

Making Progress in Development

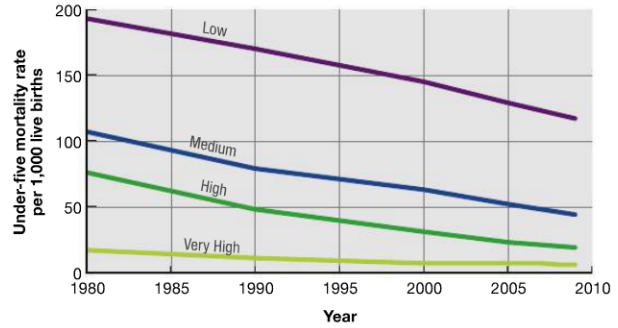
Learning Outcome 9.4.6

Describe ways in which differences in development have narrowed or stayed wide.

Since the UN began measuring HDI in 1980, both developed and developing regions have made progress (Figure 9-64). The overall HDI score has increased by about the same level in developed countries and in developing countries with high HDI scores (primarily Russia and countries in Latin America) and low HDI scores (primarily countries in sub-Saharan Africa). The HDI score for developing countries with medium HDI scores, which includes most of East and South Asia, has increased more rapidly than for the other regions.

Progress in reducing the gap in level of development between developed and developing countries varies depending on the variable. Consider differences among these three prominent variables:

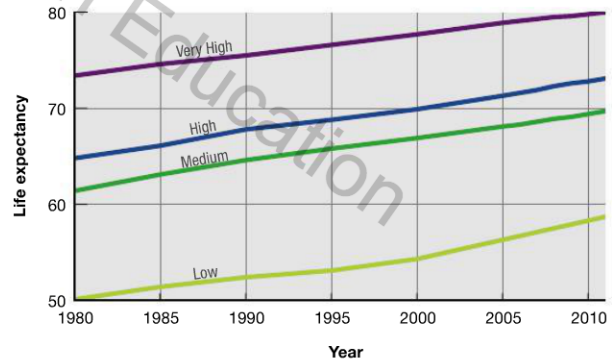
- Infant mortality rate.** The gap between developed and developing countries has narrowed considerably since 1980. The infant mortality rate has decreased from 17 to 6 (per 1,000) in developed countries and from 107 to 44 in developing countries with medium HDI, which includes most of East and South Asia (Figure 9-65).
- Life expectancy.** The number of years a baby is expected to live has increased by 8 years in developing countries (Figure 9-66). However, life expectancy at birth has increased by 7 years in developed countries. So the gap between developed and developing countries has not narrowed.
- GNI per capita.** The gap in wealth between developed and developing countries has widened (Figure 9-67). Since 1980, GNI per capita has increased from \$20,000 to \$33,000 in developed countries and from \$1,000



▲ FIGURE 9-65 INFANT MORTALITY RATE CHANGE BY HDI LEVEL, 1980–2011

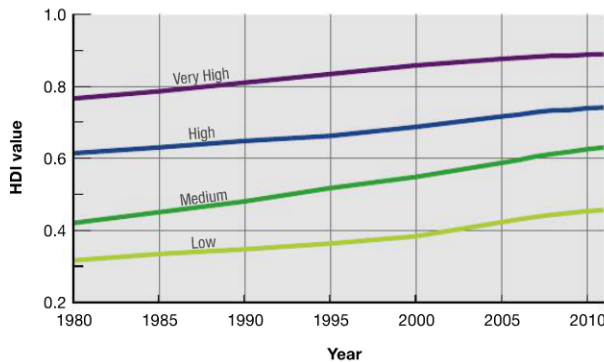
Developing regions have closed the gap in infant mortality rates.

to \$5,000 in developing countries with medium HDI. Progress in improving GNI per capita has been modest in developing countries with high HDI and developing countries with low HDI.

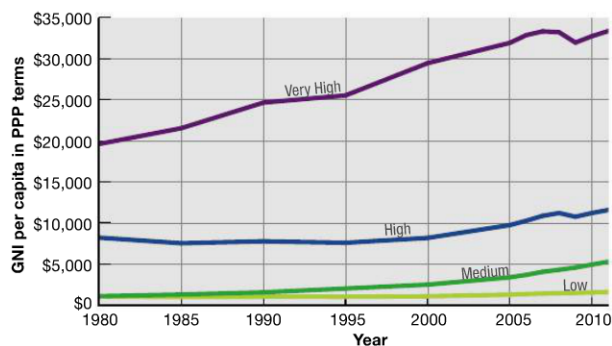


▲ FIGURE 9-66 LIFE EXPECTANCY CHANGE BY HDI LEVEL, 1980–2011

All regions have seen substantial progress in increasing life expectancy.



