

# **2010** | **WORLD DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS**

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# 2010 | WORLD DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS



THE WORLD BANK



# PREFACE

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The 1998 edition of *World Development Indicators* initiated a series of annual reports on progress toward the International Development Goals. In the foreword then–World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn recognized that “by reporting regularly and systematically on progress toward the targets the international community has set for itself, we will focus attention on the task ahead and make those responsible for advancing the development agenda accountable for results.” The same vision inspired world leaders to commit themselves to the Millennium Development Goals. On this, the 10th anniversary of the Millennium Declaration, *World Development Indicators 2010* focuses on progress toward the Millennium Development Goals and the challenges of meeting them.

There has been remarkable progress.

Despite the global financial crisis, poverty rates in developing countries continue to fall, with every likelihood of reaching and then exceeding the Millennium Development Goals target in most regions of the world. Since the turn of the century, 37 million more children have enrolled in primary school. Measles immunization rates have risen to 81 percent, with similar progress in other vaccination programs and health-related services. Since 2000 the number of children dying before age 5 has fallen from more than 10 million a year to 8.8 million.

So, much progress. But we still have far to go. Global and regional averages cannot disguise the large differences between countries. Average annual incomes range from \$280 to more than \$60,000 per person. Life expectancy ranges from 44 years to 83 years. And differences within countries can be even greater. But we should not be discouraged. Nor should we conclude that the effort has failed just because some countries will fall short of the targets. The Millennium Development Goals have helped to focus development efforts where they will do the most good and have created new demand for good statistics.

Responding to the demand for statistics to monitor progress on the Millennium Development Goals, developing countries and donor agencies have invested in statistical systems, conducted more frequent surveys, and improved methodologies. And the results are beginning to show in the pages of *World Development Indicators*. But here too our success makes us keenly aware of the need to do more to enrich the quality of development statistics.

And we are just as committed to making them more widely available. With the release of the 2010 edition of *World Development Indicators*, the World Bank is redesigning its Web sites and making its development databases freely and fully accessible. As always, we invite your ideas and innovations in putting statistics in service to people.

Shaida Badiee  
Director  
Development Economics Data Group



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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This book and its companion volumes, *The Little Data Book* and *The Little Green Data Book*, are prepared by a team led by Soong Sup Lee under the supervision of Eric Swanson and comprising Awatif Abuzeid, Mehdi Akhlaghi, Azita Amjadi, Uranbileg Batjargal, David Cieslikowski, Loveena Dookhony, Richard Fix, Shota Hatakeyama, Masako Hiraga, Kiyomi Horiuchi, Bala Bhaskar Naidu Kalimili, Buyant Erdene Khaltarkhuu, Alison Kwong, K. Sarwar Lateef, Ibrahim Levent, Raymond Muhula, Changqing Sun, K.M. Vijayalakshmi, and Estela Zamora, working closely with other teams in the Development Economics Vice Presidency's Development Data Group. The electronic products were prepared with contributions from Azita Amjadi, Ramvel Chandrasekaran, Ying Chi, Jean-Pierre Djomalieu, Ramgopal Erabelly, Reza Farivari, Shelley Fu, Gytis Kanchas, Buyant Erdene Khaltarkhuu, Ugendran Makhachkala, Vilas Mandlekar, Nacer Megherbi, Parastoo Oloumi, Abarna Panchapakesan, William Prince, Sujay Ramasamy, Malarvizhi Veerappan, and Vera Wen. The work was carried out under the management of Shaida Badiee. Valuable advice was provided by Shahrokh Fardoust.

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Communications Development Incorporated provided overall design direction, editing, and layout, led by Meta de Coquereaumont, Bruce Ross-Larson, and Christopher Trott. Elaine Wilson created the cover and graphics and typeset the book. Joseph Caponio provided production assistance. Communications Development's London partner, Peter Grundy of Peter Grundy Art & Design, designed the report. Staff from External Affairs oversaw printing and dissemination of the book.

