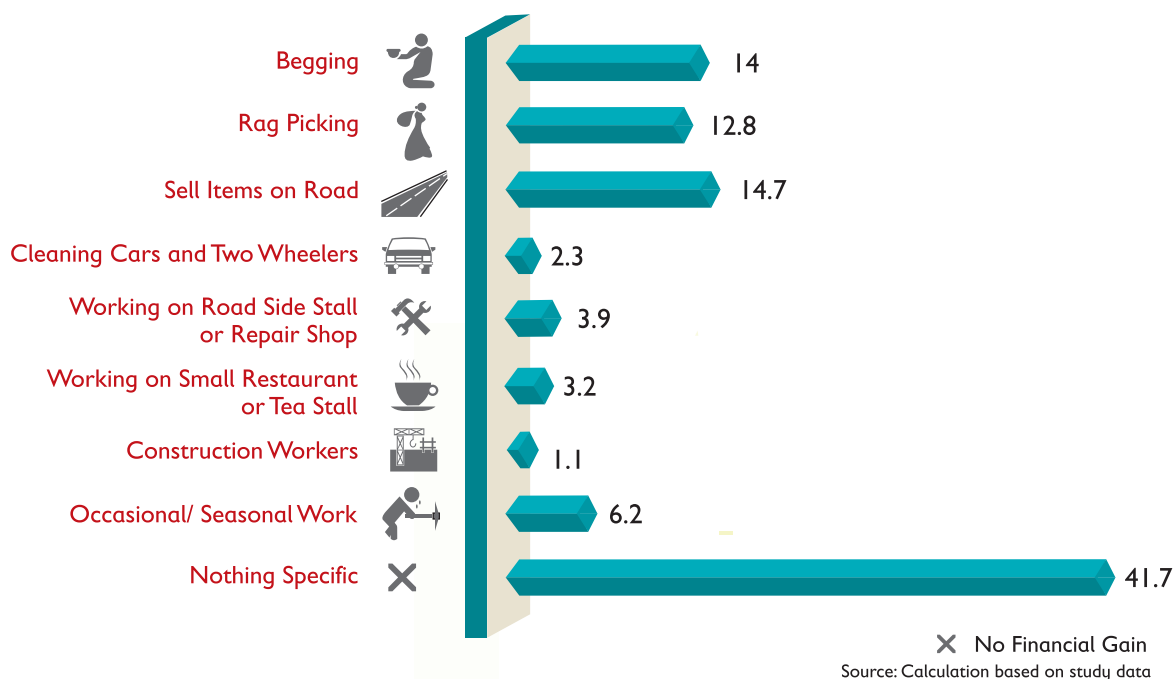
Source: Calculation based on study data



### 3.6. OCCUPATION

For survival, children in street situation have to work to earn a livelihood. During the survey, the children were asked about the kind of work they do.

Fig 3.4: Occupation status of children (in %) (N= 198180)



Around one in four children in street situations reported to be involved in begging or rag picking and around 15% children reported to be selling flowers, newspapers, fruits or other knick-knacks on the street. Less than 5% children each reported to be engaged in cleaning cars & two wheelers, working in road side stall or repair shop, working in small restaurant or tea stall or as construction worker. The economic activities in which these children were involved required commitment during the wee hours of the day. This needs to be considered as one of the reasons why drop-out rates were high among children working on the street. Around 6% children reported to be working in occasional or seasonal work.

However, 41.7% children reported to be engaged in no specific occupation. FGDs and IDIs with parents, children and stakeholders suggested that these children were generally engaged in household chores and in taking care of their younger siblings.

Table 3.9: Occupation status of children by age and gender (in %)

Age Group	Gender	Begging	Rag Picking	Sell items on road	Cleaning cars & two wheelers	Working in road side stall or repair shop	Working in small restaurant or tea stall	Construction Workers	Occasional / Seasonal work	Nothing Specific	Total number of Children
0-5 yrs	Total	12.6	0.6	0.4					0.5	85.9	44710
	Boy	13.2	0.8	0.4					0.5	85.1	23995
	Girl	12.0	0.3	0.3					0.5	86.9	20715
6-10 yrs	Total	19.9	15.9	11.6	1.8	1.6	1.7	0.7	6.7	40.2	66521
	Boy	20.3	18.0	11.3	2.4	1.8	1.9	0.8	6.3	37.2	39023
	Girl	19.3	12.8	12.1	1.0	1.3	1.3	0.6	7.2	44.3	27498
11-14 yrs	Total	11.3	17.5	24.0	3.9	5.6	4.9	1.4	8.1	23.3	53014
	Boy	11.6	19.0	23.4	4.8	6.8	5.8	1.6	7.7	19.3	33422
	Girl	10.9	15.0	25.1	2.3	3.5	3.3	1.1	8.7	30.1	19592
15-18 yrs	Total	8.7	15.9	25.1	4.0	10.9	7.6	3.1	9.5	15.3	33935
	Boy	10.0	15.8	23.7	4.6	12.7	8.8	3.7	9.1	11.4	22540
	Girl	6.2	15.9	27.7	2.7	7.3	5.2	1.8	10.3	22.8	11395
Total	Total	14.0	12.8	14.7	2.3	3.9	3.2	1.1	6.2	41.7	198180
	Boy	14.5	14.4	14.8	3.0	4.9	4.0	1.4	6.1	37.0	118980
	Girl	13.4	10.5	14.5	1.3	2.4	2.0	0.8	6.3	48.8	79200

Source: Calculation based on study data

Nearly 43.8% children below the age of 14 years were involved in begging. The findings also suggest that around 13% children in the age group of 0-5 years were engaged in begging. Further, mostly older children in the age group of 11-18 years were involved in selling flowers, newspapers, fruits or other knick-knacks on the street.

Gender analysis shows that boys were mostly involved in cleaning cars & two wheelers or working in road side stall or repair shop. A higher percentage of girls reported to do nothing specific, as they had a disproportionately higher burden of household chores.

City-wise analysis of data shows that begging is the most prevalent occupation among children in Mughal Sarai and Agra as 21% or more children reported to be engaged in it. Further, 15% or more children were involved in rag picking in Kolkata, Delhi and Allahabad. Selling flowers, newspapers, fruits and other knick-knack on the street was prevalent among children in Pune, Nashik and Delhi as 20% or more children reported to be engaged in these occupations. Please refer to Annexure - Table 3A.2).

Table 3.10: Occupation status of children by category of children (in %)

Category	Gender	Begging	Rag Picking	Sell items on road	Cleaning cars & two wheelers	Working in road side stall or repair shop	Working in small restaurant or tea stall	Construction Workers	Occasional / Seasonal work	Nothing Specific	Total number of Children
Children living on the Street	Total	48.3	17.5	10.9	3.0	4.5	3.1	2.2	4.1	6.4	6018
	Boy	49.5	17.7	9.4	3.5	5.0	3.5	2.5	4.1	4.8	4516
	Girl	44.5	17.0	15.2	1.5	3.3	1.8	1.5	4.0	11.3	1502
Children working on the street	Total	9.0	10.8	16.5	2.3	4.4	3.6	1.0	6.6	45.8	117391
	Boy	8.6	12.4	17.0	3.1	5.7	4.6	1.2	6.6	40.7	69146
	Girl	9.5	8.5	15.7	1.2	2.6	2.2	0.6	6.5	53.1	48245
Children whose families are on the street	Total	19.2	15.7	12.1	2.3	3.0	2.5	1.3	5.7	38.1	74771
	Boy	19.9	17.1	12.0	2.8	3.7	2.9	1.6	5.5	34.5	45318
	Girl	18.2	13.5	12.4	1.4	1.9	1.7	1.0	6.1	43.7	29453
Total	Total	14.0	12.8	14.7	2.3	3.9	3.2	1.1	6.2	41.7	198180
	Boy	14.5	14.4	14.8	3.0	4.9	4.0	1.4	6.1	37	118980
	Girl	13.4	10.5	14.5	1.3	2.4	2.0	0.8	6.3	48.8	79200

Source: Calculation based on study data

Most of the children interviewed, excluding those doing nothing specific, were working in “street-based occupations” like rag picking, hawking and vending on the streets etc. IDIs with stakeholders also confirmed that across cities, these children formed an important workforce that was involved in collecting garbage and in sorting of waste.

Findings show that 20% children whose families are on the street were engaged in begging. It is demoralizing to know that the parents of these children forced them into begging so as to sustain a life on the streets. FGD with parents also revealed that families migrate to the cities for better future and livelihood, but in urban settings they end up engaging in degrading occupations, such as begging, rag picking etc.

**“ We left our village because of draught and thought at least here we can beg for food. We have to involve our children in begging for survival. People who come to temple are very generous they give us hot cooked food and clothes. We like to stay here in temple complex. ”**

- FGD with parents in Delhi (near Hanuman Temple Connaught place)



Photo: Vicky Roy/ Save the Children



### 3.7. OCCUPATION - STUDY MATRIX

The data on occupational status of children in street situation was further analysed to assess whether those who were studying were simultaneously working as well. The finding reveals that school-going children were engaged in selling items on the road. When interviewed, they said they attended school on all days except Tuesdays and Saturdays because there is high footfalls in temples on these days and chances of earning through begging is high outside the temples.

Discussions with a group of girls in Lucknow revealed that they worked as domestic maids (part-time) in the neighbouring houses and studied at the open school only on Sunday. The study also revealed that in Delhi, few children got enrolled in schools after receiving counselling from USHA workers about the facilities provided at government schools such as mid-day meals. However, it was found during the study that children continue to work even after enrolling in school. The data findings on occupation vis-a-vis education is presented in Table 3.11.

Table 3.11: Occupation status of children by education status (in %)

	Begging	Rag Picking	Sell items on road	Cleaning cars & two wheelers	Working in road side stall or repair shop	Working in small restaurant or tea stall	Construction Workers	Occasional / Seasonal work	Nothing Specific
Pre-School/ Anganwadi	4.8	0.2	0.2				0.2	0.5	9.5
Primary School (Class 1 to 5)	15.3	15.1	12.7	11.4	6.0	10.8	13.3	22.3	24.1
Upper Primary school (Class 6 to 8)	3.1	8.0	14.1	17.4	12.2	13.0	14.5	13.5	8.6
Higher Education (class 9 to 12) & Technical Training	1.0	4.7	7.9	8.3	14.9	16.6	11.0	10.9	4.6
No formal education & cannot read and write	55.2	41.3	26.9	25.4	27.8	23.4	24.3	23.4	25.2
No formal education, but can read and write	6.1	13.1	16.5	13.1	10.2	9.6	11.6	7.9	2.0
Drop out	11.0	17.6	21.8	24.3	28.8	26.6	25.0	21.3	9.3
Children of age 0-2 years	3.5							0.2	16.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Analysis of education of working children in street situation reveals that around 5% children involved in begging also attend pre-school / anganwadi, 15.3% children attend primary school and around 3% attend upper primary school. However, 55.2% children involved in begging did not have any formal education and cannot read or write. Further, 15.1% children involved in rag picking attend primary school and 8% such children attend upper primary school. Interestingly, 5% children involved in rag picking attended institutions of higher education and seemed to have continued education despite all odds.

Further, out of all the children involved in selling items on the road, 13%, 14.1% and 8% children reported to be attending primary school, secondary school and higher education institutions respectively. A similar trend can be seen among children engaged in other occupations also. In fact, 15% children working in roadside stall or repair shop and around 17% children working in small restaurant/ eatery or tea stall reported to be attending institutions of higher education. Further, a significant percentage (22.3%) of children engaged in occasional or seasonal work reported to be attending primary school.

### 3.8. CONTACT WITH PARENTS




Table 3.12: Occupation status of children by education status (in %)

	Both parents are dead	Both parents live in original hometown	Don't know, possibly alive	Both parents live with child	Father lives with child	Mother lives with child	Total number of Children
<b>Delhi</b>	1.2	3.8	1.6	65.4	7.8	20.2	<b>77043</b>
<b>Agra</b>	0.2	1.2	0.3	63.5	3.5	31.4	<b>5632</b>
<b>Allahabad</b>	0.2	1.0	0.1	45.0	4.5	49.2	<b>4282</b>
<b>Kanpur</b>	0.4	0.4	0.5	64.2	3.4	31.0	<b>9111</b>
<b>Lucknow</b>	0.8	3.2	1.2	58.4	5.1	31.4	<b>10931</b>
<b>Mughal Sarai</b>	0.0	0.3	0.0	38.7	1.5	59.5	<b>326</b>
<b>Mumbai</b>	0.3	1.0	0.8	58.0	4.6	35.2	<b>52426</b>
<b>Nasik</b>	0.4	0.3	0.5	69.8	2.3	26.7	<b>3878</b>
<b>Pune</b>	0.5	0.4	0.6	60.0	3.2	35.2	<b>14483</b>
<b>Kolkata</b>	0.2	0.9	0.6	55.8	3.6	38.9	<b>20068</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>198180</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

The background characteristics of children with respect to the people with whom they live were explored in the study and it was found that 96.1% children in street situations lived with parents. This includes children who had both parents (61.2%), only mother (29.4 %) or only father (5.5%) living with them at the time of survey. A critical observation from Table 3.12 is that there is a significantly high percentage of single mothers who live in street situations in Mughal Sarai (59.5%) and Allahabad (49.2%). The status of children who were with both or either of the parents was further analysed with occupation and education status. The findings are presented in Table 3.13.

Table 3.13: Distribution of children with parents living status by education and occupation (in %)

	 Both Parents live with child	 Only Father lives with child	 Only Mother lives with child	Total	
<b>Education</b>	Pre-School/Anganwadi	0.4	10.5	13.2	<b>4.9</b>
	Primary School (Class 1 to 5)	18.5	21.6	19.3	<b>18.9</b>
	Upper Primary School (Class 6 to 8)	14.5	3.2	0.8	<b>9.7</b>
	Higher Education (Class 9 to 12) & Technical Training	9.2	1.4	0.3	<b>6.0</b>
	Drop out	19.2	9.5	7.1	<b>14.9</b>
	Children of Age 0-2 years	0.6	12.6	21.7	<b>7.8</b>
	No Formal Education and cannot Read & Write	28.2	35.7	34.6	<b>30.6</b>
	No Formal Education but can Read & Write	9.4	5.4	3.0	<b>7.2</b>
	<b>Occupation</b>	Begging	11.8	18.0	14.7
Rag Picking		16.3	10.2	5.6	<b>12.7</b>
Sell items on road		20.8	8.2	3.3	<b>14.7</b>
Cleaning cars & two wheelers		3.0	1.9	0.7	<b>2.3</b>
Working in road side stall or repair shop		5.5	2.2	0.6	<b>3.8</b>
Working in small restaurant or tea stall		4.3	1.9	0.6	<b>3.1</b>
Construction Workers		1.5	0.6	0.3	<b>1.1</b>
Occasional /Seasonal work		8.1	3.9	2.6	<b>6.2</b>
Nothing Specific		28.6	53.1	71.6	<b>43.1</b>
<b>Total Children</b>		<b>121223</b>	<b>10983</b>	<b>58312</b>	<b>190518</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Among those children who live with both or either of the parents, most did not attend any formal education institution. However, a significantly higher percentage of children living with both parents attend upper primary school and institutions of higher education. For children living with a single parent, the percentage of children at primary level or below was higher but continued education remained a challenge.

Being children in street situations, homework is not the only work they are doing. The children are forced by their economic and social circumstances to work as beggars, rag pickers, knick-knack sellers, cleaners, helpers, construction workers etc. The study reveals that a sizable percentage of children were involved in begging (11.8%) and rag picking (16.3%) even when both the parents were living with them.

### 3.9. PLACE WHERE CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATION CONGREGATE

The place where a child congregates, stays and sleeps at night is an important determinant of their vulnerability and safety. The children who sleep in pucca houses or slums are comparatively less vulnerable than those who sleep at temporary shelters, open spaces or near work-sites.

This study reveals that one out of four children in street situation sleep on the street or footpath. This indicates that these cities lack adequate shelter home facilities; which can be a safe option as accommodation for these children. The cities fail to provide safe places to sleep to the children and even in the minimum facilities made available, the children were not able to access them, either due to lack of awareness or system- related complications.

Fig 3.5: Place to Sleep (in %) (N= 198180)



Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 3.14: Distribution of CISS according to places of sleep by age and gender (in %)

Age Group	Gender	On the Street/ Footpath	Slum/JJ colony / Rain Basera	Railway Station/ Platform	Bus Stop	Temporary Shelter	Near Work Place	Total number of Children
0-5 yrs	Total	26.2	47.0	2.0	0.4	23.9	0.4	44710
	Boy	27.0	46.7	2.1	0.5	23.3	0.4	23995
	Girl	25.4	47.2	1.9	0.3	24.7	0.5	20715
6-10 yrs	Total	28.8	47.5	2.0	0.8	20.3	0.6	66521
	Boy	30.6	46.7	2.1	1.0	19.0	0.6	39023
	Girl	26.2	48.6	2.0	0.6	22.2	0.5	27498
11-14 yrs	Total	26.0	49.8	2.0	0.9	20.4	0.9	53014
	Boy	27.2	49.6	2.0	1.0	19.1	1.0	33422
	Girl	23.9	50.1	2.1	0.6	22.7	0.6	19592
15-18 yrs	Total	26.5	48.6	2.2	0.7	21.0	1.0	33935
	Boy	27.7	48.5	2.3	0.9	19.5	1.3	22540
	Girl	24.2	48.9	2.1	0.3	24.0	0.4	11395
TOTAL	Total	27.1	48.2	2.1	0.7	21.3	0.7	198180
	Boy	28.4	47.9	2.1	0.9	20.0	0.8	118980
	Girl	25.1	48.6	2.0	0.5	23.2	0.5	79200

Source: Calculation based on study data

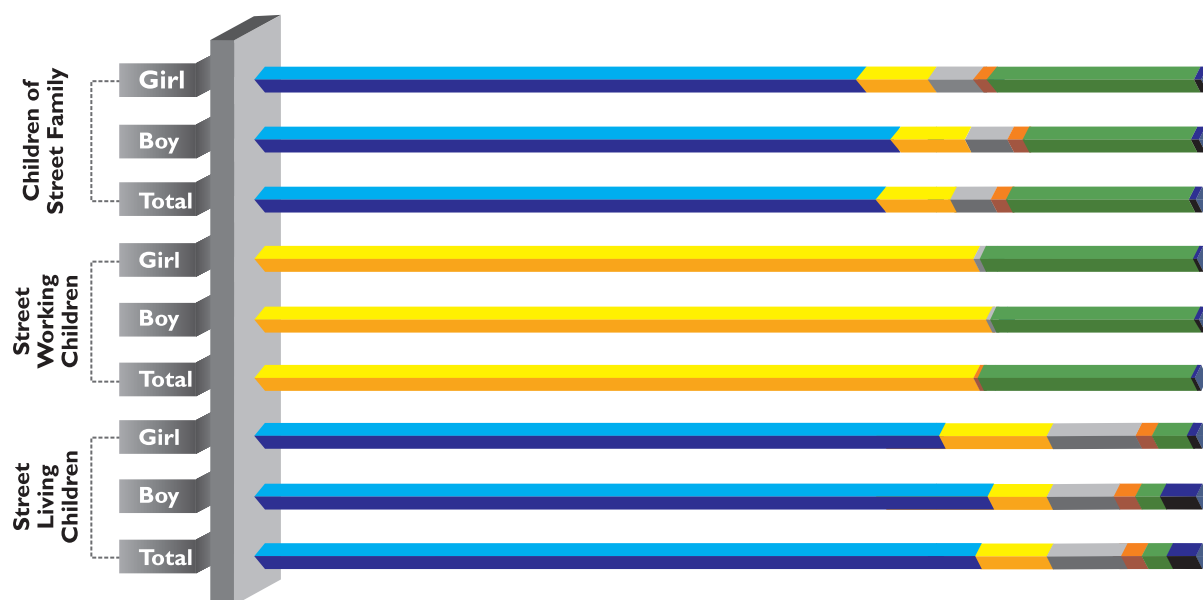
As per the findings of the study, one in four girls was sleeping on street or footpath, which jeopardizes her safety. FGDs with parents and girls in all the cities also revealed that they did not feel safe at night.

Despite this, around 29% children in street situations in the age group of 6-10 years, 26% children in the age group of 11-14 years and around 26% children in the age group of 15-18 years reported to be sleeping on the street or footpath.

About 48% of children on an average reported to sleep in slum/JJ colony/rain basera. Institutions, such as night shelters have an important role to play in providing safety to children in street situations. But in the cities surveyed, the facilities provided by these institutions did not appear to be in use as only 2% children slept at child protection facilities, including night shelters, juvenile homes and rain baseras. A considerable proportion of 21.3% children reported that they reside in temporary shelters. It was observed that more girls were sleeping in slum/JJ colony/rain baseras and temporary shelters.

**In night people come drunk and when we're sleeping they touch us inappropriately**  
 - FGD with girls in Agra; Uttar Pradesh

Fig 3.6: Distribution of children according to places where they sleep by category (in %) (N= 198180)



	Children living on the Street			Children working on the Street			Children whose families are on the street		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
On the Street/ Footpath	75.5	76.9	71.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	65.1	66.1	63.5
Slum/ JJ Colony/ Rain Basera	8.3	7.1	11.7	75.9	76.6	74.9	7.9	8.1	7.6
Railway Station/ Platform	7.7	6.9	9.9	0.25	0.2	0.1	4.6	4.5	4.7
Bus Stop	2.2	2.4	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.6	1.9	1.1
Temporary Shelter	2.6	2.3	3.7	23.1	22.2	24.4	19.9	18.3	22.3
Near Work Place	3.7	4.5	1.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.9	1.0	0.8

Source: Calculation based on study data

As observed in Fig 3.6, three out of four children living on the street sleep on the street or footpath. In addition, 65% children whose families are on the street sleep on street or footpath. Three out of four children working on the street sleep in slums/JJ colonies/rain baseras or religious places. One out of four of children sleep in temporary shelters. Further, around 20% children whose families are on the street also sleep in temporary shelters. Most CCIs do not admit all children from a family, therefore, some children still continue to live on the streets in unsafe situations.

A very high percentage of children sleep on street or footpath in Allahabad (57.8%) and Kolkata (47%). In Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mughal Sarai, Nashik and Pune more than 65% children sleep in slums/JJ Colonies/rain basera. In Mumbai and Kolkata, a sizeable percentage of children, 31.4% and 27% respectively, sleep in temporary shelters. Please refer to Annexure - Table 3A.3.

“  
**We have tried in many institutions, but we are not successful in putting our daughters as these homes do not take two kids from same family. How can we keep our daughters at different places and stay somewhere else?**  
 ”  
 – FGD with parents in Kolkata

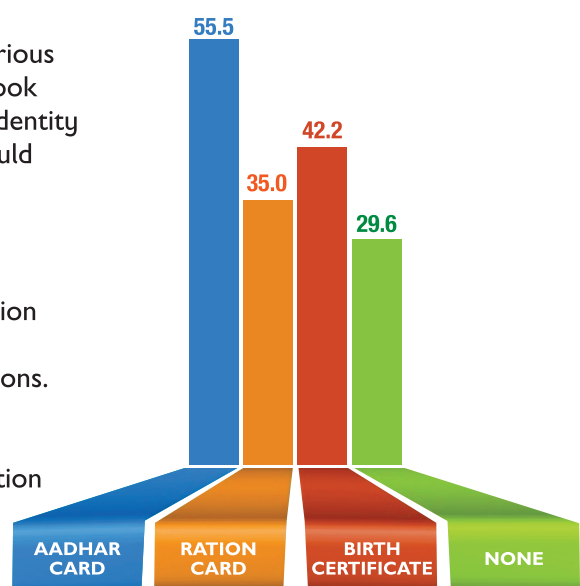
### 3.10. IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS AND BANK ACCOUNTS

Bank accounts and identity proof are essential for children due to direct transfer of benefits under various government schemes to bank account. The study took this into account to understand the possession of identity cards and bank accounts, so that these children could access various services offered to them.

