

EDUCATION IN ASIA: BY THE NUMBERS

ADB

Education and skills are keys to a smarter future and growth in the Asia and Pacific region, according to the Asian Development Bank's Key Indicators 2015.

IN DEVELOPING ASIA...

Governments spent **\$1.2 TRILLION** on education in 2014 ¹

Households spend **6.5%** of expenditures on education ¹

630 MILLION: estimated number of students enrolled in primary and secondary education ¹

Secondary school enrollment has increased from 62% in 1990 to **81%** by 2012 ¹

From 1990 to 2012, literacy rates climbed from 79% to **87%** ¹



1.3% GROWTH

Expected yearly increase in GDP per capita for countries which improve

educational quality ²

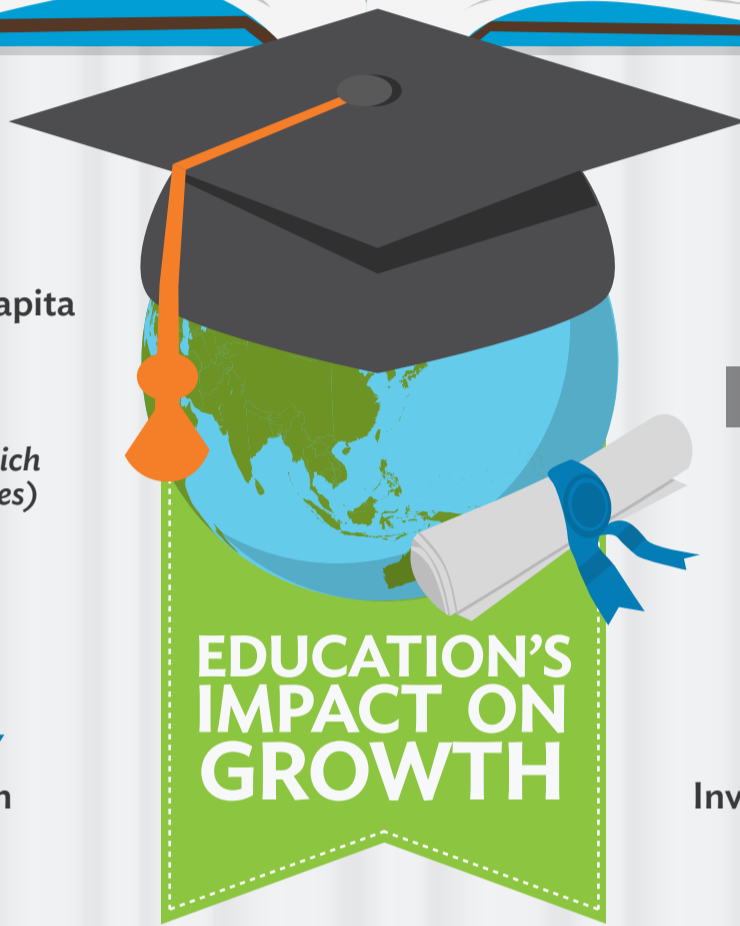
(for countries with the lowest test scores which raise scores to the median of Asian test scores)



FIRM PRODUCTIVITY

Investment in training by firms can increase their productivity by

up to 8.6% ³



IMPROVED ECONOMIES

Per capita income in a typical developing Asian economy can **more than double** in a 20-year period

if cognitive skills for workers can progressively reach levels seen in more advanced economies ²



LABOR PRODUCTIVITY

Investment in human resource management can increase labor productivity by

up to 17% ⁴

EMPLOYMENT CONCERNS

Up to 28% of existing jobs in some Asian economies could be at high risk of disappearing as a result of technological changes ²

357.7 million Number of youth globally not in education, training, or employment ⁵

101 million live in South Asia **119.4 million** live in East Asia and the Pacific

536 million Underemployed youth in the developing world in 2010 ⁵

152 million live in South Asia **150 million** live in East Asia and the Pacific

Read ADB's latest **Key Indicators** for more details

Test Scores Matter A+

13% Expected increase in test scores from enhancing the quality of information, data collection, and accountability ²
(for countries with the lowest to the highest Asian test scores)

Zero test score increase

Increasing education spending as % of GDP leads to no change in test scores without careful targeting and program design ²
(for countries with the lowest to the highest Asian test scores)

KEY INDICATORS FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

A SMARTER FUTURE: SKILLS, EDUCATION, AND GROWTH

SOURCES

- 1 World Bank
- 2 ADB estimates
- 3 Almeida, R. and P. Carneiro. 2009. *The Return to Firm Investments in Human Capital*
- 4 Bloom N. and J. Van Reenen. 2007. *Measuring and Explaining Management Practices Across Firms and Countries*
- 5 World Economic Forum: The Challenge of Youth Unemployment