THE HUMAN CAPITAL INDEX 2026

On average, children born today will forgo 47 percent of their future potential earnings, given current levels of human capital development globally.

FINDINGS BRIEF

WORLD BANK GROUP

INTRODUCTION

There are vast differences in productivity across countries. In 2023, GDP per hour worked in the 10 most productive countries was more than 30 times GDP per hour worked in the 10 least productive countries. Given that up to two-thirds of the income gaps observed across countries can be accounted for by human capital, this divergence in productivity likely has its origins the health, skills, and work experience people develop over their lives. Despite human capital's importance, global trends reveal a shocking lack of progress—and, in some cases, reversals—in its most fundamental building blocks. Over the past 15 years, two-thirds of low- and middle-income countries have experienced a deterioration in at least one core dimension: height, basic reading proficiency, or workforce skill development (Schady, Holla, and Silva, 2026).

Addressing shortfalls in productivity requires human capital metrics, which can serve as early warnings and direct policy to the areas requiring attention and investment. The new Human Capital Index Plus (HCI+) measures the average human capital that a child born today can expect to accumulate over their working life, based on the risks to health, education, and employment that prevail in the country where she lives. The HCI+ tracks where countries are succeeding and where key gaps remain in health, education, and employment.

The HCI+ builds on the World Bank's original Human Capital Index (HCI), which measured the amount of human capital that a child born today could expect to attain by age 18, given the risks to health and education that prevail in the country where she lives. Like the HCI, the new index retains a focus on outcomes rather than inputs, relies on a rigorous and transparent aggregation methodology, and offers a clear productivity interpretation and international comparability.

The HCI+ introduces three major innovations. First, in line with evidence that human capital accumulation does not end with school but continues at work, the HCI+ extends its focus beyond age 18, measuring human gains—or losses—in three dimensions that are increasingly critical for productivity and economic growth: higher education, young people's transition to the labor market, and adult employment and learning at work up to the age of 65. The new index reflects the combined contributions of early life health and nutrition, learning during formal education, and skill accumulation through participation in the labor market. Second, the HCI+ is decomposable and permits easy identification of the components that contribute the most to observed gaps in human capital. Third, the HCI+ comes with a new scale (0-325) in which a 10-unit increase is approximately equal to a 10 percent increase in future earnings.

This brief describes the construction of the index and presents global and regional trends in the HCI+, as well as country-specific scores.

THE HUMAN CAPITAL INDEX PLUS (HCI+)

The HCI+ measures how effectively a country builds human capital, tracking the likelihood that children today will grow into healthy, educated, and productive adults. It integrates measures from three dimensions of human capital – health, education, and employment – into one index using evidence-based weights. The index ranges from 0-325. Units on this scale correspond to percentage increases in labor earnings.

HEALTH

Adult survival (ages 15-60)

Fraction of children not stunted (ages 0-5)

EDUCATION

Expected years of schooling (between ages 5-18)

Harmonized Learning Outcomes

Tertiary completion rate (ages 30-34)

EMPLOYMENT

Labor force participation (ages 20-24 and ages 25-64)

Share of labor force employed (ages 20-24 and ages 25-64)

Share of employed in wage employment (ages 20-24 and ages 25-64)

THE HUMAN CAPITAL INDEX +

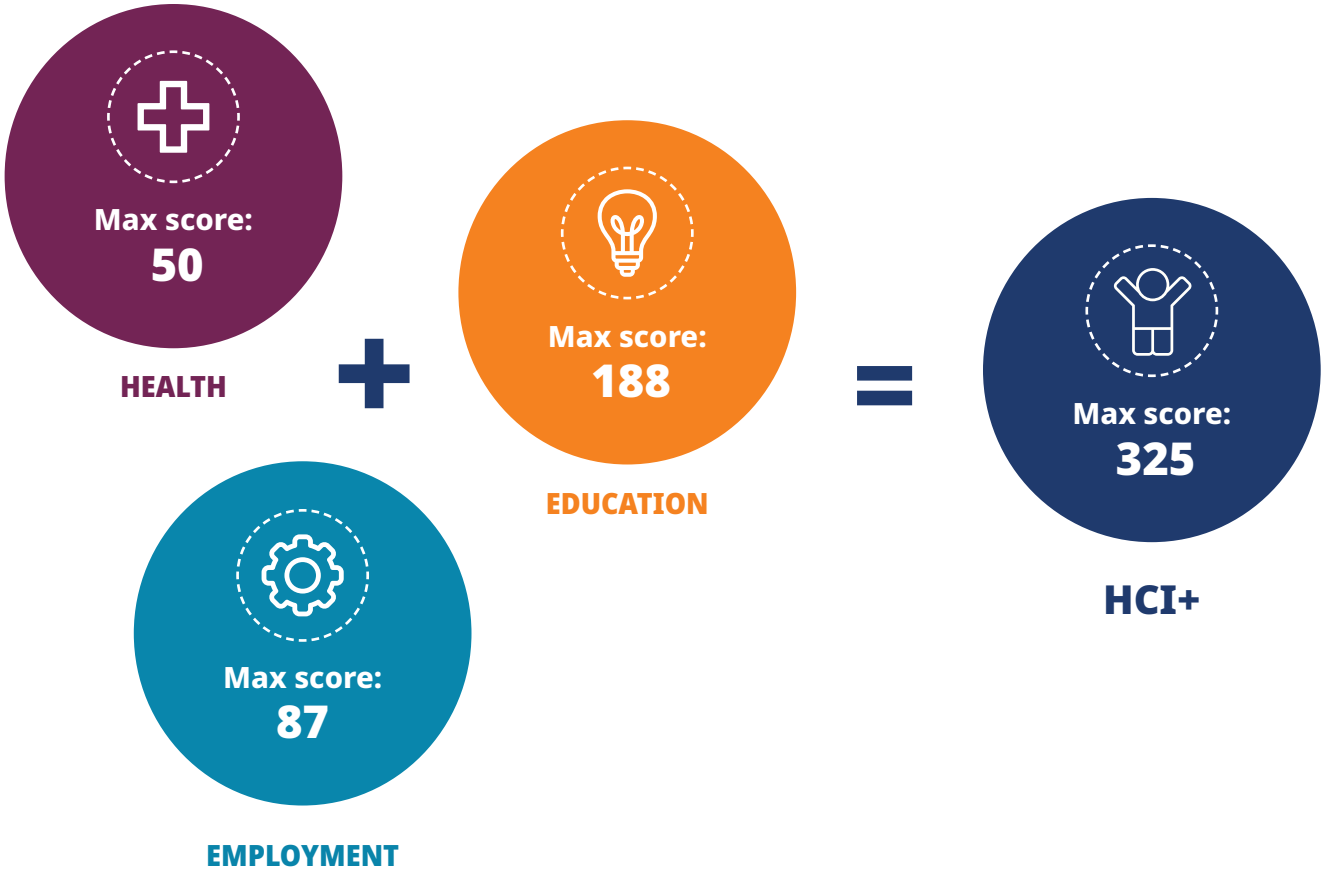
The HCI+ is simply the sum of three component scores for health, education, and employment.

