



# UNDP Releases 2010 Human Development Index

## *2010 HDI tracks national achievement in education, health and income*

**United Nations, 4 November 2010**—The 2010 Human Development Index (HDI)—a composite national measure of health, education and income for 169 countries—released today in the 20th anniversary edition of the *Human Development Report* shows Norway, Australia and New Zealand leading the world in HDI achievement with Niger, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe at the bottom of the annual rankings.



The next seven among the top 10 countries in the 2010 HDI are: the United States, Ireland, Lichtenstein, the Netherlands, Canada, Sweden and Germany. The other seven among the bottom 10 countries are: Mali, Burkina Faso, Liberia, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Burundi.

The first *Human Development Report* in 1990 featured the newly devised HDI. Its premise, considered radical at the time, was simple: national development should be measured not just by economic growth, as had long been the practice, but also by health and education achievement, which was also measurable for most countries.

For the 20th anniversary of the Report, *The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development*, the 2010 HDI uses data and methodologies that were not available in most countries in 1990 for the dimensions of income, education and health. Gross National Income per capita replaces Gross Domestic Product per capita, to include income from remittances and international development assistance, for example. The upper 'cap' on income for index weighting purposes was removed to give countries that had surpassed the previous US\$40,000 limit an HDI, better reflecting real incomes levels.

In education, expected years schooling for school-age children replaces gross enrolment, and average years of schooling in the adult population replaces adult literacy rates, to provide a fuller picture of education levels. Life expectancy remains the main indicator for health.

This year's HDI should not be compared to the HDI that appeared in previous editions of the Human Development Report due to the use of different indicators and calculations. The 2010 HDI charts national ranking changes over five-year intervals, rather than on a year-to-year basis.

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## Key to Countries

2010 HDI rank and change in rank from 2005 to 2010

Afghanistan	155 ↑ 1	Equatorial Guinea	117 ↑ 1	Mauritania	136	Tanzania, United Republic of	148 ↑ 1
Albania	64 ↓ 1	Estonia	34 ↓ 3	Mauritius	72 ↓ 2	Thailand	92 ↑ 1
Algeria	84 ↑ 1	Ethiopia	157 ↑ 3	Mexico	56 ↓ 2	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	71 ↑ 1
Andorra	30 ↑ 2	Fiji	86 ↓ 9	Micronesia, Federated States of	103 ↓ 5	Timor-Leste	120 ↑ 11
Angola	146 ↑ 2	Finland	16 ↓ 2	Moldova, Republic of	99	Togo	139 ↓ 4
Argentina	46 ↑ 4	France	14 ↑ 5	Mongolia	100 ↑ 2	Tonga	85 ↓ 6
Armenia	76	Gabon	93 ↑ 1	Montenegro	49 ↓ 1	Trinidad and Tobago	59 ↑ 1
Australia	2	Gambia	151 ↓ 1	Morocco	114 ↑ 1	Tunisia	81 ↑ 5
Austria	25 ↓ 1	Georgia	74 ↓ 3	Mozambique	165	Turkey	83 ↓ 1
Azerbaijan	67 ↑ 16	Germany	10 ↓ 1	Myanmar	132 ↑ 6	Turkmenistan	87
Bahamas	43 ↓ 3	Ghana	130 ↓ 2	Namibia	105 ↑ 2	Uganda	143 ↑ 4
Bahrain	39 ↓ 1	Greece	22 ↑ 3	Nepal	138 ↑ 5	Ukraine	69 ↓ 3
Bangladesh	129 ↑ 1	Guatemala	116	Netherlands	7 ↑ 3	United Arab Emirates	32 ↑ 5
Barbados	42 ↓ 1	Guinea	156 ↓ 1	New Zealand	3	United Kingdom	26 ↓ 4
Belarus	61 ↑ 1	Guinea-Bissau	164 ↓ 1	Nicaragua	115 ↓ 2	United States	4
Belgium	18 ↓ 1	Guyana	104 ↑ 1	Niger	167 ↓ 1	Uruguay	52
Belize	78 ↓ 9	Haiti	145 ↓ 6	Nigeria	142	Uzbekistan	102 ↓ 1
Benin	134	Honduras	106	Norway	1	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of	75 ↑ 3
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	95 ↓ 3	Hong Kong, China (SAR)	21 ↑ 2	Pakistan	125 ↓ 2	Viet Nam	113 ↑ 1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	68 ↓ 4	Hungary	36 ↓ 1	Panama	54 ↑ 4	Yemen	133 ↑ 8
Botswana	98 ↑ 2	Iceland	17 ↓ 10	Papua New Guinea	137	Zambia	150 ↑ 1
Brazil	73	India	119 ↑ 1	Paraguay	96	Zimbabwe	169
Brunei Darussalam	37 ↓ 4	Indonesia	108 ↑ 2	Peru	63 ↑ 4		
Bulgaria	58 ↓ 1	Iran, Islamic Republic of	70 ↑ 10	Philippines	97 ↓ 2		
Burkina Faso	161	Ireland	5	Poland	41 ↑ 3		
Burundi	166 ↑ 1	Israel	15	Portugal	40 ↑ 3		
Cambodia	124 ↑ 1	Italy	23 ↑ 4	Qatar	38 ↓ 4		
Cameroon	131 ↓ 2	Jamaica	80 ↓ 6	Romania	50 ↑ 1		
Canada	8	Japan	11 ↑ 1	Russian Federation	65 ↑ 3		
Cape Verde	118 ↓ 1	Jordan	82 ↑ 2	Rwanda	152 ↑ 2		
Central African Republic	159 ↓ 1	Kazakhstan	66 ↓ 1	São Tomé and Príncipe	127 ↓ 3		
Chad	163 ↓ 6	Kenya	128 ↓ 1	Saudi Arabia	55 ↓ 2		
Chile	45 ↑ 2	Korea, Republic of	12 ↑ 8	Senegal	144		
China	89 ↑ 8	Kuwait	47 ↓ 2	Serbia	60 ↓ 1		
Colombia	79 ↑ 2	Kyrgyzstan	109	Sierra Leone	158 ↑ 1		
Comoros	140 ↓ 8	Lao People's Democratic Republic	122 ↑ 4	Singapore	27 ↑ 1		
Congo	126 ↓ 4	Latvia	48 ↓ 2	Slovakia	31 ↑ 5		
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	168	Lesotho	141 ↓ 1	Slovenia	29		
Costa Rica	62 ↓ 1	Liberia	162 ↑ 2	Solomon Islands	123 ↓ 4		
Côte d'Ivoire	149 ↓ 4	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	53 ↑ 3	South Africa	110 ↓ 6		
Croatia	51 ↓ 2	Liechtenstein	6 ↑ 5	Spain	20 ↑ 1		
Cyprus	35 ↑ 4	Lithuania	44 ↓ 2	Sri Lanka	91		
Czech Republic	28 ↓ 2	Luxembourg	24 ↓ 6	Sudan	154 ↓ 2		
Denmark	19 ↓ 3	Madagascar	135 ↓ 2	Suriname	94 ↓ 5		
Djibouti	147 ↓ 1	Malawi	153	Swaziland	121		
Dominican Republic	88	Malaysia	57 ↓ 2	Sweden	9 ↓ 3		
Ecuador	77 ↓ 2	Maldives	107 ↑ 4	Switzerland	13		
Egypt	101 ↑ 2	Mali	160 ↑ 2	Syrian Arab Republic	111 ↓ 3		
El Salvador	90	Malta	33 ↓ 3	Tajikistan	112		

