

Nicaragua

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 Nicaragua today will be **51 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 but higher than the average for Lower middle income countries.

- **Probability of Survival to Age 5.** 98 out of 100 children born in Nicaragua survive to age 5.
- **Expected Years of School.** In Nicaragua, a child who starts school at age 4 can expect to complete **10.8 years** of school by her 18th birthday.
- **Harmonized Test Scores.** Students in Nicaragua score **392** 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 **6.7 years**.
- **Adult Survival Rate.** Across Nicaragua, **85 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).** **83** out of 100 children are **not** stunted. **17** 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 Nicaragua, the HCI for girls is higher than for boys. Table 1 shows gender disaggregation for each of the HCI components.

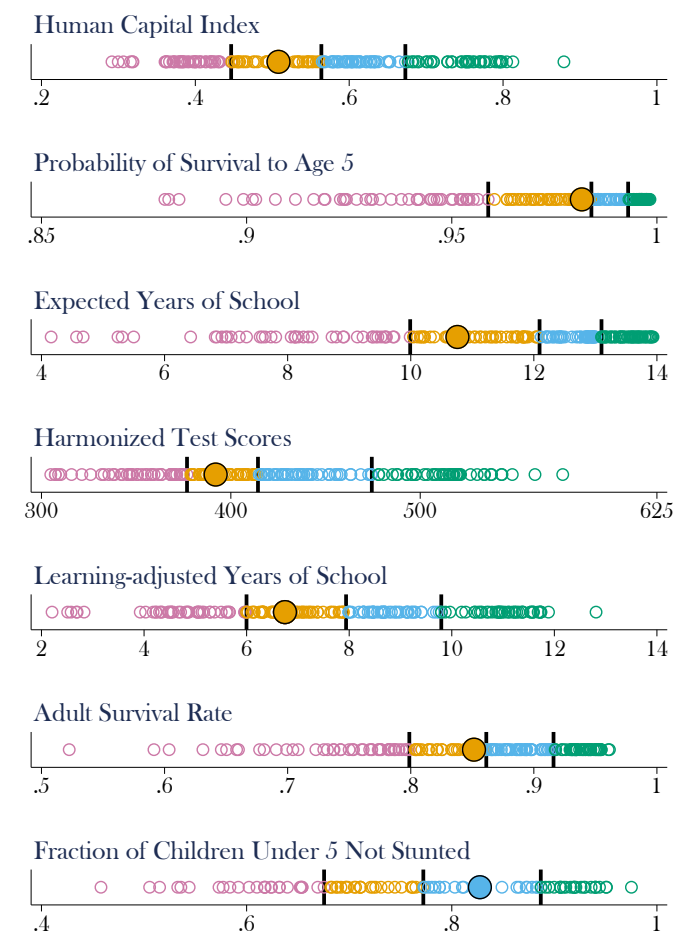
In Nicaragua, there are not sufficient data to disaggregate HCI by socio-economic groups.

Table 1. HCI by Gender and Socio-economic Group

Component	Boys	Girls	Overall
HCI	0.49	0.53	0.51
Survival to Age 5	0.98	0.98	0.98
Expected Years of School	10.4	11.1	10.8
Harmonized Test Scores	392	392	392
Learning-adjusted Years of School	6.5	7.0	6.7
Adult Survival Rate	0.80	0.90	0.85
Not Stunted Rate	0.82	0.84	0.83
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 Nicaragua
- Small circles represent other countries
- Lines and color of circles indicate quartiles of the distribution