

# Project Report

## STAT 184 Section 3

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### 1 Global Data - Learning and Skills

Education is the foundation of many countries worldwide. It is a fundamental right to have access to these tools. Over the past decade, global and regional efforts have been focusing on improving individuals' access to education, more specifically secondary education, addressing socio-economic disparities and integrating online learning tools; however, issues still arise within these efforts in providing equal education and access for all individuals. It is a social issue that affects everyone, whether indirectly or directly, and presents unequal treatment towards individuals' with less access to the same tools based on their regions and/or class levels.

#### Research Questions

In this report, we will be investigating the following research questions:

**1. What are the global and regional trends in secondary schools enrollment rates over the past 10 years?**

This research question explores patterns globally and regionally in terms of access to education. It focuses on the enrollment rates of adolescents of secondary school age.

**2. How do socio-economic factors correlate with individuals' access to quality education and development?**

This research question explores the patterns associated with socio-economic factors, and how they are connected with access to quality education and development. It goes into depth about which socio-economic factors impact this access the most and

**3. How do gender disparities affect individuals' access to secondary education, and in what ways have these disparities changed over the course of 10 years ranging across different regions?**

This research question explores the effects of gender disparities in secondary education. It is an important question to implement in our research because it can bring potential patterns in these disparities and can give a comparison between enrollment rates and completion rates in schooling.

We will first present the provenance of the data. Then, how it aligns with the FAIR and/or CARE principles. Then we will present the methodology of the data and the analysis attributes. After, we will explore the data visualizations and the results. Finally, we will close up the report with a discussion of our findings.

## 2 Dataset

### 2.1 Provenance

The dataset used for this analysis, the ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset from UNICEF <sup>1</sup>, explores the global educational indicators ranging from 2016 to 2023. The indicators integrated include the percentage of children of lower secondary school age attending lower secondary school or higher, the percentage of children of upper secondary school age attending upper secondary school or higher

We obtained the data from UNICEF which is the United Nations Children’s Fund. It is a UN agency that is responsible for providing assistance to children worldwide pertaining humanitarian and developmental factors.

**Source:** [UNICEF Data](#).

#### 2.1.1 FAIR and CARE Principles

The dataset and analysis will adhere to the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles to ensure transparency and reproducibility. Data sources and workflows will be documented and made available in open formats to facilitate future research. Additionally, the CARE (Collective benefit, Authority to control, Responsibility, Ethics) principles will guide the ethical use of data, particularly in ensuring respect for community rights and promoting equity in the dissemination of insights.

- **Findability:** The ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset can be accessed easily on the UNICEF Data explorer website under ‘Datasets’.

**URL:** [UNICEF Data](#)

- **Accessibility:** The ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset is publicly available as a CSV file and an Excel file.
- **Interoperability:** The ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset uses general formatting techniques and naming which makes it comparable using data analysis tools.
- **Reusability:** The ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset provides enough references and documented resources for similar research.
- **Collective benefit:** Insights from the ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset are shared for improvement purposes.
- **Authority to Control:** The ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset remains respectable for global and regional educational goals.
- **Responsibility:** The analysis of the ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset is conducted ethically and does not use the dataset and sensitive data for unethical reasons.
- **Ethics:** This research on the ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset focuses on equality to benefit communities who are at a disadvantage.

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<sup>1</sup>United Nations Children’s Fund, UNICEF Data Warehouse, UNICEF, June 2022.  
[https://data.unicef.org/resources/data\\_explorer/unicef\\_f/?ag=UNICEF&df=GLOBAL\\_DATAFLOW&ver=1.0&dq=.ED\\_ANAL](https://data.unicef.org/resources/data_explorer/unicef_f/?ag=UNICEF&df=GLOBAL_DATAFLOW&ver=1.0&dq=.ED_ANAL)

## 3 Methodology

### 3.1 Data Wrangling

As we mentioned prior, we filtered the ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset to focus on indicators including the percentage of children of lower secondary school age attending lower secondary school or higher, the percentage of children of upper secondary school age attending upper secondary school or higher.

This also provided us with a smaller sized dataset to work with. The original ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset was large and difficult to create visualizations with. It was also easier to analyze and discover readable trends from the sample dataset shown on the UNICEF website. We could come up with filters to integrate into the data visualizations and figure out which columns were the most essential to add in order to create a visualization that is best-suited to explain our research questions.

We found that it was necessary to filter **missing** and **null** values in the dataset. It was also found necessary to convert selected columns to numeric types which includes the Observation Values.

Overall, we put our focus on the following:

- **Global and Regional Enrollment Trends**
- **Completion Rates**
- **The Effects of Socio-Economic Factors and Gender Disparities**

### 3.2 Analysis Attributes

**Temporal Trends:** Changes in education metrics over time.

**Regional Disparities:** Variations across geographic regions.

**Gender Disparities:** Differences in metrics by gender.

**Socio-Economic Correlations:** Relationships between education metrics and socio-economic factors.

**Indicator Trends:** Examines the trends for indicators including attendance rates and completion rates regarding enrollment statistics.

## 4 Data Exploration

### 4.1 Exploratory Data Analysis

As we explore the structure of the UNICEF ‘Learning and Skills’ Dataset, the focus is on the patterns within the dataset, relationships between variables, and significant connections to our research questions. Our goals include examining the trends globally and regionally, identifying how these trends vary according to gender, and handling the null values to ensure the consistency of the data.

#### 4.1.1 Summary Statistics

Here is a summary table that provides an overview of the observation values in the dataset according to the geographic region. The table includes the mean, minimum, median, maximum, and count for the observation values while removing null values.

