



SAUDI ARABIA

Region: Middle East North Africa, Afghanistan, and Pakistan

Income Category: High Income



Human capital – knowledge, skills, and good health – empowers people to achieve their potential and drives economic growth. This brief tracks progress by Saudi Arabia 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 **3** per 1,000 live births (2023), compared to 4 in 2018. The indicator is lower than 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 96% in 2019. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio.** The pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio is **18%** (by the official age) (2021), compared to 22% in 2016. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

SCHOOL AGE

- **Learning poverty.** In 2021, **32%** of children could not read and understand a simple text, by age 10, compared to 40% in 2016. The indicator is lower than the regional average.
- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **2** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2023). This remains unchanged since 2018. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Primary school completion rate.** The primary school completion rate is **120%** (by the official entrance age of the last grade) (2022), compared to 100% in 2017. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

YOUTH

- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **99%** (2020). This remains unchanged since 2017. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Youth not in employment, education or training.** In 2024, **18%** of youth (ages 15-24) were not in employment, education or training, compared to 16% in 2019. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Adolescent fertility rate.** The number of births for every 1,000 women ages 15-19 is **11** (2023), compared to 14 in 2018. The indicator is lower 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 **40%** (2024), compared to 29% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **79** years (2023). This remains unchanged since 2018. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Adult unemployment rate.** Unemployed adults as a share of the adult labor force (ages 25+) is **3%** (2024), compared to 4% in 2019. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

HUMAN CAPITAL COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

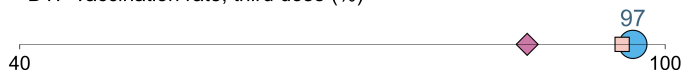
● Latest available data for Saudi Arabia (SAU)
 ■ SAU approx. 5 years before ◆ Average for MENAAP

EARLY CHILDHOOD

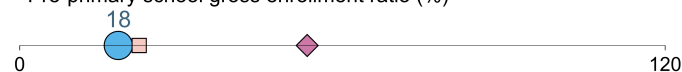
Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)



DTP vaccination rate, third dose (%)



Pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio (%)



SCHOOL AGE

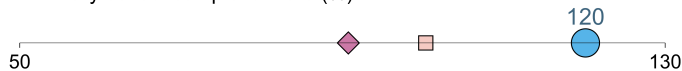
Learning poverty (%)



Child mortality rate (per 1,000 children aged 5), ages 5-14



Primary school completion rate (%)



YOUTH

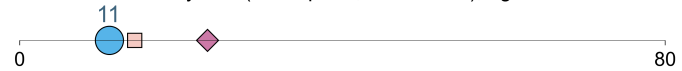
Youth literacy rate (%), ages 15-24



Youth not in employment, education or training (%)

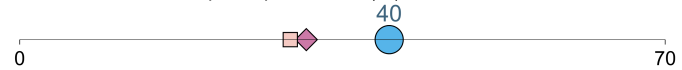


Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women), ages 15-19

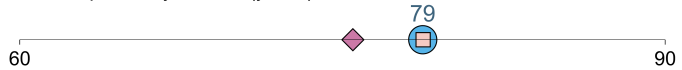


ADULTS

Female labor force participation rate (%)



Life expectancy at birth (years)



Adult unemployment rate (%)



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

