# Developed and Developing Countries: Canadian Geographics 'A Developing World'

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# How do we Rank Countries in terms of Development?

**Human development index** is a key to measuring the quality of life and human wellbeing. It is developed by the United Nation Development Program. It is a composite index of the following indicators:

- 1. Access to health: The indicator chosen to measure health is the life expectancy at birth. A higher life expectancy means that people have a greater chance of living longer and healthier lives.
- 2. Access to education: The indicator chosen to measure education is the adult literacy rate and the gross enrolment ratio. These two shows how easy or difficult it is to access knowledge in a particular country.
- 3. Access to resources: Access to resources is measured in terms of purchasing power (in U.S. dollars). If the people of any region have high purchasing power it means they have enough means to be able to live a decent life.

So based on this information and scores attained by each country, we can classify them into different groups.

## Countries with High (Bright Yellow) index value (1st world)

- a) They have a score of 0.8 and above.
- b) Countries with higher human development where a lot of investment in the social sector has taken place
- c) Government of the country has put in time and money to development for people like health care, education etc.
- d) They have a well established government.
- e) Many of them have been former imperial powers.
- f) The degree of social diversity in these countries is usually not very high.
- g) Examples are: Norway, Australia, Canada, USA, England

## Countries with Medium Index Value (2<sup>nd</sup> world)

- a) They have scores between 0.500 to 0.799.
- b) Most of these countries have emerged in the period after the Second World War.
- c) Some countries from this group were former colonies while many others have emerged after the break up of the erstwhile Soviet Union in 1990.
- d) Many of these countries have been rapidly improving their human development score by adopting more people-oriented policies and reducing social discrimination.
- e) Most of these countries have a much higher social diversity than the countries with higher human development scores.
- f) Many in this group have faced political instability and social uprisings at some point of time in their recent history.
- g) Examples are Russia, Poland, China, Kazakhstan

### Countries with Low Index Value (3rd World)

- a) They would report scores lower than 0.798
- b) As many as 32 countries record low levels of human development.
- c) A large proportion of these are small countries, which have been going through political turmoil and social instability in the form of civil war, famine or a high incidence of diseases.

## The idea of human development is supported by the concepts of:

- 1. <u>Equity:</u> making equal access to opportunities available to everybody. The opportunities available to people must be equal irrespective of their gender, race, income and caste.
- Sustainability means continuity in the availability of opportunities. Each
  generation must have the same opportunities. All resources must be used
  keeping in mind the future. Misuse of any of these resources will lead to
  fewer opportunities for future generations.
- 3. <u>Productivity:</u> the human-labour productivity must be constantly enriched by building capabilities in people. Efforts made to increase their knowledge, or provide better health facilities ultimately leads to better work efficiency.
- 4. **Empowerment:** to have the power to make choices. Such power comes from increasing freedom and capability. Good governance and people-oriented policies are required to empower people. The empowerment of socially and economically disadvantaged groups is of special importance.

#### Economic Terms

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): is one of the primary indicators used to gauge the health of a country's economy. It represents the total dollar value of all goods and services produced over a specific time period. You can think of it as the size of a country's economy.

Gross National Income (GNI): The amount of income per capita (person), per year. Ex. GNI of Canada is \$41,887. That is the average amount a Canadian makes per year.

#### **Population**

There are three factors responsible for population change.

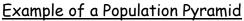
- 1. Birth Rate: If the births exceed deaths, within a given year there will be a net population increase.
- 2. Death rate: If the death exceeds births, within a given year there will be a net population decrease.
- 3. Migration: The permanent or semi-permanent change of a person's place of residence is called migration. Immigration increases the population of a place whereas emigration decreases the population of a place.

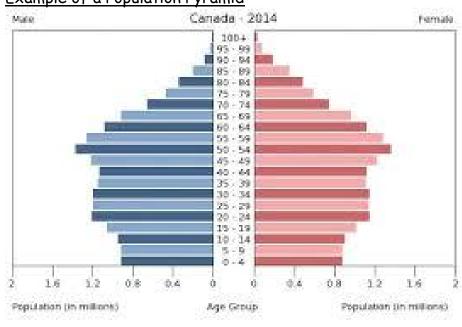
#### Population Composition Terms

- 1. <u>Population composition:</u> The term population composition refers to the distinguishing attributes of population of a country such as occupation, education, life expectancy, age, sex, place of residence, etc.
- 2. <u>Sex ratio</u>: The ratio between the number of women and men in the population is called sex ratio. It is calculated by: the male population divided by the female population multiplied by 1000.
  - Examples: The highest sex ratio in the world has been recorded in Latvia which is 1187 females per 1000 males. In contrast, the lowest sex ratio occurs in U.A.E. which is 468 females per 1000 males.