These component scores each have a maximum that represents the scores, respectively, for cases of perfect health, complete education with the highest observed level of learning, and maximum employment in jobs conducive to skill development at work. These component scores are each weighted by the component's contributions to labor productivity as estimated in the literature (for more details, see the sections on Data Notes and Additional Online Materials).

Each point in the index corresponds to a one percent difference in expected lifetime earnings potential, allowing improvements in schooling, health, or job quality to be interpreted in income terms. For instance, a 30-point gap between countries is expected to generate approximately 30 percent higher future earnings in the higher scoring country over the long-term if the conditions of today hold into the future, while a 10 point improvement over time represents a 10 percent increase in future earning potential. Under the assumption that physical capital adjusts accordingly, increases in future labor earnings can be equated to increases in future GDP per capita. Over the long run, an increase of 10 HCI+ points in the average human capital of a child born today can thus be associated with approximately a 10 percent increase in future GDP per capita.

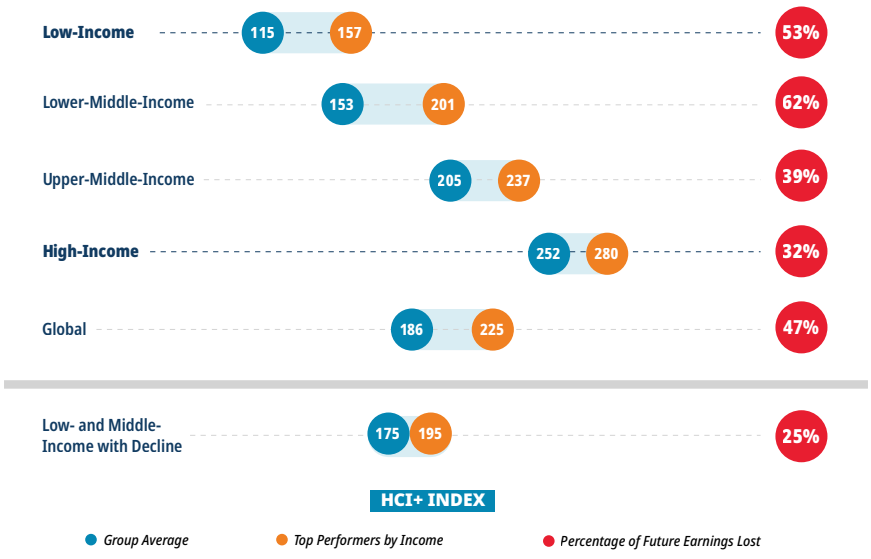
This "1 point ≈ 1%" rule, however, applies only to moderate differences—such as a 20- or 30-point gap between countries or changes over time—making it useful for understanding returns to policy reforms. A gap of 200 does not imply a 200 percent increase in future earnings, as these improvements combine exponentially, not additively, in the same way that repeated pay increases in a paycheck compound over time. The Data Notes section describes how one can calculate the exact improvements to potential earnings using the HCI+ score.

An accompanying app and online tool presents for each country a "best-in-class" benchmark, corresponding to the top performers (75th percentile) within 20 percent of the country's GDP per capita.



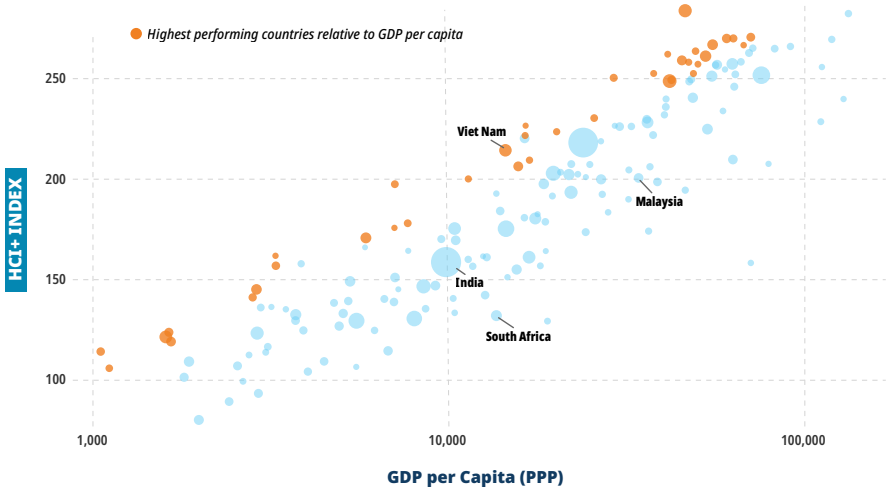
GLOBAL TRENDS

Human capital deficits are present in all countries, but there are large income disparities. Children in low- and middle-income countries could earn around 53 percent more than they will, while those in high-income countries could earn around 32 percent more, given gaps between current and achievable levels of human capital development.



Source: HCI+ 2025 (HD_HCIP_OVRL) *Notes:* Population-weighted averages by World Bank income classification. "Top Performers by Income" shows the HCI+ score if each country matched the best performer at its GDP per capita level. "Percentage of Future Earnings Lost" represents the share of potential lifetime earnings forgone due to the gap between current human capital and the score of top performers (countries at the 75th percentile). This produces a conservative, log approximation of the difference in potential lifetime earnings. "Low- and Middle-Income with Decline" includes low- and middle-income countries that experienced declines in health, learning outcomes, or on-the-job learning between 2010 and 2025.

Resources alone are not holding countries back. There are large differences observed among countries with similar incomes, with the average 90th-10th percentile gap within income band around 60 points.



