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Sub-national differences in human capital in the CEMAC region

Countries in the CEMAC region could strengthen their human capital by investing more in education, health and social assistance. A human capital index of between 0.27 and 0.46 suggests that residents of CEMAC countries achieve between a quarter and a half of their potential.

In addition, sub-national analysis reveals significant disparities within the countries. Gaps between urban and rural areas, as well as other regional divergences, generate inequalities that can be mitigated by more strategic and efficient spending. The following sections present heat maps for different dimensions of human capital available for the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad and the Republic of Congo. The analysis could not for Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, in the absence of recent sub-national data.

Human Capital Index

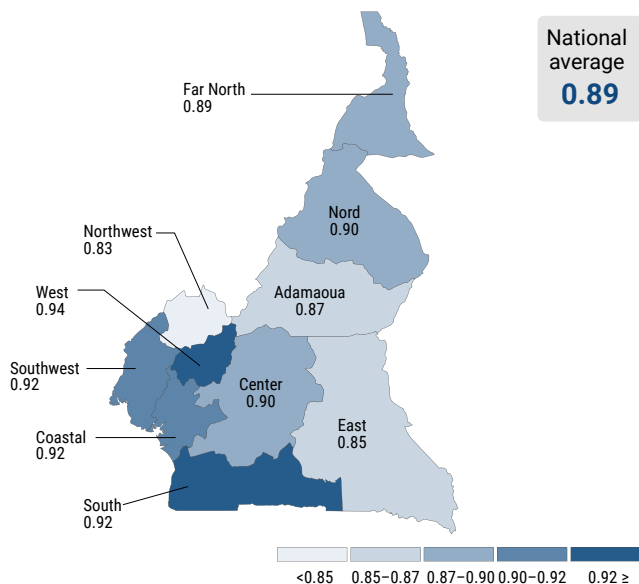| Country	Index
Tchad	0.27
Central African Republic	0.30
Cameroon	0.39
Republic of Congo	0.46
Gabon	0.46
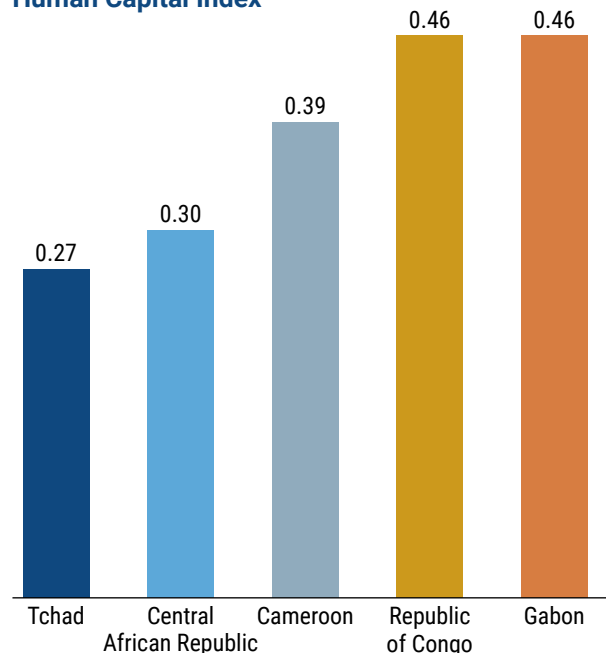
Note: The chart contains new estimates based on the most recent data available, with the exception of Gabon, which uses 2020 data. No data are available for Equatorial Guinea.
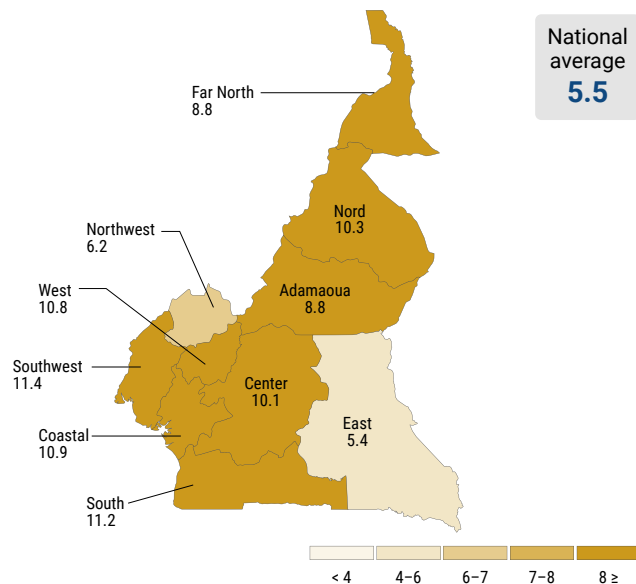
Cameroon

- The human capital index varies greatly from region to region, ranging from 0.31 and 0.32 in the East and North-West regions to 0.46 in the South-West.

