



## Index of Cancer Preparedness

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The **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)** has created the Index of Cancer Preparedness (ICP).

- It draws on a wide range of **data relevant to cancer policy and control from 28 countries.**
- The aims of the ICP are to allow benchmarking of national efforts and identify best practice in addressing the cancer challenge.

## Index of Cancer Preparedness (ICP)

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- **Australia tops the ICP, followed by the Netherlands and Germany. Saudi Arabia, Romania, and Egypt face at the bottom in Index.**
- The ICP explores the issue of cancer preparedness through **three broad domains:**
  - policy and planning;
  - care delivery;
  - health systems and governance.
- Four **essentials of cancer preparedness:**
  - essential investment (appropriate spending and resources),
  - roadmap (effective planning),
  - foundation (functioning health systems),
  - intelligence (availability and quality of cancer-related data).

## Cancer

- Cancer is a **generic term for a large group of diseases characterized by the growth of abnormal cells** beyond their usual boundaries that can then invade adjoining parts of the body and/or spread to other organs.
- Other common terms used for cancer are **malignant tumors and neoplasms.**
- Cancer is the **second leading cause of death globally** and is estimated to account for **9.6 million death in 2018.**
- **World Cancer Day** is observed on 4th February every year.

## Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), created in 1946, is the research and analysis division of The Economist Group and the world leader in global business intelligence.

## India and ICP

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- India's overall rank **is 19th** with a score of **64.9**.
- India ranks **17th in** cancer policy and planning, but it has a relatively high score of 80.8.
- India's score largely stems from its strong cancer research and tobacco control measures.

It ranked **first for research and third for tobacco control in ICP**.

- India ranks **23rd for its national cancer control plan**.
- With a score of 40.3, **India's healthcare system ranks 25th in the index**, above only Saudi Arabia, Kenya, Egypt.
- India's **healthcare infrastructure is the second worst** among the index countries.
- In its **delivery of cancer care, India ranks 20th with a score of 61.3**.
  - India has a **high standard of clinical guidelines**, a category in which it is ranked first.
  - India falls **short on immunization, screening and early detection**.