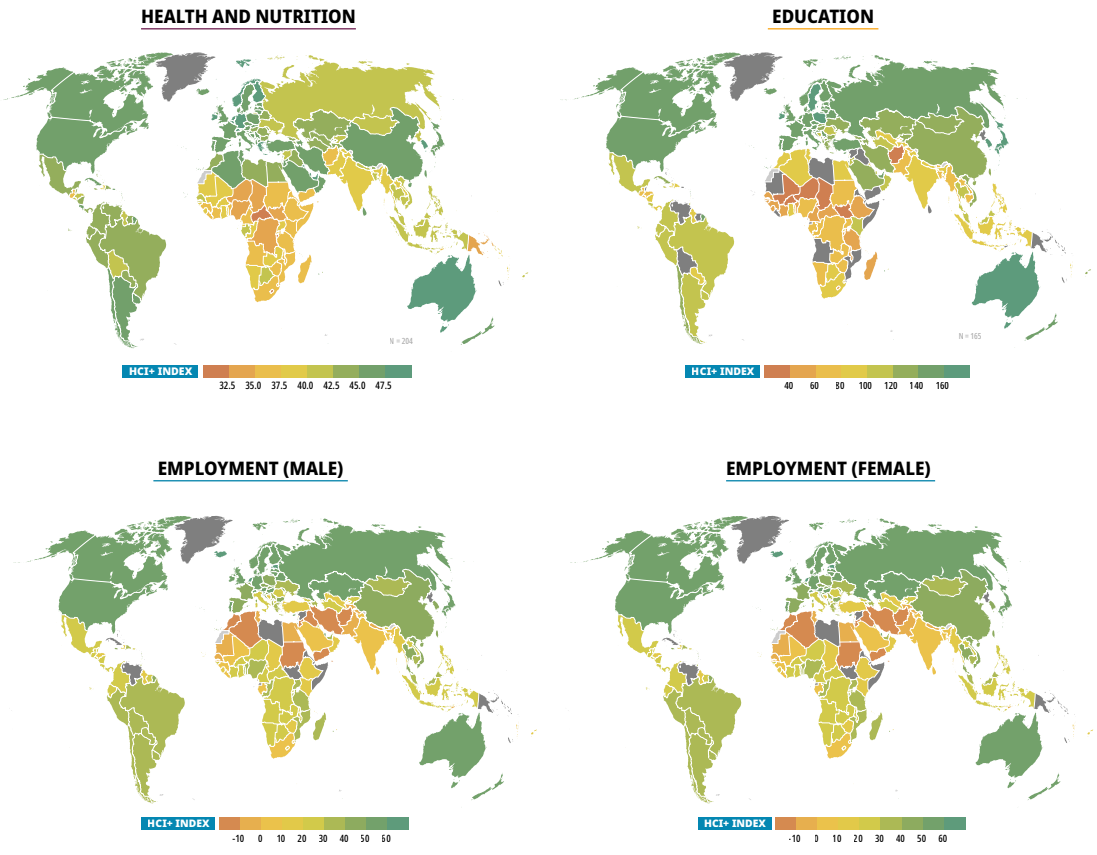
Source: HCI+ 2025 and (HD_HCIP_OVRL), GDP per capita, PPP (WB_WDI_NY_GDP_PCAP_PP_KD) *Notes*: Each circle represents a country, with size proportional to population. Orange circles indicate top-performing countries—those with the highest HCI+ scores (countries at the 75th percentile) relative to their GDP per capita level (those with the largest positive residuals from a regression of HCI+ on log GDP per capita). Top performers must have populations above 1 million that rank in the top 15 by residual. The x-axis uses a logarithmic scale. GDP per capita is measured in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms.

The HCI+ reveals large disparities in human capital across countries. An empirical exercise closes the gap between a country's HCI+ score and the score of the "best-in-class" performer (countries at the 75th percentile) with similar income (that is, within 20 percent of the country's GDP per capita), revealing large costs of these gaps in terms of forgone labor earnings in the future. Globally, the average child born today could earn 47 percent more if her country's human capital matched what top performers at similar income levels have achieved. In low- and lower-middle-income countries, children could earn 53 to 62 percent more. An accompanying volume (Schady, Holla, and Silva, 2026) reports declines between 2010 and 2025 in height, learning, or work experience among two-thirds of low- and middle-income countries. Just closing gaps in these outcomes could increase future earnings by 22 percent.

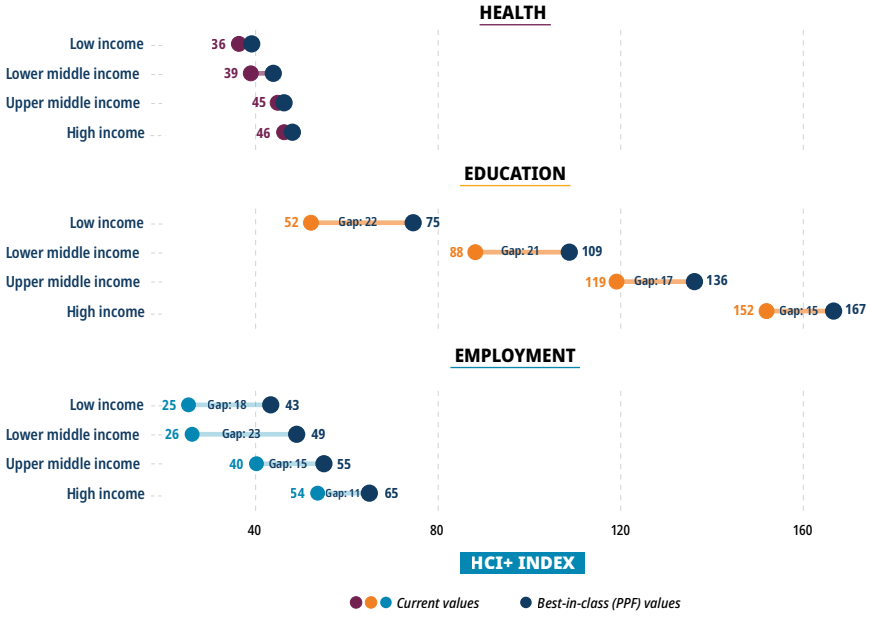
The HCI+ increases with country income, but income alone does not account for the variation observed across countries. Countries with similar income levels often achieve very different outcomes. On average, countries operate roughly 40 points below best-in- class performance, highlighting substantial scope for improvement. While resources matter, policy choices and institutions play a critical role in shaping human capital outcomes.

For example, at the same income level, Viet Nam's human capital is far higher than South Africa's. The gap between Viet Nam and South Africa, 82 points, exceeds the gap between India and Malaysia, around 40 points, despite a $24,000 per capita income difference between India and Malaysia.

DECOMPOSING DEFICITS



Countries differ in their deficits. Though they are likely correlated, each component of the HCI+ picks up a different dimension of human capital. While countries appear similar in the health component of the index – in survival and child nutrition – and in male employment, there are substantial differences in education and female employment.

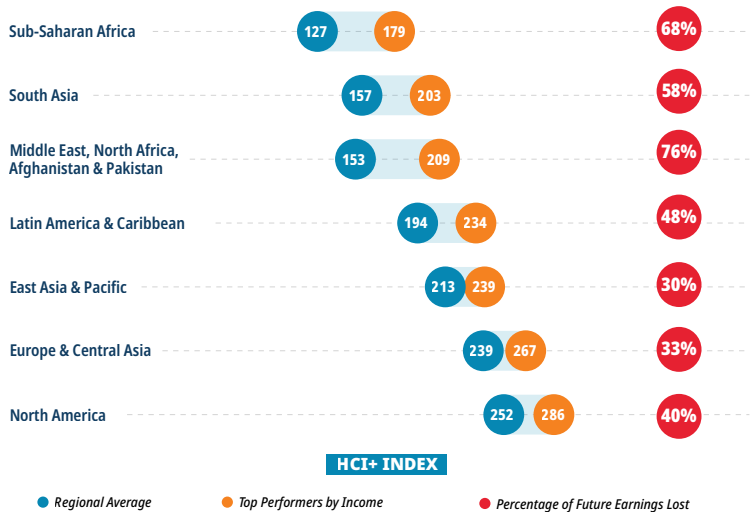


Education and employment account for the most variation across countries. The education component of the HCI+ shows the greatest variation across country-income groups with learning outcomes accounting for most of the observed heterogeneity. The maximum score for this component is 188, and low-income countries score 52 on average, while high-income countries score an average of 152. All income groups also demonstrate substantial room for improvement on this component. The gaps between average scores and best-in-class performance are also relatively large.