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# PARTNERS

Defining, gathering, and disseminating international statistics is a collective effort of many people and organizations. The indicators presented in *World Development Indicators* are the fruit of decades of work at many levels, from the field workers who administer censuses and household surveys to the committees and working parties of the national and international statistical agencies that develop the nomenclature, classifications, and standards fundamental to an international statistical system. Nongovernmental organizations and the private sector have also made important contributions, both in gathering primary data and in organizing and publishing their results. And academic researchers have played a crucial role in developing statistical methods and carrying on a continuing dialogue about the quality and interpretation of statistical indicators. All these contributors have a strong belief that available, accurate data will improve the quality of public and private decisionmaking.

The organizations listed here have made *World Development Indicators* possible by sharing their data and their expertise with us. More important, their collaboration contributes to the World Bank's efforts, and to those of many others, to improve the quality of life of the world's people. We acknowledge our debt and gratitude to all who have helped to build a base of comprehensive, quantitative information about the world and its people.

For easy reference, Web addresses are included for each listed organization. The addresses shown were active on March 1, 2010. Information about the World Bank is also provided.

## International and government agencies

### Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center

The Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center (CDIAC) is the primary global climate change data and information analysis center of the U.S. Department of Energy. The CDIAC's scope includes anything that would potentially be of value to those concerned with the greenhouse effect and global climate change, including concentrations of carbon dioxide and other radiatively active gases in the atmosphere, the role of the terrestrial biosphere and the oceans in the biogeochemical cycles of greenhouse gases, emissions of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, long-term climate trends, the effects of elevated carbon dioxide on vegetation, and the vulnerability of coastal areas to rising sea levels.

For more information, see <http://cdiac.esd.ornl.gov/>.

### Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH is a German government-owned corporation for international cooperation with worldwide operations. GTZ's aim is to positively shape political, economic, ecological, and social development in partner countries, thereby improving people's living conditions and prospects.

For more information, see [www.gtz.de/](http://www.gtz.de/).

The logo for GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit) consists of the lowercase letters "gtz" in a bold, sans-serif font.

### Food and Agriculture Organization

The Food and Agriculture Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations, was founded in October 1945 with a mandate to raise nutrition levels and living standards, to increase agricultural productivity, and to better the condition of rural populations. The organization provides direct development assistance;



collects, analyzes, and disseminates information; offers policy and planning advice to governments; and serves as an international forum for debate on food and agricultural issues.

For more information, see [www.fao.org/](http://www.fao.org/).

### **Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre**

The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre was established in 1998 by the Norwegian Refugee Council and is the leading international body monitoring conflict-induced internal displacement worldwide. The center contributes to improving national and international capacities to protect and assist the millions of people around the globe who have been displaced within their own country as a result of conflicts or human rights violations.

For more information, see [www.internal-displacement.org/](http://www.internal-displacement.org/).



### **International Civil Aviation Organization**

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, is responsible for establishing international standards and recommended practices and procedures for the technical, economic, and legal aspects of international civil aviation operations. ICAO's strategic objectives include enhancing global aviation safety and security and the efficiency of aviation operations, minimizing the adverse effect of global civil aviation on the environment, maintaining the continuity of aviation operations, and strengthening laws governing international civil aviation.

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### **International Labour Organization**

The International Labour Organization (ILO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, seeks the promotion of social justice and internationally recognized human and labor rights. ILO helps advance the creation of decent jobs and the kinds of economic and working conditions that give working people and business people a stake in lasting peace, prosperity, and progress. As part of its mandate, the ILO maintains an extensive statistical publication program.

For more information, see [www.ilo.org/](http://www.ilo.org/).



### **International Monetary Fund**

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international organization of 186 member countries established to promote international monetary cooperation, a stable system of exchange rates, and the balanced expansion of international trade and to foster economic growth and high levels of employment. The IMF reviews national, regional, and global economic and financial developments; provides policy advice to member countries; and serves as a forum where they can discuss the national, regional, and global consequences of their policies.