- Two geographical groups stand out, with the East, North-West, Adamaoua and Far North regions performing significantly worse than the Centre, North, Littoral, West, South and South-West regions in terms of human capital indicators.
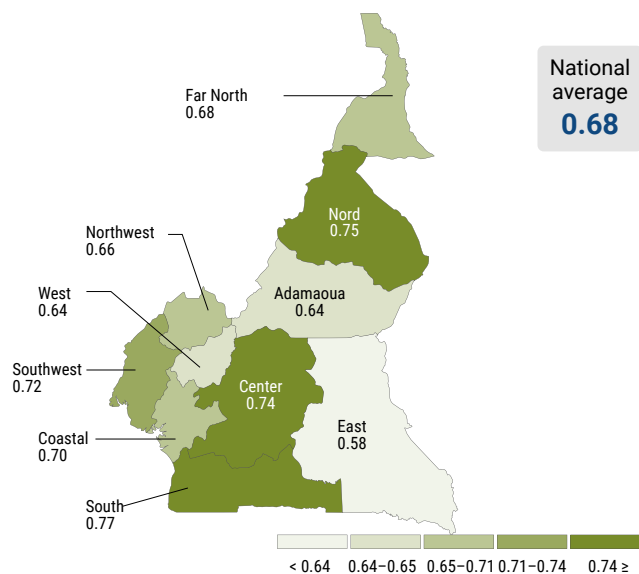
Probability of survival to age 5

National average **0.89**

Far North 0.89
Nord 0.90
Northwest 0.83
West 0.94
Adamaoua 0.87
Southwest 0.92
Center 0.90
East 0.85
Coastal 0.92
South 0.92

<85 0.85−0.87 0.87−0.90 0.90−0.92 0.92 ≥

Expected years of schooling

National average **5.5**

Far North 8.8
Nord 10.3
Northwest 6.2
West 10.8
Adamaoua 8.8
Southwest 11.4
Center 10.1
East 5.4
Coastal 10.9
South 11.2

< 4 4−6 6−7 7−8 8 ≥

Not stunted growth

National average **0.68**

Far North 0.68
Nord 0.75
Northwest 0.66
West 0.64
Adamaoua 0.64
Southwest 0.72
Center 0.74
East 0.58
Coastal 0.70
South 0.77

< 0.64 0.64−0.65 0.65−0.71 0.71−0.74 0.74 ≥

Human capital index

National average **0.39**

Far North 0.39
Nord 0.43
Northwest 0.32
West 0.44
Adamaoua 0.38
Southwest 0.46
Center 0.42
East 0.31
Coastal 0.44
South 0.45

≥ 0.30 0.30−0.34 0.34−0.36 0.36−0.37 0.37 ≥
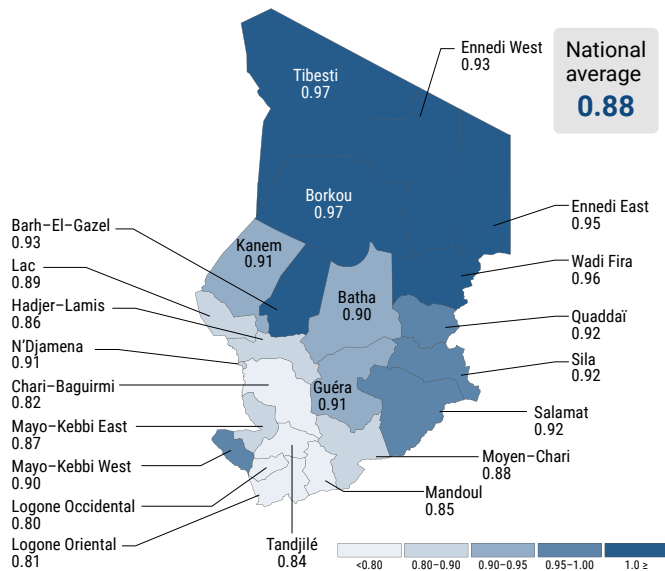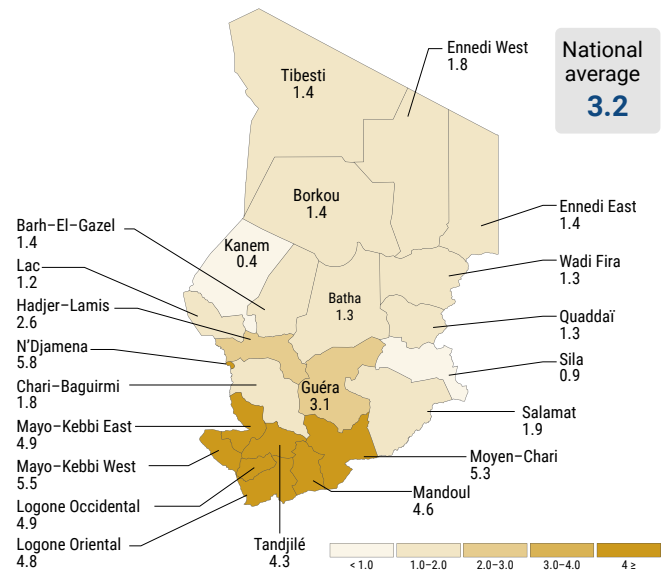
Tchad

