



UNDP'S HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI) AND HDI COUNTRY RANKING

INTERNATIONAL CITY AND COUNTRY RANKINGS: METHODOLOGY, DATA,
TRANSPARENCY

28 September 2020, Moscow, Russia

HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT
REPORT OFFICE

Human development DATA

A set of complementary indices and indicators:

		Dimensions and determinants of human development					
		Health	Education	Standard of living	Empowerment	Other socio-economic	Environment
Average level		Human Development Index					
Disaggregated by gender		Gender Development Index					
		Gender Inequality Index					
Micro level, distributions	Deprivation & Vulnerability	Multidimensional Poverty Index					
	Inequality	Inequality-adjusted HDI					
Dashboards: average level, disaggregated		1- Quality of human development; 2- Life-course gender gap; 3- Women's empowerment; 5- Socioeconomic sustainability					4- Environmental sustainability, environmental threats

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

Accounts for average achievements in three basic aspects of human development – leading a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and enjoying a decent standard of living. In HDR(2020), HDI calculated for 189 countries/territories (<http://hdr.undp.org/en/data>)

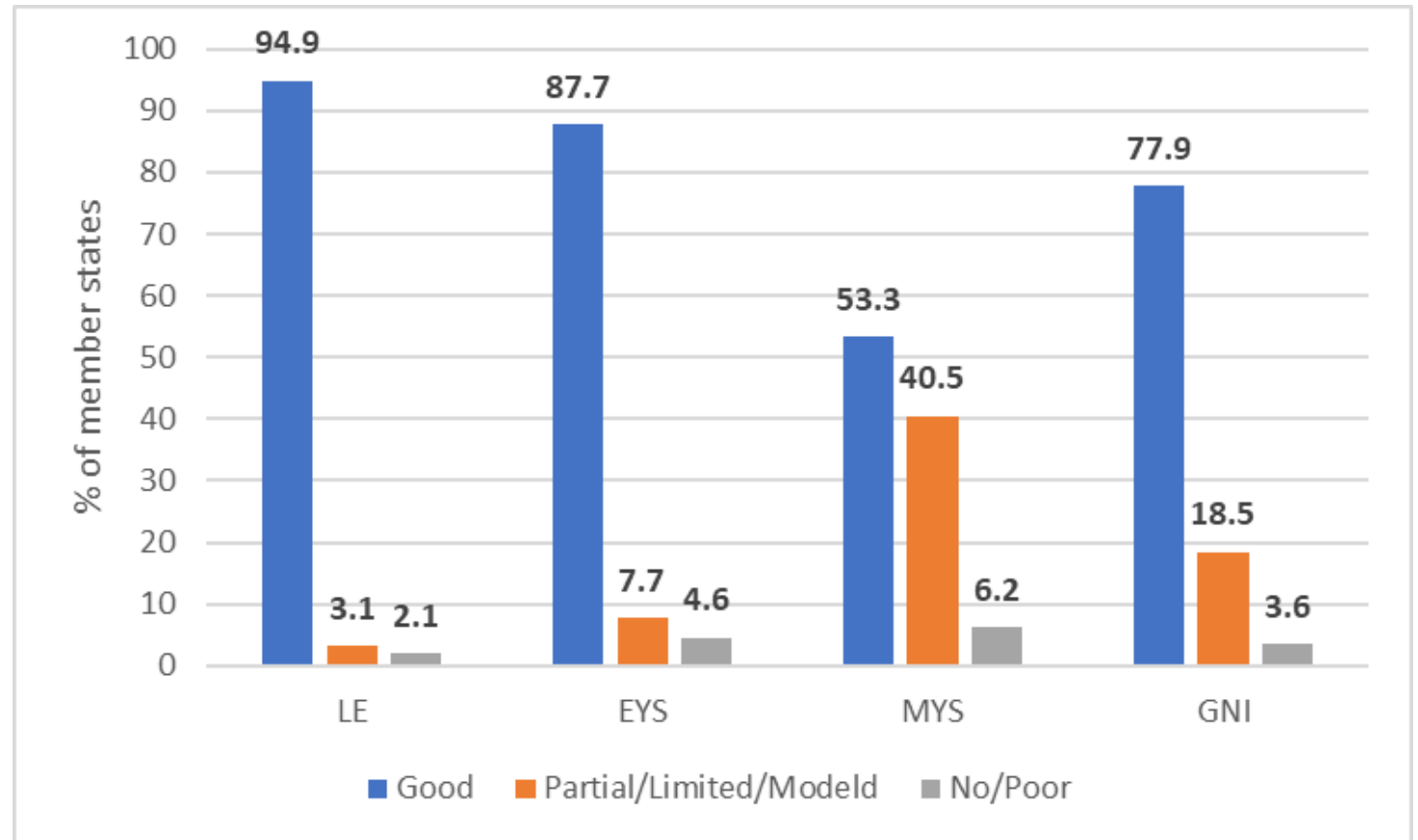


Dimension	Indicator	Source
Long and healthy life	Life expectancy (at birth)	UNDESA – Population Division
Knowledge	Expected years of schooling (at primary school entering age)	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
	Mean years of schooling (of population ages 25+)	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
Standard of living	Gross national income per capita (PPP\$)	World Bank, UN Data, IMF

HDI is based on indicators from the UN sources. Some economic and financial data are collected and published by WB and IMF.

Often and for many countries data are not available from the UN sources. For example, in 2020 for the four HDI indicators the availability of data in the main data source was as presented in Figure 1.

Fig 1. Quality of Sources of Data



How to tackle missing data?

LE

- LE data for UN member states with small populations (under 100,000) not published. Using WPP (2011) based on mortality data prior to 2010. Not ideal.
- Alternative data sources of LE at birth for small populations:
 - International database (IDB) of the US Census Bureau
 - Institute for health metrics and evaluation (IHME)
 - The World Factbook (CIA)
- Modelling based on the information about the corresponding subregions and the neighbouring countries as benchmarks.

EYS

- EYS data not available for some countries either for recent years or not at all. No other source of this indicator. School enrolment data used for computation of the missing EYS by applying UIS methodology.
- Micro data from surveys such as DHS and MICS and EUSILC used to approximate EYS.
- Single age year school enrolment data rarely available. Data are grouped in age groups (e.g. OECD's "Education at glance") which provide only an approximation of the EYS, because assuming age-specific enrolment rates for all years in the group are the same.

Interactions with National Statistical Offices

Annual letter to National Statistical Offices

- Committed to full transparency and is always open to an informed dialogue with National Statistical Offices (NSOs).
- Relying on the data produced by international organizations with the mandate and capacity to regularly collect, compile, verify and disseminate national data and indicators. Sourcing data from those international organizations helps ensure comparability of data across countries as well as the transparency of the process.
- Sharing a non-exhaustive list of the data sources to be used in compiling HDI and other indices. Inviting NSOs to review the indicators' sources and to bring any discrepancy in data to the attention of the relevant international organizations from which HDRO sources the data.