

◎ MEASURING PROGRESS



A fragmented scenario

References

CURRENT SITUATION
(latest available data)

- Better situation
- Above average
- Below average
- Worse situation

RECENT EVOLUTION (Between most recent and previous available data)

- ➔ Significant progress
- ➔ Slight progress
- ⌚ Stagnant
- ➔ Regression
- ➔ Major regression

Complete table at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (%)	UNDER-5 CHILD MALNUTRITION (underweight for age, %)	Value
➔	Afghanistan (47)		33 ➔	33
➔	Albania (96)	7 ⌚	6 ➔	7
➔	Algeria (96)	6 ⌚	3 ➔	5
➔	Angola (58)	12 ⌚	26 ➔	19
⌚	Antigua and Barbuda (94)	5 ⌚		5
➔	Argentina (98)	7 ⌚	2 ➔	5
⌚	Armenia (95)	8 ⌚	4 ⌚	6
⌚	Australia (99)	7 ⌚		7
⌚	Austria (99)	7 ⌚		7
➔	Azerbaijan (96)	12 ⌚	8 ➔	10
⌚	Bahamas (99)	7 ⌚		7
➔	Bahrain (99)	8 ⌚		8
➔	Bangladesh (56)	22 ⌚	41 ➔	32
⌚	Barbados (98)	13 ⌚		13
⌚	Belarus (100)	4 ⌚	1 ⌚	3
⌚	Belgium (98)	8 ⌚		8
➔	Belize (92)	6 ⌚		6
➔	Benin (77)	16 ⌚	18 ➔	17
➔	Bhutan (79)	15 ⌚	14 ➔	15
➔	Bolivia (79)	7 ⌚	5 ➔	6
➔	Bosnia and Herzegovina (98)	5 ⌚	1 ➔	3
➔	Botswana (90)	10 ⌚	11 ➔	11
➔	Brazil (90)	8 ⌚	4 ➔	6
⌚	Brunei Darussalam (99)	10 ⌚		10
⌚	Bulgaria (97)	10 ⌚		10
➔	Burkina Faso (71)	16 ⌚	32 ➔	24
➔	Burma/Myanmar (73)	15 ⌚		15
➔	Burundi (61)	11 ⌚	35 ➔	23
➔	Cambodia (66)	11 ⌚	28 ➔	20
➔	Cameroon (77)	11 ⌚	16 ➔	14
⌚	Canada (99)	6 ⌚		6
⌚	Cape Verde (93)	13 ⌚		13
➔	Central African Republic (65)	13 ⌚	24 ➔	19
➔	Chad (44)	22 ⌚		22
➔	Chile (99)	6 ⌚		6
➔	China (95)	2 ⌚	6 ➔	4
➔	Colombia (94)	9 ⌚	5 ➔	7
⌚	Comoros (79)	25 ⌚		25
➔	Congo DR (68)	12 ⌚	28 ➔	20
➔	Congo, Rep. (76)	13 ⌚	11 ➔	12

NOTE:

1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks:
Minor than -5: significant progress;
Between -5 and -1: slight progress;
Between -1 and 1: stagnant;
Between 1 a 5: regression;
Larger than 5: significant regression.

This rate is obtained from the following operation:
 $(2009 \text{ value} - 2008 \text{ value} / 2008 \text{ value}) * 100$

2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data.

3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008. Data refer to years or periods other than those specified in the indicator definition.

SOURCE:

UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc09).

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

DEFINITION OF INDICATORS:

Estimated low birth weight (%): Percentage of newborns weighing less than 2.500 grams, with measurement taken within the first hours of life, before significant postnatal weight loss has occurred. Due to changes in the methodology of the sources the construction of data series presents comparability problems.

Under-5 child malnutrition (underweight for age, %): Percentage of children under five whose weight for age is less than minus two standard deviations from the median for the international reference population ages 0 to 59 months. The reference population adopted by the WHO in 1983 is based on children from the United States, who are assumed to be well nourished.

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (%)	UNDER-5 CHILD MALNUTRITION (underweight for age, %)	Value
→	Cook Islands (98)	3		3
←	Costa Rica (93)	7		7
→	Côte d'Ivoire (74)	17		16 →
←	Croatia (100)	6		6
←	Cuba (99)	5		5
	Czech Republic (99)	7		7
	Denmark (100)	5		5
→	Djibouti (90)	10		24 →
	Dominica (96)	10		10
←	Dominican Republic (87)	11		11
→	Ecuador (86)	16		6 →
→	Egypt (89)	14		5 →
→	El Salvador (80)	7		6 →
→	Equatorial Guinea (58)	13		13
→	Eritrea (60)	14		35 →
	Estonia (99)	4		4
→	Ethiopia (53)	20		33 →
	Fiji (93)	10		10
	Finland (100)	4		4
	France (99)	7		7
→	Gabon (82)	14		8 →
→	Gambia (73)	20		16 →
→	Georgia (96)	7		2 →
	Germany (99)	7		7
→	Ghana (76)	9		13 →
	Greece (99)	8		8
	Grenada (92)	9		9
→	Guatemala (68)	12		18 →
→	Guinea (68)	12		22 →
→	Guinea-Bissau (58)	24		15 →
→	Guyana (84)	13		10 →
→	Haiti (48)	25		18 →
→	Honduras (82)	10		8 →
	Hungary (99)	9		9
	Iceland (98)	4		4
→	India (68)	30		43 →
→	Indonesia (85)	9		23 →
→	Iraq (88)	15		6 →
→	Iran (95)	7		7
	Ireland (100)	6		6
	Israel (99)	8		8
	Italy (100)	6		6
→	Jamaica (95)	12		3 →
	Japan (99)	8		8
←	Jordan (99)	12		12
	Kazakhstan (99)	6		4
→	Kenya (71)	10		16 →
→	Kiribati (89)	5		5

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Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	ESTIMATED LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (%)	UNDER-5 CHILD MALNUTRITION (underweight for age, %)	Value
→	Korea, DPR (87)	7	18	13
	Korea, Rep. (100)	4		4
→	Kuwait (100)	7		7
→	Kyrgyzstan (95)	5	2	4
→	Lao PDR (58)	14	31	23
	Latvia (99)	5		5
←	Lebanon (96)	6		6
→	Lesotho (72)	13		13
→	Liberia (61)		23	23
→	Libya (99)	7	4	6
	Lithuania (99)	4		4
	Luxembourg (100)	8		8
	Macedonia (—)	6	2	4
→	Madagascar (59)	17	36	27
→	Malawi (62)	13	15	14
←	Malaysia (97)	9		9
→	Maldives (91)	22		22
→	Mali (67)	23	27	25
	Malta (99)	6		6
	Marshall Islands (93)	12		12
→	Mauritius (99)	14		14
→	Mexico (95)	8	3	6
←	Micronesia (89)	18		18
←	Moldova (—)	6		6
→	Mongolia (93)	6	5	6
→	Montenegro (94)	4	2	3
→	Morocco (81)	15	9	12
→	Mozambique (66)	15	20	18
→	Namibia (89)	14		14
	Nepal (58)	21	39	30
	New Zealand (98)	6		6
←	Nicaragua (70)	12		12
→	Niger (55)	13	39	26
→	Nigeria (56)	14	24	19
	Norway (100)	5		5
→	Oman (98)	8	13	11
→	Pakistan (71)	19	31	25
	Palau (99)	9		9
→	Panama (93)	10	6	8
	Papua New Guinea (62)	11		11
→	Paraguay (95)	9	3	6
→	Peru (88)	11	6	9
→	Philippines (78)	20	21	21
	Poland (99)	6		6
	Portugal (99)	8		8
←	Qatar (95)	10		10
←	Romania (96)	8	4	6
←	Russia (99)	6		6

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→	Rwanda (53)	6	18	12
	Samoa (97)	4		4
→	São Tomé and Príncipe (83)	8	7	8
→	Saudi Arabia (95)	11		11
→	Senegal (68)	19	14	17
→	Serbia (98)	5	1	3
→	Sierra Leone (57)	24	25	25
	Singapore (92)	8	3	6
	Slovakia (99)	7		7
	Slovenia (99)	6		6
←	Solomon Islands (—)	13	16	15
→	Somalia (48)	11	32	22
→	South Africa (89)	15	10	13
	Spain (100)	6		6
→	Sri Lanka (96)	22	23	23
	St Kitts and Nevis (95)	9		9
	St Lucia (98)	12		12
	St Vincent and Grenadines (95)	5		5
→	Sudan (70)	31		31
→	Suriname (82)	13	7	10
→	Swaziland (80)	9	5	7
	Sweden (100)	4		4
	Switzerland (97)	6		6
→	Syria (95)	9	9	9
→	Tajikistan (89)	10	14	12
→	Tanzania (73)	10	17	14
→	Thailand (96)	9	7	8
→	Timor-Leste (56)	12		12
→	Togo (68)	12	22	17
	Tonga (96)	3		3
←	Trinidad and Tobago (95)	19		19
←	Tunisia (95)	7		7
←	Turkey (92)	16		16
→	Turkmenistan (88)	4	8	6
	Tuvalu (89)	5		5
→	Uganda (59)	12	16	14
←	Ukraine (99)	4		4
←	United Arab Emirates (100)	15		15
	United Kingdom (99)	8		8
→	United States of America (98)	8	1	5
←	Uruguay (98)	8		8
→	Uzbekistan (93)	5	4	5
	Vanuatu (87)	6		6
←	Venezuela (94)	9		9
→	Vietnam (93)	7		7
←	West Bank and Gaza (—)	7		7
→	Yemen (59)	32	42	37
→	Zambia (71)	12	15	14
→	Zimbabwe (77)	11	12	12

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FOOD SECURITY

A fragmented scenario

The concept of food security has to do with the level of people's free access to safe and nutritionally adequate food in sufficient quantities to satisfy their daily energy needs and preferences as regards food choice, to be able to lead healthy, active lives.¹ This is a complex concept and it involves at least three broad dimensions: the availability of food, people's access to food, and its ultimate beneficial effects, in other words its impact on people's state of health.

It is difficult to find indicators comparable across a large number of countries that are based on reliable sources and are periodically updated. These indicators should reflect the situation of the population that is the final beneficiary of the effort. The fact that food is available and that people have access to it does not necessarily establish clear parameters about its real distribution.

With this in mind, Social Watch has selected, from the range of information available, three indicators that really capture the last of the dimensions mentioned above. We understand that what really reflects food coverage is its final impact on the population's state of health, and this data is crucial to be able to make international comparisons.

The real health situation in each country can be captured in a reasonably direct way by the proportion of people who are undernourished, the proportion of children with low birth weight and the proportion of children aged 5 who have low weight for their age. These aspects are closely linked to the population's difficulties as regards exercising their right of free access to adequate food.

Global evolution

In 2009 there was no registered variation in the "low birth weight" indicator (the percentage of newborn infants weighing less than 2,500 grams), so variation from 2008 to 2009 can only be gauged by examining the changes in the proportion of children under 5 who are underweight (malnutrition).

The 2009 data show that 15% of the children in the world suffer from malnutrition and one in ten was underweight at birth (Table 2). As regards malnutrition, the indicator for which there is new information, the values show that half as many children had nutrition problems in 2009 compared to 2008 (the average fall in this value was 64.7%). Improvement was generalized in this dimension, and only Azerbaijan and Romania (which went from 7% to 8% and from 3% to 4%, respectively) showed a worsening in their absolute values on this indicator (these countries are in Central Asia and Europe, respectively).

¹ Jakob Skoet and Kostas Stamoulis. *The state of food insecurity in the world 2006*. United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Agricultural Economy and Development Board, Electronic publication by the FAO information department, Rome, Italy (ISBN 92-5-305580-4): <www.fao.org/docrep/009/a0750s/a0750s00.htm>.

CHART 1. Current food security situation by regions (number of countries)

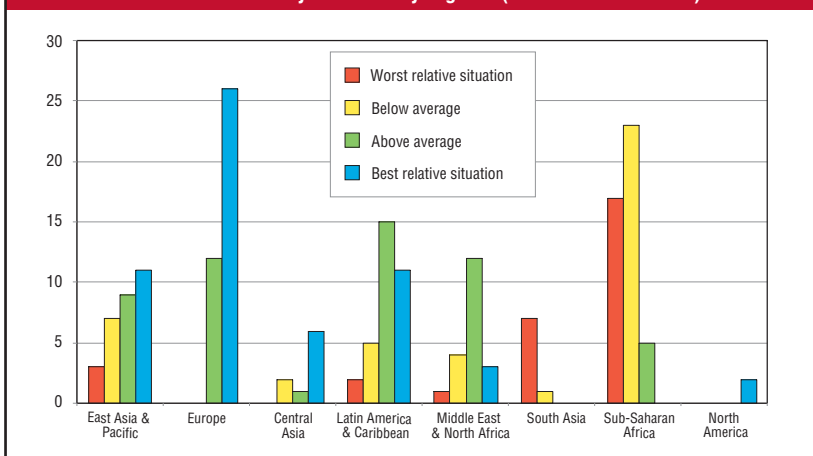


TABLE 1. Current food security situation by evolution (number of countries)

	←	↔	↔	→	→	Total
Worse relative situation	1	0	2	1	26	30
Below average	5	1	4	2	30	42
Above average	9	0	23	1	21	54
Better relative situation	8	0	29	0	22	59
Total	23	1	58	4	99	185

TABLE 2. Food security: averages by indicator of countries in worse and better situations

		Low birth weight (%)	Malnutrition in children under 5 Low weight (%)
Worse relative situation	Average	21.4	33.9
	Number of countries	26	18
Better relative situation	Average	5.0	3.8
	Number of countries	48	32
Total	Average	10.4	15.0
	Number of countries	184	95

In the group of countries in the worse relative situation the average evolution was -13.9% (from 38.6% in 2008 to 33.9% in 2009). Naturally, in the countries in the better relative situation this indicator fell much more and in 2009 it was nearly four times lower (the decrease was from 15.1% in 2008 to 3.8% in 2009, which is a negative variation of 297.4% over the year).

However, in comparative terms, this generalised improvement involved a widening of the gap between the relative situations of different countries and regions. In fact, the accelerated fall in the figures for some countries and the slow improvement in others translates into relative regression in a large number of countries.

Access by regions

Like in other dimensions, the regions that have achieved the most pronounced reduction in malnutrition are North America (100% of countries are in the better relative situation) and Europe (68.4% are in the better relative situation and 31.6% above the average), and no countries in these regions are in the worse relative situation or below the average (Chart 1).

No countries in Central Asia are in the worse relative situation, 2 in 10 (22.2%) are below the average, and 7 in 10 (77.8%) are above the average (11.1%) or in the better relative group (66.7%).

East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East and North Africa showed similar behaviour. In all three regions most of the countries (66.7%, 78.8% and 75%, respectively) are above the average (30%, 45.5% and 60%, respectively) or in a better relative situation (36.7%, 33.3% and 15%, respectively). But these regions also have countries that rank in the worse relative situation (10%, 6.1 and 5%, respectively) or below the average (23.3%, 15.2 and 20%, respectively).

Sub-Saharan Africa is not the region that ranks lowest in food security. However, although it does have some countries above the average (11.1%), most are below this level (51.1%) and nearly 4 in 10 are in the worse relative situation (37.8%).

Lastly we come to the most problematic region in terms of food insecurity, South Asia. Nearly 9 in 10 countries (87.5%) are in the worse relative situation and the remaining 1 in 10 are below the average (12.5%). ■

EDUCATION

Differences become more noticeable

References

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- Better situation
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- Below average
- Worse situation

RECENT EVOLUTION (Between most recent and previous available data)

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- ➔ Slight progress
- ⏪ Stagnant
- ➔ Regression
- ➔ Major regression

Complete table at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	LITERACY (15-24 years old, %)	PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (net, %)	CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE (%)	SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (net, %)	TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATE (gross, %)	Value
➔	Afghanistan (47)	34	⏪	89.9	25.9	1.3	20
➔	Albania (96)	99	⏪	89.9	72.8	19.1	75
➔	Algeria (96)	92	➔	96.0	66.3	24.0	75
➔	Andorra (93)		➔	98.5	71.8	9.9	66
⏪	Angola (58)	72	⏪			2.9	37
➔	Anguila (—)		➔	97.1	80.8	4.6	69
	Antigua and Barbuda (94)		➔	74.0			74
⏪	Argentina (98)	99	⏪	99.0	78.3	67.1	88
➔	Armenia (95)	100	➔	93.9	85.0	34.2	81
➔	Aruba (—)	99	⏪	99.6	82.5	33.1	82
➔	Australia (99)		⏪	97.2	87.9	75.1	90
➔	Austria (99)		⏪	97.4		51.1	82
➔	Azerbaijan (96)	100	➔	95.4	83.0	15.2	78
⏪	Bahamas (99)		➔	91.2	86.3		92
➔	Bahrain (99)	100	➔	99.4	93.4	32.1	85
⏪	Bangladesh (56)	72	➔	89.6	40.7	7.2	53
➔	Barbados (98)		➔	97.0	90.2	53.1	84
➔	Belarus (100)	100	⏪	90.2	86.9	68.5	89
⏪	Belgium (98)		⏪	98.3	87.1	62.5	86
➔	Belize (92)		⏪	99.7	67.1	2.6	64
➔	Benin (77)	52	➔	82.8	17.1	5.1	46
➔	Bermuda (—)		➔	92.7		18.8	67
➔	Bhutan (79)	74	➔	88.4	45.4	5.3	61
⏪	Bolivia (79)	99	➔	95.0	69.9	40.6	78
➔	Bosnia and Herzegovina (98)	100	⏪			36.9	68
➔	Botswana (90)	94	⏪	84.1	55.9	5.1	64
⏪	Brazil (90)	98	⏪	93.5	77.0	30.0	75
➔	Brunei Darussalam (99)	100	➔	96.5	89.1	15.4	80
➔	Bulgaria (97)	97	⏪	96.3	87.9	49.5	85
➔	Burkina Faso (71)	39	➔	59.2	14.1	3.0	39
➔	Burma/Myanmar (73)	95	⏪				84
➔	Burundi (61)	73	➔	81.3		1.9	56
➔	Cambodia (66)	86	➔	89.4	34.1	5.3	55
➔	Cameroon (77)		➔	84.3		7.2	46
⏪	Canada (99)		⏪	99.5		62.4	81
⏪	Cape Verde (93)	97	⏪	85.2	60.7	8.9	69
➔	Cayman Islands (—)	99	➔	83.9	95.6	18.8	75
➔	Central African Republic (65)	59	⏪	56.3		1.1	44
➔	Chad (44)	44	➔	60.4	10.4	1.2	31
➔	Chile (99)	99	➔	94.5	85.3	52.1	86
➔	China (95)	99	⏪			22.9	61
➔	Colombia (94)	98	➔	90.9	67.4	31.8	75
➔	Comoros (79)	89	⏪	55.5		2.3	57
➔	Congo DR (68)	70	⏪			4.1	37
➔	Congo, Rep. (76)		➔	58.5	66.3	3.7	43
➔	Cook Islands (98)		➔	68.8	96.0		78
⏪	Costa Rica (93)	98	➔	87.6	70.1	25.3	70

SOURCE:
Literacy (15-24 years old, %): World Bank (www.worldbank.org); Primary school enrolment ratio (net, %): UNESCO (www.unesco.org); Children reaching 5th grade of primary school (%): UNESCO (www.unesco.org).