Source: HCI+ 2025 (HD_HCIP_OVRL) *Notes:* Filled circles show current average component scores. Hollow circles show the score achieved by top-performing countries at similar GDP per capita. Income classifications based on 2025 World Bank groupings.

REGIONAL TRENDS

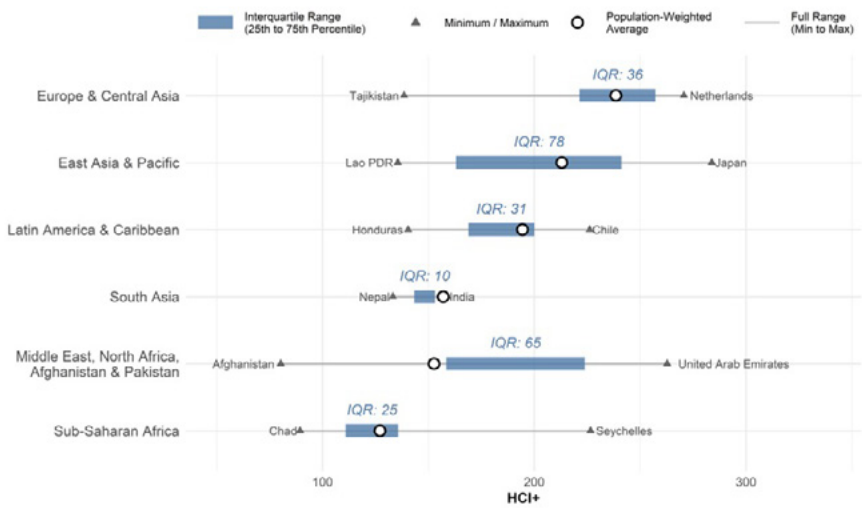
Countries in the three regions below the global HCI+ average – Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan & Pakistan – could increase future labor earnings by between 58% and 76% if their human capital matched top performers at their same level of income..



Source: HCI+ 2025 (HD_HCIP_OVRL) *Notes:* Population-weighted averages by World Bank region. "Top Performers by Region" shows the HCI+ score if each country matched the best performer at its GDP per capita level. "Percentage of Future Earnings Lost" represents the additional earnings a child could receive—expressed as a percentage of their current expected earnings—if their country's human capital matched top performers at similar income levels (75th percentile, conditional on GDP per capita). Regional classifications based on 2025 World Bank groupings

Gains in potential future earnings are largest in the regions with averages below the global HCI+ average of 186. In Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, human capital deficits translate into losses between 58 and 76 percent of potential earnings. For example, Nigeria and Egypt could gain around 70 points, while Indonesia and Brazil could gain 45 and 34 points, respectively. High-income countries like the United States and Singapore also have meaningful room for improvement (around 30 points), indicating that even frontier economies have not fully optimized investments in human capital.

Some regions – East Asia & Pacific and the Middle East, North Africa, and Afghanistan & Pakistan - exhibit marked heterogeneity. Countries in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa have similarly low HCI+ scores.

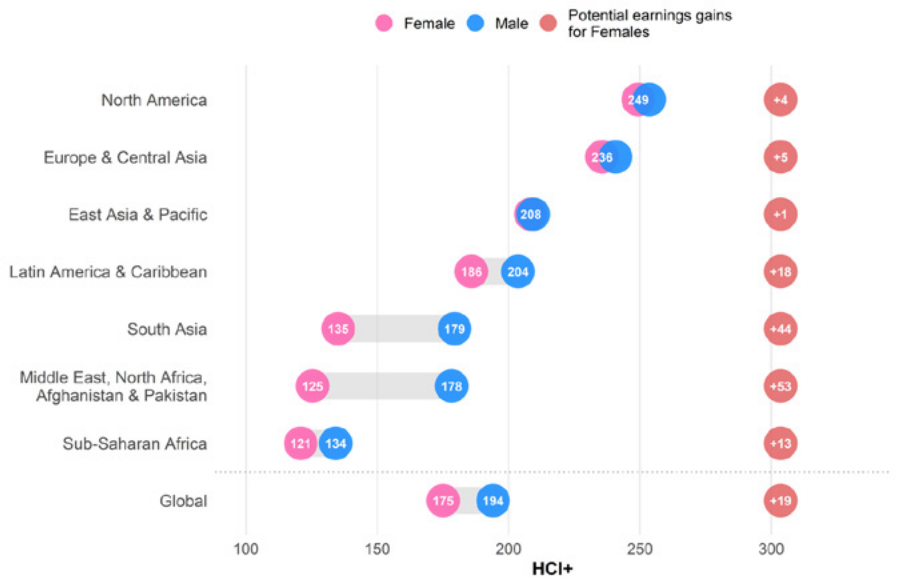


Source: HCI+ 2025 (HD_HCIP_OVRL) *Notes:* North America is excluded as it only has two countries. Regions are ordered by their population-weighted average HCI+ score.

Regions also differ markedly in their internal heterogeneity. North America shows the least variation, with the US and Canada separated by just 5 points. The Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan & Pakistan region displays the widest range on the HCI+ (183 points), spanning from Afghanistan at 80 points to the United Arab Emirates at 263 points—reflecting the region's stark divergence between oil-rich Gulf states and conflict-affected economies. In Sub-Saharan Africa, Chad has the lowest score (89), and Seychelles has the highest (227), yet the region exhibits a relatively narrow inter-quartile range (25 points), suggesting most countries cluster in a low-score band. The East Asia & Pacific region exhibits both a high average HCI+ score (213) and substantial within-region variation (an inter-quartile range of 78), with top performers like Japan (284) coexisting alongside economies like Lao PDR (136).

GENDER GAPS

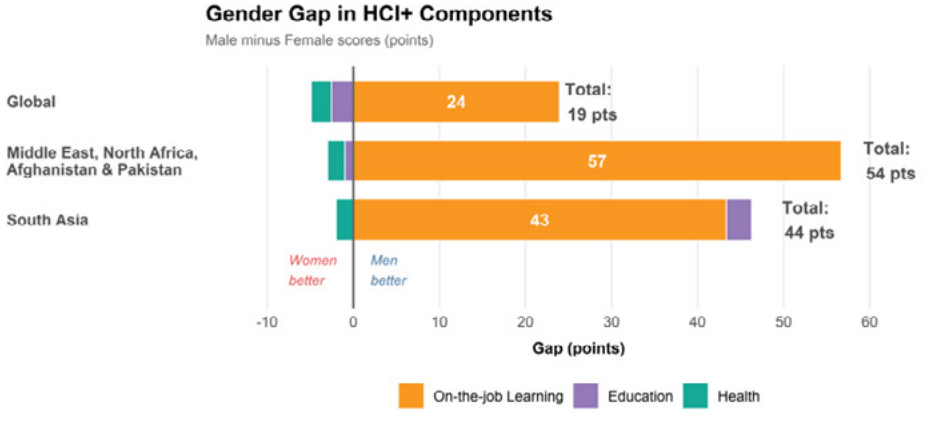
Globally there is a 20-point difference in the HCI+ between male and female populations. This translates into 20 percent lower labor earnings for women.



