WORLD DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS

DATASCI 200

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AGENDA

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About the dataset Audience Why it matters Our research question

↑ THE DATA PROCESS

Data Cleaning Variable Selection Visualizations Challenges & Mitigations

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Answers to our key questions Challenges & Mitigations Visualizations

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Conclusions
Lessons Learned for the research & data process
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Thank You

CONTEXT

About the Data

The World Bank is a global development organization that finds solutions to multifaceted social development issues. The indicators are a repository of key development indicators collected by internationally recognized sources to form one of the most comprehensive and accurate global development databases.

Our Research Question:

Is primary school enrollment linked to labor force participation and unemployment in low-, middle-, and high-income countries across genders?

Why it matters:

- Highlighting the Interdependence of Key Development Indicators
- Addressing Gender Disparities Across Income Levels
- Informing Policy and Program Design Through Nuanced Analysis



PREPARING THE DATA

The data process aims to reduce inconsistencies, focus on relevant trends, and create a robust foundation for meaningful insights.



Step 1

Feature selection Selection of WDI indicators: labor force participation, unemployment, & school enrollment

Step 2

Data consolidation
Integration of
updated dataset with
income
classification data

Step 3

Date filtration Removal of records before 2017 to prioritize more recent years: 2017-2023

Step 4

Data completeness Exclusion of records with < 5+ values to ensure robustness; exclusion of records with 6+ zeros

Step 5

Data transformation Reshaping of data for flexible manipulation and aggregation

SELECTING THE VARIABLES

Education

1 | School enrollment, primary and secondary, male and female (gross %)

Why: Highest count of countries with school enrollment data

2 | School Enrollment Gender Parity Index (GPI)

Why: Initial observations & research question was more focused on the gap between genders in enrollment

Labor Force & Unemployment

1 | Labor force participation rate, male and female (% of population ages 15+)

Why: Insights into a country's workforce and economic health

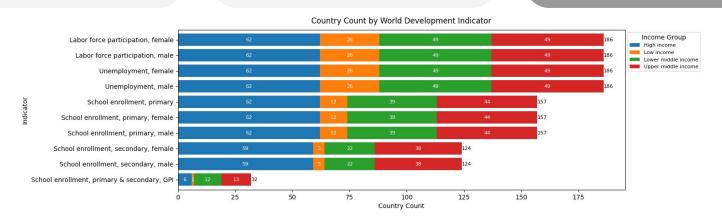
2 | Unemployment, male and female (% of labor force)

Why: To explore the intersection between unemployment and education access

Income Groupings

The World Bank's classification of economies into four income groups—low, lower-middle, upper-middle, and high income—using gross national income (GNI) per capita in USD:

- Low: ≤\$1,145
- Lower-middle: \$1,146 \$4,515
- Upper-middle: \$4,516 \$14,005
- High: > \$14,005

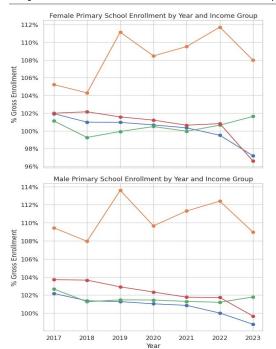


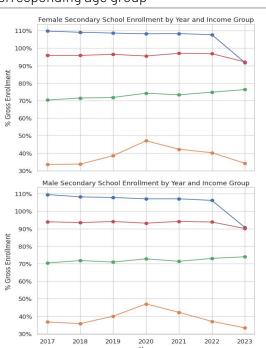
EDUCATION

 Grouped variables Extracted Means Plotted Data

Primary & secondary school enrollment1

% gross, calculated as total enrollments / population of corresponding age group





Challenges: Data scarcity in school enrollment variables of interest, primarily due to limited reporting and technological access in low-income countries.

Findings

Primary school enrollment is strong in low-income countries, but secondary school rates remain low.

High income countries exhibit the highest secondary school enrollment, followed by upper middle-, lower middle-, and low.

Percentages > 100% is due to the inclusion of over-aged and under-aged students because of early or late school entrance and grade repetition.