Secondary school enrolment ratio (net, %): UNESCO (www.unesco.org); Tertiary education enrolment ratio (gross): UNESCO (www.unesco.org).

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009
Definition of indicators at the end of this table.

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	LITERACY (15-24 years old, %)	PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (net, %)	CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE (%)	SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (net, %)	TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATE (gross, %)	Value
←	Côte d'Ivoire (74)	61	56.0	78.3	19.8	7.9	45
→	Croatia (100)	100	98.9	99.8	86.5	45.8	86
→	Cuba (99)	100	99.2	97.0	84.4	122.4	101
→	Cyprus (100)	100	99.3	99.9	95.1	36.2	86
→	Czech Republic (99)		92.5	98.0		54.8	82
→	Denmark (100)		96.1	100.0	89.6	80.3	91
→	Djibouti (90)		45.3	89.9	24.4	2.6	41
←	Dominica (96)		82.0	89.3	81.0		84
→	Dominican Republic (87)	96	80.7	68.0	59.5	34.5	68
←	Ecuador (86)	95	99.3	81.7	59.2	35.3	74
=	Egypt (89)	85	97.6	96.8	80.0	34.7	79
→	El Salvador (80)	94	93.6	73.7	54.4	21.7	67
←	Equatorial Guinea (58)	95	69.4	33.0	25.3	2.7	45
→	Eritrea (60)	78	42.3	59.9	25.1	1.0	41
=	Estonia (99)	100	96.8	96.9	89.9	65.0	90
→	Ethiopia (53)	50	72.3	64.4	24.0	2.7	43
←	Fiji (93)		94.2	83.1	79.1	15.4	68
=	Finland (100)		96.5	99.9	96.9	93.8	97
=	France (99)		99.2	98.0	98.5	55.6	88
→	Gabon (82)	97	89.5	69.3			85
→	Gambia (73)		69.3	73.0	40.1	1.1	46
→	Georgia (96)		94.5	100.0	81.9	37.3	78
	Germany (99)		99.8	98.4			99
→	Ghana (76)	78	73.3	88.6	44.9	5.8	58
=	Greece (99)	99	99.8	98.5	91.0	90.8	96
←	Grenada (92)		78.7	79.0	78.8		79
→	Guatemala (68)	85	96.8	68.0	38.1	17.7	61
→	Guinea (68)	47	75.1	83.0	30.1	5.3	48
=	Guinea-Bissau (58)		45.3		8.7		27
→	Guyana (84)			64.0		12.3	38
→	Honduras (82)	94	93.9	83.0		17.2	72
→	Hong Kong (—)		94.9	100.0	78.6	33.8	77
→	Hungary (99)	99	93.0		89.4	69.1	88
=	Iceland (98)		97.5	94.0	90.7	73.4	89
→	India (68)	82	94.3	66.0		11.8	64
→	Indonesia (85)	97	98.0	93.0	67.5	17.5	75
=	Iraq (88)	85	88.6	81.0	38.4	15.8	62
←	Iran (95)	97	93.7		77.3	31.4	75
→	Ireland (100)		96.0	99.0	88.2	61.1	86
=	Israel (99)		97.2	99.0	87.6	60.4	86
←	Italy (100)	100	99.4		93.6	68.1	90
=	Jamaica (95)	94	86.7		76.3	19.0	69
=	Japan (99)		99.8		98.2	58.1	85
→	Jordan (99)	99	92.9	99.0	86.6	39.9	83
=	Kazakhstan (99)	100	99.0		85.6	47.0	83
→	Kenya (71)	80	87.0	83.0	44.8	3.5	60
→	Kiribati (89)		99.7	82.0	68.3		83
→	Korea, Rep. (100)			100.0	96.9	94.7	97
→	Kuwait (100)	98	94.1	100.0	79.9	17.6	78
→	Kyrgyzstan (95)	100	92.4		80.5	42.8	79
→	Lao PDR (58)	84	86.3	61.0	35.9	11.6	56
→	Latvia (99)	100	92.2	98.0		71.3	90
→	Lebanon (96)	99	84.1	92.0	73.5	54.1	81
=	Lesotho (72)		72.7	74.0	23.9	3.6	44
←	Liberia (61)	72	30.9		17.1	15.6	34
=	Libya (99)	99				55.8	77
→	Liechtenstein (—)		89.3		65.2	31.2	62
=	Lithuania (99)	100	93.6		90.9	75.6	90

SOURCE:
Literacy (15-24 years old, %): World Bank (www.worldbank.org). Primary school enrolment ratio (net, %): UNESCO (www.unesco.org). Children reaching 5th grade of primary school (%): UNESCO (www.unesco.org).

Secondary school enrolment ratio (net, %): UNESCO (www.unesco.org). Tertiary education enrolment ratio (gross): UNESCO (www.unesco.org).

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Definition of indicators at the end of this table.

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	LITERACY (15-24 years old, %)	PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (net, %)	CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE (%)	SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (net, %)	TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATE (gross, %)	Value
→	Luxembourg (100)		98.8 →	99.0 →	84.6 →	10.2 ←	73
	Macau (—)	100	93.0 →	100.0	77.6	57.0	86
→	Macedonia (—)	99	94.2 →		81.3	35.5 →	78
→	Madagascar (59)	70	99.3 →	42.0 →	21.2 →	3.2 →	47
→	Malawi (62)	83 →	87.6 ←	43.0 →	23.9 →		59
←	Malaysia (97)	98	97.5 →	92.0 ←	68.7 →	30.2 →	77
→	Maldives (91)	98	97.0	92.0	69.0 →		89
→	Mali (67)	39 →	63.0 →	81.0 ←		4.4 →	47
→	Malta (99)	98 →	91.3 →	99.0	86.6 →	31.6	81
←	Marshall Islands (93)		66.5 ←		44.9 ←	17.0	43
→	Mauritania (68)	66 →	81.0 →	64.0 →	16.8 →	4.0 →	46
	Mauritius (99)	96 →	95.4	99.0 →	81.5	14.0 ←	77
→	Mexico (95)	98	99.2 →	95.0 →	72.1 →	26.9 →	78
	Micronesia (89)					14.1	14
	Moldova (—)	100			80.6 →	41.2 →	74
→	Mongolia (93)	95 →	97.6 →	84.0	81.1	47.7 →	81
←	Montserrat (92)		96.2	90.0	95.6		94
→	Morocco (81)	75 →	89.3 →	84.0 →	34.5	11.3	59
→	Mozambique (66)	53 →	76.0	64.0 →	2.6 ←	1.5	39
→	Namibia (89)	93	88.1 →	98.0 →	49.6 →	6.4 →	67
→	Nauru (76)		72.3	31.0			52
←	Nepal (58)	79 →	80.0	62.0 ←	42.0	11.3 →	55
→	Netherlands (100)		98.6	99.0	88.6 →	60.3 →	87
←	Netherlands Antilles (—)	98	97.0		81.0	21.2	74
	New Caledonia (—)	99					99
	New Zealand (98)		99.3		91.9	79.8 →	90
→	Nicaragua (70)	87	97.1 →	47.0 ←	45.5 →	18.1	59
→	Niger (55)	37 →	45.5 →	72.0 →	9.0 →	1.0 ←	33
→	Nigeria (56)	87 →	65.2 →	83.0 →	27.0 →	10.2 →	54
	Norway (100)		98.7	100.0	96.8 →	76.2 →	93
→	Oman (98)	98	75.0 →	98.0 →	78.6 →	25.5 →	75
→	Pakistan (71)	69 →	65.6 →	70.0	32.2 →	5.1 →	48
	Palau (99)		96.4			40.2	68
←	Panama (93)	96	77.4 ←	90.0 →	64.2	44.9 →	74
→	Papua New Guinea (62)	64 →	99.0				81
←	Paraguay (95)	99 →		88.0 →	57.4	25.5 →	67
→	Peru (88)	97	94.9 →	93.0 →	76.2 →	35.1 →	79
→	Philippines (78)	94 →	99.0 →	76.8 →	61.3 →	28.5 →	72
	Pitcairn (—)		91.7				92
→	Poland (99)	99	95.7 →	98.0 →	93.8	66.9 →	91
→	Portugal (99)	100	99.0 →		87.7 →	56.0 →	86
	Puerto Rico (—)		98.3				98
→	Qatar (95)	99 →	98.5 →	87.0	92.6 →	15.9 ←	79
	Reunion (—)		90.0				90
→	Romania (96)	97	96.6 →		73.0 ←	58.3 →	81
	Russia (99)	100				74.7 →	87
→	Rwanda (53)	78	94.0 →	46.0		2.6	55
→	Samoa (97)	99	99.1 →	94.0	66.0	7.5	73
→	São Tomé and Príncipe (83)	95	99.7 →	79.0 →	38.1 →		78
←	Saudi Arabia (95)	97 →	84.6 →		73.0 →	30.2 →	71
→	Senegal (68)	51 →	73.1 →	65.0 ←	22.2 →	7.7 →	44
	Serbia (98)		97.1				97
	Seychelles (99)	99	99.5	99.0	94.3 →		98
→	Sierra Leone (57)	54 →			22.8	2.1	26
→	Singapore (92)	100					100
→	Slovakia (99)		92.1	97.9		50.8 →	80
→	Slovenia (99)	100	97.2 →	98.9	88.8 →	85.5 →	94
←	Solomon Islands (—)		61.8 →		27.3		45

SOURCE:
Literacy (15-24 years old, %): World Bank (www.worldbank.org); Primary school enrolment ratio (net, %): UNESCO (www.unesco.org); Children reaching 5th grade of primary school (%): UNESCO (www.unesco.org).

Secondary school enrolment ratio (net, %): UNESCO (www.unesco.org); Tertiary education enrolment ratio (gross): UNESCO (www.unesco.org).

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009
Definition of indicators at the end of this table.

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	LITERACY (15-24 years old, %)	PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (net, %)	CHILDREN REACHING 5TH GRADE (%)	SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLMENT RATE (net, %)	TERTIARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATE (gross, %)	Value	
	Somalia (48)				9.8		10	
→	South Africa (89)	95 →	91.0 →	82.0 ⇐	73.4 →	15.4 ⇐	71	SOURCE: Literacy (15-24 years old, %): World Bank (www.worldbank.org); Primary school enrolment ratio (net, %): UNESCO (www.unesco.org); Children reaching 5th grade of primary school (%): UNESCO (www.unesco.org); Secondary school enrolment ratio (net, %): UNESCO (www.unesco.org); Tertiary education enrolment ratio (gross): UNESCO (www.unesco.org). For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics/2009 Definition of indicators at the end of this table.
→	Spain (100)	100	99.8 ⇐	99.8 ⇐	94.8 →	68.9 →	93	
⇐	Sri Lanka (96)	97 →	96.7 ⇐	93.0			96	
←	St Kitts and Nevis (95)		90.4 ←	87.0 ⇐	84.5 ←		87	
→	St Lucia (98)		99.0 →	94.0 →	81.8 →	8.6 →	71	
→	St Vincent and Grenadines (95)		93.9 →	88.0 →	63.9 ⇐		82	
←	Sudan (70)	77 ⇐	44.0 →	70.0 ←		6.2 ⇐	49	
→	Suriname (82)	95 ⇐	94.2 ⇐	80.0	67.7 ←	12.4 ⇐	70	
→	Swaziland (80)	88 ⇐	87.2 →	82.0 →	29.2 ←	4.2 ←	58	
←	Sweden (100)		94.0 ←	100.0 ⇐	99.7 ⇐	75.2 ←	92	
→	Switzerland (97)		93.5 →		82.0 ⇐	47.0 →	74	
→	Syria (95)	94 →	97.3 →	92.0 ⇐	65.7 →		87	
→	Tajikistan (89)	100 ⇐	97.5 ⇐		81.3 →	19.8 →	75	
←	Tanzania (73)	78 ⇐	98.0 ⇐	87.0 →	25.8	1.5 →	58	
→	Thailand (96)	98 ⇐	95.1 ⇐		80.9 →	48.3 →	81	
←	Timor-Leste (56)		63.0 ←		22.8 ⇐	9.6 ⇐	32	
←	Togo (68)	74 ⇐	78.9 →	54.0 ←	22.1 ⇐	5.2 →	47	
⇐	Tonga (96)	100 ⇐	98.5 →	92.0 →	60.4 ←	6.0 ⇐	71	
→	Trinidad and Tobago (95)	100 ⇐	97.1 →	91.0 ⇐	73.2 →	11.4 ⇐	75	
⇐	Tunisia (95)	96 →	96.6 ⇐	96.0 ←	64.5 ⇐	30.8 →	77	
→	Turkey (92)	96 ⇐	92.3 →	97.0 ⇐	69.5 →	36.3 →	78	
⇐	Turkmenistan (88)	100 ⇐					100	
→	Turks and Caicos Islands (—)		80.7 →		70.2 ⇐		75	
⇐	Tuvalu (89)			70.0 ⇐			70	
→	Uganda (59)	86 →	94.7	49.0 ⇐	18.9 →	3.5 ⇐	50	
⇐	UK Virgin Islands (—)		97.1 →		83.9 ←	75.5 ⇐	85	
→	Ukraine (99)	100 ⇐	89.9 ⇐		84.5 ⇐	76.4 →	88	
→	United Arab Emirates (100)	95 ←	98.3 →	100.0 →	82.6 →	22.9 ←	80	
←	United Kingdom (99)		98.4 ⇐		91.4 ←	59.1 ⇐	83	
→	United States of America (98)		93.7 →	95.0	88.1 ⇐	81.7 ⇐	90	
→	Uruguay (98)	99 ⇐	97.6 →	94.0 →	67.8	64.3 →	85	
→	Uzbekistan (93)	99	93.6		91.7	9.8 ←	74	
→	Vanuatu (87)	92	87.7 ←	72.0 ←	38.1 ⇐	4.8 ⇐	59	
→	Venezuela (94)	98 ⇐	92.1 →	90.5 ←	69.5 →	52.0 →	80	
←	Vietnam (93)		94.0 →	92.0 →	61.9 ←	9.5 ←	64	
→	West Bank and Gaza (—)	99 ⇐			88.6 ←	46.2 →	78	
→	Yemen (59)	80 →	75.4 →	66.0 ←	37.4 →	9.4 ⇐	54	
→	Zambia (71)	75 →	95.4 →	89.0 ←	40.9 →	2.3 ⇐	61	
→	Zimbabwe (77)	91 ←	88.4 →	70.0 ⇐	37.1 →	3.6 ⇐	58	

NOTE:

1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks:
Minor than -5: significant regression; Between -5 and -1: regression; Between -1 and 1: stagnant; Between 1 and 5: slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress.

This rate is obtained from the following operation:
*(2009 value – 2008 value/ 2008 value) * 100*

2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data.

3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.

DEFINITION OF INDICATORS:

Literacy (15-24 years old, %): Percentage of people aged 15-24 who can, with understanding, read and write a short, simple statement on their everyday life.

Primary school enrolment ratio (net, %): Number of children enrolled in primary school who belong to the age group that officially corresponds to primary schooling, as percentage of the total population of the same age group. Last available data: 2003/2006.

Children reaching 5th grade of primary school (%): Percentage of children entering first grade of primary school who eventually reach grade five.

Secondary school enrolment ratio (net, %): Number of children enrolled in secondary school who belong to the agegroup that officially corresponds to secondary schooling, as percentage of the total population of the same age group

Tertiary education enrolment ratio (gross): Ratio of total enrolment, regardless of age, to the population of the age group that officially corresponds to the level of education shown. Tertiary education, whether or not to an advanced research qualification, normally requires, as a minimum condition of admission, successful completion of education at secondary level.

Methodological notes and guidelines at the end of the section.

EDUCATION

Differences become more noticeable

Improving the quality of education, covering different levels and reducing by 50% the number of illiterate adults are key objectives agreed by a large part of the countries in the world. Target dates have been set for 2014 or 2015, depending on the case, and require constant monitoring. For this reason, Social Watch monitors several basic indicators which, independently of their participation in other indices, have their own specific value and require independent attention.

Global evolution

Although the number of countries which have regressed (15.9%) is greater than in 2008 (5%), more than six in ten countries achieved slight (36.4% of the countries) or significant (27.2%) progress. In 2008 barely 15.8% of the countries had shown any significant progress (Table 1).

