



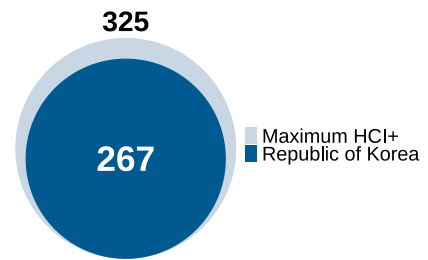
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

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 **Republic of Korea’s** HCI+ score and its performance in building human capital.

What is Republic of Korea’s HCI+ and what does it mean?

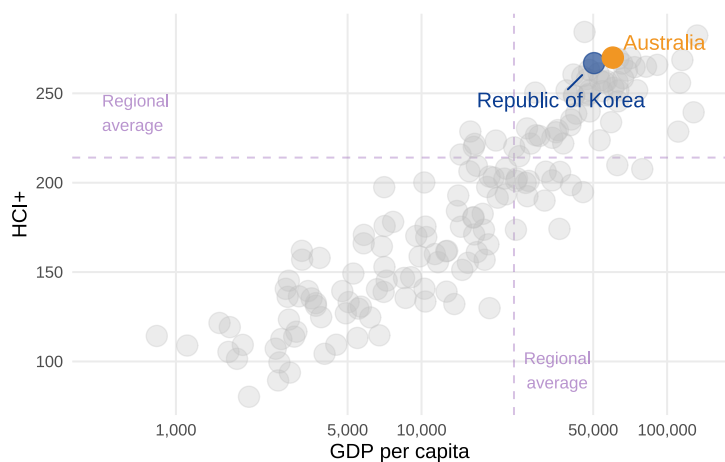
Republic of Korea’s HCI+ score is **267** (out of a maximum of **325**), reflecting its investments in health, education, and employment. A 10-point increase in the index would translate into approximately 10 percent higher future income. Closing the current gaps in these areas relative to high-performing countries with similar GDP per capita would boost future income by 20%.



How does Republic of Korea’s HCI+ compare to other countries?

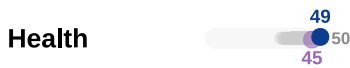
Republic of Korea’s HCI+ is higher than the average for the **East Asia & Pacific region (215)** and higher than the average for **high-income countries (254)**.

Among Republic of Korea’s income level peers, **Australia is the top performer in HCI+.**



What explains Republic of Korea’s HCI+?

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



The HCI+ score for the **Health pillar is 49**, slightly higher than the **regional average of 45**.



The HCI+ score for the **Education pillar is 171**, higher than the **regional average of 124**.

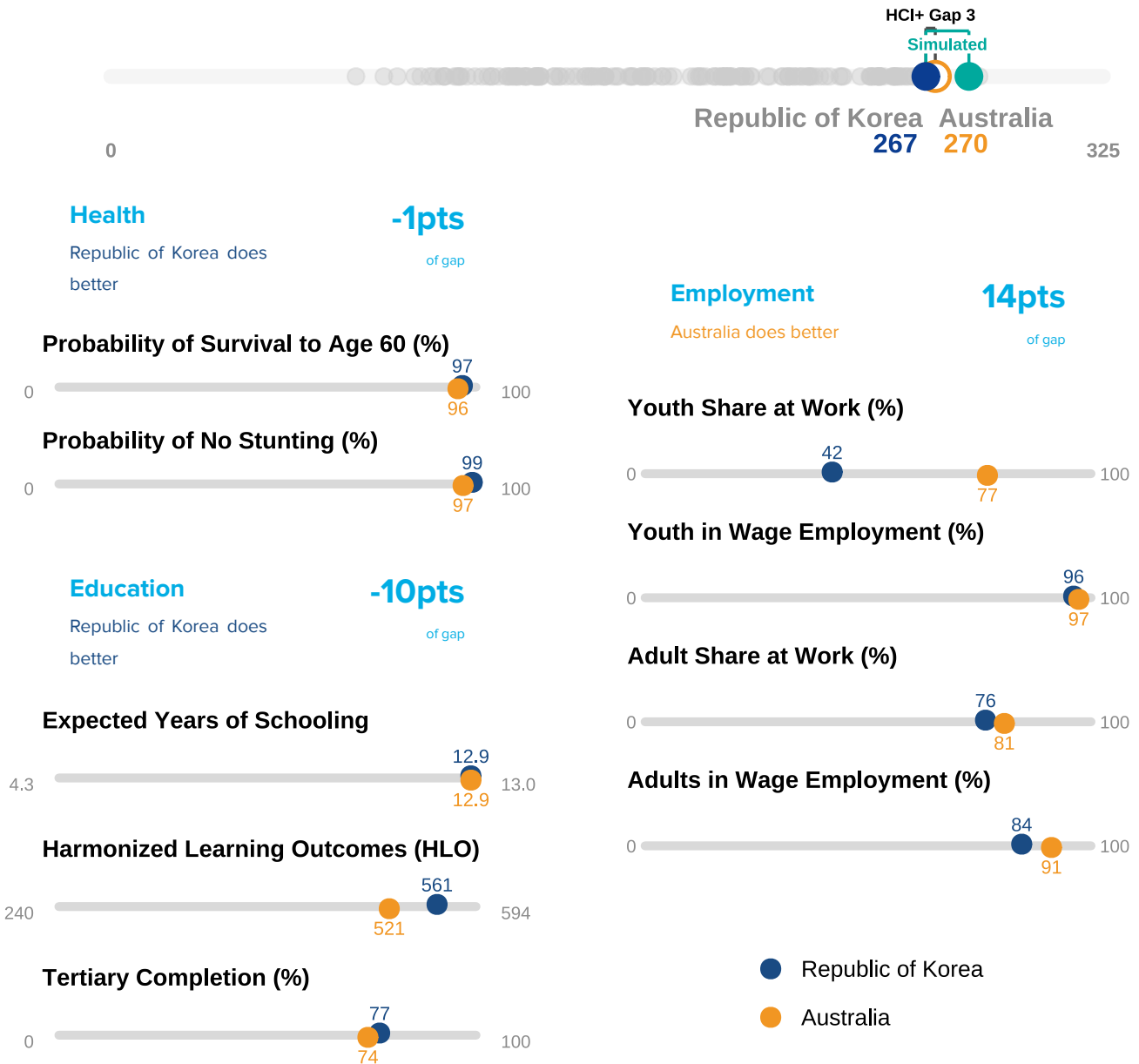


The HCI+ score for the **Employment pillar is 47**, slightly higher than the **regional average of 46**.



What indicators are responsible for Republic of Korea's HCI+ gap with Australia?

Republic of Korea's HCI+ score (267) is lower than Australia's (270). The indicators that account for the largest share of the HCI+ gap between Republic of Korea and Australia are **youth share at work, adult share at work, and adult in wage employment**. Raising these indicators to Australia's levels would increase Republic of Korea's score to **281**, boosting future income by approximately 13.9%.



What is Republic of Korea's HCI+ gender gap?

The HCI+ score for **women in Republic of Korea is 262** compared to **271 for men**. The 9-point gap indicates that women's earning potential will be 9% lower than men's due to differences in the human capital acquired by men and women in Republic of Korea.



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

