



Canada and the HDI

The human development index (HDI) focuses on three measurable dimensions of human development: living a long and healthy life, being educated and having a decent standard of living. Thus it combines measures of life expectancy, school enrolment, literacy and income to allow a broader view of a country's development than does income alone.

Although the HDI is a useful starting point, it is important to remember that the concept of human development is much broader and more complex than any summary measure can capture, even when supplemented by other indices. The HDI is not a comprehensive measure. It does not include important aspects of human development, notably the ability to participate in the decisions that affect one's life and to enjoy the respect of others in the community.

It is also important to note that the HDI is constructed using data from international sources. Sometimes more up-to-date data are available nationally, and sometimes there are slight differences in definitions between international and national data. For these and other reasons, discrepancies with national sources may occur.

Canada was mentioned in the report in pages 102, 127, 128, 174, 32, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 91, 93, and 94.

	HDI rank 2003 (177 countries)	GDP per capita rank 2003 (177 countries)	GDP per capita (PPP US\$) rank minus HDI rank	GDP per capita value (PPP US\$) 2003	HDI value 2003
Canada	5	7	2	30,677	0.949
High income OECD	-	-	-	30,181	0.911
Best performer in OECD (N)	1	3	2	37,670	0.963
Worst performer OECD (Sp)	21	24	3	22,391	0.928

Canada is ranked 5th in the 2005 Human Development Report, with an HDI value of 0.949. Norway ranks first, with a value of 0.963.

Life expectancy at birth (years) 2003	Combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio (%) 2002/03	GDP per capita (PPP US\$) 2003
1. Japan (82.0)	1. United Kingdom (122.7)	1. Luxembourg (62,298)
2. Hong Kong, China (SAR) (81.6)	2. Australia (115.9)	2. Ireland (37,738)
3. Iceland (80.7)	3. Belgium (114.5)	3. Norway (37,670)
5. Australia (80.3)	12. Grenada (95.7)	4. United States (37,562)
6. Sweden (80.2)	13. Slovenia (95.3)	5. Denmark (31,465)
7. Italy (80.1)	14. Argentina (95.0)	6. Iceland (31,243)
8. Canada (80.0)	15. Canada (94.1)	7. Canada (30,677)
177. Swaziland (32.5)	173. Niger (21.1)	170. Sierra Leone (548)

Human poverty in Canada: focusing on the poorest, beyond income

For high-income OECD countries HPI-2 shows a different picture from that shown by the HDI. These countries tend to have very similar HDI values, because of their high overall levels of development. But when variables and dimensions of deprivation are used that are specifically adapted to the situation in these countries and to the different meaning of poverty there (such as social exclusion), there are substantial differences.

- The HPI-2 value for Canada, 11.3%, ranks 9th among 18 high income OECD countries for which the index has been calculated.

	HPI-2 rank (18 countries)	HPI-2 value (%)	HPI-2 rank minus income poverty rank
Canada	9	11.3	- 7
Best performer (Sweden)	1	6.5	- 3
Worst performer (Italy)	18	29.9	3

- 8.1% of those born today are not expected to survive to age 60
- 14.6% of adults lack functional literacy skills
- 12.8% live below the poverty line (50% of median household income)
- 0.8% of the labour force is long-term unemployed

Population below income poverty line, 50% of median household income (28 countries) 1990-2000	People lacking functional literacy skills, % age 16-65 (15 countries) 1994-2003	Long-term unemployment (as % of labour force) (27 countries) 2003
1. Czech Republic (4.9)	1. Sweden (7.5)	1. Norway (0.3)
2. Finland (5.4)	2. Norway (7.9)	2. Iceland (0.4)
3. Luxembourg (6.0)	3. Denmark (9.6)	3. New Zealand (0.6)
21. Estonia (12.4)	4. Finland (10.4)	4. United States (0.7)
22. United Kingdom (12.5)	5. Netherlands (10.5)	5. Canada (0.8)
23. Italy (12.7)	6. Germany (14.4)	6. Sweden (0.9)
24. Canada (12.8)	7. Canada (14.6)	
28. Russian Federation (18.8)	15. Italy (47.0)	27. Slovakia (10.7)

Building the capabilities of women: the GDI and the GEM

The HDI measures average achievements in a country, but it does not incorporate the degree of gender imbalance in these achievements. The gender-related development index (GDI), introduced in Human Development Report 1995, measures achievements in the same dimensions using the same indicators as the HDI but captures inequalities in achievement between women and men. It is simply the HDI adjusted downward for gender inequality. The greater the gender disparity in basic human development, the lower is a country's GDI relative to its HDI.