Polarization is, therefore, clearly present since average figures by indicator – with the exception of tertiary education (which has risen from 4% to 4.8%) – have fallen amongst the countries in the worst relative situation and risen amongst those in the best relative situation. On analyzing indicators which measure a greater educational level, it becomes clear that, from 2008 to 2009, both the condition and degree of the decline deteriorate amongst countries in the worst situation and improve amongst those in the best relative situation. The countries in the worst situation – which are becoming fewer – show a lower level of educational coverage and those in the best situation – more and more of them – display better levels of coverage. In addition, differences in indicators which measure the lower levels of instruction are emphasized amongst the first, and in indicators which measure the higher levels of instruction, amongst the second. Regarding the rest of the indicators, the number of countries ranked in the worst relative situation has diminished, although not as significantly as the increase of the number of countries in the best relative situation¹.

Access by Region

The regions in the best situation regarding the access of their populations to education are led by North America and Central Asia, with no countries below the average. Europe, with no countries in the worst relative situation, does however have three countries below the average (7.1%), 12 countries above the average (28.6%) and 27 in the best relative situation (64.3%).

Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and North Africa, display a similar distribution: most of their countries are ranked above average

¹ It may be observed that between 2008 and 2009 the number of countries covered by the indicators whose levels of coverage most clearly deteriorated (literacy between 15 and 24 years of age, net enrolment rate in primary education, and children who reach 5th grade) has dropped, while increasing for all the rest (net enrolment rate for secondary education and gross enrolment rate for tertiary education).

CHART 1. Current situation of education by region (number of countries)

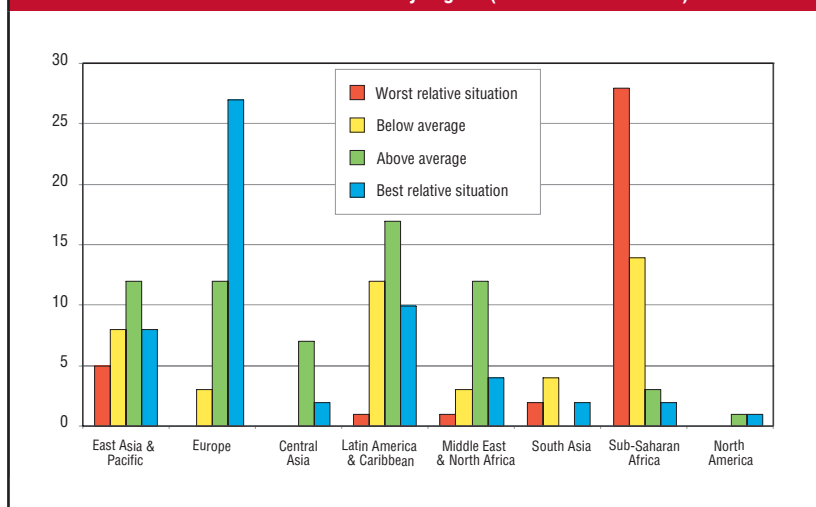


TABLE 1. Current situation according to evolution in education (number of countries)

	←	↔		→	→
Worse relative situation	7	1			22
Below average	3	1	1		31
Above average	10	2		3	42
Better relative situation	21	8	2	6	35
Total	41	12	3	9	130

TABLE 2. Averages by indicator of countries in better and worse relative educational situations

		Literacy (15-24 years, %)	Primary education enrolment rate (net, %)	Children who reach 5 th grade (%)	Secondary education enrolment rate (net, %)	Tertiary education enrolment rate (gross, %)
Worse relative situation	Average	51.2	56.7	56.3	21.5	4.8
	Number of countries	16	21	26	31	56
Better relative situation	Average	99.2	98.0	98.5	89.9	72.9
	Number of countries	61	70	51	52	34
Total	Average	88.5	88.4	84.4	64.8	30.6
	Number of countries	139	181	152	162	171

(67.5% and 80%, respectively) and the number of countries in the worst relative situation is marginal (2.5% and 5% respectively).

On the other hand, in East Asia and the Pacific, countries in an intermediate situation are in the majority, although the balance is positive: nearly four out of ten countries are in the worst relative situation (15.2%) or below average (24.2%), while six out of ten have ranked above average (36.4%) or in the best relative situation (24.2%).

In contrast, South Asia has no above average countries and seven out of ten countries are in the worst situation or below average (20% and 50% respectively). It is thus the most polarized of all the regions.

However, the worst situated of the geographical areas is Sub-Saharan Africa, where nine out of ten countries are in the worst relative situation (59.6%) or below average (29.8%) and only one in ten has achieved an above average ranking (6.4%) or best possible situation (4.3%). ■

The gap is widening faster

References

CURRENT SITUATION
(latest available data)

- Better situation
- Above average
- Below average
- Worse situation

RECENT EVOLUTION (Between most recent and previous available data)

- ➔ Significant progress
- ➡ Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ➡ Regression
- ➔ Major regression

Complete table at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	INTERNET USERS (per 1,000 people)	PERSONAL COMPUTERS (per 1,000 people)	TELEPHONE MAINLINES (per 1,000 people)	ICT EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)	R&D EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)	Value
➔	Albania (96)	149 ➔	38 ➔	89			92
➔	Algeria (96)	103 ➔	11 ➡	91 ➔	2.5 ➡	0.1	42
➔	American Samoa (—)			168 ➔			168
➔	Andorra (93)	718 ➔		455 ➔			587
➔	Angola (58)	29 ➔	7 ➔	6 ➡			14
➔	Antigua and Barbuda (94)	707 ➔	208 ➔	447 ➡			454
➔	Argentina (98)	259 ➔	90 ➔	240 ➔	6 ➔	0.5 ➔	119
➔	Armenia (95)	57 ➔	98 ➔	197 ➡		0.2 ➔	88
➔	Aruba (—)	238 ➔	99 ➔	383 ➔			240
➔	Australia (99)	681 ➡	603 ➔	464 ➔	6.6 ➡	1.8 ➔	351
➔	Austria (99)	674 ➔	607	410 ➔	5.6 ➡	2.5 ➔	340
➔	Azerbaijan (96)	108 ➔	24 ➡	146 ➔		0.2 ➔	70
➔	Bahamas (99)	362 ➔	124 ➔	401 ➔			296
➔	Bahrain (99)	332 ➔	183 ➔	263 ➡			259
➔	Bangladesh (56)	3 ➔	22 ➔	7 ➔	8 ➔		10
➔	Barbados (98)	548 ➔	137 ➔	462 ➔			382
➔	Belarus (100)	290 ➔	8 ➔	378 ➔		0.7 ➔	169
➔	Belgium (98)	655 ➔	417 ➔	439 ➡	5.8 ➡	1.8 ➔	304
➔	Belize (92)	105 ➔	148 ➔	112 ➡			122
➔	Benin (77)	17 ➔	7 ➔	12 ➔			12
➔	Bermuda (—)	750 ➔	225 ➔	904 ➡		0.1 ➔	470
➔	Bhutan (79)	61 ➔	26 ➔	45 ➔			44
➔	Bolivia (79)	105 ➔	24 ➡	71	5.8 ➔	0.3 ➔	41
➔	Bosnia and Herzegovina (98)	280 ➔	64 ➔	282 ➔			209
➔	Botswana (90)	53 ➔	48 ➔	73 ➡		0.4 ➔	44
➔	Brazil (90)	352 ➔	161 ➔	206 ➔	5.8 ➔	0.8 ➔	145
➔	Brunei Darussalam (99)	417 ➔	88 ➡	210 ➔			238
➔	Bulgaria (97)	309 ➔	89 ➔	300 ➔	7.7 ➔	0.5 ➡	141
➔	Burkina Faso (71)	6 ➔	6 ➔	7 ➡		0.2 ➔	5
➔	Burma/Myanmar (73)	1 ➔	9 ➔	11 ➔		0.2 ➔	5
➔	Burundi (61)	7 ➔	8 ➔	4 ➡			6
➔	Cambodia (66)	5 ➔	4 ➔	3 ➔		0 ➔	3
➔	Cameroon (77)	20 ➔	11 ➔	10 ➔	5 ➡		12
➔	Canada (99)	728 ➔	943 ➔	553 ➡	6.4 ➔	2 ➡	446
➔	Cape Verde (93)	70 ➔	130 ➔	138 ➡			113
➔	Cayman Islands (—)	411 ➔		918 ➔			665
➔	Central African Republic (65)	3 ➔	3 ➡	3 ➔			3
➔	Chad (44)	6 ➔	2 ➔	1 ➔			3
➔	Chile (99)	311 ➔	141	208 ➡	4.2 ➔	0.7 ➔	133
➔	China (95)	161 ➔	57 ➔	277 ➡	7.9 ➔	1.4 ➡	101
➔	Colombia (94)	275 ➔	80 ➔	180 ➔	4.4 ➔	0.2 ➔	108
➔	Comoros (79)	34 ➡	9 ➔	31 ➔			25
➔	Congo DR (68)	4 ➔				0.5 ➔	2
➔	Congo, Rep. (76)	19 ➔	5 ➔	4 ➔			9
➔	Costa Rica (93)	336 ➔	231 ➔	322 ➔	3.9 ➔	0.4	179
➔	Côte d'Ivoire (74)	16 ➔	17 ➔	14 ➡			16
➔	Croatia (100)	447 ➔	180 ➔	416 ➡		0.9 ➔	261
➔	Cuba (99)	116 ➔	36 ➔	93 ➔		0.5 ➔	61

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	INTERNET USERS (per 1,000 people)		PERSONAL COMPUTERS (per 1,000 people)		TELEPHONE MAINLINES (per 1,000 people)		ICT EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)		R&D EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)		Value
←	Cyprus (100)	380	←	383	→	449	←			0.4	→	303
→	Czech Republic (99)	483	→	274	→	233	←	7.1	→	1.5	→	200
→	Denmark (100)	807	→	549	←	517	←	5.8	→	2.4	←	376
	Djibouti (90)	13	→	24		13	→					17
	Dominica (96)	366	→	182		293						280
←	Dominican Republic (87)	172	→	35		93	→					100
→	Ecuador (86)	132	→	130	→	135	→	6.1	→	0.1	→	81
→	Egypt (89)	140	→	49	→	149	→	5.8	→	0.2	→	69
→	El Salvador (80)	111	→	52	→	158	→			0.1	→	80
→	Equatorial Guinea (58)	16	→	19	→	21	→					19
→	Eritrea (60)	25	→	8		8	←					14
→	Estonia (99)	637	→	522	→	369	→			1.2	→	382
→	Ethiopia (53)	4	→	7	→	11	→			0.2		6
→	Faroe Islands (—)	775	→			464	→					620
→	Fiji (93)	96	→	61	→	146	→					101
→	Finland (100)	788	→	500	→	329	←	5.2	←	3.4	→	325
→	France (99)	512	→	652	→	564	→	5.7	←	2.1	→	347
→	French Polynesia (—)	286	→	110		207						201
→	Gabon (82)	62	→	36	→	20	←					39
→	Gambia (73)	59	→	33	→	45	→					46
→	Georgia (96)	82	→	54	→	126	←			0.2	←	66
→	Germany (99)	723	→	656	→	653	→	6.2		2.5		408
→	Ghana (76)	38	→	6	→	16	→					20
→	Greece (99)	329	→	94	→	537	←	5.4	→	0.5	→	193
←	Greenland (—)	916	→			408	←			0.7		442
←	Grenada (92)	218	→	153	→	262	←					211
←	Guam (—)	386				402	←					394
→	Guatemala (68)	101	→	21	→	104	→					75
→	Guinea (68)	5	←	5		5	→					5
←	Guinea-Bissau (58)	22	→	2		3	←					9
→	Guyana (84)	257	→	39	→	149	→					148
→	Haiti (48)	104	→	52		11	←					56
→	Honduras (82)	60	→	20	→	113	→	11.2	→			51
→	Hong Kong (—)	572	→	686	→	596	→	4.7	←	0.7	→	372
→	Hungary (99)	519	→	256	→	323	→	5.9	→	1	→	221
←	Iceland (98)	650	←	527	→	600	←			2.8	←	445
→	India (68)	72	→	33	→	35	←	5.6	←	0.7	←	29
→	Indonesia (85)	58	←	20	→	79	→	3.9	→			40
→	Iran (95)	324	→	106	→	336	→	3.5	→	0.6	←	154
→	Ireland (100)	561	→	582	→	484		5.9	→	1.3	→	327
←	Israel (99)	279	←	242	←	426		6.5	←	4.5		192
→	Italy (100)	539	→	367		456	→	5.8	→	1.1	→	274
→	Jamaica (95)	561	→	68	→	136	→	6.6	←	0.1	→	154
←	Japan (99)	690	→	407	←	401	←	7.2	←	3.4	→	302
←	Jordan (99)	197	→	67	→	102	←	9.3	→	0.3		75
→	Kazakhstan (99)	123	→			209	→			0.3	→	111
→	Kenya (71)	80	→	14	→	7	←	8.2	→			27
←	Kiribati (89)	21	→	11	→	43	←					25
→	Korea, DPR (87)					50	→					50
→	Korea, Rep. (100)	759	→	576	→	462	←	7.1	→	3.2	→	361
→	Kuwait (100)	338	→	237		199	→	4.5	→	0.2		156
→	Kyrgyzstan (95)	143	→	19	→	92	→			0.2		64
→	Lao PDR (58)	17	→	18	→	16	→					17
→	Latvia (99)	550	→	327	→	283	←			0.7	→	290
→	Lebanon (96)	383	→	104	→	170	←					219
←	Lesotho (72)	35	→	3		27	→			0.1	→	16
→	Liberia (61)	5	→			1	←					3
→	Libya (99)	43	→	22	←	144	→					70

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	INTERNET USERS (per 1,000 people)	PERSONAL COMPUTERS (per 1,000 people)	TELEPHONE MAINLINES (per 1,000 people)	ICT EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)		R&D EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)	Value
	Liechtenstein (—)	652 →		555 ←				604
→	Lithuania (99)	492 →	183 →	237 →			0.8 →	228
→	Luxembourg (100)	758 →	673 →	517 ←			1.5 ←	487
←	Macau (—)	496 →	402 →	371 ←			0.1	317
→	Macedonia (—)	273 →	368 →	228 ←			24.8 →	223
→	Madagascar (59)	6 →	5	7 →			0.2 →	5
→	Malawi (62)	10 →	2 →	13 →				8
→	Malaysia (97)	557 →	231 →	164 ←	6.8		0.6 ←	192
→	Maldives (91)	108 →	200 →	108 →				139
→	Mali (67)	8 →	8 →	6 →				7
→	Malta (99)	447 →	229 →	562 →			0.5 →	310
→	Marshall Islands (93)	39 →	91 →	83 →				71
→	Mauritania (68)	10 →	46 →	13 ←				23
→	Mauritius (99)	270 →	176 →	286			0.4 →	183
	Mayotte (—)			62				62
→	Mexico (95)	227 →	144 →	188	4 →		0.5 →	113
←	Micronesia (89)	135 →	55	78 ←				89
→	Moldova (—)	184 →	111 →	284 →			0.8	145
	Monaco (—)	612		1049				831
→	Mongolia (93)	123 →	139 →	61			0.3	81
	Montenegro (94)	467		588				528
→	Morocco (81)	214 →	36 →	78 →	8.3 →		0.7 →	67
→	Mozambique (66)	9 →	14 →	3 ←			0.5 ←	7
→	Namibia (89)	49 →	240 →	66 →				118
→	Nepal (58)	14 →	5 →	25 →				15
→	Netherlands (100)	842 →	912 →	448 ←	6.6 →		1.7 ←	442
←	Netherlands Antilles (—)	11 ←		449 ←				230
←	New Caledonia (—)	335 →	171	248 →				251
→	New Zealand (98)	692 →	526 →	413 ←	5.7 ←		1.2 →	328
	Nicaragua (70)	28 →	40 ←	45 →			0 ←	28
→	Niger (55)	3 →	1 →	2 →				2
→	Nigeria (56)	68 →	8 →	11 →	3.4 ←			23
→	Norway (100)	848 →	629 →	423 ←	4.4 ←		1.5 ←	381
→	Oman (98)	131 →	71 →	103				102
→	Pakistan (71)	108 →	5 →	30 ←	5.6 ←		0.4 →	30
	Palau (99)	273		370				322
→	Panama (93)	223 →	46	148 →	5.9 ←		0.3 ←	85
←	Papua New Guinea (62)	18 ←	64	9 ←				30
→	Paraguay (95)	87 →	78	64 →			0.1	57
→	Peru (88)	274 →	103 →	96 →	3.9 ←		0.1	95
→	Philippines (78)	60 →	73 →	45 →	5.7 ←		0.1 ←	37
→	Poland (99)	440 →	169 →	271 ←	6 →		0.6 →	177
→	Portugal (99)	401 →	172 →	395 ←	5.7 →		0.8 →	195
←	Puerto Rico (—)	254 →	8	265 ←				176
→	Qatar (95)	420 →	191 →	284 →				298
→	Romania (96)	239 →	192 →	198 ←	5.3 →		0.5 →	127
→	Russia (99)	211 →	133 →	311 →	4.1 →		1.1 ←	132
→	Rwanda (53)	11 →	3	2 ←				5
→	Samoa (97)	44 →	23 →	109 →				59
←	San Marino (—)	510 ←	800 ←	689 ←				666
←	São Tomé and Príncipe (83)	146 →	39	48 →				78
←	Saudi Arabia (95)	264 →	148 ←	165	4.7 →			145
←	Senegal (68)	66 →	21 ←	22 ←	10.9 →		0.1	24
→	Serbia (98)	203	244 →	406 →			1.7 →	214
→	Seychelles (99)	376 →	212 →	267 →			0.4 →	214
→	Sierra Leone (57)	2 →		5 →				4
→	Singapore (92)	657 →	740 →	406 ←	6.5 ←		2.4 →	362
→	Slovakia (99)	559 →	514 →	213 ←	6 →		0.5 ←	259