- The human capital index varies relatively little, with most regions scoring between 0.26 and 0.28. However, the Chari-Baguirmi, Kanem and Lac regions stand out for their poor human capital performance, while N'Djamena has the highest score in the country.

- The southern regions of Logone Occidental, Logone Oriental, Chari-Baguirmi, Tandjilé and Mandoul have the lowest probability of survival to age 5 (less than 85%). This points to major health challenges.

- In contrast, the central regions of Kanem, Sila, Lac, Batha, Ouaddaï and Wadi Fira have the lowest number of school years completed, which is more indicative of the challenges posed by the education system.
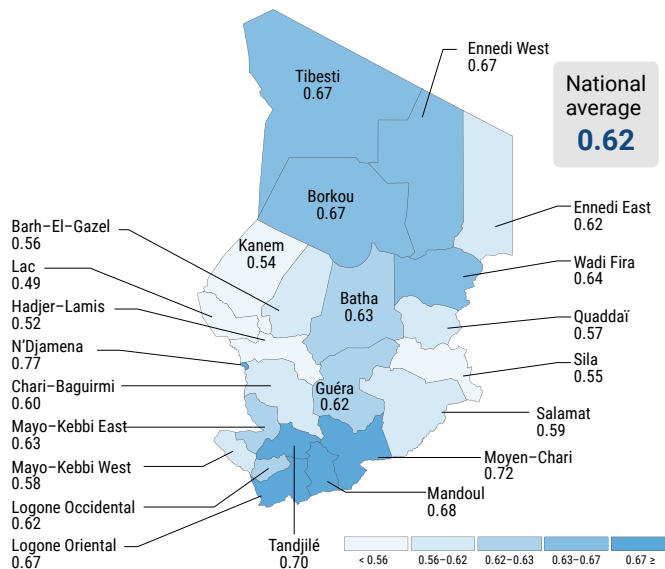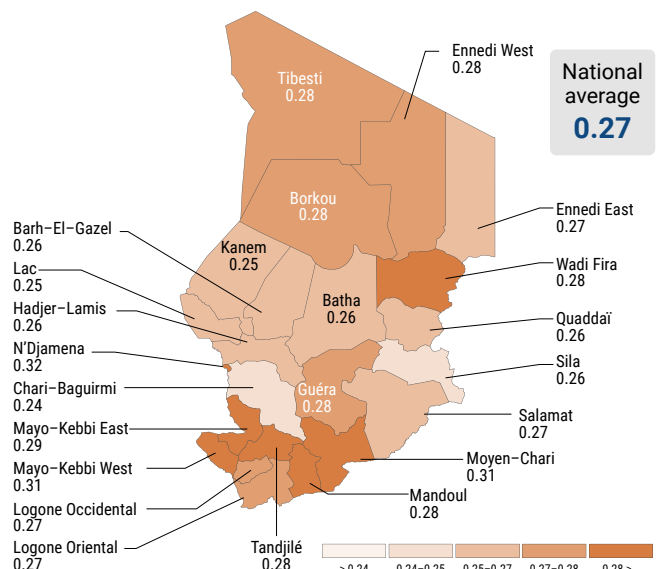
Probability of survival to age 5

Ennedi West 0.93
Tibesti 0.97
National average **0.88**
Borkou 0.97
Ennedi East 0.95
Barh-El-Gazel 0.93
Kanem 0.91
Wadi Fira 0.96
Lac 0.89
Batha 0.90
Hadjer-Lamis 0.86
Quaddaï 0.92
N'Djamena 0.91
Sila 0.92
Chari-Baguirmi 0.82
Guéra 0.91
Mayo-Kebbi East 0.87
Salamat 0.92
Mayo-Kebbi West 0.90
Moyen-Chari 0.88
Logone Occidental 0.80
Mandoul 0.85
Logone Oriental 0.81
Tandjilé 0.84

