A World Where Every Child Achieves their Full Potential:

The Harmonization of Learning Outcomes

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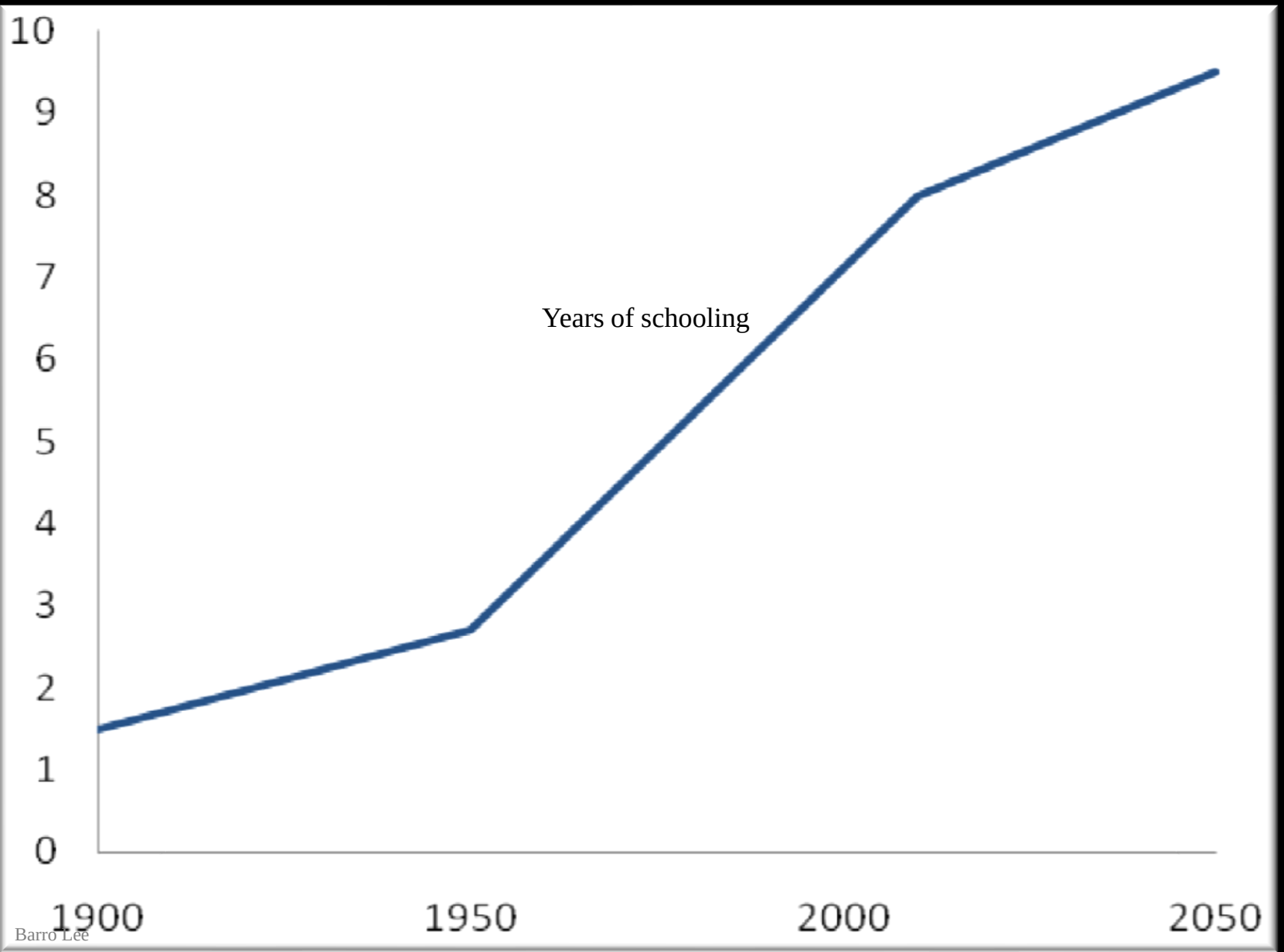
Worldwide Revolution in Schooling