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	INTERNET USERS (per 1,000 people)	PERSONAL COMPUTERS (per 1,000 people)	TELEPHONE MAINLINES (per 1,000 people)	ICT EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)	R&D EXPENDITURE (% of GDP)	Value
→	Slovenia (99)	526 ←	425 →	425 →	4.7 →	1.6	276
→	Solomon Islands (—)	17 →	47 →	16 →			27
→	Somalia (48)	11	9 →	11 ←			10
←	South Africa (89)	83 ←	85	97 ←	9.7 ←	0.9 →	55
→	Spain (100)	513 →	393 →	453 →	5.5 →	1.2 →	273
→	Sri Lanka (96)	39 →	37 →	137 →	6 →	0.2 →	44
→	St Kitts and Nevis (95)	307 →	234	532			358
→	St Lucia (98)	655 →	160	321			379
→	St Vincent and Grenadines (95)	474 →	138 →	191 →		0.2	201
→	Sudan (70)	91 →	112 →	9 ←		0.3	53
→	Suriname (82)	96 →	44 ←	179			106
→	Swaziland (80)	37 →	37 →	39 →			38
→	Sweden (100)	797 →	881 →	602 ←	6.4 ←	3.8 →	458
→	Switzerland (97)	763 →	918 →	653 ←	8 →	2.9 →	469
→	Syria (95)	174 →	90 →	174 →			146
→	Tajikistan (89)	72 →	13 →	50 →		0.1	34
→	Tanzania (73)	10 →	9 →	4 →			8
→	Thailand (96)	210 →	70 →	110	6.1 →	0.3 →	79
→	Timor-Leste (56)	1 →		2 →			2
→	Togo (68)	50 →	30	15 →			32
→	Tonga (96)	82 →	59 →	206 →			116
→	Trinidad and Tobago (95)	160 →	132 →	231 ←		0.1 ←	131
→	Tunisia (95)	168 →	75 →	125	6	1 →	75
←	Turkey (92)	165 ←	60 →	246 ←	5.5 ←	0.8 →	95
→	Turkmenistan (88)	14 →	72 →	92 →			59
→	Uganda (59)	25 →	17 →	5 →		0.2 ←	12
→	Ukraine (99)	215 →	45 →	276 →	7.1 ←	1 ←	109
→	United Arab Emirates (100)	518 →	330 →	317 →	5.1 →		293
→	United Kingdom (99)	717 →	802 →	552 →	6.7 ←	1.8 ←	416
→	United States of America (98)	735 →	805 →	541 ←	7.5 ←	2.6 ←	418
→	Uruguay (98)	291 →	136 →	290 ←	6 ←	0.3 →	145
←	US Virgin Islands (—)	277	28 →	660 →			322
←	Uzbekistan (93)	45 →	31 →	68 →			48
→	Vanuatu (87)	75 →	14 ←	39 →			43
→	Venezuela (94)	208 →	93 →	188 →	3.9 →	0.2 ←	99
→	Vietnam (93)	210 →	96 →	335 →	6.1 ←	0.2 →	129
→	West Bank and Gaza (—)	96 →	56 →	94 ←			82
→	Yemen (59)	14 →	28 →	45 →			29
→	Zambia (71)	42 →	11 →	8 ←		0 ←	15
←	Zimbabwe (77)	101 →	65 ←	26 →	3.5 ←		49

NOTE:

1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks:

Minor than -5: significant regression; Between -5 and -1: regression; Between -1 and 1: stagnant; Between 1 and 5: slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress.

This rate is obtained from the following operation:
(2009 value - 2008 value / 2008 value) * 100

2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data.

3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.

SOURCE: World Development Indicators 2009, World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

DEFINITION OF INDICATORS:

Internet users (per 1,000 people): People with access to the internet, per 1,000 people.

Personal computers (per 1,000 people): Personal computers are self-contained computers designed to be used by a single individual, per 1,000 people.

Telephone mainlines (per 1,000 people): Telephone lines connecting a customer's equipment to the public switched telephone network. Data are presented per 1,000 people for the entire country.

Information and communication technology expenditure (% of GDP): Includes external spending on information technology ("tangible" spending on information technology products purchased by businesses, households, governments, and education institutions from vendors or organizations outside the purchasing entity), internal spending on information technology ("intangible" spending on internally customized software, capital depreciation, and the like), and spending on telecommunications and other office equipment. Expressed as percentage of gross domestic product (GDP).

Research and development expenditure (% of GDP): Expenditures for research and development are current and capital expenditures (both public and private) on creative work undertaken systematically to increase knowledge, including knowledge of humanity, culture, and society, and the use of knowledge for new applications. R&D covers basic research, applied research, and experimental development. Expressed as percentage of gross domestic product (GDP).

Methodological notes and guidelines at the end of the section.

The gap is widening faster

Like in the other indexes, the trend in Information and Communication Technologies is towards increasing polarisation – that is to say, the gap between countries and regions in the better and worse relative situations is continuing to widen. An examination of the evolution of countries in terms of their relative situation (Table 1) shows those in the worse relative situation have plummeted and those in the better relative situation have risen appreciably.

The proportion of people in the world who have benefited from technological progress has varied substantially from one year to another. There has also been considerable variation in the proportion of resources different countries allocate to research and development in terms of finance and public policies (Table 2).

The biggest differences are in expenditure on Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and on Research and Development (R&D). Among the countries in the worse relative situation this is expressed as a fall, and among those in the better relative situation this is expressed as a rise. In the countries in the worse relative situation average expenditure on ICTs decreased by around half from 2008 to 2009 (from an average of 5% of GDP to 3.9%) and spending on R&D simply stopped (from 0.3% of GDP in 2008 to 0% in 2009). On the other hand, in the countries in the better relative situation average expenditure on ICTs increased by around 24.3% (from an average of 7% of GDP to an average of 8.7%) and spending on R&D nearly quadrupled (with a net increase of 278.9%, it went from 1.9% of GDP in 2008 to 7.2% in 2009).

In the countries in the worse situation, this evolution in expenditure was accompanied by a process of elitization in access to the various modern communication technologies. The number of people with a telephone line (per 1000 inhabitants) fell by 157.8%, that is to say it decreased by nearly a third (from 58 to 22.5 per 1000 people from 2008 to 2009, so today it is 38.8% less than in 2008). The number of people with a personal computer fell by 31.1% (from 27 per 1000 inhabitants in 2008 to 20.6 in 2009). And now there are a third fewer Internet users than in 2008 (28.9% fewer, with a reduction from 37 users per 1000 inhabitants to 28.7).

At the other end of the spectrum, in the countries in the better relative situation, the effects of the above-mentioned favourable evolution of expenditure are evident. In these countries today there are 8.9% more people with telephone lines than in 2008 (a rise from 517 per 1000 inhabitants to 562.9), and there has been a 21.1% increase in the number of people with a personal computer (from 535 per 1000 inhabitants in 2008 to 678.4 in 2009). In addition,

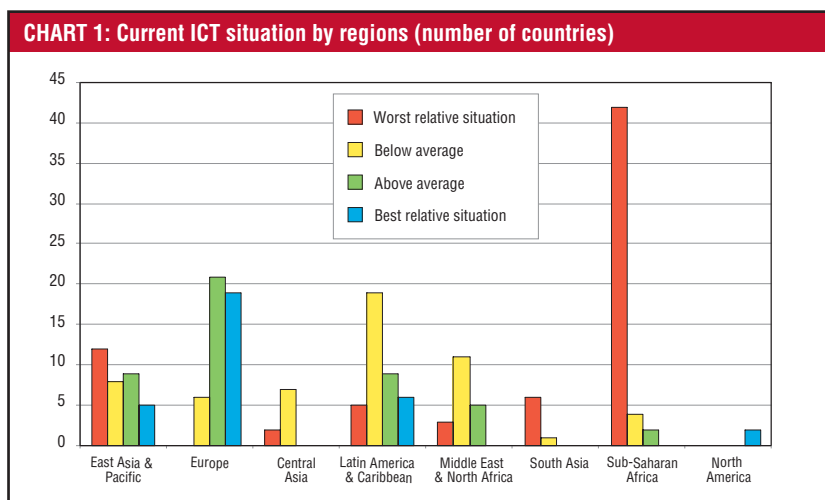


TABLE 1. Current situation by ICT evolution (number of countries)

	←	↔		→	→	Total
Worse relative situation	5	2	0	0	48	55
Below average	11	2	1	2	28	44
Above average	7	0	1	5	16	29
Better relative situation	7	4	2	1	54	68
Total	30	8	4	8	146	196

TABLE 2. Averages by indicator for countries in worse and better ICT situation

		Internet users (per 1,000 people)	Personal computers (per 1,000 people)	Telephone lines (per 1,000 people)	Expenditure on ICTs (% of GDP)	Expenditure on R & D (% of GDP)
Worse relative situation	Average	28.7	20.6	22.5	3.9	0.0
	Number of countries	68	77	67	17	46
Better relative situation	Average	668.8	678.4	562.9	8.7	7.2
	Number of countries	41	23	35	11	6
Total	Average	258.8	167.9	217.2	6.0	1.1
	Number of countries	201	186	203	74	107

there has been a relative increase¹ of 23.1% over 2008 in the number of Internet users (from 514 per 1000 people to 668.8).

There is a stark contrast between countries at the bottom of the scale, where only 3% to 5% of the population have access to information communication tools, and the countries at the top, where between 56% and 68% have access. If the generalised use of new technologies, particularly those that permit horizontal, symmetrical communication with the rest of the world, are factors that promote and underpin the rights of “information citizens”, these vast differences reflect the increasing polarisation, and therefore for some populations increasing exclusion, in the modern world.

Access by regions

The regions that are best positioned in this dimension are North America, where there are no countries below the average, and Europe, where no countries have remained in a worse relative situation although

6 are below the average (and 21 above average and 19 in a better relative situation).

The distribution in Latin America and the Caribbean is similar to that in the Middle East and North Africa region. Most of these countries are in the intermediate situation (71.8% and 84.2%, respectively) and the proportion of countries in the worse situation is relatively small (12.8% and 15.8%, respectively).

East Asia and the Pacific, on the other hand, is the most heterogeneous region, but the balance is clearly negative: 35.3% of the countries are in a worse relative situation, 23.5% are below average, 26.5% are above average and only 14.7% are in a better relative situation.

This contrasts with South Asia, where no countries are above the average or in a better relative situation and 85.7% are in a worse situation.

But the geographical region in the worst situation is sub-Saharan Africa, where not only there are no countries in a better relative situation but nearly nine tenths of the countries (87.5%) are in the worse relative situation. Moreover, 8.3% are below the average and only 4.2% are above average. ■

¹ In this case the word “increase” refers to the rate of relative variation between the values considered.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Commitments undertaken are further and further away from being fulfilled

TRENDS IN OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (% OF GNI)^A

Net Official Development Assistance from DAC Countries and Multilateral Organizations to Developing Countries											
	1989-1990 AVERAGE ^B	1994-1995 AVERAGE	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Australia	0.36	0.34	0.27	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.30	0.32	0.34
Austria	0.16	0.22	0.23	0.34	0.26	0.20	0.23	0.52	0.47	0.50	0.42
Belgium	0.46	0.35	0.36	0.37	0.43	0.60	0.41	0.53	0.50	0.43	0.47
Canada	0.44	0.40	0.25	0.22	0.28	0.24	0.27	0.34	0.29	0.29	0.32
Czech Republic	—	—	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.12	0.11	0.11
Denmark	0.94	0.99	1.06	1.03	0.96	0.84	0.85	0.81	0.80	0.81	0.82
Finland	0.64	0.31	0.31	0.32	0.35	0.35	0.37	0.46	0.40	0.39	0.43
France	0.60	0.58	0.30	0.31	0.37	0.40	0.41	0.47	0.47	0.38	0.39
Germany	0.42	0.32	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.36	0.36	0.37	0.38
Greece	—	—	0.20	0.17	0.21	0.21	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.20
Hungary	—	—	—	—	—	0.03	0.07	0.11	0.13	0.08	0.07
Iceland	—	—	0.1	0.13	0.15	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.27	0.27	—
Ireland	0.16	0.27	0.29	0.33	0.40	0.39	0.39	0.42	0.54	0.55	0.58
Italy	0.36	0.21	0.13	0.15	0.20	0.17	0.15	0.29	0.20	0.19	0.20
Japan	0.31	0.28	0.28	0.23	0.23	0.20	0.19	0.28	0.25	0.17	0.18
Korea, Rep.	—	—	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.10	0.05	0.07	0.09
Luxembourg	0.20	0.38	0.71	0.76	0.77	0.81	0.83	0.86	0.90	0.91	0.92
Netherlands	0.93	0.79	0.84	0.82	0.81	0.80	0.73	0.82	0.81	0.81	0.80
New Zealand	0.22	0.23	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.30
Norway	1.11	0.94	0.76	0.80	0.89	0.92	0.87	0.94	0.89	0.95	0.88
Poland	—	—	0.02	0.02	—	0.01	0.05	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.08
Portugal	0.24	0.29	0.26	0.25	0.27	0.22	0.63	0.21	0.21	0.22	0.27
Slovakia	—	—	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.07	0.12	0.10	0.09	0.10
Spain	0.17	0.26	0.22	0.30	0.26	0.23	0.24	0.27	0.32	0.37	0.43
Sweden	0.93	0.86	0.80	0.77	0.84	0.79	0.78	0.94	1.02	0.93	0.98
Switzerland	0.31	0.35	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.39	0.41	0.44	0.39	0.37	0.41
Thailand	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.04	—	—
Turkey	—	—	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.11	0.17	0.18	0.09	—
United Kingdom	0.29	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.34	0.36	0.47	0.51	0.35	0.43
United States of America	0.18	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.17	0.23	0.18	0.16	0.18
Total DAC	0.32	0.28	0.22	0.22	0.23	0.25	0.26	0.33	0.31	0.28	0.30

NOTES: A: Net disbursements at current prices and exchange rates.

B: Including debt forgiveness of non-ODA claims in 1990, except for total DAC.

SOURCE: OECD, Website Database (www.oecd.org); August 2009.

Official Development Assistance (% of GNI): Grants or loans to countries and territories on Part I of the DAC List of Aid Recipients (developing countries) which are: (a) undertaken by the official sector; (b) with promotion of

economic development and welfare as the main objective; (c) at concessional financial terms (if a loan, having a Grant Element [q.v.] of at least 25%). In addition to financial flows, Technical Co-operation q.v. is included in aid. Grants, loans

and credits for military purposes are excluded. Transfer payments to private individuals (e.g. pensions, reparations or insurance payouts) are in general not counted. Expressed as percentage of gross national income (GNI).

Since the 1970s developed countries have undertaken to devote a fixed amount to Official Development Assistance (ODA), a commitment which was ratified with the final declaration of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen in 1995. Official Development Assistance was set as a percentage (0.7%) of Gross National Product (GNP) of the donor countries of the OECD's DAC. In addition, within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals it was proposed to foster a world association for development, upholding the commitment of the more developed countries to provide financial assistance, as well as the responsibility of the receiving countries to allocate this assistance to social development, and particularly to the reduction of poverty.

In 2008 international aid amounted to 0.28% of the gross national product of donor countries, con-

firmed the decreasing tendency of the last few years and thus moving even further away from meeting the commitments undertaken. Denmark, Norway, Sweden, the Netherlands and Luxembourg are the only countries which have met the United Nations' target, and exceeded the goal of 0.7% of gross national product.

Some specific cases

Whereas Sweden (albeit greatly removed from the country following it), Denmark, Luxembourg and Ireland increased their commitment (incremental rates of 5.1%, 1.2%, 1.1% and 5.2% respectively), the Netherlands and Norway reduced their assistance in 2008 (incremental rates of -1.3% and -8%, respectively). The countries which most increased their net assistance included the United

Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Finland and Switzerland.

At all events, the countries with the highest relative rate of increase were the Republic of Korea and Greece, which increased their rate from 0.07% to 0.09% and from 0.16% to 0.2%, thus achieving incremental rates of 22.2% and 20%, respectively.

On the other hand, Poland, Austria and Hungary were the countries which most reduced their assistance; from 0.1% to 0.8%, from 0.5% to 0.42%, and from 0.08% to 0.07% respectively; that is, incremental rates of -25%, -19% and -14.3% respectively.

