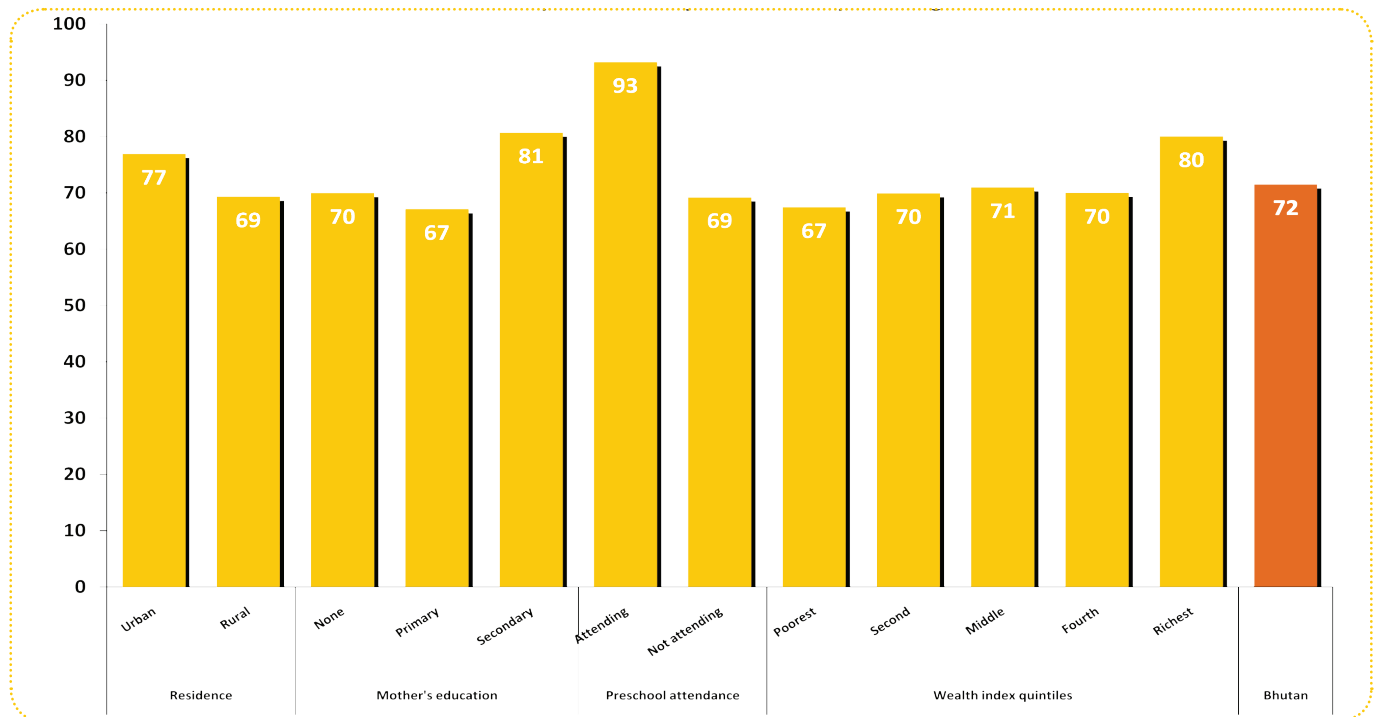


Attendance in early childhood education is critical in preparing children for formal schooling. Children participating in such programmes tend to be more successful later in school. They are also socially and emotionally more competent and demonstrate better intellectual and physical development than those children who miss such programmes.

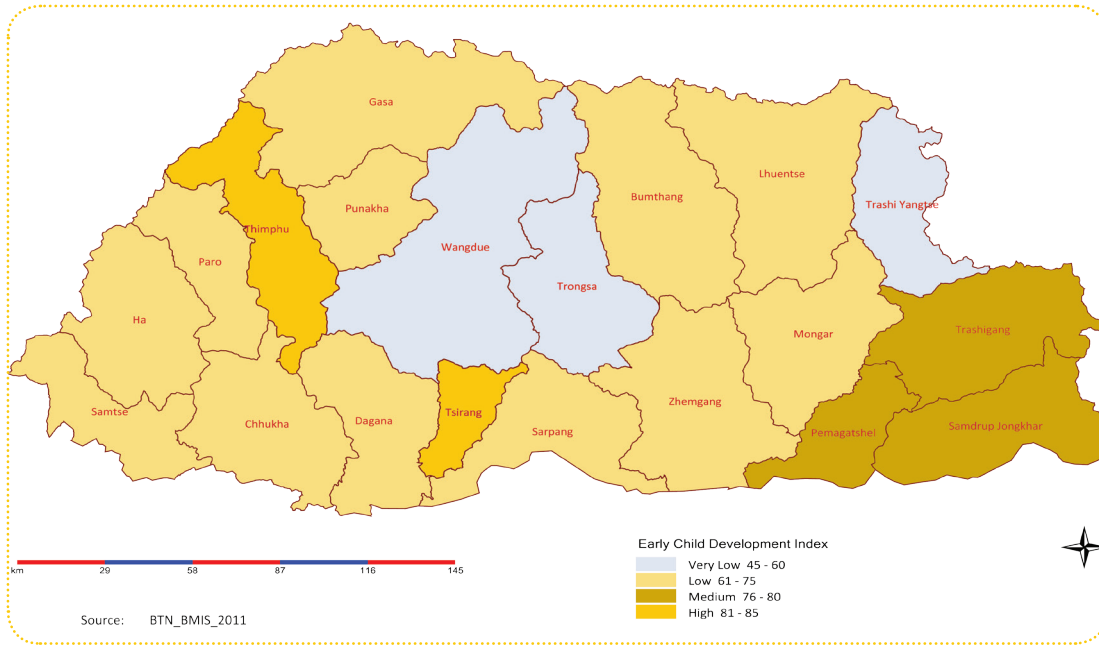
BMIS 2010 indicates that Early Child Development Index (ECDI) is higher among children attending pre-schools (93%) than those who do not (69%). ECDI is based on four domains; literacy - numeracy; physical; social-emotional and learning.

About 80% of children from the richest households are developmentally on track compared to 67% from the poorest households.

PERCENTAGE EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT INDEX BY DIFFERENT BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS



PERCENTAGE OF EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT INDEX BY DZONGKHAG



Children acquire the basic skills for learning to read and write through exposure to books and play things. They become aware of what a book is and how to handle it. It helps them in building their confidence and contributes to their performance in school.

About 24% of children in the richest household had three or more children's books compared to the ones in the poorest household with about 1%.

PERCENTAGE OF SUPPORT FOR LEARNING: AVAILABILITY OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS BY DIFFERENT BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