#### Identification Documents

The objective was to understand the current situation regarding possession of an identification document (identity proof) among the children in street situations. Data regarding availability of Aadhaar card, birth certificate and ration card with children in street situations was collected during the study and question regarding all the three identity proof was asked separately.

Findings from the study suggest that the children possessed more than one identification document. As per the study findings, around 55% children possessed an Aadhaar card, 35% children had a ration card and 42.2% children had a birth certificate. However, 30% children did not have any identity card.



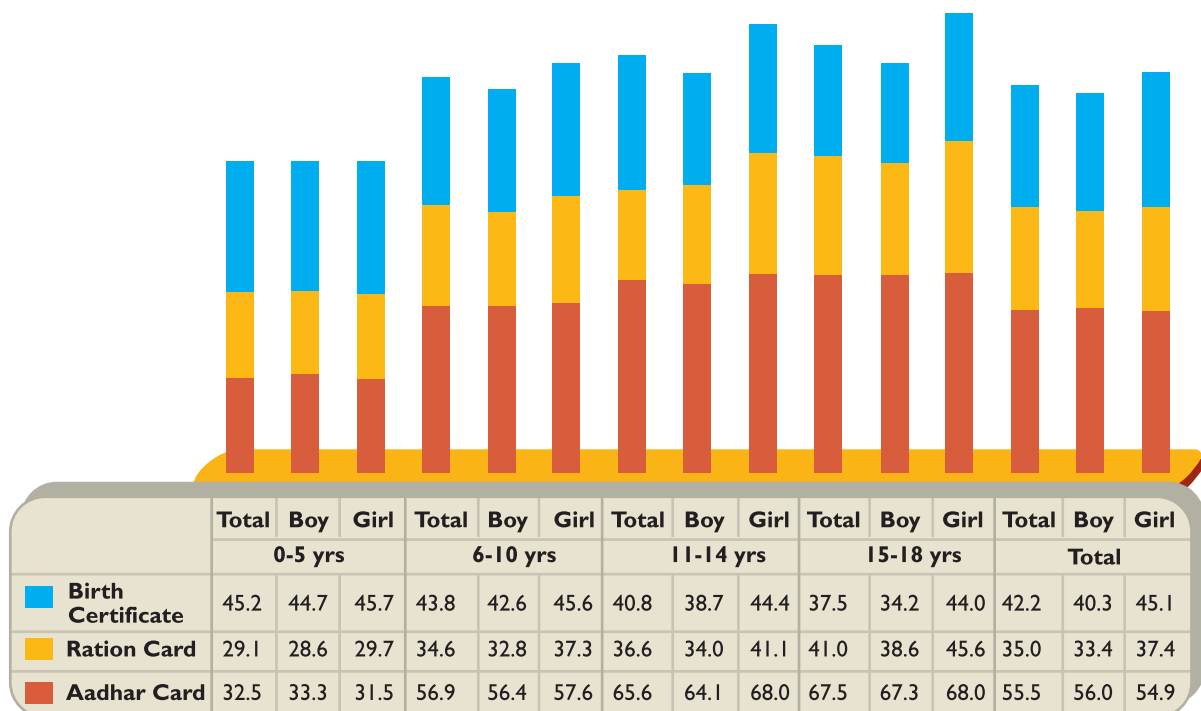
Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 3.7: Status of identification documents (in %) (N=198180)



Photo: Vicky Roy, Save the Children

Fig 3.8: Status of Identification documents by age and gender (in %) (N=198180)



Source: Calculation based on study data

Age- and gender-wise distribution of status of identification documents reveals that overall there is not much difference in percentage of boys and girls who had Aadhaar card or ration card. However, interestingly, more girls than boys reported to possess birth certificate. Further, around 64% of children in the age group of 11 to 18 years had Aadhaar card compared to less than 60% for children of age 10 years or below. In fact, only about 33% of children of age 5 years or below were reported to have Aadhaar card. With respect to ration card, 35% children between the age of 6 to 10 years reported to possess ration card. Interestingly, more girls than boys across these age groups have ration card. For age group 0-5 years, less than 30% children reported to have ration card.

Overall, more than 40% children across the age groups reported to possess birth certificate. However, among the age group of 15-18 years less than 35% children reported to have birth certificate with significantly lesser percentage of boys (34.2%) compared to girls (44%).

Table 3.15: Status of identification documents by religion and caste (in %)

		Aadhaar Card	Ration Card	Birth Certificate	Having either of Card	None of the Card	Total Children
<b>Religion</b>	Hindu	56.9	33.9	40.0	70.4	29.6	<b>145316</b>
	Muslim	52.5	38.5	48.9	71.3	28.7	<b>51031</b>
	Others	35.6	27.4	32.1	47.2	52.8	<b>1833</b>
<b>Caste</b>	Schedule Caste	56.6	33.2	31.4	65.7	34.3	<b>40390</b>
	Schedule Tribe	48.4	34.1	47.8	67.8	32.2	<b>11408</b>
	Other Backward Class	55.0	32.4	36.9	67.5	32.5	<b>53398</b>
	General	58.1	40.1	51.5	76.6	23.4	<b>75967</b>
	Don't Know	48.1	25.1	39.8	65.3	34.7	<b>17017</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>55.5</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>198180</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

The study reveals that while higher percentage of children from the Hindu community possessed Aadhaar card, higher percentage of children from the Muslim community have ration card and birth certificate which is a positive highlight as these documents allows access to various services and entitlements available to children from the minority community.

Caste-wise distribution shows that highest percentage (34.3%) of children who did not have an identity document were from SC category. While only 48% children from the ST background had Aadhaar card, 55% or more children from SC, OBC and general category possessed it. Interestingly, a higher percentage of children from the ST category (34.1%) had a ration card as compared to children from SC (33.2%) and OBC category (32.4%). A similar scenario was observed for birth certificate where the percentage of children from the ST background was higher (47.8%) than percentage of children from SC (31.4%) and OBC (36.9%) category.

**Table 3.16:** Status of identification documents by city (in %)

City	Aadhaar Card	Ration Card	Birth Certificate	Having Either of Card	None of the Card	Total
Delhi	56.0	18.9	27.6	65.0	35.0	77043
Agra	52.6	14.6	3.8	54.8	45.2	5632
Allahabad	75.5	30.4	29.3	75.9	24.1	4282
Kanpur	62.7	31.4	8.0	67.7	32.3	9111
Lucknow	49.8	23.8	5.3	54.1	45.9	10931
Mughal Sarai	38.0	21.8	21.8	46.0	54.0	326
Mumbai	54.3	52.8	61.3	75.1	24.9	52426
Nasik	52.6	51.2	57.4	69.4	30.6	3878
Pune	67.3	78.4	81.2	89.1	10.9	14483
Kolkata	46.0	30.6	67.3	79.7	20.3	20068
<b>Total Children</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>198180</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

The status of identification documents across cities reveals that non-metro cities have done significantly well compared to the metro cities when it comes to possession of Aadhaar cards. While only 56% children in Delhi, 54% children in Mumbai and a mere 46% children in Kolkata reported to have Aadhaar card, the percentage was higher in Allahabad (75.5%), Kanpur (63%) and Pune (67%). A similar trend was observed with respect to ration card with Mumbai being the only exception where more than 50% children reported to have this document.

In Delhi, mere 19% children had ration card compared to 78.4% children in Pune, 52.8% in Mumbai and 51.2% children in Nashik. Possession of birth certificate is a critical issue across cities, but it is most prominent in Agra, Kanpur and Lucknow where less than 10% children reported to have birth certificate. When it comes to the children having any type of identity document, Mughal Sarai, Lucknow and Agra were the most challenging as more than 45% children reported that they did not hold any identification card.



**Table 3.17:** Status of identification documents by category (in %)

		Aadhaar Card	Ration Card	Birth Certificate	None of the Card	Total Children
Children living on the Street	Total	31.4	9.6	8.3	65.8	6018
	Boy	33.8	8.9	7.2	63.9	4516
	Girl	24.2	11.6	11.9	71.4	1502
Children working on the street	Total	58.4	39.2	46.2	26.0	117391
	Boy	59.6	38.0	44.5	25.5	69146
	Girl	56.8	40.9	48.5	26.7	48245
Children whose families are on the street	Total	52.9	30.4	38.8	32.3	74771
	Boy	52.7	28.7	37.2	33.3	45318
	Girl	53.3	33.1	41.3	30.8	29453
Total	Total	55.5	35.0	42.2	29.6	198180
	Boy	56.0	33.4	40.3	29.9	118980
	Girl	54.9	37.4	45.1	29.1	79200

Source: Calculation based on study data

The possession of identification documents when assessed across three categories of children showed that a high percentage of children living on the street did not have identification documents. Only 31.4% children living on the street possessed Aadhaar card, around 53% children whose families are on the street and 58% children working in the street reported to have it. A similar trend was observed regarding ration card. With respect to birth certificate, only around 8% children living on the street had birth certificate compared to 46.2% children working on the street and around 39% children whose families are on the street. The study did not observe a significant difference between girls and boys across the three categories regarding possession of identity documents. In fact, among children whose families are on the street, the percentage of girls with any or all the three types of identity documents is higher than the boys.

**Table 3.18:** Status of identification documents vis a vis service availed (in %)

		Early Childhood Care Development	Mid -day Meal Scheme	Integrated Child Development Scheme	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan	None of these
Aadhaar Card	Yes	36.7	46.9	18.2	22.3	22.4
	No	25.4	24.1	10.8	10.1	39.7
Ration Card	Yes	43.7	47.4	21.7	21.9	22.7
	No	25.2	31.1	11.3	14.1	34.1
Birth Certificate	Yes	42.6	43.8	22.4	20.6	21.5
	No	23.7	31.6	9.5	14.1	36.4
None of the Card		20.9	22.6	7.8	8.2	43.7
Total Number of Children		31.7	36.8	14.9	16.8	30.1

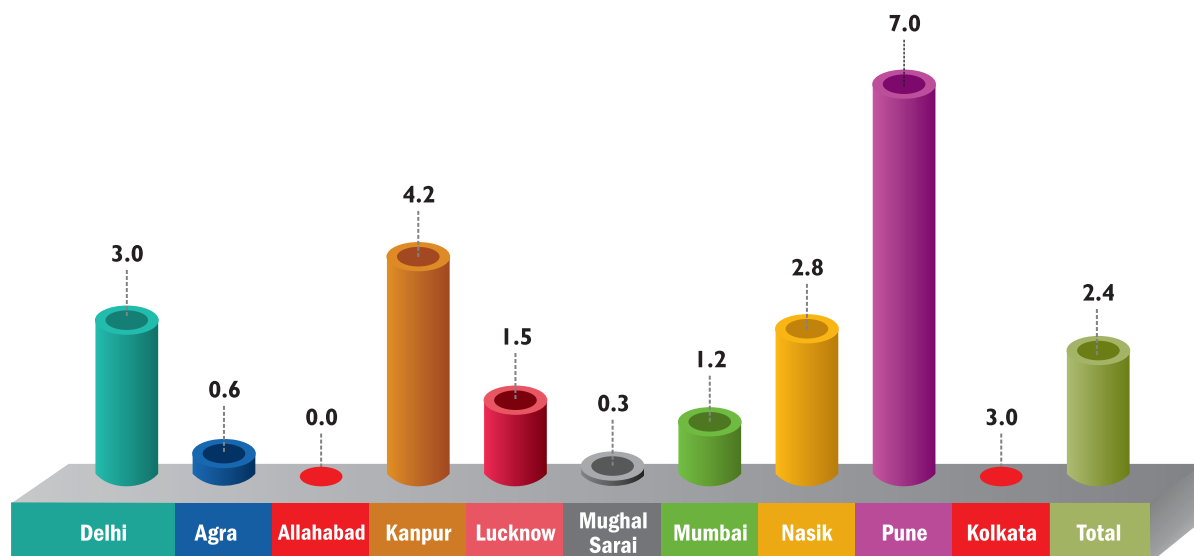
Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 3.18 shows that there is a direct linkage between the possession of identification documents and accessing government programmes and schemes. About 44% of children in street situations who did not have any card reported that they had not availed any government services/schemes ever.



## Bank Accounts

The study also captured informed regarding 'bank account' as banking is an important tool which allows an individual to save money and also builds confidence and solidifies self-belief in an individual's standing and worth in society. Given the existing and increasing number of children living outside of family care in India, access to banking options for these children is a challenge which requires attention.



Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 3.9: City wise percentage distribution of children who are having bank accounts (in %) (N=198180)

On average, around 2.4% children reported to have bank accounts. Pune had 7% children with bank accounts and none of the children in Allahabad and Kolkata had a bank account, showing two ends of the spectrum as far as financial inclusion of these children is concerned. Even in Delhi, only 3% of children in street situations reported to have bank accounts. In fact, Kanpur performed better than several other cities covered under the study including metros with 4.2% children having bank accounts.

Table 3.19: Distribution of children who are having bank accounts by age, gender and category (in %)

Characteristics		Percentage
Gender	Boys	2.4
	Girls	2.3
Age Group	0 to 5 Years	0.5
	6 to 10 Years	1.3
	11 to 14 Years	3.1
	15 to 18 Years	5.9
Category	Children living on street	0.6
	Children working on street	3.4
	Children whose families are on the street	0.8
<b>Total Children</b>		<b>198180</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

The study did not observe much difference in the percentage of boys and girls with respect to having a bank account. Table 3.19 shows that the percentage of children with a bank account reduced with decreasing age groups.

Nearly 6% children in the age group of 15-18 years had a bank account and only 0.5% children in the age group 0-5 years had one. Additionally, among the children who had a bank account, 3.4% were children working on the street and less than 1% children living on the street and children whose families are on the street had a bank account.

### 3.1.1. CHILDREN AT CCI (CHILD CARE INSTITUTIONS)

As mentioned in methodology, in Delhi, children in CCIs were also enumerated so as to develop an understanding about their living situation with other children in street situations who are not in CCIs. These institutions play an important role in holistic development of children and for making provisions for a favourable child-friendly environment for the children.

As per the data collected in CCIs in Delhi, one out of two children in the CCIs was a boy. About 36.3% children were in the age group of 11-14 years followed by children in the age group of 15-18 years (33.4%), 6-10 years (24.1%) and 0-5 years (6.3%). In the study, parents stated that only children were allowed to stay at these institutions, very less percentage of children in the age group of 0-5 years confirms that. Further, 62.3% children in CCIs belonged to Hindu community and only 19% children were from the Muslim community.

The study showed that the children in street situations were from marginalized communities, such as SC, ST and OBC, the children who formed the largest share of in the CCIs were from the general category. Children from other castes make up a minuscule share.

Close to 82% of children at CCI do not know the reason for being on the street. Whereas, around 18% said that they have lost contact with their families. Please refer to Annexure - Table 3A.4.

**Table 3.20:** Demographic profile of children staying at Delhi CCI (in %)

Characteristics		Percentage
<b>Gender</b>	Boy	50.7
	Girl	49.3
<b>Age Group</b>	0 to 5 Years	6.3
	6 to 10 Years	24.1
	11 to 14 Years	36.3
	15 to 18 Years	33.4
<b>Religion</b>	Hindu	62.3
	Muslim	19.1
	Others	18.5
<b>Caste</b>	Schedule Caste	1.1
	Schedule Tribe	1.3
	Other Backward Class	1.9
	General	50.3
	Don't Know	45.5
<b>Total Children Covered at CCI</b>		<b>3025</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

**Table 3.21:** Educational status of children staying at Delhi CCI (in %)

Age Group	Gender	Pre - School/ Anganwadi	Primary School (Class 1 to 5)	Upper Primary School (Class 6 to 8)	Higher Education (class 9 to 12) & Technical Training	No formal Education, and cannot read and write	No formal Education, but can read and write	Drop out	Total Children of age 3-18 years
0-5 yrs	Total	26.0	16.0			32.8	24.4	0.8	131
	Boy	14.3	23.2			44.6	17.9	0.0	56
	Girl	34.7	10.7			24	29.3	1.3	75
6-10 yrs	Total		73.2	0.1		5.4	8.5	12.8	728
	Boy		75.4	0.3		5.7	8.4	10.3	370
	Girl		70.9			5.0	8.7	15.4	358
11-14 yrs	Total			44.5	7.3	3.9	14.2	30.1	1097
	Boy			42.9	3.7	6.0	17.3	30.1	588
	Girl			46.4	11.4	1.6	10.6	30.1	509
15-18 yrs	Total				37.0	3.0	22.7	37.3	1010
	Boy				33.9	4.0	19.4	42.6	495
	Girl				40.0	1.9	25.8	32.2	515
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2966</b>
	<b>Boy</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>1509</b>
	<b>Girl</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>1457</b>

2% (N=59) are children of age group 0 -2 years

Source: Calculation based on study data

The data on education status of children staying at CCIs in Delhi reveals that most of the children across age categories, except in the age group of 6-10 years, either did not have any formal education or were drop-outs. Further analysis of the data showed that a higher percentage of girls were in educational institution as compared to boys, especially in two age groups, 3-5 years and 15-18 years.

Comparing the educational status of children in CCIs to children in street situations showed that being in CCIs gave better opportunities to the children to pursue education at various levels. The study found that while only 5% children in street situations attended pre-school, around 25% children in CCIs attended pre-school. Similarly, around 75% children in CCI in the age group of 6-10 years attended primary school, whereas only 20% children in street situations attended primary school. A similar trend can be seen for upper primary and higher education level.

**Table 3.22:** Status of identification documents (in %)

Aadhaar Card		Ration Card		Birth Certificate		Having either of Card	None of the Card	Total Children
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No			
64.7	35.3	1.9	98.1	9.1	90.9	65.2	34.8	3025

Source: Calculation based on study data

With respect to identification documents, around 35% children reported to have no identification documents and approximately 65% children at CCI reported to possess Aadhaar card.

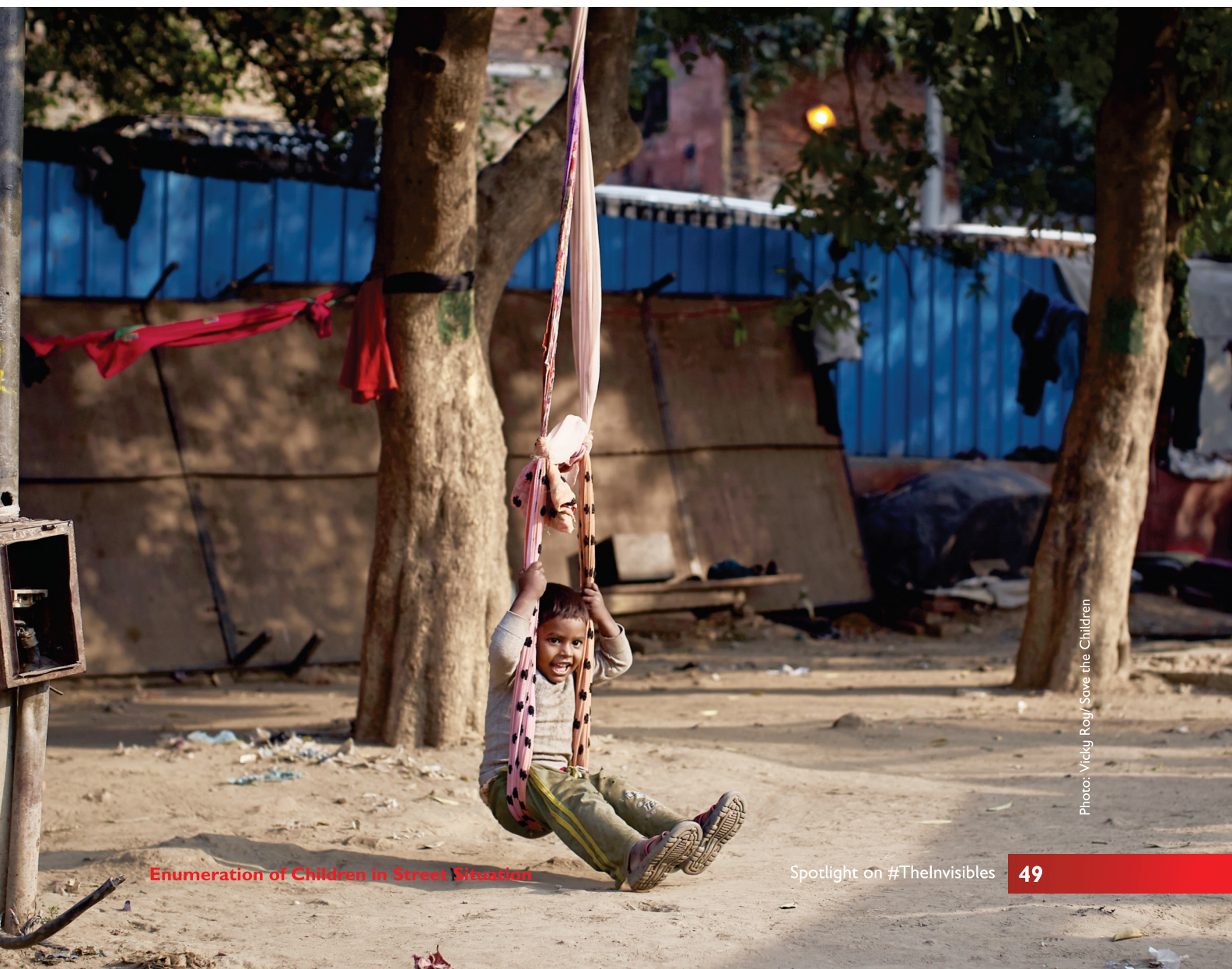


Photo: Vicky Roy/ Save the Children

# CHAPTER 4 CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATIONS

This chapter presents key findings from the quantitative data collected during the sample survey of children in street situations above the age of ten years. Along with the findings from the survey, the insights derived from FGDs with children and with parents/ guardians along with the IDIs of key stakeholders are also included.

A sample size of 3992 was considered as a representation of children in street situations in the ten survey cities. Table 4.1 shows the coverage against expected quantitative sample. Data shows that more sample was covered than expected in all cities, except Mughal Sarai. In Mughal Sarai the coverage was less as the total identified children in street situations were only 326. Among those, only 16% are the children who were above 10 years of age. More sample was covered for better geographical coverage and representation.

Location	Expected Quantitative Sample	Covered Quantitative Sample
Delhi	382	629
Agra	366	369
Allahabad	359	368
Kanpur	374	380
Lucknow	374	431
Mughal Sarai	226	53
Mumbai	382	551
Nasik	365	370
Pune	375	424
Kolkata	378	417
<b>Total</b>	<b>3581</b>	<b>3992</b>

Table 4.1: Location-wise coverage of quantitative sample

## 4.1. PROFILE OF CHILDREN COVERED UNDER SAMPLE SURVEY

Table 4.2: Profile of children by age and gender (in%)

	10 to 14 Years			15 to 18 Years			Total Children
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	
Delhi	73.6	72.4	76.5	26.4	27.6	23.5	<b>629</b>
Agra	68.3	64.0	77.0	31.7	36.0	23.0	<b>369</b>
Allahabad	80.2	78.2	82.7	19.8	21.8	17.3	<b>368</b>
Kanpur	55.3	53.1	59.0	44.7	46.9	41.0	<b>380</b>
Lucknow	68.7	67.5	70.7	31.3	32.5	29.3	<b>431</b>
Mughal Sarai	71.7	63.3	82.6	28.3	36.7	17.4	<b>53</b>
Mumbai	67.3	67.4	67.2	32.7	32.6	32.8	<b>551</b>
Nasik	50.5	46.6	56.3	49.5	53.4	43.7	<b>370</b>
Pune	59.9	60.3	59.5	40.1	39.7	40.5	<b>424</b>
Kolkata	63.3	61.8	65.0	36.7	38.2	35.0	<b>417</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>68.2</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>3992</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

In the detailed study, children in the age group of 10-18 years were included. About 65.9% children in the sample were in the age group of 10-14 years. Of these, 68.2% were girls. Among children in the age group of 15-18 years, 35.6% were boys. In Allahabad, Delhi and Mughal Sarai, more than 70% children were in the age group of 10-14 years and in Agra, Lucknow, Mumbai and Kolkata more than 60% children were from this age group. A sizeable percentage of children in the age group of 15-18 years were from Nashik (49.5%), Kanpur (44.7%) and Pune (40.1%).