Countries such as Norway and Austria should be carefully watched, since within the fluctuating framework of their very significant yearly contributions, they are nonetheless tending towards a very noteworthy reduction of assistance. ■

WATER AND SANITATION

The fastest breach

References

CURRENT SITUATION (latest available data)

- Better situation
- Above average
- Below average
- Worse situation

RECENT EVOLUTION (Between most recent and previous available data)

- ➔ Significant progress
- ➔ Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ➔ Regression
- ➔ Major regression

Complete table at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION (%)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES (%)	Value	Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION (%)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES (%)	Value
←	Afghanistan (47)	30	22	26	➔	Dominica (96)		97	97
➔	Albania (96)	97	97	97		Dominican Republic (87)	79	95	87
➔	Algeria (96)	94	85	90	←	Ecuador (86)	84	95	90
	American Samoa (—)	100		100	←	Egypt (89)	66	98	82
	Andorra (93)	100	100	100	➔	El Salvador (80)	86	84	85
➔	Angola (58)	50	51	51	←	Equatorial Guinea (58)	51	43	47
←	Anguila (—)		60	60	←	Eritrea (60)	5	60	33
←	Antigua and Barbuda (94)		91	91	←	Estonia (99)	95	100	98
	Argentina (98)	91	96	94	←	Ethiopia (53)	11	42	27
➔	Armenia (95)		98	98		Fiji (93)	71	47	59
	Aruba (—)		100	100		Finland (100)	100	100	100
	Australia (99)	100	100	100		France (99)		100	100
	Austria (99)	100	100	100	➔	French Guiana (41)		84	84
➔	Azerbaijan (96)	80	78	79	➔	French Polynesia (—)		100	100
	Bahamas (99)	100	97	99		Gabon (82)	36	87	62
←	Bangladesh (56)	36	80	58		Gambia (73)	52	86	69
	Barbados (98)	99	100	100		Georgia (96)	93	99	96
➔	Belarus (100)	93	100	97		Germany (99)	100	100	100
➔	Belize (92)		91	91	←	Ghana (76)	10	80	45
←	Benin (77)	30	65	48		Greece (99)	98	100	99
←	Bhutan (79)	52	81	67		Grenada (92)	97	95	96
←	Bolivia (79)	43	86	65	➔	Guadalupe (—)		98	98
	Bosnia and Herzegovina (98)	95	99	97		Guam (—)		100	100
➔	Botswana (90)	47	96	72	←	Guatemala (68)	84	96	90
➔	Brazil (90)	77	91	84	➔	Guinea (68)	19	70	45
	Bulgaria (97)	99	99	99	←	Guinea-Bissau (58)	33	57	45
	Burkina Faso (71)	13	72	43	➔	Guyana (84)	81	93	87
➔	Burma/Myanmar (73)	82	80	81	←	Haiti (48)	19	58	39
➔	Burundi (61)	41	71	56	←	Honduras (82)	66	84	75
➔	Cambodia (66)	28	65	47	➔	Hungary (99)	100	100	100
	Cameroon (77)	51	70	61		Iceland (98)	100	100	100
	Canada (99)	100	100	100	←	India (68)	28	89	59
➔	Cape Verde (93)		80	80	←	Indonesia (85)	52	80	66
➔	Central African Republic (65)	31	66	49	←	Iraq (88)	76	77	77
	Chad (44)	9	48	29	➔	Iran (95)		94	94
➔	Chile (99)	94	95	95		Israel (99)		100	100
➔	China (95)	65	88	77	➔	Jamaica (95)	83	93	88
←	Colombia (94)	78	93	86		Japan (99)	100	100	100
➔	Comoros (79)	35	85	60	←	Jordan (99)	85	98	92
➔	Congo DR (68)	31	46	39	➔	Kazakhstan (99)	97	96	97
←	Congo, Rep. (76)	20	71	46		Kenya (71)	42	57	50
	Cook Islands (98)	100	95	98	←	Kiribati (89)	33		33
➔	Costa Rica (93)	96	98	97	➔	Korea, DPR (87)		100	100
←	Côte d'Ivoire (74)	24	81	53		Korea, Rep. (100)		92	92
	Croatia (100)	99	99	99	➔	Kyrgyzstan (95)	93	89	91
	Cuba (99)	98	91	95	➔	Lao PDR (58)	48	60	54
	Cyprus (100)	100	100	100		Latvia (99)	78	99	89
	Czech Republic (99)	99	100	100	➔	Lebanon (96)		100	100
	Denmark (100)	100	100	100		Lesotho (72)	36	78	57
←	Djibouti (90)	67	92	80	➔	Liberia (61)		64	64

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION (%)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES (%)	Value	Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO SANITATION (%)	POPULATION WITH ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER SOURCES (%)	Value
▬	Libya (99)	97 ▬	71 ▬	84	←	Serbia (98)	92	99 ▬	96
▬	Luxembourg (100)	100 ▬	100 ▬	100	▬	Seychelles (99)		88 ▬	88
←	Macedonia (—)	89	100 ▬	95	←	Sierra Leone (57)	11 ←	53 ▬	32
←	Madagascar (59)	12 ←	47 ▬	30	▬	Singapore (92)		100 ▬	100
▬	Malawi (62)	60 ←	76 ▬	68	▬	Slovakia (99)	100 →	100 ▬	100
▬	Malaysia (97)	94 ▬	99 ▬	97	▬	Solomon Islands (—)	32 →	70 ▬	51
▬	Maldives (91)	59 ▬	83 ▬	71	←	Somalia (48)	23 ←	29 ▬	26
▬	Mali (67)	45 ←	60 ▬	53	←	South Africa (89)	59 ←	93 ▬	76
▬	Malta (99)		100 ▬	100	▬	Spain (100)	100 ▬	100 ▬	100
→	Marshall Islands (93)		87 ▬	87	←	Sri Lanka (96)	86 ←	82 ▬	84
←	Mauritania (68)	24 ←	60 ▬	42	▬	St Kitts and Nevis (95)	96 →	99 ▬	98
▬	Mauritius (99)	94 ▬	100 ▬	97	→	St Lucia (98)		98 ▬	98
→	Mexico (95)	81 →	95 ▬	88	→	Sudan (70)	35 →	70 ▬	53
←	Micronesia (89)	25 ←	94 ▬	60	←	Suriname (82)	82 ←	92 ▬	87
→	Moldova (—)	79 →	90 ▬	85	→	Swaziland (80)	50 →	60 ▬	55
▬	Monaco (—)		100 ▬	100	▬	Sweden (100)	100 ▬	100 ▬	100
←	Mongolia (93)	50 ←	72 ▬	61	▬	Switzerland (97)	100 ▬	100 ▬	100
←	Montenegro (94)	91	98 ▬	95	→	Syria (95)	92 →	89 ▬	91
▬	Montserrat (92)		100 ▬	100	→	Tajikistan (89)	92 →	67 ▬	80
▬	Morocco (81)	72 ←	83 ▬	78	←	Tanzania (73)	33 ←	55 ▬	44
←	Mozambique (66)	31 ←	42 ▬	37	←	Thailand (96)	96 ←	98 ▬	97
→	Namibia (89)	35 →	93 ▬	64	→	Timor-Leste (56)	41 →	62 ▬	52
←	Nepal (58)	27 ←	89 ▬	58	←	Togo (68)	12 ←	59 ▬	36
▬	Netherlands (100)	100 ▬	100 ▬	100	→	Tokelau (—)		88 ▬	88
▬	New Zealand (98)		97 ▬	97	▬	Tonga (96)	96 ▬	100 ▬	98
▬	Nicaragua (70)	48 →	79 ▬	64	←	Trinidad and Tobago (95)	92 ←	94 ▬	93
←	Niger (55)	7 ←	42 ▬	25	▬	Tunisia (95)	85 ▬	94 ▬	90
←	Nigeria (56)	30 ←	47 ▬	39	▬	Turkey (92)	88 ▬	97 ▬	93
▬	Niue (98)	100 ▬	100 ▬	100	→	Turkmenistan (88)		72 ▬	72
→	Northern Mariana Islands (—)		99 ▬	99	→	Turks and Caicos Islands (—)		100 ▬	100
▬	Norway (100)		100 ▬	100	▬	Tuvalu (89)	89 ←	93 ▬	91
←	Oman (98)		82 ▬	82	←	Uganda (59)	33 ←	64 ▬	49
▬	Pakistan (71)	58 ←	90 ▬	74	▬	UK Virgin Islands (—)		100 ▬	100
←	Palau (99)	67 ←	89 ▬	78	←	Ukraine (99)	93 ←	97 ▬	95
▬	Panama (93)	74 →	92 ▬	83	←	United Arab Emirates (100)	97	100 ▬	99
→	Papua New Guinea (62)	45 →	40 ▬	43	▬	United Kingdom (99)		100 ▬	100
←	Paraguay (95)	70 ←	77 ▬	74	▬	United States of America (98)	100 ▬	99 ▬	100
→	Peru (88)	72 →	84 ▬	78	▬	Uruguay (98)	100 ▬	100 ▬	100
→	Philippines (78)	78 →	93 ▬	86	→	Uzbekistan (93)	96 →	88 ▬	92
▬	Portugal (99)	99	99 ▬	99	→	Vanuatu (87)		60 ▬	60
▬	Qatar (95)	100 ▬	100 ▬	100	→	Venezuela (94)		83 ▬	83
←	Romania (96)	72	88 ▬	80	→	Vietnam (93)	65 →	92 ▬	79
▬	Russia (99)	87 ▬	97 ▬	92	→	Wallis and Futuna (0)		100 ▬	100
←	Rwanda (53)	23 ←	65 ▬	44	→	West Bank and Gaza (—)	80 →	92 ▬	86
←	Samoa (97)		88 ▬	88	→	Yemen (59)	46 →	66 ▬	56
▬	São Tomé and Príncipe (83)	24 ←	86 ▬	55	←	Zambia (71)	52 ←	58 ▬	55
▬	Saudi Arabia (95)		93 ▬	93	←	Zimbabwe (77)	46 ←	81 ▬	64
←	Senegal (68)	28 ←	77 ▬	53					

NOTE: 1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks:
Minor than -5: significant regression; Between -5 and -1: regression; Between -1 and 1: stagnant; Between 1 a 5: slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress.

This rate is obtained from the following operation:
*(2009 value - 2008 value/ 2008 value) * 100*

2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data.

3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.

SOURCE: World Development Indicators 2009, World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

DEFINITION OF INDICATORS:

Population with access to sanitation (%): Percentage of the population with at least adequate excreta disposal facilities (private or shared, but not public) that can effectively prevent human, animal, and insect contact with excreta. Improved facilities range from simple but protected pit latrines to flush toilets with a sewerage connection. To be effective, facilities must be correctly constructed and properly maintained.

Population with access to improved water sources (%): Percentage of the population who use any of the following types of water supply for drinking: piped water, public tap, borehole or pump, protected well, protected spring or rainwater. Improved water sources do not include vendor provided waters, bottled water, tanker trucks or unprotected wells and springs.

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

WATER AND SANITATION

The fastest breach

According to WHO, in 2000 1.1 billion people (17% of the world's population) lacked access to an improved water supply. Nearly two-thirds of these people live in Asia. In Sub-Saharan Africa, at present four out of ten persons lack access to an improved water supply. In 2002, there were 2.6 billion people who lacked improved sanitation services. Nearly 1.5 billion of them lived in China and India. In Sub-Saharan Africa, only 36% had access to these services. These deficiencies are closely linked to diseases such as diarrhoea, malaria, ascariasis, trichuriasis, ancylostomiasis¹ and hepatitis A.

In addition, they are related to the existence of water sources which are contaminated with arsenic and fluoride. All of which implies the need to redouble focalized efforts to detect alternative sources of water and/or to implement procedures and technology capable of extracting them and guaranteeing healthy levels for human consumption.²

In short, these are essential aspects if sustainable development is to be guaranteed, since they involve basic conditions of existence and health. This is not only because the preservation of life is involved, in itself a sufficient end which cannot be delayed, but also because it involves the degree to which individual capabilities and the conditions for existence are affected. Together with malnutrition, water contamination leads to the alteration and reduction of the physical and cognitive capacity of large sectors of the population.

In general terms, deficiencies in water and sanitation no longer affect every region in the world. There are no countries either in Europe or in North America situated beneath the world average. In fact, the vast majority are situated in the best relative position, whereas in Sub-Saharan Africa and in South Asia nine out of ten countries are ranked below the world average.

Countries in East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, and Central Asia show similar results. In the first place they mostly tend to be above the world average (63.9%, 81.6%, 83.3% and 88.9%, respectively). In addition, some of the countries in these regions have managed to achieve places in the best relative position: 36.8% in Latin America and the Caribbean, 27.8% in the Middle East and North Africa, 22.2% in East Asia and the Pacific, and 21.7% in Central Asia.

1 Nearly 2 million people die every year due to diarrhoeal diseases – including cholera – 1.3 million die from malaria (in both cases 90% are children below the age of five) and 133 million suffer from intestinal helminthiasis with serious consequences resulting in some 9,400 deaths per year (source: "Water, Sanitation and Health", WHO. Available at: <www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/facts2004/es/index.html>).

2 The principal mitigation strategies consist in the exploitation of deepseated water, using freshwater sources, building reservoirs and extracting harmful elements (source: "Water, sanitation and health", WHO).

CHART 1. Current Water and Sanitation Situation (number of countries)

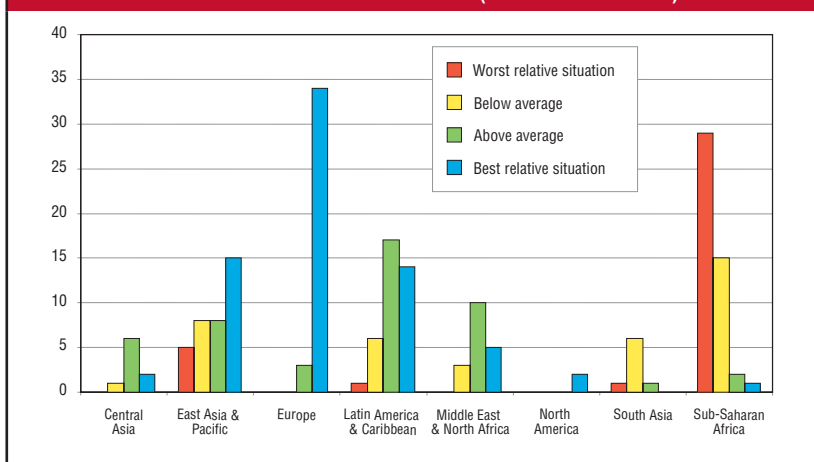


TABLE 1. Current situation according to evolution of water and sanitation coverage (number of countries)

	←	↔		→	→	Total
Worse relative situation	18	5	5	4	4	36
Below average	7	9	11	5	7	39
Above average	4	9	12	11	11	47
Better relative situation	1	6	48	10	7	72
Total	30	29	76	30	29	194

TABLE 2. Averages by indicator in countries with worst and best water and sanitation coverage

		Population with access to sanitation (%)	Population with access to improved water supply (%)
Worse relative situation	Average	24.7	53.0
	Number of countries	39	33
Better relative situation	Average	97.5	99.1
	Number of countries	55	75
Total	Average	67.3	84.9
	Number of countries	156	193

Special cases

Four of the countries in the worst situation are Niger, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Ghana – not necessarily because of their position in the Water and Sanitation Index, but because of the relative values of each of their indicators and their recent evolution. These are countries which have suffered serious (Niger, Eritrea and Ghana) or slight (Ethiopia) regression. Some of them have also undergone very rapid demographic evolution: Niger increased its population from 7.7 million in 1990 to 10.1 million in 2000 and 14.2 in 2007; Ethiopia, from 53.5 million in 1994 to 73.9 in 2000 and 83.5 million in 2008; Ghana, from 17 million in 1995 to 18.4 million in 2005 and 23.5 million in 2007 (Eritrea has 4.9 million inhabitants but there is no data on population evolution).³

Beyond these similarities, two different situations should be noted. Niger and Ethiopia have

undergone a significant drop regarding population with sanitation services between 2008 and 2009 (from 13% to 7%, and from 13% to 11%, respectively). In both cases, in a situation which was already alarming, now only 42% of the population has access to water from improved sources. These are mainly agricultural countries, with a life expectancy of 56 and 52 years and a rural population of 83% and 84% respectively.

The cases of Eritrea and Ghana are somewhat different. They are also basically agricultural countries, but they also have rich mineral resources (Ghana particularly, has gold, diamonds and manganese deposits). In both countries life expectancy is higher (57 and 60 years, respectively) and there is a relatively smaller rural population, particularly in Ghana. In both countries most of the population has access to improved water sources (60% in Eritrea and 80% in Ghana). Most countries are stagnant in their coverage of these services; although services reached acceptable levels, many countries are stagnant in a scenario of rigid limitations to the access of drinkable water and sanitation. ■

3 Statistical information published by UNESCO's Institute for Statistics (UIS) in: <stats.uis.unesco.org/unesco/TableViewer>.

Unequal improvement

References

CURRENT SITUATION
(latest available data)

- Better situation
- Above average
- Below average
- Worse situation

RECENT EVOLUTION (Between most recent and previous available data)

- ➔ Significant progress
- ➔ Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ➔ Regression
- ➔ Major regression

Complete table at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	TUBERCULOSIS (cases per 100,000 people)	PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS (15-49 years old, %)	INFANT MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)	UNDER-5 MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)	Value
←	Afghanistan (47)	168.3 ➔		165	254 ➔	196
↔	Albania (96)	16.9 ➔		13 ➔	16 ➔	15
➔	Algeria (96)	56.6 ➔	0.1 ←	33	34 ➔	31
	American Samoa (—)	5				5
←	Andorra (93)	18.9 ←		3	3	8
↔	Angola (58)	286.5 ➔	2.1 ➔	116 ➔	243 ➔	162
↔	Antigua and Barbuda (94)	5.5		10	10 ➔	9
↔	Argentina (98)	30.8 ➔	0.5 ←	15 ←	15 ➔	15
↔	Armenia (95)	72.3 ➔	0.1 ➔	22 ➔	21 ➔	29
↔	Australia (99)	6.2 ➔	0.2 ←	5	5 ➔	4
←	Austria (99)	12.4 ←	0.2 ←	4	4 ➔	5
↔	Azerbaijan (96)	77.1 ➔	0.2 ←	34 ➔	84 ➔	49
←	Bahamas (99)	44.2 ←	3 ←	12 ➔	12 ➔	18
↔	Bahrain (99)	40.5 ➔		9	11 ←	20
↔	Bangladesh (56)	222.5 ➔		47 ➔	65 ➔	112
↔	Barbados (98)	3.6 ➔	1.2 ➔	11	12	7
↔	Belarus (100)	61 ➔	0.2 ➔	12	7 ➔	20
←	Belgium (98)	11.8 ←	0.2 ←	4	5 ←	5
↔	Belize (92)	40 ➔	2.1	22 ←	14 ➔	20
↔	Benin (77)	90.9 ➔	1.2 ➔	78 ➔	149	80
	Bermuda (—)	3.7				4
←	Bhutan (79)	246 ←	0.1 ←	56 ➔	65 ➔	92
↔	Bolivia (79)	154.6 ➔	0.2 ←	48 ➔	60 ➔	66
↔	Bosnia and Herzegovina (98)	51.1 ➔	0.1 ←	13	12 ➔	19
←	Botswana (90)	731.4 ←	23.9 ➔	33 ➔	119 ➔	227
↔	Brazil (90)	48 ➔	0.6 ←	20 ←	18 ➔	22
↔	Brunei Darussalam (99)	59 ➔		8	8 ➔	25
←	Bulgaria (97)	38.8 ➔		10 ➔	12 ➔	20
↔	Burkina Faso (71)	226.2 ➔	1.6 ➔	104 ➔	203	134
	Burma/Myanmar (73)	170.9 ➔	0.7 ➔	74	104	87
↔	Burundi (61)	367 ➔	2 ➔	108	175 ➔	163
↔	Cambodia (66)	495.1 ➔	0.8 ➔	70 ←	75 ➔	160
↔	Cameroon (77)	191.7 ➔	5.1 ➔	87	142 ➔	106
←	Canada (99)	5.1 ←	0.4 ←	5	5 ➔	4
↔	Cape Verde (93)	150.5 ➔		24 ➔	32 ➔	69
	Cayman Islands (—)	3.7				4
↔	Central African Republic (65)	345.1 ➔	6.3 ➔	113 ➔	174	160
↔	Chad (44)	298.7 ➔	3.5 ←	124	204 ➔	158
↔	Chile (99)	12.3 ➔	0.3 ←	8	8 ➔	7
↔	China (95)	98.3 ➔	0.1 ←	19 ➔	27 ←	36
↔	Colombia (94)	35.4 ➔	0.6 ←	17	17 ➔	18
↔	Comoros (79)	42 ➔	0.1 ➔	49 ➔	63 ➔	39
↔	Congo DR (68)	391.7 ➔		108 ➔	193 ➔	231
↔	Congo, Rep. (76)	403.1 ➔	3.5 ➔	79	121 ➔	152
↔	Cook Islands (98)			16		16
↔	Costa Rica (93)	11 ➔	0.4 ←	10 ➔	11 ➔	8
↔	Côte d'Ivoire (74)	420.5 ➔	3.9 ➔	89 ➔	106 ➔	155
↔	Croatia (100)	40.3 ➔	0.1 ←	5	6	13

SOURCES:
Tuberculosis: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).
People living with HIV/AIDS: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

Infant mortality: UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc09).
Under-5 mortality: UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc09).

