LIBERIA

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 Liberia 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 **30** per 1,000 live births (2022), compared to 32 in 2017. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

- **Participation rate in organized learning.** In 2020, **71%** of children one year younger than the official primary school entry age participated in an organized learning program, compared to 85% in 2015. The indicator is above the regional average.

- **Minimum meal frequency.** The share of children ages 6-23 months who regularly consume an age-appropriate meal is **22%** (2019). The indicator is lower than the regional average.
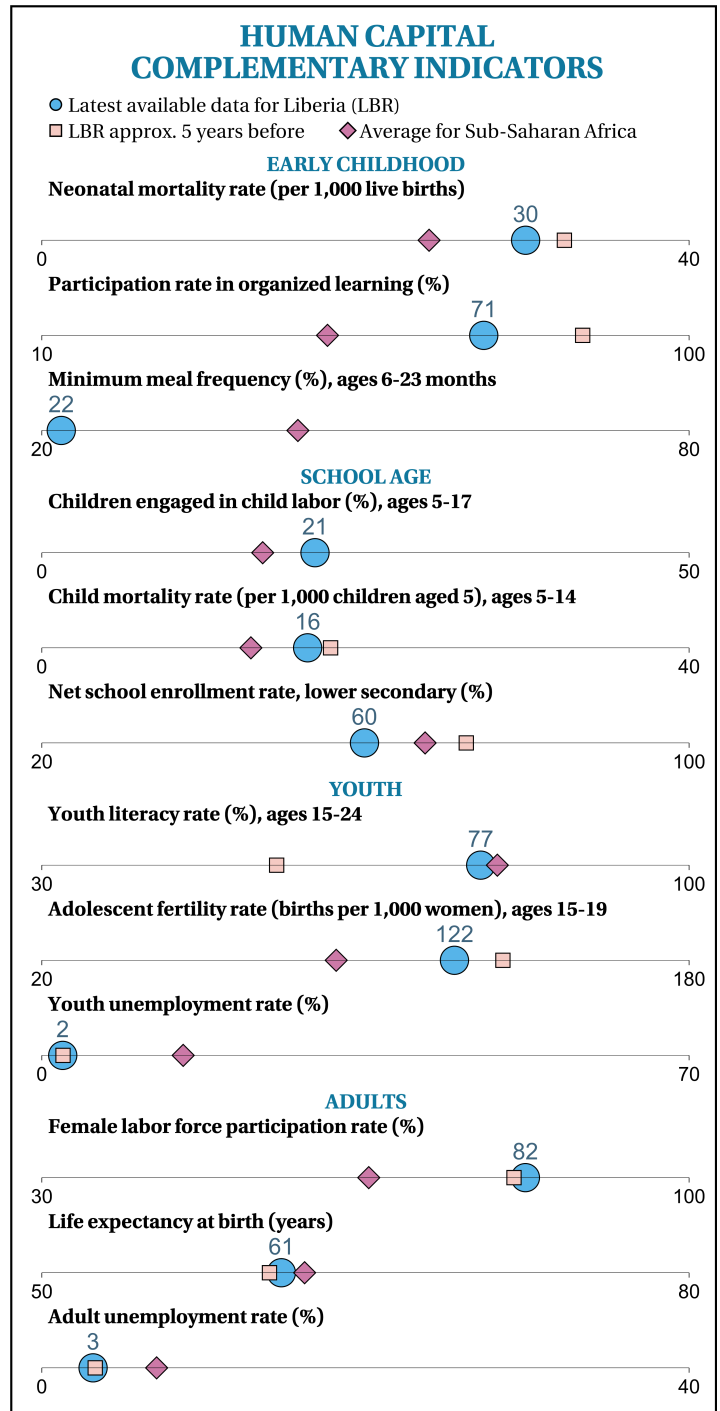
SCHOOL AGE

- **Children engaged in child labor.** The share of children (ages 5-17) who are engaged in economic activities is **21%** (2020). The indicator is higher than the regional average.

- **Child mortality rate.** The mortality rate for children ages 5-14 is **16** per 1,000 children aged 5 (2022), compared to 18 in 2017. The indicator is above the regional average.

- **Net school enrollment rate, lower secondary.** The percentage of lower secondary school-aged children enrolled is **60%** (2020), compared to 72% in 2016. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

YOUTH

- **Youth literacy rate.** The share of youth (ages 15-24) who are literate is **77%** (2019), compared to 55% in 2017. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

- **Adolescent fertility rate.** The number of births for every 1,000 women ages 15-19 is **122** (2022), compared to 134 in 2017. The indicator is above the regional average.

- **Youth unemployment rate.** Unemployed youth as a share of the youth labor force (ages 15-24) is **2%** (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 **82%** (2023), compared to 81% in 2018. The indicator is higher than the regional average.

- **Life expectancy at birth.** Life expectancy at birth is **61** years (2022). This remains unchanged since 2017. The indicator is below the regional average.

- **Adult unemployment rate.** Unemployed adults as a share of the adult labor force (ages 25+) is **3%** (2023). This remains unchanged since 2018. The indicator is lower than the regional average.

HUMAN CAPITAL COMPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

- Latest available data for Liberia (LBR)
- LBR approx. 5 years before
- Average for Sub-Saharan Africa

EARLY CHILDHOOD
Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) — 30 (scale 0–40)

Participation rate in organized learning (%) — 71 (scale 10–100)

Minimum meal frequency (%), ages 6-23 months — 22 (scale 20–80)

SCHOOL AGE
Children engaged in child labor (%), ages 5-17 — 21 (scale 0–50)

Child mortality rate (per 1,000 children aged 5), ages 5-14 — 16 (scale 0–40)

Net school enrollment rate, lower secondary (%) — 60 (scale 20–100)

YOUTH
Youth literacy rate (%), ages 15-24 — 77 (scale 30–100)

Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 women), ages 15-19 — 122 (scale 20–180)

Youth unemployment rate (%) — 2 (scale 0–70)

ADULTS
Female labor force participation rate (%) — 82 (scale 30–100)

Life expectancy at birth (years) — 61 (scale 50–80)

Adult unemployment rate (%) — 3 (scale 0–40)

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