<0.80 | 0.80-0.90 | 0.90-0.95 | 0.95-1.00 | 1.0 ≥

Expected years of schooling

Ennedi West 1.8
Tibesti 1.4
National average **3.2**
Borkou 1.4
Ennedi East 1.4
Barh-El-Gazel 1.4
Kanem 0.4
Wadi Fira 1.3
Lac 1.2
Batha 1.3
Hadjer-Lamis 2.6
Quaddaï 1.3
N'Djamena 5.8
Sila 0.9
Chari-Baguirmi 1.8
Guéra 3.1
Mayo-Kebbi East 4.9
Salamat 1.9
Mayo-Kebbi West 5.5
Moyen-Chari 5.3
Logone Occidental 4.9
Mandoul 4.6
Logone Oriental 4.8
Tandjilé 4.3

< 1.0 | 1.0-2.0 | 2.0-3.0 | 3.0-4.0 | 4 ≥

Not stunted growth

Ennedi West 0.67
Tibesti 0.67
National average **0.62**
Borkou 0.67
Ennedi East 0.62
Barh-El-Gazel 0.56
Kanem 0.54
Wadi Fira 0.64
Lac 0.49
Batha 0.63
Hadjer-Lamis 0.52
Quaddaï 0.57
N'Djamena 0.77
Sila 0.55
Chari-Baguirmi 0.60
Guéra 0.62
Mayo-Kebbi East 0.63
Salamat 0.59
Mayo-Kebbi West 0.58
Moyen-Chari 0.72
Logone Occidental 0.62
Mandoul 0.68
Logone Oriental 0.67
Tandjilé 0.70

< 0.56 | 0.56-0.62 | 0.62-0.63 | 0.63-0.67 | 0.67 ≥

Human capital index

Ennedi West 0.28
Tibesti 0.28
National average **0.27**
Borkou 0.28
Ennedi East 0.27
Barh-El-Gazel 0.26
Kanem 0.25
Wadi Fira 0.28
Lac 0.25
Batha 0.26
Hadjer-Lamis 0.26
Quaddaï 0.26
N'Djamena 0.32
Sila 0.26
Chari-Baguirmi 0.24
Guéra 0.28
Mayo-Kebbi East 0.29
Salamat 0.27
Mayo-Kebbi West 0.31
Moyen-Chari 0.31
Logone Occidental 0.27
Mandoul 0.28
Logone Oriental 0.27
Tandjilé 0.28

≥ 0.24 | 0.24-0.25 | 0.25-0.27 | 0.27-0.28 | 0.28 ≥
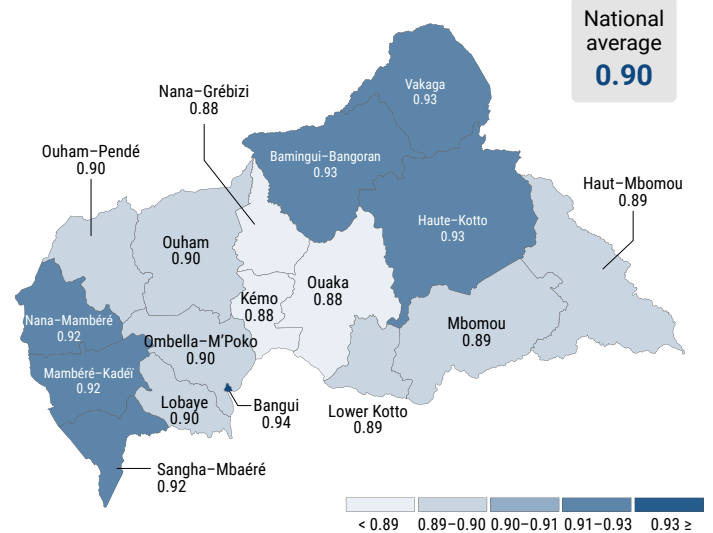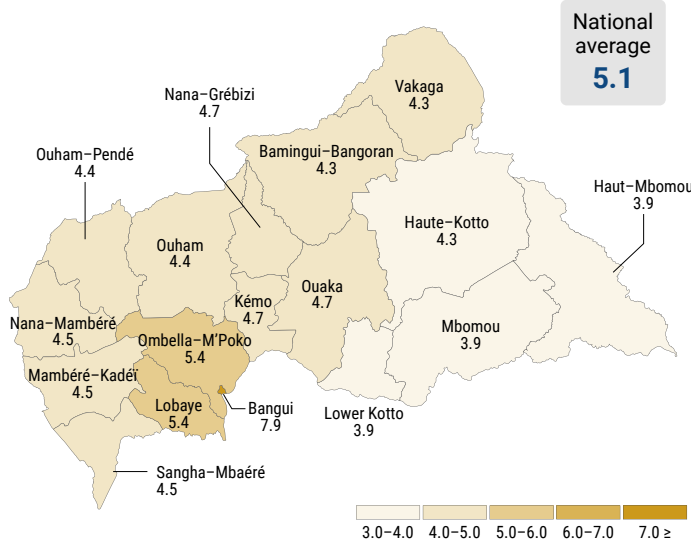
Central African Republic