## 4.2. MIGRATION

In general, it was seen that as a result of rapid economic growth in past few decades, India has been experiencing rapid rural to urban migration. The children were enquired about their birthplace to understand migration. Further, the children who had migrated to the city were asked about reasons for migration and related details. Earlier in Fig 3.2 it was evident that around 25% of total identified children stated that they “came to city with family members but could not find a shelter” as one reason for being on street. Sample study findings revealed that around 39% children migrated from some other place.

Table 4.3: Distribution of children according to birthplace by age and gender (in %)

Interview Location is Child's Birth Place		10-14 years			15-18 years			Total		
		Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
	Yes	60.3	59.9	60.9	64.3	62.9	66.8	<b>61.7</b>	61.0	62.8
	No	24.8	24.6	25.1	26.6	28.2	23.7	<b>25.4</b>	25.9	24.6
	Don't Know	14.9	15.5	14.0	9.1	8.9	9.5	<b>12.9</b>	13.2	12.5
<b>Total Children</b>		<b>2630</b>	<b>1570</b>	<b>1060</b>	<b>1362</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>3992</b>	<b>2438</b>	<b>1554</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

About 13% of the children did not know their birthplace and 25% children stated that the birthplace was not the interview location. These proportions were slightly different for the two age groups (10-14 years and 15-18 years) studied. Around 15% children in the age group of 10-14 years said that they were not aware about their birth place. One out of four children in this age group also said that the present location was not their place of birth indicating that they are migrants. In the age group of 15-18 years, around 27% children reported that their present location was not their place of birth and around 9% did not know where they were born.

Table 4.4: Distribution of children according to birthplace by category (in %)

Interview Location is Child's Birth Place		Children living on the Street			Children working on the street			Children whose families are on the street			Total		
		Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
	Yes	33.3	32.5	36.8	64.8	64.0	66.0	<b>57.8</b>	57.9	57.7	<b>61.7</b>	61.0	62.8
	No	50.5	52.5	42.1	24.2	24.6	23.6	<b>25.8</b>	25.6	26.0	<b>25.4</b>	25.9	24.6
	Don't Know	16.2	15.0	21.1	11.0	11.4	10.4	<b>16.4</b>	16.5	16.3	<b>12.9</b>	13.2	12.5
<b>Total Children</b>		<b>99</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2559</b>	<b>1558</b>	<b>1001</b>	<b>1334</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>3992</b>	<b>2438</b>	<b>1554</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Around 33% children living on the street reported that the interview location was their birth place. However, a critical finding was that one out of two children living on the street were born in a different place than his/her present location indicating he/she was either runaway, abandoned or brought to these locations. Further, around 65% children working on the street reported that their interview location was their place of birth. In addition, around 58% children whose families are on the street reported that the interview location was their birth place. However, in one out of four children working on the street and children whose families are on the street reported that the interview location was not their place of birth indicating that families migrated to their present location and the children came along. This trend was observed in the enumeration survey as well.

The study tried to identify the places of origin, places from where children had migrated to understand their movement dynamics so that they could be traced at their origin. Children in street situations who migrated and remember it were enquired regarding their place of origin. Data suggests that interstate migration was prevalent in Delhi, whereas, in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Maharashtra inter-district migration was commonly observed.

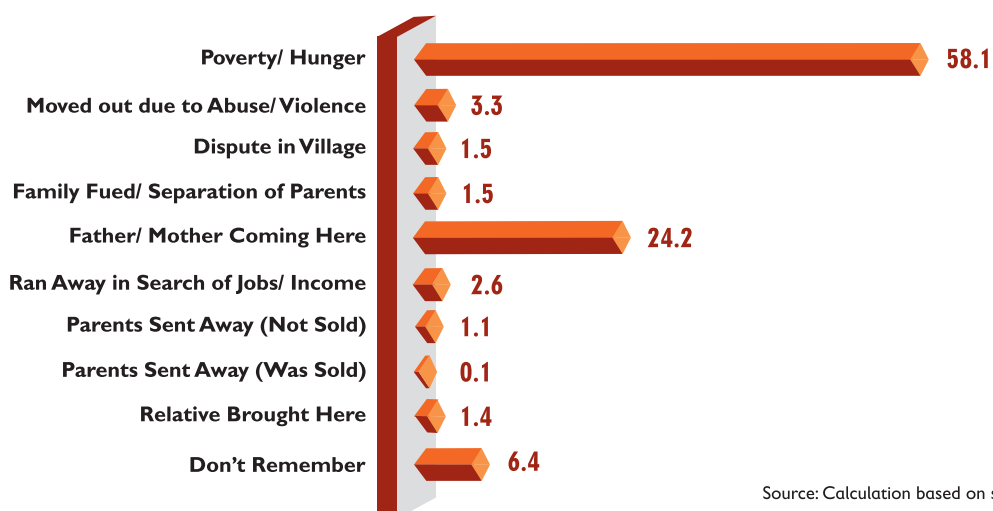
Table 4.5: Distribution of children according to place of origin (in %)

Origin State	Interview Location				Total
	Delhi	Uttar Pradesh	Maharashtra	West Bengal	
Assam	2%	5%	0%	0%	2.8%
Uttar Pradesh	38%	92%	7%	3%	56.7%
Bihar	46%	2%	5%	38%	14.3%
Jharkhand	0%	0%	2%	0%	0.3%
Orissa	0%	0%	0%	3%	0.3%
West Bengal	4%	0%	0%	57%	7.2%
Haryana	2%	0%	0%	0%	0.3%
Punjab	0%	0%	2%	0%	0.3%
J& K	2%	0%	0%	0%	0.3%
Madhya Pradesh	2%	0%	3%	0%	0.9%
Chhattisgarh	0%	0%	2%	0%	0.3%
Rajasthan	5%	0%	2%	0%	1.2%
Gujarat	0%	0%	8%	0%	1.6%
Karnataka	0%	0%	13%	0%	2.5%
Maharashtra	0%	0%	56%	0%	10.6%
Nepal	0%	0%	2%	0%	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>321</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

The study also tried to understand the reason of migration and the results revealed that economic reasons, such as poverty and hunger outweighed personal reasons, such as abuse or violence or a dispute in the family.

Fig 4.1: Distribution of children according to reason for migration (in %) (N= 1014)



Source: Calculation based on study data

The primary reason for migration emerged to be poverty and hunger, but father and mother migrating to the city may not be mutually exclusive, as the reason parents moved to city would be in search of job due to poverty and hunger. Other reasons for migration were due to abuse or violence, dispute in village, family feud or separation of parents and therefore came of one's own will – alone or with relatives. Findings show that around 6% children did not know or could not recollect the reasons of their current situation.

In FGD with parents, the reasons for migration remained similar across study locations. In addition, IDIs with the key stakeholders stated rural poverty and lack of economic opportunities as reasons for migrating. Lack of resources and opportunities were the driving factors which encouraged them to migrate.



Photo: Vicky Roy/ Save the Children

“

At our village we did not have food to eat for days, we don't have any work there, so we came here. Here we can at least beg and earn so that our family and children can eat. If we had a house, we would have given them better life and also education. Boys can sleep and stay anywhere, but its hard to keep our daughters safe.

- FGD with parents in Mumbai

”

Table 4.6: Distribution of children by reason for migration vis-a vis age and gender (in %)

Age Group	10 to 14 Years			15 to 18 Years			Total			
	Gender	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Poverty/hunger		60.6	61.4	59.4	53.6	58.4	43.6	58.1	60.2	54.6
Moved out due to abuse/ violence		2.8	3.4	1.9	4.1	4.5	3.4	3.3	3.8	2.3
Dispute in village		1.4	1.6	1.1	1.7	1.2	2.6	1.5	1.4	1.6
Family feud/ separation of parents		1.4	1.8	0.8	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.0
Father/mother coming here		22.7	21.5	24.4	26.8	22.9	35.0	24.2	22.0	27.7
Ran away in search of jobs/income		1.4	1.6	1.1	4.7	5.7	2.6	2.6	3.2	1.6
Parents sent away (Not sold)		1.4	1.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.0	1.1	1.4	0.5
Parents sent away (Was sold)		0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0
Relative brought here		1.4	1.6	1.1	1.4	1.6	0.9	1.4	1.6	1.0
Don't remember		6.9	5.2	9.4	5.5	3.3	10.3	6.4	4.4	9.7
<b>Total children who know they migrated</b>		<b>652</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>1014</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>383</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Around 61% children in the age group of 10-14 years and 54% children in the age group of 15-18 years reported hunger as the reason of migrating. Another finding showed that the number of boys (58.4%) was higher than girls (43.6%) in age group of 15-18 years who migrated as in this age group boys are expected to contribute to the household income whereas girls may be discouraged to migrate once they attain puberty. In the age group of 10-14 years, it was found that 3.4% boys migrated due to violence and abuse compared to around 2% girls. A similar trend is seen among children in the age group of 15-18 years where 4.5% boys migrated due to abuse or violence as compared to 3.4% girls.

IDIs with CWC members and NGO members revealed that children who run away due to abuse or violence or conflicts with family members when reunited with their family tend to run away again when they face similar issues. Unable to cope with the situation, children run away to a new destination. So, it is

important to understand the reason for their migration and proper care should be taken while reuniting them with their families.

Table 4.6 also highlights a critical finding that a high percentage of girls in the age group of 10-14 years (9.4%) and 15-18 years (10.3%) could not recollect how they came to their current location indicating that there might be a possibility that they were lost or trafficked.

Table 4.7: Distribution of children according reason for migration by category (in %)

	Children living on the street			Children working on the street			Children whose families are on the street			Total		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Poverty/ Hunger	54.0	52.4	62.5	55.6	57.6	52.5	63.1	66.8	57.6	58.1	60.2	54.6
Moved out due to abuse/ violence	4.0	4.8	0.0	3.9	4.4	3.0	2.0	2.4	1.4	3.3	3.8	2.3
Dispute in village	2.0	0.0	12.5	1.9	2.1	1.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	1.5	1.4	1.6
Family feud/ separation of parents	6.0	7.1	0.0	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.5	2.0	0.7	1.5	1.7	1.0
Father/mother coming here	4.0	4.8	0.0	25.3	23.2	28.8	25.0	23.4	27.3	24.2	22.0	27.7
Ran away in search of jobs/income	10.0	9.5	12.5	3.4	4.2	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	3.2	1.6
Parents sent away (Not sold)	8.0	9.5	0.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.4	0.5
Parents sent away (Was sold)	2.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0
Relative brought here	4.0	4.8	0.0	1.9	2.1	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.6	1.0
Don't remember	6.0	4.8	12.5	5.6	4.2	8.1	7.8	4.9	12.2	6.4	4.4	9.7
<b>Total children who know they migrated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>1014</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>383</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data



Table 4.7 reveals that among children living on the street, the major reason for migration was poverty followed by search of jobs/income. Girls in this category primarily migrated due to economic reason followed by dispute in village. Further, it was noted that one out of every four children working on the street and whose families are on the street moved to the city with their parents.

During FGD, a few children who reported that they can't recollect of how and why they came to the cities or were on street turned out to be orphans, abandoned or who left their homes at a very young age.

While poverty and hunger were equalizer across cities, coming along with parents was another dominant reason for migration in West Bengal and Maharashtra. This finding is confounded by higher percentage of children from Muslim community in these cities which is observed in the context of city-wise demographic profile of children. This also coincides with anecdotal evidences that Muslim population tend to move in groups. A critical finding of the survey showed that a significantly high proportion of (20%) children from Pune reported to have migrated due to abuse/violence, followed by Allahabad (9.7%). Please refer to Annexure - Table 4A.1.

Children who migrated were further probed and asked regarding the duration of their stay on streets. It was ironic to note that 12% of total children were on the street for more than 10 years (Table 4.8). They came to the city with high expectation of better living but had to face hardships of the street life.

Table 4.8: Duration of stay by age, gender and category (in %)

			Less than 5 years	More than 5 years	More than 10 years	Don't remember	Total children who know they migrated
Age Group	10-14 Years	Total	35.0	26.4	6.0	32.7	<b>652</b>
		Boy	35.2	25.9	6.5	32.4	<b>386</b>
		Girl	34.6	27.1	5.3	33.1	<b>266</b>
	15 -18 Years	Total	32.0	21.5	22.7	23.8	<b>362</b>
		Boy	32.7	24.9	19.2	23.3	<b>245</b>
		Girl	30.8	14.5	29.9	24.8	<b>117</b>
	Total	<b>Total</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>1014</b>
		<b>Boy</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>631</b>
		<b>Girl</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>383</b>
Category	Children living on the Street	Total	38.0	20.0	6.0	36.0	<b>50</b>
		Boy	33.3	23.8	7.1	35.7	<b>42</b>
		Girl	62.5	0.0	0.0	37.5	<b>8</b>
	Children working on the street	Total	31.9	24.0	11.5	32.6	<b>620</b>
		Boy	33.9	23.2	11.7	31.3	<b>384</b>
		Girl	28.8	25.4	11.0	34.7	<b>236</b>
	Children whose families are on the street	Total	36.9	26.5	13.7	23.0	<b>344</b>
		Boy	35.1	30.2	11.7	22.9	<b>205</b>
		Girl	39.6	20.9	16.5	23.0	<b>139</b>
	Total	<b>Total</b>	<b>33.9</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>1014</b>
		<b>Boy</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>631</b>
		<b>Girl</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>383</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

As far as duration of stay at interview location is concerned, 35% children in the age group of 10-14 years reported to be staying at the location of interview for less than five years whereas roughly one out of four children reported to be staying at the location of interview for more than five years. Further, in the age group of 15-18 years, around 32% children stated to be staying at the location of interview for less than five years and 21.5% children in this age group stayed at the location of interview for more than five years. Data also suggests that 62.5% children living on the street have been living at the location of the interview for less than five years. Further, around 32% children working on the street have been living at the location of interview for less than 5 years.

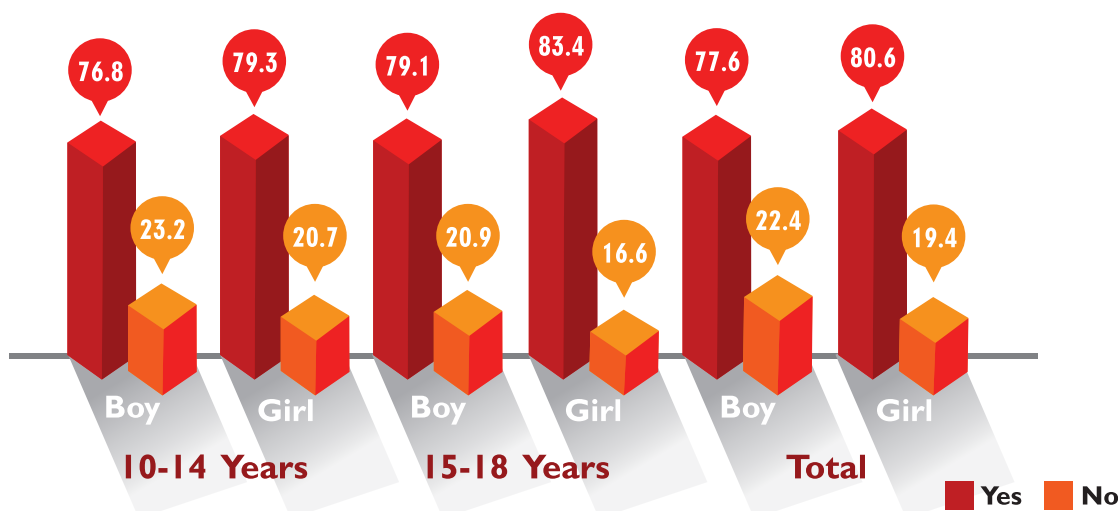
### 4.3. ACCESS TO SHELTER

In order to survive, children in street situations need to reside in areas with a supportive environment and surroundings that do not conflict with their lifestyle, nor poses threats against their existence. The study tried to identify the places where these children usually sleep. The enumeration survey shows that more than 48% children slept in slum / J.J colony etc., 27% on footpath / pavement, 21% in Katchi Abadi home / squatter settlement / any other temporary shelter. To address this issue, it is pertinent to understand the reasons that lead children to the streets as it provides in-depth understanding of the issue. In this light, the sample survey tried to understand their place of birth, reasons for their migration etc.

#### Geographic Mobility

Due to the nature of their transitory lifestyle, these children are continuously exposed to variables that increase their vulnerability to physical injury, health problems, substance abuse and sexual exploitation, which threatens their mental, physical, social and spiritual well-being. To understand their mobility pattern within the city, the children were asked whether they had permanent place to sleep or not. Findings shows that around 20% children did not have a permanent place to sleep.

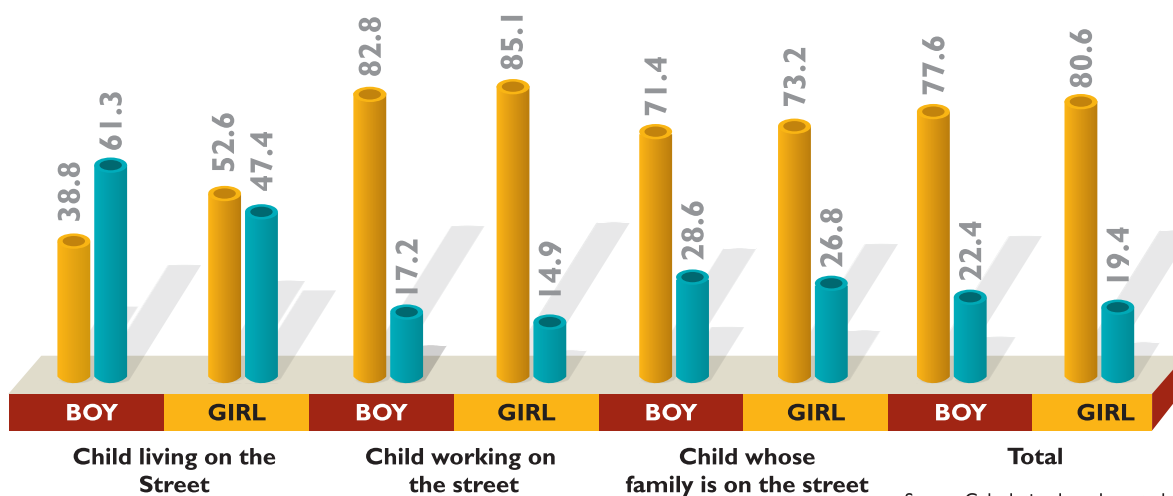
Fig 4.2: Age and gender-wise permanent place to sleep (in %) (N= 3992)



Source: Calculation based on study data

While 77.6% boys and 80.6% girls reported to have a permanent place to sleep, around 23.2% boys and 21% girls in the age group of 10-14 years and 21% boys and 17% girls in the age group of 15-18 years reported to have no permanent place to sleep.

Fig 4.3: Permanent place to sleep by category (in %) (N= 3992)



Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 4.9: City-wise permanent place to sleep (in %)

Permanent Place to Sleep		Yes	Total Number of Children
City	Delhi	70.9	629
	Agra	81.0	369
	Allahabad	53.8	368
	Kanpur	87.6	380
	Lucknow	85.2	431
	Mughal Sarai	98.1	53
	Mumbai	70.8	551
	Nasik	73.5	370
	Pune	90.3	424
	Kolkata	97.1	417
<b>Total Number of Children</b>		<b>78.8</b>	<b>3992</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Among children living on the street, around 61% boys and 47% girls did not have a permanent place to sleep which is a grave finding. Further, roughly one out of four children whose families are on the street did not have a permanent place to sleep.

In absence of permanent dwelling and place to sleep, access to basic security is compromised. This speaks volumes about the condition of temporary and night shelters in the city.

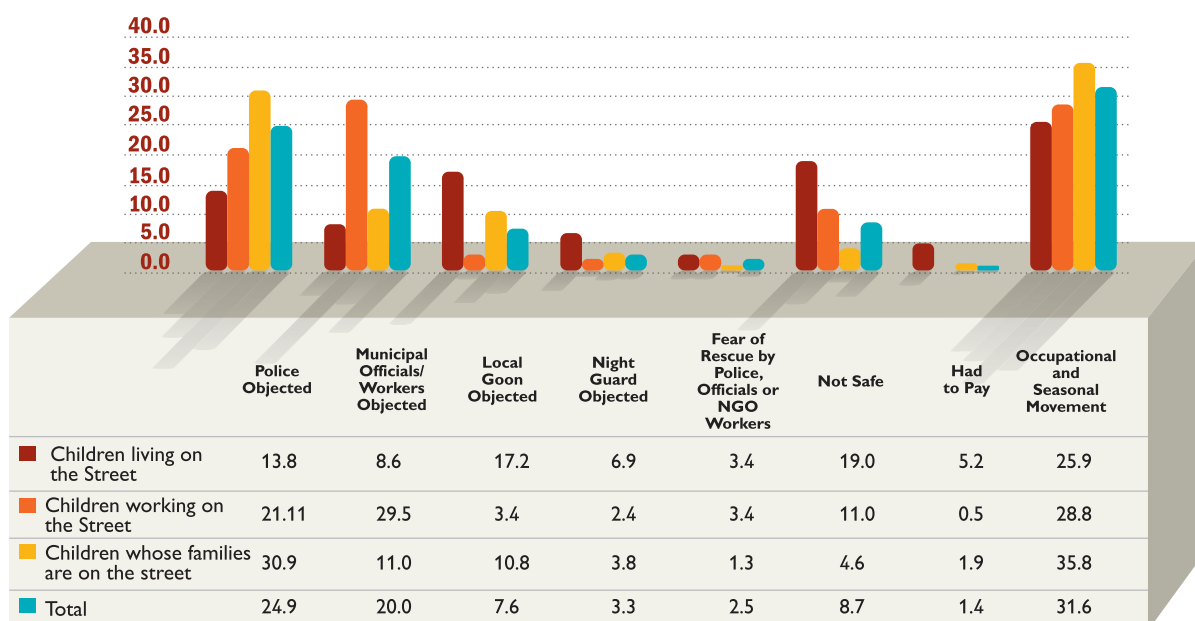
Even in metro cities like Delhi and Mumbai, around 29% children did not have any permanent place to sleep. In Nashik, one of four children did not have any permanent place to sleep. Interestingly, in Kolkata and Mughal Sarai only around 2.5% of children reported that they did not have a permanent place to sleep which indicates there might be better arrangement for children in street situations in these two cities.

