



Human Development Report 2021-22

For Prelims: Human Development Report, Human Development Index(HDI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Gross national income (GNI), Sustainable Development Goals, Gender Inequality Index, Multidimensional Poverty Index.

For Mains: Human Development Report 2021-22.

Why in News?

According to the [Human Development Report 2021-22](#), India's rank on the **Human Development Index (HDI)** has slipped from 130 in 2020 to 132 in 2022, in line with a global fall in HDI scores in the wake of the [Covid-19](#) pandemic.

What is Human Development Report?

- **About:**
 - Human Development Reports (HDRs) have been released since 1990 and have explored different themes through the human development approach.
 - It's **published by the Human Development Report Office for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.
- **Goal:** The goal is to contribute toward the expansion of opportunities, choice and freedom.
- **Theme:** The theme for Human Development Report 2021-22 is **Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a World in Transformation**.

What is the Human Development Index?

- HDI is a **composite index that measures average achievement** in human development taking into account four indicators:
 - Life expectancy at birth (Sustainable Development Goal 3),
 - Expected years of schooling (Sustainable Development Goal 4.3),
 - Mean years of schooling (Sustainable Development Goal 4.4),
 - **Gross national income (GNI)** (Sustainable Development Goal 8.5).

What are the Key Highlights of the Report?

- **Human Development Index:**
 - **Drop in Life Expectancy:** A large contributor to the Human Development Index's recent decline is a global drop in life expectancy, down from 72.8 years in 2019 to 71.4 years in 2021.
 - The last two years have had a devastating impact on billions of people worldwide when crises like Covid-19 and the war in Ukraine hit back to back and interacted

with sweeping social and economic shifts and dangerous planetary changes.

◦ **Top Performers:**

- European states were among the best overall performers, with as many as 8 in the top 10 of the list.
- These are Switzerland (1, 0.962), Norway (2, 0.961), Iceland (3, 0.959), Denmark (6, 0.948), Sweden (7, 0.947), Ireland (8, 0.945), Germany (9, 0.942) and Netherlands (10, 0.941).

◦ **Asian Region:**

- At 73 and with an index value of 0.782, **Sri Lanka emerged as the best performer in the Indian sub-continent.** The island nation was followed by China (79 and 0.768), Bhutan (127 and 0.666), Bangladesh (129 and 0.661), India, Nepal (143 and 0.602) and Pakistan (161 and 0.544).

◦ **Indian Perspective:**

- **Human Development Index:** India's HDI value stood at **0.633 in 2021**, which was lower than the world average of 0.732. In 2020, too, India recorded a decline in its HDI value (0.642) in comparison to the pre-Covid level of 2019 (0.645).
- **Life expectancy:** In 2021, India's **life expectancy at birth was recorded at 67.2 years.**
- **Schooling:** Expected years of schooling at 11.9 years, mean years of schooling at 6.7 years,
- **Gross National Income:** The gross national income per capita stood at USD 6,590.
- **Gender Inequality Index:** India has been ranked 122 on the **Gender Inequality Index.**

▪ **Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index:**

- The IHDI indicates **a percentage loss in HDI due to inequality.** [//](#)

Inequality-adjusted HDI				
Country (HDI rank)	India (#132)	World	China (#79)	Switzerland (#1)
What happens to HDI when adjusted for inequality	Falls by 25%	Falls by 19%	Falls by 15%	Falls by 7%
Income share held by poorest 49% of	20%	18%	17%	20%
Income share held by the richest 1%	12%	17%	14%	12%

- For **India**, the IHDI value for 2019 is **0.537 (16.8% overall loss).**

▪ **Gender Development Index:**

- **GDI measures disparities in the HDI by gender.**

Gender Development Index				
Country (HDI rank)	India (#132)	World	China (#79)	Switzerland (#1)
GDI	0.849	0.958	0.984	0.967
GNI per capita for women (in 2017 PPP \$)	2,277	12,241	13,980	54,597
GNI per capita for men (in 2017 PPP \$)	10,633	21,210	20,883	79,451

- For **India**, the GDI value for 2021 is **0.490.**

- The key HDI metric where women seem to lag behind men the most is the income per capita.

