



# The Human Development Index

from the Esri GeoInquiries™ collection for Human Geography

Audience – Human geography

Time required – 15 minutes

## Activity

Explore the spatial patterns of the Human Development Index (HDI) to identify regional patterns and causal factors in the data.

## APHG Benchmarks

APHG: VI:B2 Analyze spatial patterns of social and economic development – GNI per capita.  
APHG: VI:B1 Explain social and economic measures of development – HDI, Gender Inequality Index (GII), Total Fertility Rate (TRF).  
APHG: VI:B6 Social and economic measures of development — Changes in fertility and mortality

## Learning Outcomes

- Students will analyze and use development statistics to identify and explain correlations between development and other APHG topics (for example, fertility and mortality).

Map URL: <http://esriurl.com/humanGeoInquiry12>

## ? Ask

### What is development?

- “Development” is a complicated word.
- ? What are some characteristics of a developed or less developed society?
- Click the link above to launch the map.
- ? The UN creates an index from health, education, and wealth indicators to assess a country’s level of development.
- ? What statistics do you think could be used as indicators? *[Health: life expectancy; education: years of schooling; wealth: per capita income.]*

## ! Acquire

### How does development compare around the world?

- Click on the United States and examine the pop-up. Repeat for Brazil and Pakistan.
- ? How does the index vary for these countries? *[The United States has the highest 2017 HDI (0.92), Brazil has an HDI of 0.75, and Pakistan has an HDI of 0.56.]*
- ? Which regions are the most and least developed in the world? *[The most developed regions are Europe and North America, whereas the least developed are Africa and Southeast Asia.]*

## 🔍 Explore

### How does crime affect development?

- With the Details button underlined, click the button, Show Contents of Map (Content).
- Uncheck the box to the left of the layer name, Human Development Index, 2017.
- Turn on the layer, Murder Rates per 100,000.
- Click the button, Bookmarks. Select Central America.
- ? Which country has the highest 2015 murder rate? *[El Salvador]*
- ? What correlation is there between development and crime? *[A higher murder rate correlates with lower development index scores.]*

more ►

## Analyze

### What effect does birth rate have on development?

- Show only the layer, Total Fertility Rate.
- Filter the data to find regions with the highest fertility rates. (See Filter Tooltip below.)”
- From the Contents pane, click the button, Filter.
- Build this query: Total Fertility Rate 2016 Is Greater Than 3 (value).
- ? How does this statistic correlate with development? [*Higher fertility rates correlate with lower levels of development.*]
- Turn off the layer, Total Fertility Rate.

## Act

### How does gender inequality affect development?

- Turn on the two layers: Gender Inequality Index and the GNI Per Capita.
- Compare the two layers by turning them on and off.
- ? What is the general relationship between these two layers? [*Wealthier countries have less gender inequality.*]
- Explore the regions of the world, visually.
- ? Is there a region that has very high per capita income but also experiences high levels of gender inequality? [*The Middle East, and the Persian Gulf oil states more specifically.*]
- ? How do income and gender inequality affect a country's HDI ranking? [*Income raises the rank, but gender inequality lowers the rank of human development.*]

#### FILTER

- Filter is only available for certain map layers.
- In the Content pane, hover over the map layer name.
- Under the map layer name, click the button, Filter.
- Set the filter parameters.
- Be sure to press the apply button.

#### TABLE SORT

- Filter is only available for certain map layers.
- In the Content pane, hover over the map layer name.
- Under the map layer name, click the button, Show Table.
- Click the field name (column header).
- Choose Sort Ascending or Descending.

## Next Steps

**DID YOU KNOW?** ArcGIS Online is a mapping platform freely available to public, private, and home schools. A school subscription provides additional security, privacy, and content features. Learn more about ArcGIS Online and how to get a school subscription at <http://www.esri.com/schools>.

#### THEN TRY THIS...

- Use Enrich Data (in the Analysis tools) to add additional demographic, population, or economic data to the existing HDI dataset for targeted geographies.
- Create a story map using demographic data to highlight the metrics that are a part of the HDI composite statistic.

## TEXT REFERENCES

This GIS map has been cross-referenced to material in sections of chapters from these texts.

- *Human Geography: A Short Introduction* by Oxford University Press – Chapter 10
- *The Cultural Landscape* by Pearson – Chapter 9