Table 1: Global Dataflow UNICEF

Region	Mean	Minimum	Median	Maximum	Count
AGO: Angola	26.84392	13.5266700	29.25522	42.05630	18
ALB: Albania	60.46288	2.0999999	77.79594	97.92905	18
ARG: Argentina	50.62327	1.0698500	64.36986	92.28950	18
ARM: Armenia	59.64951	0.7000000	80.38215	99.15201	18
BDI: Burundi	24.17530	3.4000001	23.19852	54.29890	18
BEN: Benin	28.24676	5.4404368	26.59325	66.10000	18
BGD: Bangladesh	40.76111	8.0000000	39.80000	70.50000	18
BLR: Belarus	63.02102	0.0000000	89.79915	98.81477	18
BLZ: Belize	37.80000	8.5000000	41.30000	65.50000	12
BOL: Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	51.44705	4.1562142	68.66000	84.25391	18
BRA: Brazil	52.22258	0.9666951	67.40969	88.60000	18
BWA: Botswana	47.22500	4.0000000	45.85000	91.60000	12
CAF: Central African Republic	18.34502	4.3049488	12.94070	63.46807	18
CHL: Chile	53.06566	0.4000000	66.60000	96.90509	18
CIV: Côte d'Ivoire	31.74076	13.5349200	30.41698	66.14774	18
CMR: Cameroon	35.20117	16.0521200	30.95905	53.22965	18
COD: Democratic Republic of the Congo	32.94103	15.7639900	32.20832	57.55380	18
CRI: Costa Rica	44.77120	2.3229780	54.28790	79.78559	18
CUB: Cuba	57.41271	1.5930210	66.46416	95.72341	18
DOM: Dominican Republic	50.55629	2.3194821	63.24412	85.76544	18
DZA: Algeria	46.45971	4.0125489	48.52436	88.48203	18
ECU: Ecuador	57.33333	5.4000001	75.15000	91.60000	18
ETH: Ethiopia	25.46559	6.6898718	23.76762	59.44491	18
GEO: Georgia	61.94678	0.7833119	82.90356	97.78119	18
GHA: Ghana	25.04929	6.4363341	20.61843	50.22569	18
GIN: Guinea	32.63889	11.2395800	30.44482	73.03444	18
GMB: Gambia	37.33333	29.0000000	35.20000	49.70000	6
GNB: Guinea-Bissau	16.64268	6.4768138	15.04884	35.93432	18
GUY: Guyana	55.21310	4.7565060	67.91807	91.86062	18
HND: Honduras	43.35637	25.8577310	43.06304	64.63129	18
HTI: Haiti	20.40539	5.2011690	18.14706	38.15783	18
IDN: Indonesia	55.56496	4.2785702	63.50632	90.76429	18
IND: India	49.81070	6.9056602	54.28550	82.44800	18
IRQ: Iraq	40.46111	14.7000000	43.80000	57.50000	18
JOR: Jordan	54.60252	5.0999999	65.10430	89.58794	18
KGZ: Kyrgyzstan	63.71667	1.2000000	86.75000	99.00000	18
KIR: Kiribati	46.52788	5.2956481	45.76121	88.42178	18
LAO: Lao People's Democratic Republic	40.24627	17.9000000	38.10000	61.50000	18

Region	Mean	Minimum	Median	Maximum	Count
LKA: Sri Lanka	52.96170	0.7452087	55.46121	96.28514	18
LSO: Lesotho	33.75556	8.8000002	32.60000	66.90000	18
MDG: Madagascar	30.48333	11.4000000	26.45000	66.60000	18
MDV: Maldives	36.89503	3.8307080	27.88075	85.50000	12
MEX: Mexico	55.86111	5.4000001	63.05000	90.60000	18
MKD: North Macedonia	63.07876	1.0304180	88.06458	98.18111	18
MMR: Myanmar	43.11667	15.5000000	44.90000	71.00000	12
MNE: Montenegro	61.80625	0.9855446	86.80725	96.70629	18
MNG: Mongolia	48.62500	3.3000000	48.90000	94.30000	12
MWI: Malawi	19.85755	7.8872399	19.85000	36.39693	18
NGA: Nigeria	41.85000	24.6000000	39.25000	66.20000	18
NPL: Nepal	36.21883	4.1706882	36.65719	75.14614	18
PAK: Pakistan	35.26536	21.7301290	32.91788	54.69294	18
PHL: Philippines	48.19123	3.1776979	61.97364	87.70587	18
PRK: Democratic People's Republic of Korea	65.22778	0.0000000	94.85000	100.00000	18
PRY: Paraguay	53.19444	6.5999999	63.05000	83.70000	18
PSE: State of Palestine	56.72990	1.5764530	67.54968	97.20569	18
ROU: Romania	50.00000	9.6999998	49.98000	90.30000	6
SEN: Senegal	30.26302	9.7395945	29.91948	55.66758	18
SLE: Sierra Leone	31.03333	17.5000000	30.65000	47.30000	18
SRB: Serbia	65.08943	0.0000000	94.25441	99.57971	18
STP: Sao Tome and Principe	32.80570	4.2260499	29.17433	60.51276	18
SUR: Suriname	32.57774	5.5000000	28.38389	69.00000	18
TCA: Turks and Caicos Islands	62.58171	0.0000000	82.21532	100.00000	18
TCD: Chad	25.87719	2.7045281	13.75887	73.70544	18
TGO: Togo	31.23184	9.9686413	28.11770	55.62000	18
THA: Thailand	54.92656	1.6053560	67.40918	91.86652	18
TJK: Tajikistan	62.22065	1.2627180	76.98582	97.95781	18
TKM: Turkmenistan	65.11188	0.5797482	96.17427	99.13308	18
TLS: Timor-Leste	39.22310	7.8183241	45.76274	69.67713	18
TON: Tonga	52.74067	7.7510061	53.19097	93.04893	18
TUN: Tunisia	49.68889	6.8000002	53.80000	85.10000	18
TUV: Tuvalu	54.82339	17.3079200	53.79678	91.40069	18
TZA: United Republic of Tanzania	41.35424	3.0000000	43.15000	80.60013	12
UGA: Uganda	25.37409	7.0999999	21.33008	67.66163	18
UNICEF_EAP: East Asia and Pacific	51.75184	4.5157198	62.53843	88.69771	18
UNICEF_EECA: Eastern Europe and Central Asia	53.94946	1.7037491	63.15859	97.47389	9
UNICEF_ESA: Eastern and Southern Africa	30.37917	22.9569330	28.76117	46.08212	18
UNICEF_LAC: Latin America and the Caribbean	51.50176	4.6717070	62.70622	83.89825	18
UNICEF_MENA: Middle East and North Africa	46.60415	9.2215837	47.81460	74.90717	18
UNICEF_SA: South Asia	46.55988	10.2196220	48.71281	75.79580	18

Region	Mean	Minimum	Median	Maximum	Count
UNICEF_SSA: Sub-Saharan Africa	32.61366	24.5176030	32.13306	45.51424	18
UNICEF_WCA: West and Central Africa	34.81419	25.4254100	35.44121	47.15811	18
UNSDG_LDC: Least developed countries	32.01449	19.3560570	32.19562	48.33910	18
WORLD: World	45.22436	12.3422540	48.88879	70.48486	18
WSM: Samoa	55.30269	3.4791009	65.95151	98.81593	18
XKX: Kosovo (UNSCR 1244)	62.73333	2.5000000	87.00000	97.10000	18
ZAF: South Africa	52.14339	4.3000002	59.54848	91.38831	18
ZMB: Zambia	38.70999	19.5745300	38.60362	60.62692	18
ZWE: Zimbabwe	37.15556	13.6000000	40.55000	59.70000	18

