



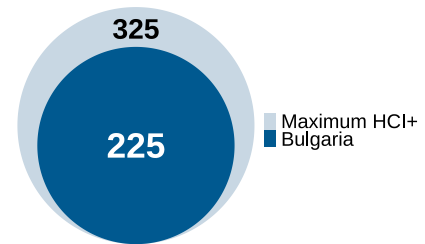
BULGARIA

Region: Europe & Central Asia
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 **Bulgaria’s** HCI+ score and its performance in building human capital.

What is Bulgaria’s HCI+ and what does it mean?

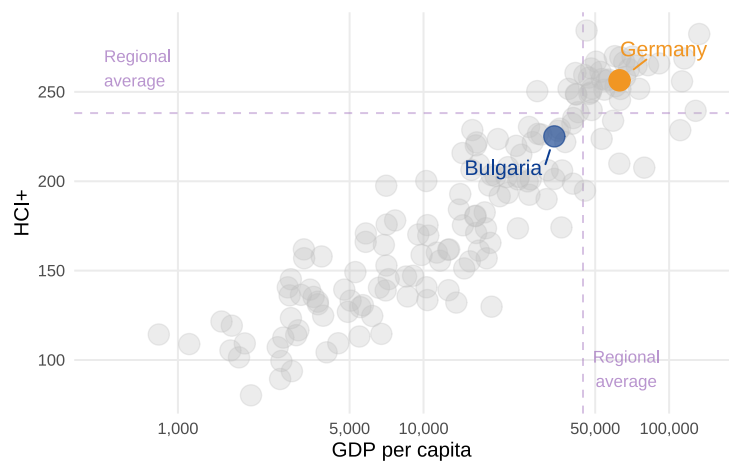
Bulgaria’s HCI+ score is 225 (out of a maximum of 325), reflecting its investments in health, education, and employment. A 10-point increase in the index would translate into approximately 10 percent higher future income. Closing the current gaps in these areas relative to high-performing countries with similar GDP per capita would boost future income by 38%.



How does Bulgaria’s HCI+ compare to other countries?

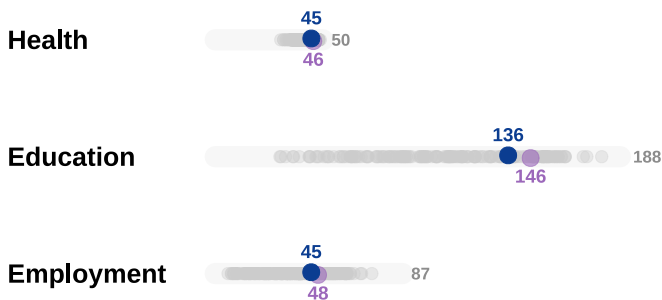
Bulgaria’s HCI+ is lower than the average for the **Europe & Central Asia region (240)** and lower than the average for **high-income countries (254)**.

Bulgaria’s HCI+ score is also **31 points lower than Germany’s.**



What explains Bulgaria’s HCI+?

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



The HCI+ score for the **Health pillar is 45**, about the same as the **regional average of 46**.

