

OIC In Indices

Human Development Index

Statistical Outlook Report
An Outlook on OIC Member
Countries



ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION
STATISTICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH
AND TRAINING CENTRE FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES

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No. 1 |

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX



Organization of Islamic Cooperation
Statistical, Economic and Social Research
and Training Centre for Islamic Countries



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Abbreviations

GNI	Gross National Income
HDI	Human Development Index
OIC	Organization of Islamic Cooperation
OIC-ECA	OIC Europe and Central Asia Member Countries
OIC-MENA	OIC Middle East and North Africa Member Countries
OIC-SAPLA	OIC East and South Asia, Pacific, Latin America, and Caribbean Member Countries
OIC-SSA	OIC Sub-Saharan Africa Member Countries
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
SESRIC	Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

1. Introduction

In 1990, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) introduced the Human Development Index (HDI), which has since become a widely recognized reference for assessing development performance. By combining indicators of health, education, and income, the index shifted the focus of development analysis beyond economic output toward the broader advancement of human capabilities.

The HDI remains important because it provides a concise but multidimensional view of development. It captures whether people are living longer lives, gaining access to education, and benefiting from improved living standards. In this respect, it complements income-based measures and supports a broader understanding of development outcomes. Since its introduction, the HDI has shown a broadly upward trend globally. Over the past three decades, many countries have recorded improvements in life expectancy, educational attainment, and income levels. At the same time, progress has not been uniform across countries and regions. Differences in structural conditions, demographic trends, institutional capacity, and policy environments have influenced both the pace and the extent of improvement.

Within this global setting, OIC Member Countries have achieved steady improvements in human development outcomes. Expanding access to education, longer life expectancy, and gradual income growth have supported upward movement across much of the OIC region. Nevertheless, performance differs considerably across subregions and countries, with some Member Countries moving closer to global benchmarks while others continue to face persistent constraints.

This diversity makes it important to examine HDI outcomes not only at the aggregate OIC level, but also across subregions and countries. Looking at the underlying dimensions of the index helps identify whether progress is mainly associated with improvements in health, education, or income. It also provides a clearer basis for understanding where gaps remain and where further policy attention may be needed.

This Outlook reviews long-term HDI developments in OIC Member Countries from 1990 to 2023 and compares them with global benchmarks. It examines the overall HDI together with its main components—life expectancy, expected years of schooling, mean years

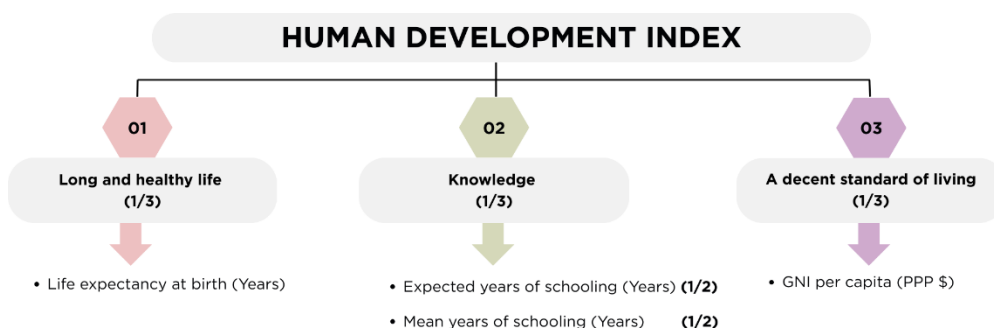
of schooling, and GNI per capita—to provide a more detailed picture of human development patterns across the OIC. The report also highlights regional and country-level differences, aiming to support evidence-based policy discussions and contribute to strategies that promote more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable human development across OIC Member Countries.

2. Human Development Index Methodology

The HDI was developed as a composite measure intended to capture key dimensions of human progress. The HDI integrates health, education, and income within a unified analytical structure and reflects the core principles of the human development paradigm. In this approach, development is understood in terms of expanded capabilities and choices rather than economic growth alone (UNDP, 2025a). The index enables comparison across countries and over time and is widely used for monitoring development outcomes.

As shown in Figure 1, the HDI is constructed around three equally weighted pillars:

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework of the Human Development Index



Source: UNDP, 2025b

Each HDI dimension is first converted into an index using fixed minimum and maximum goalposts. The minimum and maximum values are 20 and 85 years for life expectancy at birth, 0 and 18 years for expected years of schooling, 0 and 15 years for mean years of schooling, and USD 100 and USD 75,000 for GNI per capita (2021 PPP). For the education dimension, the two education indicators are first normalized separately and then combined using their arithmetic mean. For the income dimension, the natural logarithm of GNI per capita is used prior

to normalization. The HDI is then calculated as the geometric mean of the health, education, and income indices (UNDP, 2025b).

For the OIC and subregional aggregates presented in this Outlook, population-weighted averages are first computed for each of the four underlying HDI variables at the country level, and the aggregate HDI is then derived from these aggregated values. Since the four variables refer to different population bases, the weights applied are indicator-specific rather than uniform across the index. Life expectancy at birth and GNI per capita (2021 PPP USD) are weighted using the total population; expected years of schooling is weighted using the population aged 5–24; and mean years of schooling is weighted using the population aged 25 and above. The aggregate education index is derived from the aggregated expected years of schooling and mean years of schooling, and the final HDI is calculated as the geometric mean of the aggregate health, education, and income indices.

While the HDI provides a clear and internationally comparable reference point, it represents average achievements and does not capture disparities within countries. Distributional inequalities and other multidimensional aspects of deprivation, therefore, require complementary analysis. Interpreting HDI outcomes alongside broader structural factors enables a more nuanced assessment of development performance across OIC Member Countries.