Table 4.10: Places to sleep according to category of children those had no permanent place to sleep (multiple choices) (in %)

	Children living on the Street			Children working on the street			Children whose families are on the street			Total		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>On the Street/Footpath</b>	81.0	77.6	100.0	25.9	30.2	18.1	71.2	72.1	69.9	49.6	52.0	45.2
<b>Slum/ JJ colony/</b>	84.5	95.9	22.2	74.3	75.4	72.5	31.7	37.1	23.1	56.3	61.2	47.5
<b>Railway Station/ Platform</b>	29.3	32.7	11.1	7.9	9.7	4.7	14.2	15.3	12.6	12.2	14.1	8.6
<b>Bus Stop</b>	25.9	28.6	11.1	3.8	4.1	3.4	8.1	9.2	6.3	7.2	8.4	5.0
<b>Temporary Shelter</b>	29.3	32.7	11.1	18.0	16.4	20.8	17.5	14.8	21.7	18.5	17.2	20.9
<b>Near Work Place</b>	48.3	57.1	0.0	5.3	6.3	3.4	5.4	7.4	2.1	8.3	11.4	2.7
<b>Total children who do not have permanent place to sleep</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>301</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

This study further attempted to understand the arrangements which the children made when they did not have a permanent place to sleep. The findings were vital as frequency of changing the place of stay was very high among children living on the street. However, results showed that while most of the boys living on the street reported several options for them to sleep including railway station/ platform, bus stop, and temporary shelter or near place of work, the girls living on the street did not have many options. While 100% girls reported to sleep on the street/footpath on most occasions, some girls also reported to avail other options on very few occasions. There was stark difference in sleeping sites among the three categories of children in street situation.



Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 4.4: Reasons for sleeping at different places across category of children (in %) (N=847)

When the children who had no permanent place to sleep were asked about reasons for sleeping at different places; one out of four in each category reported to move due to occupational or seasonal movements followed by objections from local goons and police. In case of children whose families are on the street, the major objection came from police (30.9%). The reason might be that families sleeping on streets tend to occupy more space as they build their temporary homes.

FGD findings with parents across all the cities reveal that the main reason for their movement was objection from police and other officials.

#### 4.4. ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

It is essential to understand the situation or conditions in which children in street situations are living in terms of access to basic needs such as water, toilets etc. because inadequate services can adversely impact the well-being of the child.

##### Drinking Water

Table 4.11: City-wise source of drinking water for children in street situation (in %)

	Water Tankers	Community Public Tap	Hand Pump/ Community Well	Water Bottles/Cans	Neighbour	Total Children
Delhi	45.8	35.9	7.9	6.0	4.3	629
Agra	21.1	45.3	30.9	2.7	0.0	369
Allahabad	18.5	47.3	33.4	0.5	0.3	368
Kanpur	31.1	39.5	28.4	0.3	0.8	380
Lucknow	14.8	56.6	24.6	0.0	3.9	431
Mughal Sarai	0.0	75.5	24.5	0.0	0.0	53
Mumbai	3.4	88.0	2.4	3.1	3.1	551
Nasik	1.4	93.5	1.1	1.4	2.7	370
Pune	2.1	92.0	1.7	0.7	3.5	424
Kolkata	7.2	77.9	14.1	0.5	0.2	417
Total	17.0	63.8	15.0	2.0	2.3	3992

Source: Calculation based on study data

Overall, the main source of drinking water for the children in street situations was community public tap as around 64% children reported using it for drinking water. The other important

sources were water tankers (17%) and hand pump (15%). In Delhi, 45.8% children relied on water tankers for drinking water and 36% children reported to drink water from community taps. In Agra, community taps and hand pump / community well were the major sources of drinking water. Similar finding was observed in Allahabad, Kanpur and Lucknow. In Mughal Sarai, three out of four children were dependent on community public tap for drinking water. In Mumbai, Nashik and Pune close to 90% or more children reported to depend on community public tap for drinking water. In Kolkata, around 78% children reported to be drinking water from community tap.

## Sanitation

The present study reveals that a sizeable percentage (38%) of children did not have access to sanitation and defecated in open.

From the FGDs in Uttar Pradesh, sanitation-related challenges emerged as one of the major concerns for both children and parents. Few adolescent girls reported that they had no choice but to defecate in the open. Some had to pay money for using toilets. The girls also shared that periods (menstruation cycle) are especially challenging as the need for a toilet is much higher.

Sanitation was an issue even in other cities and even those accessing toilets shared that the public toilets were unhygienic.

Fig 4.5: Access to sanitation (in %) (N=3992)

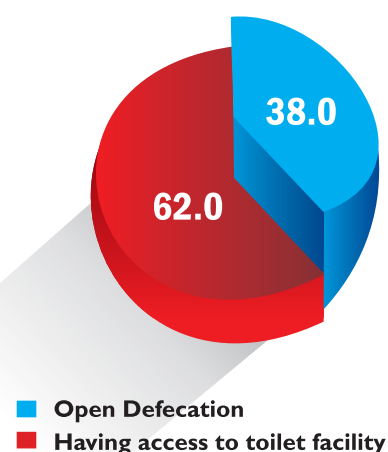


Table 4.12: City-wise children who are having access to toilet facility (in %)

	Delhi	Agra	Allahabad	Kanpur	Lucknow	Mughal Sarai	Mumbai	Nasik	Pune	Kolkata	Total
<b>Public toilets free</b>	67.3	58.3	94.4	48.8	47.2	0.0	25.4	32.3	24.5	51.8	44.0
<b>Public toilet paid</b>	7.9	10	1.6	12.8	21.1	0.0	70.3	59.6	56.7	7.7	36.3
<b>Mobile toilet</b>	0.9	1.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.5
<b>Community toilet</b>	6.1	0.0	0.8	2.3	8.1	0.0	1.6	4.2	7.4	26.9	8.0
<b>Have own toilet</b>	17.5	30	2.4	36	23.6	0.0	1.8	3.9	10.1	12.8	10.9
<b>Train toilets</b>	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.3
<b>Total children who were having access to toilet facility</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>2475</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Among the children who had access to sanitation facilities, most (67.3%) children in Delhi availed free public toilet facilities whereas around 17.5% children reported to have their own toilet. Around 8% children in Delhi had to pay to use toilets. In Mumbai, free toilets were not commonly used as only one out of four children reported to be using them. Around 70% children had to pay for using toilets in Mumbai. However, in Kolkata, 52% children used free public toilets. Additionally, around 27% children in Kolkata also used toilets constructed by NGOs / community toilets. Lack of free public toilets was also observed in Nashik (32.3%) and Pune (24.5%). Interestingly, in cities like Agra, Kanpur and Lucknow 24% or more children reported to have their own toilet. Importantly, in Mughal Sarai, all the 53 interviewed children did not have access to any sanitation facility.

## 4.5. EDUCATION AND SKILL TRAINING

Children in street situations constitute a marginalized group in the society and they lack adequate access to major childhood institutions, such as school, training institutes etc. Therefore, it is important to understand their current education status so that efforts can be made to link them with the mainstream education. The study had further tried to understand their interest in continuing education, reason for their drop out, awareness and interest regarding skill training programmes.

**Table 4.13:** Status of education of children in street situation by age and gender (in %)

	10 to 14 Years			15 to 18 Years			Total		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>Primary School (Class 1 to 5)</b>	12.7	11.5	14.5				8.4	7.4	9.9
<b>Upper Primary school (Class 6 to 8)</b>	21.0	19.8	22.8				13.9	12.8	15.6
<b>Higher Education (Class 9 to 12) &amp; Technical Training</b>	3.4	3.3	3.6	25.2	22.4	30.2	10.8	10.1	12.0
<b>No formal education, and cannot read and write</b>	38.0	39.9	35.2	36.8	39.4	32.2	37.6	39.7	34.2
<b>No formal education, but can read and write</b>	6.5	7.8	4.7	4.7	5.2	3.8	5.9	6.8	4.4
<b>Drop out</b>	18.3	17.7	19.2	33.3	33.1	33.8	23.4	23.2	23.8
<b>Total Children</b>	<b>2630</b>	<b>1570</b>	<b>1060</b>	<b>1362</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>3992</b>	<b>2438</b>	<b>1554</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

About 44.5% children in street situation in the age group of 10-14 years reported to have no formal education, 13% stated to have primary school level of education and one out of four children reported to have upper primary school level or higher level of education. A similar pattern is observed among children in the age group of 15-18 years.

Girls performed better than boys on this indicator in both the age groups. In the age group of 10-14 years, around 23% girls had upper primary level of education while boys stood at 20%. In age group of 15-18 years, while 30.2% girls reported to have senior secondary and higher level of education, only 22% boys had education up to this level. This difference could be because of the various welfare schemes introduced by the state and central government which offers financial incentives for the education of girl child.

**Table 4.14:** Age and gender-wise status of children who were attending school (in %)

	Gender		Age	
	Boy	Girl	10 to 14 Years	15 to 18 Years
<b>Whether Currently Attending School</b>	55.7	44.3	71.9	28.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>1097</b>	<b>428</b>

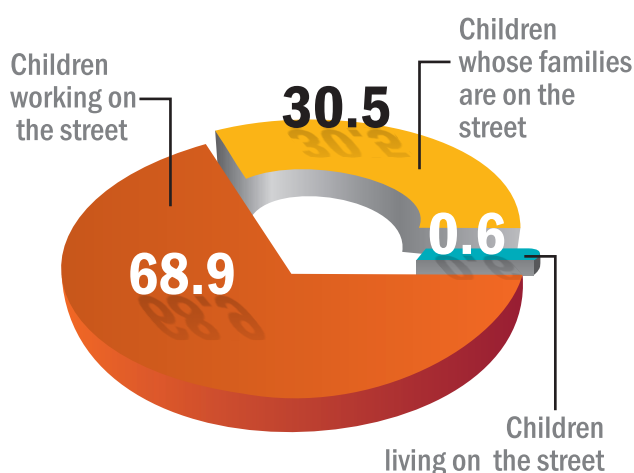
Source: Calculation based on study data

At the time of this study, around 56% boys and 44.3% girls were attending school. In the age group of 10-14 years, around 72% children reported to be attending school whereas in the age group of 15-18 years, around 28% children were attending school.

The findings revealed that majority of children attending schools were from those working on the street followed by children whose families are on the street.

Further analysis revealed that 69% of children working on the street and around 30% children whose families are on the street were attending school at the time of the study compared to only around 0.6% children living on the street. This reiterates the previous findings from the enumeration study that the children living on the street are the most vulnerable among the three categories.

Fig 4.6: Distribution of children currently attending school according to category (in %) (N=1525)



Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 4.15: City-wise status of children who were attending school (in %)

City	Children currently attending school	
	In %	No
Delhi	12.6	192
Agra	5.5	84
Allahabad	0.3	5
Kanpur	5.6	85
Lucknow	5.7	87
Mughal Sarai	1.0	15
Mumbai	19.7	300
Nasik	10.8	165
Pune	20.8	317
Kolkata	18.0	275
<b>Total children currently attending school</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1525</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

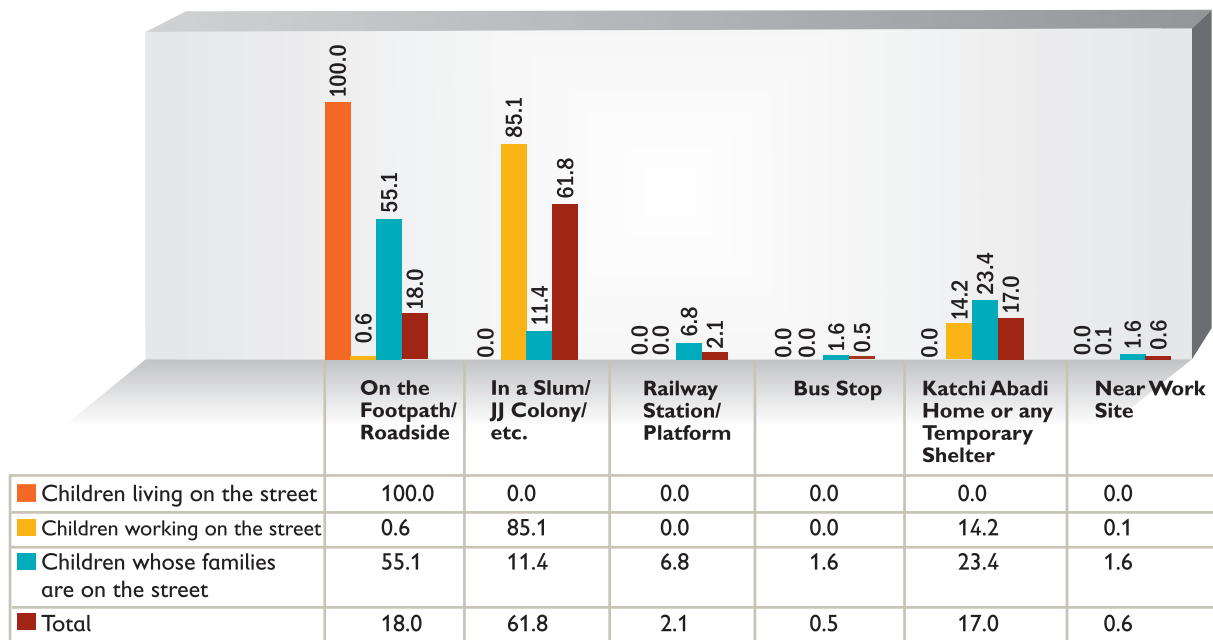
Table 4.15 shows that one out of two children attending school were from Maharashtra while less than 20% children were from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. In fact, Delhi performs poorly on this indicator as only 13% children reported to be attending school at the time of study. The situation in Allahabad and Mughal Sarai is highly critical as 1% children reported to be attending school at the time of the study. In Agra, Kanpur and Lucknow, less than 6% children stated that they were attending school at the time this study was conducted.

IDIs with the key stakeholders in all the cities highlighted that education can bring the positive change among these children.



Photo: CJ Clarke/ Save the Children

**“ If we want to create long term positive impact on the lives of these children, bridging the gap between streets to school is the most important ”**  
 - CWC Member Delhi

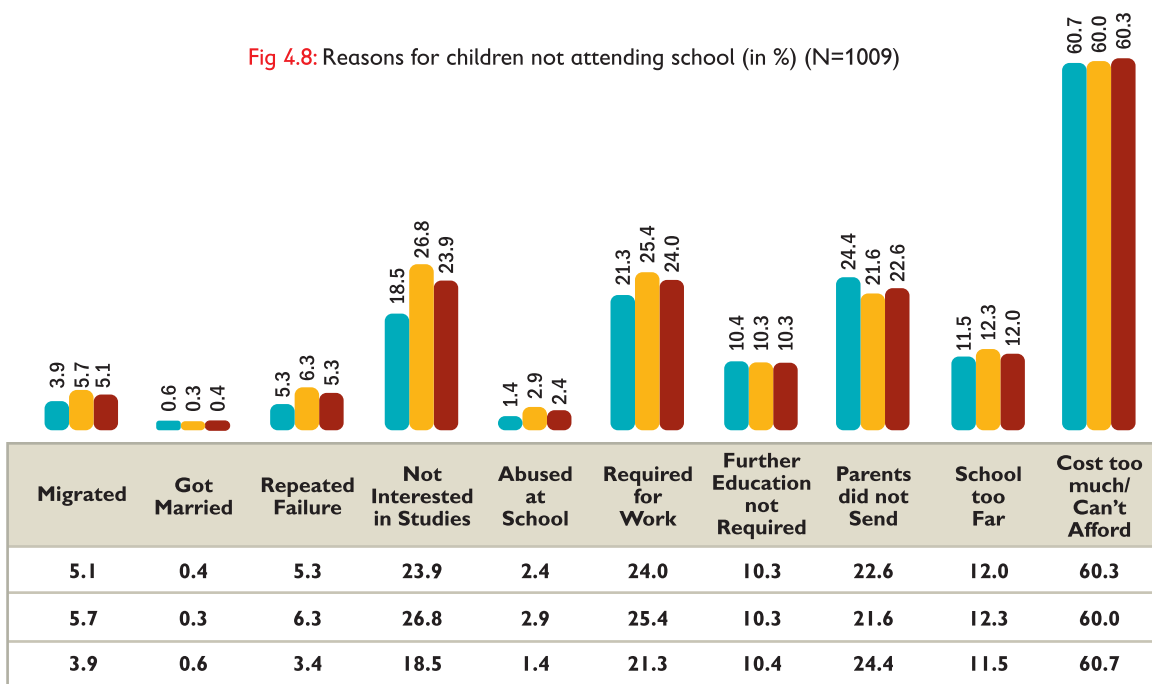


Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 4.7: Distribution of children currently attending school according to place to sleep (in %)

All the children living on the street who were currently attending school sleep on footpath whereas one out of two children whose families are on the street sleeping on footpath/roadside was attending school. A possible reason of all the children living on the street attending schools could be that school provides a safe space for at least 6 hours where they can play, learn, eat etc. The percentage of children working on the street sleeping in slums/JJ colonies, who reported to be attending school at the time of study is significantly high (85.1%). Further, around 23% children whose families are on the street and around 14% of children working on the street sleeping in temporary shelter or Katchi Abadi home were attending schools. To understand the issue in more depth, reasons for not attending school was analysed and is presented in Fig 4.8.

Fig 4.8: Reasons for children not attending school (in %) (N=1009)



Source: Calculation based on study data



The data shows 60.3% children shared that the cost of education is very high. One out of four children said that they were not interested in studies or they were required to work. In addition, around 23% children said that they were not sent to schools by their parents. This reason was more prevalent for girls (24.2%) as compared to boys (21.6%). Qualitative research explains why parents in many cases were not willing to send their children to school. The FGDs with parents in Kanpur reveals that the majority of the parents want the helping hand of the child to earn and support the family. It shows that the dominant reasons for these children to quit school was to work to support the family financially and high cost of education.

**“ I like to go to school and study. I came to the city with my parents, but both died in car accident. I don't know where my other family members are. I was studying but as I was unable to pay the school fee, they did not allow me to attend the school. It's being a year now  
- FGD with a boy in Pune ”**

When reasons for children not going to schools were discussed with the NGO partners and CWC member, they shared that schools require major changes if they are to meet the needs and aspirations of children in street situations. CWC member in Delhi pointed that just getting these children into mainstream school will not serve the purpose as these children face discrimination and bullying at school they tend to lose interest in studies.

**Table 4.16:** Distribution of children by reason for not attending school via a vis category of children (multiple choice) (in %)

	Children living on the Street			Children working on the street			Children whose families are on the street			Total		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>Cost too much/ Can't afford</b>	51.6	50.0	66.7	61.9	60.7	63.9	57.9	60.0	54.2	60.3	60.0	60.7
<b>School too far</b>	9.7	10.7		13.5	13.7	13.3	9.3	9.8	8.3	12.0	12.3	11.5
<b>Parents did not send</b>	9.7	10.7		21.5	19.8	24.5	26.0	26.5	25.0	22.6	21.6	24.4
<b>Further Education not required</b>	12.9	14.3		11.2	10.5	12.4	8.4	9.3	6.7	10.3	10.3	10.4
<b>Required for work</b>	35.5	35.7	33.3	24.9	26.3	22.3	21.2	22.3	19.2	24.0	25.4	21.3
<b>Abused at school</b>	3.2	3.6		1.9	2.2	1.3	3.3	4.2	1.7	2.4	2.9	1.4
<b>Not interested in studies</b>	45.2	46.4	33.3	24.9	28.8	18.0	20.0	20.5	19.2	23.9	26.8	18.5
<b>Repeated failure</b>	3.2	3.6		5.0	5.9	3.4	6.0	7.4	3.3	5.3	6.3	3.4
<b>Got Married</b>				0.6	0.5	0.9				0.4	0.3	0.6
<b>Migrated</b>	19.4	21.4		3.9	4.1	3.4	6.0	6.5	5.0	5.1	5.7	3.9
<b>Total children who are not currently attending school</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1009</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>356</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Around 52% children living on the street were not attending schools because the cost was too high and not affordable. Similarly, 62% children working on the street and 60.3% children whose families are on the street shared that they could not afford the costs. Parents of one out of four children whose families are on the street were not sending them to school. For the other two categories of

children, another crucial reason for not attending school was that they were required to work. A sizeable percentage of children living on the street (45.2%) and children working on the street (24.9%) reported to have no interest in studies as the reason for not attending school. Another challenge faced by children living on the street is that they constantly move for work. This is evident in Table 4.16 as around 19% children living on the street said that they did not attend school due to migration.

Age-wise analysis revealed that 62% children in the age group of 10-14 years were not attending school because they were not able to bear the cost, despite the fact that the Constitution of India enshrines free and compulsory education for all children in the age group of 6-14 years as a Fundamental Right. The single biggest limiting factor which kept children away from school in Delhi (64.7%), Allahabad (95.1%), Kanpur (81.9%), Mughal Sarai (60%), Nashik (50.4%), Pune (44.6%), and Mumbai (60.9%) was reported to be high cost of education. In Agra, 77.3% children could not go to school because their parents did not send them. In Kolkata, most (47.2%) children were not interested in studies. Please refer to Annexure - Table 4A.2.

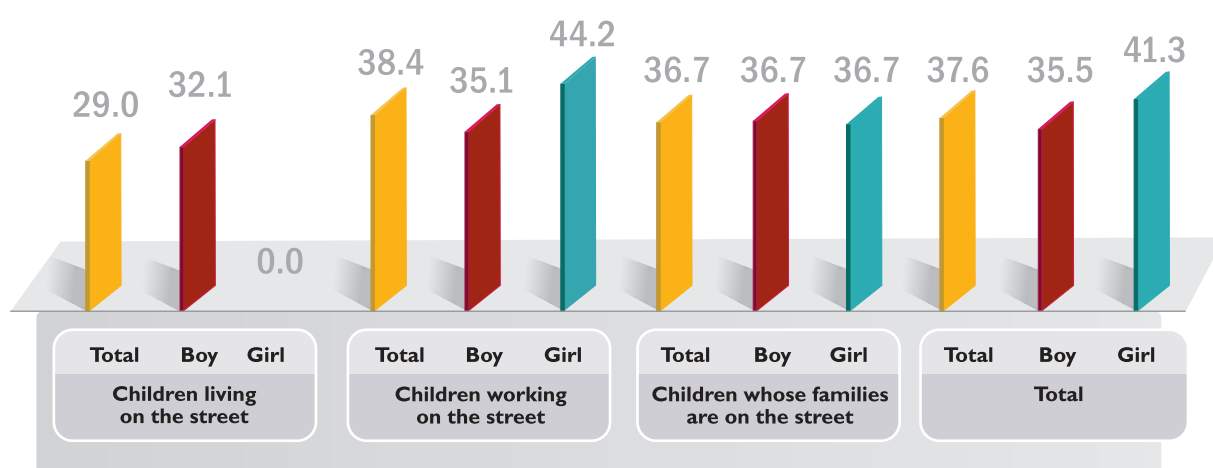
## Preference to Go Back to School

Around 44% children in the age group of 10-14 years responded in affirmative when they were asked if they would like to go back to school if the opportunity arises. Girls in this age group showed higher interest than boys to continue their education. In the age group of 15-18 years, around 30% children shared that they would like to continue their education. In this age group, a significantly higher percentage of girls (37.3%) than boys (26%) were interested to continue their education, if given an opportunity.

