

REGIONAL TRENDS AND GENDER INEQUALITY IN SCHOOL-LIFE EXPECTANCY: A STUDY BASED ON THE YEAR 1990-2018

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INTRODUCTION

The school life tables which are derived are double decrement tables which show the joint effects of death and school dropouts on school attendance patterns. School life expectancy is the average number of school years remaining at specified ages for all persons alive at the exact age “x”, and not just those who are enrolled in the school (Stockwell and Nam, 1963). The tables of school life illustrate the age pattern of school attendance in a form that permits the study of the relation of age to school enrollment and of school life expectancy.

OBJECTIVE

This study aimed to understand the level and trend of school life expectancy in various regions of the world and apart from this gender differential in school life expectancy.

DATA AND METHODS

We use data from the The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) is the official source of data used to monitor progress towards Sustainable Development Goal on Education (SDG 4) and the Education 2030 Agenda. For constructing a school life table, data on school age population by single years of age, and enrolment data in the corresponding age groups are essential needed. The functional relations utilized in constructing the tables of school life are derived from the school life table techniques developed by Stockwell and Nam (1963). According to the definitions and computational procedures for deriving each of the demographic and educational functions given respectively in the column of the school life tables are explained below:

Column-1 (x): This column represents the exact age or age interval.

Column-2 (L_x): Total number of person living at the beginning of each age or age group

Column-3 (L_{sx}): Stationary population at the age or age group

Column-4 (S_x): Proportion of enrolled population

Column-5 (L_{sx}): Stationary school population. It was computed by the formula

$$L_{sx} = L_x * S_x$$

Column-6 (T_{sx}): Total number of person-years spent in school by the cohort after a given age. It obtained by

$$T_{sx} = \sum L_{sx}$$

Column-7 (e_{sx}^0): Average number of year school life for the total population.

$$e_{sx}^0 = \frac{T_{sx}}{L_x}$$

RESULTS

Figure 1: School-life expectancy (Primary to secondary) in all regions, 1990-2018.

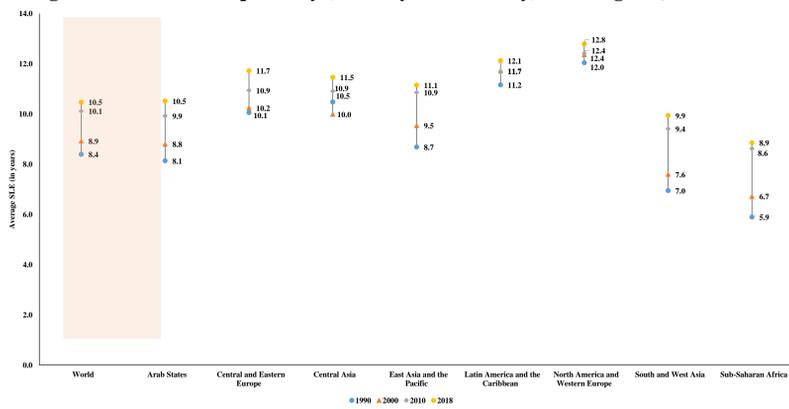


Figure 2: School-life expectancy (Primary to secondary) by level of income, 1990-2018.

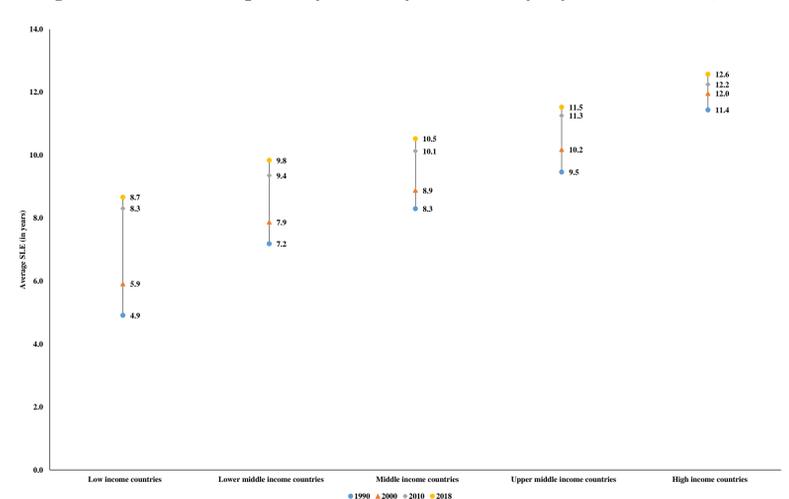


Figure 3: School-life expectancy (Primary to secondary) by gender in worldwide and region, 1990-2018.

