



THE GAMBIA

Region: Sub-Saharan Africa

Income Category: Low Income



Human capital – knowledge, skills, and good health – empowers people to achieve their potential and drives economic growth. This brief tracks progress by the Gambia 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

- **Children who are developmentally on track.** In 2018, **67%** of children (ages 36-59 months) were developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Neonatal mortality rate.** The neonatal mortality rate is **24** per 1,000 live births (2023), compared to 27 in 2018. The indicator is similar to the regional average.
- **DTP vaccination rate, third dose.** In 2024, **80%** of infants received the third dose of the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine, compared to 88% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

SCHOOL AGE

- **Children engaged in child labor.** The share of children (ages 5-17) who are engaged in economic activities is **15%** (2023). The indicator is lower than the regional average.
- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **9** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2023), compared to 11 in 2018. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Primary school completion rate.** The primary school completion rate is **76%** (by the official entrance age of the last grade) (2023), compared to 61% in 2016. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

YOUTH

- **Adolescent fertility rate.** The number of births for every 1,000 women ages 15-19 is **58** (2023), compared to 65 in 2018. The indicator is lower than the regional average.
- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **75%** (2022), compared to 67% in 2015. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Youth not in employment, education or training.** In 2024, **40%** of youth (ages 15-24) were not in employment, education or training, compared to 31% in 2019. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

ADULTS

- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **66** years (2023), compared to 64 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 **54%** (2024). This remains unchanged since 2019. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Adult unemployment rate.** Unemployed adults as a share of the adult labor force (ages 25+) is **5%** (2024), compared to 4% in 2019. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

HUMAN CAPITAL COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

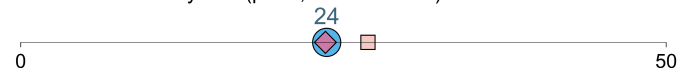
- Latest available data for the Gambia (GMB)
- GMB approx. 5 years before
- ◆ Average for Sub-Saharan Africa

EARLY CHILDHOOD

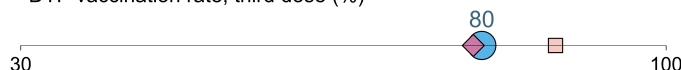
Children who are developmentally on track (%), ages 36-59 months



Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)

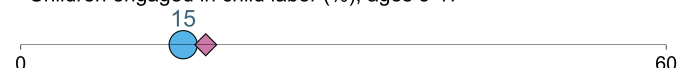


DTP vaccination rate, third dose (%)

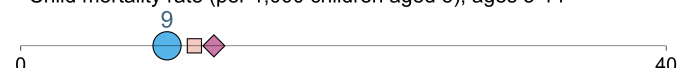


SCHOOL AGE

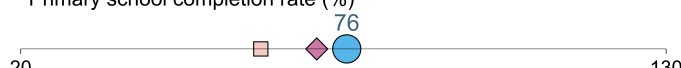
Children engaged in child labor (%), ages 5-17



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

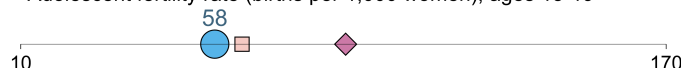


Primary school completion rate (%)

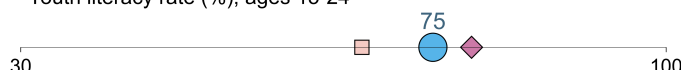


YOUTH

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



Youth literacy rate (%), ages 15-24

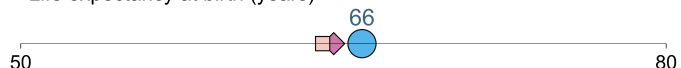


Youth not in employment, education or training (%)

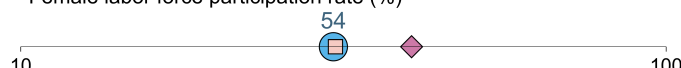


ADULTS

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.