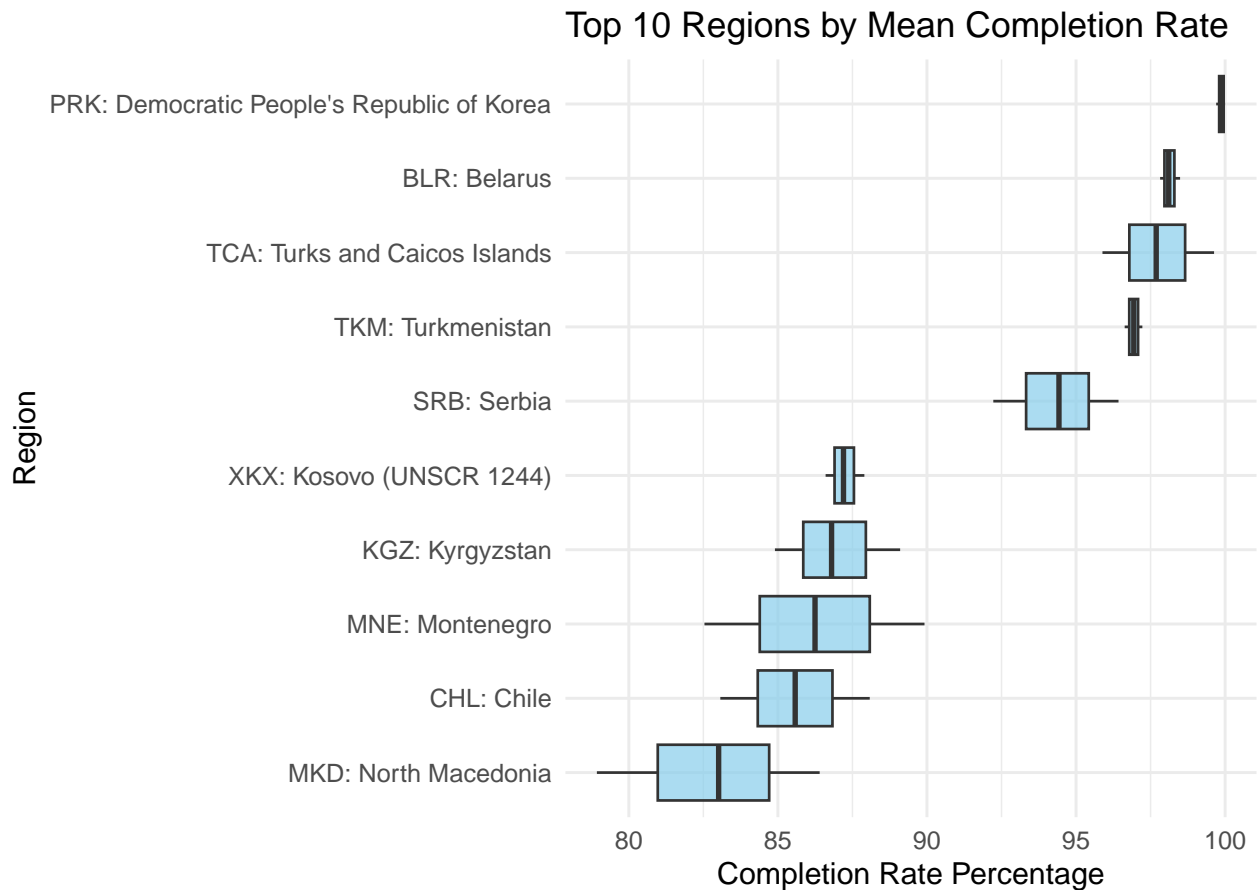
## Summary Statistics

### 4.1.2 Enrollment Rates

#### 4.1.2.1 Completion Rates

Furthermore, the completion rates of adolescents were one of the indicators that stood out to us. Here is a boxplot that displays the top 10 regions by the average completion rates ranging from the best to the worst regions.

Figure 1: Completion Rates



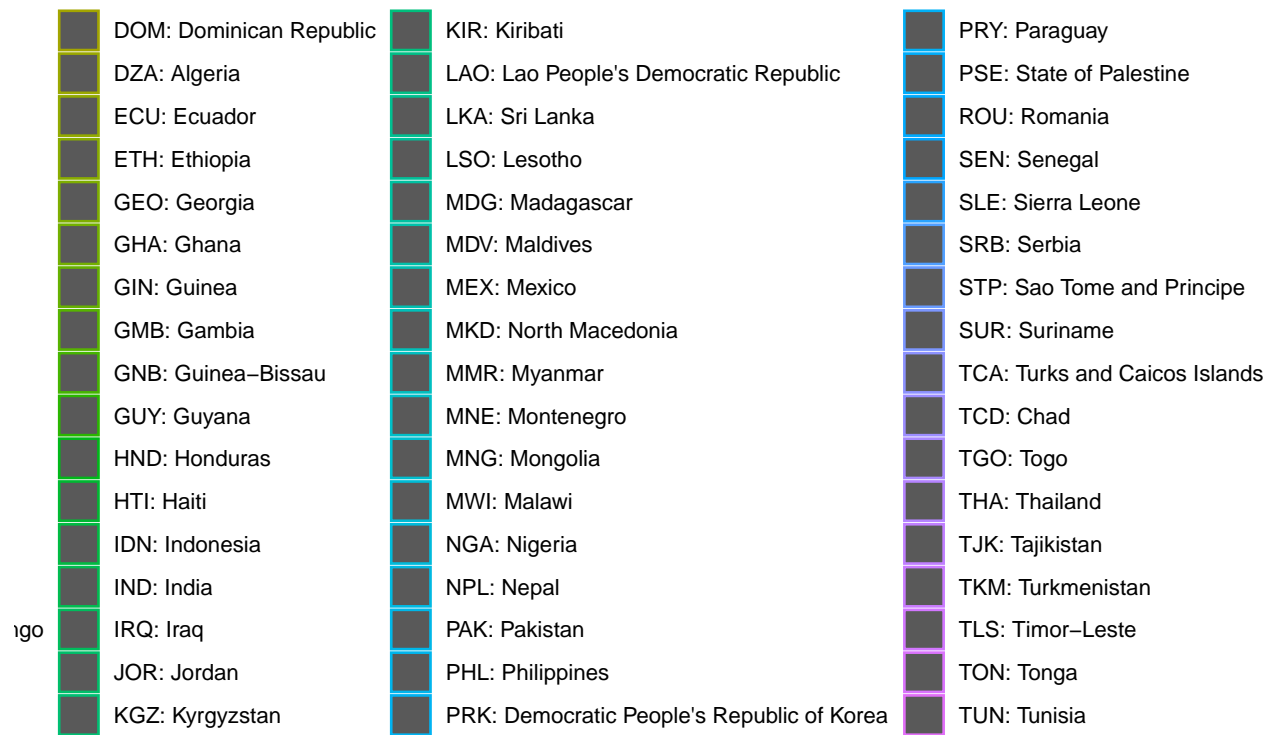
From this box-plot, it can be seen that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the top region with the highest average of completion rates in adolescents. The box-plot for this region is very close to 100% average completion rates. The small size of this box-plot also represents the minor variability in this average statistic value for this region, meaning that almost all individuals' complete upper secondary education. For all regions, the range stays between around 80% - 100% for completion rate percentages. Each individual box-plot for the region represents the quartile range going from 25th percentiles to 75th percentiles. The line in each boxplot represents the median and the whiskers (the lines connected to each side of the box) represent the minimum and maximum values. According to how this boxplot outputted, there are no outliers from this data.

On the other hand, regions such as North Macedonia and Chile have the lowest completion rates. Their large sizes indicate a major variability in the averages for these regions meaning that the completion rates are not consistent with the long whiskers for the boxes. The median for these boxes ranging between 83% to 86% are lower than all other regions with narrower boxes as well.