Table 4.17: Age & gender wise children preference to go school if given an opportunity (in %)

		Yes	No	Total Children who are not currently attending school
10 to 14 Yrs	Total	44.0	56.0	555
	Boy	43.8	56.2	349
	Girl	44.2	55.8	206
15 to 18 Yrs	Total	29.7	70.3	454
	Boy	26.0	74.0	304
	Girl	37.3	62.7	150
Total	Total	37.6	62.4	1009
	Boy	35.5	64.5	653
	Girl	41.3	58.7	356

Source: Calculation based on study data



Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 4.9: Category wise children preference to go to school if given an opportunity (in %) (N=1009)

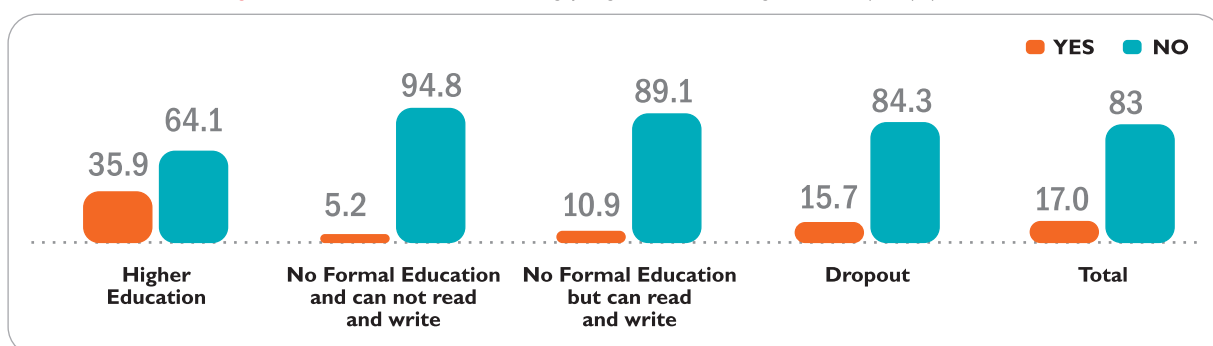
It is distressing to observe that while 32.1% boys living on the street would like to continue their education, none of the girls in this category were interested. However, this study did not explore the reasons, but may be explore in future studies as there could be multiple reasons.

A different pattern emerges in case of other two categories of children which showed an equal or more percentage of girls being interested to continue their education as compared to boys. Specifically, among children working on the street, while only 35.1% boys wanted to continue their education, around 44% girls stated that they would like to continue their education if given an opportunity.

## Skill Training Programmes

Questions pertinent to skill training were asked to the children who were 15 years and above. There were 921 children across different categories of this age group across the surveyed cities. The survey statistics show that overall only 17% children were aware about skill trainings provided by any NGO, government etc.

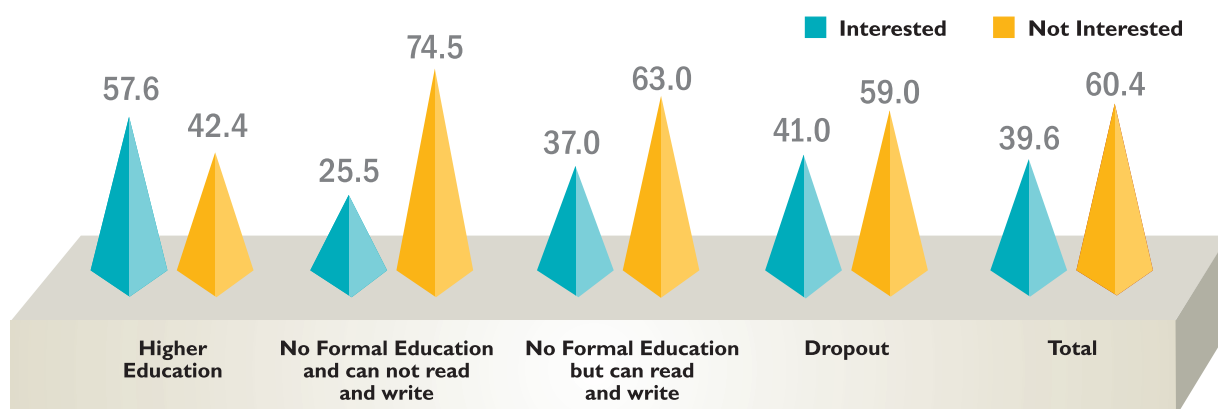
Fig 4.10: Awareness of skill training programmes among children (in %) (N=921)



Source: Calculation based on study data

Around 36% children undertaking higher education reported to be aware about skill training programmes. Only 5.2% children with no formal education and who could not read or write were aware about skill training programmes and 11% children who had no formal education but could read and write were aware about them. In addition, around 16% drop out children were aware about these programmes.

Among the 17% children who were aware about skill trainings, the awareness level of girls in the age group of 16-17 years was higher than the boys. Among categories of children, the percentage of children working on the street who were aware of skill training programmes was marginally higher (17.6%) than children living on the street (16.7%) and children whose families are on the street (15.6%). Across categories, the awareness level of girls regarding skill training programmes was higher than the boys. In fact, one out of four girls living on the street was aware about skill training programmes. City-wise analysis reveals that the percentage of children who knew about skill training programmes was significantly higher in Mumbai (33.3%), Pune (26.9%), Delhi (20.2%), Kolkata (19.6%) and Nashik (15.8%). Please refer to Annexure - Table 4A.3.



Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 4.11: Preference to attend skill training programs among children if given an opportunity (in %) (N=921)

When asked about preference to attend skill training programmes, 60.4% children said that they were not interested to join skill training programmes. It was also found that children who were currently going to school were more inclined towards joining skill training. This could be because the children in school are more aware about the benefits of the training programmes as they had a platform where such information is disseminated.

FGD with boys in Delhi also suggested that the children who were either going to school or linked with some NGO were eager and enthusiastic when discussions regarding skill training were conducted.

The study finding also shows that more girls (46%) than boys (36.2%) were willing to take up skill training. However, girls in the age group of 16-17 years were more keen as compared to older girls. There was a trend of decreasing interest for skill training among boys of increasing age. Further, most children working on the street (40.7%) and whose families are on the street (38.5%) showed interest in skill training. Geographically, there was higher interest for skill training programmes among children in Mughal Sarai (70%), Mumbai (53.5%) and Pune (53.1%). Please refer to Annexure - Table 4A.4.

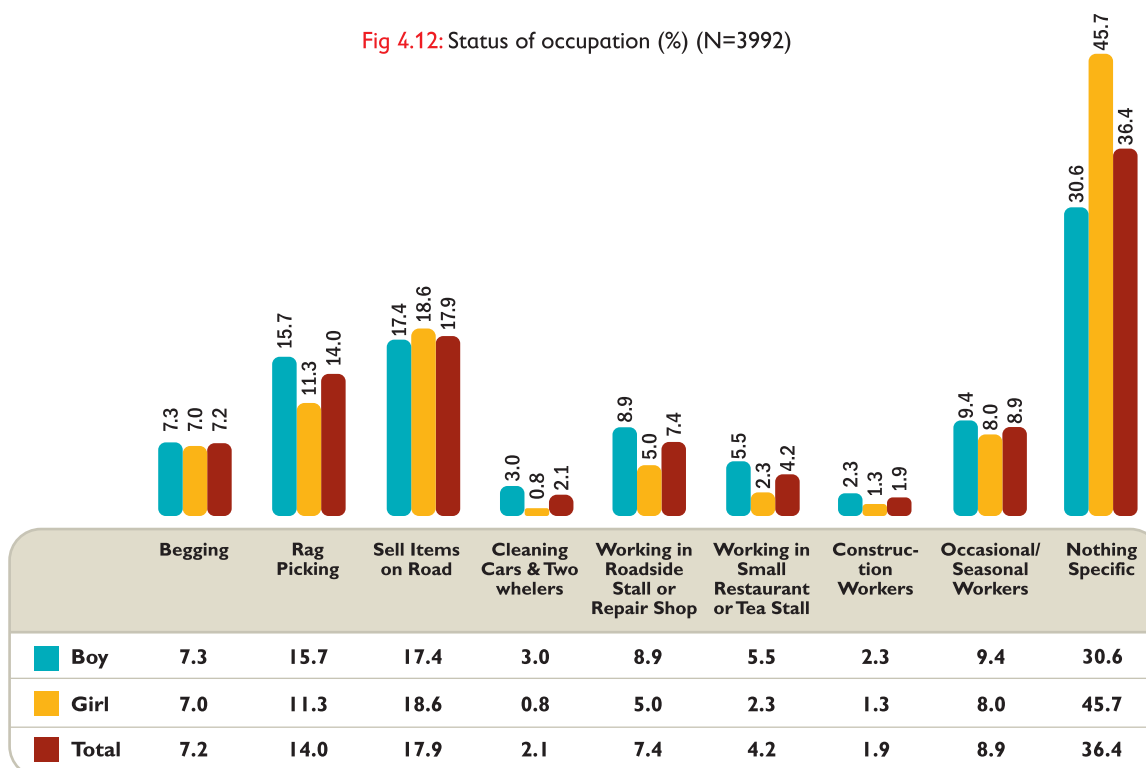
**“ I am interested in joining a skill training course related to mobile as didi (NGO worker) told us that after pursuing this course, I'll be able to find a decent job and this will help me lead a better life and I am interested in mobile. ”**

- FGD with boys in Delhi

## 4.6. CURRENT WORK DETAILS, WORK CONDITIONS, FINANCIAL INCLUSIONS

### Current Work Status

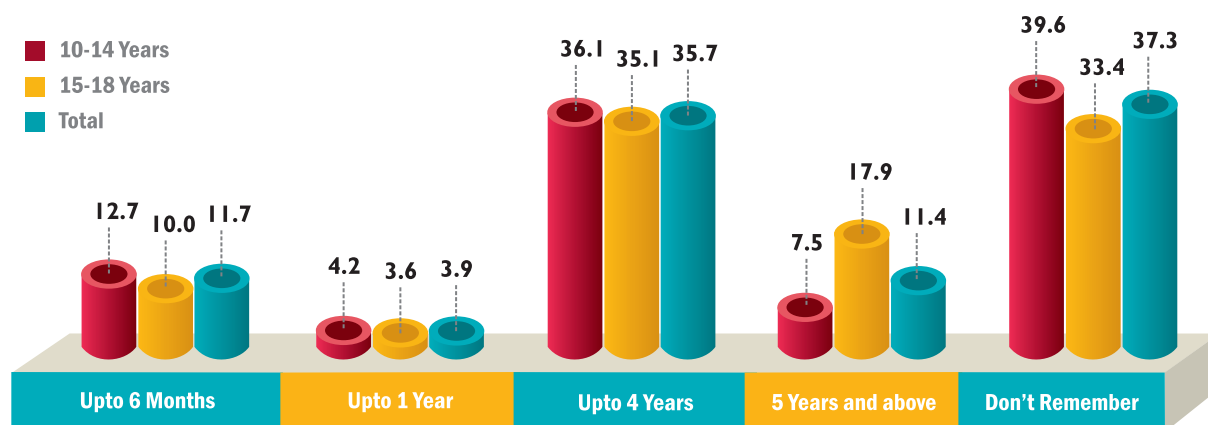
Fig 4.12: Status of occupation (%) (N=3992)



Source: Calculation based on study data

As far as status of occupation of children in the sample is concerned, a high percentage of children (36.4%) shared that they were not engaged in any specific occupation. The occupation in which most of the children (18%) were engaged was selling items on the road. This was followed by rag picking (14%). Less than 10% children were involved in begging, cleaning cars & two wheelers, working in road side stall or repair shop, working in small restaurant/eatery or tea stall, as construction workers and in occasional/ seasonal work. Gender-wise, more girls (18.6%) than boys (17.4%) were found to be engaged in selling items on the road. In all other occupations, the percentage of boys was higher than the girls. However, a higher percentage of girls (45.7%) reported to be doing nothing specific for earning money as compared to boys (30.6%).

Fig 4.13: Distribution of children according to years of work (in %) (N-2537)



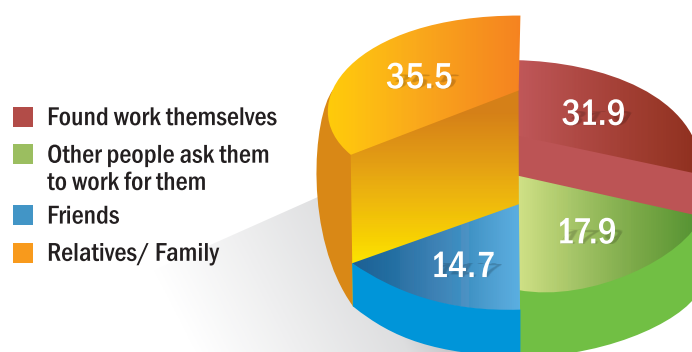
Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig. 4.13 shows the age-wise distribution of children according to the number of years they have been engaged in economic activities. A high percentage (39.6%) in the age group of 10-14 years could not recollect the time since they have been working. Similarly, among children between 15-18 years, around 33.4% children did not remember since when they were working. However, 36.1% children in the age group of 10-14 years and 35.1% between 15-18 years stated that they have been working for the last four years. Further, while only 7.5% children in the age group of 10-14 years had been working for five years or more, around 18% of children between 15-18 years reported to be working for five years or more. Overall, around 11% children said to be working for 5 years or more.

Most (35.5%) children reported that they found work with the help of relatives. A high percentage (31.9%) of children also stated to have found work themselves. Further, around 18% children were those who had been asked by others to work for them while 15% children said that friends helped them get a job.

The findings show that most of the girls either found work through relatives (33.8%) or themselves (33.5%) whereas a higher percentage of (37.4%) boys found work themselves. The findings showed that more (44.3%) children living in the street found work themselves, whereas, around 45% children working in the street and those whose families are on the street came to know about the work opportunity through relatives, family and friends. Please refer to Annexure - Table 4A.5c.

Fig 4.14: Distribution of children according to source of information about opportunity (in %) (N-2537)



Source: Calculation based on study data

**Table 4.18:** Distribution of children's occupation with source of information about opportunity (in %)

	Found work themselves	Other people ask them to work for them	Friends	Relatives/ family	Total Children Currently working
<b>Begging</b>	42.4	13.9	14.9	28.8	288
<b>Rag Picking</b>	38.7	17.2	20.4	23.7	558
<b>Sell items on road</b>	38.5	14.8	14.8	31.8	714
<b>Cleaning cars &amp; two wheelers</b>	38.1	17.9	22.6	21.4	84
<b>Working in road side stall or repair shop</b>	29.6	16.7	16.3	37.4	294
<b>Working in small restaurant or tea stall</b>	26.6	23.1	16.6	33.7	169
<b>Construction Workers</b>	38.2	18.4	19.7	23.7	76
<b>Occasional /Seasonal Work</b>	40.7	17.8	13.6	28.0	354
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>2537</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Most children engaged in begging (42.4%) and rag picking (38%) found work by themselves as both occupations involved minimal skills and were relatively easier to earn money. It is disappointing to find that almost 30% of the children were reported to be pushed into begging through relatives and family. However, more than 30% children engaged in selling items on the road, working on road side stall or repair shop and working in small restaurants or tea stalls reported to have got their work through relatives and family.

## Earnings, Days of Work and Working Hours

**Table 4.19:** Percentage distribution of children by average working hours with age and gender (in %)

	10 to 14 Years			15 to 18 Years			Total		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>0 to 3 hours</b>	11.0	7.9	16.8	9.7	8.7	12.0	10.5	8.2	15.2
<b>4 to 6 hours</b>	50.8	48.2	55.4	41.5	38.3	49.1	47.3	44.3	53.3
<b>7 to 8 hours</b>	26.3	30.5	18.5	34.1	36.8	27.9	29.2	33.0	21.7
<b>More than 8 hours</b>	12.0	13.4	9.3	14.6	16.2	11.0	13.0	14.5	9.8

Source: Calculation based on study data



Photo: Vicky Roy/ Save the Children

One out of two children between the age of 10-14 years reported to be working for up to 4 to 6 hours whereas one out of four children in this age group were working for up to 8 hours. About 12% children worked for more than 8 hours. In the age group of 15-18 years, 49.1% girls and 38% boys worked for up to 6 hours. In both the age groups, it was evident that a higher number of girls (53.3%) reported to have worked for 4 to 6 hours. About 47% of boys shared to have worked for 7 hours or more. Girls dedicated more hours to household chores, which also include taking care of elders and younger siblings.

Table 4.20: Distribution of children according to the average working hours with occupation (in %)

	0 to 3 hours	4 to 6 hours	7 to 8 hours	More than 8 hours	Total Children Currently working
<b>Begging</b>	4.9	46.5	29.9	18.8	<b>288</b>
<b>Rag Picking</b>	11.8	53.9	23.3	10.9	<b>558</b>
<b>Sell items on road</b>	10.4	48.0	28.6	13.0	<b>714</b>
<b>Cleaning cars &amp; two wheelers</b>	17.9	39.3	29.8	13.1	<b>84</b>
<b>Working in road side stall or repair shop</b>	5.1	43.5	37.1	14.3	<b>294</b>
<b>Working in small restaurant</b>	8.3	43.2	34.3	14.2	<b>169</b>
<b>Construction Workers</b>	6.6	34.2	43.4	15.8	<b>76</b>
<b>Occasional /Seasonal work</b>	18.1	45.8	27.1	9.0	<b>354</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>2537</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 4.20 shows that around 13% children engaged in any kind of work/occupation were working for more than 8 hours. About 46% of the children who were involved in begging and 54% in rag picking were engaged for around 6 hours. Around 16% children working in construction and 19% engaged in begging were engaged for more than 8 hours. The condition of children engaged in construction work is highly critical as the work is not only rigorous and tiring; but most of them were working for 8 hours or more on average.

Long hours of taxing work have a direct relationship with the tendency of children to get addicted to drugs so that they can forget the sense of exhaustion. The same has been established in previous studies conducted in India for children in street situations. FGD with boys reveals that they liked sniffing whitener. A boy shared that he was working for a gang and was giving all his earnings through begging to the gang leader. The leader in turn provided him with food, and the liquid. The boy shared that leader told him that it (liquid/whitener) will help in fighting hunger, cold, and exhaustion.

Fig 4.15: Distribution of children according to the mode of payment or income (in %) (N=2537)



Source: Calculation based on study data

The children who were working were asked regarding the mode of payment or income. About 63.5% children report that they earn in cash or money and it was directly given to them whereas in 25.1% cases money was directly given to parents/care givers/guardians. However, 9% children reported that they were not paid any cash but provided food/shelter/clothing in lieu of money. Further, 3% children said that money was directly given to the agent of the child. Additionally, the children who were given money directly were asked regarding the approximate earning in a day in last week. The

findings are presented in Table 4.21.

**Table 4.21:** Distribution of children by average income earned in a day during last week before survey according to age and gender (in %)

	10 to 14 Years			15 to 18 Years			Total		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>Below 100</b>	53.7	52.3	56.6	35.8	33.3	43.5	47.0	44.6	52.5
<b>Rs 100-200</b>	35.5	35.8	34.9	42.1	41.2	44.9	38.0	38.0	38.0
<b>Rs. 201 -400</b>	10.0	11.3	7.3	18.6	21.4	10.2	13.3	15.4	8.2
<b>Above Rs. 400</b>	0.8	0.6	1.2	3.5	4.1	1.4	1.8	2.0	1.3
<b>Total children who were directly given money</b>	<b>1006</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>1612</b>	<b>1138</b>	<b>474</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Most of the children between the age of 10-14 years earned less than Rs. 100 in a day in the week preceding the survey. The findings showed that more girls (56.6%) than boys (52.3%) received less than Rs.100 in a day in this age group. A similar pattern can be seen among children in the age group of 15-18 years. While a minimal percentage reported to earn above Rs. 400 in a day, the finding suggested that a higher percentage of younger children were being paid less despite putting in equal hours of work as the older children (Table 4.18). When working hours were compared with average income in a day, it showed that children who were working for 7-8 hours, 45% of them earned below Rs.100 in a day and children who worked for more than 8 hours, 76% of them earned below Rs. 200.

**Table 4.22:** Distribution of children by average income earned in a day during last week before survey according to occupation (in %)

	Below Rs. 100	Rs. 100 -200	Rs. 201- 400	Above Rs 400	Total Children Currently working
<b>Begging</b>	65.6	26.0	8.4	0.0	<b>227</b>
<b>Rag Picking</b>	54.2	33.1	11.5	1.2	<b>323</b>
<b>Sell items on road</b>	43.7	40.3	14.0	2.0	<b>499</b>
<b>Cleaning cars &amp; two wheelers</b>	45.1	35.3	17.6	2.0	<b>51</b>
<b>Working in road side stall or repair shop</b>	36.6	44.8	15.8	2.7	<b>183</b>
<b>Working in small restaurant</b>	46.0	41.0	9.0	4.0	<b>100</b>
<b>Construction Workers</b>	26.5	46.9	24.5	2.0	<b>49</b>
<b>Occasional /Seasonal work</b>	36.7	45.0	16.1	2.2	<b>180</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1612</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Most (65.6%) children involved in begging earned less than Rs.100 per day and 1.8% of children reported to have earned above Rs. 400 per day. One out of two children who were engaged in rag picking earned below Rs.100 in a day. Apart from being hazardous, rag picking is also low-paying and tedious. These children work in filthy environments, surrounded by animals under extreme weather conditions and have to search through hazardous waste without gloves and shoes. At the dumping ground, these children run the higher risk of coming upon needles, syringes, soiled gloves and other hospital wastes. In this kind of environment, they are regularly exposed to cuts, infection, respiratory diseases, rashes and dog bites. One out of four children engaged in construction work were paid Rs. 200 to Rs. 400 per day. Table 4.22 indicates that in most occupations, children are working for equal hours as an adult but were not paid as much. This finding also emerged during discussions with the stakeholders among all the cities.

Discussion with NGO workers in Lucknow revealed that the wages for construction workers was usually fixed but these children were paid very less because they were easy targets for cheap labour and had poor negotiation skills.



**Table 4.23:** Distribution of children by average income earned in a day during last one week before survey according to city (in %)

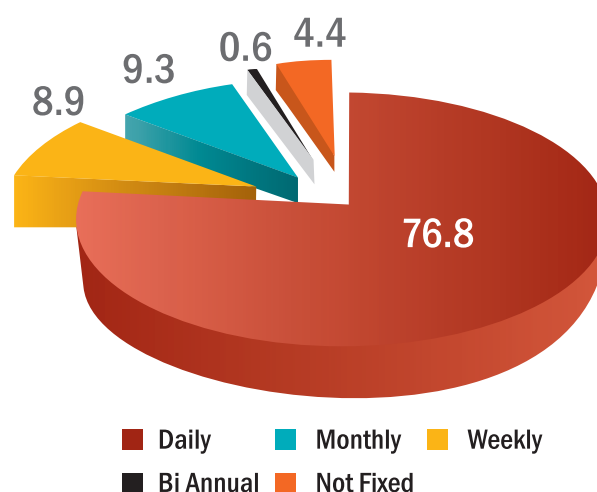
	Below Rs. 100	Rs. 100-200	Rs. 201-400	Above Rs. 400	Total Children who were directly given money
Delhi	40.8	33.5	24.8	1.0	400
Agra	53.0	39.1	7.4	0.4	230
Allahabad	49.7	47.3	3.0	0.0	169
Kanpur	22.7	49.7	21.0	6.6	180
Lucknow	59.4	34.4	6.3	0.0	224
Mughal Sarai	80.0	6.7	13.3	0.0	15
Mumbai	56.3	36.7	5.5	1.6	128
Nasik	47.6	38.1	11.1	3.2	126
Pune	44.6	37.5	16.1	1.8	56
Kolkata	54.2	28.9	10.8	6.0	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1612</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 4.23 that children who are working are exploited across all the cities as half of them reported to have earned less than INR 100 in a day. The children work without any job security, salary or dignity. During the FGDs and IDIs, it was found that even though children worked hard, the earnings were not enough for proper food, even when the subsidized food was available.

