

↑↑↑↑↑ HIGHS and LOWS ↓↓↓↓

The United Nations Development Program tracks the “development” of countries around the world. Each year the UNDP publishes a ranking of world nations to track their progress or lack thereof. Almost all countries are rated each year, unless UNDP staff members cannot enter a country due to conditions that would endanger their lives. The UNDP index is NOT simply a measure of wealth. Several factors are considered, including:

- **Life expectancy** - This figure is the average number of years that people in a country live.
- **Mean Years of Schooling** - This is the average number of years children in a country attend school. How well students do in school is not considered in this measure.
- **Per Capita GDP (Gross Domestic Product)** - The GDP is the total value of goods and services produced WITHIN a country in a year. “Per capita” divides the GDP by the country’s population. (NOTE: GDP differs from GNP, Gross National Product, the total value of goods and services produced by a nation’s companies – ANYWHERE in the world.)

VERY HIGH DEVELOPMENT (Top 25 of 2010):

UNDP Ranking	Country	Life Expectancy	Mean Years of Schooling	Per Capita GDP
1	Norway	81.0	12.6	\$58,810
2	Australia	81.9	12.0	\$38,692
3	New Zealand	80.5	12.5	\$25,438
4	United States	79.6	12.4	\$47,094
5	Ireland	80.3	11.6	\$31,078
6	Lichtenstein	79.6	10.3	\$81,011
7	Netherlands	80.3	11.2	\$40,658
8	Canada	81.0	11.5	\$38,668
9	Sweden	81.3	11.6	\$36,936
10	Germany	80.2	12.2	\$35,308
11	Japan	83.2	11.5	\$34,692
12	South Korea	79.8	11.6	\$29,518
13	Switzerland	82.2	10.3	\$39,849
14	France	81.6	10.4	\$34,341
15	Israel	81.2	11.9	\$27,831
16	Finland	80.1	10.3	\$33,872
17	Iceland	82.1	19.4	\$22,917
18	Belgium	80.3	10.6	\$34,873
19	Denmark	78.7	10.3	\$36,404
20	Spain	81.3	10.4	\$29,661
21	Hong Kong(China)	82.5	10.0	\$45,090
22	Greece	79.7	10.5	\$27,580
23	Italy	81.4	9.7	\$29,619
24	Luxembourg	79.9	10.1	\$51,109
25	Austria	80.4	9.8	\$37,056

THE MIDDLE OF THE MIDDLE (42 nations were ranked as having “medium” human development. The middle 1/3 countries are listed.):

UNDP Ranking	Country	Life Expectancy	Mean Years of Schooling	Per Capita GDP
100	Mongolia	67.3	8.3	\$3,679
101	Egypt	70.5	6.5	\$5,889
102	Uzbekistan	68.2	10.0	\$3,085
103	Micronesia	69.3	8.8	\$3,266
104	Guyana	67.9	8.5	\$3,302
105	Namibia	62.1	7.4	\$6,323
106	Honduras	72.6	6.5	\$3,750
107	the Maldives	72.3	6.7	\$5,428
108	Indonesia	71.5	5.7	\$4,957
109	Kyrgyzstan	68.4	9.3	\$2,291
110	South Africa	52.0	8.2	\$9,312
111	Syria	74.6	4.9	\$4,760
112	Tajikistan	67.3	9.8	\$2,020
113	Vietnam	74.9	5.5	\$2,995

THE BOTTOM 25 DEVELOPING NATIONS (42 nations were ranked as having “low” human development. This list is the bottom 25.):

145	Haiti	61.7	6.8	\$ 949
146	Angola	48.1	4.4	\$4,941
147	Djibouti	56.1	4.7	\$2,471
148	Tanzania	58.4	6.3	\$1,344
149	Côte d’Ivoire	56.9	5.1	\$1,625
150	Zambia	47.3	6.5	\$1,359
151	Gambia	56.6	2.8	\$1,358
152	Rwanda	51.1	3.3	\$1,190
153	Malawi	54.5	4.3	\$ 911
154	Sudan	58.9	2.9	\$2,051
155	Afghanistan	44.6	3.3	\$1,419
156	Guinea	58.9	1.6	\$ 953
157	Ethiopia	56.1	1.5	\$ 992
158	Sierra Leone	48.2	2.9	\$ 829
159	Central Af. Republic	47.7	3.5	\$ 758
160	Mali	49.2	1.4	\$1,171
161	Burkina Faso	53.7	1.3	\$1,215
162	Liberia	59.1	3.9	\$ 320
163	Chad	49.2	1.5	\$1,067
164	Guinea-Bissau	48.6	2.3	\$ 538
165	Mozambique	48.4	1.2	\$ 854
166	Burundi	51.4	2.7	\$ 402
167	Niger	52.5	3.8	\$ 675
168	Dem. Rep. of Congo	48.0	3.8	\$ 291
169	Zimbabwe	47.0	7.2	\$ 176

THINK

ABOUT

IT



1. Use a map or atlas as needed to figure out which world regions have the ...
Highest levels of development: _____

Lowest levels of development: _____

2. What factors might impact or change a nation's status in terms of ...
Life expectancy: _____

Mean years of schooling: _____

Per capita GDP: _____

3. What OTHER factors do you think might influence the UNDP in ranking these
nations? Explain your ideas. _____

4. Based on the UNDP figures, do you agree with the Springboard economist
that there are "Haves and Have-Nots" among world nations? Explain. _____