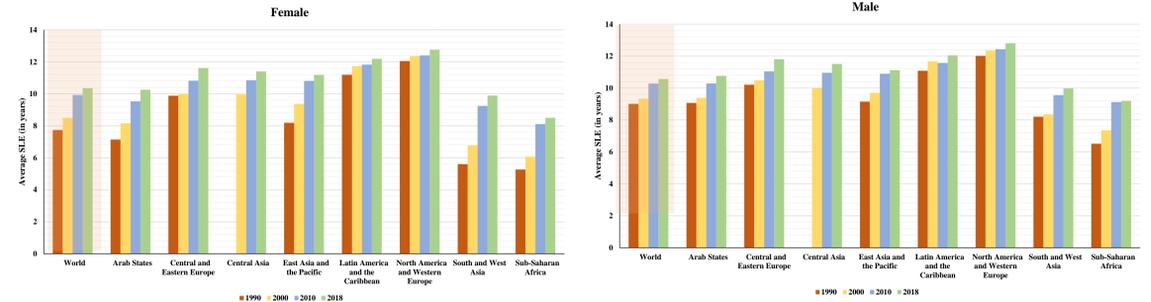


Figure 4: School-life expectancy (Primary to secondary) by gender in different income groups, 1990-2018.

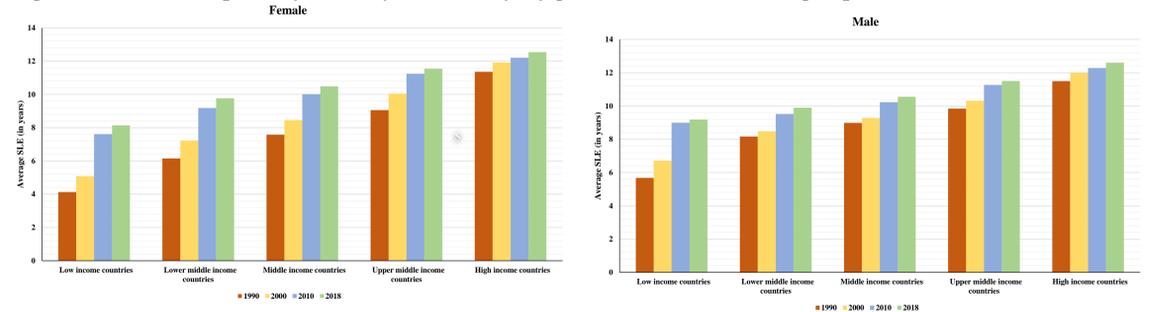


Table 1: Gains in school-life expectancy reflected in all regions and level of income groups, 1990-2018

Region and worldwide	Total	Female	Male
World	2.07	2.62	1.56
Arab States	2.38	3.12	1.69
Central and Eastern Europe	1.66	1.74	1.60
Central Asia	0.98	na	na
East Asia and the Pacific	2.46	2.99	1.97
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.96	1.00	0.96
North America and Western Europe	0.75	0.71	0.78
South and West Asia	2.99	4.29	1.77
Sub-Saharan Africa	2.96	3.24	2.68
Income Groups			
Low income countries	3.75	4.01	3.50
Lower middle income countries	2.65	3.62	1.74
Middle income countries	2.22	2.91	1.58
Upper middle income countries	2.06	2.49	1.66
High income countries	1.14	1.18	1.10