#### 4.1.2.2 Net Attendance Rates

Figure 2: Net Attendance Rates

### Secondary School Enrollment with Adolescents

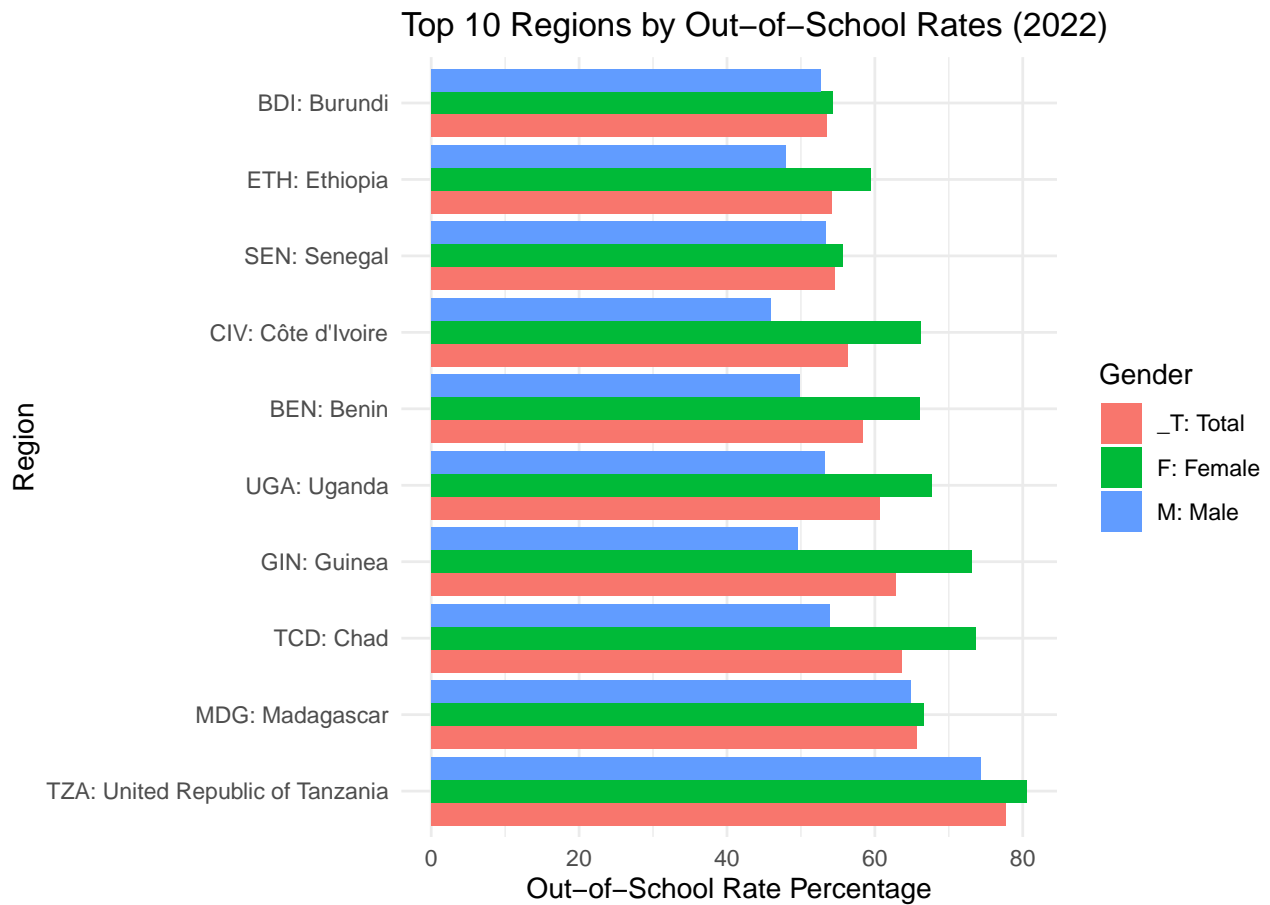


#### 4.1.2.3 Out of School Rates

Additionally, out of school rates are another enrollment statistic that was significant to the ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset. It is laid out in the CSV file under the indicator column as “ED\_ROFST\_L2: Out-of-school rate for adolescents of lower secondary school age.” With our question in mind that explores the global and regional trends in secondary schools enrollment rates,



