

Ireland

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 Ireland today will be **79 percent** as productive when she grows up as she could be if she enjoyed complete education and full health. This is higher than the average for Europe & Central Asia region and High income countries. Between 2010 and 2020, the HCI value for Ireland increased from 0.77 to 0.79. Figure 1 shows how the HCI and each of the components evolved over time.

- **Probability of Survival to Age 5.** 100 out of 100 children born in Ireland survive to age 5.
- **Expected Years of School.** In Ireland, a child who starts school at age 4 can expect to complete **13.9 years** of school by her 18th birthday.
- **Harmonized Test Scores.** Students in Ireland score **521** 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 **11.6 years**.
- **Adult Survival Rate.** Across Ireland, **94 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).** Data on stunting are not available for Ireland.

DIFFERENCES IN HCI ACROSS GENDER AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUPS

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

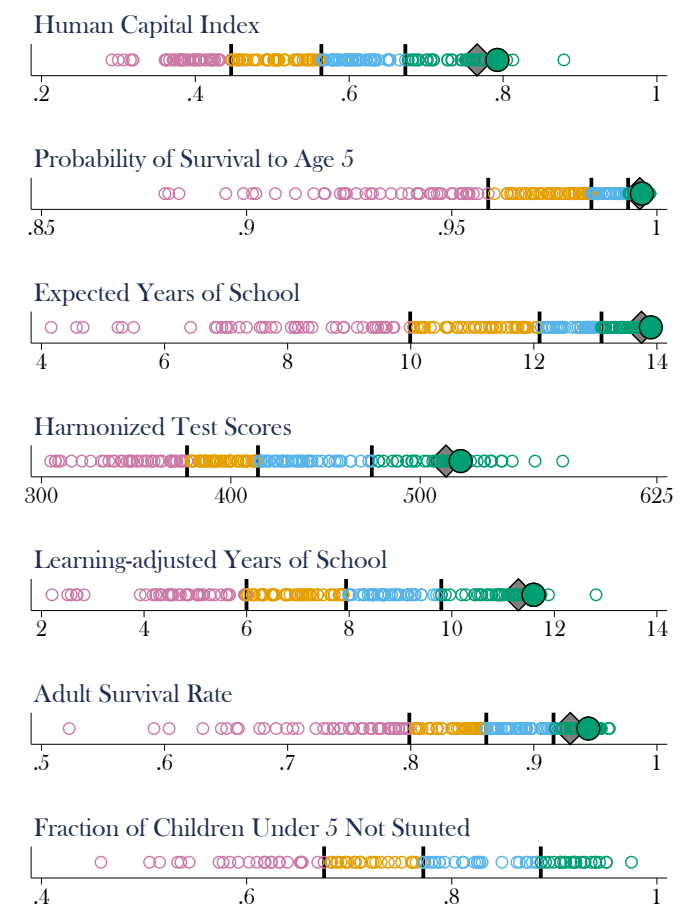
In Ireland, there are not sufficient data to disaggregate HCI by socio-economic groups.

Table 1. HCI by Gender and Socio-economic Group

Component	Boys	Girls	Overall
HCI	0.78	0.80	0.79
Survival to Age 5	1.00	1.00	1.00
Expected Years of School	13.9	13.9	13.9
Harmonized Test Scores	518	524	521
Learning-adjusted Years of School	11.5	11.7	11.6
Adult Survival Rate	0.93	0.96	0.94
Not Stunted Rate	-	-	-
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 Ireland in 2020
- Diamond represents Ireland in 2010
- Small circles represent other countries
- Lines and color of circles indicate quartiles of the distribution