Country-level HDI and component data used in this Outlook were obtained from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the HDR 2025 Statistical Annex, while population data used for OIC and subregional aggregation were sourced from the OICStat database. OIC and OIC-subregional values were calculated by SESRIC staff from these country-level data using indicator-specific population weights, while world values were taken directly from the HDR statistical annex.

3. Human Development Index in OIC

Human development outcomes across the OIC continue to reflect both long-term progress and persistent development gaps. While all regions have improved steadily over the past three decades, the pace and depth of progress vary widely. Differences in income capacity, demographic pressures, education systems, and health conditions create differentiated development patterns across the OIC geography. This section examines the current level of human development in OIC Member Countries and analyzes the evolution of HDI and its component indicators, including life expectancy, education, and income, across OIC regions from 1990 to 2023. The analysis draws on the most recent data to highlight both convergence patterns and widening gaps among subregions.

Table 1 and Figure 2 jointly present both the current level and the long-term evolution of human development across OIC Member Countries and their subregions. While Table 1 summarizes comparative HDI outcomes and underlying dimensions for 2023, Figure 2 places these results within a longer time-series perspective covering 1990–2023. Taken together, they show steady improvement across all OIC regions, while also indicating persistent disparities within the OIC and a partial narrowing of the gap with the world average in some subregions.

Table 1: HDI and its Components by OIC regions

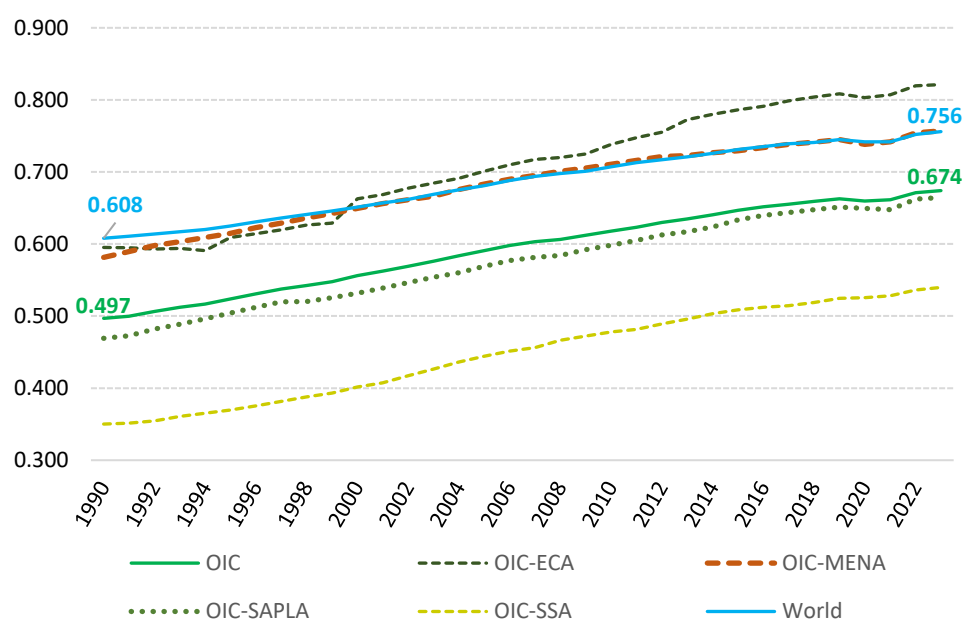
Indicator	OIC	World	OIC-ECA	OIC-SAPLA	OIC-MENA	OIC-SSA
Human Development Index	0.674	0.756	0.821	0.665	0.757	0.540
Life Expectancy (years)	68.9	73.4	75.0	70.8	74.5	60.0
Expected Years of Schooling (years)	11.4	13.0	15.9	10.9	12.9	10.0
Mean Years of Schooling (years)	7.6	8.8	10.3	7.0	9.1	5.4
GNI per capita (2021 PPP USD)	11,483	20,327	24,569	10,255	17,708	4,049

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

At the aggregate level, the average HDI of OIC Member Countries increased steadily from 0.497 in 1990 to 0.674 in 2023. Over the same period, the world average rose from 0.608 to 0.756, indicating a modest narrowing in the gap between the OIC average and the world average.

This pattern coincided with improvements in health, education, and income indicators over the period, despite some temporary slowdowns. Overall, the long-term trend points to sustained improvement in human development across the OIC.

Figure 2: Human Development Index by Regions, 1990-2023



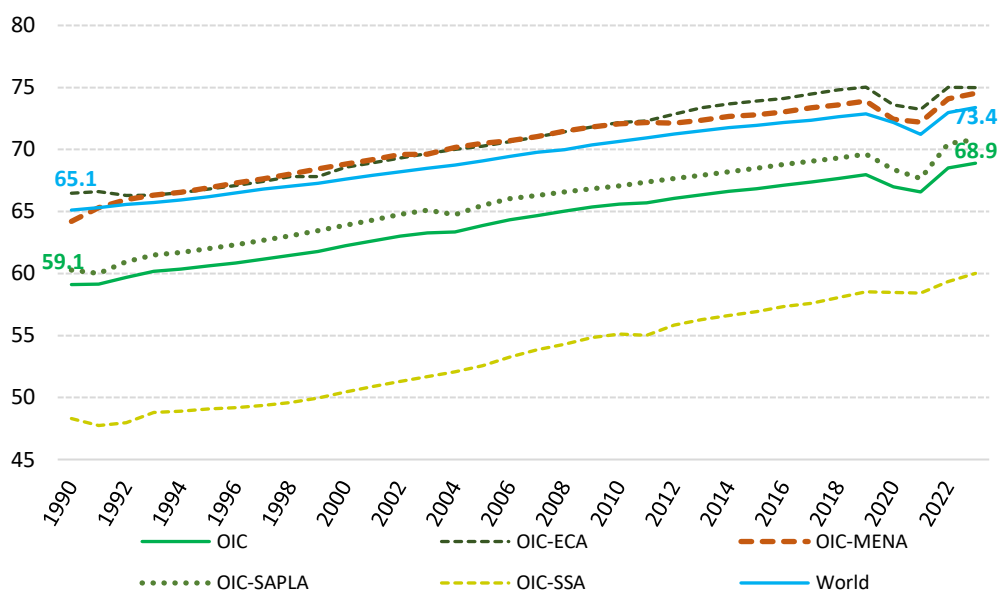
Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