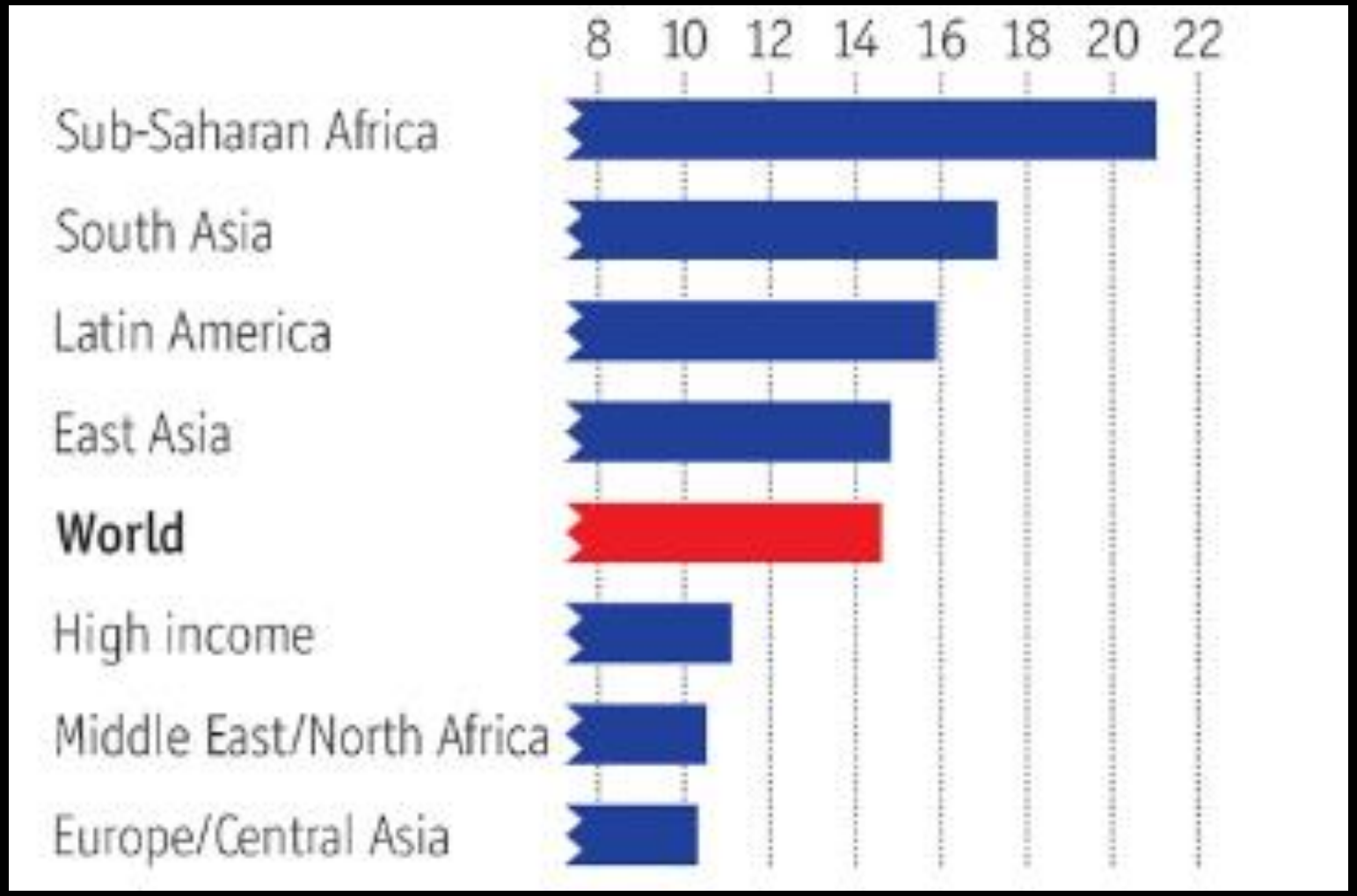


But:

- 264 million out of school
- 262 million in school but can't read
- 1 in 4 young people can't read

Barro Lee

Education and Economic Development



Rising Returns to Education

A global effort to accelerate more and better investments in people for greater equity and economic growth

Early health care and education prepare children to succeed and prosper as adults in a rapidly changing world

The Human Capital Project

Human Capital Index

Measurement and research

Human Capital Index: Distance to Frontier

How much human capital can a child born today expect to acquire by age 18, given the risks to poor health and poor education that prevail in the country where she lives?

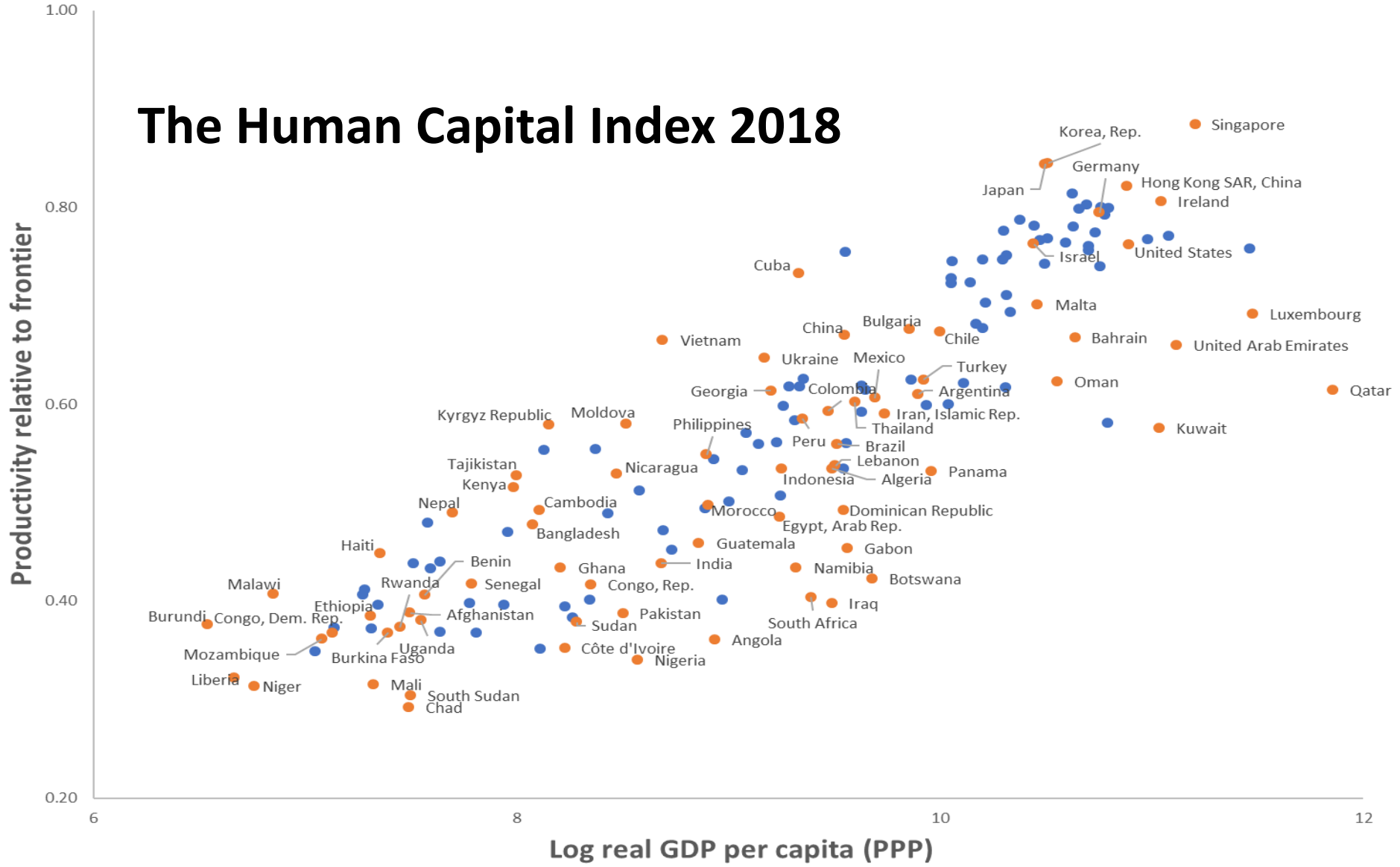
Three ingredients reflect building blocks of the next generation's human capital:

SURVIVAL
Will children born today survive to school age?

SCHOOL
How much school will they complete and how much will they learn?