Source: HCI+ 2025 (HD_HCIP_OVRL) *Notes:* Population-weighted regional averages of HCI+ scores by male and female populations. Regions are ordered by their overall average HCI+ score (average of male and female).

The HCI+ calculated just for the male population is around 194 points globally, while it is 175 points for the female population, translating into potential gains of around 20 percent. In the Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan, & Pakistan and South Asia regions, closing gender gaps would translate into increases in future earnings of 70 percent and 56 percent, respectively, for women. Differences by gender are not as large in other regions.

Global gender gaps are driven by two regions – South Asia and Middle East, North Africa, and Afghanistan & Pakistan. The gap is driven almost entirely by differences in employment.



Source: HCI+ 2025 (HD_HCIP_OVRL) *Notes:* Bars extending to the right (positive values) indicate areas where men outperform women; bars extending to the left (negative values) indicate areas where women outperform men. Population-weighted regional averages for South Asia, Middle East & North Africa (including Afghanistan & Pakistan), and the world are shown. **The total gender gap (sum of all components) is displayed at the end of each bar.**

Globally, the female population exhibits higher scores than the male population on the HCI+ components related to both health and education. In employment, however, the female population shows a marked disadvantage. The striking gender gaps observed in South Asia and the Middle East, North Africa, and Afghanistan and Pakistan are also largely driven by differences in the employment component of the HCI+.

A PATH FOR POLICY

The HCI+ shows that challenges such as malnutrition, low levels of basic reading proficiency, and skill shortages among the workforce are eroding human capital in many countries. Deficits are large and threaten future productivity and economic growth.

The shortfalls in current human capital call for targeted investments in nutrition, health, education, and employment. The large dispersion of scores among countries with similar income demonstrates that such improvements are achievable. For example, between 2018 and 2024, a span of just six years, stunting in Indonesia fell from 37 percent to under 20 percent in 2024, following more than a decade of integrated investments in maternal and child health services, nutrition counseling, sanitation, early childhood education, and community-level social protection.

However, this progress has been the exception rather than the rule. Over the past 15 years, even as incomes have risen and poverty has declined, nearly two-thirds of low- and middle-income countries have experienced setbacks in nutrition, learning, or workforce skills (Schady, Holla, and Silva 2026).

What should be done differently? An accompanying report Building Human Capital Where It Matters presents evidence that shows human capital is built not only in classrooms and clinics, but in homes, neighborhoods, and workplaces. The report argues that to tackle persistent challenges—malnutrition, poor learning outcomes, and skills shortages—countries and partners need to broaden how we think about where policy can make a difference. While policy attention to the home environment is often limited to preventing neglect or abuse, evidence shows that parenting programs and quality preschools can make a large difference in the skills both children and adolescents acquire. Neighborhoods also shape opportunities well beyond access to schools and clinics. Exposure to pollution, crime, or poor infrastructure directly affects health, learning, and skills development. When ministries of education, environment, and public safety align around human development outcomes and make them shared goals, they can design integrated solutions for struggling neighborhoods. Learning continues in the workplace. In fact. roughly half of all human capital is accrued in the workplace. Yet in many low- and middle-income countries, work offers limited opportunities for training and on-the-job learning. Expanding childcare and apprenticeships, strengthening learning on the job, and adopting well-designed incentives and regulations that support firm growth are critical to success—and require the private sector as a core partner.

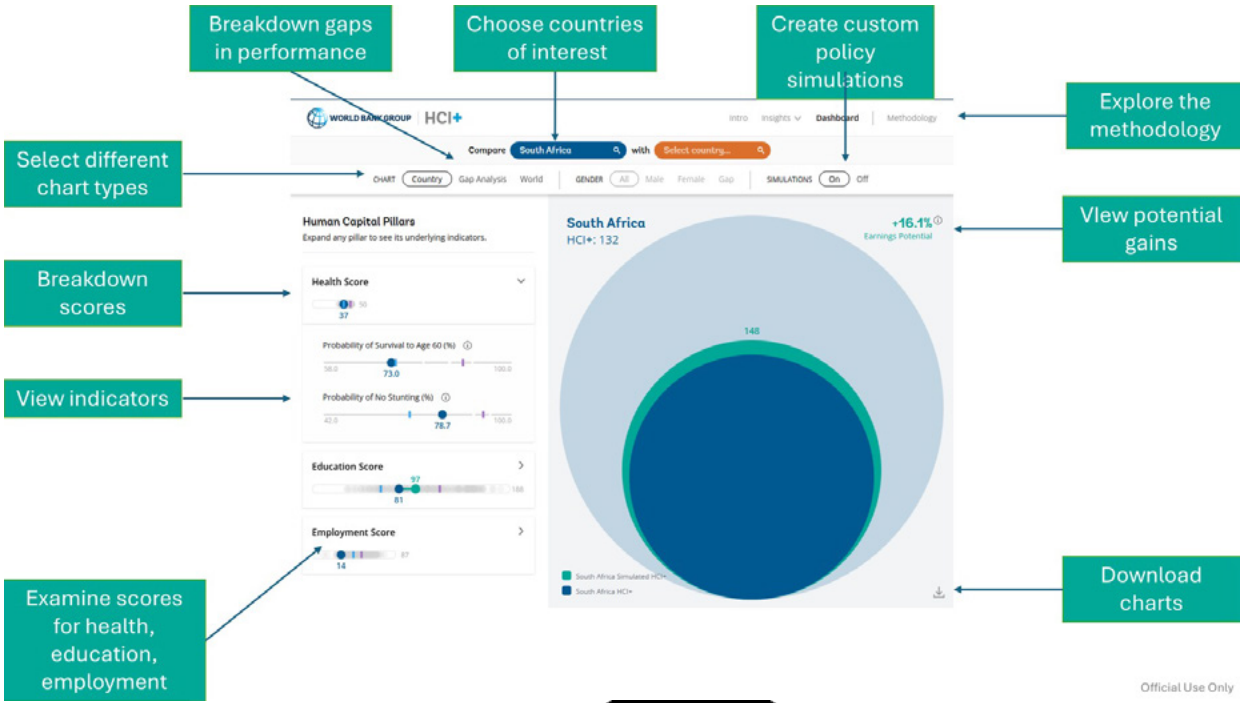
In addition to these policy priorities, progress requires stronger cross-sectoral collaboration to integrate investments within each setting. This calls for practical tools that link different forms of support—such as single social registries used across multiple social programs—and for a robust national and global data agenda to track results over time. Together, this policy agenda and its associated measurement framework are essential to unlocking progress in key areas of human capital.