OIC-ECA and OIC-MENA record the strongest HDI performance among OIC subregions over time. OIC-ECA's HDI increased from 0.595 in 1990 to 0.821 in 2023, surpassing the world average from the mid-2000s onward and maintaining its lead thereafter. Similarly, OIC-MENA improved from 0.581 to 0.757 over the same period, progressively narrowing its initial gap with the global average and aligning more closely with it in recent years.

OIC-SAPLA and OIC-SSA highlight the depth of long-term progress from lower starting points. OIC-SAPLA recorded a consistent rise in HDI from 0.469 in 1990 to 0.665 in 2023, steadily approaching the OIC average and suggesting broad-based progress across human development dimensions. OIC-SSA, despite remaining the lowest-performing subregion, achieved one of the largest cumulative increases, rising from 0.350 to 0.540 over the same period. Although structural challenges remain, particularly in education and income, the upward trend observed over the period points to continued progress and some gradual convergence within the OIC.

Life expectancy trends in OIC regions show steady, widespread improvement over the period 1990–2023, closely mirroring the overall increase in HDI. Figure 3 illustrates that all regional groupings have achieved significant gains since 1990. The OIC average life expectancy increased from 59.1 years to 68.9 years over the period.

Figure 3: Life Expectancy by Regions, 1990-2023



Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

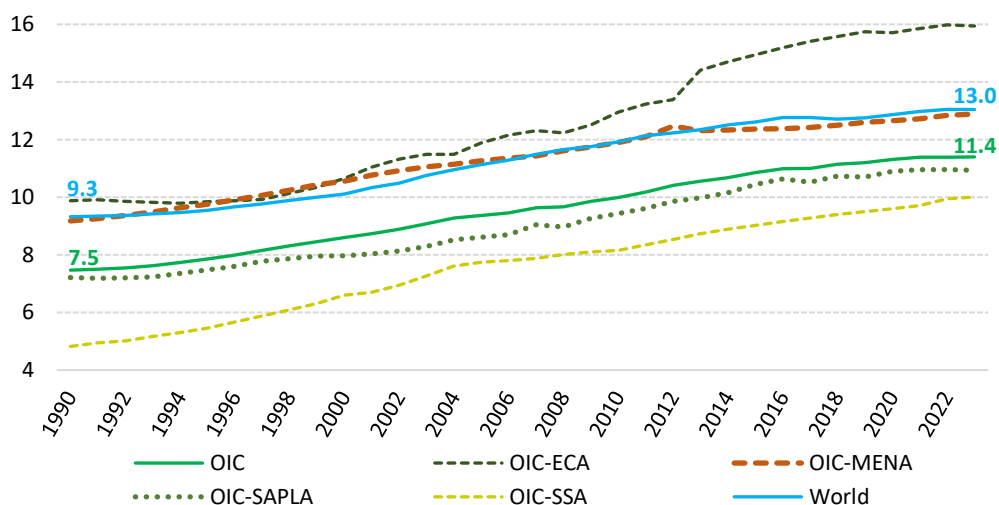
The OIC-ECA region has consistently recorded the highest life expectancy, increasing from 66.5 years in 1990 to 75.0 years in 2023 and

remaining above the global average for most of the period. The OIC-MENA region followed a similar upward pattern, rising from 64.2 years to 74.5 years by 2023. Like OIC-ECA, it remained above the world average of 73.4 years in recent years.

OIC-SAPLA has recorded notable progress, raising its life expectancy from 60.3 years to 70.8 years. Although the OIC-SSA started from the lowest baseline (48.3 years in 1990), it recorded the largest absolute increase among all regions, rising by over 11 years to 60.0 years in 2023. This points to substantial long-term improvement in health outcomes despite ongoing structural constraints. The disparity between OIC-SSA and the overall OIC average has diminished over time, indicating a progressive convergence within the OIC group.

These data collectively indicate that each OIC region has consistently improved life expectancy, with some regions nearing global performance standards and others making notable progress from historically low baselines. This pattern suggests continued improvements in health outcomes across the OIC and points to further convergence over time.