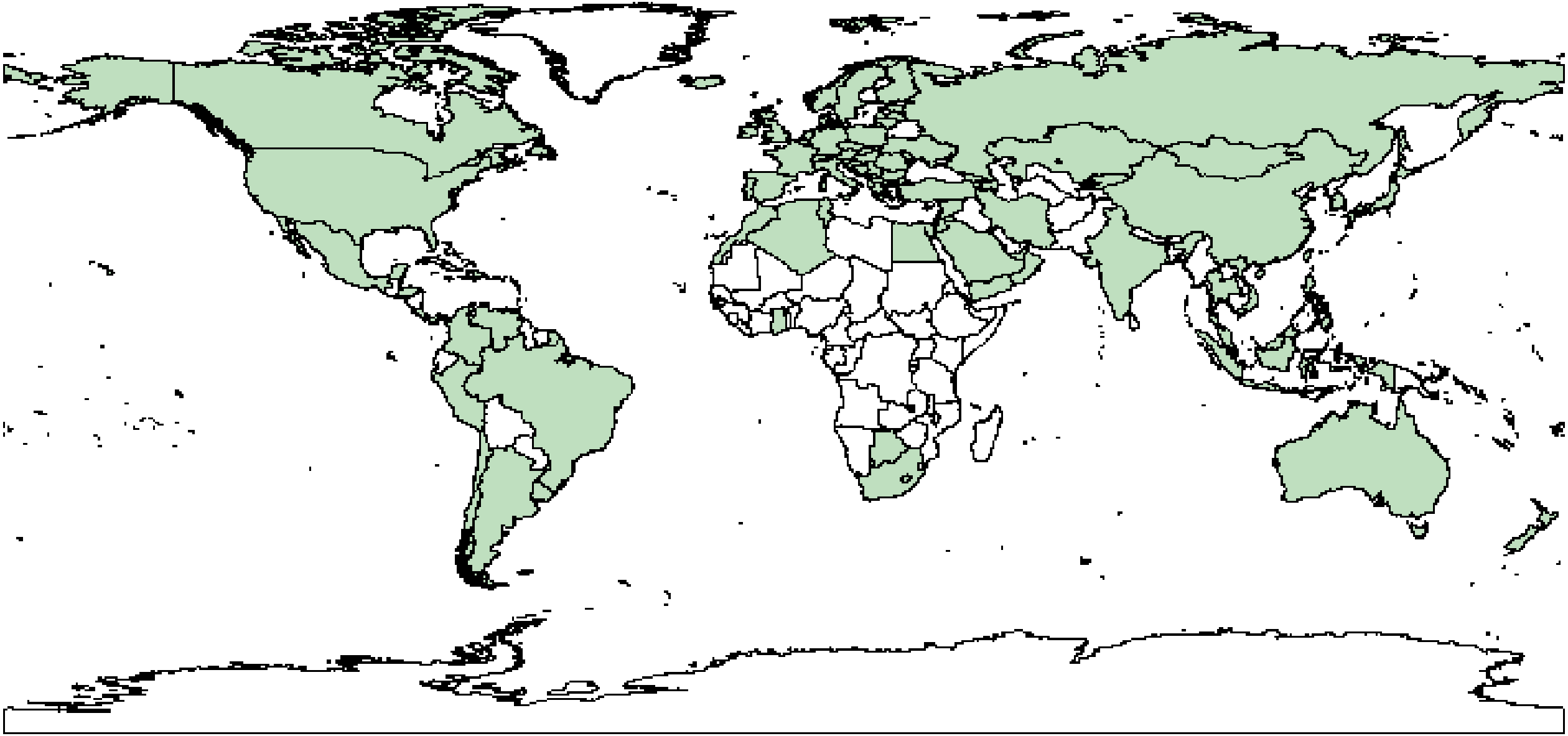
HEALTH
Will they leave school in good health, ready for further learning and/or work?

How productive will the world's children be when they are 18?