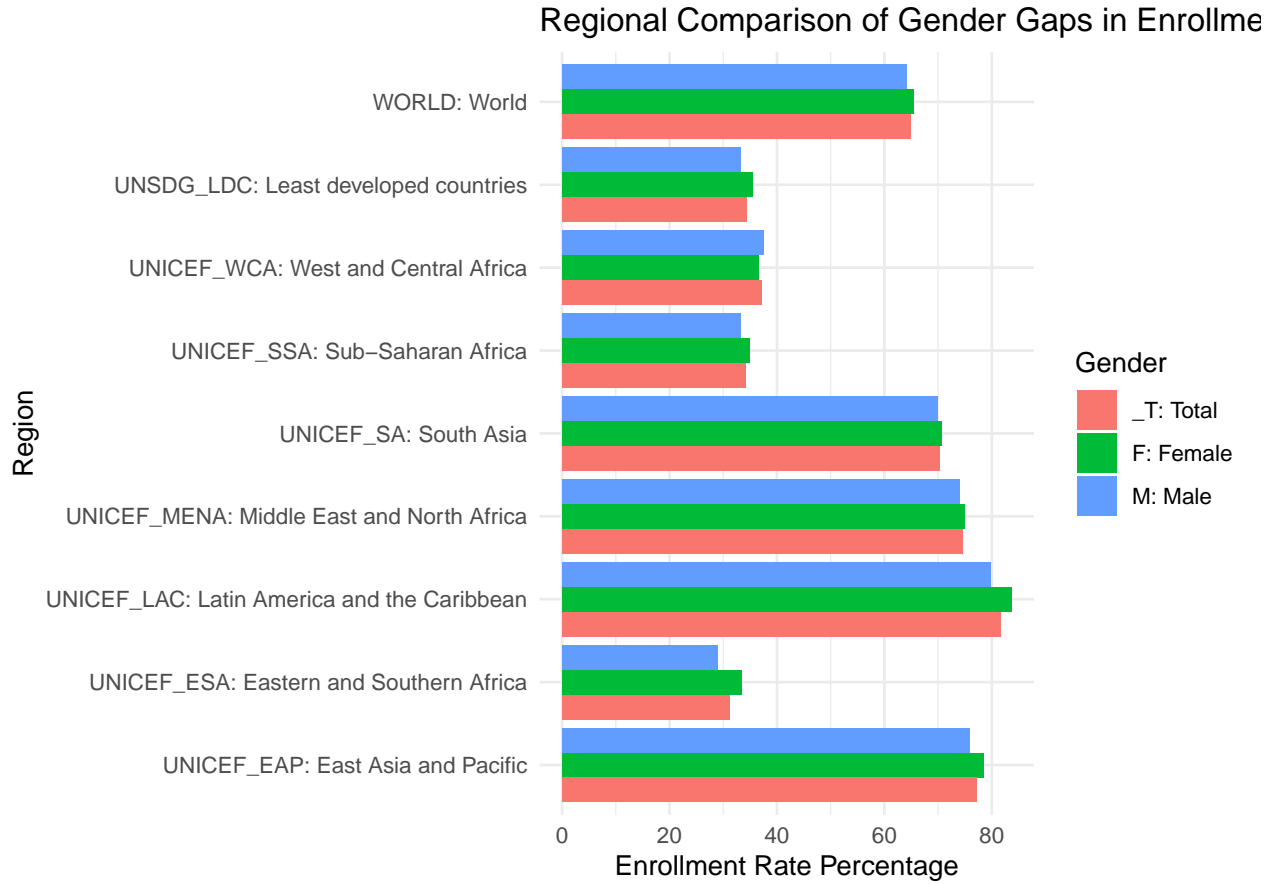
Figure 3: Out of School Rates



#### 4.1.2.4 Gender Disparities

The following grouped bar plot highlights important trends in the data according to the net attendance rate which was another significant value under the indicator column in the 'Learning and Skills' dataset. This visualization provides a comparison between the gender disparities in lower secondary school enrollment rates ranging across multiple regions globally in 2022. The following plot also highlights areas where gender gaps would take place and where there has been progress towards achieving parity with both genders.

Figure 4: Gender Disparities



From the looks of this visualization output, the enrollment rates for females and males are close in range. This is suggesting to us that gender parity has been successfully achieved worldwide, although we cannot come to a clear conclusion when only looking at a visualization including a sample of 10 regions. The most significant differences between the enrollment rates according to the gender appears to be in regions including **East Asia and Pacific**, **Latin America and the Caribbean**, and **Eastern and Southern Africa** where the gender gaps are close displaying near-equal enrollment rates for females and males. This output indicate that the regions with closer gender gaps may be targeting interventions or implementing broader societal shifts towards gender equality.

## 5 Results

Here is summary of the statistics including the mean, standard deviation, minimum, and maximum values.

Table 2: Final Summary Statistics

Region	Time Period	Mean	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
AGO: Angola	2016	31.47	0.70	30.80	32.20
ALB: Albania	2018	95.13	0.17	94.96	95.31
ARG: Argentina	2020	89.44	2.83	86.63	92.29
ARM: Armenia	2016	94.13	0.89	93.21	94.99
BDI: Burundi	2017	24.20	3.15	21.05	27.36
BEN: Benin	2018	30.33	2.20	28.10	32.50
BGD: Bangladesh	2019	57.87	6.70	51.20	64.60
BLR: Belarus	2020	93.37	2.18	91.24	95.60
BOL: Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2016	71.72	0.01	71.72	71.73
BRA: Brazil	2019	85.07	2.03	83.05	87.12
CAF: Central African Republic	2019	13.30	0.73	12.57	14.03
CHL: Chile	2017	59.80	1.00	58.80	60.80
CIV: Côte d'Ivoire	2016	40.21	2.64	37.55	42.83
CMR: Cameroon	2018	52.39	0.85	51.53	53.23
COD: Democratic Republic of the Congo	2018	31.97	0.48	31.48	32.45
CRI: Costa Rica	2018	79.59	0.21	79.37	79.79
CUB: Cuba	2019	94.69	1.00	93.72	95.72
DOM: Dominican Republic	2019	79.72	6.03	73.71	85.77
DZA: Algeria	2020	85.25	3.20	82.08	88.48
ECU: Ecuador	2019	83.43	2.45	81.00	85.90
ETH: Ethiopia	2016	27.24	2.06	25.20	29.32
GEO: Georgia	2018	96.02	0.04	95.99	96.07
GHA: Ghana	2018	40.87	3.21	37.63	44.05
GIN: Guinea	2018	32.00	3.07	28.98	35.11
GMB: Gambia	2018	44.03	5.75	38.20	49.70
GNB: Guinea-Bissau	2019	9.58	0.71	8.87	10.29
GUY: Guyana	2020	90.04	1.79	88.29	91.86
HND: Honduras	2019	59.96	4.64	55.34	64.63
HTI: Haiti	2017	28.64	5.87	22.89	34.62
IDN: Indonesia	2017	89.24	1.51	87.75	90.76
IND: India	2016	80.10	0.40	79.70	80.50
IRQ: Iraq	2018	57.50	0.00	57.50	57.50
JOR: Jordan	2018	89.09	0.49	88.60	89.59
KGZ: Kyrgyzstan	2018	96.93	0.45	96.50	97.40
KIR: Kiribati	2019	81.31	6.87	74.59	88.31
LAO: Lao People's Democratic Republic	2017	60.47	1.05	59.40	61.50
LKA: Sri Lanka	2016	92.43	0.14	92.29	92.58
LSO: Lesotho	2018	54.57	12.30	42.30	66.90
MDG: Madagascar	2018	27.23	4.25	23.00	31.50
MDV: Maldives	2017	83.73	1.75	82.00	85.50
MEX: Mexico	2018	89.57	1.00	88.60	90.60

Region	Time Period	Mean	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
MKD: North Macedonia	2019	97.20	0.98	96.22	98.18
MMR: Myanmar	2016	68.97	2.05	66.90	71.00
MNE: Montenegro	2018	93.36	2.43	91.00	95.86
MNG: Mongolia	2018	93.07	1.20	91.90	94.30
MWI: Malawi	2016	28.00	2.80	25.20	30.80
NGA: Nigeria	2018	44.80	0.10	44.70	44.90
NPL: Nepal	2019	50.28	4.42	45.86	54.71
PAK: Pakistan	2018	33.17	0.51	32.67	33.68
PHL: Philippines	2017	74.25	3.83	70.47	78.13
PRK: Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2017	96.10	1.70	94.40	97.80
PRY: Paraguay	2017	79.57	4.05	75.60	83.70
PSE: State of Palestine	2020	95.07	2.12	92.96	97.21
ROU: Romania	2016	90.03	0.27	89.76	90.30
SEN: Senegal	2019	30.97	1.59	29.37	32.54
SLE: Sierra Leone	2017	36.23	0.06	36.20	36.30
SRB: Serbia	2019	98.58	0.45	98.12	99.01
STP: Sao Tome and Principe	2019	55.38	5.10	50.32	60.51
SUR: Suriname	2018	62.33	6.70	55.60	69.00
TCA: Turks and Caicos Islands	2020	92.49	3.40	89.07	95.87
TCD: Chad	2019	14.30	2.31	11.98	16.60
TGO: Togo	2017	53.05	2.57	50.47	55.62
THA: Thailand	2019	86.71	3.21	83.50	89.91
TJK: Tajikistan	2017	97.14	0.83	96.30	97.96
TKM: Turkmenistan	2019	97.54	0.55	96.98	98.09
TLS: Timor-Leste	2016	54.18	6.26	47.93	60.44
TON: Tonga	2019	89.70	3.36	86.33	93.05
TUN: Tunisia	2018	82.07	3.00	79.10	85.10
TUV: Tuvalu	2020	75.76	6.53	69.73	82.69
TZA: United Republic of Tanzania	2016	27.73	2.75	25.00	30.50
UGA: Uganda	2016	19.37	1.15	18.20	20.50
UNICEF_EAP: East Asia and Pacific	2022	77.19	1.28	75.92	78.48
UNICEF_ESA: Eastern and Southern Africa	2022	31.18	2.18	29.02	33.37
UNICEF_LAC: Latin America and the Caribbean	2022	81.72	1.93	79.80	83.67
UNICEF_MENA: Middle East and North Africa	2022	74.49	0.41	74.08	74.91
UNICEF_SA: South Asia	2022	70.30	0.43	69.87	70.74
UNICEF_SSA: Sub-Saharan Africa	2022	34.07	0.88	33.19	34.95
UNICEF_WCA: West and Central Africa	2022	37.06	0.44	36.61	37.49
UNSDG_LDC: Least developed countries	2022	34.39	1.10	33.28	35.49
WORLD: World	2022	64.80	0.65	64.15	65.45