▲ FIGURE 9-64 HDI CHANGE BY HDI LEVEL, 1980–2011 The HDI has improved relatively rapidly in developing countries with medium HDI scores.



▲ FIGURE 9-67 GNI PER CAPITA CHANGE BY HDI LEVEL, 1980–2011 The gap in wealth between developed and developing regions has increased.

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

To reduce disparities between developed countries and developing countries the UN has set eight so-called **Millennium Development Goals**, which all UN members have agreed to achieve by 2015. Table 9-1 displays the goals and the progress that has actually been made, according to the UN:

Pause and Reflect 9.4.6

Based on Table 9-1, which Millennium Development Goal appears to be making the most limited progress?

TABLE 9-1 MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT

<p>Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to the severe recession, the depth of poverty had diminished in almost every region. The global economic crisis has slowed progress, as more workers found themselves and their families living in extreme poverty. • One of the consequences of the severe recession was an increase in hunger, and progress to end hunger has been stymied. One in four children in developing countries is underweight.
<p>Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia are home to the vast majority of children out of school, as shown in Figure 9-11. Although progress has been made, the UN concludes that the goal is not being achieved.
<p>Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UN concludes that major barriers to gender equality remain, as discussed in Key Issue 2 of this chapter. The UN cites higher levels of poverty, fewer education opportunities, and lack of political representation. Top-level jobs still go to men, whereas women are relegated to jobs with low pay, limited benefits, and little security.
<p>Goal 4: Reduce child mortality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UN concludes that child deaths are falling, but not quickly enough to reach the target. Infant mortality rates remain especially high in sub-Saharan Africa, as shown in Figure 9-65.
<p>Goal 5: Improve maternal health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress has been made in reducing maternal mortality, but as shown in Key Issue 2, giving birth is especially risky in Southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, where most women deliver without skilled care. • Progress has stalled in reducing the number of teenage pregnancies, putting more young mothers at risk. • Progress in expanding the use of contraceptives by women has slowed. Use of contraception is lowest among the poorest women and those with no education. • Inadequate funding for family planning is a major failure in fulfilling commitments to improving women's reproductive health
<p>Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The spread of HIV appears to have stabilized in most regions, as discussed in Chapter 2. Many young people still lack the knowledge to protect themselves against HIV, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. However, the rate of new HIV infections continues to outstrip the expansion of treatment. • More drugs to fight malaria are being distributed. Expanded use of insecticide-treated bed nets is protecting communities from malaria, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. • Tuberculosis prevalence is falling in most regions, but TB remains the second leading killer after HIV.
<p>Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rate of deforestation is decreasing, but is still alarmingly high, and a decisive response to climate change is urgently needed, according to the UN. • Key habitats for threatened species are not being adequately protected, and the number of species facing extinction is growing by the day, especially in developing countries. • The world is on track to meet the drinking water target, though safe water supply remains a challenge in many parts of the world, especially in rural areas. • With half the population of developing regions without sanitation, the 2015 target is out of reach, according to the UN. • Slum improvements, though considerable, are failing to keep pace with the growing ranks of the urban poor, as discussed in Chapter 13.
<p>Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aid from developed countries continues to rise, but relatively little of it is reaching sub-Saharan Africa.

CORE AND PERIPHERY

The relationship between developed countries and developing countries is often described as a north-south split, because most of the developed countries are north of the equator, whereas many developing countries are south. Immanuel Wallerstein, a U.S. social scientist, depicted the relationship between developed and developing countries as one of “core” and “periphery.” According to Wallerstein’s world-systems analysis, in an increasingly unified world economy, developed countries form an inner core area, whereas developing countries occupy peripheral locations. As a result, global development patterns are sometimes referred to as **uneven development**, with countries at the core benefiting at the expense of countries on the periphery.

The unorthodox north polar projection in Figure 9-68 emphasizes the central role that developed countries play in the world economy. North America, Europe, and Japan account for a high percentage of the world’s economic activity and wealth. Developing countries in the periphery have less access to the world centers of consumption, communications, wealth, and power, which are clustered in the core.

