



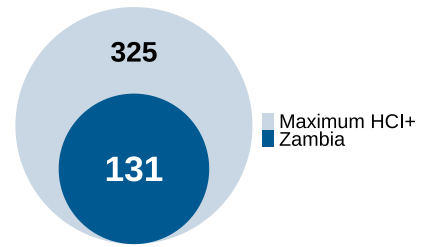
ZAMBIA

Region: Sub-Saharan Africa
Income Category: Lower-middle 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 **Zambia’s** HCI+ score and its performance in building human capital.

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

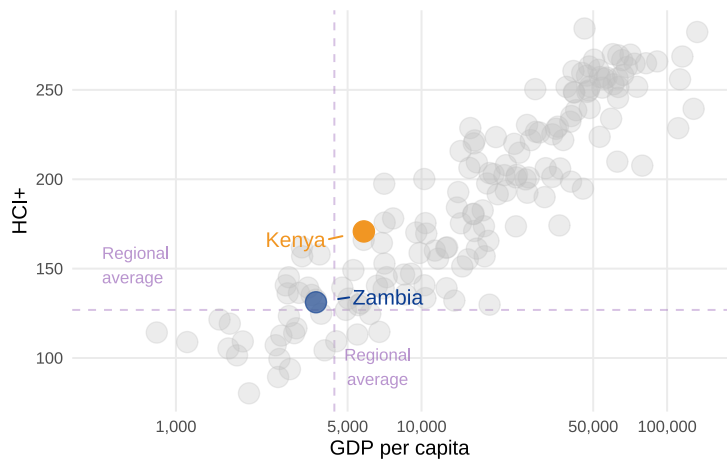
Zambia’s HCI+ score is 131 (out of a maximum of 325), reflecting its investments in health, education, and employment. A 10-point increase in the index would translate into approximately 10 percent higher future income. Closing the current gaps in these areas relative to high-performing countries with similar GDP per capita would boost future income by 46%.



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

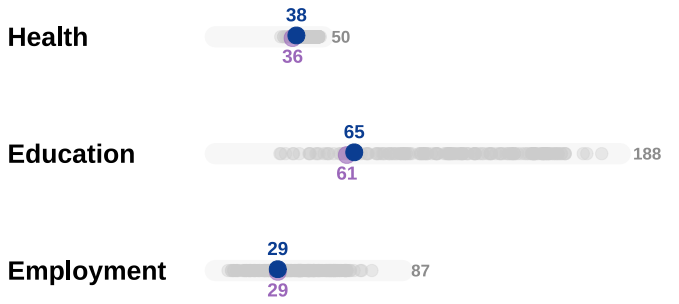
Zambia’s HCI+ is higher than the average for the **Sub-Saharan Africa region (126)** and lower than the average for **lower-middle-income countries (153)**.

Zambia’s HCI+ score is also **40 points lower than Kenya’s.**



What explains Zambia’s HCI+?

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



The HCI+ score for the **Health pillar is 38**, slightly higher than the **regional average of 36**.

