



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Region: Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan, and Pakistan

Income Category: Upper Middle Income



Human capital – knowledge, skills, and good health – empowers people to achieve their potential and drives economic growth. This brief tracks progress by Islamic Republic of Iran 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 **7** per 1,000 live births (2023), compared to 9 in 2018. The indicator is lower than the regional average.
- **Pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio.** The pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio is **72%** (by the official age) (2020), compared to 53% in 2015. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **DTP vaccination rate, third dose.** In 2024, **98%** 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

- **Learning poverty.** In 2021, **42%** of children could not read and understand a simple text, by age 10, compared to 35% in 2016. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **3** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2023), compared to 4 in 2018. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Primary school completion rate.** The primary school completion rate is **98%** (by the official entrance age of the last grade) (2020), compared to 100% in 2015. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

YOUTH

- **Youth not in employment, education or training.** In 2024, **27%** of youth (ages 15-24) were not in employment, education or training, compared to 30% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Adolescent fertility rate.** The number of births for every 1,000 women ages 15-19 is **26** (2023), compared to 33 in 2018. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **99%** (2022), compared to 98% in 2016. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

ADULTS

- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **78** years (2023), compared to 77 in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Female labor force participation rate.** Female labor force participation as a percentage of the female working-age population (ages 25+) is **15%** (2024), compared to 18% in 2019. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Adult unemployment rate.** Unemployed adults as a share of the adult labor force (ages 25+) is **8%** (2024), compared to 9% in 2019. The indicator is similar to the regional average.

HUMAN CAPITAL COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

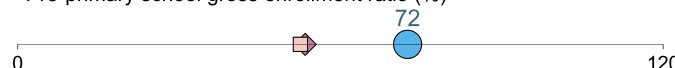
● Latest available data for Islamic Republic of Iran (IRN)
 ■ IRN approx. 5 years before ◆ Average for MENAAP

EARLY CHILDHOOD

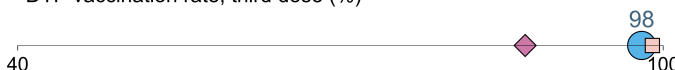
Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)



Pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio (%)

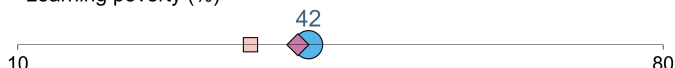


DTP vaccination rate, third dose (%)

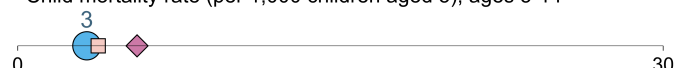


SCHOOL AGE

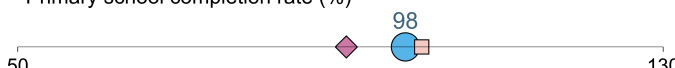
Learning poverty (%)



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

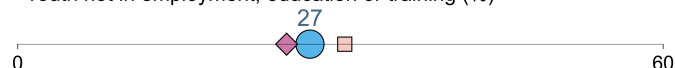


Primary school completion rate (%)

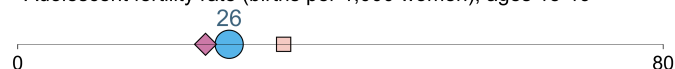


YOUTH

Youth not in employment, education or training (%)



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

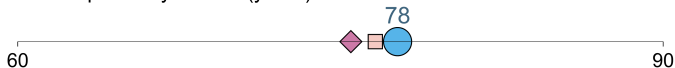


Youth literacy rate (%), ages 15-24

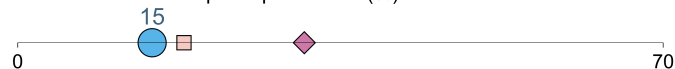


ADULTS

Life expectancy at birth (years)



Female labor force participation rate (%)



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.

