

Human Development Report 2010



The Real Wealth of Nations:
Pathways to Human Development

20th Anniversary Edition



The cover of the 2010 *Human Development Report* illustrates the complex multiple pathways of human development over the four decades documented in this 20th anniversary edition. Each single strand depicts one country's Human Development Index over time.

The overall global pattern is one of remarkable human progress: people around the world are, on average, living longer, with greater access to knowledge and with higher incomes. Yet progress is rarely constant or linear. For some countries one or more of the underlying indicators have changed little or even declined over the period. The greatest relative advance has been experienced by people in countries on the lower end of the human development scale, achievements often attained despite conflicts, epidemics, economic setbacks and other adversities.

Analysis of the annual Human Development Index and three new complementary indices introduced in the 2010 Report provides new insights into these trends and offers important lessons for the future.

Global, Regional and National Human Development Reports

Human Development Reports: The annual global *Human Development Reports (HDRs)* have been published by UNDP since 1990 as intellectually independent and empirically grounded analyses of development issues, trends, progress and policies. Resources related to the 2010 Report and earlier *HDRs* are available free of charge at hdr.undp.org, including full texts and summaries in major UN languages, summaries of consultations and network discussions, the Human Development Research Paper Series and HDR news bulletins and other public information materials. Also available are statistical indicators, other data tools, interactive maps, country fact sheets and additional information associated with the *HDRs*.

Regional Human Development Reports: More than 40 editorially autonomous HDRs with a regional focus have been produced in the past two decades with support from UNDP's regional bureaus. With often provocative analyses and policy advocacy, these reports have examined such critical issues as civil liberties and the empowerment of women in the Arab States, corruption in Asia and the Pacific, treatment of the Roma and other minorities in Central Europe and the inequitable distribution of wealth in Latin America and the Caribbean.

National Human Development Reports: Since the release of the first National HDR in 1992, National HDRs have been produced in 140 countries by local editorial teams with UNDP support. These reports—more than 650 have been published to date—bring a human development perspective to national policy concerns through locally managed consultations and research. National HDRs often focus on issues of gender, ethnicity or rural-urban divides to help identify inequality, measure progress and detect early warning signs of potential conflict. Because these reports are grounded in national needs and perspectives, many have had substantial influence on national policies, including strategies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and other human development priorities.

For more information on National and Regional HDRs, including related training and reference resources, see hdr.undp.org/en/nhdr/.

Human Development Reports 1990–2009

1990	Concept and Measurement of Human Development
1991	Financing Human Development
1992	Global Dimensions of Human Development
1993	People's Participation
1994	New Dimensions of Human Security
1995	Gender and Human Development
1996	Economic Growth and Human Development
1997	Human Development to Eradicate Poverty
1998	Consumption for Human Development
1999	Globalization with a Human Face
2000	Human Rights and Human Development
2001	Making New Technologies Work for Human Development
2002	Deepening Democracy in a Fragmented World
2003	Millennium Development Goals: A Compact among Nations to End Human Poverty
2004	Cultural Liberty in Today's Diverse World
2005	International Cooperation at a Crossroads: Aid, Trade and Security in an Unequal World
2006	Beyond Scarcity: Power, Poverty and the Global Water Crisis
2007/2008	Fighting Climate Change: Human Solidarity in a Divided World
2009	Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development

For more information visit:

<http://hdr.undp.org>

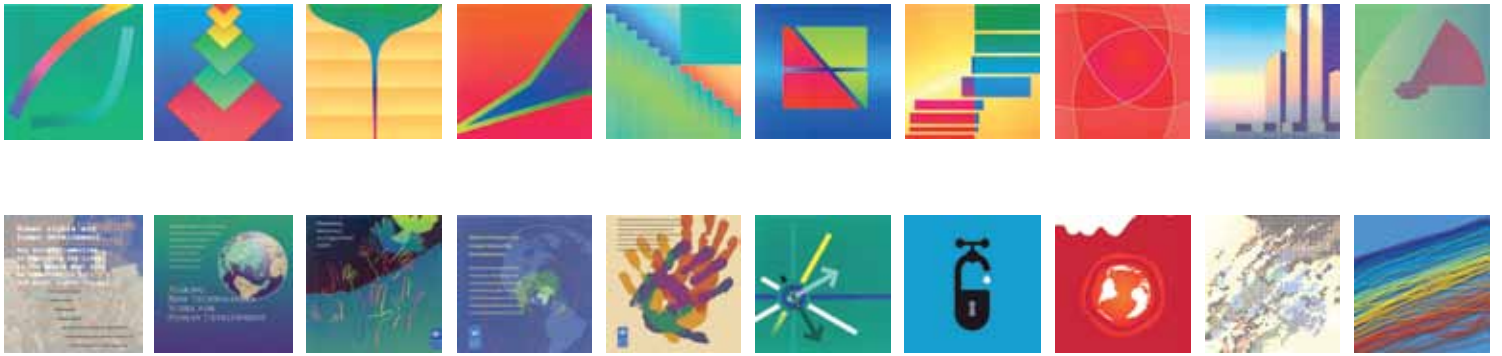
Key to countries

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.



The first *Human Development Report* in 1990 opened with the simply stated premise that has guided all subsequent Reports: “People are the real wealth of a nation.” By backing up this assertion with an abundance of empirical data and a new way of thinking about and measuring development, the *Human Development Report* has had a profound impact on development policies around the world.

This 20th anniversary edition features introductory reflections by the Nobel Prize–winning economist Amartya Sen, who worked with series founder Mahbub ul Haq on the conception of the first *Human Development Report* and contributed to and inspired many successive volumes.

The 2010 Report continues the tradition of pushing the frontiers of development thinking. For the first time since 1990, the Report looks back rigorously at the past several decades and identifies often surprising trends and patterns with important lessons for the future. These varied pathways to human development show that there is no single formula for sustainable progress—and that impressive long-term gains can and have been achieved even without consistent economic growth.

In keeping with the innovative spirit of its founders, the Report this year introduces an updated version of its signature Human Development Index (HDI) and presents pioneering new indices:

- The **Inequality-adjusted HDI**, which reduces national HDI values by the degree of inequalities in health and education standards and the distribution of income.
- The **Gender Inequality Index**, which factors in women’s participation in government and the workforce, as well as health and education status, to reflect disparities between men and women within and across countries.
- The **Multidimensional Poverty Index**, which identifies overlapping deprivations at the household level—including health, schooling and living conditions—and calculates that fully a third of the people in the 104 countries studied live in extreme multidimensional poverty.

Looking beyond 2010, this Report surveys critical aspects of human development outside the scope of these indices, from political freedoms and empowerment to sustainability and human security, and outlines a broader agenda for research and policies to respond to these challenges.

As Amartya Sen writes: “Twenty years after the appearance of the first *Human Development Report*, there is much to celebrate in what has been achieved. But we also have to be alive to ways of improving the assessment of old adversities and of recognizing—and responding to—new threats that endanger human well-being and freedom.”

The 20th anniversary edition is a response to that human development imperative.