In Asian countries its low due to: Gender discrimination, high female death during childbirth, lower socio-economic status of women, high female infant mortality due to negligence and lack of medical facilities, preference to male child which results in high female foeticide and female infanticide, domestic violence against women. In European countries it's high due to: Due to better status of females in the society and due to excessive male-dominated out-migration to different parts of the world.

- 3. <u>Age structures:</u> The number of people in different age-groups is referred to as age structures.
  - a) If there are large numbers of young people (below 15 years) it means that the region has a high birth rate and the population is said to be youthful.
  - b) If there are large numbers of adults (between 15 to 59 years) it means that the country has a large working population.
  - c) If there are large numbers of old people (above 60 years) it means that birth rates are low and the population is said to be ageing which requires more expenditure on health care facilities.
- 4. <u>Population pyramid</u>: is a diagram which is used to show the age-sex structure of the population (number of females and males in different age groups). The shape of the pyramid reflects the characteristics of a population.





- 5. <u>Literacy rate</u> is defined as the percentage of people above 7 years of age, who are able to read and write and have the ability to do arithmetic calculations with understanding. The factors which affect the literacy rate are:
- Levels of economic development: low income countries have low literacy rates
- ii. Urbanization and standard of living: literacy rate is higher in urban areas than in rural areas. Countries with high human development have high literacy rates.
- iii. Social status of females: countries in which females are given equal status and role in the society have high literacy rates.
- iv. Availability of educational facilities.
- v. Policies of the government. Funds and expenditures on education by the government influence literacy rates.
  - 6. <u>Occupational structure:</u> The proportional distribution of active population under specific economic activities is known as occupational structure.

The four major groups of occupation are:

Primary activities: it includes hunting, agriculture, forestry and fishing. Secondary activities: it includes manufacturing and power.

Tertiary activities: it includes transport, communication and other services. Quaternary activities: it includes more intellectual occupations, whose task is to think, research and develop ideas.

Using the Canadian Geographics interactive map found by googling 'A Developing World' or searching

http://worldmap.canadiangeographic.ca/, select 15 countries off of the list.

On the graph provided, please indicate the country's level of development. Please also list one of the statistics found on the site:

> Life expectancy at birth(women/men) (the number of years that it is predicted that the average person will live for) This is

measured in years. This statistic gives us hints about the safety, healthcare and nutrition/food safety within the country.

- ➤ Net primary enrollment rate (women/men) (the percentage of kids of school age that are enrolled in school) This is measured in percentages. This statistic gives us hints about gender inequality between men and women, the country's education system and child labour.
- > Gross domestic product per capita (basically, how much money is made by each person in the country.) This statistic gives us hints about the general living conditions in a country.



Try to select the piece of information that you find them most interesting, or the most shocking about that country. To show your depth of consideration, take some point from reflections on why you chose this stat? Why was it so interesting/shocking?

Afghanistan Angola France Germany Niger Norway AustraliaGambiaRussiaAustriaGuineaRwandaBangladeshGuinea BissauSamoa

Belgium Haiti Sao Tome and Principe

Benin Italy Senegal

Bhutan Japan Sierra Leone Burkina Faso Brazil Solomon Islands

Burundi Lao Somalia Cambodia Lesotho South Korea

CanadaLiberiaSudanCape VerdeMadagascarSwedenCentral African RepublicMalawiSwitzerland

ChadMaldivesSyriaComorosMaliTogoDemocratic Republic of CongoMauritaniaTuvaluDenmarkMozambiqueUganda

Djibouti Myanmar United Republic of

Tanzania Equatorial Guinea Nepal

United States Eritrea Netherlands Yemen Ethiopia New Zealand

Zambia

# Developed and Developing Countries Exploration

## Research and Communication

Meets Assignment Requirements: 4 3 2 1 Not Yet Spelling/Capitalization: 2 3 1 Not Yet 3 Correct Data and measurements: 4 2 1 Not Yet

# <u>Critical Thinking:</u>

Depth of Reflective Thinking: 4 3 2 1 Not Yet

Country Name	<u>Level of</u> <u>Development</u>	<u>Interesting</u> <u>Statistic</u>	Think/Feel/Wonder

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	Level of Development	Level of Development Statistic

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