



# BENIN

Region: Sub-Saharan Africa

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 Benin 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 figures show the latest available data, benchmarked against regional averages. The figures also report progress over the previous 5 years.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD

- **Neonatal mortality rate.** The neonatal mortality rate is **29** per 1,000 live births (2022), compared to 31 in 2017. The indicator is higher than the regional average.
- **Minimum meal frequency.** The share of children ages 6-23 months who regularly consume an age-appropriate meal is **44%** (2018). The indicator is similar to the regional average.
- **Participation rate in organized learning.** In 2018, **85%** of children one year younger than the official primary school entry age participated in an organized learning program, compared to 88% in 2016. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

## SCHOOL AGE

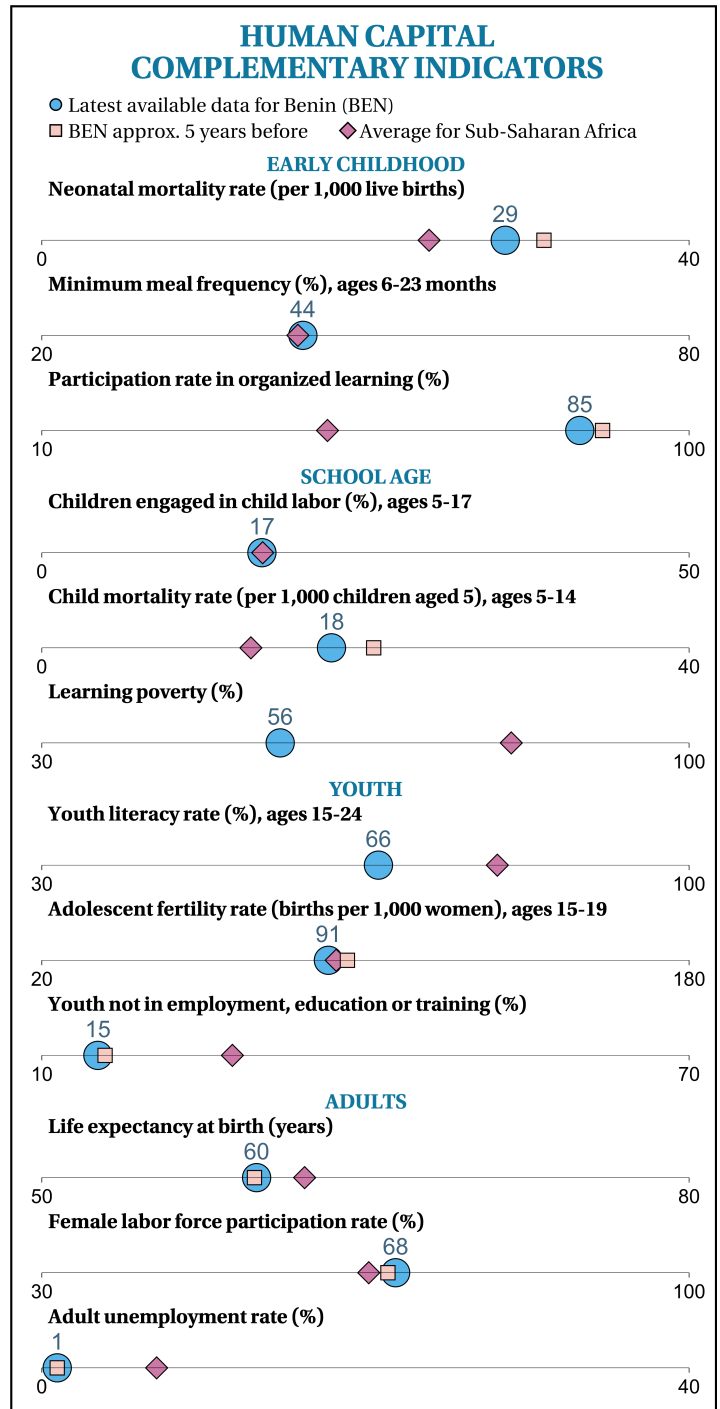
- **Children engaged in child labor.** The share of children (ages 5-17) who are engaged in economic activities is **17%** (2018). The indicator is similar to the regional average.
- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **18** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2022), compared to 21 in 2017. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Learning poverty.** In 2019, **56%** of children could not read and understand a simple text, by age 10. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

## YOUTH

- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **66%** (2022). The indicator is lower than the regional average.
- **Adolescent fertility rate.** The number of births for every 1,000 women ages 15-19 is **91** (2022), compared to 96 in 2017. The indicator is below the regional average.
- **Youth not in employment, education or training.** In 2022, **15%** of youth (ages 15-24) were not in employment, education or training, compared to 16% in 2019. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

## ADULTS

- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **60** years (2022). This remains unchanged since 2017. The indicator is lower 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 **68%** (2023), compared to 67% in 2018. The indicator is above the regional average.
- **Adult unemployment rate.** Unemployed adults as a share of the adult labor force (ages 25+) is **1%** (2023). This remains unchanged since 2018. The indicator is lower than the regional average.



Note: Missing symbols indicate internationally comparable data are not available to generate the corresponding statistic.