Region	Time Period	Mean	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum
WSM: Samoa	2020	80.67	2.16	78.57	82.89
XKX: Kosovo (UNSCR 1244)	2020	93.70	0.20	93.50	93.90
ZAF: South Africa	2016	85.21	3.59	81.63	88.81
ZMB: Zambia	2018	45.83	0.40	45.43	46.23
ZWE: Zimbabwe	2019	51.73	7.95	43.80	59.70

## Summary Statistics

### 5.0.0.0.1 Trends include:

**More Students in School:** Over the last 10 years, more students around the world are going to secondary school. Regions like East Asia have high enrollment rates, often over 90%.

**Big Differences Between Regions:** Some areas, like Sub-Saharan Africa, still have low enrollment rates, with less than half of students attending secondary school. This shows the need for more support in these regions.

**Money Matters:** Countries with stronger economies tend to have more students in school. Families in wealthier countries can afford better education opportunities.

**Gender Gaps are Closing:** In many places, girls are now enrolling in school as much as boys, or even more. However, in some regions, like South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, girls still face more barriers to education.

**Online Learning Grows:** Online tools have helped some students, especially in cities, but they have also made it harder for those in rural areas with limited internet access.

**Equal Access is Still a Problem:** Even though more students are enrolling, not everyone has the same chance to get a good education. Children with disabilities and those in conflict zones often struggle the most.

## 6 Assumptions

The ‘Learning and Skills’ dataset does not provide sufficient data to go through with hypothesis testing including a paired t-test for the first research question, Pearson’s Correlation for the second research question, and a Two-Sample t-test for the third research question, so we are implementing standard visualizations to effectively communicate the trends and disparities in the enrollment rates.

**Research Question 1: What are the global and regional trends in secondary schools’ enrollment rates over the past 10 years?**

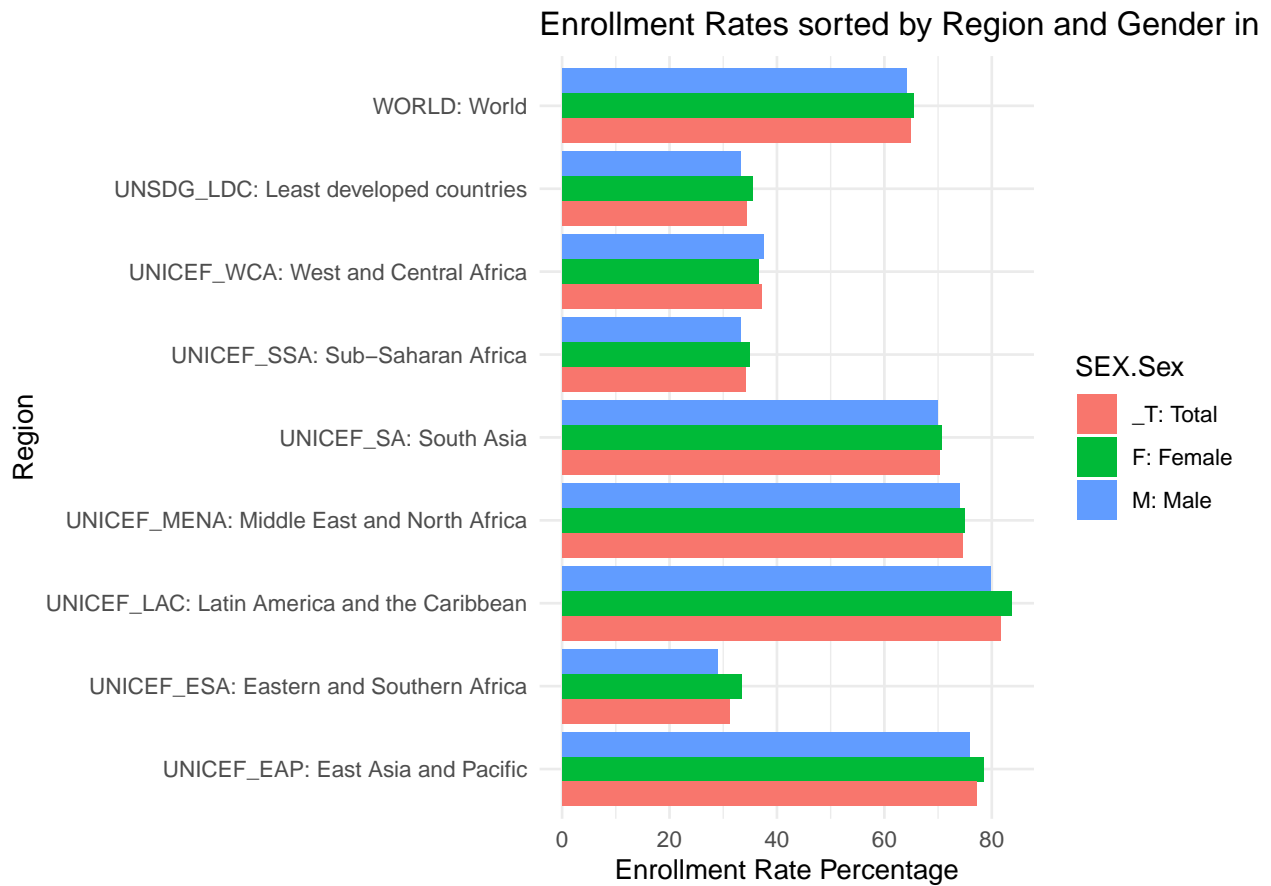
Figure 5: Global and Regional Trends

Time



**Research Question 2: How do socio-economic factors correlate with individuals' access to quality education and development?**