Figure 4: Expected Years of Schooling by Regions, 1990-2023



Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

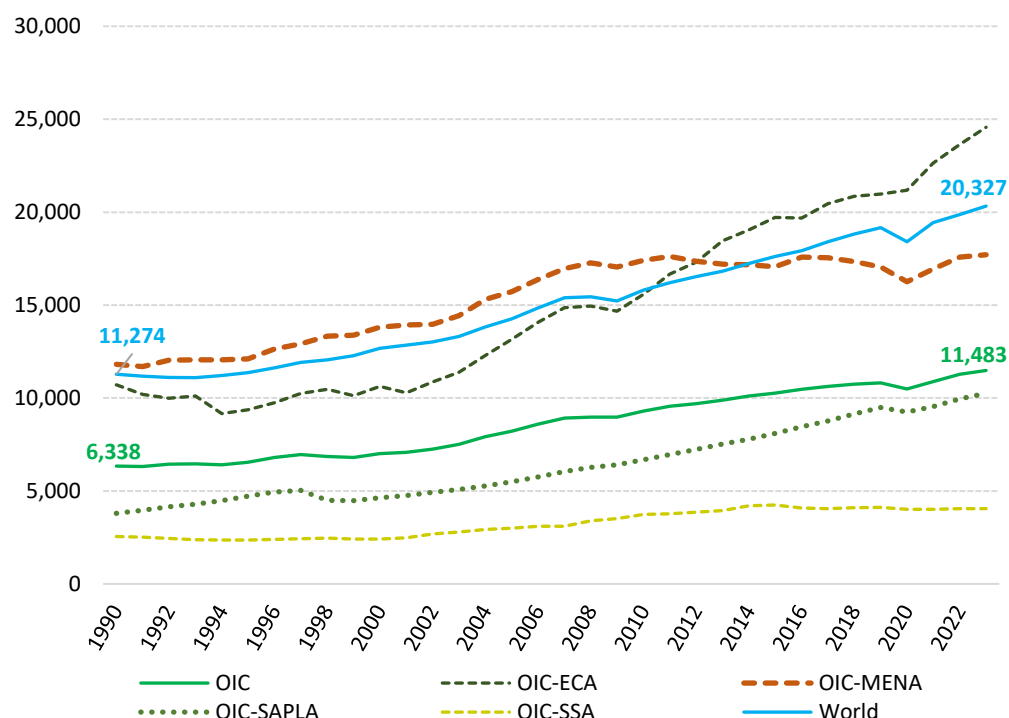
Educational outcomes have shown steady progress over the past three decades. As illustrated in Figure 4, the average expected years of schooling for OIC Member Countries increased from 7.5 years in 1990 to 11.4 years in 2023, reflecting significant improvements in access to and attainment of education.

While convergence is visible in several subregions, notable gaps persist, particularly in lower-performing areas. OIC-ECA recorded notable progress, increasing from 9.9 years to 15.9 years and thereby surpassing the global average of 13.0 years. A comparable trend is observed for OIC-MENA, which increased from 9.2 years to 12.9 years and remained close to the global average, particularly throughout the 2010s and in recent years.

The OIC-SAPLA region also recorded notable progress, with expected years of schooling rising from 7.2 years to 10.9 years. The OIC-SSA, which started from a baseline of 4.8 years, made steady progress and reached 10.0 years in 2023, representing one of the largest increases among all groups. This rising trend demonstrates a slow but consistent convergence, despite significant educational disparities between OIC-SSA and the rest of the OIC.

As shown in Figure 5, Gross National Income per capita in OIC Member Countries generally increased between 1990 and 2023, with all subregions recording long-term income gains. The overall OIC average increased from USD 6,338 (2021 PPP) in 1990 to USD 11,483 (2021 PPP) in 2023, indicating sustained improvement over the period.

The OIC-ECA subregion maintained its position as the top-performing region within the OIC, with GNI per capita increasing from USD 10,711 (2021 PPP) in 1990 to USD 24,569 (2021 PPP) in 2023. This level remained above the global average. Similarly, GNI per capita in the OIC-MENA region increased from USD 11,812 (2021 PPP) to USD 17,708 (2021 PPP), remaining close to the global average over the period. OIC-SAPLA demonstrated one of the most consistent upward trends, with GNI per capita increasing from USD 3,797 (2021 PPP) in 1990 to USD 10,255 (2021 PPP) in 2023. This trend is consistent with rising income levels over the period. Sub-Saharan Africa (OIC-SSA) started from the lowest baseline and recorded a more modest increase, rising from USD 2,544 (2021 PPP) to USD 4,049 (2021 PPP).

Figure 5: GNI per Capita (2021 PPP USD) by Regions, 1990–2023

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

In general, income levels across OIC Member Countries have improved. Higher income levels can support further progress in human development, particularly when accompanied by investments in inclusive growth, social protection, and employment generation.

Taken together, the indicators suggest steady improvement in human development across OIC Member Countries over time, while also pointing to persistent differences across subregions. The following section examines these regional patterns in greater detail by focusing on the relative position and internal composition of each OIC subregion.

4. Human Development Index in OIC Regions

This section offers a comparative analysis of human development across OIC regions, examining HDI levels together with life expectancy, education, and income. The analysis highlights how regional outcomes compare with global benchmarks and points to convergence among some subregions and persistent disparities in others.

4.1. Human Development Index in OIC-ECA

The OIC-ECA subregion is the strongest-performing region within the OIC, consistently recording the highest HDI levels. Comparatively strong education outcomes, higher life expectancy, and solid income levels support its performance. Table 2 demonstrates that the region's average HDI of 0.821 significantly exceeds both the overall OIC average (0.674) and the global average (0.756). Within the subregion, Türkiye records the highest HDI at 0.853 (ranked 51st globally), whereas Tajikistan records the lowest at 0.691 (ranked 128th), placing it in the medium human development category.

Life expectancy outcomes further reinforce the region's robust performance: the OIC-ECA average of 75 years surpasses both the global average (73.4 years) and the overall OIC average (68.9 years). Albania reports the highest life expectancy at 79.6 years, while Turkmenistan records the lowest at 70.1 years, positioning the entire subregion among the relatively strong health outcomes by international comparison.

