

Jamaica

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 Jamaica today will be **53 percent** as productive when she grows up as she could be if she enjoyed complete education and full health. This is lower than the average for Latin America & Caribbean region and Upper middle income countries.

- **Probability of Survival to Age 5.** **99** out of 100 children born in Jamaica survive to age 5.
- **Expected Years of School.** In Jamaica, a child who starts school at age 4 can expect to complete **11.4 years** of school by her 18th birthday.
- **Harmonized Test Scores.** Students in Jamaica score **387** 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 **7.1 years**.
- **Adult Survival Rate.** Across Jamaica, **86 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).** **94** out of 100 children are **not** stunted. **6** 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 Jamaica, the HCI for girls is higher than for boys. Table 1 shows gender disaggregation for each of the HCI components.

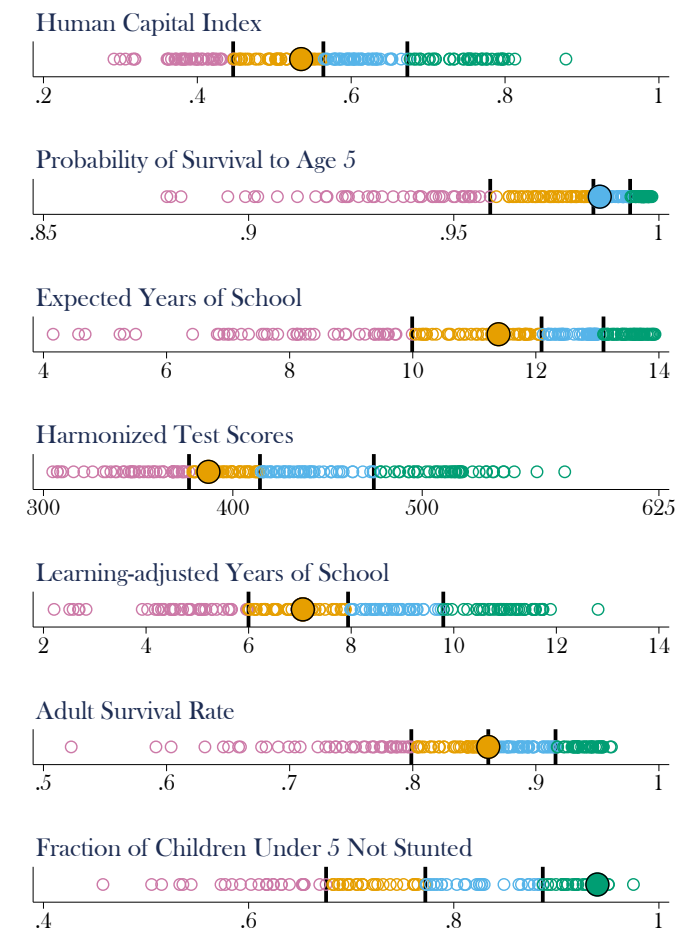
In Jamaica, there are not sufficient data to disaggregate HCI by socio-economic groups.

Table 1. HCI by Gender and Socio-economic Group

Component	Boys	Girls	Overall
HCI	0.51	0.56	0.53
Survival to Age 5	0.98	0.99	0.99
Expected Years of School	11.2	11.6	11.4
Harmonized Test Scores	372	404	387
Learning-adjusted Years of School	6.7	7.5	7.1
Adult Survival Rate	0.83	0.90	0.86
Not Stunted Rate	0.93	0.95	0.94
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 Jamaica
- Small circles represent other countries
- Lines and color of circles indicate quartiles of the distribution