

El Salvador

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 El Salvador today will be **55 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.** 99 out of 100 children born in El Salvador survive to age 5.
- **Expected Years of School.** In El Salvador, a child who starts school at age 4 can expect to complete **10.9 years** of school by her 18th birthday.
- **Harmonized Test Scores.** Students in El Salvador score **436** 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 **7.6 years**.
- **Adult Survival Rate.** Across El Salvador, **82 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).** **86** out of 100 children are **not** stunted. **14** 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 El Salvador, the HCI for girls is higher than for boys. Table 1 shows gender disaggregation for each of the HCI components.

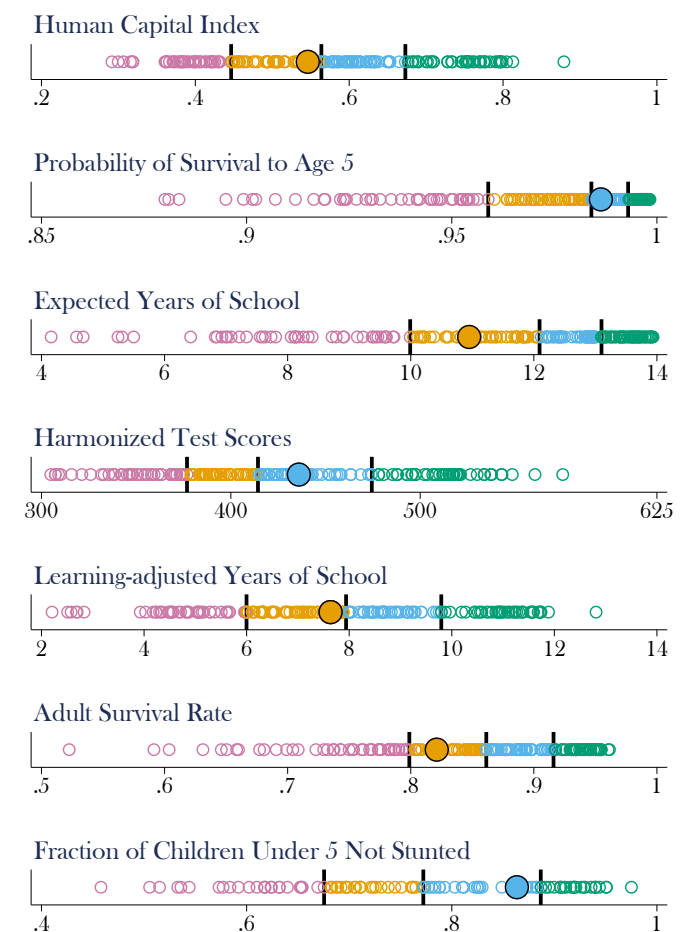
The ratio in HCI between the richest and poorest 20 percent of the population in El Salvador is **1.28** (global average: 1.35; global range: 1.12-1.68).

Table 1. HCI by Gender and Socio-economic Group

Component	Boys	Girls	Overall
HCI	0.52	0.57	0.55
Survival to Age 5	0.98	0.99	0.99
Expected Years of School	10.9	11.0	10.9
Harmonized Test Scores	433	439	436
Learning-adjusted Years of School	7.5	7.8	7.6
Adult Survival Rate	0.73	0.90	0.82
Not Stunted Rate	0.85	0.88	0.86
HCI Ratio (richest / poorest 20 percent)			1.28

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 El Salvador
- Small circles represent other countries
- Lines and color of circles indicate quartiles of the distribution