▪ **Gender Inequality Index:**

Gender Inequality Index				
Country (HDI rank)	India (#132)	World	China (#79)	Switzerland (#1)
Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100,000 live births)	122	225	29	5
Adolescent birth rate (births per 1,000 women ages 15–19)	17	43	11	2.2
Share of seats in parliament (% held by women)	13	26	25	40
Female population with at least some secondary education (% ages 25 and older)	42	64	78	97
Labour force participation rate (% ages 15 and older)	19	46	62	62
GII	0.490	0.465	0.192	0.018

- GII presents a composite measure of gender inequality using three dimensions:
 - Reproductive health,
 - Empowerment and
 - The labour market.
- In GII, India is **at the 122nd rank**.

▪ **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI):**

- MPI captures the multiple deprivations that people in developing countries face in their health, education and standard of living.
- As of 2019, India had more than **381 million who were suffering from multi-dimensional poverty**.

Multi-dimensional Poverty Index metrics				
Country (HDI rank)	India	Bangladesh	China	Brazil
Population in severe MPI (in %)	8.8	6.5	0.3	0.9
Population vulnerable to MPI (in %)	19.3	18.2	17.4	6.2
Population living below income poverty line (%) (PPP \$1.90 a day)	22.5	14.3	0.5	4.6

▪ **Planetary pressures-adjusted Human Development Index:**

- It adjusts the HDI for planetary pressures in the Anthropocene to reflect a concern for intergenerational inequality, similar to the Inequality-adjusted HDI adjustment — which is motivated by a concern for intragenerational inequality.
- The PHDI value can be interpreted as the **level of human development adjusted by carbon dioxide emissions per person** (production-based) and material footprint per person to account for excessive human pressure on the planet.

Planetary pressures-adjusted Human Development Index (PHDI)				
Country (HDI rank)	India	World	China	Switzerland
PHDI	0.609	0.667	0.648	0.796
PHDI (vs HDI)	Falls by 4%	Falls by 9%	Falls by 16%	Falls by 27%

▪ **Other insights:**

- **Humans are not prepared for climate change:** It stated that humans were unprepared for a world with climate crises like **fires and storms and other planetary-level changes** brought about due to the Anthropocene in recent years.
- **Population Decline of Insects:** Without an abundance of insect pollinators, humans face the mind-boggling challenge of **growing food and other agricultural products at scale.**
 - As insects are important because of their **diversity, ecological role and influence on agriculture, human health and natural resources.**
 - They create the **biological foundation for all terrestrial ecosystems**, further, they **cycle nutrients, pollinate plants, disperse seeds, maintain soil structure and fertility**, control populations of other organisms and provide a major food source for other taxa.
- **Microplastic menace:** Plastics are now everywhere, in country-sized garbage patches in the ocean, in protected forests and distant mountaintops and in people's lungs and blood.

UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. The Multi-dimensional Poverty Index developed by Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative with UNDP support covers which of the following? (2012)

1. Deprivation of education, health, assets and services at household level
2. Purchasing power parity at national level
3. Extent of budget deficit and GDP growth rate at national level

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 only

- (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1 and 3 only
 (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (a)

Exp:

- **The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** reflects the deprivations that a poor person faces simultaneously with respect to education, health and living standards, as reflected in the following table. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

Components of MPI			
Dimensions of Poverty	Indicator	Deprived if living in the household where	Weight
Health	Nutrition	An adult under 70 years of age or a child is undernourished.	1/6
	Child Mortality	Any child has died in the family in the five-year period preceding the survey.	1/6
Education	Years of Schooling	No household member aged 10 years or older has completed six years of schooling.	1/6
	School Attendance	Any school-aged child is not attending school up to the age at which he/she would complete class 8.	1/6
Standard of Living	Cooking Fuel	The household cooks with dung, wood, charcoal or coal.	1/18
	Sanitation	The household's sanitation facility is not improved (according to SDG guidelines) or it is improved but shared with other households.	1/18
	Drinking Water	The household does not have access to improved drinking water (according to SDG guidelines) or safe drinking water is at least a 30-minute walk from home, round trip.	1/18
	Electricity	The household has no electricity.	1/18
	Housing	Housing materials for at least one of roof, walls and floor are inadequate: the floor is of natural materials and/or the roof and/or walls are of natural or rudimentary materials.	1/18
	Assets	The household does not own more than one of these assets: radio, TV, telephone, computer, animal cart, bicycle, motorbike or refrigerator, and does not own a car or truck.	1/18

- **Therefore, option (a) is the correct answer.**

Mains

Q. Despite Consistent experience of high growth, India still goes with the lowest indicators of human development. Examine the issues that make balanced and inclusive development elusive. **(2016)**

Source: IE

