



WEST BANK AND GAZA

Region: Middle East North Africa, Afghanistan, and Pakistan

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 the West Bank and Gaza 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

- **Children who are developmentally on track.** In 2020, **84%** of children (ages 36-59 months) were developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Neonatal mortality rate.** The neonatal mortality rate is **9** per 1,000 live births (2023), compared to 10 in 2018. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **DTP vaccination rate, third dose.** In 2024, **88%** of infants received the third dose of the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine, compared to 99% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

SCHOOL AGE

- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **28** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2023), compared to 4 in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Children engaged in child labor.** The share of children (ages 5-17) who are engaged in economic activities is **6%** (2020). The indicator is similar to the regional average.
- **Primary school completion rate.** The primary school completion rate is **91%** (by the official entrance age of the last grade) (2023), compared to 96% in 2018. The indicator is similar to the regional average.

YOUTH

- **Adolescent fertility rate.** The number of births for every 1,000 women ages 15-19 is **36** (2023), compared to 42 in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **99%** (2022). This remains unchanged since 2017. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Youth not in employment, education or training.** In 2022, **28%** of youth (ages 15-24) were not in employment, education or training, compared to 33% in 2017. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

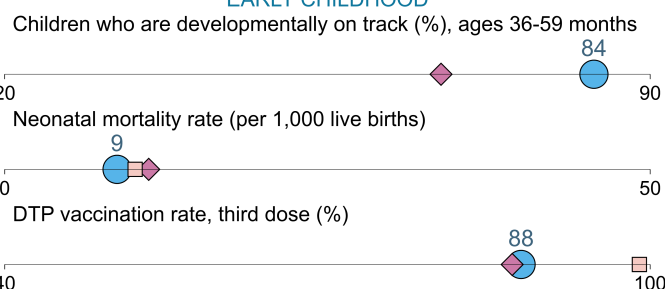
ADULTS

- **Female labor force participation rate.** Female labor force participation as a percentage of the female working-age population (ages 25+) is **23%** (2022), compared to 21% in 2017. The indicator is lower than the regional average.
- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **65** years (2023), compared to 75 in 2018. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Adult unemployment rate.** Unemployed adults as a share of the adult labor force (ages 25+) is **21%** (2022). This remains unchanged since 2017. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

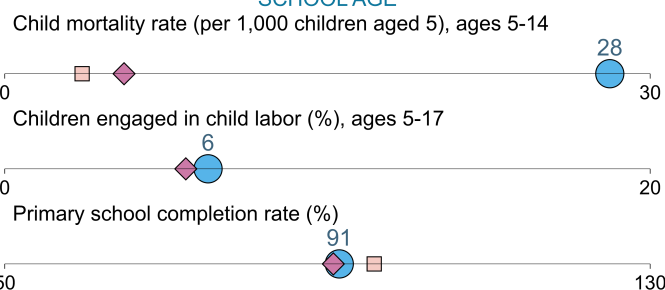
HUMAN CAPITAL COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

- Latest available data for the West Bank and Gaza (PSE)
- PSE approx. 5 years before
- ◆ Average for MENAAP

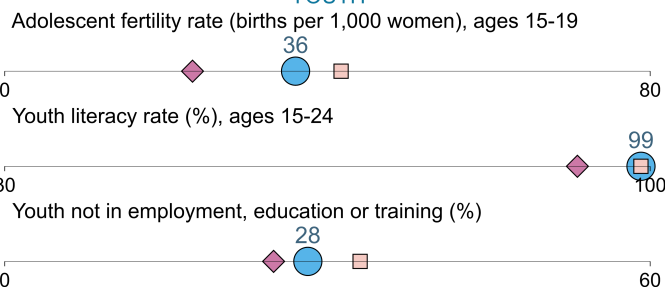
EARLY CHILDHOOD



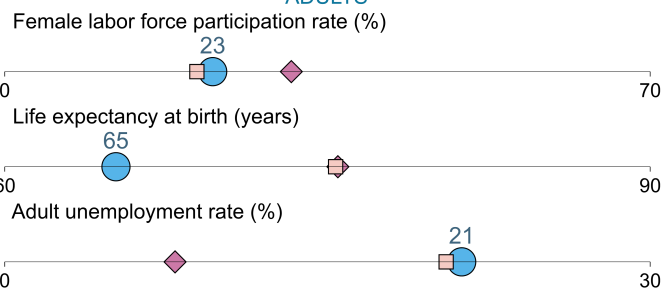
SCHOOL AGE



YOUTH



ADULTS



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