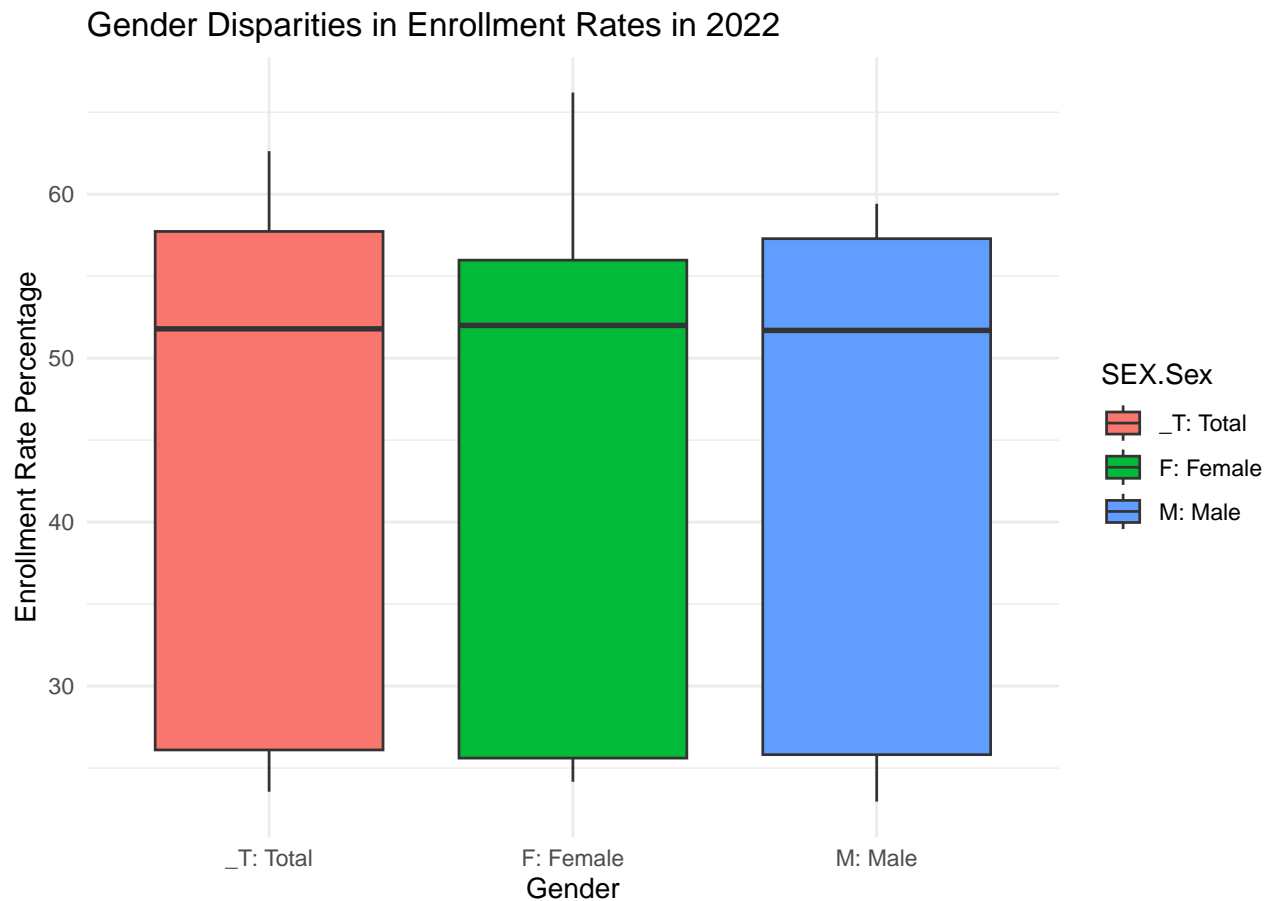
Figure 6: Region and Gender



This represents enrollment rates sorted by the Region and Gender in the year 2022. The enrollment rates appear balanced globally.

**Research Question 3: How do gender disparities affect individuals' access to secondary education, and in what ways have these disparities changed over the course of 10 years?**

Figure 7: Gender Disparities Enrollment



This represents the gender disparities in the 2022 enrollment rates. The average enrollment rates appear to be slightly higher for males than for females which can indicate some potential gender disparities, but not significantly.

## 7 Discussion

From the overall results of this report, we can fully analyze the global and regional trends in the ‘**Learning and Skills**’ dataset in the secondary school enrollment rates. We can also fully analyze the gender disparities in the dataset in terms of access to education. While the global enrollment rates are showing improvement in the regions, there are significant gaps in regions such as **West and Central Africa**. Regions including **East Asia and the Pacific** and **Latin America** have shown high enrollment rates with boxplots having low variability and gender gaps being low, while regions such as **Sub-Saharan Africa** show the opposite. In certain regions, it was clear that male enrollment rates were found to be slightly higher in a global sense while having more variability in the female rates.

Based on our findings, it is recommended to focus on supporting under-resourced regions, such as Sub-Saharan Africa, by increasing funding, improving school infrastructure, and providing basic learning materials. Making education affordable through scholarships and free schooling programs



can help low-income families. Promoting gender equality is crucial, with initiatives to address cultural and economic barriers that limit opportunities for girls. Investments in online learning infrastructure, like expanding internet access and affordable technology, can ensure rural areas are not left behind. Improving education quality through teacher training and updated resources is essential, along with inclusive programs for children with disabilities and those in conflict zones. These actions can create a more equitable education system globally.

This research aims to provide evidence-based insights into the factors influencing global education and skill acquisition. By highlighting trends, disparities, and socio-economic relationships, the study will contribute to the discourse on equitable access to education.

## 8 References

United Nations Children’s Fund, UNICEF Data Warehouse, UNICEF, June 2022. <https://data.unicef.org/resources>

Best, D. J., & Roberts, D. E. (1975). Algorithm AS 89: The upper tail probabilities of Spearman’s. *Applied Statistics*, 24(3), 377–379. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2347111>

Hollander, M., & Wolfe, D. A. (1973). *Nonparametric statistical methods* (pp. 185–194). John Wiley & Sons.

## 9 Code Appendix

```
#Load necessary libraries
library(dplyr) #data manipulation
library(kableExtra) #table formats
library(knitr) #Rmarkdown

#Import UNICEF csv file. (Initial Definition for All Code)
unicef_data <- read.csv(url("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Stat184-Fall2024/Sec3_FP_Gianna"))

# Summary Statistics grouping by Geographic Area.
summary_stats <- unicef_data %>%
  group_by(geographic_area = REF_AREA.Geographic.area) %>% #Groups by Region for De-Cluttered V
  summarise(
    mean_value = mean(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
    minimum_value = min(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
    median_value = median(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
    maximum_value = max(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
    observation_count = n()
  )

# Outputs Formatted Summary Table with Kable Styling tools
kable(
  summary_stats,
```

```

caption = "Global Dataflow UNICEF",
col.names = c('Region', 'Mean', 'Minimum', 'Median', 'Maximum', 'Count') #Rename columns for
)

# Filtered data for Completion Rate Indicator in Upper Secondary Education
filtered_completion_data <- unicef_data %>%
  filter(
    INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_CR_L3: Completion rate for youth of upper secondary education s
    !is.na(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value)
  ) %>% # Remove missing values
  mutate(observation_value = as.numeric(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value))

# Filter for the Top 10 Regions by the average Completion Rate of Adolescents
top_ten_regions <- filtered_completion_data %>%
  group_by(geographic_area = REF_AREA.Geographic.area) %>%
  summarise(mean_value = mean(observation_value, na.rm = TRUE)) %>%
  top_n(10, mean_value) %>% #Gets top 10 regions
  pull(geographic_area) #Pulls the data about Regions

# Filter for top regions
top_ten_filtered_data <- filtered_completion_data %>%
  filter(REF_AREA.Geographic.area %in% top_ten_regions)

# Create the boxplot
ggplot(top_ten_filtered_data,
  aes(x = reorder(REF_AREA.Geographic.area, observation_value, FUN = mean), #Reorder the c
    y = observation_value)) +
  geom_boxplot(fill = "skyblue", alpha = 0.7) + #Fills with color for readers and better sizing
  coord_flip() + #Flips Vertically for Readability
  labs(
    title = "Top 10 Regions by Mean Completion Rate",
    x = "Region",
    y = "Completion Rate Percentage"
  ) +
  theme_minimal(base_size = 12) #Changes size for organization
# Load necessary libraries
library(ggplot2)

# Filter for lower secondary school with adolescents
filtered_netattend_data <- unicef_data %>%
  filter(INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_ANAR_L2: Adjusted net attendance rate for adolescents of l
    !is.na(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value)) %>% # Remove missing values

  mutate(
    Year = as.numeric(TIME_PERIOD.Time.period), #Get numerics from Time Period column
    Enrollment_Rate = as.numeric(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value), #Get numerics from Observation V
    Region = REF_AREA.Geographic.area) #Rename Column for Organization