**NOTE:** Arrows indicate upward or downward movement in the country's ranking over the period 2005–2010 using consistent data and methodology, while a blank indicates no change.

“Annual changes in national HDI rankings don’t tell us much about the reality of development, which is inherently a long-term process,” explained Jeni Klugman, lead author of the Report.

Micronesia has entered the HDI table for the first time this year, while Zimbabwe has re-entered after not being included in 2009 due to missing income values. Fourteen countries, Antigua and Barbuda, Bhutan, Cuba, Dominica, Eritrea, Grenada, Lebanon, Oman, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles and Vanuatu, as well as the occupied Palestinian territories, have been dropped from the HDI due to a lack of internationally compiled and verified data. For example, four countries have information on all HDI components except for Gross National Income: Cuba, Iraq, Marshall Islands and Palau.

The indicators of the three dimensions are calibrated and combined to generate an HDI score between zero and one. Countries are grouped into four human development categories or quartiles: very high, high, medium and low. A country is in the very high group if its HDI is in the top quartile, in the high group if its HDI is in percentiles 51–75, in the medium group if its HDI is in percentiles 26–50, and in the low group if its HDI is in the bottom quartile.

In addition to the 2010 HDI, the Report includes three new indices: the Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index, the Gender Inequality Index and the Multidimensional Poverty Index. Tables on various measures of human development are also available, including demographic trends, the economy, education, health and more.

For a full listing of the Human Development Index and other information contained in the 2010 *Human Development Report*, please visit: <http://hdr.undp.org>

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For more information on the 20th anniversary *Human Development Report* and the complete press kit please visit: <http://hdr.undp.org>

*ABOUT THIS REPORT:* Since its inception in 1990, the *Human Development Report* has provided fresh insights into some of the most pressing challenges facing humanity. The *Human Development Report* is an independent yearly publication of the United Nations Development Programme. Jeni Klugman is the lead author of the 2010 Report, which is translated into more than a dozen languages and launched in more than 100 countries annually. The Report is published in English by Palgrave Macmillan. Complete texts of the 2010 Report and all previous Reports since 1990 are available for free downloading in major UN languages on the Report website: <http://hdr.undp.org>

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