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# PARTNERS

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## **Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development**

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) includes 30 member countries sharing a commitment to democratic government and the market economy to support sustainable economic growth, boost employment, raise living standards, maintain financial stability, assist other countries' economic development, and contribute to growth in world trade. With active relationships with some 100 other countries, it has a global reach. It is best known for its publications and statistics, which cover economic and social issues from macroeconomics to trade, education, development, and science and innovation.

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC, [www.oecd.org/dac/](http://www.oecd.org/dac/)) is one of the principal bodies through which the OECD deals with issues related to cooperation with developing countries. The DAC is a key forum



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of major bilateral donors, who work together to increase the effectiveness of their common efforts to support sustainable development. The DAC concentrates on two key areas: the contribution of international development to the capacity of developing countries to participate in the global economy and the capacity of people to overcome poverty and participate fully in their societies.

For more information, see [www.oecd.org/](http://www.oecd.org/).

### **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute**

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) conducts research on questions of conflict and cooperation of importance for international peace and security, with the aim of contributing to an understanding of the conditions for peaceful solutions to international conflicts and for a stable peace. SIPRI's main publication, *SIPRI Yearbook*, is an authoritative and independent source on armaments and arms control and other conflict and security issues.

For more information, see [www.sipri.org/](http://www.sipri.org/).

**sipri**

### **Understanding Children's Work**

As part of broader efforts to develop effective and long-term solutions to child labor, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the World Bank initiated the joint interagency research program "Understanding Children's Work and Its Impact" in December 2000. The Understanding Children's Work (UCW) project was located at UNICEF's Innocenti Research Centre in Florence, Italy, until June 2004, when it moved to the Centre for International Studies on Economic Growth in Rome.

The UCW project addresses the crucial need for more and better data on child labor. UCW's online database contains data by country on child labor and the status of children.

For more information, see [www.ucw-project.org/](http://www.ucw-project.org/).

### **United Nations**

The United Nations currently has 192 member states. The purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in its charter, are to maintain international peace and security; to develop friendly relations among nations; to cooperate in solving international economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian problems and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; and to be a center for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these ends.

For more information, see [www.un.org/](http://www.un.org/).



### **United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, Global Urban Observatory**

The Urban Indicators Programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme was established to address the urgent global need to improve the urban knowledge base by helping countries and cities design, collect, and apply policy-oriented indicators related to development at the city level.

With the Urban Indicators and Best Practices programs, the Global Urban Observatory is establishing a worldwide information, assessment, and capacity-building network to help governments, local authorities, the private sector, and nongovernmental and other civil society organizations.

For more information, see [www.unhabitat.org/](http://www.unhabitat.org/).

# PARTNERS

## **United Nations Children's Fund**

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) works with other UN bodies and with governments and non-governmental organizations to improve children's lives in more than 190 countries through various programs in education and health. UNICEF focuses primarily on five areas: child survival and development, basic education and gender equality (including girls' education), child protection, HIV/AIDS, and policy advocacy and partnerships.

For more information, see [www.unicef.org/](http://www.unicef.org/).



## **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is the principal organ of the United Nations General Assembly in the field of trade and development. Its mandate is to accelerate economic growth and development, particularly in developing countries. UNCTAD discharges its mandate through policy analysis; intergovernmental deliberations, consensus building, and negotiation; monitoring, implementation, and follow-up; and technical cooperation.

For more information, see [www.unctad.org/](http://www.unctad.org/).



## **United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations**

The United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations contributes to the most important function of the United Nations—maintaining international peace and security. The department helps countries torn by conflict to create the conditions for lasting peace. The first peacekeeping mission was established in 1948 and has evolved to meet the demands of different conflicts and a changing political landscape. Today's peacekeepers undertake a wide variety of complex tasks, from helping build sustainable institutions of governance, to monitoring human rights, to assisting in security sector reform, to disarmament, demobilizing, and reintegrating former combatants.

