

Namibia

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 Namibia today will be **45 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 Sub-Saharan Africa region but lower than the average for Upper middle income countries. Between 2010 and 2020, the HCI value for Namibia increased from 0.39 to 0.45. Figure 1 shows how the HCI and each of the components evolved over time.

- **Probability of Survival to Age 5.** 96 out of 100 children born in Namibia survive to age 5.
- **Expected Years of School.** In Namibia, a child who starts school at age 4 can expect to complete **9.4 years** of school by her 18th birthday.
- **Harmonized Test Scores.** Students in Namibia score **407** 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 **6.1 years**.
- **Adult Survival Rate.** Across Namibia, **71 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 Namibia, lack of data prevents comparison of HCI by gender. Table 1 shows gender disaggregation for each of the HCI components, where available.

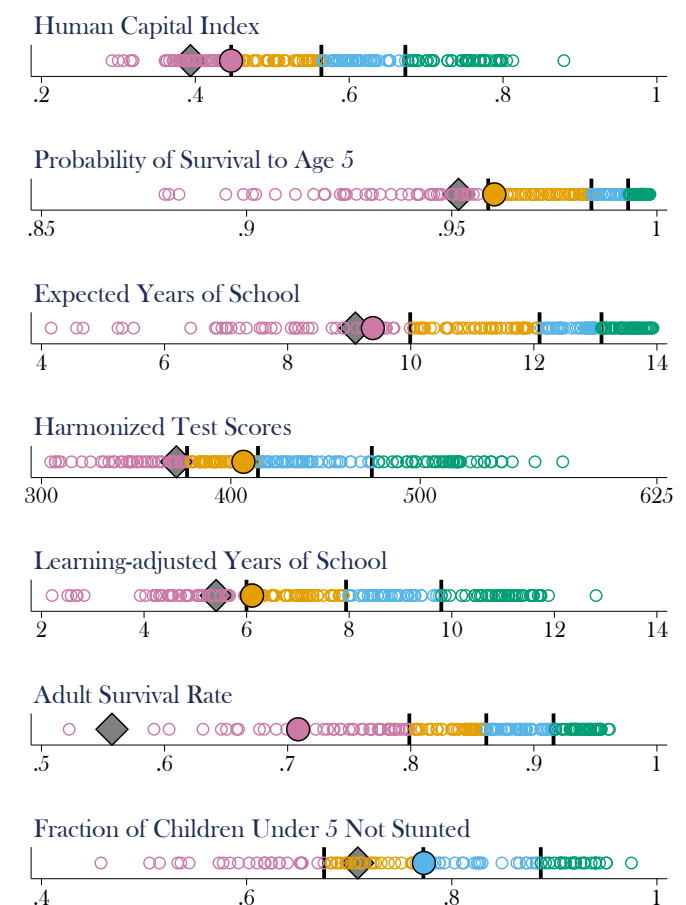
The ratio in HCI between the richest and poorest 20 percent of the population in Namibia is **1.32** (global average: 1.35; global range: 1.12-1.68).

Table 1. HCI by Gender and Socio-economic Group

Component	Boys	Girls	Overall
HCI	-	-	0.45
Survival to Age 5	0.96	0.96	0.96
Expected Years of School	9.1	9.7	9.4
Harmonized Test Scores	-	-	407
Learning-adjusted Years of School	-	-	6.1
Adult Survival Rate	0.66	0.76	0.71
Not Stunted Rate	0.75	0.80	0.77
HCI Ratio (richest / poorest 20 percent)			1.32

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 Namibia in 2020
- Diamond represents Namibia in 2010
- Small circles represent other countries
- Lines and color of circles indicate quartiles of the distribution