ADDITIONAL ONLINE MATERIALS

Additional information is available and the following materials can be downloaded from the links below:

- ***Country-level HCI+ dataset***
  A time series of country estimates for the years 2010, 2015, 2020, and 2025. Available here.
- ***HCI+ methodology note***
  Providing conceptual and mathematical foundations of the HCI+. Available at [Insert public link to Methodology Note]
- ***HCI+ data on Data360.***
  Data360 is the World Bank's development data portal with tools for data visualization tools, factsheets, and reports. Available here.
- ***Data documentation.***
  This includes details on data sources and data processing can be found at the HCI+ Github Repository, publicly accessible at [Insert Github URL]

With the Human Capital Plus App, you can simulate country policy changes, identify gaps and discover evidence-based interventions that improve human capital. The site includes interactive dashboards, data visualizations, and methodology about the HCI+.



Scan QR code to access the tool and download the App

DATA NOTES – DATA SOURCES

All the data used to measure the HCI+ are publicly available, and all aspects of data production is available in the World Bank's Reproducible Research Repository.

The HCI+ data are largely populated by the latest national representative survey estimates or estimates from administrative data. In some cases, modelled estimates are used when survey estimates or administrative data are not available, or to reconcile alternate measures from survey and administrative data. Data older than 10 years are excluded.

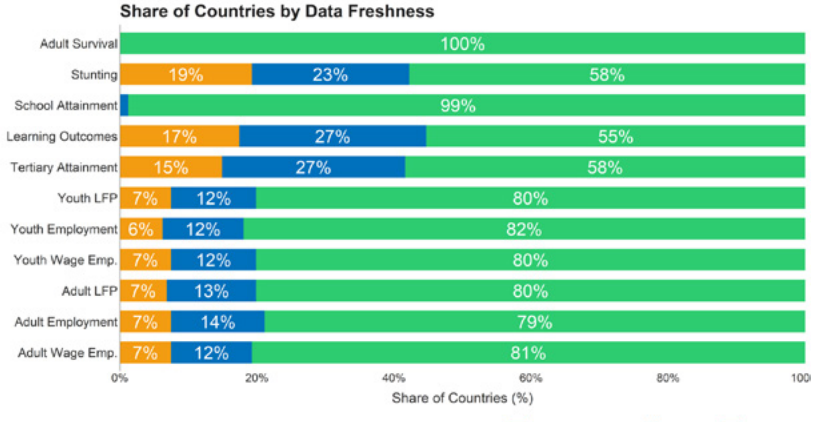
The HCI relies on the work of several international agencies, such as the ILO, UIS, UN, WHO, and World Bank, that maintain public, harmonized, and quality-controlled databases of indicators. In general, the preferred source for data is survey data, but in cases where no recent or comparable survey data exists, the team makes use modelled data as a supplement.

The data used in HCI+ calculations undergo an extensive World Bank data review process. Data are shared with World Bank country teams who verify data with education, health, and employment experts within the World Bank as well as government counterparts from relevant line ministries.

Data availability varies considerably across HCI+ components. Adult survival and expected years of schooling have the most current data, with 100 percent and 99 percent of countries, respectively, drawing on sources less than two years old. In contrast, indicators requiring household or school surveys—learning outcomes, stunting, and tertiary attainment—have older data: only 55–58 percent of countries have data from the past two years, while 15–19 percent rely on sources more than five years old. Labor market indicators are uniformly well-covered, with 79- 82 percent of countries with data from the past two years across all six employment measures (youth and adult LFP, employment, and waage employment).

Regional patterns reveal systematic gaps. Sub-Saharan Africa faces the greatest data challenges. Only 13 percent of countries have learning data less than two years old and only 15 percent have tertiary attainment data. South Asia shows a similar pattern, with 75 percent of countries relying on learning data that is 3–5 years old. In contrast, North America and Europe & Central Asia have near-complete coverage with fresh data across all indicators. These gaps in survey frequency—particularly for education quality and nutrition indicators—represent a priority for strengthening human capital measurement in low- and middle-income regions.

Data source	Contribution to HCI+ calculation
UN Population Division – World Population Prospects	Survival rates across life stages (life tables)
UNICEF–WHO–World Bank Joint Malnutrition Estimates (JME)	Fraction of children under five who are not stunted
UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)	Enrollment and repetition rates used to measure expected years of schooling
World Bank. OECD. UNICEF. UIS	Harmonized learning outcomes from international and regional assessments, and household surveys. Tertiary data from household/labor force surveys
International Labour Organization – ILOSTAT	Labor force participation, employment, and wage employment shares



Source: HCI+ 2025 (HD_HCIP_OVRL) Notes: Countries with data older than 10 years cannot be included in HCI+ calculations.

SCORING METHODOLOGY

Sub-component	Max value	Weights		Formula
Adult survival rates (ages 15-60)	100%	0.5	Equal weighting of correlated sub-components	0.5 x 0.6528 x adult survival rate
		0.6528	Estimated contribution of pre-mature mortality to productivity	
Percentage of children not stunted (ages 0-5)	100%	0.5	Equal weighting of correlated sub-components	0.5 x 0.3468 x percentage of children not stunted
		0.3468	Estimated contribution of avoiding stunting productivity	
Component score at maximum values				32.64+17.34 = 50

Sub-component	Max value	Weights		Formula
Expected years of pre-primary education	1	12%	Returns to a quality-adjusted year of schooling	12 x expected years of preschool x HLO/625
		HLO score/625	Harmonized learning outcome relative to high-performance score	
Expected years of schooling	12	12%	Returns to a quality-adjusted year of schooling	12 x expected years of schooling x HLO/625
		HLO score/625	Harmonized learning outcome relative to high-performance score	
Tertiary education completion rate (ages 18-24)	50%	0.64	Estimated contribution of 4 years of tertiary education to productivity	
Component score at maximum values of sub-components and weights				12+144+32 = 188

he health component captures the productivity effects of surviving to working age and achieving adequate early-life physical growth. Equal weight is given to the two sub-components (adult survival and share of children not stunted), both of which are weighted by the sub-components' contributions to productivity from long-run evidence linking adult height and productivity. As in Kraay (2019) and Weil (2007), the earnings penalty per centimeter of height loss is approximately 3.4 percent. Mortality and stunting are associated with height deficits of 19.2 cm and 10.2 cm, respectively, implying log earnings penalties of 0.65 and 0.35. These are weighted equally in the HCI+ scoring formula, as was done in Kraay (2019).