Table 2: HDI and its components in OIC-ECA

Indicator	OIC-ECA	Minimum	Country	Maximum	Country
Human Development Index	0.821	0.691 (Rank 128)	Tajikistan	0.853 (Rank 51)	Türkiye
Life Expectancy (years)	75.0	70.1	Turkmenistan	79.6	Albania
Expected Years of Schooling (years)	15.9	10.8	Tajikistan	19.8	Türkiye
Mean Years of Schooling (years)	10.3	9.0	Türkiye	12.5	Kazakhstan
GNI per capita (2021 PPP USD)	24,569	5,747	Tajikistan	34,507	Türkiye

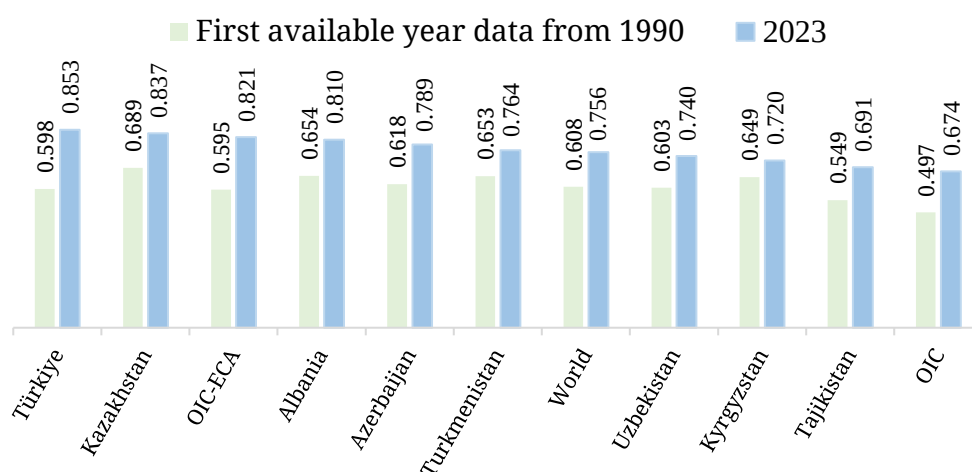
Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

Educational outcomes are also relatively strong across the subregion. The average expected years of schooling stands at 15.9 years, above the world average, with Türkiye recording the highest value in the subregion at 19.8 years and Tajikistan recording the lowest at 10.8 years. A slightly different pattern is observed for mean years of schooling: Kazakhstan records the highest value at 12.5 years, while Türkiye, at 9.0 years, records the lowest value within the subregion, although it remains above the OIC average.

Income levels represent another area of relative strength for the subregion. The average GNI per capita stands at USD 24,569 (2021 PPP), more than double the overall OIC average, and remains above the global average of USD 20,327 (2021 PPP). Within the group, Türkiye records the highest income level at USD 34,507 (2021 PPP), while Tajikistan records the lowest at USD 5,747 (2021 PPP), highlighting both the subregion's relatively strong income performance and its internal economic diversity.

The indicators show sustained improvement across OIC-ECA countries, with each member recording notable progress from the earliest year available. Figure 6 illustrates that Türkiye elevated its HDI from 0.598 in 1990 to 0.853 in 2023, while Kazakhstan increased its HDI from 0.689 to 0.837—both now significantly exceeding the OIC average of 0.674 and the global average of 0.756.

Figure 6: HDI, OIC-ECA Countries, 1990-2023



Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

Albania, Azerbaijan, and Turkmenistan also recorded notable progress, with HDI values of 0.810, 0.789, and 0.764, respectively, all exceeding both the OIC and world averages. The other countries in the OIC-ECA subregion have also made notable progress while remaining in intermediate positions relative to the OIC and global averages. Overall, the results point to broad-based improvement across OIC-ECA, with some countries exceeding the global average and others moving closer to it over time.

4.2. Human Development Index in OIC-SAPLA

The OIC-SAPLA subregion records an average level of human development close to the overall OIC average, while combining countries with relatively high HDI levels and others that continue to face substantial structural constraints. Table 3 shows that the subregion's average HDI in 2023 was 0.665, close to the overall OIC average of 0.674 but below the world average of 0.756.

Table 3: HDI and its components in OIC-SAPLA

Indicator	OIC-SAPLA	Minimum	Country	Maximum	Country
Human Development Index	0.665	0.496 (Rank 181)	Afghanistan	0.837 (Rank 60)	Brunei
Life Expectancy (years)	70.8	66.0	Afghanistan	81.0	Maldives
Expected Years of Schooling (years)	10.9	7.9	Pakistan	13.7	Brunei
Mean Years of Schooling (years)	7.0	2.5	Afghanistan	9.3	Brunei
GNI per capita (2021 PPP USD)	10,255	1,972	Afghanistan	75,827	Brunei