- The human capital index is particularly uniform across the country, ranging from 0.28 to 0.30 depending on the region. Region 7 of the capital Bangui stands out, with a score of 0.37.

- The number of years of schooling is twice as high in Region 7 as in many other parts of the country. The regions to the south-east of the country - Basse-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou and Mbomou - are particularly badly off, with children expected to reach 3.9 years of education compared with 7.9 in Bangui.
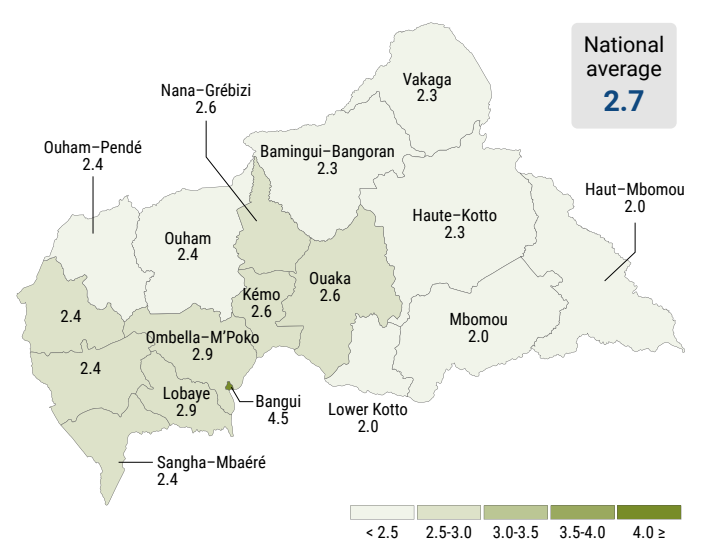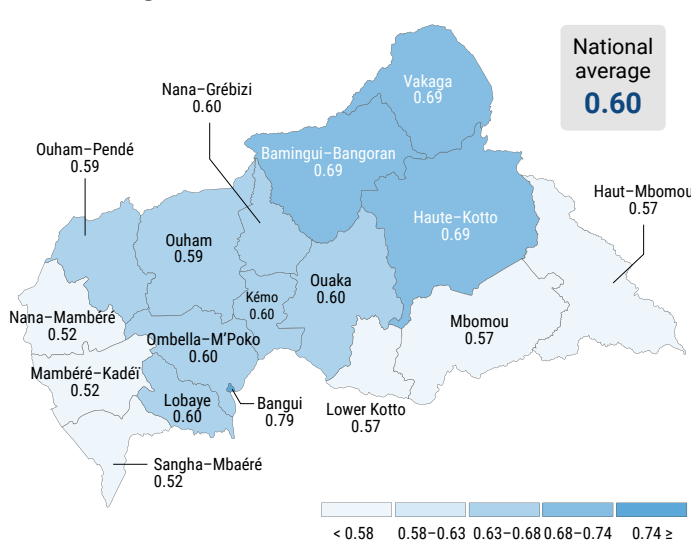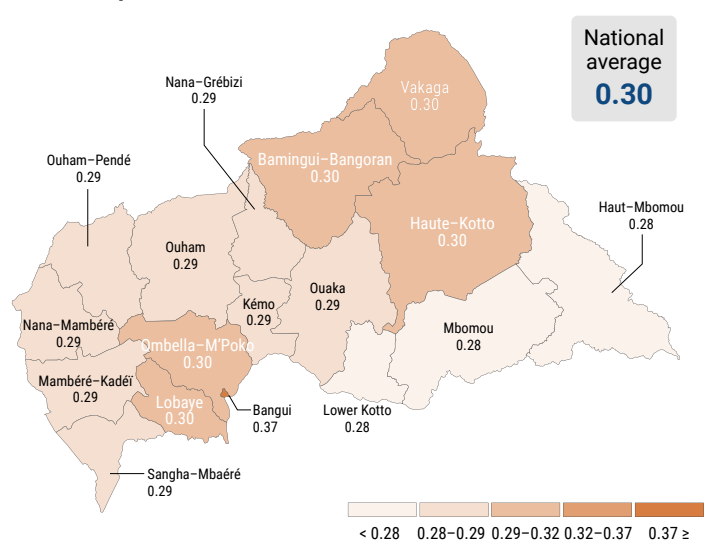
Probability of survival to age 5