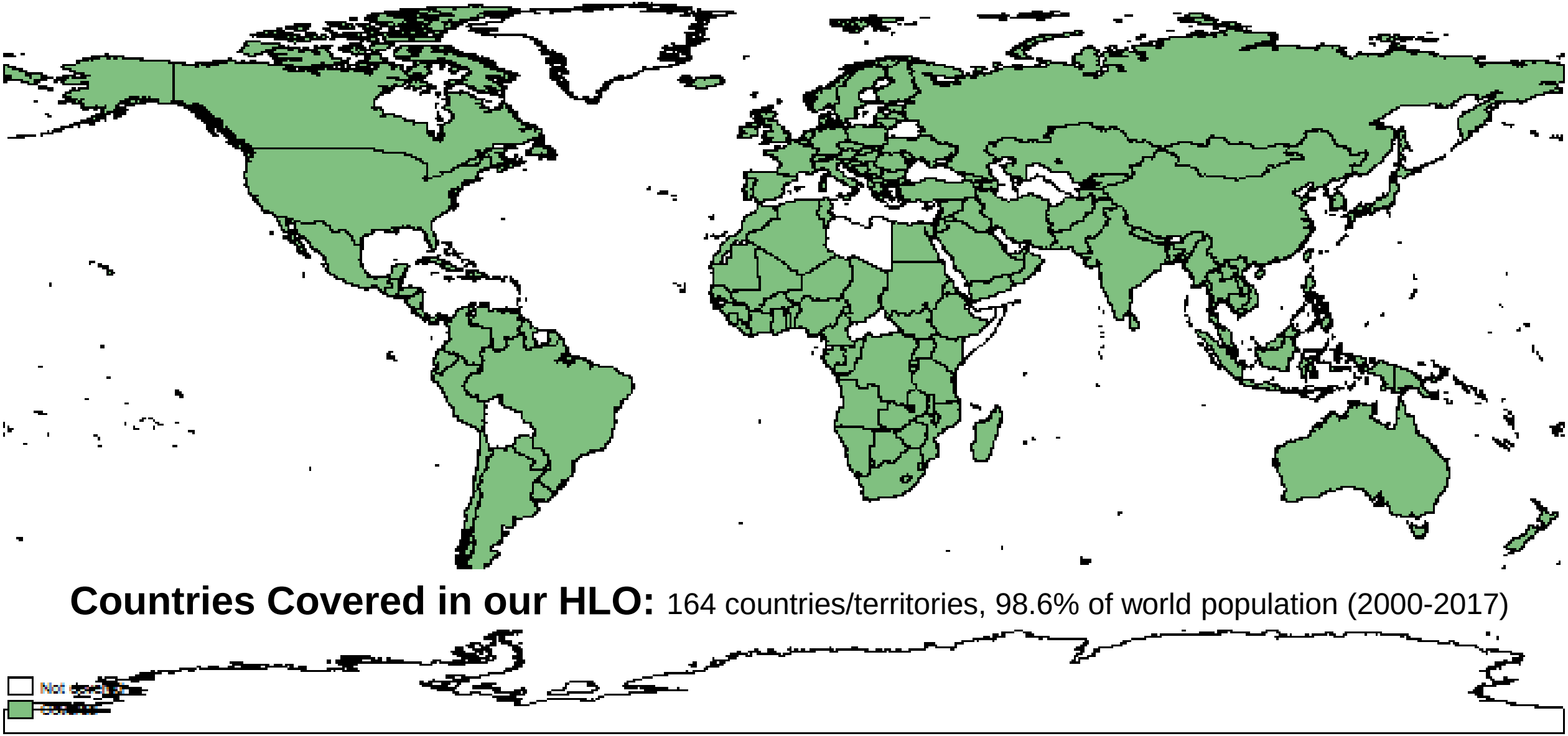


Source: World Bank staff calculations

Countries Covered by PISA/TIMSS/PIRLS

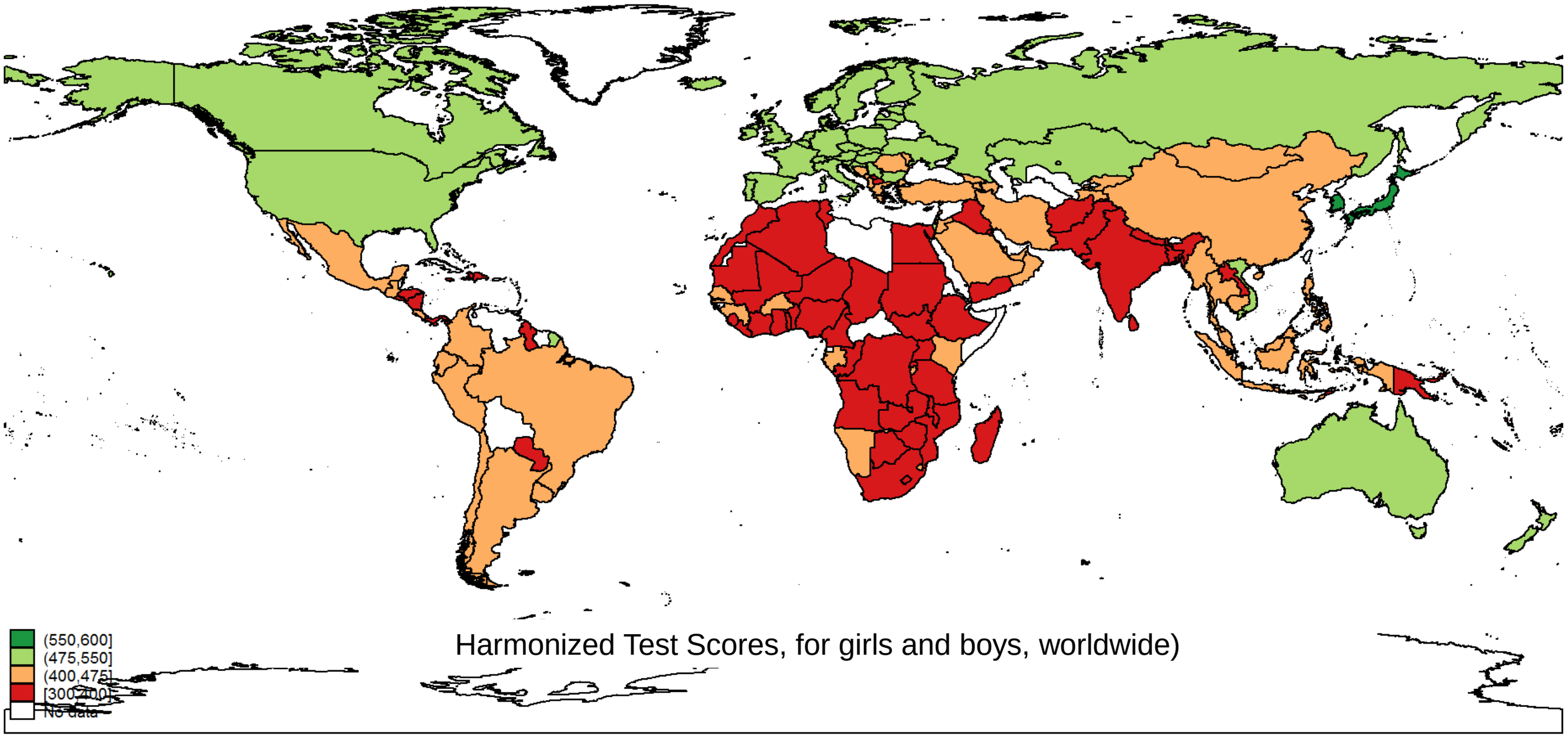


Countries Covered by HLO



Countries Covered in our HLO: 164 countries/territories, 98.6% of world population (2000-2017)