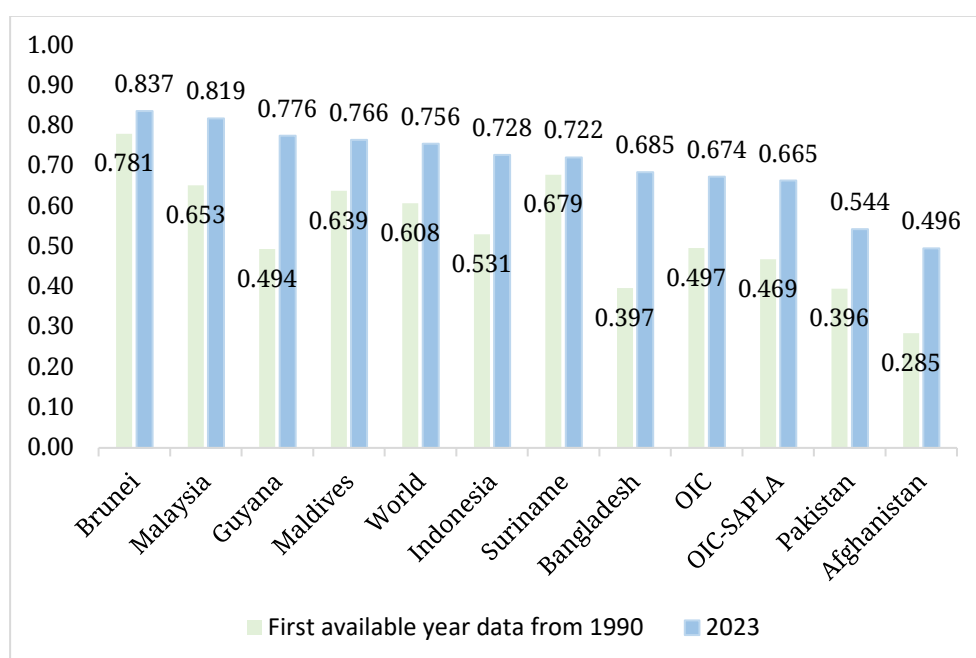
Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

The subregion shows substantial internal variation in human development outcomes. Brunei records the highest HDI in the subregion at 0.837 (rank 60), together with expected years of schooling of 13.7 years, mean years of schooling of 9.3 years, and the highest GNI per capita in the subregion at USD 75,827 (2021 PPP). By contrast,

Afghanistan records the lowest HDI in the subregion at 0.496 (rank 181), along with a life expectancy of 66.0 years, a mean years of schooling of 2.5 years, and the lowest GNI per capita in the subregion at USD 1,972 (2021 PPP).

Figure 7 shows the long-term HDI trends of OIC-SAPLA countries from their earliest available year (usually 1990) to 2023. The OIC-SAPLA average rose from 0.469 in 1990 to 0.665 in 2023, indicating steady improvement. Nevertheless, the subregion remained below both the OIC and global averages, underlining the need for country-specific policy responses to support further convergence.

Figure 7: HDI, OIC-SAPLA Countries, 1990-2023



Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

Brunei, Malaysia, Guyana, and Maldives recorded HDI levels above the global average in 2023. Pakistan and Afghanistan also recorded notable progress over the period, with HDI values rising from 0.396 to 0.544 and from 0.285 to 0.496, respectively, although both remained below the

global average in 2023. Within the subregion, Bangladesh recorded the most significant absolute improvement, rising from 0.397 to 0.685.

Overall, the OIC-SAPLA subregion records an average HDI close to the overall OIC average, but this aggregate masks substantial variation across countries. The long-term trends suggest steady progress across much of the subregion, while also indicating that important gaps remain relative to both the OIC's stronger-performing subregions and the world average.

4.3. Human Development Index in OIC-MENA

The OIC-MENA subregion has one of the strongest human development profiles within the OIC, although significant disparities persist across countries. OIC-MENA's average HDI (0.757) is broadly in line with the world average (0.756) and remains well above the overall OIC average of 0.674.

Table 4 further shows that, despite this strong regional performance, considerable disparities persist among countries within the OIC-MENA subregion. Life expectancy varies from 82.9 years in the United Arab Emirates to 65.2 years in Palestine, while expected years of schooling range from 6.2 years in Djibouti to 16.9 years in Saudi Arabia.

Table 4: HDI and its components in OIC-MENA

Indicator	OIC-MENA	Minimum	Country	Maximum	Country
Human Development Index	0.757	0.470 (Rank 184)	Yemen	0.940 (Rank 15)	UAE
Life Expectancy (years)	74.5	65.2	Palestine	82.9	UAE
Expected Years of Schooling (years)	12.9	6.2	Djibouti	16.9	Saudi Arabia
Mean Years of Schooling (years)	9.1	4.0	Djibouti	13.0	UAE
GNI per capita (2021 PPP USD)	17,708	1,018	Yemen	105,353	Qatar

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

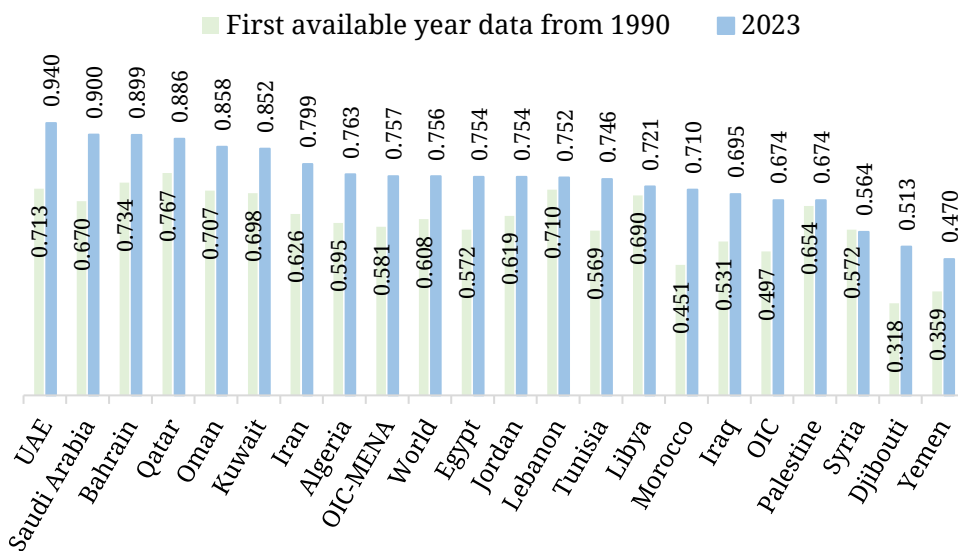
A comparable disparity is observed in mean years of schooling, ranging from 4.0 years in Djibouti to 13.0 years in the United Arab Emirates, as

well as in income levels, where Yemen's GNI per capita (USD 1,018 (2021 PPP)) remains far below Qatar's USD 105,353 (2021 PPP). HDI values vary widely across the subregion: Yemen has the lowest value at 0.470 (rank 184), while the United Arab Emirates has the highest value at 0.940 (rank 15).

