



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%	22%	17%	14%	22%

- 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	0.567	0.548	0.796
PHDI (vs HDI)	Falls by 4%	Falls by 9%	Falls by 16%	Falls by 37%

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)

- Deprivation of education, health, assets and services at household level
- Purchasing power parity at national level
- 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