For more information, see [www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/](http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/).

## **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, Institute for Statistics**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes international cooperation among member states and associate members in education, science, culture, and communications. The UNESCO Institute for Statistics is the organization's statistical branch, established in July 1999 to meet the growing needs of UNESCO member states and the international community for a wider range of policy-relevant, timely, and reliable statistics on these topics.

For more information, see [www.uis.unesco.org/](http://www.uis.unesco.org/).



## **United Nations Environment Programme**

The mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme is to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and people to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

For more information, see [www.unep.org/](http://www.unep.org/).





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### **United Nations Industrial Development Organization**

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization was established to act as the central coordinating body for industrial activities and to promote industrial development and cooperation at the global, regional, national, and sectoral levels. Its mandate is to help develop scientific and technological plans and programs for industrialization in the public, cooperative, and private sectors.

For more information, see [www.unido.org/](http://www.unido.org/).



### **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was established in 1977 and is a global leader in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime. The office assists member states in their struggle against illicit drugs, crime, and terrorism by helping build capacity, conducting research and analytical work, and assisting in the ratification and implementation of relevant international treaties and domestic legislation related to drugs, crime, and terrorism.

For more information, see [www.unodc.org/](http://www.unodc.org/).

### **The UN Refugee Agency**

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) is mandated to lead and coordinate international action to protect refugees and resolve refugee problems worldwide. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugees. UNHCR also collects and disseminates statistics on refugees.

For more information, see [www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)



### **Upsalla Conflict Data Program**

The Upsalla Conflict Data Program has collected information on armed violence since 1946 and is one of the most accurate and well used data sources on global armed conflicts. Its definition of armed conflict is becoming a standard in how conflicts are systematically defined and studied. In addition to data collection on armed violence, its researchers conduct theoretically and empirically based analyses of the causes, escalation, spread, prevention, and resolution of armed conflict.

For more information, see [www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/](http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/).

### **World Bank**

The World Bank is a vital source of financial and technical assistance for developing countries. The World Bank is made up of two unique development institutions owned by 186 member countries—the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA). These institutions play different but collaborative roles to advance the vision of an inclusive and sustainable globalization. The IBRD focuses on middle-income and creditworthy poor countries, while IDA focuses on the poorest countries. Together they provide low-interest loans, interest-free credits, and grants to developing countries for a wide array of purposes, including investments in education, health, public administration, infrastructure, financial and private sector development, agriculture, and environmental and natural resource management. The World Bank's work focuses on achieving the Millennium Development Goals by working with partners to alleviate poverty.

For more information, see [www.worldbank.org/data/](http://www.worldbank.org/data/).



# PARTNERS

## World Health Organization

The objective of the World Health Organization (WHO), a specialized agency of the United Nations, is the attainment by all people of the highest possible level of health. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries, and monitoring and assessing health trends.

For more information, see [www.who.int/](http://www.who.int/).



## World Intellectual Property Organization

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations dedicated to developing a balanced and accessible international intellectual property (IP) system, which rewards creativity, stimulates innovation, and contributes to economic development while safeguarding the public interest. WIPO carries out a wide variety of tasks related to the protection of IP rights. These include developing international IP laws and standards, delivering global IP protection services, encouraging the use of IP for economic development, promoting better understanding of IP, and providing a forum for debate.

For more information, see [www.wipo.int/](http://www.wipo.int/).



## World Tourism Organization

The World Tourism Organization is an intergovernmental body entrusted by the United Nations with promoting and developing tourism. It serves as a global forum for tourism policy issues and a source of tourism know-how.

For more information, see [www.unwto.org/](http://www.unwto.org/).



## World Trade Organization

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is the only international organization dealing with the global rules of trade between nations. Its main function is to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably, and freely as possible. It does this by administering trade agreements, acting as a forum for trade negotiations, settling trade disputes, reviewing national trade policies, assisting developing countries in trade policy issues—through technical assistance and training programs—and cooperating with other international organizations. At the heart of the system—known as the multilateral trading system—are the WTO's agreements, negotiated and signed by a large majority of the world's trading nations and ratified by their parliaments.