Figure 8 shows country-level HDI trends from the earliest available year, highlighting both the region's upward trend and differences in the pace of progress across countries. The regional average rose from 0.581 in 1990 to 0.757 in 2023, remaining above the overall OIC average of 0.674 and slightly above the world average. This pattern is largely associated with the strong performance of the Gulf States.

In 2023, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, and Kuwait recorded high HDI values, reflecting long-term improvements since 1990. Several other countries in the subregion also made notable progress over time, although Syria recorded only limited change, with its HDI declining slightly from 0.572 to 0.564. Overall, OIC-MENA appears closest to global benchmarks among OIC subregions, although significant disparities remain between the highest- and lowest-performing countries.

Figure 8: HDI, OIC-MENA Countries, 1990-2023



Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025

from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

4.4. Human Development Index in OIC-SSA

Despite significant long-term advancements, the OIC-SSA continues to record the lowest HDI levels within the OIC, indicating persistent constraints in life expectancy, education, and income. Table 5 shows the subregion's 2023 HDI profile and highlights substantial variation across countries. In 2023, the average HDI for the OIC-SSA was 0.540, markedly lower than the OIC average of 0.674 and the global average of 0.756.

Average life expectancy in the OIC-SSA subregion was 60.0 years, ranging from 54.5 years in Nigeria to 68.7 years in Senegal. Education metrics show considerable disparity: expected years of schooling range from 7 years in Mali to 13.3 years in Comoros, whereas mean years of schooling ranged from 1.4 years in Niger to 9.7 years in Gabon. Income gaps are significant; Mozambique had the lowest GNI per capita at USD 1,356 (2021 PPP), while Gabon recorded USD 18,854 (2021 PPP). Gabon attained the highest HDI value in the subregion at 0.733 (rank 108), in contrast to Somalia, which recorded the lowest at 0.404 (rank 192).

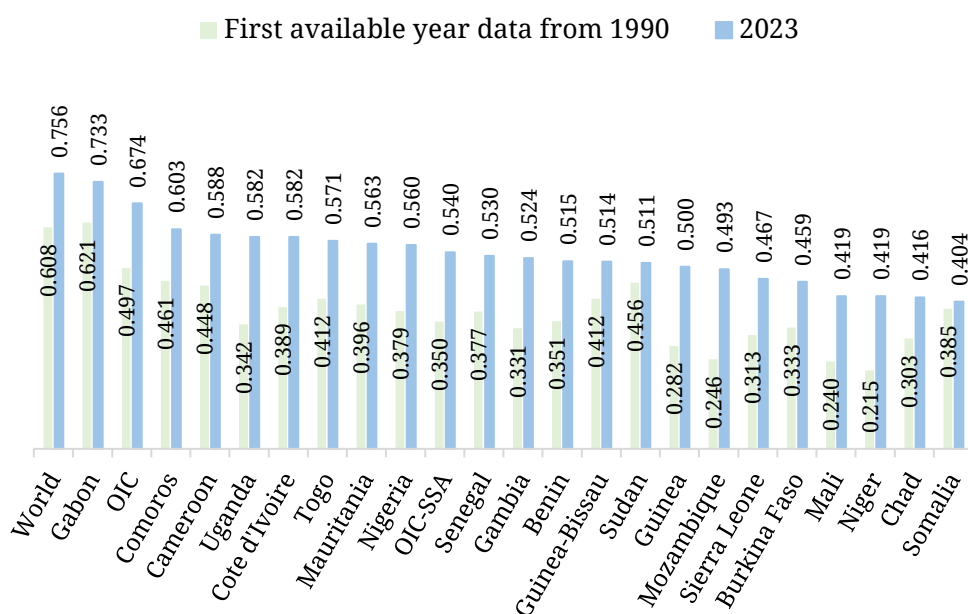
Table 5: HDI and its components in OIC-SSA

Indicator	OIC-SSA	Minimum	Country	Maximum	Country
Human Development Index	0.540	0.404 (Rank 192)	Somalia	0.733 (Rank 108)	Gabon
Life Expectancy (years)	60.0	54.5	Nigeria	68.7	Senegal
Expected Years of Schooling (years)	10.0	7.0	Mali	13.3	Comoros
Mean Years of Schooling (years)	5.4	1.4	Niger	9.7	Gabon
GNI per capita (2021 PPP USD)	4,049	1,356	Mozambique	18,854	Gabon

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

Figure 9 shows HDI trends from 1990 (or the earliest available year) to 2023. In 2023, Gabon recorded the highest HDI in the subregion at 0.733, followed by Comoros (0.603), whose data series begins in 2000, and Cameroon (0.588). At the lower end, Somalia, whose data series begins in 2002, recorded an HDI of 0.404 in 2023.

Figure 9: HDI, OIC-SSA Countries, 1990-2023



Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

5. Conclusion

The findings of this Outlook indicate that OIC Member Countries have made steady progress in human development over the period 1990–2023. Improvements in life expectancy, educational attainment, and income levels have contributed to higher HDI values across all OIC subregions. The overall OIC average increased continuously over the period, while some subregions and countries narrowed their distance from the global benchmark.