National average
0.90

Nana–Grébizi 0.88
Vakaga 0.93
Ouham–Pendé 0.90
Bamingui–Bangoran 0.93
Haut–Mbomou 0.89
Ouham 0.90
Haute–Kotto 0.93
Kémo 0.88
Ouaka 0.88
Nana–Mambéré 0.92
Mbomou 0.89
Ombella–M'Poko 0.90
Mambéré–Kadéï 0.92
Lobaye 0.90
Bangui 0.94
Lower Kotto 0.89
Sangha–Mbaéré 0.92

< 0.89 | 0.89–0.90 | 0.90–0.91 | 0.91–0.93 | 0.93 ≥

Expected years of schooling

National average
5.1

Nana–Grébizi 4.7
Vakaga 4.3
Ouham–Pendé 4.4
Bamingui–Bangoran 4.3
Haut–Mbomou 3.9
Ouham 4.4
Haute–Kotto 4.3
Kémo 4.7
Ouaka 4.7
Nana–Mambéré 4.5
Ombella–M'Poko 5.4
Mbomou 3.9
Mambéré–Kadéï 4.5
Lobaye 5.4
Bangui 7.9
Lower Kotto 3.9
Sangha–Mbaéré 4.5

3.0–4.0 | 4.0–5.0 | 5.0–6.0 | 6.0–7.0 | 7.0 ≥

Learning-adjusted years of schooling

National average
2.7

Nana–Grébizi 2.6
Vakaga 2.3
Ouham–Pendé 2.4
Bamingui–Bangoran 2.3
Haut–Mbomou 2.0
Ouham 2.4
Haute–Kotto 2.3
2.4
Kémo 2.6
Ouaka 2.6
Ombella–M'Poko 2.9
Mbomou 2.0
2.4
Lobaye 2.9
Bangui 4.5
Lower Kotto 2.0
Sangha–Mbaéré 2.4

< 2.5 | 2.5-3.0 | 3.0-3.5 | 3.5-4.0 | 4.0 ≥

Not stunted growth

National average
0.60

Nana–Grébizi 0.60
Vakaga 0.69
Ouham–Pendé 0.59
Bamingui–Bangoran 0.69
Haut–Mbomou 0.57
Ouham 0.59
Haute–Kotto 0.69
Kémo 0.60
Ouaka 0.60
Nana–Mambéré 0.52
Mbomou 0.57
Ombella–M'Poko 0.60
Mambéré–Kadéï 0.52
Lobaye 0.60
Bangui 0.79
Lower Kotto 0.57
Sangha–Mbaéré 0.52

< 0.58 | 0.58–0.63 | 0.63–0.68 | 0.68–0.74 | 0.74 ≥

Human capital index

National average
0.30

Nana–Grébizi 0.29
Vakaga 0.30
Ouham–Pendé 0.29
Bamingui–Bangoran 0.30
Haut–Mbomou 0.28
Ouham 0.29
Haute–Kotto 0.30
Kémo 0.29
Ouaka 0.29
Nana–Mambéré 0.29
Mbomou 0.28
Ombella–M'Poko 0.30
Mambéré–Kadéï 0.29
Lobaye 0.30
Bangui 0.37
Lower Kotto 0.28
Sangha–Mbaéré 0.29