“ I work whole day picking waste, even though it smells so bad. But in the evening, I did not even earn Rs.100 and I had to buy food for my brother and mother. My father is drunkard, sometimes he even snatches the little amount I earn. I just wish my brother don't have to do this work  
- FGD with a boy in Nashik ”

**Fig 4.16:** Distribution of children by frequency of payment for work (in %) (N= 1612)



Most (76.8%) children reported to be paid on a daily basis. Around 9% children in street situations reported to be paid weekly or monthly. Further, around 4.4% children reported that their payment was not fixed, and 0.6% children reported that they were paid once in two years.

**Table 4.24:** Distribution of children by ownership of earned money by gender and age (in %)

	10 to 14 Years			15 to 18 Years			Total		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Child keep all the money	28.5	27.7	30.3	31.5	30.1	36.1	29.7	28.6	32.1
Child keep some of the money	52.2	54.3	47.7	54.5	56.4	48.3	53.0	55.2	47.9
Child had to give all the money	19.3	18.0	22.0	14.0	13.5	15.6	17.3	16.2	20.0
<b>Total children who were directly given money</b>	<b>1006</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>1612</b>	<b>1138</b>	<b>474</b>

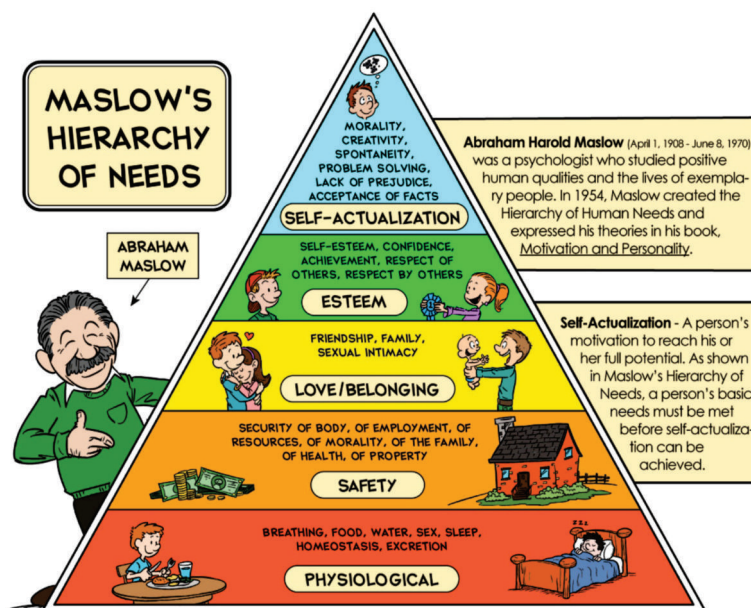
Source: Calculation based on study data

Roughly, one out of two children said that they kept some amount of money whereas around 30% children reported that they kept all the money with themselves. Around 17% children said that they had to give all the money away. With respect to age groups, among 10-14 and 15-18 years, around 19% and 14% of the children respectively reported that they had to part with all the money. Gender-wise analysis shows that more girls were allowed to keep all their money as compared to boys.

## Expenditure Pattern

Children who were paid in cash and were allowed to keep all the money were further asked about their utilization of money.

As shown in Table 4.25, much of the income is spent on food (71.8%) followed by domestic expenses (41.8%), clothing (36%) and health (27.4%). About 8% of the children spend on items like bidi, cigarette, alcohol etc. and other substances of abuse. Around 15% spent their earnings on entertainment. This partly reflects their desire and accessibility to sources of entertainment for which they came to the city. This expenditure pattern is in line with Maslow's hierarchy of need.



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FGDs with parents across all cities unanimously echoed the same sentiments that until their basic needs for food and shelter are met, they cannot think about other needs such as education and skill training. IDI with CWC member in Delhi also pointed out that we have to follow Maslow's hierarchy of needs, if you want to create an enabling environment for the children.

Table 4.25: Expenditure pattern of children according to category of children (in %)

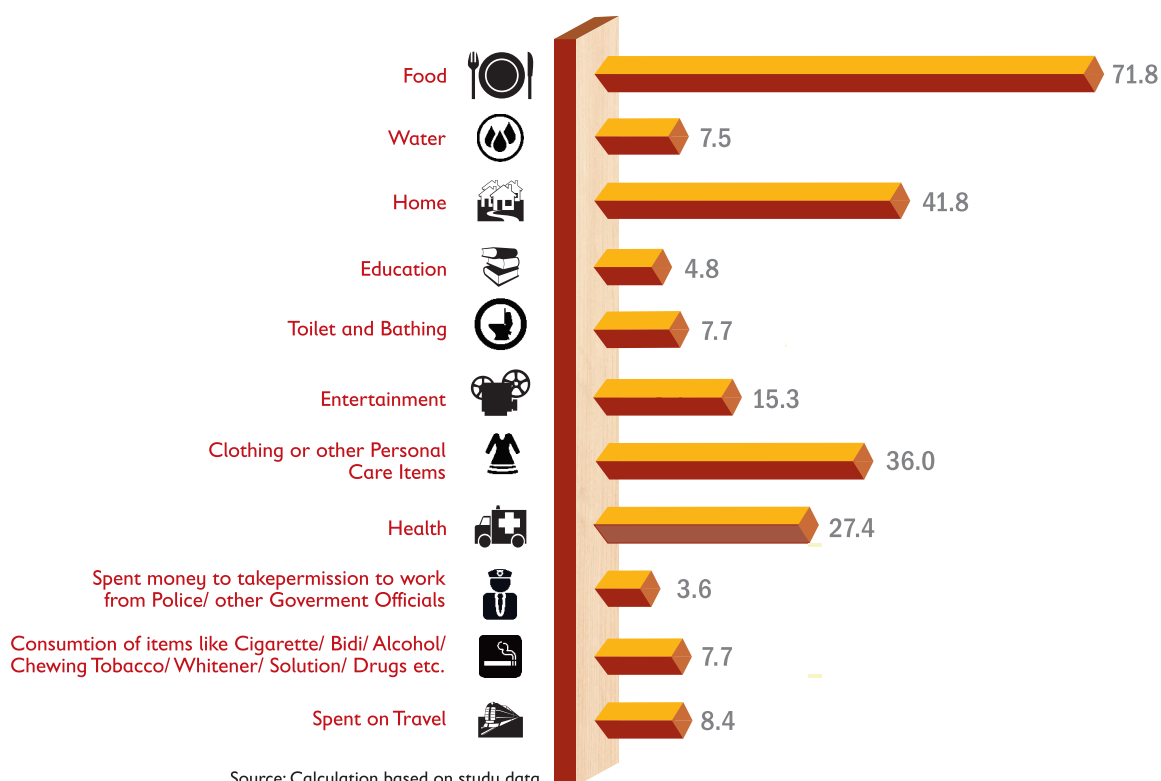
	Children living on the Street	Children working on the street	Children whose families are on the street	Total
<b>Food</b>	96.3	73.4	65.5	71.8
<b>Water</b>	14.8	6.6	7.9	7.5
<b>Home</b>	25.9	46.4	37.3	41.8
<b>Education</b>	0.0	6.2	3.4	4.8
<b>Toilet &amp; bathing</b>	7.4	6.9	9.0	7.7
<b>Entertainment</b>	22.2	17.9	10.2	15.3
<b>Clothing or other personal care items</b>	33.3	44.2	23.7	36.0
<b>Health</b>	18.5	33.2	19.8	27.4
<b>Spent money to get permission to work from police/ other government officials</b>	7.4	4.4	1.7	3.6
<b>Consumption of items like cigarette/ bidi/ alcohol/ paan/ chewing tobacco/ whitener etc/</b>	11.1	9.5	4.5	7.7
<b>Spent on travel</b>	3.7	9.9	6.8	8.4
<b>Total Children who could keep all the money</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>478</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 4.24 shows that even though children across categories were spending majorly on food, the percentage of spend on food among children living on the street was significantly higher (96.3%) than children in other categories. The other major expenses were clothes and other personal care items. Education was not on their spending list. Children living on the street were found to be spending more on entertainment and items like bidi, cigarette, alcohol etc. and other substances of abuse.

In case of children working on the street, apart from food, a sizeable share of money was spent on domestic expenses (46.4%), clothing and other personal care items (44.2%) and health (33.2%). However, 6.2% children also spent on education. A similar pattern of spending was visible in children whose families are on the street, with almost 3% children spending on education, which is similar to the finding for children working on the street.

Fig 4.17: Expenditure pattern of children (in %) (N= 478)- Multiple choice

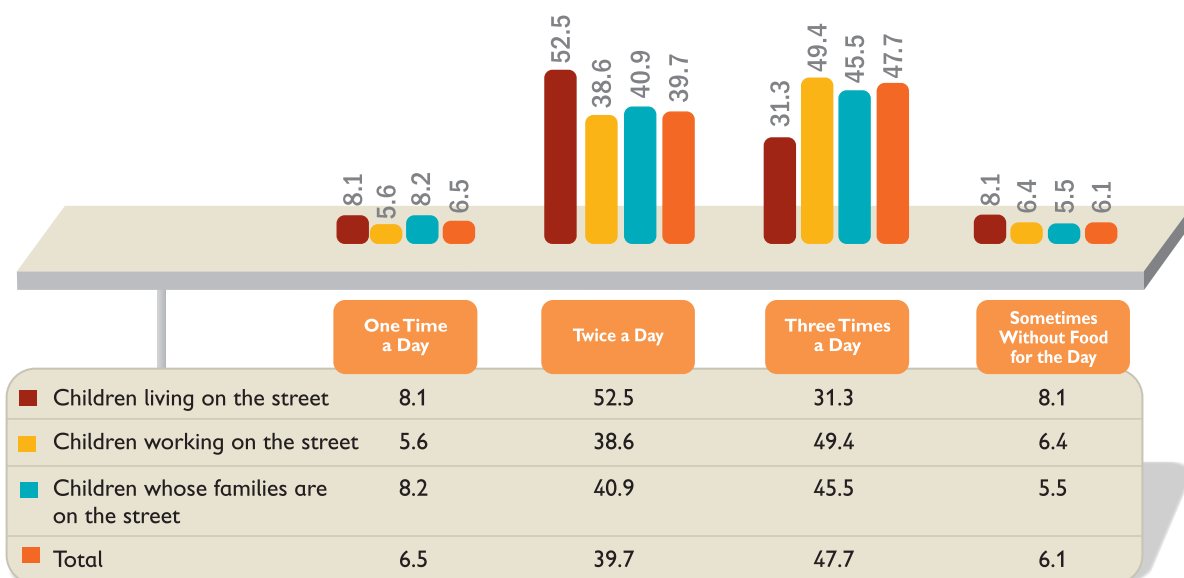


## 4.7. FOOD SECURITY AND CLOTHING

### Access to Food

In absence of a permanent dwelling and regular source of income, access to food was a big challenge for most children in street situations. To understand their access to food, children covered under the survey were asked as to how many times they eat in a day.

Nearly 47.7% children reported to have meal three times a day. However, only 31.3% children living on the street ate three times a day as compared to 49.4% and 45.5% of children working on the street and children whose families were on the street respectively. Around 13% of total children had one meal or slept without any meal in a day. This constitutes a higher percentage of children living on the street (16.2%) and children whose families were on the street (13.5%).



Source: Calculation based on study data

Fig 4.18: Proportions of children by number of times they eat in a day (in %) (N=3992)

FGDs with parents and children across all cities showed that lack of money to buy food was the most common reason for skipping meals. Younger boys reported that there were also instances of food being snatched away. All the reasons mentioned above, point towards the harsh realities of children in street situations. Discussion with NGO member in Kolkata revealed that these children were ready to come to NGO shelter homes only because NGOs promises them good food. They also shared that even though the food was provided at subsidized rates by government they were not able to access the same as they did not have an identity proof.

Table 4.26: City-wise distribution of CISS by number of times they eat in a day (in %)

City Name	One Time a Day	Twice a Day	Three Times a Day	Sometimes Food for a Day	Total Number of Children
Delhi	9.1	54.1	31.5	5.4	629
Agra	2.4	26.6	61.8	9.2	369
Allahabad	18.5	26.9	36.4	18.2	368
Kanpur	3.9	40.3	49.5	6.3	380
Lucknow	6.0	32.7	53.4	7.9	431
Mughal Sarai	15.1	49.1	20.8	15.1	53
Mumbai	8.3	56.4	33.2	2.0	551
Nasik	5.1	37.8	50.0	7.0	370
Pune	1.2	36.1	62.0	0.7	424
Kolkata	1.7	29.7	67.9	0.7	417
Total	6.5	39.7	47.7	6.1	3992

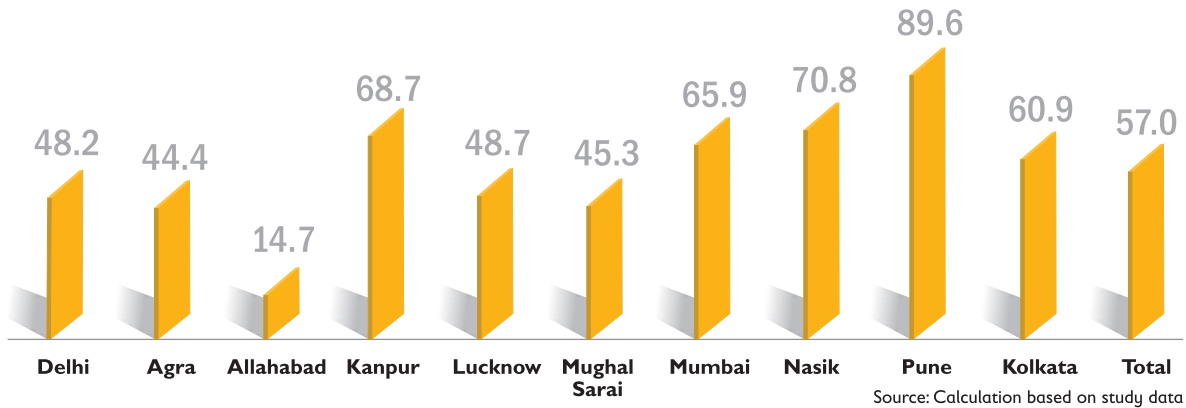
Source: Calculation based on study data

A sizeable percentage of children (39.7%) reported to have two meals a day. Around 6.5% children had only one meal every day whereas 6% of the children reported that sometimes they did not have even a single meal in a day. Accessibility of food seemed to be grave in Allahabad and Mughal Sarai where 18.2% and 15.1% children respectively reported that sometimes they slept without a single meal a day. Situation in Delhi was also worrisome as around 9% children stated to have only one meal a day.

## Access to Winter Clothing

As the survey covered a higher number of cities in the north, it was essential to know whether the respondents had adequate clothing to survive winter. It was observed that only 57% of the children covered in the survey had winter wear to protect themselves.

Fig 4.19: City-wise children's access to winter clothes (in %) (N=3992)



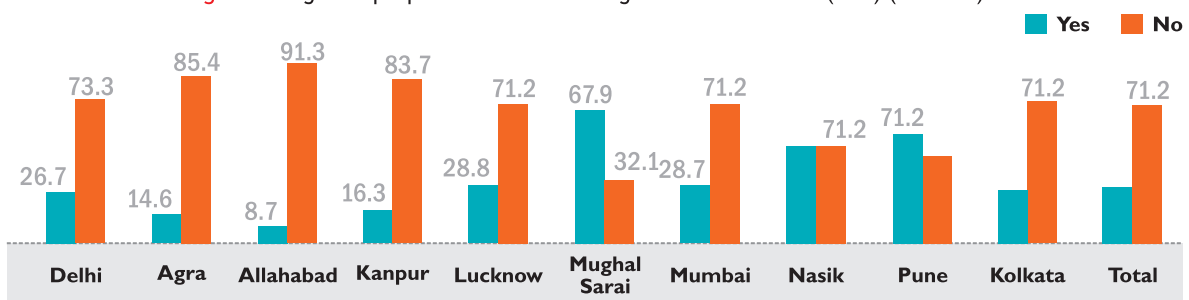
As far as children's access to clothes was concerned, around 90% children in Pune reported to have access to winter clothing. In Kanpur, Mumbai, Nashik and Kolkata, 60 to 70% children reported to have access to winter clothing. Ironically, in Allahabad, which becomes severely cold during winter, only 14.7% children shared that they had access to winter clothing. Similarly, in Delhi and Agra, 48.2% and 44.4% children respectively reported to have access to winter clothing, despite these two cities becoming extremely cold during winter.

## 4.8. HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Unhygienic living environment, deteriorating work conditions and long working hours adversely impacts the overall well-being of the children. Therefore, the survey had captured the magnitude of the health problems faced by the children in street situations by capturing the occurrence of illness in the last one month preceding the survey.

### Incidence of Illness and Health Problems

Fig 4.20: City-wise proportions of children by incidence of illness (in %) (N=3992)



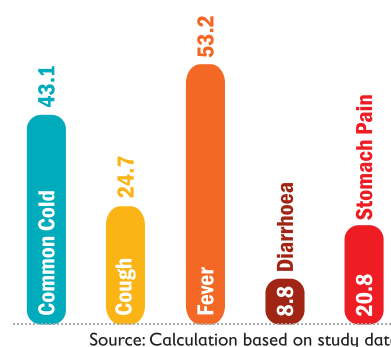
The incidence of illness was studied among children in the last month, and it was found that around 30% children covered in the survey fell ill in the last month before the survey was conducted. It was observed that there was very high incidence of illness among children in Mughal Sarai (67.9%), Pune (55.7%) and Nashik (50%). In Delhi, Lucknow, Mumbai, and Kolkata, more than 20% children reported incidences of illness in the month preceding the survey.

Children who reported some type of illness were also asked regarding the type of illness, treatment seeking behaviours, management of expenses etc.

In the month preceding the survey, one out of two children suffered from fever and 43.1% children had common cold. One out of four children reported cough and 21% children complained of stomach pain.

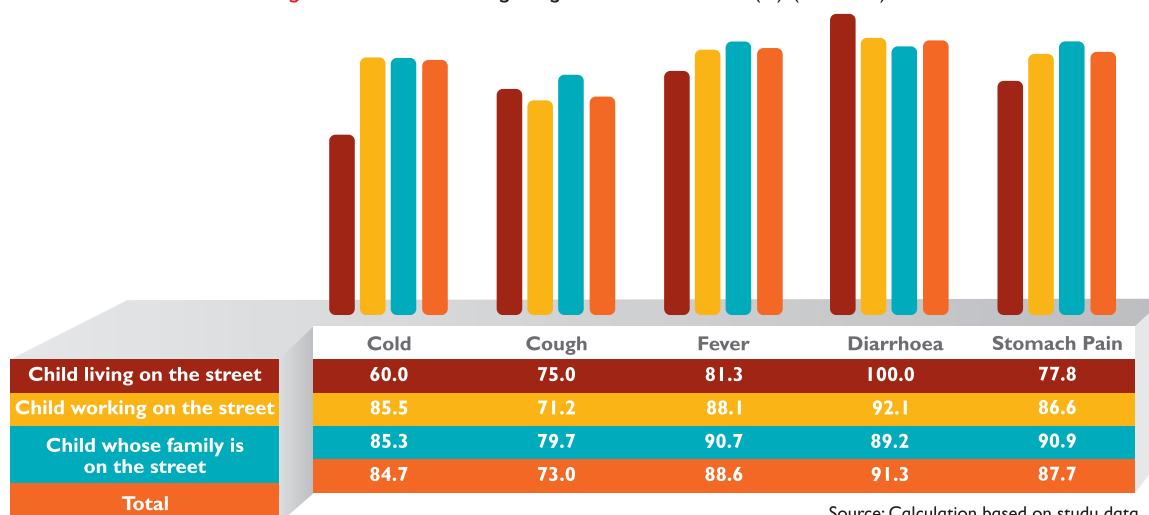
Further, around 9% children reported to have diarrhoea.

Fig 4.21: Proportions of children by type of illness in last one month (in %) (N= 1169) - multiple choice



## Treatment-Seeking Behavior

Fig 4.22: Treatment sought by children for illness (%) (N=1169)



Source: Calculation based on study data

With respect to treatment seeking behaviour, 85% children sought treatment for cold, 73% for cough, 89% for fever and 88% for stomach pain. However, almost all the children (91.3%) who had diarrhoea sought treatment. Importantly, all the children living on the street sought treatment for diarrhoea. Around 90% children in the remaining two categories sought treatment, which indicates that remaining children may be home remedies.

Table 4.27: Distribution of children by place of treatment (in %)

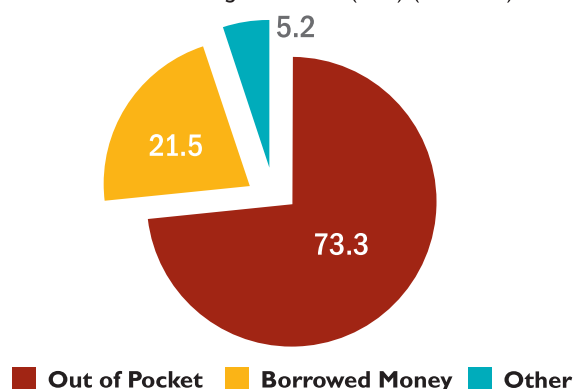
	Cold	Cough	Fever	Diarrhoea	Stomach Pain
Charitable Clinic	5.6	2.8	2.8	5.3	1.9
Local Doctor / Clinic	32.1	31.3	33	14.9	23.9
Government Hospital Facility	55	58.3	51	67	52.1
Mobile Health Services	0.5	1.9	0.9	1.1	0.5
Health Camp	1.9	0.5	1.3	1.1	3.3
Pharmacist/ Medical Store	4.7	3.3	10.1	7.4	14.1
Home/ Self-remedy	0.2	1.9	0.9	3.2	4.2

Source: Calculation based on study data

Children in street situations went to different facilities of treatment, depending on accessibility. Government hospital facility was the commonly preferred option followed by the local doctor/clinic. Very few children preferred charitable clinic. While few sought medications from pharmacist/medical store, a minimal percentage of them tried home remedies.

Nearly 73.3% children reported spending money out of their pockets to pay for expenses incurred during treatment. However, around 21.5% children stated to have borrowed money to manage expenses for treatment. As shown in Table 4.26, one in every

Fig 4.23: Distribution of children by managing expenses incurred during treatment (in %) (N= 1003)



Source: Calculation based on study data

two children sought treatment either from government hospital facility or charitable clinic. Since the charges at government and charitable clinics/hospitals are either nil or minimal, they did not have to spend a large amount from their pockets.

FGD with parents showed that they usually get treatment from government facilities and even medicines are also free. Sometimes they have to pay for medicines when they aren't available in the government hospital.

“  
**We get treatment from the government hospital whenever needed. However, sometimes doctors prescribe medicines that are not available at the hospital. Then we had to buy from other pharmacy or medical stores.**  
 ”  
 - FGD with parents in Mumbai

## Disability Status

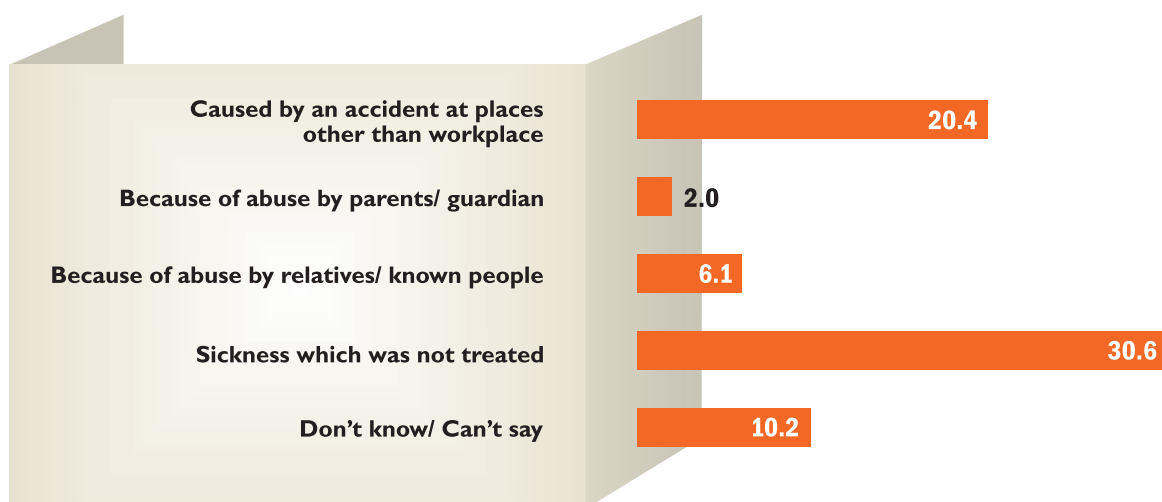
The disability status of children in the study group was observed and it came out that 2.1% of children had some kind of disability.