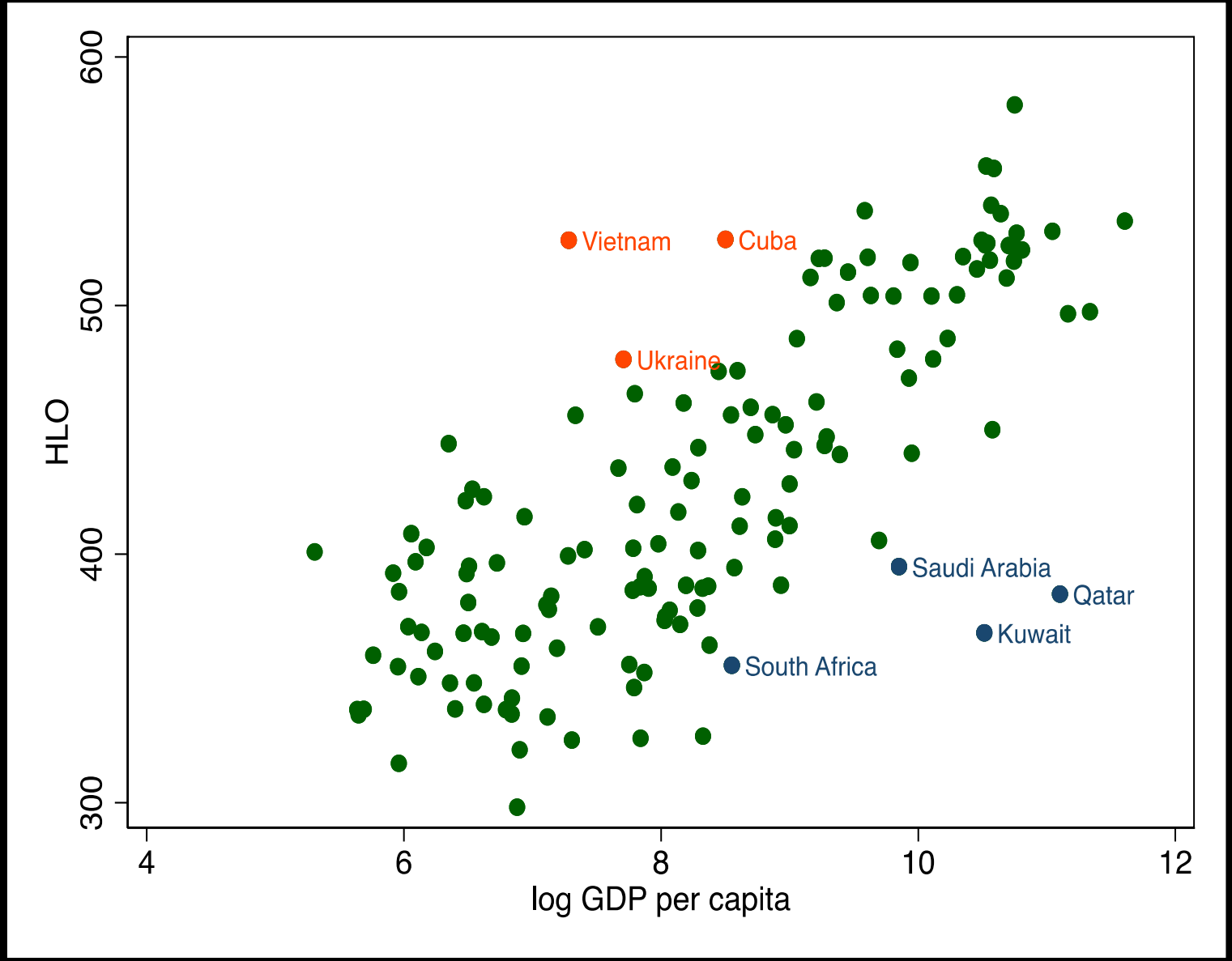
Harmonized Test Scores



Harmonized Test Scores, for girls and boys, worldwide)

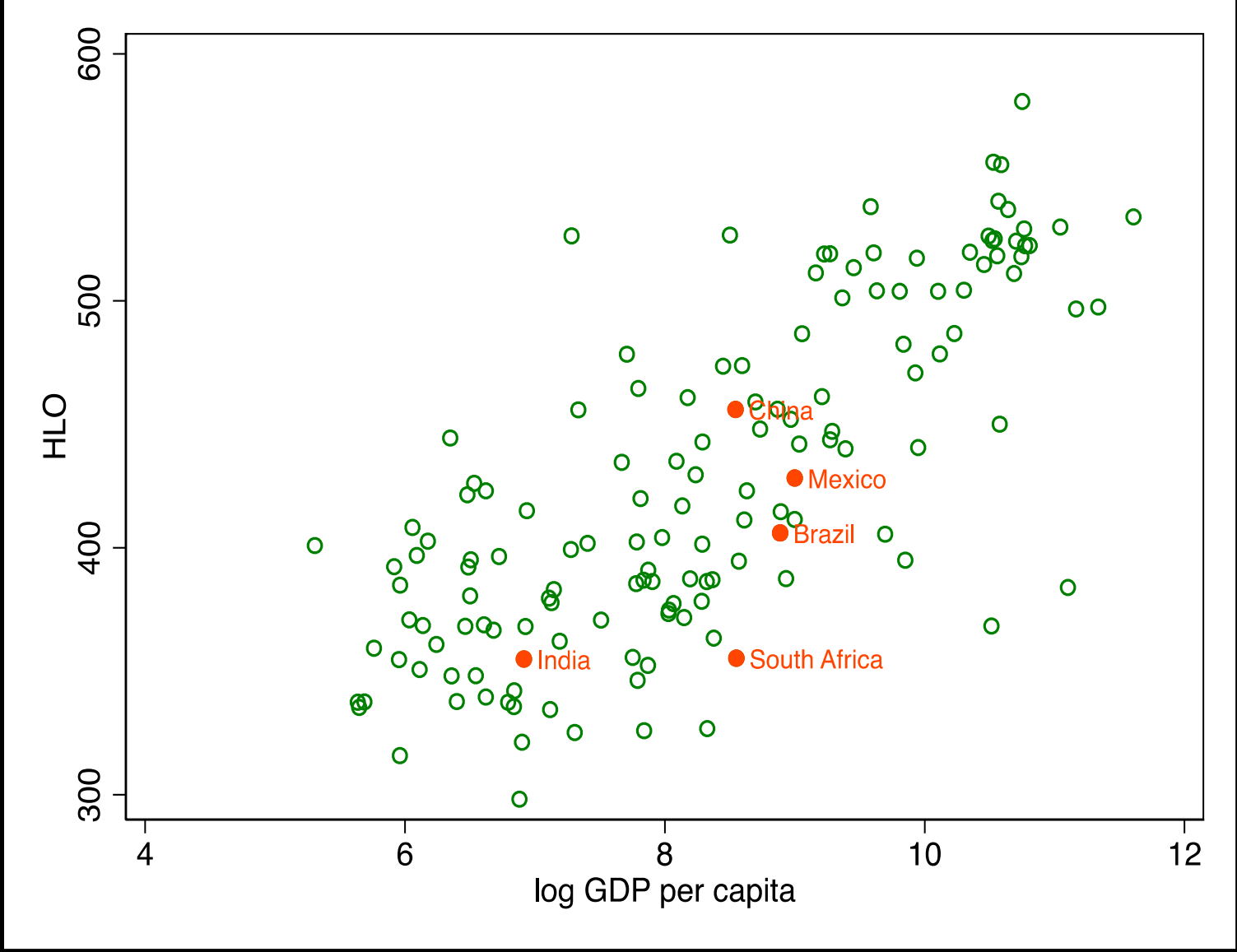
Countries Punching Above/Below Their (GDP) Weight