For more information, see [www.wto.org/](http://www.wto.org/).



## Private and nongovernmental organizations

### Containerisation International

*Containerisation International Yearbook* is one of the most authoritative reference books on the container industry. The information can be accessed on the Containerisation International Web site, which also provides a comprehensive online daily business news and information service for the container industry.

For more information, see [www.ci-online.co.uk/](http://www.ci-online.co.uk/).



### DHL

DHL provides shipping and customized transportation solutions for customers in more than 220 countries and territories. It offers expertise in express, air, and ocean freight; overland transport; contract logistics solutions; and international mail services.

For more information, see [www.dhl.com/](http://www.dhl.com/).



### International Institute for Strategic Studies

The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) provides information and analysis on strategic trends and facilitates contacts between government leaders, business people, and analysts that could lead to better public policy in international security and international relations. The IISS is a primary source of accurate, objective information on international strategic issues.

For more information, see [www.iiss.org/](http://www.iiss.org/).



### International Road Federation

The International Road Federation (IRF) is a nongovernmental, not-for-profit organization whose mission is to encourage and promote development and maintenance of better, safer, and more sustainable roads and road networks. Working together with its members and associates, the IRF promotes social and economic benefits that flow from well planned and environmentally sound road transport networks. It helps put in place technological solutions and management practices that provide maximum economic and social returns from national road investments. The IRF works in all aspects of road policy and development worldwide with governments and financial institutions, members, and the community of road professionals.

For more information, see [www.irfnet.org/](http://www.irfnet.org/).



### Netcraft

Netcraft provides Internet security services such as antifraud and antiphishing services, application testing, code reviews, and automated penetration testing. Netcraft also provides research data and analysis on many aspects of the Internet and is a respected authority on the market share of web servers, operating systems, hosting providers, Internet service providers, encrypted transactions, electronic commerce, scripting languages, and content technologies on the Internet.

For more information, see <http://news.netcraft.com/>.

# PARTNERS

## **PricewaterhouseCoopers**

PricewaterhouseCoopers provides industry-focused services in the fields of assurance, tax, human resources, transactions, performance improvement, and crisis management services to help address client and stakeholder issues.

For more information, see [www.pwc.com/](http://www.pwc.com/).



## **Standard & Poor's**

Standard & Poor's is the world's foremost provider of independent credit ratings, indexes, risk evaluation, investment research, and data. S&P's *Global Stock Markets Factbook* draws on data from S&P's Emerging Markets Database (EMDB) and other sources covering data on more than 100 markets with comprehensive market profiles for 82 countries. Drawing a sample of stocks in each EMDB market, Standard & Poor's calculates indexes to serve as benchmarks that are consistent across national boundaries.

For more information, see [www.standardandpoors.com/](http://www.standardandpoors.com/).



## **World Conservation Monitoring Centre**

The World Conservation Monitoring Centre provides information on the conservation and sustainable use of the world's living resources and helps others to develop information systems of their own. It works in close collaboration with a wide range of people and organizations to increase access to the information needed for wise management of the world's living resources.

For more information, see [www.unep-wcmc.org/](http://www.unep-wcmc.org/).



## **World Economic Forum**

The World Economic Forum (WEF) is an independent international organization committed to improving the state of the world by engaging leaders in partnerships to shape global, regional, and industry agendas. Economic research at the WEF—led by the Global Competitiveness Programme—focuses on identifying the impediments to growth so that strategies to achieve sustainable economic progress, reduce poverty, and increase prosperity can be developed. The WEF's competitiveness reports range from global coverage, such as *Global Competitiveness Report*, to regional and topical coverage, such as *Africa Competitiveness Report*, *The Lisbon Review*, and *Global Information Technology Report*.