	GDI rank (140 countries)	GDI value	HDI rank minus GDI rank	HDI value
Canada	5	0.946	0	0.949
Best performer in High income OECD (Norway)	1	0.960	0	0.963
Worst performer in High income OECD (Portugal)	26	0.900	0	0.904
Best performer in the world (Norway)	1	0.960	0	0.963
Worst performer in the world (Niger)	140	0.271	0	0.281

• Canada ranks 5th on the GDI, with a value of 0.946.

The gender empowerment measure (GEM) reveals whether women take an active part in economic and political life. It focuses on gender inequality in key areas of economic and political participation and decision-making. It tracks the share of seats in parliament held by women; of female legislators, senior officials and managers; and of female professional and technical workers- and the gender disparity in earned income, reflecting economic independence. Differing from the GDI, the GEM exposes inequality in opportunities in selected areas.

- Canada ranks 10th in the gender empowerment measure.
- Women hold 24.7% of parliamentary seats, and make up 54% of professional and technical workers. 35% of administrators and managers are women.

Seats in parliament held by women (%)	Female administrators (%)	Female professionals (%)	Estimated female earned income (PPP US\$)	Ratio of female to male earned income
1. Rwanda (45.3)	1. Philippines (58.1)	1. Barbados (71.3)	1. Luxembourg (34,890)	1. Kenya (0.93)
2. Sweden (45.3)	2. Fiji (50.6)	2. Lithuania (69.7)	2. Norway (32,272)	2. Switzerland (0.90)
3. Norway (38.2)	3. Tanzania, U. Rep. of (49.1)	3. Estonia (69.2)	3. United States (29,017)	3. Cambodia (0.76)
27. Trinidad and Tobago (25.4)	16. Germany (35.9)	22. Argentina (54.7)	5. Denmark (26,587)	35. Estonia (0.64)
28. Timor-Leste (25.3)	17. Bolivia (35.7)	23. United States (54.6)	6. Iceland (25,411)	36. Czech Republic (0.64)
29. Switzerland (24.8)	18. Australia (35.5)	24. Paraguay (54.1)	7. Australia (24,827)	37. Russian Federation (0.64)
30. Canada (24.7)	19. Canada (35.4)	25. Canada (54.0)	8. Canada (23,922)	38. Canada (0.64)
162. Yemen (0.3)	85. Pakistan (2.4)	86. Saudi Arabia (6.4)	154. Sierra Leone (325)	154. Oman (0.19)

Rich country responsibilities in aid, debt relief and trade - Canada's performance

Rich country responsibilities: aid

MDG

Net official development assistance (ODA) disbursed

HDI Rank		Total (US\$ Millions) 2003	As % of GNI		ODA per capita of donor country (2003 US\$)	
			1990	2003	1990	2003
1	Norway	2,042	1.17	0.92	314	388
3	Australia	1,219	0.34	0.25	49	50
4	Luxembourg	194	0.21	0.81	73	354
5	Canada	2,031	0.44	0.24	80	55
6	Sweden	2,400	0.91	0.79	184	218
7	Switzerland	1,299	0.32	0.39	119	154
8	Ireland	504	0.16	0.39	19	103
9	Belgium	1,853	0.46	0.60	88	145
10	United States	16,254	0.21	0.15	58	55
11	Japan	8,880	0.31	0.20	83	66
12	Netherlands	3,981	0.92	0.80	179	199
13	Finland	558	0.65	0.35	131	89
14	Denmark	1,748	0.94	0.84	227	265
15	United Kingdom	6,282	0.27	0.34	55	95
16	France	7,253	0.60	0.41	119	100
17	Austria	505	0.11	0.20	21	51
18	Italy	2,433	0.31	0.17	54	34
19	New Zealand	165	0.23	0.23	27	32
20	Germany	6,784	0.42	0.28	96	68
21	Spain	1,961	0.20	0.23	23	37
24	Greece	362	..	0.21	..	26
27	Portugal	320	0.24	0.22	18	25
DAC		69,029 T	0.33	0.25	72	70

Rich country responsibilities: debt relief and trade.

HDI Rank		Debt Relief		Trade
		Bilateral pledges to the HIPC trust fund (US\$ millions) 2003	Gross bilateral debt forgiveness (US\$ millions) 1990-2003	Goods imports from developing countries Share of total imports (%) 2003
1	Norway	127	237	13
3	Australia	14	83	40
4	Luxembourg	4	..	2
5	Canada	165	1,567	19
6	Sweden	109	286	9
7	Switzerland	93	340	8
8	Ireland	25	..	16
9	Belgium	64	1,468	12
10	United States	750	10,882	49
11	Japan	256	4,331	62
12	Netherlands	242	2,170	24
13	Finland	51	156	12
14	Denmark	80	377	12
15	United Kingdom	436	2,574	20
16	France	258	15,878	18
17	Austria	50	709	9
18	Italy	217	2,334	19
19	New Zealand	2	..	31
20	Germany	350	7,371	16
21	Spain	165	1,208	21
24	Greece	17	..	22
27	Portugal	24	476	13