



# BANGLADESH

Region: South Asia

Income Category: Lower Middle Income



**Human capital – knowledge, skills, and good health – empowers people to achieve their potential and drives economic growth.** This brief tracks progress by Bangladesh in building and using human capital. The Human Capital Complementary Indicators offer a snapshot of human capital investments at four stages of the lifecycle. The brief uses the latest available data. It is benchmarked against regional averages and reports progress over the previous 5 years.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

- **Neonatal mortality rate.** The neonatal mortality rate is **18** per 1,000 live births (2023), compared to 20 in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Children who are developmentally on track.** In 2019, **75%** of children (ages 36-59 months) were developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **DTP vaccination rate, third dose.** In 2024, **97%** of infants received the third dose of the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine, compared to 98% in 2019. The indicator is similar to the regional average.

## SCHOOL AGE

- **Children engaged in child labor.** The share of children (ages 5-17) who are engaged in economic activities is **7%** (2022). The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **5** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2023). This remains unchanged since 2018. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Learning poverty.** In 2022, **51%** of children could not read and understand a simple text, by age 10. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

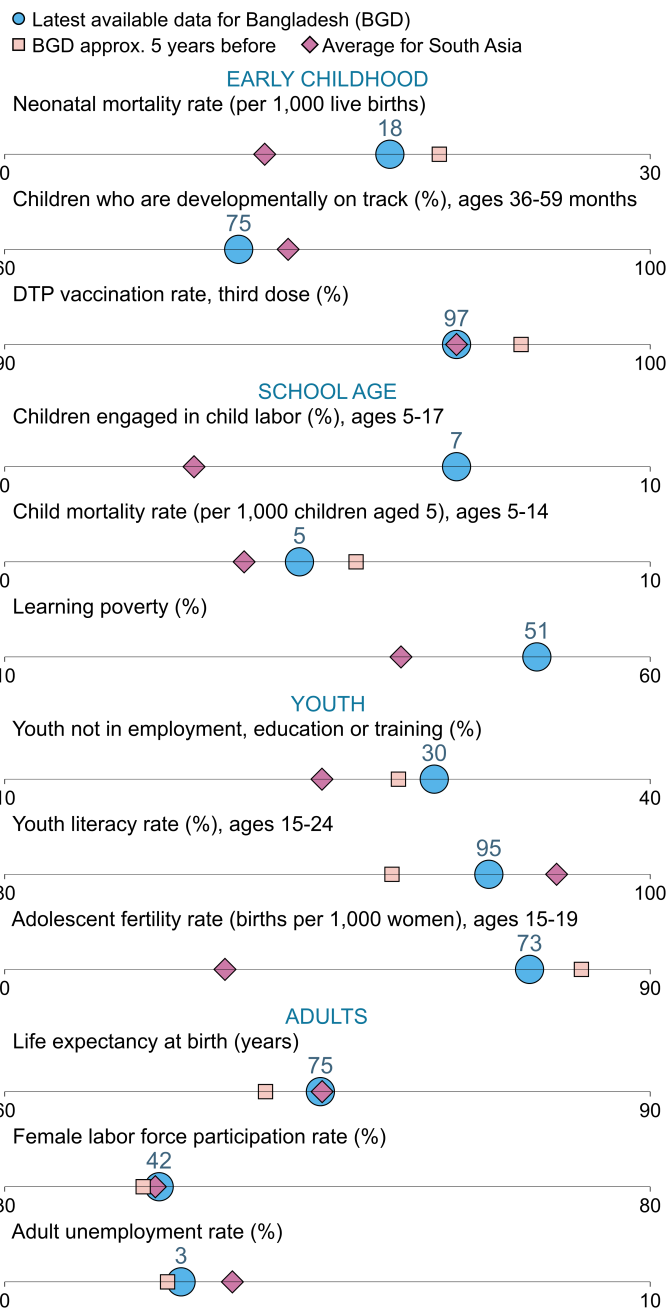
## YOUTH

- **Youth not in employment, education or training.** In 2024, **30%** of youth (ages 15-24) were not in employment, education or training, compared to 28% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **95%** (2021), compared to 92% in 2016. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Adolescent fertility rate.** The number of births for every 1,000 women ages 15-19 is **73** (2023), compared to 80 in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

## ADULTS

- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **75** years (2023), compared to 72 in 2018. The indicator is similar to the regional average.
- **Female labor force participation rate.** Female labor force participation as a percentage of the female working-age population (ages 25+) is **42%** (2024), compared to 41% in 2019. The indicator is similar to the regional average.
- **Adult unemployment rate.** Unemployed adults as a share of the adult labor force (ages 25+) is **3%** (2024). This remains unchanged since 2019. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

## HUMAN CAPITAL COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS



Note: All values use internationally comparable public datasets. Missing symbols indicate unavailable statistics. Full details can be accessed through the QR code.

