

Mauritania

Human Capital Index 2020

This brief provides an update to the Human Capital Index (HCI). First launched in 2018, the HCI measures the amount of human capital that a child born today can expect to attain by age 18. It conveys the productivity of the next generation of workers compared to a benchmark of complete education and full health. Worldwide a child born in 2020 can expect, on average, to be 56 percent as productive as she could be when she grows up. All data represent the status of countries pre-COVID-19.

THE HUMAN CAPITAL INDEX

Human Capital Index. A child born in Mauritania today will be **38 percent** as productive when she grows up as she could be if she enjoyed complete education and full health. This is slightly lower than the average for Sub-Saharan Africa region and lower than the average for Lower middle income countries.

- **Probability of Survival to Age 5.** 92 out of 100 children born in Mauritania survive to age 5.
- **Expected Years of School.** In Mauritania, a child who starts school at age 4 can expect to complete **7.7 years** of school by her 18th birthday.
- **Harmonized Test Scores.** Students in Mauritania score **342** on a scale where 625 represents advanced attainment and 300 represents minimum attainment.
- **Learning-adjusted Years of School.** Factoring in what children actually learn, expected years of school is only **4.2 years**.
- **Adult Survival Rate.** Across Mauritania, **80 percent** of 15-year olds will survive until age 60. This statistic is a proxy for the range of health risks that a child born today would experience as an adult under current conditions.
- **Healthy Growth (Not Stunted Rate).** 77 out of 100 children are **not** stunted. 23 out of 100 children are stunted, and so are at risk of cognitive and physical limitations that can last a lifetime.

DIFFERENCES IN HCI ACROSS GENDER AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUPS

In Mauritania, the HCI for girls is higher than for boys. Table 1 shows gender disaggregation for each of the HCI components.

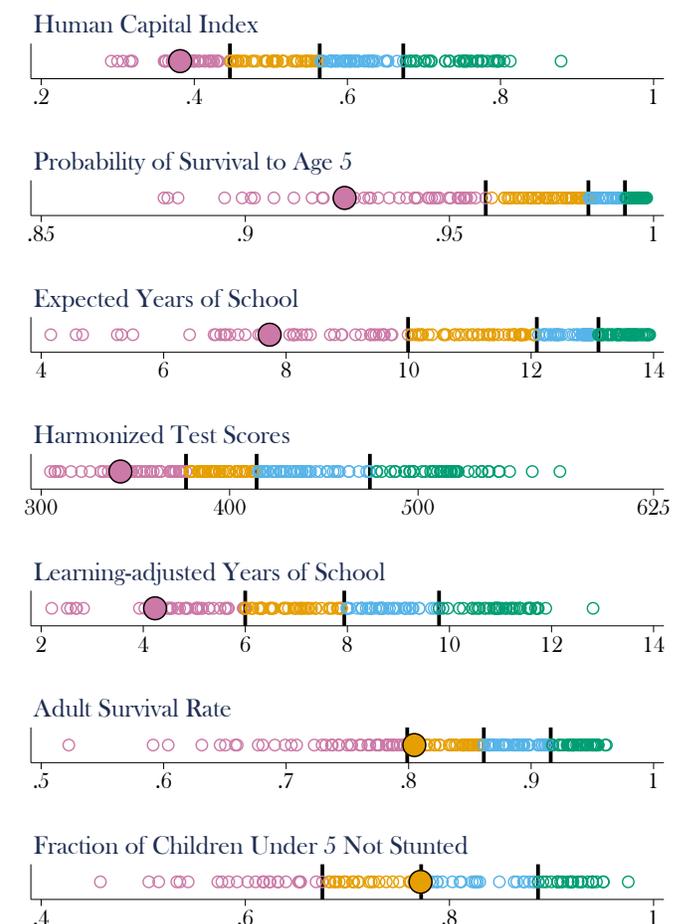
In Mauritania, there are not sufficient data to disaggregate HCI by socio-economic groups.

Table 1. HCI by Gender and Socio-economic Group

| Component | Boys | Girls | Overall |
|--|------|-------|---------|
| HCI | 0.37 | 0.39 | 0.38 |
| Survival to Age 5 | 0.92 | 0.93 | 0.92 |
| Expected Years of School | 7.5 | 7.9 | 7.7 |
| Harmonized Test Scores | 340 | 343 | 342 |
| Learning-adjusted Years of School | 4.1 | 4.4 | 4.2 |
| Adult Survival Rate | 0.78 | 0.83 | 0.80 |
| Not Stunted Rate | 0.74 | 0.80 | 0.77 |
| HCI Ratio (richest / poorest 20 percent) | | | - |

For more on socioeconomic disaggregated HCI, please visit <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/human-capital/brief/insights-from-disaggregating-the-human-capital-index>

Figure 1. HCI and Components



Note:

- Large circle represents Mauritania
- Small circles represent other countries
- Lines and color of circles indicate quartiles of the distribution