



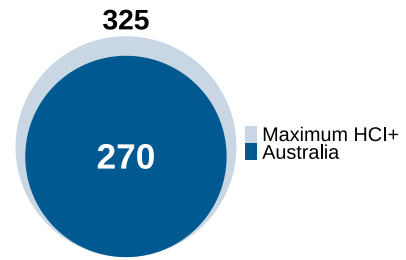
AUSTRALIA

Region: East Asia & Pacific
Income Category: High Income

Human capital - people’s knowledge, skills, and health - drives productivity and growth. The Human Capital Index Plus (HCI+) measures the human capital a child born today can expect to accumulate over their working life, extending the original HCI by incorporating tertiary education and work experience. This brief summarizes **Australia’s** HCI+ score and its performance in building human capital.

What is Australia’s HCI+ and what does it mean?

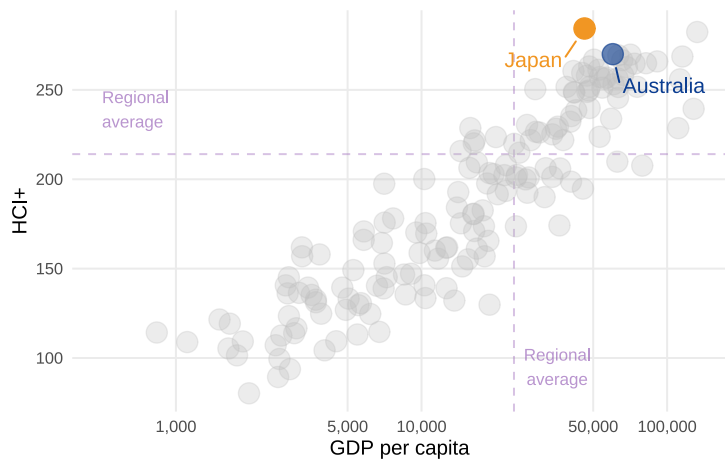
Australia’s HCI+ score is **270** (out of a maximum of **325**), reflecting its investments in **health, education, and employment**. A 10-point increase in the index would translate into approximately 10 percent higher future income. Closing the current gaps in these areas relative to high-performing countries with similar GDP per capita would boost future income by 12%.



How does Australia’s HCI+ compare to other countries?

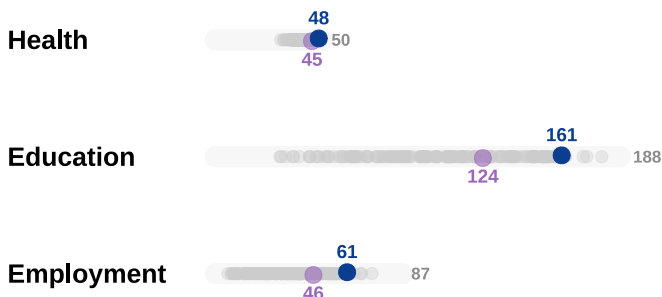
Australia’s HCI+ is higher than the average for the **East Asia & Pacific region (215)** and higher than the average for **high-income countries (254)**.

Australia’s HCI+ score is also **14 points lower than Japan’s**.



What explains Australia’s HCI+?

The HCI+ has three components corresponding to health, education, and employment.



The HCI+ score for the **Health pillar is 48**, slightly higher than the **regional average of 45**.