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	TUBERCULOSIS (cases per 100,000 people)	PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS (15-49 years old, %)	INFANT MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)	UNDER-5 MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)	Value
→	Cuba (99)	6.4 →	0.1 ←	5 =	6 →	4
→	Cyprus (100)	4.9 →		3 =	3 →	4
←	Czech Republic (99)	8.8 →		3 =	4 =	5
←	Denmark (100)	8.1 ←	0.2 ←	4 =	4 →	4
→	Djibouti (90)	812.5 →	3.1 →	84 →	112 →	253
→	Dominica (96)	13.3 →		9 →	14 →	12
→	Dominican Republic (87)	69.3 →	1.1 ←	31 →	29 =	33
→	Ecuador (86)	101.3 →	0.3 ←	20 →	21 →	36
←	Egypt (89)	21 →		30 →	33 →	28
→	El Salvador (80)	39.6 →	0.8 →	21 →	23 →	21
→	Equatorial Guinea (58)	255.9 →	3.4 ←	124 =	206 =	147
→	Eritrea (60)	95.4 →	1.3 →	46 →	68 →	53
→	Estonia (99)	38.1 →	1.3 ←	4 →	4 →	12
→	Ethiopia (53)	378.2 →	2.1 →	75 →	113 →	142
→	Fiji (93)	20.7 →	0.1 →	16 =	17 →	13
←	Finland (100)	5.9 ←	0.1 ←	3 =	3 →	3
←	France (99)	13.9 ←	0.4 ←	4 =	4 =	6
	French Polynesia (—)	27.1				27
→	Gabon (82)	406.4 →	5.9 →	60 =	80 →	138
→	Gambia (73)	258.4 →	0.9 →	82 →	106 →	112
→	Georgia (96)	84.3 =	0.1 →	27 →	31 →	36
←	Germany (99)	5.9 ←	0.1 ←	4 =	4 =	4
→	Ghana (76)	202.9 →	1.9 →	73 →	118 →	99
←	Greece (99)	17.8 ←	0.2 ←	4 =	4 =	7
→	Grenada (92)	4.2 →	0.4 →	15 →	16 →	9
	Guam (—)	34				34
→	Guatemala (68)	63.5 →	0.8 →	29 →	41 =	34
→	Guinea (68)	287.4 →	1.6 ←	93 →	161 =	136
→	Guinea-Bissau (58)	219.9 →	1.8 →	118 =	200 =	135
→	Guyana (84)	121.8 →	2.5 →	45 →	62 =	58
→	Haiti (48)	305.6 →	2.2 →	57 →	80 =	111
→	Honduras (82)	59.4 →	0.7 →	20 →	27 =	27
	Hong Kong (—)	61.9				62
→	Hungary (99)	16.7 →	0.1 ←	6 =	7 =	7
←	Iceland (98)	3.6 ←	0.2 →	2 =	3 =	2
→	India (68)	167.8 →	0.3 →	54 →	76 =	75
→	Indonesia (85)	228 →	0.2 ←	25 →	34 =	72
→	Iraq (88)	56 →		36 →	47 →	46
→	Iran (95)	21.7 →	0.2 ←	29 →	35 →	21
←	Ireland (100)	13.2 ←	0.2 ←	4 =	4 →	5
→	Israel (99)	7.5 ←	0.1	4 =	5 =	4
←	Italy (100)	7.4 ←	0.4 ←	3 →	4 =	4
=	Jamaica (95)	6.5 →	1.6 ←	26 =	32 →	17
←	Japan (99)	21.1 →		3 =	4 =	9
←	Jordan (99)	7.4 ←		21 =	25 =	18
→	Kazakhstan (99)	129 →	0.1 →	28 →	29 =	47
←	Kenya (71)	352.6 ←		80 →	121 =	185
→	Kiribati (89)	365.1 →		46 →	64 =	158
←	Korea, DPR (87)	344.4 ←		42 =	53	146
→	Korea, Rep. (100)	89.6 →	0.1 ←	4 →		31
→	Kuwait (100)	23.6 →		9 =	11 =	15
→	Kyrgyzstan (95)	121.3 →	0.1 →	34 →	41 =	49
→	Lao PDR (58)	151.1 →	0.2 ←	56 →	75 =	71
→	Latvia (99)	53 →	0.8 →	7 →	9 =	17
←	Lebanon (96)	18.6 ←	0.1 →	26 =	31 →	19
←	Lesotho (72)	636.6 ←	23.2 →	68 →	132 =	215
→	Liberia (61)	277.1 →	1.7	93 →	235 =	152
→	Libya (99)	17.2 →		17 =	18 =	17
→	Liechtenstein (—)			2 →		2

SOURCES:
Tuberculosis: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).
People living with HIV/AIDS: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

Infant mortality: UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc09).
Under-5 mortality: UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc09).

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Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	TUBERCULOSIS (cases per 100,000 people)	PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS (15-49 years old, %)	INFANT MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)	UNDER-5 MORTALITY (per 1,000 live births)	Value				
←	Lithuania (99)	68	←	0.1	→	7		9	←	21
	Luxembourg (100)	12.2	←	0.2	→	2	→	4		5
	Macau (—)	62.6								63
→	Macedonia (—)	29.3	→	0.1	←	15				15
→	Madagascar (59)	250.8	→	0.1	→	70	→	115		109
←	Malawi (62)	345.7	←	11.9	→	71	→	120		137
→	Malaysia (97)	103.3	→	0.5	←	10		12		31
→	Maldives (91)	46.9	→			26		30		34
→	Mali (67)	318.9	→	1.5	→	117	→	217		164
→	Malta (99)	6	←	0.1	→	4	→	6		4
←	Marshall Islands (93)	215.2	←			49	→	56		107
→	Mauritania (68)	317.7	→	0.8	←	75	→	125		130
→	Mauritius (99)	22.4	→	1.8	←	13		15	←	13
→	Mexico (95)	20	→	0.3	←	29		35		21
→	Micronesia (89)	97.1	→			33		41		57
←	Moldova (—)	141	→	0.4	→	16				52
←	Monaco (—)	2.3	←			3		4		3
←	Mongolia (93)	205.4	←	0.1	←	35	→	42	→	71
→	Montenegro (94)	32.4	→			9		10		17
←	Morocco (81)	91.6	←	0.1	←	32	→	37		40
→	Mozambique (66)	431.3	→	12.5	→	115	←	138		174
←	Namibia (89)	766.8	←	15.3	→	47	→	61		223
→	Nauru (76)		→			25		30		28
→	Nepal (58)	173	→	0.5	←	43	→	59		69
←	Netherlands (100)	7.5	←	0.2	←	4		5		4
	Netherlands Antilles (—)	7.5								8
	New Caledonia (—)	21.6								22
→	New Zealand (98)	7.1	→	0.1	←	5		6		5
→	Nicaragua (70)	48.7	→	0.2	→	28	→	36		28
→	Niger (55)	17.3	→	0.8	→	83	→	253		89
→	Nigeria (56)	310.7	→	3.1	→	97	→	191		150
→	Niue (98)							42		42
	Northern Mariana Islands (—)	58.3								58
←	Norway (100)	5.5	←	0.1	←	3		4		3
→	Oman (98)	12.8	→			11	←	11	→	12
→	Pakistan (71)	181.3	→	0.1	←	73	→	97		88
←	Palau (99)	60.2	←			9	→	11		27
←	Panama (93)	47.4	←	1	←	18		23		22
→	Papua New Guinea (62)	249.5	→	1.5	→	50	→	73		94
→	Paraguay (95)	58.3	→	0.6	←	24	←	22		26
→	Peru (88)	125.9	→	0.5	→	17	→	25		42
→	Philippines (78)	290	→			23	→	26	→	113
→	Poland (99)	25.2	→	0.1	←	6		7		10
←	Portugal (99)	29.6	←	0.5	←	3		4	→	9
	Puerto Rico (—)	4								4
→	Qatar (95)	69.9	→			12	→	11	→	31
→	Romania (96)	114.9	→	0.1	←	13	→	16	→	36
→	Russia (99)	110.4	→	1.1	←	13	→	13	→	34
→	Rwanda (53)	397	→	2.8	→	109	←	160		167
→	Samoa (97)	18.8	→			22	→	28		23
←	San Marino (—)	6.2	←			4	←	3		4
→	São Tomé and Príncipe (83)	101.1	→			64	→	96		87
→	Saudi Arabia (95)	46.3	→			20	→	23	→	30
→	Senegal (68)	271.5	→	1	←	59	→	116		112
→	Serbia (98)	32.4	→	0.1		7		8		12
→	Seychelles (99)	32.4	→			12		13		19
→	Sierra Leone (57)	573.9	→	1.7	←	155	→	269		250
←	Singapore (92)	26.5	←	0.2	←	2		3		8
→	Slovakia (99)	16.6	→	0.1	←	7		7	→	8

SOURCES:
Tuberculosis: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).
People living with HIV/AIDS: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

Infant mortality: UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc09).
Under-5 mortality: UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc09).

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→	Slovenia (99)	12.9 →	0.1 ←	3 =	4 =	5
→	Solomon Islands (—)	127.8 →		53 →		90
→	Somalia (48)	248.7 →	0.5 →	88 →	145 =	121
→	South Africa (89)	948.2 →	18.1 ←	46 →	69 =	270
←	Spain (100)	29.6 ←	0.5 ←	4 =	4 =	10
←	Sri Lanka (96)	60.5 →		17 ←	13 =	30
→	St Kitts and Nevis (95)	9.3 →		16 →	19 =	15
→	St Lucia (98)	14.3 →	0.6	14 ←	14 =	11
→	St Vincent and Grenadines (95)	24.7 →		17 =	20 =	21
→	Sudan (70)	243.3 →	1.4 →	69 ←	89 =	101
←	Suriname (82)	116.3 ←	2.4 ←	27 →	39 =	46
←	Swaziland (80)	1198 ←	26.1 →	66 →	164 =	364
←	Sweden (100)	6 ←	0.1 →	3 =	4 ←	3
←	Switzerland (97)	6.1 ←	0.6 ←	4 =	5 =	4
←	Syria (95)	23.6 ←		15 ←	13 →	17
→	Tajikistan (89)	230.7 →	0.3 ←	57 →	68 =	89
→	Tanzania (73)	297.4 →	6.2 →	73 →	118 =	124
→	Thailand (96)	142.3 →	1.4 ←	6 →	8 =	39
→	Timor-Leste (56)	322 →		77 ←	55 =	151
→	Togo (68)	429.2 →	3.3 ←	65 →	107 =	151
→	Tonga (96)	24 →		19 →	24 =	22
→	Trinidad and Tobago (95)	11.2 ←	1.5 →	31 →	38 =	20
→	Tunisia (95)	26 →	0.1 →	18 →	23 =	17
→	Turkey (92)	29.6 →		21 →	26 =	26
→	Turkmenistan (88)	68.5 →	0.1 ←	45 =	51 =	41
→	Tuvalu (89)			30 →	38 =	34
→	Uganda (59)	329.6 →	5.4 →	82 ←	134 =	138
→	Ukraine (99)	101.5 →	1.6 ←	20 =	24 =	37
→	United Arab Emirates (100)	15.8 →		7 →	7 →	10
←	United Kingdom (99)	15.3 ←	0.2 ←	5 =	6 =	7
←	United States of America (98)	4.2 ←	0.6 ←	7 ←	7 →	5
→	Uruguay (98)	22.3 →	0.6 ←	12 ←	15 ←	12
	US Virgin Islands (—)	10.1				10
→	Uzbekistan (93)	112.6 →	0.1 →	36 →	44 →	48
←	Vanuatu (87)	77.1 ←		28 →	36 =	47
←	Venezuela (94)	33.6 →		17 →	21	24
→	Vietnam (93)	171.2 →	0.5 ←	13 →	17 =	50
←	West Bank and Gaza (—)	19.9		24 ←		22
→	Yemen (59)	76.5 →		55 →	100 =	77
→	Zambia (71)	506.1 →	15.2 →	103 =	182 =	202
←	Zimbabwe (77)	782.1 ←	15.3 →	59 →	85 →	235

SOURCES:
Tuberculosis: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).
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Under-5 mortality: UNICEF (www.unicef.org/sowc09).

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NOTE:

1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks:
Minor than -5: significant progress; Between -5 and -1: slight progress; Between -1 and 1: stagnant; Between 1 a 5: regression; Larger than 5: significant regression.

This rate is obtained from the following operation:
 $(2009 \text{ value} - 2008 \text{ value} / 2008 \text{ value}) * 100$

2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data.

3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.

SOURCE: World Development Indicators 2009, World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

DEFINITION OF INDICATORS:

Tuberculosis (cases per 100,000 people): Total number of tuberculosis cases reported to the World Health Organization per 100,000 people. A tuberculosis case is defined as a patient in whom tuberculosis has been bacteriologically confirmed or diagnosed by a clinician.

People living with HIV/AIDS (15-49 years old, %): Percentage of adults (15-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS.

Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births): Number of infants dying before reaching one year of age, per 1,000 live births in a given year.

Under-5 mortality (per 1,000 live births): Probability of dying between birth and exactly five years of age expressed per 1,000 live births.

Methodological notes and guidelines at the end of the section.

Unequal improvement

The World Health Organization (WHO) is the direct authority and coordinator of health action in the United Nations, and its responsibilities include setting standards, providing technical support to countries, and monitoring health trends in the world. In its 2007 World Health Report the WHO stated that "...world health security depends more than ever on international cooperation and the will of all countries to act effectively to confront the new and emerging threats".¹

Since the Alma-Ata Conference of September 1978 in the USSR, the accent has been on primary health care. These measures are seen as an ever more convincing response to the world's current health problems, and an instrument to promote equity, solidarity and social justice through improved health quality for all.²

The implementation of a primary health care system requires a mature national health organization and public policies focussed on developing it and making it sustainable, so that the extent or proportional impact of certain diseases or specific levels of mortality can be measured and evaluated with precision, not just with regard to a country's health situation and its needs for international support in this area but also as regards the priorities and health development models prevailing in those countries.

This is why Social Watch selected three indicators, out of the wide range available, that capture the incidence of diseases linked to a lack of preventive strategies and a lack of suitable health education. It also selected two indicators that capture mortality in situations of great vulnerability in a context of deficient health attention and prevention: infant mortality and mortality among children under 5 years old.

Global evolution

The overall situation has improved. The estimate of people in the world in the 15 to 49 age bracket living with HIV/AIDS is still 2% and this rate has not changed, which indicates a pause in the expansion of the disease. Infant mortality fell by 9.6% (from 2008 to 2009, it decreased from 39 to 35.6 deaths among children under one year old per 1000 live births), mortality among children under 5 also decreased (from 56 to 54.3 deaths per 1000 live births, which is an evolution of -3.1%), and based on 2009 data,

1 WHO. *World Health Report 2007 – A safer future. Global public health security in the 21st century*. Available at: <www.who.int/whr/2007/es/>.

2 *Report of the International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata*. World Health Organization, International Conference on Primary Health Care, USSR, 6 to 12 September 1978: <www.who.int/whr/2008/overview/es/index.html>.