Fig 4.24: Distribution of children according to cause of disability (in %) (N=82)



Source: Calculation based on study data

One of the finding of this study was that most (59.8%) children in street situations who were identified as being disabled (or differently abled) had acquired their disability. While the remaining 40.2% had disabilities by birth.



Source: Calculation based on study data

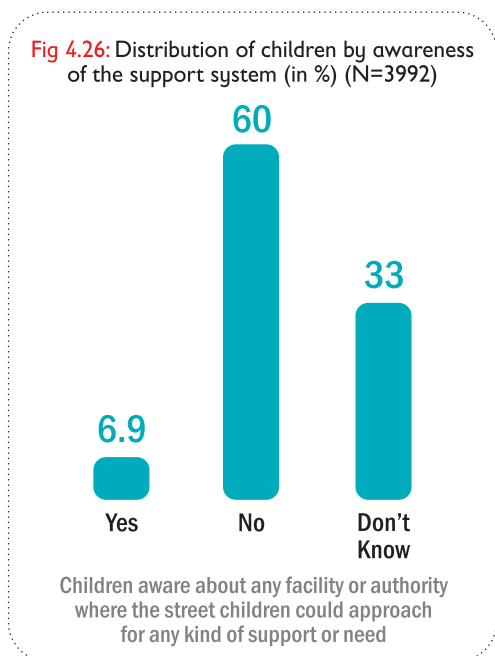
Fig 4.25: Proportion of children according to acquired cause of disability (in %) (N=49)

About 30.6% children reported that their disability was acquired due to a sickness which was not treated. A cause of concern was that a significant percentage of children (20.4%) became disabled due to accidents caused at places other than work place. Around 8% of the children reported that their disability was due to abuse, among which, 2% acquired disability because of abuse by parents/ guardian.

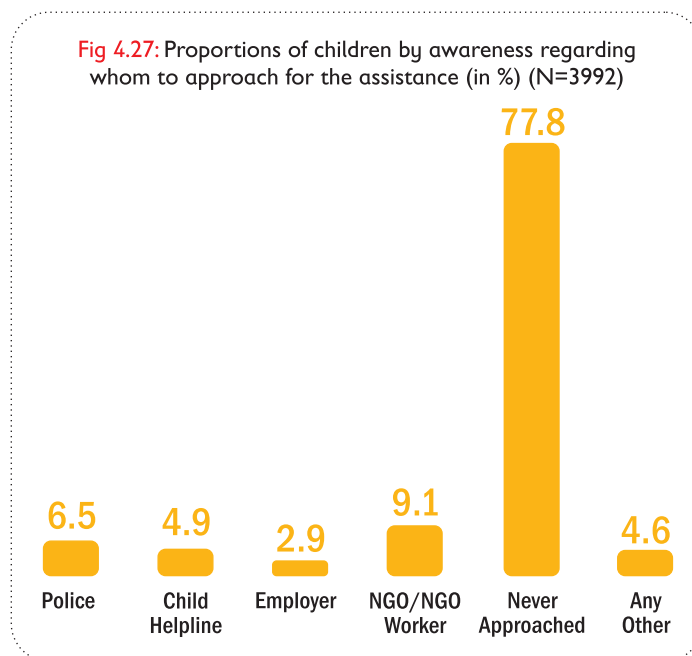
## 4.9. SUPPORT AND ENTITLEMENTS

There are multiple existing support systems and governmental schemes and provisions for child care and protection. The study explored the awareness of children in street situations about various schemes, entitlements and how often these children sought, received and availed any kind of assistance.

### Assistance Sought and Availed



Source: Calculation based on study data

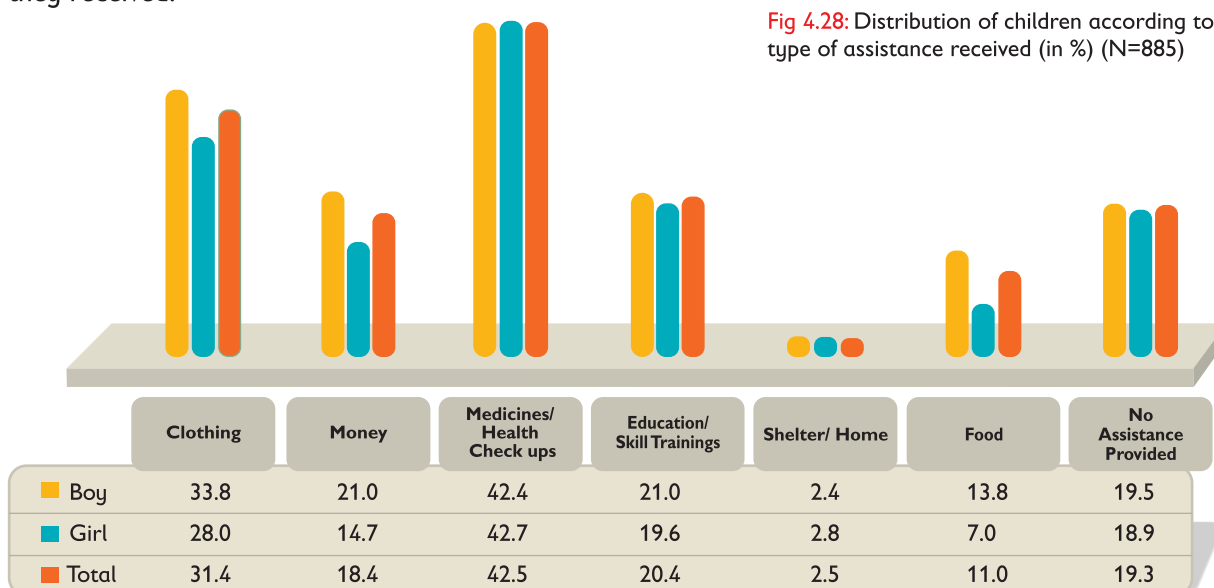


Source: Calculation based on study data

About 60% children reported that they were not aware about any facility or authority which they could approach for any kind of support or need. Only around 7% children were aware about such support system.

Around 78% children had never approached anyone or any institution for assistance. However, 9% children had approached an NGO/NGO worker, 6.5% had reached out to police and 5% had contacted Child Helpline. Approximately 4.6% children had reached out to “any other” which includes an unknown or unfamiliar person.

Children who had approached for any kind of assistance were enquired about the type of assistance they received.



Source: Calculation based on study data



Nearly 42.5% children received assistance in the form of medicines/health-check. Further, 31.4% children received clothes, 18% received money and 11% received food. Only 2.5% children reported to have received assistance in the form of shelter. Around 20% children who approached for assistance did not receive any support. Gender-wise analysis revealed that most of the assistance was provided to boys in form of clothing, money, education/skills trainings and food. In case of shelter, a slightly higher percentage of girls (2.8%) compared to boys (2.4%) received assistance.

The above discussion throws light on the poor condition of the existing support system. Only 22% of the children ever approached for assistance (Fig. 4.27), of which, 20% never received any assistance (Fig 4.28). This may have discouraged children to approach any system for help and support in the future.

Ironically, this is the current situation despite of the fact that the government, NGOs and various other agencies are working for this cause, yet the benefits are not reaching the intended population.

Children were also asked whether they were approached by anyone for any assistance or if any assistance was provided to them.

**Table 4.28:** Distribution of children who were approached for assistance (in %)

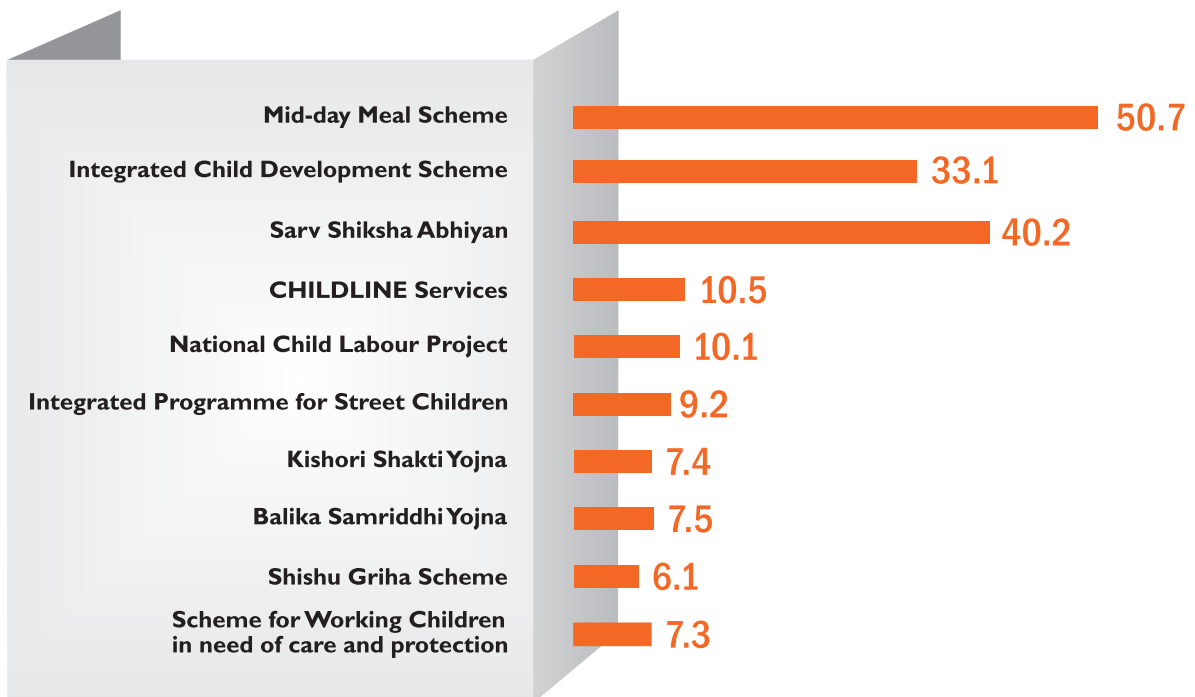
Category	Children who were approached for assistance		Total Children	Who Provided			Total number of Children who received assistance
	Yes	No		Govt	NGO	Both	
Children living on the street	6.1	93.9	99	50.0	33.3	16.7	6
Children working on the street	8.3	91.7	2559	54.9	17.8	27.2	213
Children whose family are on street	11.4	88.6	1334	34.9	44.7	20.4	152
<b>City</b>							
Delhi	11.6	88.4	629	32.9	37.0	30.1	73
Agra	4.3	95.7	369	43.8	0.0	56.3	16
Allahabad	0.5	99.5	368	50.0	50.0	0.0	2
Kanpur	7.6	92.4	380	55.2	17.2	27.6	29
Lucknow	7.2	92.8	431	67.7	9.7	22.6	31
Mughal Sarai	0.0	100.0	53	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Mumbai	12.3	87.7	551	60.3	17.6	22.1	68
Nasik	2.7	97.3	370	40.0	20.0	40.0	10
Kolkata	22.3	77.7	417	32.3	1.65	16.1	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>90.7</b>	<b>3992</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>371</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Nearly 91% children across categories reported that they were not approached by anyone. Only 6.1% children living on the street, 8.3% children working on the street and 11.4% children whose families are on the street reported to have been approached. Out of the children who received assistance, children living on the street and working on the street reported it was from government whereas children whose families are on the street mostly (44.7%) received it from NGOs.

City-wise analysis reveals that highest percentage children who reported to have been approached for assistance was in Kolkata (22.3%) followed by Mumbai (12.3%), Pune (11.6%) and Delhi (11.6%). Further, much of the assistance received by children in Kolkata and Delhi was from NGOs and in all other cities, it was by the government.

Fig 4.29: Distribution of children according to awareness regarding various government schemes (in %) (N=3992)



Source: Calculation based on study data

Regarding awareness among children on various government schemes, it was found that one out of two children were aware about the Midday Meal Scheme and 40% knew about Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan. About 33.1% children were aware about ICDS while 10% each knew about Childline services and National Child Labour Project. Less than 10% children were aware about Integrated Programme for Street Children, Kishori Shakti Yojna, Balika Samridhhi Yojna, Shishu Greha Scheme and Scheme for working children in need of care and protection.



Photo: Vicky Roy/ Save the Children

## 5.1. CONCLUSION

**T**he Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act of 2015 intends to reach children in two broad categories: those in need of care and protection, and those in conflict with law. While children in street situations may fall within both categories simultaneously, the present study is one of its kind in India because of its number and scale and investigates the issues of children from a protective lens.

The enumeration survey in the 10 selected cities captured information about the children in street situation in terms of their individual-level identification and socio-demographic information, education status, occupation, usual place of sleeping at night and reason for being on the street. Information on access to Aadhaar card and government social protection services was also gathered. Based on the analysis and findings discussed in the previous sections, the major conclusion of the study in terms of enumeration of children in street situations and the sample data analysis is summarized subsequently.

For this study, the identification of children, based upon their 'difficult' situation (UNICEF,1986) was categorized as children living on the street, children working on the street and children whose families are on the street.

### The Enumeration Survey :

The study enumerated a total of 202765 children who were in different street situations across 10 cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Nashik, Kolkata, Lucknow, Allahabad, Mughal Sarai, Kanpur and Agra. The proportion of children in street situations of total 0-18 years' urban population in these cities varied from 1.89% in Mumbai followed by 1.75% in Kolkata, 1.41% in Delhi and 0.31% in Mughal Sarai. Of the enumerated children, 59.2% were children working on the street, 37.7% were children whose families were on the street indicating that 97% of the children have families to go back to at the end of the day.

Though overall about 60% of the children in street situation were found to be boys, proportions of girls working on the street was higher than boys working on the street. However, among children working on the street, the proportion of boys was highest in Delhi and the percentage of girls was the highest in Kolkata. The survey also highlighted that 60% of the children were in age group of 6-14 years which indicated the dire need for mainstreaming them into the education system. Moreover, 17% children in the age group 15-18 years need technical skill trainings and vocational trainings to expand and improve their livelihood options.

Despite the fact that 97% children live with families, their educational status was not encouraging. Almost 60% children in street situations had no formal education or were dropouts. Among the cities, all the five cities of Uttar Pradesh were pitiable in providing education to the children on streets, worst being Allahabad. A comparison across categories of children in street situations showed that children living on the street are the worst affected as compared to the other two categories.

About 652 children in the street situation in surveyed cities were currently married. Child marriage, though minuscule (0.3%), was practiced in all these cities except Mughal Sarai. Among children who were currently married, 12% children were in the age group of 11-14 years and one out of two girls, on an average, was married at the time of the survey. A citywise comparison showed that 45% married children were from Delhi.

Nearly 41.7% of children on the streets were not engaged in any specific activity with higher proportion seen among children below 10 years of age and primarily girls. Those who were working were engaged mostly in activities such as selling items, begging and rag-picking. About 95% of the children lived with both or single parents while the remaining were the most vulnerable group as their parents and residence were untraceable. Proportion of children living with both the parents was high in Nashik.

From the study, the prime reasons that emerged for children being on the streets were family in search of jobs/income, inability to find affordable shelter and slum displacement. Additionally, some children were on streets due to losing contact with family, exiled from home, lost while travelling, due to natural calamities or were kidnapped. With respect to their place of stay, most of the 'children living on the street' slept on the footpath / roadside / pavement while 'children working on the street' had families and stayed in slum/JJ colony etc. and 'children whose families were on street' slept on a footpath / roadside / pavement or Katchi Abadi home / squatter settlement / any other temporary shelter.

With respect to identification documents, one out of two children had a Aadhaar card, 35% children had a ration card and 42.2% had a birth certificate. However, one out of three children did not have an identity card. The status of identification documents across cities reveals that non-metro cities have done significantly well as compared to the metro cities when it comes to possession of identification documents, especially Aadhaar card.

Regarding bank accounts, on average, 2.4% children reported to have bank accounts. Citywise data reveals that in Pune 7% children had bank accounts, whereas, in Allahabad and Kolkata, none of the children had a bank account. This reflects the two ends of the spectrum as far as financial inclusion of these children were concerned. Even in capital city of Delhi, only 3% children in street situations reported to have bank accounts. Kanpur performed better than the other cities covered under the study, including metros, with 4.2% children having a bank account.

Of the children in CCIs, 36.3% were in the age group of 11-14 years. About 0.3% of children were from general category. The data on education status of children staying at CCIs reveals that not only more children in CCIs are pursuing education at various levels as compared to children in street situations but they also have better opportunities at continuing their education.

## The Sample Survey :

A total of 3992 children were interviewed in detail on various aspects of the causes leading these children to streets, their living conditions, interest to go to school, awareness on skill training and interest, working conditions, financial inclusion, food security, health and nutritional status, disabilities, awareness about government support and entitlement status and access to child-related schemes. The sample was proportionately chosen from the 10 study cities. The whole sample belonged to age group of 10-18 years with highest proportions in the age group of 10-14 years and about 61% of the sample were boys. More than 75% of the children followed Hinduism and about 60% of them belonged to the SC and OBC categories. The conclusions on the various aspects were analysed and findings are as follows:



**Migration:** Sample study findings revealed that 38.3% children migrated from another place. Among those who had migrated to their current location, 12.9% children were not aware about their place of birth. One out of four children said that their present location was not their

place of birth indicating that they were migrants. Further, one out of two children living on the street were born in a different place than their present location indicating they were either runaways or brought to these locations. While the primary reason to migrate emerged to be poverty and hunger, but the father and mother moving to the city may not be mutually exclusive. Other reasons for migration were due to abuse or violence, dispute in village, family feud or separation of parents and because of their own will (either alone or with relatives). The survey showed that around 6% children did not know or could not recollect the reason of their current situation.



**Access to Shelter:** With respect to a place of sleep, 78.8% children slept at the same site every day. About 83.7% children working on the street slept on the same site followed by children whose families are on the street (72.1%) and the least were children living on the street (41.4%). Of the sample, 20% children shared that they don't have a permanent place to sleep. In West Bengal, 97.1% children slept on the same place, whereas in Delhi the place of sleep kept changing for majority of children (29.1%). Higher numbers (31.6%) stated no prominent reason for shifting while objection by police was stated by 24.9% of children. The survey also revealed that children whose families lived on the street faced objection mostly by the police whereas children working on the street faced objection by municipal officers, which made them shift place of sleep.



**Access to Drinking Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene:** Most of the children reported that they were dependent on public sources for water. Community tap (63.8%) was most accessed by the children in street situations followed by water tankers (17%) and hand pumps (15%).

About 38% children stated that they defecated in the open. Among children who had access to toilet facilities, 80.3% used public toilets - either free or paid. This indicates that children do realize the importance of health and hygiene and if public toilets are made more accessible, then more children will use it.



**Education:** The survey highlighted a startling reality that about 33% of the children were attending school with higher proportions of girls as compared to boys. This is indicative of the positive impact of the various welfare schemes introduced by the state and national government which offers financial incentives for education of the girl child. However, children living on the street fared worse than the other two categories with only 0.6% of them attending school. This indicates the fact that the possibility of attending school is high among children working on the street as they have a place to store/keep their belongings and a space to study. On the other hand, children living on the street have an insecurity of losing their belongings, and managing school books and items could be an additional burden for them. Parents and children highlighted the need for a place to live with a roof over their heads during the FGDs to think and plan about education and future. Among the states, West Bengal had the highest number of children attending school and Delhi had the lowest.

About 60% children cited that high fees was the main reason for leaving school followed by no interest in studies or forced to work (24%) each. In

the case of children working in the street and children whose families are on the street, 61.9% and 57.9% respectively shared that they dropped out of school due to higher costs. This showed that the children and their families were unaware of the numerous schemes of the government which provide free education. Additionally, hunger and poverty forced them to move to streets and education became a secondary priority. Given an opportunity, about 37.6% children expressed interest in going back to school.



**Skill Training:** Among the children who were in the age group above 15 years, only 17% were aware about skill trainings provided by NGOs, government etc. About 36% children undertaking higher education were aware about skill trainings. Nearly 8% of children who had no formal education were aware about skill training programmes.

Overall, about 39.6% children were willing to learn skilled work, if given an opportunity. None of the children in Mughal Sarai were aware of these programmes, however, 70% of them were willing to join, if given an opportunity.



**Occupation:** Children in street situations are highly susceptible to child labour. The findings show that children and their parents were unwilling to reveal information about the working status. However, the study reveals that approximately one out of four children reported to be involved in begging or rag-picking, most of whom were young children (below 14 years of age). A significantly high percentage (36.4%) of children were not engaged in any specific economic activity. The findings reveal that 42.5% and 38.7% children who were engaged in begging and rag picking respectively found work by themselves. However, more than 30% children engaged in selling items on the road, working on road side stall or repair shop and working in small restaurants reported to have got their work through relatives and family.



**Employment:** There were about 2537 children who were working. Majority of the children (47.3%) worked for 4 to 6 hours and girls worked for longer hours than boys. Around 13% children who were engaged in any kind of work / occupation were working for more than 8 hours. About 46% of the children who were involved in begging and 54% in rag-picking worked for nearly 6 hours. Approximately 16% children worked in construction and were engaged for more than 8 hours.

Overall 47% children reported to be earning an average income of less than INR 100 per day and more than 63.5% of these children were paid in cash or money was directly given to them.

The data reflects the miserable conditions of the children who were engaged in any kind of economic activity as 41% of the children were working for more than 7 hours in a day and paid less than INR 100. Despite working so hard, 70% did not have ownership of the earned money.



**Expenditure Pattern:** The expenditure pattern reveals that most of the income is spent on food (71.8%) followed by domestic expenses (41.8%), clothing (36%) and health (27.4%). Around 15% children spent the

earnings on entertainment. The percentage of children living on the streets spending on food is significantly higher (96.3%) than children in other categories. Among children working on the street, apart from food, a sizeable percentage of money was spent on domestic expenses (46.4%), clothing and other personal care items (44.2%) and health (33.2%).



**Food Security and Clothing :** More than half of the children in street situation surveyed do not eat proper meals (three times a day). About 6.5% of them had meals only once a day and another 6.1% sometimes go without food. This suggests that the probability of under nourishment among children may be high. There is a need to increase awareness among these children and their parents about the food security system. For children who missed a meal, not having money to buy food and not having time to eat emerged to be the main reasons. The surveyed cities were mostly in north India, therefore, accessibility to clothing was included in the survey. The results showed that only 57% children had winter wear to protect themselves.



**Health and Nutrition:** The study found that 30% of the children fell ill in the last one month with fever (52.6%) and common cold (52.6%) as the most affected illnesses. More than 80% of them have sought treatment either in government facility/hospital (54.2%) or the local doctor/ clinician (27.5%). While most of them (above 70%) bore the medical expenses from their savings, rest of the children resorted to borrowing. The cases of disability in children stood at 2.1%, among which 60% had acquired their disability.