LABOR FORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT¹

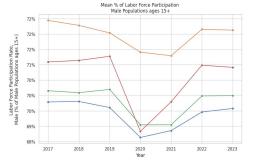
→ High income
→ Low Income
→ Lower Middle Income
→ Upper Middle Income

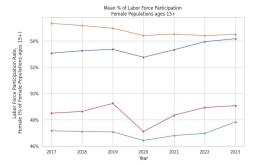
Simplified Data Process

Grouped Extracted Means Plotted Data

Labor Force²

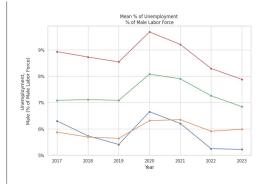
Proportion of the population ages 15+ that is economically active who supply labor for the production of goods and services

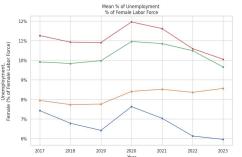




Unemployment

Unemployment refers to the share of the labor force that is without work but available for and seeking employment.²





Findings

In all income country groupings, males typically have less unemployment that females

High-income countries have the lowest male labor force compared to other income groups.

Females in high-income countries represent a smaller share of the unemployed, possibly due to the requirement of "actively seeking work," which may exclude those from more privileged backgrounds

- 1) Note: Ranges of y-axes differ to highlight patterns, differences, and trends.
- 2) Definitions of labor force and unemployment differ by country.

OUR RESEARCH CONCLUSIONS

Indicates same trends for both male and female groups

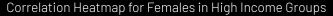
Is primary school enrollment
linked to labor force participation
and unemployment in low-,
middle-, and high-income
countries across genders?

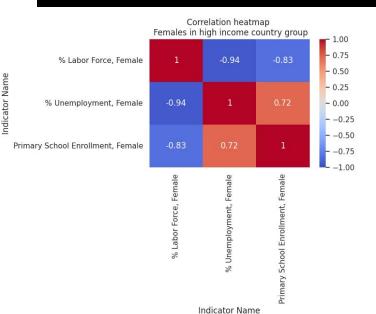
Approach: We selected the relevant variables and conducted a correlation analysis between male and female data, measuring the strength of their relationships (from -1 to +1) and taking the means of each of the income countries within each group.

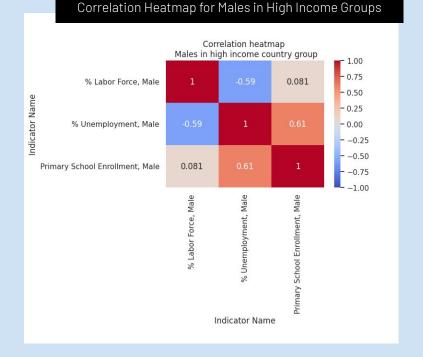
Disclaimer: This analysis only shows correlation and is no way making causal claims on an outcome variable.



Income Group	Gender	Higher primary school enrollment in s correlated with
High Income	Female	 Lower labor force participation Higher unemployment
	Male	 Nearly the same labor force participation Higher unemployment
Low Income	Female	Lower labor force participationHigher unemployment
	Male	 Lower (minimal) labor force participation Nearly the same unemployment
Lower-Middle- Income	Female	 Higher labor force participation Lower unemployment
	Male	 Higher labor force participation Lower unemployment
Upper-Middle- Income	Female	 Lower labor force participation Higher unemployment
	Male	 Higher labor force participation Higher unemployment







OUR RESEARCH CONCLUSIONS

Conclusion: The relationship between primary school enrollment and labor force participation varies by income level, with higher enrollment linked to higher unemployment for upper-middle and high income groups for both males and females. The relationship between enrollment and labor force participation is negative for most female groups and neutral to positive for most male groups. School enrollment generally has a stronger correlation with labor force participation for females than males, regardless of direction. These trends highlight the complex interaction between education, labor markets, and economic development across different income groups.

LESSONS LEARNED

 Handling empty data through filtering and dropping Reshaped data to simplify trend analysis over time Ensured timeliness and data validity through date filtration
 Observed data availability by examining value counts upfront Considered practical applications of variable examination
 Think big first, then scope down Refine research question after selecting variables
 Consider readability for the audience Simplify axes and titles Standardize colors to reinforce consistency

QUESTIONS

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