CHART 1: Current situation of health by regions (number of countries)

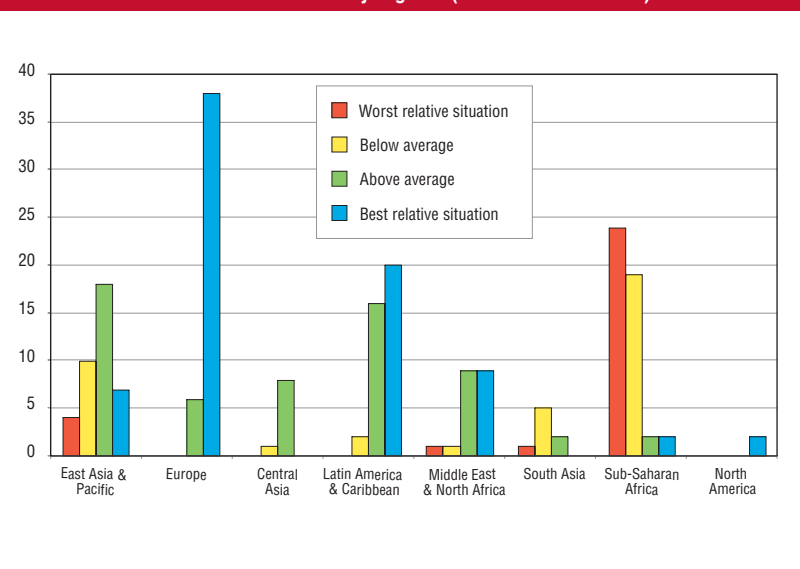


TABLE 1. Current situation of health by evolution (number of countries)

	←	↩		→	➔	Total
Worse relative situation	7	1			22	30
Below average	3	1	1		31	36
Above average	10	2		3	42	57
Better relative situation	21	8	2	6	35	72
Total	41	12	3	9	130	195

TABLE 2. Averages by indicator of countries in worse and better health situations

		Tuberculosis (cases per 100,000 people)	People with HIV/AIDS (aged 15-49, %)	Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	Mortality in children under 5 (per 1,000 live births)
Worse relative situation	Average	561.5	17.9	102.5	188.5
	Number of countries	21	9	28	24
Better relative situation	Average	15.9	0.0	6.7	8.3
	Number of countries	85	73	70	75
Total	Average	136.5	2.1	35.6	54.3
	Number of countries	202	141	194	188

the incidence of tuberculosis dropped from 199 to 136.5 cases notified to the WHO per 100,000 people (which amounts to reduction in the rate of 45.8% on the figure available for 2008).

When we examine the performance of these indicators in the countries in the better and worse relative situations differences emerge, and this is one of the main themes for reflection in the analysis of the data for 2009 (Table 2).

In the countries in the better relative situation the evolution of all these indicators has been favourable (variation between the 2008 and 2009 values: tuberculosis = -157.9%; HIV/AIDS went from 0.3% to 0.0%; infant mortality = -79.1%; mortality among children under 5 years old = -68.7%). On the other

hand, in the countries in the worse relative situation there was slight improvement only in the tuberculosis and infant mortality indicators (variation in the indicator value: tuberculosis = -0.6%; infant mortality = -5.4%). But in other respects the situation became considerably worse, mainly with the spread of HIV/AIDS but also in mortality among children under 5 years old (variation in the indicator value: HIV/AIDS = 49.7%; mortality among children under 5 = 7.7%).

As to the relative evolution in different countries, the above-mentioned disparities and the regression of some indicators and for some countries explain the unequal and polarised behaviour that took place in the year from 2008 to 2009 (Table 1). ■

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Marked polarization

References

CURRENT SITUATION (latest available data)

- Better situation
- Above average
- Below average
- Worse situation

RECENT EVOLUTION (Between most recent and previous available data)

- ➔ Significant progress
- ➔ Slight progress
- || Stagnant
- ➔ Regression
- ➔ Major regression

Complete table at: www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49 (%)	Value	
➔	Afghanistan (47)	52		14		33
➔	Albania (96)	81		100		91
➔	Algeria (96)	79		95		87
➔	Angola (58)			45		45
➔	Antigua and Barbuda (94)			100		100
➔	Argentina (98)			99		99
➔	Armenia (95)	93.2		98		96
	Australia (99)			100		100
➔	Azerbaijan (96)	70		97		73
	Bahamas (99)			99		99
	Bahrain (99)			99		99
➔	Bangladesh (56)	48.7		20		55.8
➔	Barbados (98)	89		100		95
➔	Belarus (100)			100		100
	Belgium (98)			99		99
➔	Belize (92)			91		34.3
	Benin (77)	88		74		17
➔	Bhutan (79)			51		35.4
➔	Bolivia (79)	79.1		60.8		70
➔	Bosnia and Herzegovina (98)	99		100		100
➔	Botswana (90)	99		99		99
➔	Brazil (90)			97		97
	Brunei Darussalam (99)			100		100
➔	Bulgaria (97)			99		99
➔	Burkina Faso (71)	72.8		54		63
➔	Burma/Myanmar (73)			68		68
➔	Burundi (61)	93		34		64
➔	Cambodia (66)	69.3		43.8		57
➔	Cameroon (77)	83.3		63		73
	Canada (99)			100		100
➔	Cape Verde (93)			89		89
➔	Central African Republic (65)			54		54
➔	Chad (44)	42.6		15		29
➔	Chile (99)			100		58.4
➔	China (95)			98		84.6
➔	Colombia (94)	93.5		96		95
➔	Comoros (79)			62		62
➔	Congo DR (68)			61		61
➔	Congo, Rep. (76)	86.8		83		20.6
	Cook Islands (98)			100		100
➔	Costa Rica (93)			94		94

NOTE:
1. Evolution: Evolution of indicators obtained by re-escalating those values resulting from the relative rate of variation among the following ranks: Minor than -5: significant regression; Between -5 and -1: slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress. This rate is obtained from the following operation: (2009 value - 2008 value / 2008 value) * 100

2. Value reached by the index: The value results from adding the values calculated for each dimension and dividing the result by the total number of dimensions presenting data.
3. Stagnant Evolution: In those indicators showing stagnant evolution in all their values, said evolution responds to lack of updating, being reproduced those values registered in 2008.

SOURCES:
Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy: Global Health Atlas, WHO (www.who.int/globalhealth).
Births attended by skilled health personnel: Reproductive Health Indicators Database, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, WHO (www.who.int/reproductivehealth/). Except for (+) Demographic and Health Surveys - STAT compiler (www.measuredis.com/accesssurveys/).
Contraceptive use among currently in union women aged 15-49: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49 (%)	Value
→	Côte d'Ivoire (74)	84	84	57	71
→	Croatia (100)		100		100
→	Cuba (99)		100	77.1	89
	Cyprus (100)		100		100
→	Czech Republic (99)		100		100
→	Djibouti (90)		93		93
→	Dominica (96)		99		99
→	Dominican Republic (87)	98.3	96	72.9	89
←	Ecuador (86)	56	80		68
→	Egypt (89)	71.3	74		73
→	El Salvador (80)		69		69
	Equatorial Guinea (58)		63		63
→	Eritrea (60)	70.3	28		49
	Estonia (99)		100		100
→	Ethiopia (53)	28	6		17
→	Fiji (93)		99		99
	Finland (100)		100		100
→	France (99)		99		99
→	Gabon (82)	94	86		90
→	Gambia (73)	92	57		75
→	Georgia (96)	91	92		92
	Germany (99)		100		100
→	Ghana (76)	91.9	50		71
→	Grenada (92)		100		100
→	Guatemala (68)	86	41		64
→	Guinea (68)	82.2	38		60
→	Guinea-Bissau (58)	89	39		64
	Guyana (84)	88	94	34.2	72
→	Haiti (48)	84.5	26		55
	Honduras (82)	91.7	67	65	75
	Hungary (99)		100		100
	India (68)	65	47		56
→	Indonesia (85)	91.5	66	61.4	73
→	Iraq (88)		89		89
→	Iran (95)		97		97
	Ireland (100)		100		100
→	Italy (100)		99		99
→	Jamaica (95)		97		97
→	Japan (99)		100		100
	Jordan (99)	98.6	100	57.1	85
→	Kazakhstan (99)	82	100		91
→	Kenya (71)	88.1	42		65
→	Kiribati (89)		90		90
→	Korea, DPR (87)	98	97		98
→	Korea, Rep. (100)		100		100
→	Kuwait (100)		100		100
→	Kyrgyzstan (95)	88	98		93
	Lao PDR (58)	44	19		32
	Latvia (99)		100		100

NOTE:
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Minor than -5: significant regression; Between -5 and -1: regression; Between -1 and 1: stagnant; Between 1 and 5: slight progress; Larger than 5: significant progress.
This rate is obtained from the following operation:
(2009 value - 2008 value/2008 value) * 100

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Contraceptive use among currently in union women aged 15-49: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

Summary: CURRENT SITUATION (colour) RECENT EVOLUTION (arrow-icon)	COUNTRIES (Basic Capabilities Index value, 0-100)	WOMEN AGED 15-49 ATTENDED AT LEAST ONCE DURING PREGNANCY BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	BIRTHS ATTENDED BY SKILLED HEALTH PERSONNEL (%)	CONTRACEPTIVE USE AMONG CURRENTLY IN UNION WOMEN AGED 15-49 (%)	Value			
→	Lebanon (96)		98		98			
→	Lesotho (72)	90.4		55		73		
→	Liberia (61)		51		11.4	→	31	
	Libya (99)		100				100	
	Lithuania (99)		100				100	
	Luxembourg (100)		100				100	
→	Macedonia (—)		98				98	
→	Madagascar (59)	79.9		45			62	
→	Malawi (62)	93.1		54			74	
	Malaysia (97)		100				100	
→	Maldives (91)	98		84			91	
	Mali (67)	53		41		8.2	→	34
	Malta (99)		100				100	
→	Marshall Islands (93)		95				95	
→	Mauritania (68)	63		53			58	
→	Mauritius (99)		99				99	
→	Mexico (95)		94				94	
→	Micronesia (89)		88				88	
→	Moldova (—)	98		100			99	
→	Mongolia (93)		99				99	
	Montenegro (94)		99				99	
→	Morocco (81)	67.8		63			65	
→	Mozambique (66)	84.5		48			66	
→	Namibia (89)	85		76		55.1	→	72
	Nauru (76)		100				100	
→	Nepal (58)	69.7		19			44	
→	Netherlands (100)		100				100	
	New Zealand (98)		95				95	
→	Nicaragua (70)	85		67		72.4	→	75
→	Niger (55)	46.1		18			32	
→	Nigeria (56)	61		35			48	
	Niue (98)		100				100	
→	Oman (98)		98				98	
→	Pakistan (71)		54		29.6	→	42	
→	Palau (99)		100				100	
	Panama (93)		91				91	
→	Papua New Guinea (62)		38				38	
→	Paraguay (95)		100				100	
→	Peru (88)	85		73		71.3	→	76
	Philippines (78)	87.6		60		50.6	→	66
	Poland (99)		100				100	
	Portugal (99)		100				100	
→	Qatar (95)	62		100			81	
→	Romania (96)	89		98			94	
→	Russia (99)	96		100			98	
→	Rwanda (53)	94.3		28			61	
→	Samoa (97)		100				100	
→	São Tomé and Príncipe (83)	91		81			86	
→	Saudi Arabia (95)		93				93	

NOTE:
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Births attended by skilled health personnel: Reproductive Health Indicators Database, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, WHO (www.who.int/reproductivehealth). Except for (+) Demographic and Health Surveys - STAI compiler (www.measuredis.com/accesssurveys).
Contraceptive use among currently in union women aged 15-49: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

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→	Senegal (68)	87.4	52		70
→	Serbia (98)		99		99
→	Sierra Leone (57)	82	43		63
→	Singapore (92)		100		100
↔	Slovakia (99)		100		100
↔	Slovenia (99)		100		100
→	Solomon Islands (—)		43		43
→	Somalia (48)		33		33
→	South Africa (89)	89	92		91
←	Sri Lanka (96)		97	68	83
→	St Kitts and Nevis (95)		100		100
↔	St Lucia (98)		100		100
→	St Vincent and Grenadines (95)		100		100
→	Sudan (70)		49		49
→	Suriname (82)	91	71		81
→	Swaziland (80)		74	50.6	62
↔	Switzerland (97)		100		100
→	Syria (95)		93		93
↔	Tajikistan (89)	75	83	38.3	65
→	Tanzania (73)	94.3	46		70
→	Thailand (96)		97		97
→	Timor-Leste (56)		19	19.8	19
→	Togo (68)	78	62		70
→	Tonga (96)		99		99
→	Trinidad and Tobago (95)	96	98		97
→	Tunisia (95)		90		90
→	Turkey (92)	67	83		75
→	Turkmenistan (88)	87	100		94
↔	Tuvalu (89)		100		100
→	Uganda (59)	94.1	42		68
↔	Ukraine (99)	90	100	66.7	86
↔	United Arab Emirates (100)		100		100
→	United Kingdom (99)		99		99
→	United States of America (98)		100		100
→	Uruguay (98)		100		100
→	Uzbekistan (93)		100		100
→	Vanuatu (87)		92		92
→	Venezuela (94)		95		95
→	Vietnam (93)	70	88		79
→	Yemen (59)	34	20	27.7	27
→	Zambia (71)	93.3	43		68
→	Zimbabwe (77)	94.2	69		82

NOTE:
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Contraceptive use among currently in union women aged 15-49: World Bank (www.worldbank.org).

DEFINITION OF INDICATORS:

Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%): Percentage of women aged 15-49 years attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

Births attended by skilled health personnel (%): Percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel (doctors, nurses or midwives).

Contraceptive use among women currently in union aged 15-49 (%): Percentage of women in union aged 15-49 years currently using contraception.

For more detailed information on the reference years of the data see complete tables at:
www.socialwatch.org/statistics2009

Methodological notes and guidelines at the end of the section.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Marked polarization

The term “reproductive health” was used for the first time at the United Nations Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994. It refers to a situation of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all the functions and processes connected with reproduction.

According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), every minute, somewhere in the world, one woman dies from avoidable causes during childbirth, and for every woman who dies under these circumstances there are 20 or more whose health is permanently damaged through delivery-related complications. This adds up to more than half a million women a year who lose their lives and more than ten million whose chances of leading a full and healthy life are seriously impaired. The situation is extremely worrying in the poor countries, which have the highest rates of involuntary pregnancy, abortions under bad conditions, HIV / AIDS infection, and maternal death and permanent injury.

Prevention is geared to avoiding teenage pregnancy, the start of sexual relations and the use of contraception. Attention, on the other hand, deals with sexually transmitted diseases, particularly HIV / AIDS, skilled health care during pregnancy and delivery, and follow-up on birth complications among women and newborn babies.

Global evolution

In the reproductive health dimension in 2008, more than a fifth of countries (23.8%) remained stagnant and some 70.7% made progress. In the latter group 6.6% made slight progress and the majority (64.1%) made significant progress. On the other hand, 8 countries regressed slightly (4.4%), and in two more (1.1%) this was severe, so in total only 5.5% of countries regressed (Table 1). All in all the overall balance is positive, but we should put this into perspective by examining the average levels in the countries at the two ends of the spectrum (Table 2).¹

The indicator for “Women aged 15 to 49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%)” did not register changes but evolution in reproductive health was still favourable. This is because the proportion of women (with partners) in this age bracket who use contraception and the proportion of deliveries attended by skilled health personnel did increase (in 2008 the rates were

CHART 1: Current reproductive health situation by regions (number of countries)

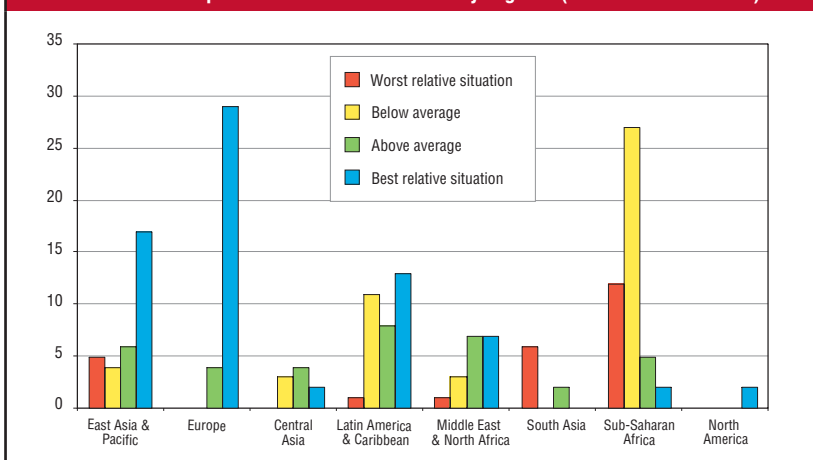


TABLE 1. Current situation according to evolution in reproductive health

	←	↔		→	→	Total
Worse relative situation		2	3	3	17	25
Below average	2	3	6	7	30	48
Above average		3	4	2	27	36
Better relative situation			30		42	72
Total	2	8	43	12	116	181

TABLE 2. Reproductive health: averages by indicator of countries in worse and better situations

	Women aged 15-49 attended at least once during pregnancy by skilled health personnel (%)	Use of contraception by women (with partners) aged 15 to 49 (%)	Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)
Worse relative situation	Average	48.0	15.4
	Number of countries	11	5
Better relative situation	Average	94.3	72.3
	Number of countries	27	8
Total	Average	80.7	47.9
	Number of countries	79	27

80.7%, 44.9% and 79.1%, respectively, and in 2009 80.7%, 47.9% and 79.6%, respectively).

However, this overall progress obscures the significant polarization that took place. In the countries in the worse relative situation all the average values of the indicators fell (from 67.2%, 17.1% and 37.9% in 2008 to 48%, 15.4% and 32.4% in 2009, respectively). On the other hand, the opposite occurred in the countries in the better relative situation; all the average values of these indicators increased (93.9%, 64.5% and 98.9% in 2008 and 94.3%, 72.3% and 99.6%, respectively).

The situation by regions

No country in Europe or North America is below the average; the overwhelming majority are in the better relative situation (87.9% and 100%, respectively).

In Central Asia most of the countries are positioned around the average (33.3% are below and 44.4% are above). There are no countries in the worse relative situation and two are in the better relative situation (22.2%).

In East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East and North Africa region, most of the countries are above the average (18.8%, 24.4% and 38.9%, respectively) or in the better relative situation group (53.1%, 39.4% and 38.9%, respectively). However, there are also some countries below the average (12.5%, 33.3% and 16.7%, respectively) and some in a worse relative situation (15.6%, 3% and 5.6%, respectively).

South Asia is the most polarised region. Three quarters of the countries (75%) are in a worse relative situation and a quarter (25%) are above the average. There are no countries in the better relative situation, and nor are there any slightly below average.