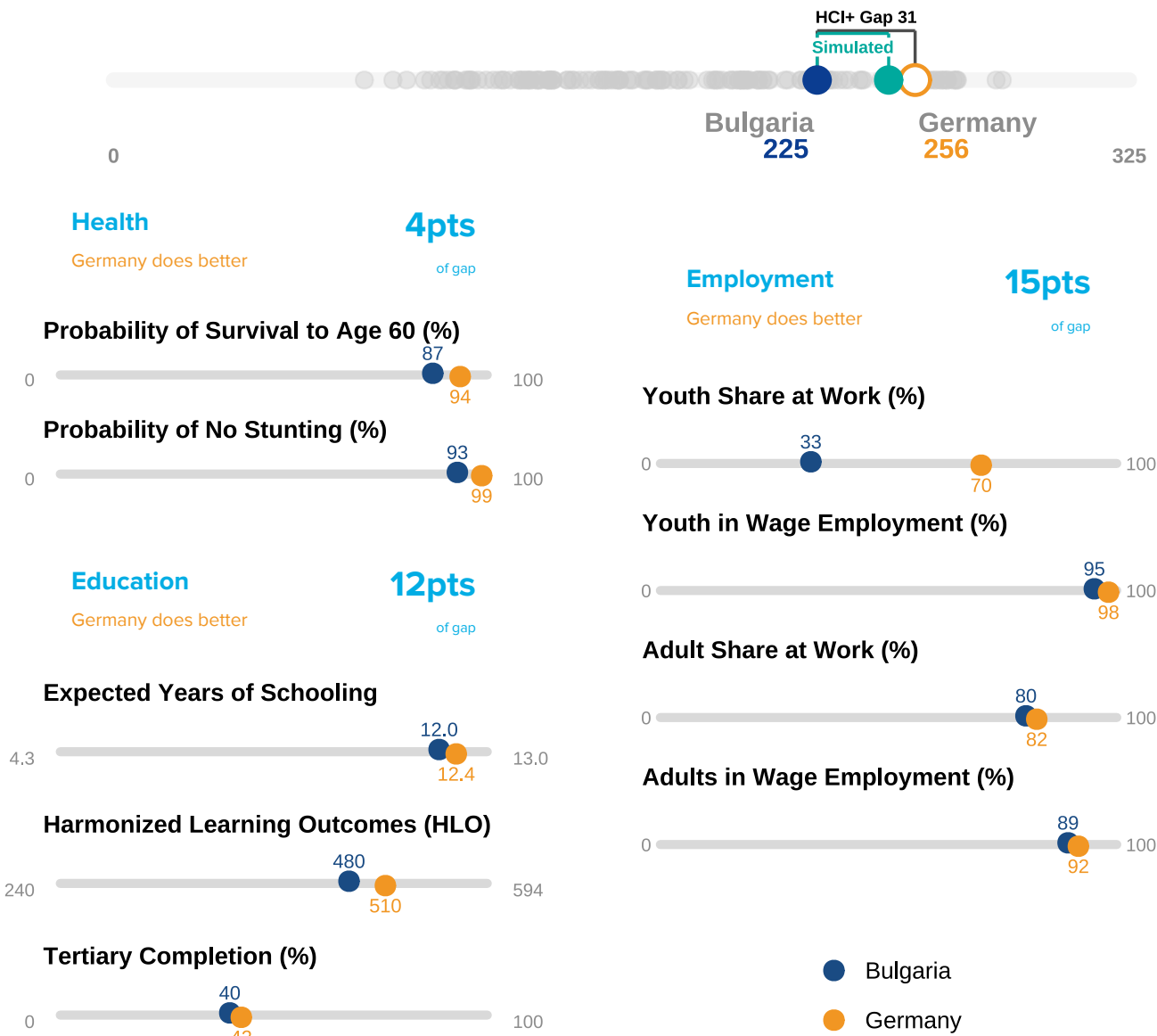
The HCI+ score for the **Education pillar is 136**, lower than the **regional average of 146**.

The HCI+ score for the **Employment pillar is 45**, slightly lower than the **regional average of 48**.



What indicators are responsible for Bulgaria's HCI+ gap with Germany?

Bulgaria's HCI+ score (225) is lower than Germany's (256). The indicators that account for the largest share of the HCI+ gap between Bulgaria and Germany are **youth share at work, Harmonized Learning Outcomes (HLO), and probability of survival to age 60**. Raising these indicators to Germany's levels would increase Bulgaria's score to **248**, boosting future income by approximately 22.6%.



What is Bulgaria's HCI+ gender gap?

The HCI+ score for **women in Bulgaria is 231** compared to **219 for men**. The 12-point gap indicates that women's earning potential will be 12% higher than men's due to differences in the human capital acquired by men and women in Bulgaria.



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

