



BHUTAN

Region: South Asia

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 Bhutan 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 **13** per 1,000 live births (2023), compared to 15 in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio.** The pre-primary school gross enrollment ratio is **52%** (by the official age) (2021), compared to 28% in 2016. The indicator is below 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 97% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

SCHOOL AGE

- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **7** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2023), compared to 8 in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Primary school completion rate.** The primary school completion rate is **78%** (by the official entrance age of the last grade) (2022), compared to 95% in 2017. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Net school enrollment rate, lower secondary.** The percentage of lower secondary school-aged children enrolled is **88%** (2018), compared to 85% in 2015. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

YOUTH

- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **98%** (2022), compared to 93% in 2017. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Youth not in employment, education or training.** In 2024, **20%** of youth (ages 15-24) were not in employment, education or training, compared to 10% 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 **9** (2023). This remains unchanged since 2018. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

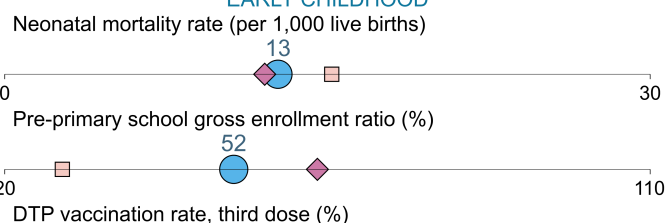
ADULTS

- **Female labor force participation rate.** Female labor force participation as a percentage of the female working-age population (ages 25+) is **64%** (2024), compared to 72% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **73** years (2023), compared to 72 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 **2%** (2024). This remains unchanged since 2019. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

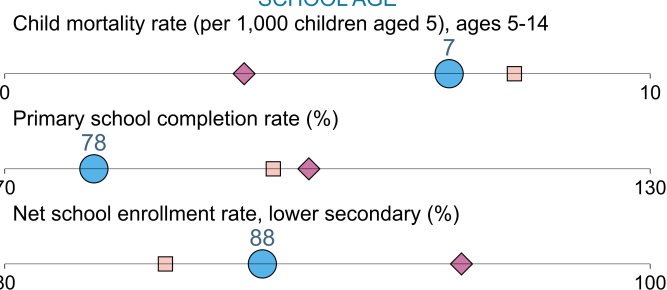
HUMAN CAPITAL COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

● Latest available data for Bhutan (BTN)
 ■ BTN approx. 5 years before ◆ Average for South Asia

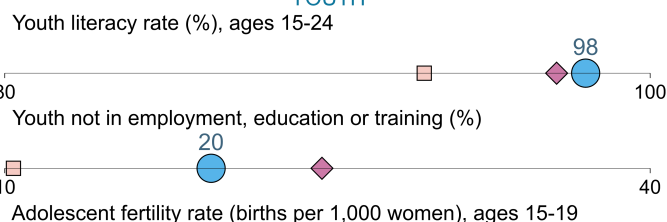
EARLY CHILDHOOD



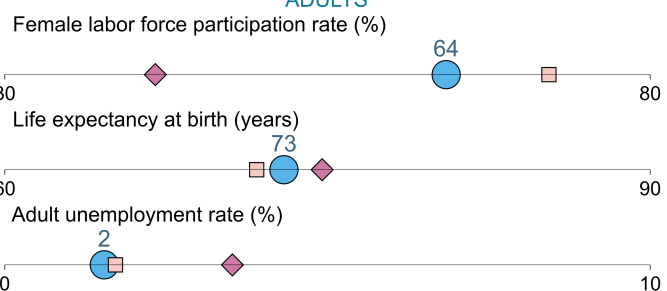
SCHOOL AGE



YOUTH



ADULTS



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