Lastly, the most disadvantaged region is sub-Saharan Africa. Nearly nine tenths (84.8%) of these countries is in the worse relative situation or below the average (26.1% and 58.7%, respectively), one in ten are above the average (10.9%) and only 4.3% are in the better relative situation group. ■

1 As regards methodology, countries are classified using two different procedures, and in this case the two are combined. Regression or progress refer to differences in the relative growth rate, but relative position is established by standardisation based on the quotient between the differences with the measures and the standard deviation of the distribution. For this, progress or regression in growth rate can correspond to different relative positions. Therefore a country that is very well positioned but from one year to the next registers a fall in the values of its indicators could figure among the countries in the better relative situation and at the same time be in the severe regression group.

RATIFICATIONS OF FUNDAMENTAL ILO CONVENTIONS

Up to July 2009

C87: Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948.

C98: Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949.

C100: Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951.

C105: Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957.

C111: Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958.

C138: Minimum Age Convention, 1973.

C182: Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999.

Countries that have ratified all these conventions:

Albania; Algeria; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahamas; Barbados; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Benin; Bolivia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cambodia; Cameroon;

Central African Republic; Chad; Chile; Colombia; Comoros; Congo, DR; Congo, Rep.; Costa Rica; Côte d'Ivoire; Croatia; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; Djibouti; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Equatorial Guinea; Estonia; Ethiopia; Fiji; Finland; France; Gambia; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Grenada; Guatemala; Guinea; Guyana; Haiti; Honduras; Hungary; Iceland; Indonesia; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Jamaica; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Latvia; Lesotho; Libya; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Macedonia; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Malta; Mauritania; Mauritius; Moldova; Mongolia; Montenegro; Mozambique; Netherlands; Nicaragua; Niger; Nigeria; Norway; Pakistan; Panama; Papua New Guinea; Paraguay; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russian Federation; Rwanda; San Marino; Sao Tome and Principe; Senegal; Serbia; Seychelles; Slovakia; Slovenia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; St Kitts and Nevis; St Vincent and Grenadines; Swaziland; Sweden; Switzerland; Syria; Tajikistan; Tanzania; Togo; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Uganda; Ukraine; United Kingdom; Uruguay; Venezuela; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

COUNTRIES THAT HAVE NOT RATIFIED ALL THE MENTIONED CONVENTIONS	FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING		ELIMINATION OF FORCED AND COMPULSORY LABOUR	ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION IN RESPECT OF EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATION			ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOUR		COUNTRIES THAT HAVE NOT RATIFIED ALL THE MENTIONED CONVENTIONS	FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING		ELIMINATION OF FORCED AND COMPULSORY LABOUR	ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION IN RESPECT OF EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATION			ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOUR	
	C 87	C 98		C 100	C 111	C 138	C 182	C 87		C 98	C 105		C 100	C 111	C 138	C 182	
Afghanistan	□	□	■	■	■	□	□	Liberia	■	■	■	□	■	□	■	■	
Australia	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	Malaysia	□	■	●	■	□	■	■	■	
Bahrain	□	□	■	□	■	□	■	Mexico	■	□	■	■	■	■	□	■	
Bangladesh	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	Morocco	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Brazil	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	Namibia	■	■	■	□	■	■	■	■	
Burma/Myanmar	■	□	□	□	□	□	□	Nepal	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Canada	■	□	■	■	■	□	■	New Zealand	□	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	
Cape Verde	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	Oman	□	□	■	□	□	■	■	■	
China	□	□	□	■	■	■	■	Qatar	□	□	■	□	■	■	■	■	
Cuba	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	Saudi Arabia	□	□	■	■	■	■	□	■	
Eritrea	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	Sierra Leone	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	□	
Gabon	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	Singapore	□	■	■	■	□	■	■	■	
Ghana	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	Solomon Islands	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	
Guinea-Bissau	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	Somalia	□	□	■	□	■	□	□	□	
India	□	□	■	■	■	□	□	St. Lucia	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	
Iran, Islamic Rep.	□	□	■	■	■	□	■	Sudan	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Iraq	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	Suriname	■	■	■	□	□	□	□	■	
Japan	■	■	□	■	□	■	■	Thailand	□	□	■	■	□	■	■	■	
Jordan	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	Timor-Leste	□	■	□	□	□	□	□	■	
Kenya	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	Turkmenistan	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	□	
Kiribati	■	■	■	■	□	□	■	United Arab Emirates	□	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Korea, Rep.	□	□	□	■	■	■	■	United States of America	□	□	■	□	□	□	□	■	
Kuwait	■	■	■	□	■	■	■	Uzbekistan	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Lao, PDR	□	□	□	■	■	■	■	Vanuatu	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	■	
Lebanon	□	■	■	■	■	■	■	Viet Nam	□	□	□	■	■	■	■	■	

Source: ILOLEX, ILO website Database (www.ilo.org/).

- Convention ratified
- Convention not yet ratified
- Convention denounced

RATIFICATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS INTERNATIONAL TREATIES

Up to July 2009

A: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), 1966. Entry into force: 3 January 1976.
B: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR), 1966. Entry into force: 23 March 1976.
C: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), 1965. Entry into force: 4 January 1969.
D: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979. Entry into force: 3 September 1981.
E: Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), 1984. Entry into force: 26 June 1987.
F: Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989. Entry into force: 2 September 1990.
G: Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 1948. Entry into force: 12 January 1951.
H: Convention/Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, 1951/1967. Entry into force: 22 April 1954/4 October 1967.
I: International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (MWC), 1990. Entry into force: 1 July 2003.

	UN Member since	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I		UN Member since	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
Afghanistan	1946	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Cyprus	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Albania	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Czech Republic	1993	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Algeria	1962	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Denmark	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Andorra	1993	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Djibouti	1977	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Angola	1976	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Dominica	1978	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Antigua and Barbuda	1981	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Dominican Republic	1945	●	●	●	●	○	●	○	●	●	●
Argentina	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Ecuador	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Armenia	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Egypt	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Australia	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	El Salvador	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Austria	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Equatorial Guinea	1968	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Azerbaijan	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Eritrea	1993	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bahamas	1973	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Estonia	1991	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bahrain	1971	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Ethiopia	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bangladesh	1974	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	Fiji	1970	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Barbados	1966	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Finland	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Belarus	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	France	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Belgium	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Gabon	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Belize	1981	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Gambia	1965	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●
Benin	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	Georgia	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bhutan	1971	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	Germany	1973	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bolivia	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Ghana	1957	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Greece	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Botswana	1966	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Grenada	1974	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Brazil	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Guatemala	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Brunei Darussalam	1984	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Guinea	1958	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bulgaria	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Guinea-Bissau	1974	●	○	○	●	○	●	●	●	●	○
Burkina Faso	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Guyana	1966	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Burma/Myanmar	1948	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Haiti	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Burundi	1962	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Holly See		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Cambodia	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	Honduras	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Cameroon	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Hungary	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Canada	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Iceland	1946	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Cape Verde	1975	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	India	1945	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●
Central African Republic	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Indonesia	1950	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Chad	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Iran	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Chile	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Iraq	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
China	1945	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Ireland	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Colombia	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Israel	1949	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Comoros	1975	○	○	●	●	○	●	●	●	○	Italy	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Congo, DR	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Jamaica	1962	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Congo, Rep.	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	Japan	1956	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Cook Islands		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Jordan	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Costa Rica	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Kazakhstan	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Côte d'Ivoire	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Kenya	1963	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Croatia	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Kiribati	1999	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Cuba	1945	○	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Korea, DPR	1991	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

	UN Member since	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I		UN Member since	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
Korea, Rep.	1991	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Russian Federation	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Kuwait	1963	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			Rwanda	1962	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	
Kyrgyzstan	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Samoa	1976		●		●		●		●		
Lao, PDR	1955	●	○	●	●		●	●			San Marino	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●				
Latvia	1991	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Sao Tome and Principe	1975	○	○	○	○	○				●	○
Lebanon	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			Saudi Arabia	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Lesotho	1966	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Senegal	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Liberia	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	Serbia	2000	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Libya	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	Seychelles	1976	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Liechtenstein	1990	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Sierra Leone	1961	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	○	
Lithuania	1991	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Singapore	1965				●		●	●			
Luxembourg	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Slovakia	1993	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Macedonia	1993	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Slovenia	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Madagascar	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Solomon Islands	1978	●	●	●		●			●		
Malawi	1964	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	Somalia	1960	●	●	●		●	○				
Malaysia	1957				●		●	●			South Africa	1945	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Maldives	1965	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			Spain	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Mali	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Sri Lanka	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●
Malta	1964	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		St Kitts and Nevis	1983			●	●		●		●		
Marshall Islands	1991				●		●				St Lucia	1979			●	●		●				
Mauritania	1961	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	St Vincent and Grenadines	1980	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Mauritius	1968	●	●	●	●	●	●				Sudan	1956	●	●	●		○	●	●	●		
Mexico	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Suriname	1975	●	●	●	●		●		●		
Micronesia	1991				●		●				Swaziland	1968	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		
Moldova	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Sweden	1946	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Monaco	1993	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Switzerland	2002	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Mongolia	1961	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			Syria	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●
Montenegro	2006	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	Tajikistan	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Morocco	1956	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Tanzania	1961	●	●	●	●		●	●	●		
Mozambique	1975		●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Thailand	1946	●	●	●	●	●	●				
Namibia	1990	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Timor-Leste	2002	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	
Nauru	1999		○	○		○	●				Togo	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Nepal	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			Tonga	1999			●			●	●			
Netherlands	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Trinidad and Tobago	1962	●	●	●	●		●	●	●		
New Zealand	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Tunisia	1956	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Nicaragua	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Turkey	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Niger	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	Turkmenistan	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		
Nigeria	1960	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Tuvalu	2000				●		●		●		
Norway	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Uganda	1962	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Oman	1971			●	●		●				Ukraine	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Pakistan	1947	●	○	●	●	○	●	●			United Arab Emirates	1971			●	●		●	●			
Palau	1994						●				United Kingdom	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Panama	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		United States of America	1945	○	●	●	○	●	○	●	●		
Papua New Guinea	1975	●	●	●	●		●	●	●		Uruguay	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Paraguay	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Uzbekistan	1992	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Peru	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Vanuatu	1981		●		●		●				
Philippines	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	Venezuela	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Poland	1945	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Vietnam	1977	●	●	●	●		●	●			
Portugal	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Yemen	1947	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
Qatar	1971			●	●	●	●				Zambia	1964	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		
Romania	1955	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		Zimbabwe	1980	●	●	●	●		●	●	●		

Source: Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (www2.ohchr.org).

- Ratification, accession, approval, notification or succession, acceptance, consent to be bound or definitive signature.
- Signature not yet followed by ratification.

Methodological notes: thematic tables





Measurement of the current situation of countries and the rate of change

The **situation** a country is in, according to each indicator, is given by the latest available value for that indicator.

Each country is assigned a color according to the distribution of values on each indicator,¹ and an average of these values is then given for all the indicators in that area. In this way a self-referential ranking is obtained, independent of distance from goals or from specific conceptually defined levels.

This ranking was only applied to those countries with information available for at least half the indicators that make up each overall thematic area.

To avoid giving a false impression that the data are exact values, the average values were rescaled to create four country categories:

<i>Countries in better situation</i>	
<i>Countries above average</i>	
<i>Countries below average</i>	
<i>Countries in worse situation</i>	

Countries for which sufficient information to be included in the ranking is lacking (*Countries with insufficient data to summarize the area*) are also shown.

Recent evolution

The evolution of countries on each indicator is evaluated by comparing the latest data available with previous information. This procedure involves assessing the country's initial and final levels in the two latest reports. The rate of change is the relative proportion of variation in relation to the latest data available, which is why this is a rate of variation (an incremental rate based on 100).

The values for this rate of change have also been rescaled in sections (using a reference scale of 1 to 5), and in the tables these appear in a column to the right of the current indicator value. A series of symbols are used to illustrate changes in order to make the information easier to read (numerical values are not used because they would tend to give the impression that the information is exact, which in this case it is not).

The categories defined in this rescaling are as follows:

	<i>Significant progress</i>
	<i>Slight progress</i>
	<i>Stagnant</i>
	<i>Regression</i>
	<i>Major regression</i>

Significant progress applies to those countries which are progressing at rates above the average for all countries making progress.

Slight progress applies to those countries which are progressing at rates below the average for all countries making progress.

Stagnant refers to those countries where no changes (or quantitatively insignificant changes) have been recorded over the period in question.

Regression applies to those countries which are regressing at rates below the average for all countries regressing (i.e. they are regressing more slowly).

Major regression applies to those countries which are regressing at rates above the average for all countries regressing (i.e. they are regressing more rapidly).

In addition, an average of progress and regression of the indicators is built for each dimension for which information on recent evolution is available. The average appears in the column "Recent evolution" of the area, and values are also rescaled to obtain the aforementioned five categories. ■

¹ For this, the variable was normalized (by subtracting the mean and dividing by the standard deviation) and then the mean positive values and the mean negative values for the normalized indicator were calculated. The four categories were established according to the values above and below the mean positive values for the normalized indicator, and the values above and below the mean negative values for the normalized indicator.

Basic Capabilities Index (BCI) and Gender Equity Index (GEI)

BCI

The Basic Capabilities Index (BCI) is an index-summary developed by Social Watch¹ that compares and classifies countries in accordance with their progress in social development. This is a useful tool for monitoring the evolution of basic indicators and to make comparisons between and within countries. The BCI evaluates society in different countries as regards some basic minimum capabilities that are the essential starting conditions to enable people to have an adequate quality of life.

The index uses three indicators to identify situations of poverty: survival until the age of 5, the percentage of children who reach the 5th grade at school and the percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel. These indicators express different dimensions that are included in internationally agreed development goals (education, infant health and reproductive health).

Unlike other poverty indicators, such as those used by the World Bank (which consider the number of people living on less than one or two dollars per day) or the classification developed by the UNDP based on the Human Development Index (which combines income figures with health and education indicators) the BCI is based on the latest information available for each country and is easier to construct. It can be applied on the sub-national and municipal levels and does not depend on costly household surveys, which indexes based on income require.

The BCI does not use income as an indicator. It employs a definition of poverty which considers the level of development of a person's capabilities and the possibility to exercise and enjoy his or her human

rights to a greater or lesser extent. This index has proved to be highly correlated with measurements of other human capabilities that reflect the social development of countries.

Each country is assigned a value on the BCI, and then its evolution over time can be evaluated and comparisons with other countries can be made. The BCI indicators attain their maximum level when all women receive skilled health care during childbirth, when no child drops out of school before completing the fifth grade and when infant mortality is reduced to its minimum possible level of less than five deaths among children under 5 per thousand live births. These indicators are closely connected to the capabilities that the members of a society must have. These capabilities mutually reinforce each other to make greater individual and collective development possible. Particularly important in this context are the capabilities that facilitate the incorporation of young people into society, as this is essential to promote the future development of countries.

Note that a BCI value of nearly 100 does not necessarily mean a high level of social development; it merely means the country has achieved universal coverage in the essential minimum requirements to be able to progress towards improved well-being. This is the starting point, not the finish line.

GEI

Social Watch developed the Gender Equity Index (GEI) to make gender inequality situations in countries visible and measurable, and to monitor their evolution over time. The GEI is based on information that is available and comparable internationally. It makes it possible to position and classify countries in accordance with a selection of important indicators of gender inequality in the dimensions of education, economic participation and empowerment.

The GEI gives a simple and direct reading so countries can be compared easily. For the purposes of measurement, proportional relations have been ascertained, in other words the ratio between the

sexes, so the structure of opportunities as regards gender inequity can be inferred.

The index measures the gap between women and men, not their well-being. Thus, for example, a country in which young people of both sexes have equal access to university education receives a value of 100 on this point, and a country in which girls and boys are both equally impeded from completing their primary education would also receive a value of 100. This does not mean that the education is of adequate quality but that, in this case, girls do not suffer from inequity in participation.

The GEI is calculated to respond to the need to reflect all situations that are unfavourable to women. Therefore, when there is a proportional relation disadvantageous to women in comparison to men, the GEI does not register its maximum value of 100 points. Thus the final value attained depends on the degree of negative inequity for women in a given country or region, because it reflects inequity in an inversely proportional way: the greater the inequity the lower the value on the index, and vice versa.

No indicator value can exceed 100 points (complete equity in participation)² even if there are inequities that are positive for women. This asymmetry means the GEI cannot and should not be read as a percentage of participation of the population in gender relations because the proportion of participation may ultimately register as being very different if some of the indicators are favourable to women. ■

1 The BCI was originally based on the Quality of Life Index developed by the non-governmental organization Action for Economic Reforms-Philippines, which in turn was derived from the Capability Poverty Index proposed by Professor Amartya Sen and popularised as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Index.

2 The relative participation of women in one specific area (for example 'university professionals', which is one of the four indicators in the 'empowerment' dimension) is divided by the relative weight of men in that situation. The ratio obtained is multiplied by 100. If the resulting value is over 100, indicating that women's participation exceeds that of men, the value is taken as 100. This is done so that, in the final value on the index, participation rates that are favourable to women in some specific situations shall not conceal negative participation rates in others.

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES FOR THE ICB

Procedure 1. There is no information for the country in one of the indicators of the index for the current period, but information does exist for the previous period. In order to calculate the present value of the BCI the indicator's data was standardized (subtracting the mean and dividing by the standard deviation), and then the mean positive and negative values were calculated to form four categories (best situation, above average, below average and worst situation). The country was situated in the corresponding category according to the value of the indicator of the previous period and the group indicator mean was assigned to it, now on the basis of present period data. That is, this indicator is assumed to be in an "average" situation within the group.

Procedure 2. There is no information for the country in at least one of the indicators of the index for neither the current nor the previous period. In order to calculate the present BCI value, the average was calculated for the indicators for which the country showed data (I1+I2, I1+I3 or I2+I3, as appropriate), within its region. The resulting variable was standardized and then re-scaled above and below the standardized mean according to the four categories generated, placing the country within this categorization and awarding it the information for the absent indicator corresponding to its lower limit. ■