HLO scores vs. GDP per Capita, 2000-2017, All Subjects and Levels



Distance to the Learning Frontier for Big Economies

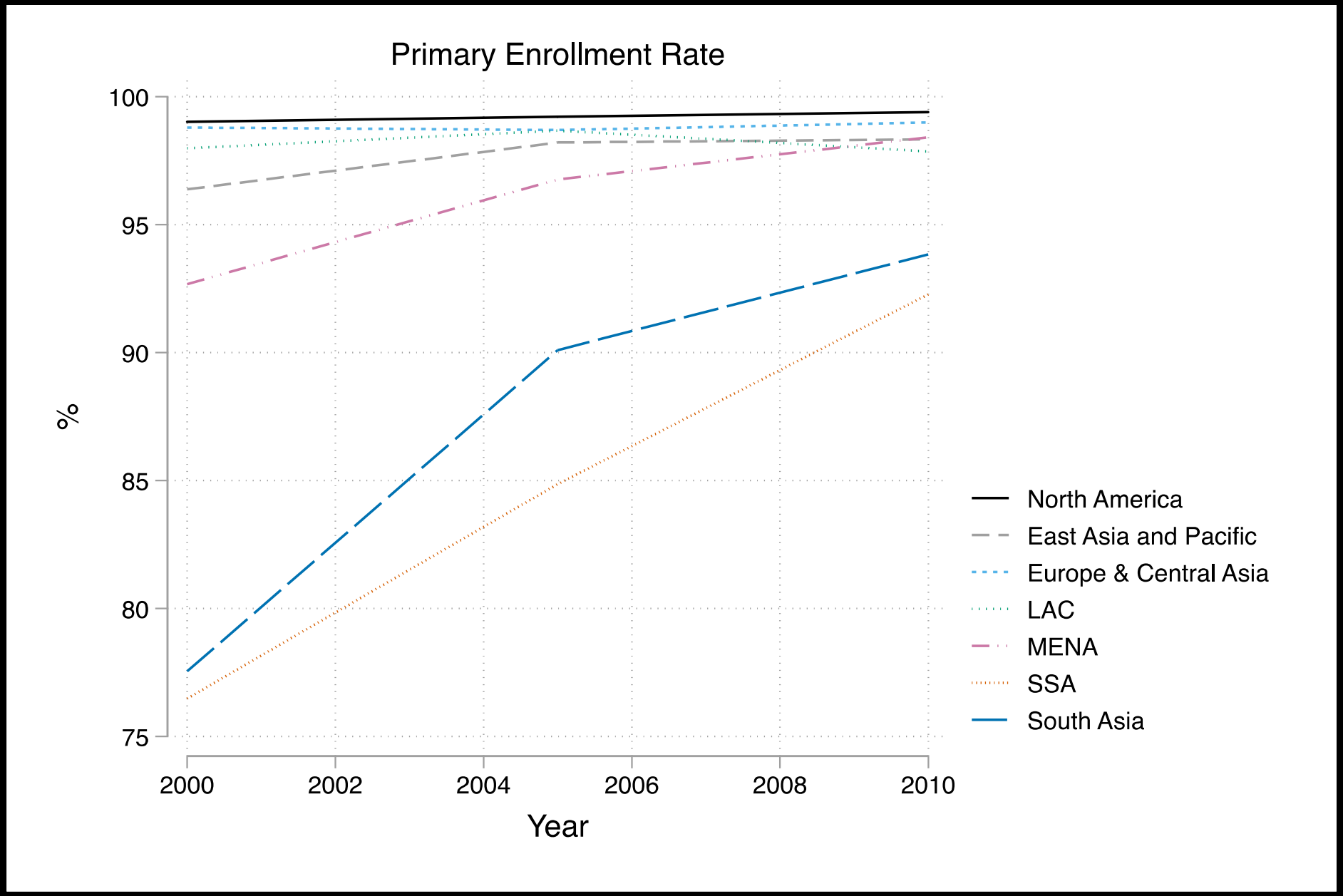
HLO scores vs. GDP per Capita, 2000-2017, All Subjects and Levels



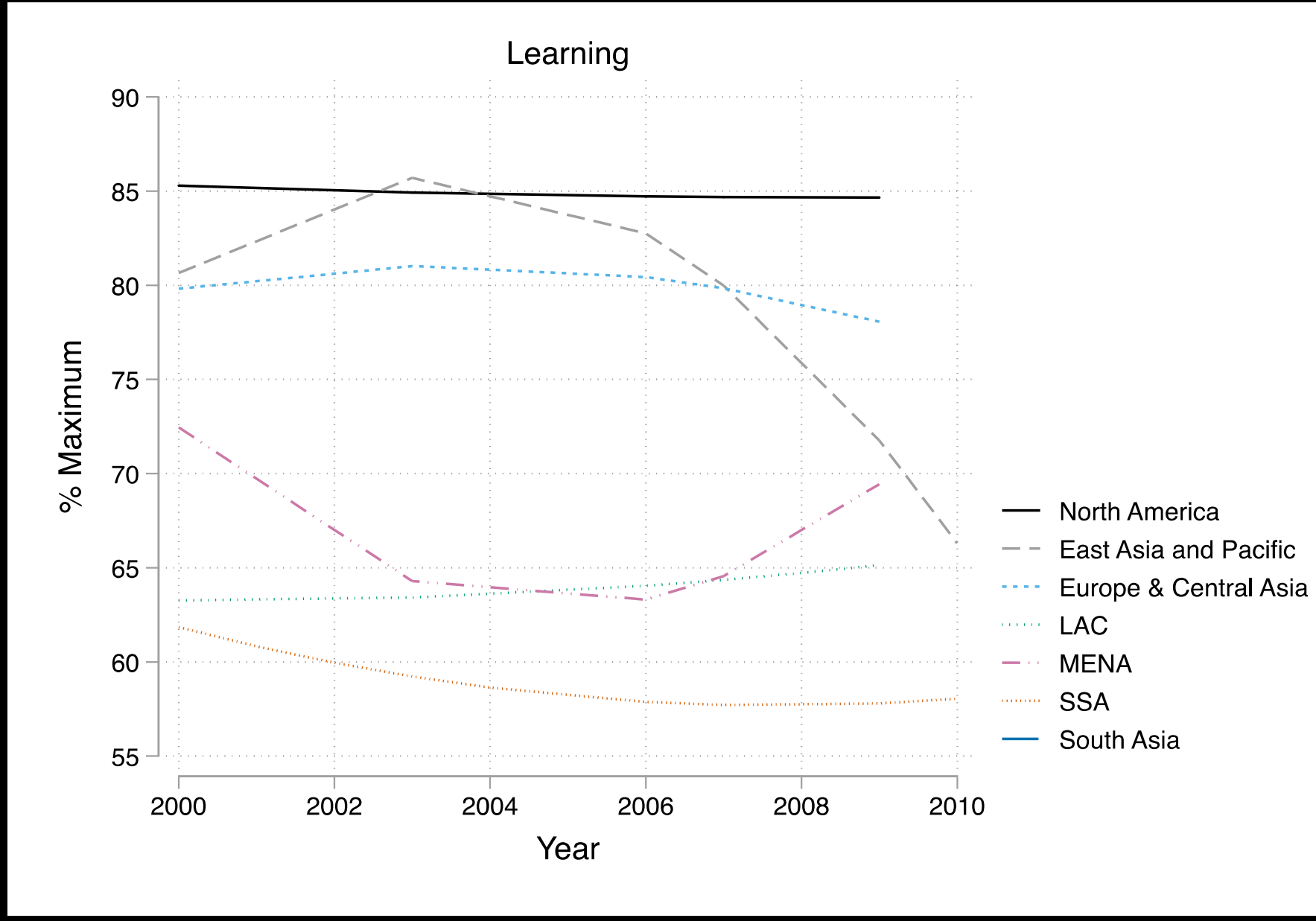
Enrollment and Learning

Notes: Primary enrollment rates are averaged for the cohorts 25 years and older. Both enrollment and learning are averaged across countries. Percent maximum is calculated by dividing scores by the score at the upper end of the scale (625) in line with Kraay (2018). Source: Primary enrollment rates are from Lee and Lee (2016); Learning outcomes are from our database.