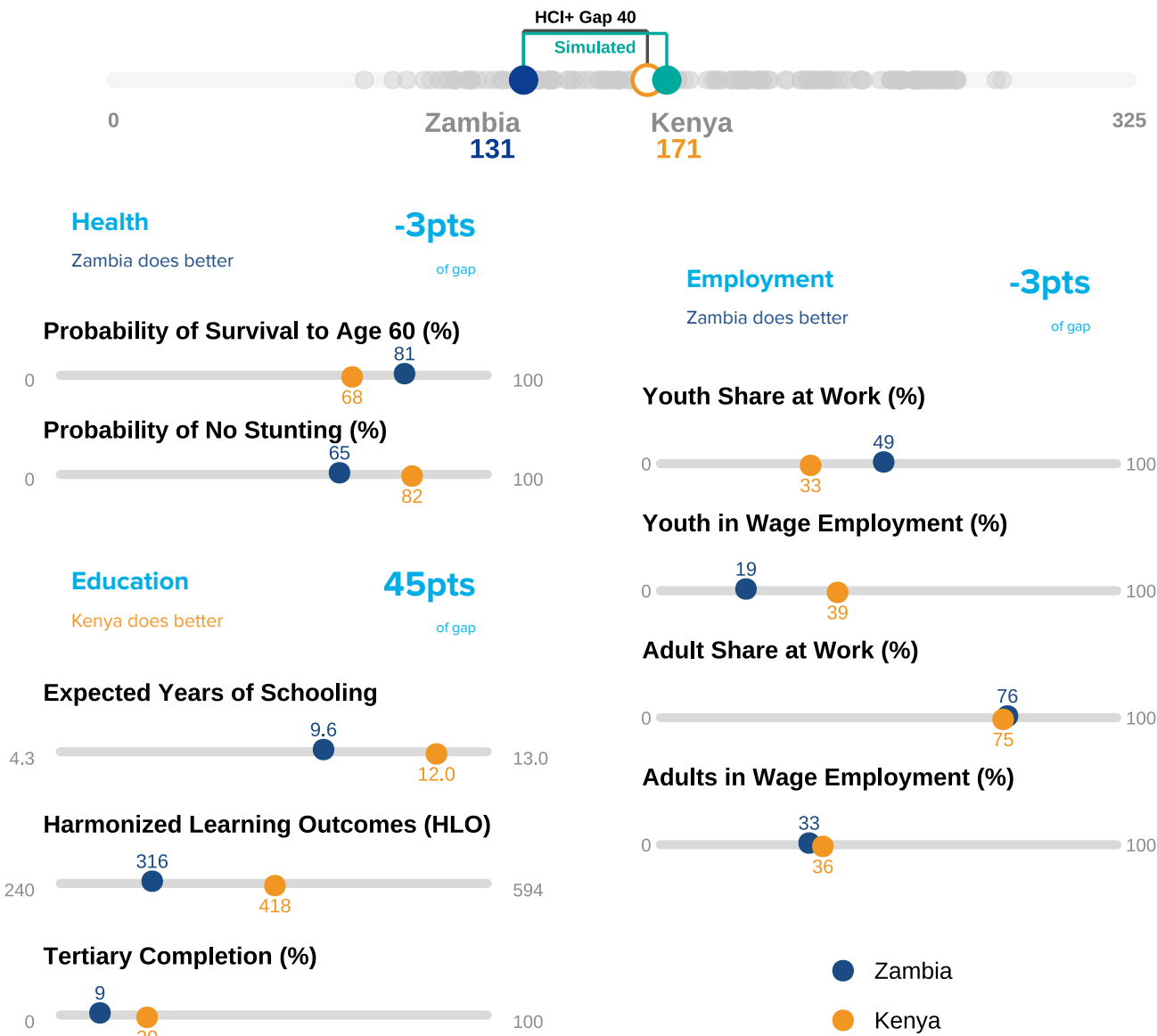
The HCI+ score for the **Education pillar is 65**, slightly higher than the **regional average of 61**.

The HCI+ score for the **Employment pillar is 29**, about the same as the **regional average of 29**.



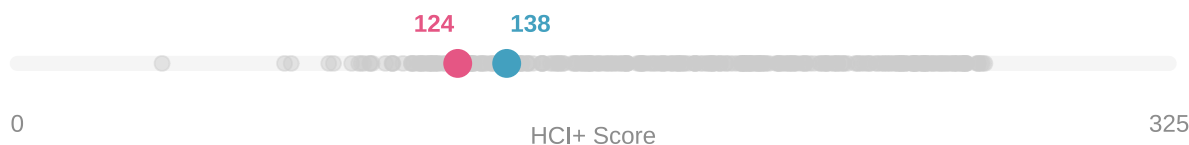
What indicators are responsible for Zambia’s HCI+ gap with Kenya?

Zambia’s HCI+ score (131) is lower than Kenya’s (171). The indicators that account for the largest share of the HCI+ gap between Zambia and Kenya are **Harmonized Learning Outcomes (HLO), expected years of schooling, and tertiary completion**. Raising these indicators to Kenya’s levels would increase Zambia’s score to 177, boosting future income by approximately 45.4%.



What is Zambia’s HCI+ gender gap?

The HCI+ score for **women in Zambia is 124** compared to **138 for men**. The 14-point gap indicates that women’s earning potential will be 14% lower than men’s due to differences in the human capital acquired by men and women in Zambia.



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