```

```

# Create the Line Plot
ggplot(filtered_netattend_data, aes(x = Year,
                                   y = Enrollment_Rate,
                                   color = Region)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity", position = "dodge") + #Bar height gives accurate values and ensur
  coord_flip() + #Flips vertically for readability
  labs(
    title = "Global and Regional Trends in Secondary School Enrollment with Adolescents",
    x = "Year",
    y = "Enrollment Rate Percentage",
    fill = "Region"
  ) +
  theme_minimal()
# Performs data wrangling by filtering by the Out of School Rates
filtered_OOS_data <- unicef_data %>%
  filter(INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_ROFST_L3: Out-of-school rate for youth of upper secondary s
         !is.na(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value)) %>% #Removes missing values
  group_by(REF_AREA.Geographic.area) %>%
  summarise(
    rate = sum(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE)) %>% #Gives the rate which is the sum
  top_n(10, rate) %>% #Filters for top 10 regions
  pull(REF_AREA.Geographic.area) #Pulls data about Regions

# Filter the data for the Top 10 Regions
top_regions_data <- unicef_data %>%
  filter(REF_AREA.Geographic.area %in% filtered_OOS_data,
         INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_ROFST_L3: Out-of-school rate for youth of upper secondary s
         !is.na(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value)) %>% #Removes missing values
  mutate(REF_AREA.Geographic.area = reorder(REF_AREA.Geographic.area,
                                             -OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value)) #Organizes observat

# Create stacked bar chart by Geographic Area and Observation Values
ggplot(top_regions_data, aes(x = REF_AREA.Geographic.area,
                             y = OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value,
                             fill = SEX.Sex
                             )) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity", position = "dodge") + #Bar Heights contain accurate values and G
  coord_flip() + #Flips Vertically for readability
  labs(
    title = "Top 10 Regions by Out-of-School Rates (2022)",
    x = "Region",
    y = "Out-of-School Rate Percentage",
    fill = "Gender"
  ) +
  theme_minimal()
# Filter for net attendance rates in 2022

```

```

filtered_disparities_data <- unicef_data %>%
  filter(
    INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_ANAR_L2: Adjusted net attendance rate for adolescents of lower s
    TIME_PERIOD.Time.period == 2022,
    !is.na(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value)) %>% #Removes missing values

  mutate(
    OBS_VALUE = as.numeric(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value)) #Gets numerics from observation value

# Create grouped bar chart
ggplot(filtered_disparities_data, aes(x = REF_AREA.Geographic.area,
                                     y = OBS_VALUE,
                                     fill = SEX.Sex)) +

  geom_bar(stat = "identity", position = "dodge") + #Bar Heights contain accurate values and G
  coord_flip() + #Flips Vertically for readability
  labs(
    title = "Regional Comparison of Gender Gaps in Enrollment Rates in 2022",
    x = "Region",
    y = "Enrollment Rate Percentage",
    fill = "Gender"
  ) +
  theme_minimal()

# Filter by Net Attendance Rates
final_filtered_summary_table <- unicef_data %>%
  filter(INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_ANAR_L2: Adjusted net attendance rate for adolescents of 1
  group_by(REF_AREA.Geographic.area,
           TIME_PERIOD.Time.period) %>% #Grouped statistics by Geographic Area and Time Periods
  summarise(
    mean = mean(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
    STD = sd(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
    minimum = min(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
    maximum = max(OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value, na.rm = TRUE),
    .groups = "keep" #Keeps the Statistics in place with other prior summary table
  ) %>%
  #Rounds each statistic to two digits for Organization of Data
  mutate(
    mean = round(mean, 2),
    STD = round(STD, 2),
    minimum = round(minimum, 2),
    maximum = round(maximum, 2)
  )

#Kable Styling implemented for well-formatted table with summary statistics
kable(
  final_filtered_summary_table,

```

```

caption = "Final Summary Statistics",
col.names = c('Region',
              'Time Period',
              'Mean',
              'Standard Deviation',
              'Minimum',
              'Maximum') #Rename columns for Organization
)

# Load necessary libraries
library(dplyr)
library(ggplot2)

# Create Line Plot by Time Periods and Observation Values
ggplot(unicef_data %>%
      # Filters for Net Attendance Rates
      filter(INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_ANAR_L3: Adjusted net attendance rate for youth of t
      aes(x = TIME_PERIOD.Time.period,
          y = OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value,
          color = REF_AREA.Geographic.area)) + #Colors sorted by Region
      geom_line() + #Displays as line plot
      labs(title = "Trends in Enrollment Rates Over Time",
           x = "Year",
           y = "Enrollment Rate Percentage") +
      theme_minimal()
# Filter data by Net Attendance Rates AND Create Bar Chart
ggplot(unicef_data %>% filter(INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_ANAR_L2: Adjusted net attendance rate
      aes(x = REF_AREA.Geographic.area,
          y = OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value,
          fill = SEX.Sex)) +
      geom_bar(stat = "identity", position = "dodge") + #Height of the bars give accurate results a
      coord_flip() + #Displayed Vertically for readability
      labs(title = "Enrollment Rates sorted by Region and Gender in 2022",
           x = "Region",
           y = "Enrollment Rate Percentage") +
      theme_minimal()
# Create Box Plot filtered by Net Attendance Rates
ggplot(unicef_data %>% filter(INDICATOR.Indicator == "ED_ANAR_L3: Adjusted net attendance rate
      aes(x = SEX.Sex,
          y = OBS_VALUE.Observation.Value,
          fill = SEX.Sex)) +
      geom_boxplot() + #Creates box plot
      labs(title = "Gender Disparities in Enrollment Rates in 2022",
           x = "Gender",
           y = "Enrollment Rate Percentage") +
      theme_minimal()

```