



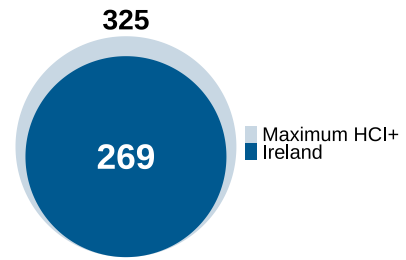
# IRELAND

Region: Europe & Central Asia  
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 **Ireland’s** HCI+ score and its performance in building human capital.

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

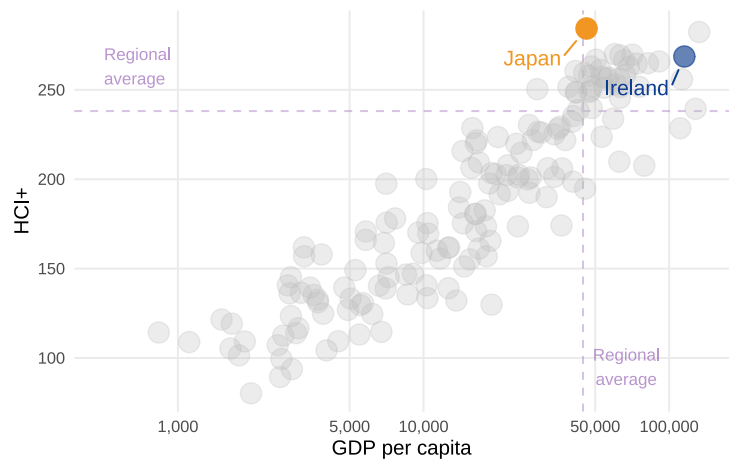
Ireland’s HCI+ score is **269** (out of a maximum of **325**), reflecting its investments in **health, education, and employment**. A 10-point increase in the index would translate into approximately 10 percent higher future income. Closing the current gaps in these areas relative to high-performing countries with similar GDP per capita would boost future income by 48%.



## How does Ireland’s HCI+ compare to other countries?

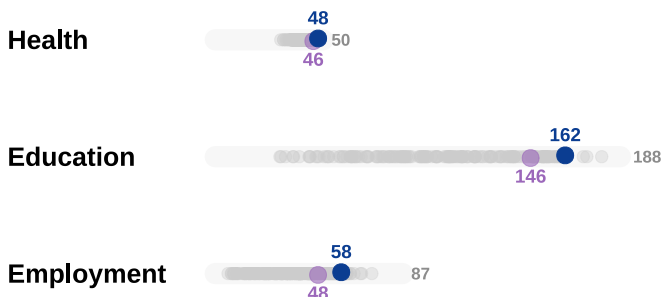
Ireland’s HCI+ is higher than the average for the **Europe & Central Asia region (240)** and higher than the average for **high-income countries (254)**.

Ireland’s HCI+ score is also **15 points lower than Japan’s**.



## What explains Ireland’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 46**.

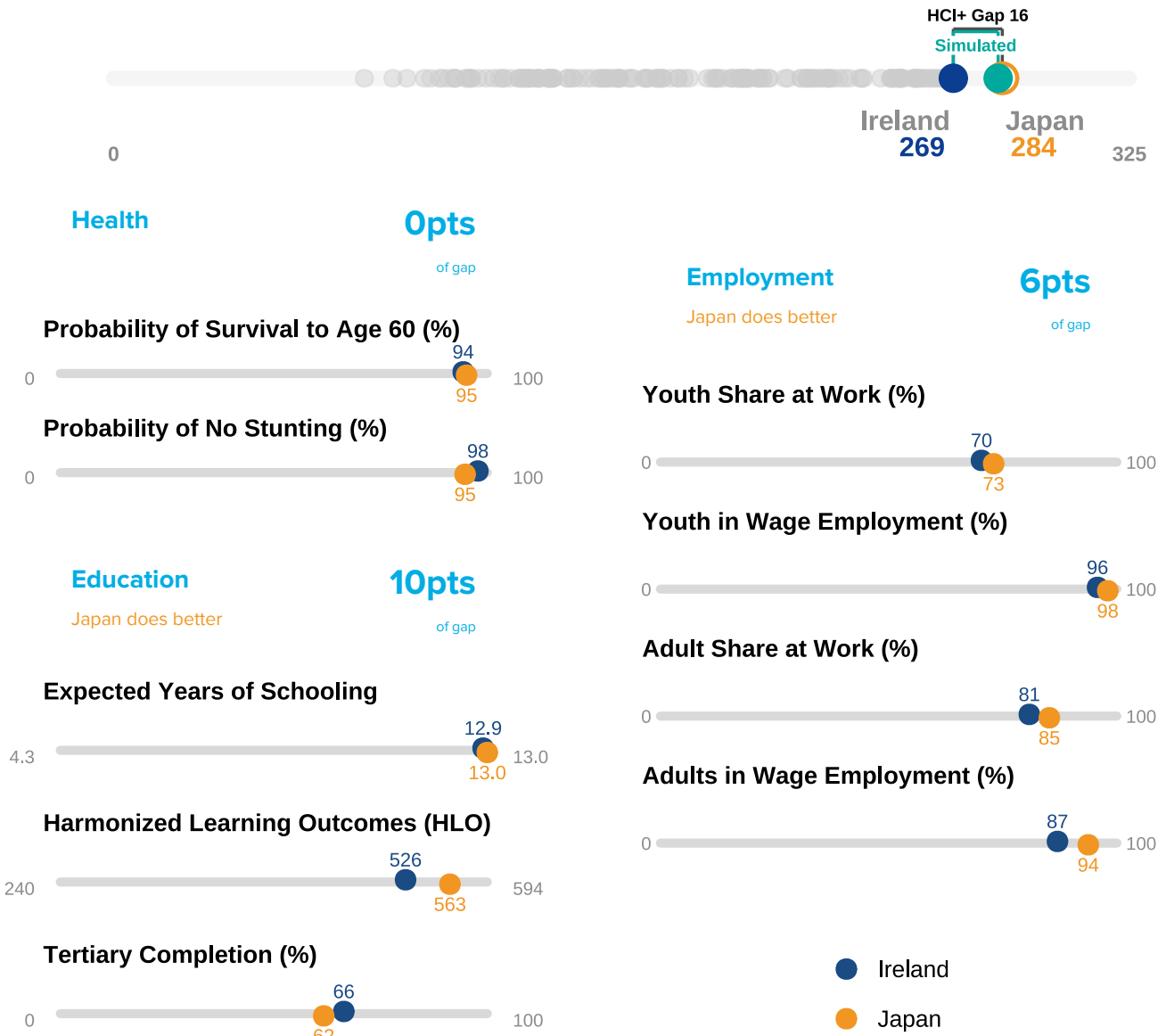
The HCI+ score for the **Education pillar is 162**, higher than the **regional average of 146**.

The HCI+ score for the **Employment pillar is 58**, higher than the **regional average of 48**.



### What indicators are responsible for Ireland’s HCI+ gap with Japan?

Ireland’s HCI+ score (269) is lower than Japan’s (284). The indicators that account for the largest share of the HCI+ gap between Ireland and Japan are **Harmonized Learning Outcomes (HLO), adult share at work, and adult in wage employment**. Raising these indicators to Japan’s levels would increase Ireland’s score to **283**, boosting future income by approximately 13.9%.



### What is Ireland’s HCI+ gender gap?

The HCI+ score for **women in Ireland is 266** compared to **271 for men**. The 5-point gap indicates that women’s earning potential will be 5% lower than men’s due to differences in the human capital acquired by men and women in Ireland.



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