For more information, see: [www.weforum.org/](http://www.weforum.org/).



## **World Information Technology and Services Alliance**

The World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA) is a consortium of more than 60 information technology (IT) industry associations from economies around the world. WITSA members represent over 90 percent of the world IT market. As the global voice of the IT industry, WITSA has an active role in international public policy issues affecting the creation of a robust global information infrastructure, including advocating policies that advance the industry's growth and development, facilitating international trade and investment in IT products and services, increasing competition through open markets and regulatory reform, strengthening national industry associations through the sharing of knowledge, protecting intellectual property, encouraging cross-industry and government cooperation to enhance information security,



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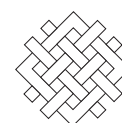
bridging the education and skills gap, and safeguarding the viability and continued growth of the Internet and electronic commerce.

For more information, see [www.witsa.org/](http://www.witsa.org/).

**World Resources Institute**

The World Resources Institute is an independent center for policy research and technical assistance on global environmental and development issues. The institute provides—and helps other institutions provide—objective information and practical proposals for policy and institutional change that will foster environmentally sound, socially equitable development. The institute’s current areas of work include trade, forests, energy, economics, technology, biodiversity, human health, climate change, sustainable agriculture, resource and environmental information, and national strategies for environmental and resource management.

For more information, see [www.wri.org/](http://www.wri.org/).



# USERS GUIDE

## Tables

The tables are numbered by section and display the identifying icon of the section. Countries and economies are listed alphabetically (except for Hong Kong SAR, China, which appears after China). Data are shown for 155 economies with populations of more than 1 million, as well as for Taiwan, China, in selected tables. Table 1.6 presents selected indicators for 55 other economies—small economies with populations between 30,000 and 1 million and smaller economies if they are members of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development or, as it is commonly known, the World Bank. A complete set of indicators for these economies is available on the *World Development Indicators* CD-ROM and in *WDI Online*. The term *country*, used interchangeably with *economy*, does not imply political independence, but refers to any territory for which authorities report separate social or economic statistics. When available, aggregate measures for income and regional groups appear at the end of each table.

Indicators are shown for the most recent year or period for which data are available and, in most tables, for an earlier year or period (usually 1990 or 1995 in this edition). Time-series data for all 210 economies are available on the *World Development Indicators* CD-ROM and in *WDI Online*.

Known deviations from standard definitions or breaks in comparability over time or across countries are either footnoted in the tables or noted in *About the data*. When available data are deemed to be too weak to provide reliable measures of levels and trends or do not adequately adhere to international standards, the data are not shown.

## Aggregate measures for income groups

The aggregate measures for income groups include 210 economies (the economies listed in the main tables plus those in table 1.6) whenever data are available. To maintain consistency in the aggregate measures over time and between tables, missing data are imputed where possible. The aggregates are totals (designated by a *t* if the aggregates include gap-filled estimates for missing data and by an *s*, for

simple totals, where they do not), median values (*m*), weighted averages (*w*), or simple (unweighted) averages (*u*). Gap filling of amounts not allocated to countries may result in discrepancies between subgroup aggregates and overall totals. For further discussion of aggregation methods, see *Statistical methods*.

## Aggregate measures for regions

The aggregate measures for regions cover only low- and middle-income economies, including economies with populations of less than 1 million listed in table 1.6.

The country composition of regions is based on the World Bank's analytical regions and may differ from common geographic usage. For regional classifications, see the map on the inside back cover and the list on the back cover flap. For further discussion of aggregation methods, see *Statistical methods*.

## Statistics

Data are shown for economies as they were constituted in 2008, and historical data are revised to reflect current political arrangements. Exceptions are noted throughout the tables.

Additional information about the data is provided in *Primary data documentation*. That section summarizes national and international efforts to improve basic data collection and gives country-level information on primary sources, census years, fiscal years, statistical methods and concepts used, and other background information. *Statistical methods* provides technical information on some of the general calculations and formulas used throughout the book.