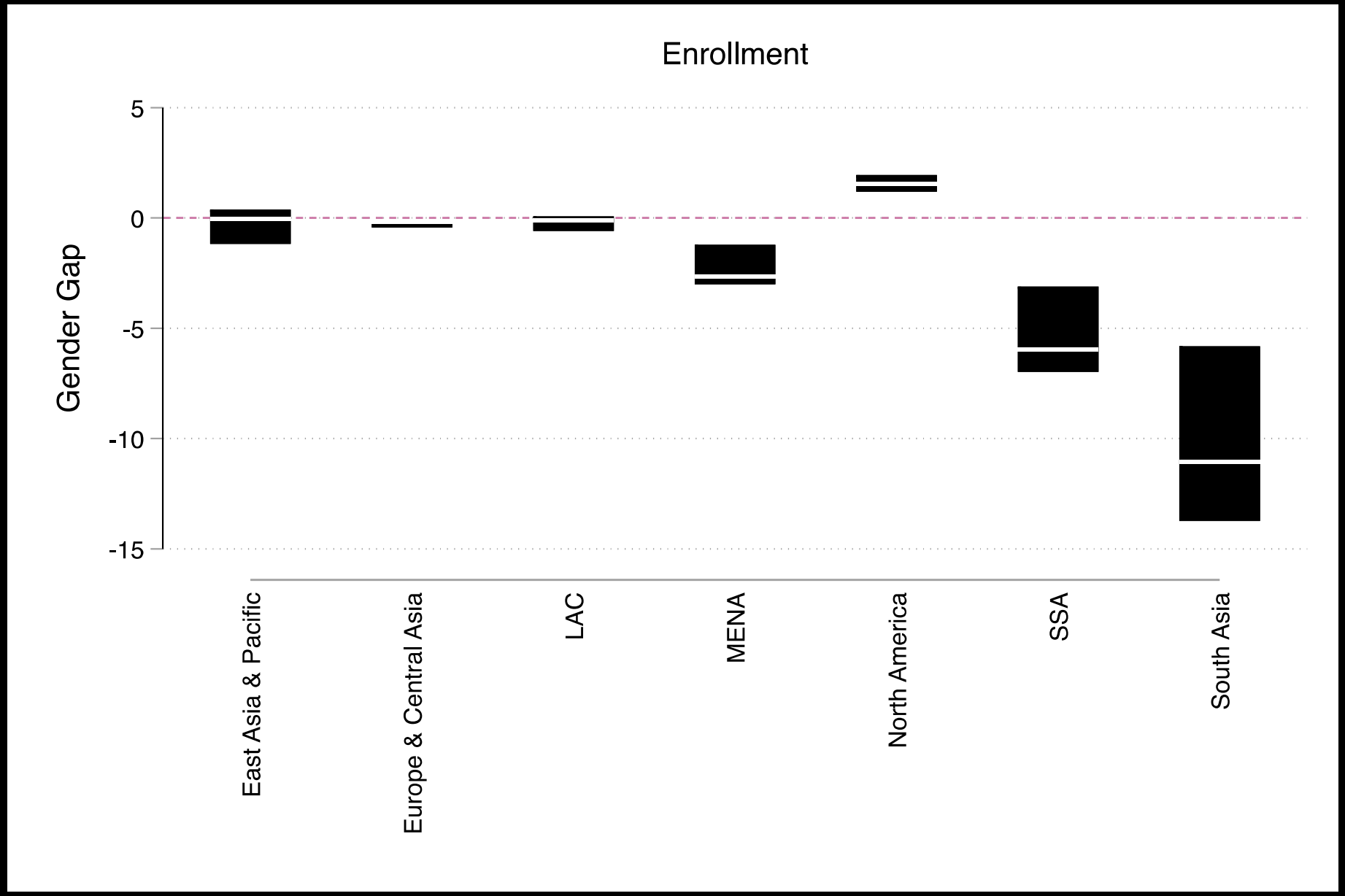
Enrollment


Primary Enrollment Rate
100
95
90
85
80
75
%
2000
2002
2004
2006
2008
2010
Year
North America
East Asia and Pacific
Europe & Central Asia
LAC
MENA
SSA
South Asia