< 0.28 | 0.28–0.29 | 0.29–0.32 | 0.32–0.37 | 0.37 ≥
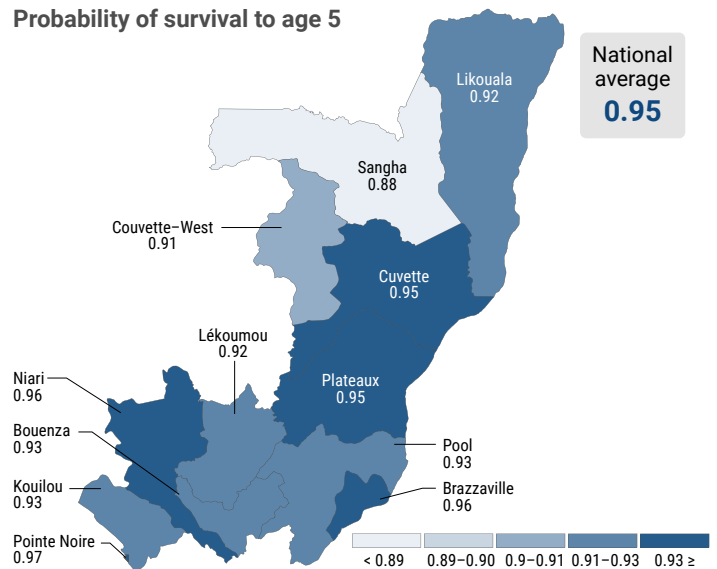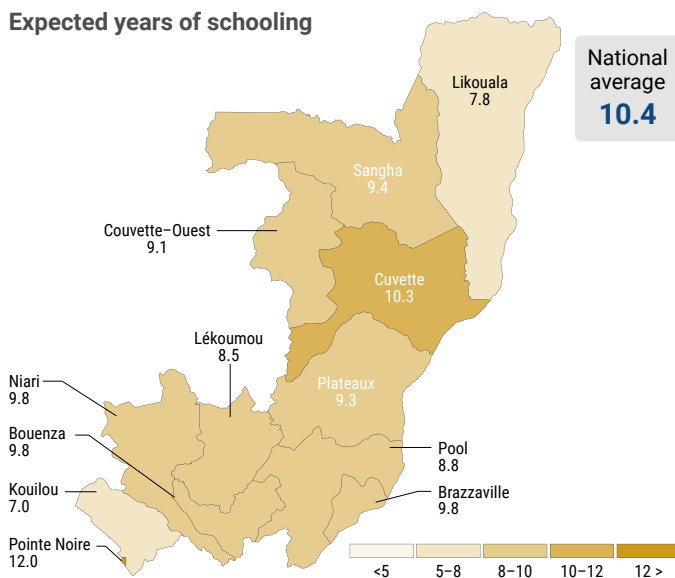
Republic of Congo

- The human capital index varies widely across the country, from 0.37 in the Likouala and Kouilou regions to 0.47 in Brazzaville and 0.54 in Pointe-Black. The national average of 0.46 therefore mainly reflects the situation in the two main cities.

- The Sangha region has the worst results in terms of probability of survival to age 5 (88%) and absence of stunting (63%).

- The two main cities, Pointe-Noire and Brazzaville, show the highest gaps between years of schooling achieved and years of schooling adjusted for learning. In Pointe-Noire, adjusting for apprenticeship, the number of years of schooling drops from 12 to 6.7, while in Brazzaville, it goes from 9,8 à 5,4.
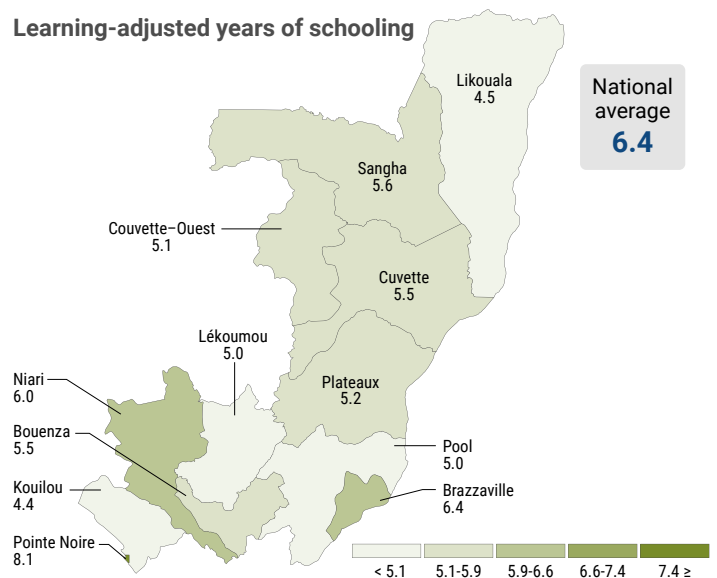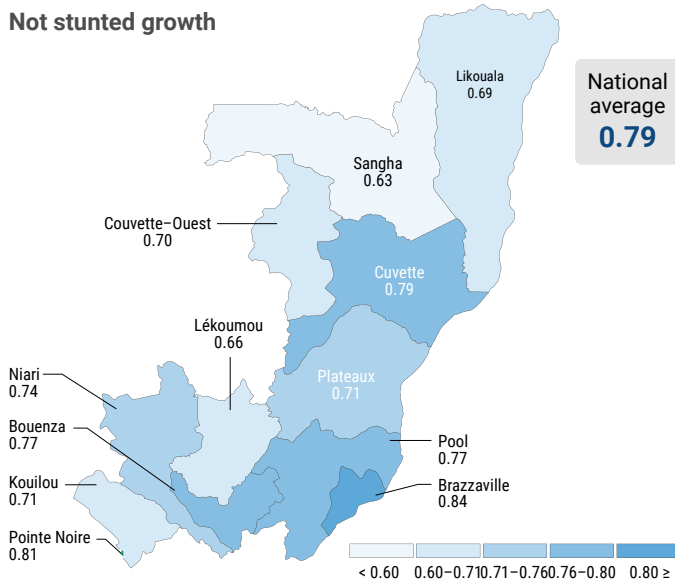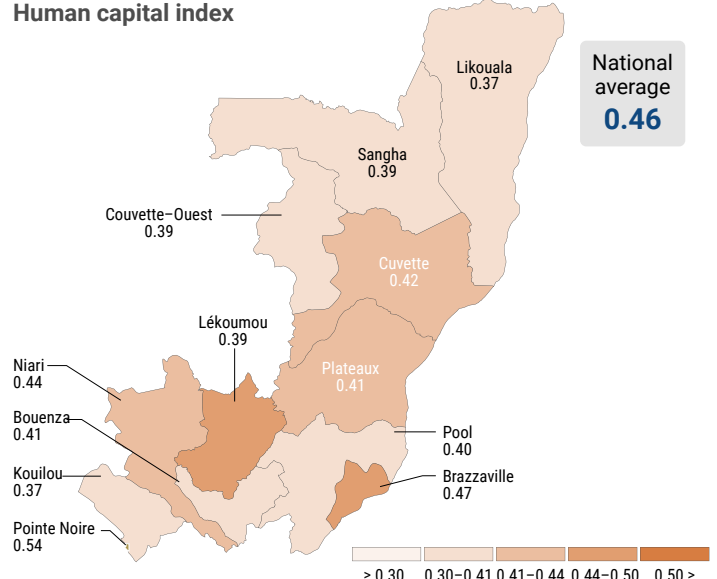
Probability of survival to age 5