The education component aggregates human capital accumulated during formal schooling. Data inputs include expected years of schooling (UNESCO UIS), harmonized learning outcomes (HLO), and tertiary completion (UIS, household surveys). Returns to learning-adjusted years of schooling are combined into a single estimate for preprimary, primary, and secondary education based on a review of the literature indicating returns of 9–12 percent per effective learning-adjusted year. Schoellman (2012), Islam–Jedwab–Romer (2023), and Gethin's (2025) meta-analysis of high-quality instrumental variable estimates suggest returns between 9 and 12 percent. The higher value of the range was chosen to weight learning-adjusted years of schooling.

Tertiary education returns follow Psacharopoulos & Patrinos (2018), using a 16 percent return per year for a four-year degree.

Sub-component	Max value	Weights		Formula
Fraction of youth in wage employment, conditional on employment (ages 18-24)	1	7	Maximum number of years of experience between the ages of 18 and 24	7 x labor force participation x employment rate x 3.9 x youth share in wage employment
		Labor force participation, ages 18-24	A person must be in the labor force to be employed. Max value=100%	
		Employment rate, conditional on labor force participation, ages 18-24	A person must be employed to be in wage employment. Max value=100%	
		3.9%	Wage returns to a year of wage employment	
Fraction of youth in non-wage employment, conditional on employment (ages 18-24)	0	7	Maximum number of years of experience between the ages of 18 and 24	**7 x labor force participation x employment rate x 2 x youth share in non-wage employment**
		Labor force participation, ages 18-24	A person must be in the labor force to be employed. Max value=100%	
		Employment rate, conditional on labor force participation, ages 18-24	A person must be employed to be in non-wage employment. Max value=100%	
		2%	Wage returns to a year of non-wage employment	
Fraction of youth who are NEETs	0	7	Maximum number of years of experience between the ages of 18 and 24	**7 x -1.25 x Share of youth who are NEETs**
		-0.0125	Wage losses (skill depreciation) from a year of non-employment	
Component score at maximum values of sub-components and weights				7 x 1 x 1 x 3.9 = 27

Sub-component	Max value	Weights		Formula
Fraction of adults in wage employment, conditional on employment (ages 25-64)	1	Life expectancy (ages 25-64) /2	Adjustment to capture human capital built at work mid-career assuming full working life. Max value = 20	20 x labor force participation x employment rate x 3 x adult share in wage employment
		Labor force participation	A person must be in the labor force to be employed. Max value=100%	
		Employment rate, conditional on labor force participation	A person must be employed to be in wage employment. Max value=100%	
		3%	Wage returns to a year of wage employment	
Adult share in non-wage employment, conditional on employment (ages 25-64)	0	Life expectancy (ages 25-64) /2	Adjustment to capture human capital built at work mid-career assuming full working life. Max value = 20	**7 x labor force participation x employment rate x 1.8 x youth share in non-wage employment**
		. Labor force participation, ages 25-64	A person must be in the labor force to be employed. Max value=100%	
		Employment rate, conditional on labor force participation	A person must be employed to be in non-wage employment. Max value=100%	
		1.8%	Wage returns to a year of non-wage employment	
Fraction of adults not working	0	Life expectancy (ages 25-64) x 0.5	Adjustment to capture human capital built at work mid-career assuming full working life. Max value = 20	**20 x -1.25 x share of adults not working**
		-0.0125	Wage losses (skill depreciation) from a year of non-employment	
Component score at maximum values of sub-components and weights				20 x 1 x 1 x 3 = 60

The HCI+ introduces a new component that aims to measure human capital accumulation after age 18 that occurs at work. Inputs include labor force participation, employment rates, and the share of workers in formal wage employment, sourced from ILOSTAT and the I2D2/GLD survey database. The HCI+ uses the share of the population in wage employment as a proxy for job quality. Schady, Holla, and Silva (2026) find that those in wage-employment have wage growth that is around 50 100 percent higher than those in self-employment. This measure was preferred to alternatives – such as firm size or occupation – because of its potential for high coverage.

Returns to work experience are expected to differ by job type: 3 percent per year in formal wage jobs and 1.8 percent per year in informal or non-wage work, based on analysis of data in the I2D2 and GLD databases. The scoring methodology also assumes skills depreciate when not used; a depreciation rate of 1.25 percent per year is applied to periods out of work, following Dinerstein, Megalokonomou, and Yannelis (2022). The depreciation factor implies that when the share out of the labor force is high, the on-the-job learning component can produce negative values, where, on net, human capital is lost during this stage.

The HCI+ scale is closely related to the previously published World Bank Human Capital Index (HCI), which expressed human capital relative to an ideal benchmark on a 0–1 scale. Scores can be converted between the two for comparison. For example, an HCI+ score of 200, relative to an ideal value of 325, corresponds to an HCI score of approximately 0.29. While the presentation differs, both indices reflect the same underlying idea: differences in health, learning, and work experience accumulate over time to shape lifetime productivity.

The comparable score on the HCI 0-1 scale is simply :

e^2.00/e^(3.25) =0.29

To calculate the "Percentage of Future Earnings Lost" representing the additional earnings a child could receive if their country's human capital matched top performers at similar income levels, one needs only to exponentiate the difference in HCI+ points between the top performers and the actual HCI+ score.

$100* (e^{HCI\_top-HCI}) -1) = 47\%$

COUNTRY SCORES

		Country Comparisons		Component Scores		
Economy	HCI+ 2025	Score vs. Predicted from GDP per capita	Lost Earnings Compared to Top Performers	Health	Education	Work
Afghanistan	80	-24	104%	36	31	14
Albania	203	5	40%	46	121	37
Algeria	155	-32	98%	46	95	15
Argentina	200	-9	62%	45	110	44
Armenia	224	26	26%	45	139	40
Australia	270	28	12%	48	161	61
Austria	252	8	33%	47	148	57
Azerbaijan	208	6	38%	45	122	40
Bahrain	234	-7	59%	47	128	58
Bangladesh	147	-16	67%	42	77	27
Belarus	250	38	8%	45	145	60
Belgium	246	2	41%	48	152	46
Benin	125	-7	71%	36	52	37
Bhutan	151	-34	99%	43	75	34
Bosnia and	192	-5	50%	46	115	31
Botswana	157	-36	109%	40	86	31
Brazil	203	6	40%	44	115	44
Brunei Darussalam	208	-46	125%	44	117	46
Bulgaria	226	9	34%	45	136	46
Burkina Faso	107	-7	67%	38	39	30
Burundi	114	36	27%	32	43	39
Cambodia	139	-16	95%	41	70	28
Cameroon	127	-14	69%	37	58	32
Canada	257	17	21%	47	153	57
Central African	106	26	41%	32	44	30
Chad	89	-22	98%	33	36	20
Chile	226	12	30%	47	138	41
China	218	14	26%	47	127	44
Colombia	198	3	38%	45	115	38
Comoros	135	9	58%	40	71	24
Congo, Dem. Rep.	122	26	31%	34	63	25
Congo, Rep.	125	-25	87%	38	61	25
Costa Rica	192	-17	72%	46	107	40
Cote d'Ivoire	115	-39	117%	36	47	31
Croatia	240	14	28%	46	147	47
Cyprus	257	23	16%	47	153	57
Czechia	250	17	24%	47	148	54
Denmark	265	16	22%	47	157	61