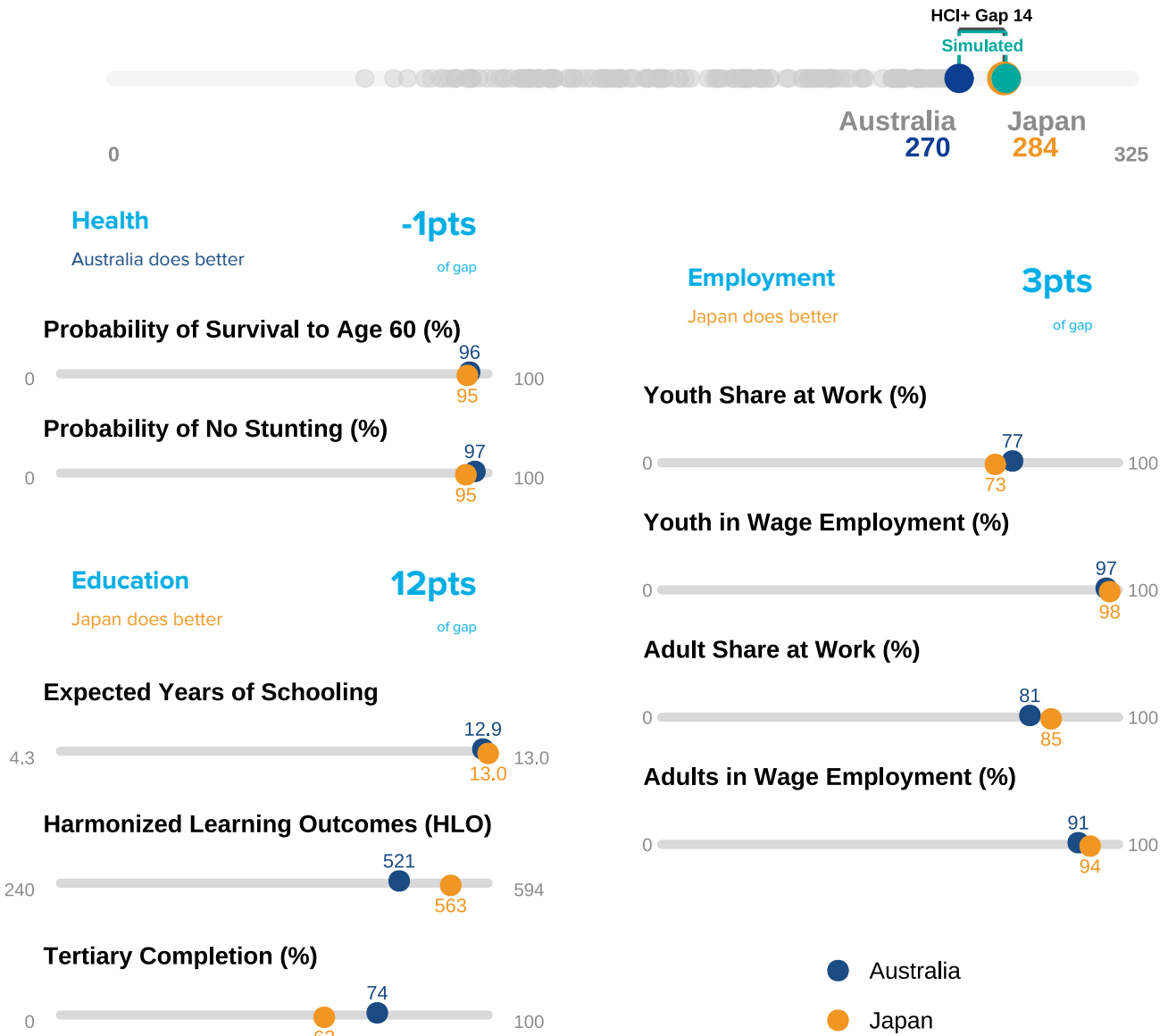
The HCI+ score for the **Education pillar is 161**, higher than the **regional average of 124**.

The HCI+ score for the **Employment pillar is 61**, higher than the **regional average of 46**.



What indicators are responsible for Australia's HCI+ gap with Japan?

Australia's HCI+ score (270) is lower than Japan's (284). The indicators that account for the largest share of the HCI+ gap between Australia and Japan are **Harmonized Learning Outcomes (HLO), adult share at work, and expected years of schooling**. Raising these indicators to Japan's levels would increase Australia's score to **285**, boosting future income by approximately 15.4%.



What is Australia's HCI+ gender gap?

The HCI+ score for **women in Australia is 267** compared to **273 for men**. The 6-point gap indicates that women's earning potential will be 6% lower than men's due to differences in the human capital acquired by men and women in Australia.



Note: All values are derived from internationally comparable public datasets.