At the same time, the analysis highlights that human development outcomes across the OIC remain heterogeneous. OIC-ECA and OIC-MENA continue to record the strongest overall performance, with several countries reaching or exceeding the global average in HDI. OIC-SAPLA

has also demonstrated a broadly positive long-term trend, supported by gradual improvements across all HDI dimensions. OIC-SSA, despite remaining the lowest-performing subregion, achieved notable gains from a comparatively low baseline, particularly in life expectancy and expected years of schooling.

The results also indicate that progress has been driven by different dimensions across countries and subregions. In some cases, improvements in education and health indicators appear to have contributed more strongly to HDI growth, while in others rising income levels played a more prominent role. This variation reflects differences in demographic structures, economic conditions, institutional capacity, and development priorities across OIC Member Countries.

The component-level analysis further shows that disparities remain substantial across the OIC. Differences in access to education, healthcare services, and economic opportunities continue to influence the pace of progress. In particular, lower-performing countries and subregions continue to face constraints associated with lower income levels, weaker educational outcomes, and comparatively lower life expectancy levels. These patterns indicate that convergence within the OIC remains gradual and uneven.

Nevertheless, the overall long-term trend remains positive. Most OIC Member Countries recorded improvements in HDI and its underlying indicators over the period examined. Several countries have moved closer to global averages, while others have demonstrated sustained progress despite structural challenges and lower starting points. This suggests that continued advancement in human development remains achievable across different development contexts.

Overall, the findings point to the importance of sustained investment in human capital and policies that support inclusive and balanced development. Strengthening education systems, improving healthcare access and quality, supporting productive employment opportunities, and reducing structural disparities remain important for sustaining progress over time. In this regard, the HDI continues to provide a useful framework for monitoring development outcomes, identifying remaining gaps, and supporting evidence-based policy discussions across OIC Member Countries.

6. Technical Notes

Aggregate values for OIC Member Countries and OIC subregions are derived from the four underlying HDI variables using indicator-specific population weights. A single population base is not applied across all variables. Life expectancy at birth and GNI per capita (2021 PPP USD) are aggregated using total population; expected years of schooling is aggregated using population aged 5–24; and mean years of schooling is aggregated using population aged 25 and above.

After these aggregate values are obtained, the corresponding dimension indices are computed using the standard UNDP goalposts. The education index is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the expected years of schooling index and the mean years of schooling index, while the final HDI is calculated as the geometric mean of the health, education, and income indices. The population data used for aggregation are sourced from the OICStat database, including total population, population aged 25 and above, and population aged 5–24, while the HDI indicator values are obtained from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database. World aggregate values are reported directly from the HDR database to ensure consistency with the official global benchmark.

Human Development Index (HDI): A composite index measuring average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development—a long and healthy life, knowledge, and a decent standard of living.

Life expectancy at birth: Number of years a newborn infant could expect to live if prevailing patterns of age-specific mortality rates at the time of birth stay the same throughout the infant's life.

Expected years of schooling: Number of years of schooling that a child of school entrance age can expect to receive if prevailing patterns of age-specific enrolment rates persist throughout the child's life.

Mean years of schooling: Average number of years of education received by people ages 25 and older, converted from education attainment levels using official durations of each level.

Gross national income (GNI) per capita: Aggregate income of an economy generated by its production and its ownership of factors of production, less the income paid for the use of factors of production owned by the rest of the world, converted to international dollars using PPP rates, divided by midyear population.

Appendix Table 1: Human Development Index Values and Global Ranks, 2023

Country / Group	Rank	HDI	Country / Group	Rank	HDI
United Arab Emirates	15	0.94	Tajikistan	128	0.691
Saudi Arabia	37	0.9	Bangladesh	130	0.685
Bahrain	38	0.899	OIC	-	0.674
Qatar	43	0.886	Palestine	133	0.674
Oman	50	0.858	OIC-SAPLA	-	0.665
Türkiye	51	0.853	Comoros	152	0.603
Kuwait	52	0.852	Cameroon	155	0.588
Kazakhstan	60	0.837	Uganda	157	0.582
Brunei	60	0.837	Côte d'Ivoire	157	0.582
OIC-ECA	-	0.821	Togo	161	0.571
Malaysia	67	0.819	Syria	162	0.564
Albania	71	0.81	Mauritania	163	0.563
Iran	75	0.799	Nigeria	164	0.56
Azerbaijan	81	0.789	Pakistan	168	0.544
Guyana	89	0.776	OIC-SSA	-	0.54
Maldives	93	0.766	Senegal	169	0.53
Turkmenistan	95	0.764	Gambia	170	0.524
Algeria	96	0.763	Benin	173	0.515
OIC-MENA	-	0.757	Guinea-Bissau	174	0.514
World	-	0.756	Djibouti	175	0.513
Egypt	100	0.754	Sudan	176	0.511
Jordan	100	0.754	Guinea	179	0.5
Lebanon	102	0.752	Afghanistan	181	0.496
Tunisia	105	0.746	Mozambique	182	0.493
Uzbekistan	107	0.74	Yemen	184	0.47
Gabon	108	0.733	Sierra Leone	185	0.467
Indonesia	113	0.728	Burkina Faso	186	0.459
Suriname	114	0.722	Mali	188	0.419
Libya	115	0.721	Niger	188	0.419
Kyrgyzstan	117	0.72	Chad	190	0.416
Morocco	120	0.71	Somalia	192	0.404
Iraq	126	0.695			

Source: SESRIC staff calculations based on data extracted on 10 November 2025 from the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) database and the OICStat database.

7. References

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