## Data consistency, reliability, and comparability

Considerable effort has been made to standardize the data, but full comparability cannot be assured, and care must be taken in interpreting the indicators. Many factors affect data availability, comparability, and reliability: statistical systems in many developing economies are still weak; statistical methods, coverage, practices, and definitions differ widely; and cross-country and intertemporal comparisons involve complex technical and conceptual problems that cannot be resolved unequivocally. Data coverage may

not be complete because of special circumstances affecting the collection and reporting of data, such as problems stemming from conflicts.

For these reasons, although data are drawn from the sources thought to be most authoritative, they should be construed only as indicating trends and characterizing major differences among economies rather than as offering precise quantitative measures of those differences. Discrepancies in data presented in different editions of *World Development Indicators* reflect updates by countries as well as revisions to historical series and changes in methodology. Thus readers are advised not to compare data series between editions of *World Development Indicators* or between different World Bank publications. Consistent time-series data for 1960–2008 are available on the *World Development Indicators* CD-ROM and in *WDI Online*.

Except where otherwise noted, growth rates are in real terms. (See *Statistical methods* for information on the methods used to calculate growth rates.) Data for some economic indicators for some economies are presented in fiscal years rather than calendar years; see *Primary data documentation*. All dollar figures are current U.S. dollars unless otherwise stated. The methods used for converting national currencies are described in *Statistical methods*.

## Country notes

- Unless otherwise noted, data for China do not include data for Hong Kong SAR, China; Macao SAR, China; or Taiwan, China.
- Data for Indonesia include Timor-Leste through 1999 unless otherwise noted
- Montenegro declared independence from Serbia and Montenegro on June 3, 2006. When available, data for each country are shown separately. However, some indicators for Serbia continue to include data for Montenegro through 2005; these data are footnoted in the tables. Moreover, data for most indicators from 1999 onward for Serbia exclude data for Kosovo, which in 1999 became a territory under international administration pursuant to UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999);

any exceptions are noted. Kosovo became a World Bank member on June 29, 2009, and its data are shown in the tables when available.

### Classification of economies

For operational and analytical purposes the World Bank's main criterion for classifying economies is gross national income (GNI) per capita (calculated by the *World Bank Atlas* method). Every economy is classified as low income, middle income (subdivided into lower middle and upper middle), or high income. For income classifications see the map on the inside front cover and the list on the front cover flap. Low- and middle-income economies are sometimes referred to as developing economies. The term is used for convenience; it is not intended to imply that all economies in the group are experiencing similar development or that other economies have reached a preferred or final stage of development. Note that classification by income does not necessarily reflect development status. Because GNI per capita changes over time, the country composition of income groups may change from one edition of *World Development Indicators* to the next. Once the classification is fixed for an edition, based on GNI per capita in the most recent year for which data are available (2008 in this edition), all historical data presented are based on the same country grouping.

Low-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of \$975 or less in 2008. Middle-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of more than \$975 but less than \$11,906. Lower middle-income and upper middle-income economies are separated at a GNI per capita of \$3,855. High-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of \$11,906 or more. The 16 participating member countries of the euro area are presented as a subgroup under high-income economies.

### Symbols

.. means that data are not available or that aggregates cannot be calculated because of missing data in the years shown.

### 0 or 0.0

means zero or small enough that the number would round to zero at the displayed number of decimal places.

/

in dates, as in 2003/04, means that the period of time, usually 12 months, straddles two calendar years and refers to a crop year, a survey year, or a fiscal year.

\$

means current U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.

>

means more than.

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means less than.

### Data presentation conventions

- A blank means not applicable or, for an aggregate, not analytically meaningful.
- A billion is 1,000 million.
- A trillion is 1,000 billion.
- Figures in italics refer to years or periods other than those specified or to growth rates calculated for less than the full period specified.
- Data for years that are more than three years from the range shown are footnoted.

The cutoff date for data is February 1, 2010.