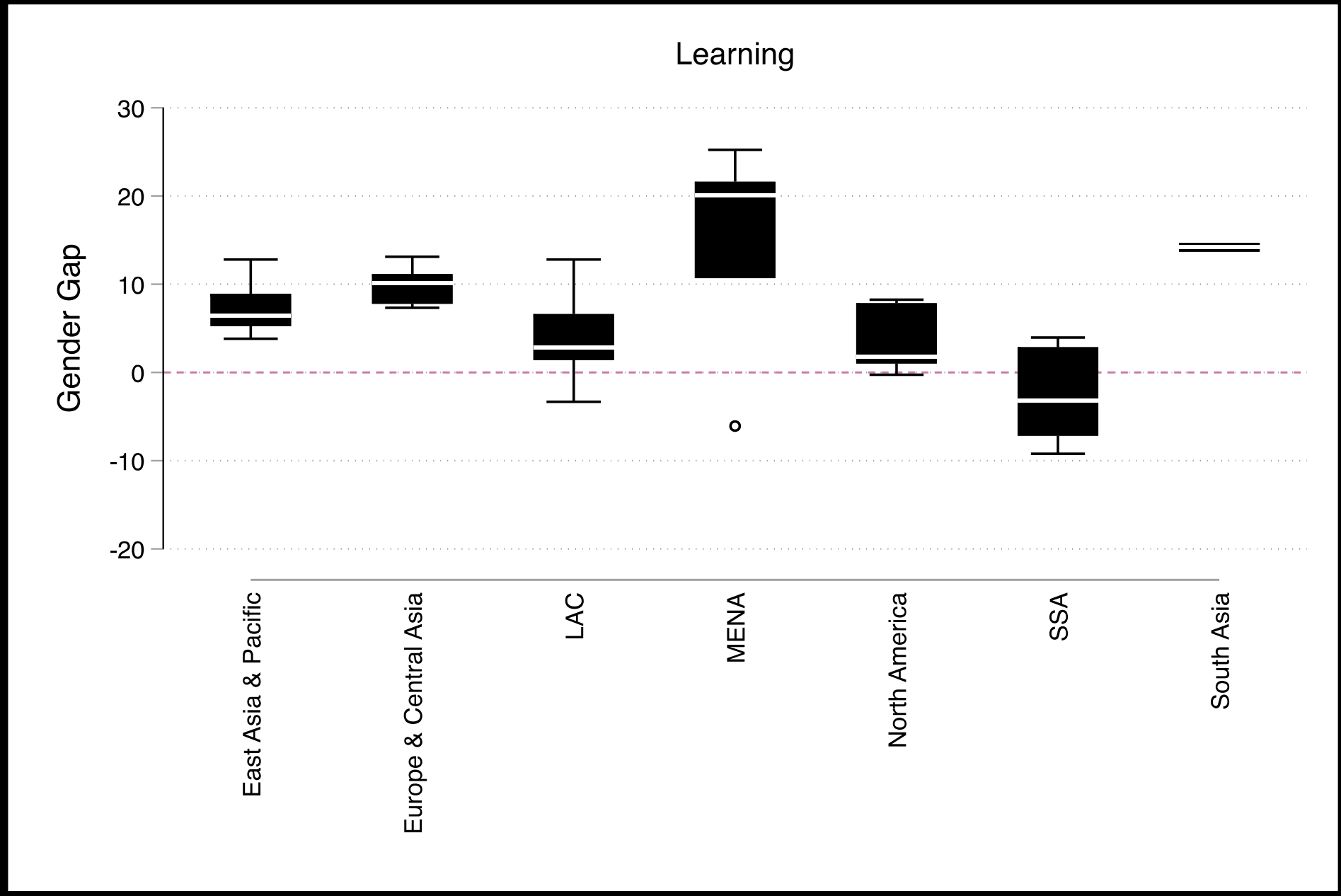
Learning

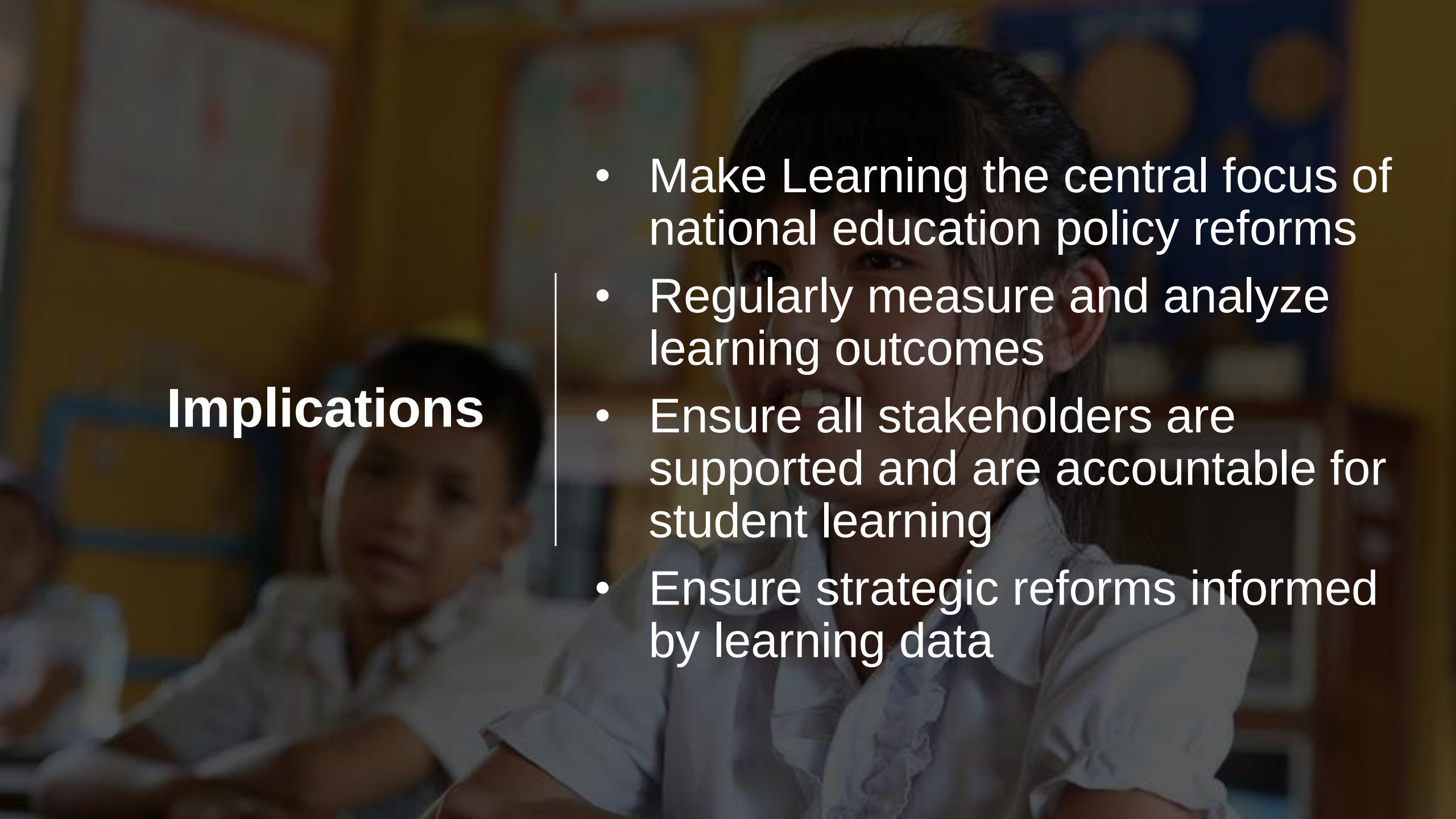

Learning
90
85
80
75
70
65
60
55
% Maximum
2000
2002
2004
2006
2008
2010
Year
North America
East Asia and Pacific
Europe & Central Asia
LAC
MENA
SSA
South Asia

Gender and Enrollment



Gender and Learning





Implications

- Make Learning the central focus of national education policy reforms
- Regularly measure and analyze learning outcomes
- Ensure all stakeholders are supported and are accountable for student learning
- Ensure strategic reforms informed by learning data

Thank you

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