		Country Comparisons		Component Scores		
Economy	HCI+ 2025	Score vs. Predicted from GDP per capita	Lost Earnings Compared to Top Performers	Health	Education	Work
Dominican Republic	174	-32	99%	44	86	44
Ecuador	184	1	40%	43	102	39
Egypt, Arab Rep.	161	-29	90%	43	95	22
El Salvador	157	-19	72%	42	75	40
Estonia	262	35	13%	47	156	60
Eswatini	134	-37	105%	37	88	9
Ethiopia	123	4	47%	37	58	29
Fiji	193	11	36%	42	120	31
Finland	257	18	21%	48	155	55
France	251	13	27%	47	152	52
Gabon	129	-66	176%	41	70	18
Gambia, The	114	-8	65%	40	59	15
Georgia	207	1	47%	44	132	31
Germany	257	14	26%	48	148	62
Ghana	151	-4	50%	39	80	31
Greece	222	-1	49%	48	135	39
Grenada	183	-10	61%	43	90	49
Guatemala	142	-37	111%	37	63	42
Guinea	104	-28	97%	37	51	16
Guinea-Bissau	113	-4	62%	38	48	27
Guyana	158	-90	253%	42	93	24
Haiti	141	23	36%	39	81	21
Honduras	140	-12	62%	42	65	33
Hong Kong SAR,	258	12	27%	47	162	48
Hungary	236	10	34%	45	137	54
Iceland	267	20	21%	47	152	68
India	159	-10	57%	39	97	23
Indonesia	175	-9	56%	41	97	38
Iran, Islamic Rep.	180	-12	61%	46	120	14
Ireland	270	0	46%	48	162	59
Israel	249	16	24%	47	147	55
Italy	225	-12	63%	47	140	37
Jamaica	200	26	16%	44	106	50
Japan	284	52	0%	47	172	64
Jordan	170	3	52%	46	108	16
Kazakhstan	230	9	41%	44	130	56
Kenya	171	23	31%	37	109	25
Kiribati	162	38	28%	41	97	24
Korea, Rep.	267	28	19%	49	171	47
Kuwait	195	-37	115%	48	95	51
Kyrgyz Republic	198	42	14%	42	120	35
Lao PDR	136	-28	92%	39	66	30
Latvia	253	30	14%	45	154	53

		Country Comparisons		Component Scores		
Economy	HCI+ 2025	Score vs. Predicted from GDP per capita	Lost Earnings Compared to Top Performers	Health	Education	Work
Lebanon	160	-14	78%	45	87	28
Lesotho	99	-16	83%	30	47	22
Lithuania	258	26	13%	45	159	54
Luxembourg	240	-33	98%	48	143	48
Macao SAR, China	256	-11	60%	48	148	60
Madagascar	119	23	34%	35	44	40
Malawi	124	28	26%	37	53	34
Malaysia	201	-19	77%	42	111	47
Mali	93	-26	99%	38	33	23
Malta	255	13	27%	48	145	62
Marshall Islands	145	-11	69%	36	89	20
Mauritius	184	-28	91%	44	114	26
Mexico	193	-8	57%	43	108	42
Moldova	222	32	19%	43	137	41
Mongolia	209	19	28%	42	128	39
Montenegro	219	10	35%	45	133	40
Morocco	147	-19	73%	44	87	16
Myanmar	149	6	45%	39	76	34
Namibia	141	-30	91%	39	78	23
Nauru	162	-17	76%	36	82	44
Nepal	133	-9	59%	40	83	10
Netherlands	271	22	18%	48	159	64
New Zealand	264	30	10%	47	155	62
Nicaragua	178	19	22%	43	96	40
Niger	101	1	67%	35	30	36
Nigeria	131	-30	112%	33	64	34
North Macedonia	202	-1	45%	47	121	35
Norway	266	7	33%	48	158	61
Oman	206	-16	76%	46	109	51
Pakistan	130	-16	69%	38	71	21
Palau	227	37	13%	41	133	53
Panama	174	-48	136%	44	91	39
Paraguay	181	-8	58%	44	90	47
Peru	206	19	22%	44	117	45
Philippines	175	5	40%	40	98	37
Poland	259	29	14%	46	160	52
Portugal	249	22	18%	47	150	52
Qatar	229	-38	115%	48	108	73
Romania	199	-25	91%	45	117	37
Russian Federation	249	22	36%	42	153	53
Rwanda	157	33	30%	38	84	35

		Country Comparisons		Component Scores		
Economy	HCI+ 2025	Score vs. Predicted from GDP per capita	Lost Earnings Compared to Top Performers	Health	Education	Work
Samoa	164	6	44%	43	103	18
Sao Tome and	107	-39	120%	41	75	-10
Saudi Arabia	210	-34	103%	45	124	40
Senegal	109	-27	93%	41	55	13
Serbia	230	23	19%	46	142	43
Seychelles	227	14	32%	44	126	56
Sierra Leone	117	-5	69%	38	59	19
Singapore	282	8	34%	48	179	55
Slovak Republic	232	6	37%	45	139	48
Slovenia	253	19	20%	47	152	54
South Africa	132	-50	137%	37	81	14
Spain	241	7	35%	47	148	46
St. Lucia	201	-4	62%	45	103	53
St. Vincent and the	164	-31	94%	42	88	34
Sudan	109	8	79%	37	65	7
Sweden	270	26	12%	47	162	60
Switzerland	265	10	29%	48	154	63
Tajikistan	138	-1	57%	43	88	7
Tanzania	133	3	67%	37	52	43
Thailand	202	1	47%	42	114	46
Togo	136	16	37%	38	63	35
Tonga	176	21	25%	44	100	31
Trinidad and	190	-26	90%	44	103	43
Tunisia	161	-18	72%	46	98	17
Turkiye	228	7	42%	46	149	33
Turkmenistan	179	-16	74%	44	112	23
Tuvalu	166	19	44%	41	102	23
Uganda	145	26	32%	38	68	39
Ukraine	220	31	19%	41	139	40
United Arab	263	15	27%	48	147	67
United Kingdom	261	25	13%	47	158	56
United States	252	0	42%	46	151	55
Uruguay	205	-12	65%	45	113	46
Uzbekistan	170	-2	49%	44	98	28
Vanuatu	136	14	42%	39	84	13
Viet Nam	214	30	27%	42	124	48
West Bank and	158	27	53%	40	109	9
Zambia	130	0	49%	38	65	28
Zimbabwe	139	-4	51%	36	79	25

Score vs. Predicted from GDP per capita: Difference from expected HCI+ given GDP per capita (green = overperforming, red =

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INSIDE BACK COVER

BACK COVER

To see country scores, decompose deficits, and compare countries, please see the latest data on the HCI+ app.

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