**Support and Entitlements:** Most of the children were not aware on how to access the support system and entitlements which exist for them. About 77.8% children have not accessed the support system which indicates that majority of their population is unaware of its existence. Of those who approached a support system, 9.1% reached out through a NGO. Mostly children in street situations took assistance from the support system for medicines/health check-ups (42.5%) and clothing (31.4%). Support extended to children in street situations on grounds of being a child stands at 9.3%.

Regarding awareness about government schemes, one out of two children was aware about mid-day meal scheme and around 40% children had information on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan. About 33% children knew about ICDS and 10% children were aware of Childline services and National Child Labour Project. Less than 10% children had information on Integrated Programme for Street Children, Kishori Shakti Yojna, Ballika Samriddhi Yojna, Shishu Greha Scheme and Scheme for Working Children in Need of Care and Protection.

## 5.2. RECOMMENDATIONS

### POLICY LEVEL

**Advisory Committee:** It may be useful to form a National- and State-Level Advisory Committee with stakeholders of the government, field experts, activists, NGO representatives, legal and law enforcement authorities to formulate coordinated actions for children in street situations. This committee could act as “Think Tank” to address pressing issues of children in street situation. This committee may be formed under aegis of one nodal department and role and responsibilities of various members of committee may be defined using a consultative process.

**National Level Enumeration of Children in Street Situation:** Since there is no official statistics on number of children in street situation, the magnitude of the problem is not clearly known. Some scattered efforts have been made to estimate their number. It is essential to have an exact count of children in street situation, therefore, it is recommended that relevant data should also be captured in various national-level surveys, such as Census. This would help guide the policies and programmes in the right direction.

**CSR Initiatives:** Policy-level decision to direct CSRs to work for children in street situation can be explored. This may help in involving additional stakeholders and resource mobilization. Moreover, NGOs and other philanthropic organisations can be reached to establish institutions and mobilize the children in street situation through counselling and training.

### PROGRAM LEVEL

#### **Social Economic Integration:**

**Social Integration:** A programme focusing on re-uniting children living on the street with their families may be explored. Children should be placed in institutions or given foster placements as a last resort. In addition, mechanisms for traceability and follow up with the children that were sent back to their hometown should be established. Further, strategies to include counselling of parents with reference to parental accountability should be considered.

**Education and Vocational Training:** A dual education system that combines apprenticeship in a company and vocational education in schools should be developed for these children.

#### **Sensitization of Police Personnel:**

Police, especially at railway stations, should be sensitized regarding the children and should be trained in best interest for identification of standard procedures for children in street situations. NGOs could be involved in capacity building, and training and sensitization of the police personnel. In addition, it is recommended that a trained staff should be designated at rural areas or small railway stations and junctions, so that these children can be traced at village level.



### **Establishment of Migration Resource**

**Centres:** Gram Sabhas should establish MRCs in villages to address issues of unsafe migration. MRC can assist in tracking migrant families and children, provide them essential services, such as identity documents, social security benefits at source as well as destination.

### **Sensitization of Employers:**

Employers should be sensitized on Right to Education Act 2009, various relevant sections of The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 to ensure that children work in an exploitation-free environment and with dignity.

### **Setting up a District Level**

**Monitoring Committee:** This committee can be set up or included under existing committees. They can provide support in concurrent monitoring, vigilance and review of programmes related to children in street situations.

**Awards and Accolades:** Awards and recognitions for addressing issues of children in street situations may be considered as it will help in generating political will and administrative commitments to ensure socio-economic integration of children in street situations in the society.

### **Sensitization of Community :**

Community attitudes and perceptions aggravate the challenges faced by children in street situations. The need of the hour is to address this attitude and help the community understand the issues faced by these children. Awareness sessions at the school and community and mobilization drives can be conducted by the NGOs working on this issue to bridge the gap between these children and the community. Through these drives, the community should also be oriented on the ways in which they can extend support.

### **Enhancing Awareness through**

**Campaign:** Mass mobilization campaigns may be organized where the service providers and key stakeholders can meet the children in street situations and their family to link them with various government and non government schemes. Service sites should be popularized in advance.

### **Working with Children in Street**

**Situations:** Direct interventions and counselling with the groups of children in street situations for (a) behaviour management, (b) substance abuse de-addiction and (c) sexual and mental health (might include psycho-social counselling) should be explored. Organizing workshops with street-based children on various child rights issues would ensure that the children are aware about their rights and entitlements. However, these workshops should be designed considering the requirements of the children in street situation to keep them realistic and practical.

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Aadhaar:** It is a 12-digit unique identity number that can be obtained by residents of India, based on their biometric and demographic data.

**Begging:** Soliciting or receiving alms in a public place or entering into any private premises for the purpose of soliciting or receiving alms, whether under any pretence; or exposing or exhibiting with the object of obtaining or extorting alms, any sore, wound, injury, deformity or disease, whether of himself or of any other person or of an animal. Begging was found to be a primary source of income in the case of many children in this study.

**Census:** It is the process of systematically acquiring and recording information about the members of a given population. It is conducted by individual enumeration of all members of a population within a defined territory.

**Child:** Anyone who claims to be or can be, by virtue of physical characteristics, believed to be under the age of 18 years.

**Child in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP):** This is a legal term used in Juvenile Justice Act, 2000 and refers to a broad category of children. For this study, we considered any child who:

1. is found without any home or settled place or abode and without any ostensible means of subsistence,
2. resides with a person (whether a guardian of the child or not) and such person—
  - a) who has threatened to kill or injure the child and there is a reasonable likelihood of the threat being carried out, or
  - b) who has killed, abused or neglected some other child or children and there is a reasonable likelihood of the child in question being killed, abused or neglected by that person,
3. who is mentally or physically challenged or suffers from terminal diseases or incurable diseases having no one to support or look after,
4. who has a parent or guardian incapacitated to exercise control over the child,
5. who does not have a parent and no one is willing to take care of or whose parents have abandoned him or who is missing and is run away child and whose parents cannot be found after reasonable —
6. who is being or is likely to be grossly abused, tortured or exploited for the purpose of sexual abuse or illegal acts,
7. who is found vulnerable and is likely to be inducted into drug abuse or trafficking,
8. who is being or is likely to be abused for unconscionable gains,
9. who is victim of any armed conflict, civil commotion or natural calamity;

**Children whose Families are on the Street:** Children who live on the streets with their families.

**Children's Home:** An institution established by a state government or by voluntary organization and certified by that government under Section 34 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000. All children in children's home, either public or private will be considered street children. Children's home is also a hotspot by definition. Separate children homes exist for boys and girls. They provide shelter during inquiry process and for providing long term rehabilitation for orphan, destitute children in need of care and protection brought before CWCs. These homes provide education, recreation, training for their rehabilitation along with basic facilities like food, accommodation, health etc. These children are admitted to schools or colleges for their education and overall development.

**Educational Status:** The highest level of formal education successfully completed by a child in a school, whether government, private or other. The educational status has to be in accordance with the age of the individual. For example, a 10-year old cannot be listed as 10th pass.

**Katchi Abadi:** Any structure built in a public area that is made of temporary materials like tarp, cardboard, bamboo, plastic, flex material and does not have an electricity connection, access to water or a toilet.

**Night Shelter:** The National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM), Ministry of Urban Development provides shelters equipped with basic amenities to the urban homeless. These are permanent all-weather 24x7 shelters. Depending upon local conditions, each shelter could cater to between 50 to 100 people. The basic common facilities such as water, sanitation, electricity, kitchen / cooking space, common recreation space will be provided at the shelters for dignified human living. Also linkage with Anganwadi, Primary Health Centre (PHC), childcare facilities and other social assistance programmes are provided. The scheme provides for different types of shelters catering to various segments of urban poor. There are separate shelters for men, women, families and special arrangements for old-age, ill, disabled etc.

**Open Shelter:** Open Shelter for urban and semi urban areas cater to all children in need of care and protection, e.g. beggars, street and working children, rag pickers, orphaned, deserted, trafficked children, particularly those without home and family ties, vulnerable to abuse and exploitation esp. children of sex workers and children of pavement dwellers. Open shelters provide shelter, nutrition, healthcare, sanitation and hygiene, safe drinking water, education and recreational facilities and protection against abuse and exploitation. Enrolment in schools, vocational training, placement, health services, reducing drug and substance abuse and HIV/AIDS in street children. NGOs are supported to run 24-hour shelters for street children without homes and family ties.

**Primary Adult/ Minor Caretaker:** In the context of this study, if a child is under the age of 8 years, the primary adult/minor caretaker (older individual available at that particular point in time, even if unrelated) was interviewed. It was mandatory that the child recognizes and acknowledges the caretaker, and must be present during the interview.

**Pucca Abadi:** Any structure that is made of permanent material has a roof, and an electricity or water connection or a toilet. These structures are automatically excluded from the Census.

**Respondent:** The person interviewed by the surveyor in order to collect information. The respondent can either be a street child, an adult caretaker or another minor caretaker.

**Shelter Home:** Any place that is used as a home or a drop-in-centre for juveniles in need of care and protection.

**Children Living on the Street:** Children who have run away from their families and live alone on the streets.

**Children Working on the Street:** Children who spend most of their time on the streets, fending for themselves, but return home on a regular basis.

# ANNEXURE TABLES

Table 3A.1: Educational status of children by city

	Delhi	Agra	Allahabad	Kanpur	Lucknow	Mughal Sarai	Mumbai	Nasik	Pune	Kolkata	Total
Pre-School/ Anganwadi	4.1	1.8	0.0	2.5	1.3	2.3	6.5	6.8	8.6	7.6	5.1
Primary School (Class 1 to 5)	14.0	14.5	0.5	16.7	14.0	14.9	26.8	18.5	34.1	26.2	19.9
Upper Primary school (Class 6 to 8)	9.5	4.2	0.0	4.4	2.8	1.1	13.8	14.6	15.8	9.2	10.2
Higher Education (Class 9 to 12) & Technical Training	4.8	1.7	0.0	4.0	1.6	0.4	8.5	11.5	13.6	7.3	6.4
No formal education, and cannot read and write	37.3	62.8	87.7	48.9	58.8	71.6	26.8	26.9	11.3	18.1	34.2
No formal education, but can read and write	15.1	0.9	10.2	2.5	3.0	0.0	3.3	0.1	2.2	4.6	8.0
Drop out	15.2	14.1	1.6	20.9	18.4	9.6	14.1	21.6	14.4	26.9	16.2
<b>Total Children of age 3-18 years</b>	<b>73645</b>	<b>5268</b>	<b>3772</b>	<b>8321</b>	<b>10115</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>47575</b>	<b>3564</b>	<b>12880</b>	<b>17852</b>	<b>183253</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 3A.2: City wise percent distribution of children according to occupation

	Delhi	Agra	Allahabad	Kanpur	Lucknow	Mughal Sarai	Mumbai	Nasik	Pune	Kolkata	Total
Begging	19.1	21.6	14.1	5.4	15.6	22.4	6.5	5.1	14.8	16.3	14
Rag Picking	17.2	10.1	15.7	4.1	10	6.7	8	8.9	6.3	20.2	12.8
Sell items on road	20	11.7	4.1	9.5	15.1	0.3	9.6	21.2	26.1	3.6	14.7
Cleaning cars & two wheelers	3	1.7	0.4	2.1	2	0	1.3	0.9	1.6	4.2	2.3
Working in road side stall or repair shop	4.3	6.7	1.2	6.9	5.9	3.1	3.4	5.1	1.6	2.3	3.9
Working in small restaurant or tea stall	2.9	2.5	0.4	3.4	5.2	0	3.3	3.4	1.4	4.8	3.2
Construction Workers	1.4	1.3	0.2	1.5	1.9	3.1	0.6	1.2	0.7	1.5	1.1
Occasional /Seasonal work	4.4	5.1	5.3	8.1	6.1	2.1	6.6	6.3	8.3	9.9	6.2
Nothing Specific	27.6	39.2	58.5	59	38.2	62.3	60.8	47.9	39.2	37.3	41.7
Total number of Children	77043	5632	4282	9111	10931	326	52426	3878	14483	20068	198180

Source: Calculation based on study data

**Table 3A.3: Distribution of children according to places where children sleep (in %)**

	On the Street/Footpath	Slum/ JJ colony/ Rain Basera	Railway Station/ Platform	Bus Stop	Temporary Shelter	Near Work Place	Total number of children
Delhi	34.7	47.5	2.1	1.6	13.0	1.1	77043
Agra	8.1	68.3	2.2	0.2	20.5	0.6	5632
Allahabad	57.8	24.1	0.1	0.0	18.0	0.0	4282
Kanpur	5.6	73.9	0.1	0.0	20.3	0.1	9111
Lucknow	8.8	65.4	1.8	0.2	22.8	1.1	10931
Mughal Sarai	0.3	81.6	0.0	0.0	18.1	0.0	326
Mumbai	21.0	46.4	0.5	0.1	31.4	0.6	52426
Nasik	8.5	67.1	0.0	0.1	24.2	0.1	3878
Pune	12.2	65.9	0.4	0.4	20.7	0.4	14483
Kolkata	47.0	16.7	9.0	0.2	27.0	0.0	20068
Total	27.1	48.2	2.1	0.7	21.3	0.7	198180

Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 3A.4: Distribution of children according to reason for staying /spending substantial time on street

	Live with family - In search of jobs/ income	Live with/ without family - Moved to street due to slum displacement	Came to city with family members but could not find a shelter	Lost contact with family	No money to rent a place	Family feud /separation of parents	Don't Know/ Can't Say	Total
<b>Gender</b>								
Boys	0.1	0.1	0.3	16.6	0.1	0.8	82.8	1534
Girls	0.3	0.0	0.1	18.4	0.2	1.5	81.8	1491
<b>Age Group</b>								
0 to 5 Years	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	4.2	93.7	190
6 to 10 Years	0.0	0.0	0.1	15.1	0.3	0.5	84.8	728
11 to 14 Years	0.3	0.1	0.2	19.1	0.2	1.1	80.5	1097
15 to 18 years	0.3	0.0	0.4	20.1	0.0	1.0	80.4	1010
<b>Total number of Children at CCI Delhi</b>	0.2	0.0	0.2	17.5	0.1	1.1	82.3	3025

Source: Calculation based on study data

Table 4A.1: Percent distribution of children according to reason for migration (in %)

	Poverty/ hunger	Moved out due to abuse/ violence	Dispute in village	Family feud/ discord/ disharmony /separation of parents	Father/ mother coming here	Ran away in search of jobs/ income	Parents sent away (not sold)	Parents sent away (was sold)	Relative brought me here	Don't remember	Total number of Children
<b>Religion</b>											
Hindu	59.8	3.2	1.4	1.2	22.3	2.8	1.0	.1	1.4	6.8	781
Muslim	51.8	3.5	1.3	2.7	31.0	1.8	1.3	0.0	1.3	5.3	226
<b>Caste</b>											
Others	71.4	0.0	14.3	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7
Schedule Caste	69.9	2.4	1.0	.5	16.2	1.8	.3	.3	1.3	6.3	382
Schedule Tribe	50.0	5.0	0.0	1.7	26.7	5.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	6.7	60
Other Backward Class	51.6	5.5	1.0	2.3	30.2	3.6	1.3	0.0	.6	3.9	308
General	48.2	.5	2.6	2.6	31.9	1.0	.5	0.0	1.6	11.0	191
Don't Know	56.2	4.1	4.1	0.0	17.8	4.1	6.8	0.0	1.4	5.5	73
<b>City</b>											
Delhi	71.3	1.0	2.9	0.0	12.9	3.8	1.9	.5	1.0	4.8	209
Agra	83.7	.7	0.0	1.4	12.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	147
Allahabad	61.3	9.7	4.8	0.0	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0	1.6	16.1	62
Kanpur	61.9	2.7	1.8	1.8	18.6	3.5	4.4	0.0	.9	4.4	113
Lucknow	58.6	1.8	.6	0.0	31.4	3.0	1.2	0.0	1.2	2.4	169
Mughal Sarai	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Mumbai	41.1	3.2	1.6	4.0	25.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	4.0	17.7	124
Nasik	46.6	1.7	0.0	3.4	43.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	58
Pune	27.7	20.0	1.5	1.5	36.9	4.6	0.0	0.0	4.6	3.1	65
Kolkata	20.9	0.0	0.0	4.5	62.7	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.4	67
<b>Total children who know they migrated</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>1014</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data



Table 4A.2: City wise percent distribution of children by reason for not attending school

	Delhi	Agra	Allahabad	Kanpur	Lucknow	Mughal Sarai	Mumbai	Nasik	Pune	Kolkata	Total
<b>Cost too much/ Can't afford</b>	64.7	65.9	95.1	81.9	59.8	60.0	60.9	50.4	44.6	19.4	60.3
<b>School too far</b>	11.6	52.3	4.9	9.4	12.0	10.0	7.5	12.8	23.0	1.9	12.0
<b>Parents did not send</b>	17.2	77.3	22.2	28.3	33.7	40.0	10.5	9.6	12.2	30.6	22.6
<b>Further Education not required</b>	12.6	13.6	3.7	6.3	16.3	10.0	5.3	13.6	9.5	12.0	10.3
<b>Required for work</b>	16.3	25.0	3.7	18.1	54.3	50.0	20.3	44.8	18.9	16.7	24.0
<b>Abused at school</b>	3.7	0.0	2.5	3.9	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	6.8	1.9	2.4
<b>Not interested in studies</b>	28.4	11.4	6.2	30.7	32.6	10.0	3.8	20.8	24.3	47.2	23.9
<b>Repeated failure</b>	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	10.0	3.8	4.0	6.8	20.4	5.3
<b>Got Married</b>	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.4
<b>Migrated</b>	5.1	2.3	0.0	2.4	5.4	0.0	4.5	3.2	9.5	13.0	5.1
<b>Total children who are not currently attending school</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1009</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

**Table 4A.3:** Distribution of children according to awareness about skill trainings being provided by any NGO, Govt.

Age Group	Characteristics	Aware about skill trainings being provided by any NGO, Govt. etc.		Total number of children above 15 years
		Yes	No	
16	Total	17.0	83.0	921
	Boy	15.5	84.5	599
	Girl	19.9	80.1	322
	Total	19.2	80.8	370
	Boy	18.7	81.3	235
	Girl	20.0	80.0	135
17	Total	16.4	83.6	402
	Boy	12.8	87.2	258
	Girl	22.9	77.1	144
	Total	13.4	86.6	149
	Boy	15.1	84.9	106
	Girl	9.3	90.7	43
18	Total	17.0	83.0	921
	Boy	15.5	84.5	599
	Girl	19.9	80.1	322
	Total	16.7	83.3	30
	Boy	15.4	84.6	26
	Girl	25.0	75.0	4
Children living on the streets	Total	17.6	82.4	629
	Boy	15.7	84.3	414
	Girl	21.4	78.6	215
	Total	15.6	84.4	262
	Boy	15.1	84.9	159
	Girl	16.5	83.5	103
Children working on the streets	Total	20.2	79.8	109
	Boy	6.6	93.4	76
	Girl	2.2	97.8	45
	Total	7.3	92.7	109
	Boy	6.0	94.0	83
	Girl	0.0	100.0	10
Children whose families are on the street	Total	33.3	66.7	114
	Boy	15.8	84.2	133
	Girl	26.9	73.1	130
	Total	19.6	80.4	112
	Boy	17.0	83.0	921
	Girl	17.0	83.0	921
City	Delhi	17.0	83.0	921
	Agra	15.5	84.5	599
	Allahabad	19.9	80.1	322
	Kanpur	16.7	83.3	30
	Luck now	15.4	84.6	26
	Mughal Sarai	25.0	75.0	4
	Mumbai	17.6	82.4	629
	Nasik	15.7	84.3	414
	Pune	21.4	78.6	215
	Kolkata	15.6	84.4	262
	Total	15.1	84.9	159
	Total	16.5	83.5	103

Source: Calculation based on study data

**Table 4A.4:** Preference to attend skill training programs among children if given an opportunity

Age Group	Total	If given the opportunity to attend skill training		Total number of children above 15 years
		Yes	No	
	Total	39.6	60.4	921
	Boy	36.2	63.8	599
	Girl	46.0	54.0	322
16	Total	40.5	59.5	370
	Boy	39.6	60.4	235
	Girl	42.2	57.8	135
17	Total	39.8	60.2	402
	Boy	32.6	67.4	258
	Girl	52.8	47.2	144
18	Total	36.9	63.1	149
	Boy	37.7	62.3	106
	Girl	34.9	65.1	43
<b>Category</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>921</b>
	Boy	36.2	63.8	599
	Girl	46.0	54.0	322
Children living on the street	Total	26.7	73.3	30
	Boy	30.8	69.2	26
	Girl	0.0	100.0	4
Children working on the street	Total	40.7	59.3	629
	Boy	35.7	64.3	414
	Girl	50.2	49.8	215
Children whose family are on the street	Total	38.5	61.5	262
	Boy	38.4	61.6	159
	Girl	38.8	61.2	103
<b>City</b>	<b>Delhi</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>109</b>
	Agra	15.8	84.2	76
	Allahabad	6.7	93.3	45
	Kanpur	33.0	67.0	109
	Luck now	44.6	55.4	83
	Mughal Sarai	70.0	30.0	10
	Mumbai	53.5	46.5	114
	Nasik	35.3	64.7	133
	Pune	53.1	46.9	130
	Kolkata	43.8	56.3	112
<b>Total</b>		<b>39.6</b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>921</b>

Source: Calculation based on study data

**Table 4A.5:** Distribution of children's occupation with source of information about opportunity (in %)

Age Group	Found work themselves	Other people ask them to work for them	Friends	Relatives/ family	Total Number of Children Currently working
Total	37.4	16.6	16.6	29.3	2537
Boy	39.4	15.9	17.5	27.1	1693
Girl	33.5	18.0	14.7	33.8	844
10 to 14 Years	37.1	16.4	15.9	30.7	1588
Boy	40.0	15.1	16.2	28.7	1027
Girl	31.7	18.7	15.3	34.2	561
15 to 18 Years	38.0	17.1	17.8	27.1	949
Boy	38.4	17.3	19.7	24.6	666
Girl	37.1	16.6	13.4	32.9	283
<b>Category</b> Total	37.4	16.6	16.6	29.3	2537
Boy	39.4	15.9	17.5	27.1	1693
Girl	33.5	18.0	14.7	33.8	844
Children who live on street	44.3	23.9	14.8	17.0	88
Boy	41.3	26.7	14.7	17.3	75
Girl	61.5	7.7	15.4	15.4	13
Children who work on the street	37.1	15.8	18.0	29.1	1586
Boy	38.8	14.5	19.6	27.1	1062
Girl	33.8	18.3	14.7	33.2	524
Children whose families are on the streets	37.3	17.5	14.3	30.9	863
Boy	40.3	17.3	14.0	28.4	556
Girl	31.9	17.9	14.7	35.5	307
<b>Education of children</b>					
No formal education, and cannot read and write	35.9	17.4	17.3	29.3	1244
No formal education, but can read and write	45.4	16.9	15.5	22.2	207
Primary School (Class 1 to 5)	40.3	16.8	6.7	36.1	119
Upper Primary school (Class 6 to 8)	44.9	12.7	15.1	27.3	205
Higher Education	42.6	16.7	17.3	23.5	162
Drop out	33.3	16.2	17.8	32.7	600
<b>Total</b>	37.4	16.6	16.6	29.3	2537

Source: Calculation based on study data





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National Support Office: 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Plot No 91, Sector- 44, Gurugram – 122003 | Landline: +91 124 4752000  
Fax: +91 124 4752199 | Webpage: [www.savethechildren.in](http://www.savethechildren.in)