National average **0.95**

Likouala 0.92
Sangha 0.88
Couvette-West 0.91
Cuvette 0.95
Lékoumou 0.92
Niari 0.96
Plateaux 0.95
Bouenza 0.93
Pool 0.93
Kouilou 0.93
Brazzaville 0.96
Pointe Noire 0.97

< 0.89 | 0.89–0.90 | 0.9–0.91 | 0.91–0.93 | 0.93 ≥

Expected years of schooling

National average **10.4**

Likouala 7.8
Sangha 9.4
Couvette-Ouest 9.1
Cuvette 10.3
Lékoumou 8.5
Niari 9.8
Plateaux 9.3
Bouenza 9.8
Pool 8.8
Kouilou 7.0
Brazzaville 9.8
Pointe Noire 12.0

<5 | 5–8 | 8–10 | 10–12 | 12 >

Learning-adjusted years of schooling

National average **6.4**

Likouala 4.5
Sangha 5.6
Couvette-Ouest 5.1
Cuvette 5.5
Lékoumou 5.0
Niari 6.0
Plateaux 5.2
Bouenza 5.5
Pool 5.0
Kouilou 4.4
Brazzaville 6.4
Pointe Noire 8.1

< 5.1 | 5.1-5.9 | 5.9-6.6 | 6.6-7.4 | 7.4 ≥

Not stunted growth

National average **0.79**

Likouala 0.69
Sangha 0.63
Couvette-Ouest 0.70
Cuvette 0.79
Lékoumou 0.66
Niari 0.74
Plateaux 0.71
Bouenza 0.77
Pool 0.77
Kouilou 0.71
Brazzaville 0.84
Pointe Noire 0.81

< 0.60 | 0.60–0.71 | 0.71–0.76 | 0.76–0.80 | 0.80 ≥

Human capital index

National average **0.46**

Likouala 0.37
Sangha 0.39
Couvette-Ouest 0.39
Cuvette 0.42
Lékoumou 0.39
Niari 0.44
Plateaux 0.41
Bouenza 0.41
Pool 0.40
Kouilou 0.37
Brazzaville 0.47
Pointe Noire 0.54

≥ 0.30 | 0.30–0.41 | 0.41–0.44 | 0.44–0.50 | 0.50 ≥

Recommendations

- **Prioritize investment in disadvantaged regions.** Increasing service provision in under-served areas is necessary to reduce inequalities.

- **Responding to the challenges of both supply and demand for social services.** Improving human development requires strengthening the provision of health and education services, as well as enabling disadvantaged households to access these services through social safety nets.

- **Collect data at regional level for all dimensions of human capital.** Data on learning assessment results and adult survival is not are particularly lacking.

- **In Equatorial Guinea, more data is needed to calculate the human capital index.** Data on education outcomes is not are particularly lacking.

- **Gabon should collect more recent regional data.**

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