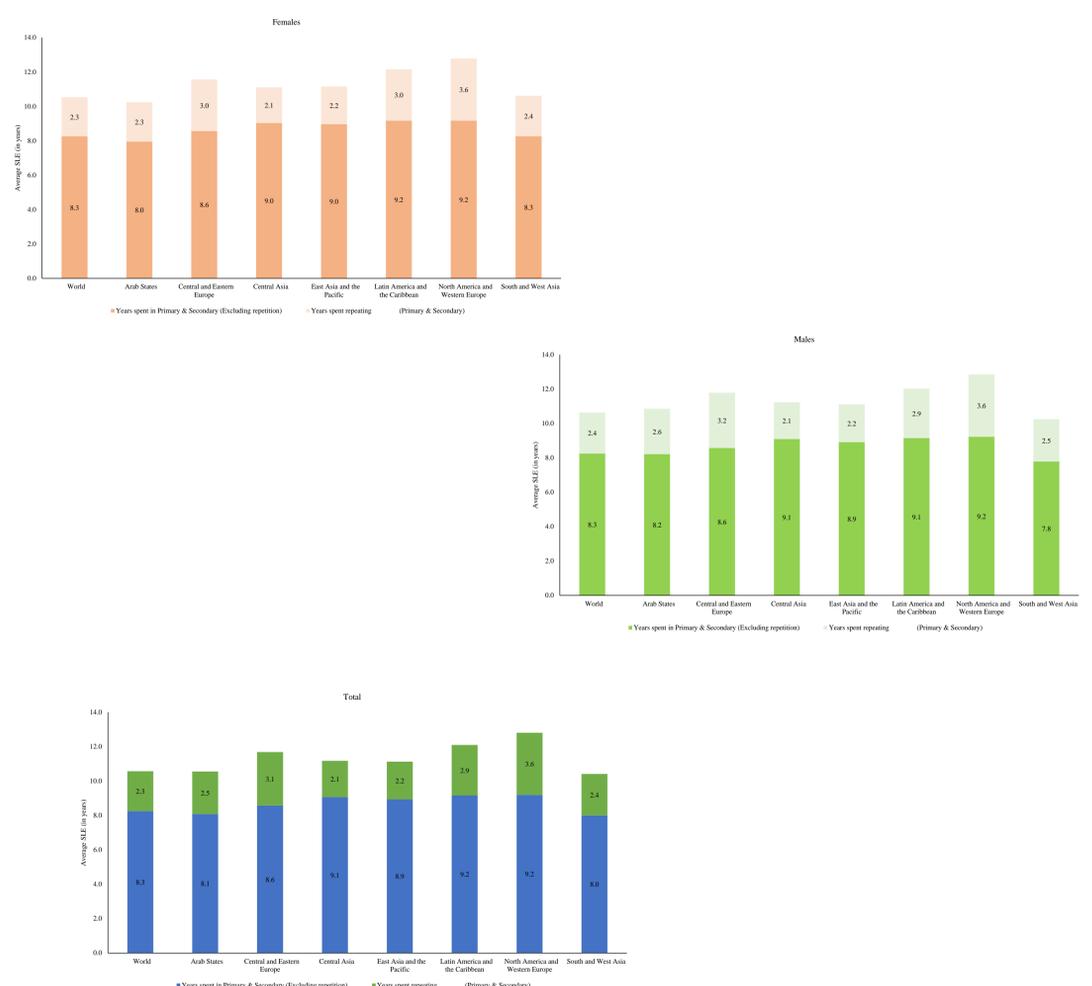
Note: "na" denotes "not available"

Table 2: Gender Parity Index by Region and level of income, 1990-2018

Region and worldwide	1990	2000	2010	2018
World	0.86	0.91	0.97	0.98
Arab States	0.79	0.87	0.93	0.95
Central and Eastern Europe	0.97	0.95	0.98	0.98
Central Asia	na	1.00	0.99	0.99
East Asia and the Pacific	0.89	0.97	0.99	1.01
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.01	1.01	1.02	1.01
North America and Western Europe	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
South and West Asia	0.68	0.81	0.97	0.99
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.81	0.83	0.89	0.92
Income Groups				
Low income countries	0.73	0.76	0.85	0.89
Lower middle income countries	0.75	0.85	0.96	0.99
Middle income countries	0.84	0.91	0.98	0.99
Upper middle income countries	0.92	0.97	1.00	1.00
High income countries	0.99	0.99	0.99	1.00

Note: "na" denotes "not available"

Table 5: Average school-life expectancy excluding repetition and years spent repeating by gender and region, 2018



CONCLUSION

Overall, it can be said that while gains in life expectancy have been remarkably steady both overall and across regions, gains against life span variance have been scarcer. This study concludes that the expected year of schooling among children aged 6 to 18 years still needed to improve. The proportion of enrolment in primary to secondary education was declined, which has adverse implications for school life expectancy. This problem is endemic among children from socially deprived groups economically backward States which would imply the limited capacity to withstand systemic economic shocks. Therefore, a major policy need is to focus on reducing regional, gender, residence, and income inequality in school enrolment and eliminating dropouts in the context of adverse economy-wide shocks. Higher SLE implies increasing exposure to education.