

Sierra Leone

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 Sierra Leone today will be **36 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 Sub-Saharan Africa region but slightly lower than the average for Low income countries.

- **Probability of Survival to Age 5.** **89** out of 100 children born in Sierra Leone survive to age 5.
- **Expected Years of School.** In Sierra Leone, a child who starts school at age 4 can expect to complete **9.6 years** of school by her 18th birthday.
- **Harmonized Test Scores.** Students in Sierra Leone score **316** 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 **4.9 years**.
- **Adult Survival Rate.** Across Sierra Leone, **63 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).** **71** out of 100 children are **not** stunted. **29** 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 Sierra Leone, the HCI for girls is higher than for boys. Table 1 shows gender disaggregation for each of the HCI components.

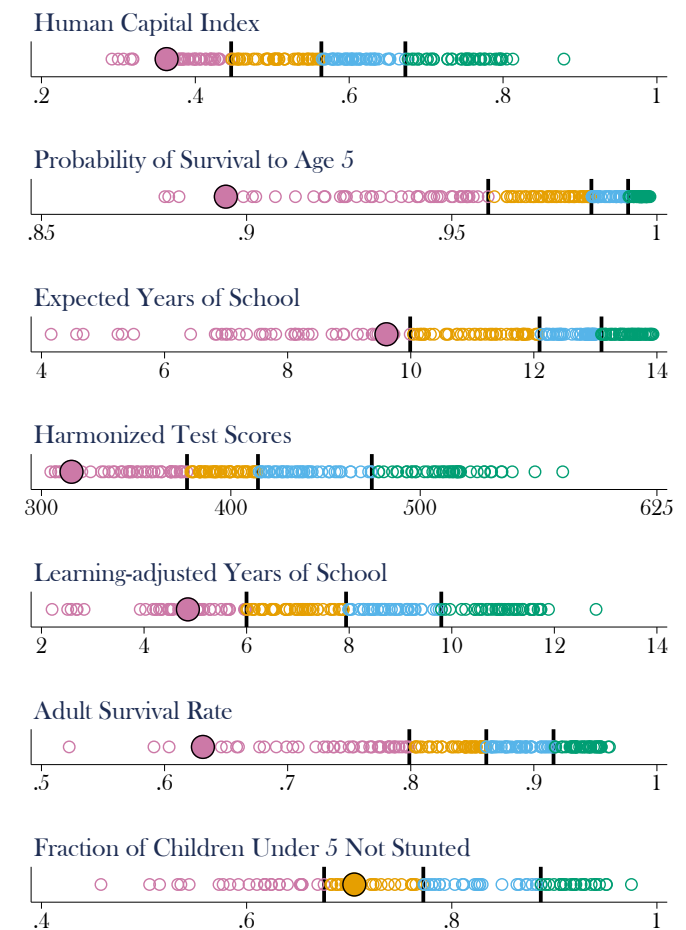
In Sierra Leone, there are not sufficient data to disaggregate HCI by socio-economic groups.

Table 1. HCI by Gender and Socio-economic Group

Component	Boys	Girls	Overall
HCI	0.36	0.37	0.36
Survival to Age 5	0.89	0.90	0.89
Expected Years of School	9.5	9.7	9.6
Harmonized Test Scores	318	314	316
Learning-adjusted Years of School	4.8	4.9	4.9
Adult Survival Rate	0.61	0.65	0.63
Not Stunted Rate	0.68	0.73	0.71
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 Sierra Leone
- Small circles represent other countries
- Lines and color of circles indicate quartiles of the distribution