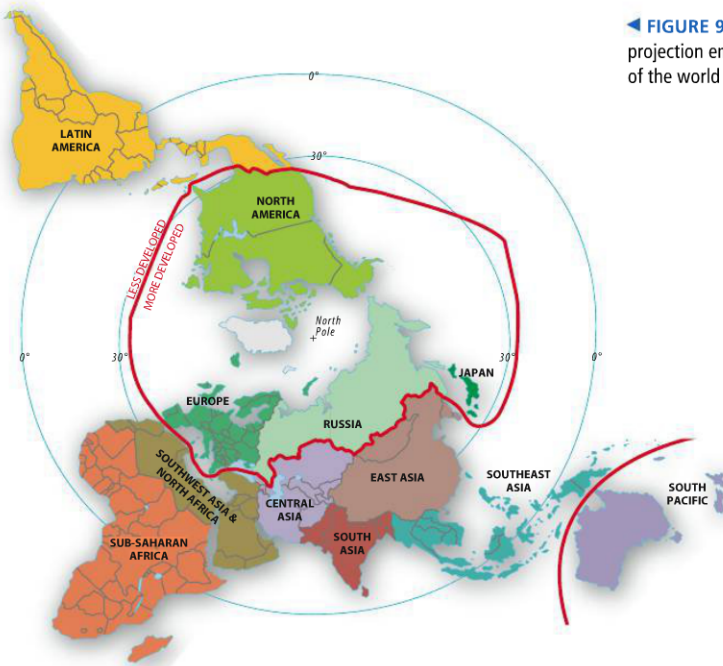
The unorthodox projection in Figure 9-60 also shows connections between particular core and periphery regions. The development prospects of Latin America are tied to governments and businesses primarily in North America, those of Africa and Eastern Europe to Western

Europe, and those of Asia to Japan and to a lesser extent Europe and North America. As countries like China, India, and Brazil develop, relationships between core and periphery are changing, and the line between core and periphery may need to be redrawn.

CHECK-IN: KEY ISSUE 4

Why Do Countries Face Obstacles to Development?

- ✓ **Two paths to development are self-sufficiency and international trade; international trade has become more important in recent decades.**
- ✓ **Development is financed through foreign direct investment by corporations and loans by governments and international organizations.**
- ✓ **The severe recession of the early twenty-first century has posed challenges to developing countries and developed countries to continue development policies.**
- ✓ **Progress has been made in achieving development in most regions.**



◀ **FIGURE 9-68 CORE AND PERIPHERY** This unorthodox world map projection emphasizes the central role that developed countries play at the core of the world economy.

Summary and Review

KEY ISSUE 1

Why Does Development Vary among Countries?

Development is the process by which the material conditions of a country's people are improved. The world is divided into developed countries and developing ones. Developed and developing countries can be compared according to a number of indicators.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.1.1: Identify the HDI standard of living factor.

- The HDI, which measures the level of development of each country, is calculated by combining three measures.
- Standard of living is measured through gross national income per capita at purchasing power parity.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.1.2: Identify the HDI health factor.

- The HDI health factor is life expectancy at birth.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.1.3: Identify the HDI access to knowledge factor.

- The HDI knowledge factors are years of schooling and expected years of schooling.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.1.4: Describe variations in level of development within countries and regions.

- Some developing countries, especially larger ones, have large variations among regions in level of development.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 9.1: In what ways would you expect the severe recession of the early twenty-first century to change some of the development indicators?

GOOGLE EARTH 9.1: Vehicle ownership rates are extremely low in Kenya, yet if you zoom into the center of Nairobi, what is the volume of traffic on the roads?



KEY ISSUE 2

Why Does Development Vary by Gender?

The UN has not found a single country in the world where the women are treated as well as the men.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.2.1: Describe the UN's measures of gender inequality.

- The GII measures the extent of gender inequality.
- The GII combines measures of empowerment, labor force participation, and reproductive rights.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.2.2: Describe changes since the 1990s in gender inequality.

- Gender inequality has declined in most countries since 1990, although not in the United States.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 9.2: Review the major economic, social, and demographic characteristics that contribute to a country's level of development. Which indicators can vary significantly by gender within countries and between countries at various levels of development? Why?

GOOGLE EARTH 9.2: Women comprise nearly one-half of Sweden's Parliament. Fly to Parliament of Sweden, Stockholm. What is the distinctive physical site on which the Parliament is located?



Key Terms

Active solar energy systems (p. 326) Solar energy systems that collect energy through the use of mechanical devices such as photovoltaic cells or flat-plate collectors.

Adolescent fertility rate (p. 312) The number of births per 1,000 women ages 15 to 19.

Biomass fuel (p. 324) Fuel that derives from plant material and animal waste.

Breeder reactor (p. 323) A nuclear power plant that creates its own fuel from plutonium.

Demand (p. 314) The quantity of something that consumers are willing and able to buy.

Developed country (more developed country [MDC] or relatively developed country) (p. 300) A country that has progressed relatively far along a continuum of development.

Developing country (less developed country [LDC]) (p. 300) A country that is at a relatively early stage in the process of economic development.

Development (p. 300) A process of improvement in the material conditions of people through diffusion of knowledge and technology.

Fair trade (p. 336) An alternative to international trade that emphasizes small business and worker-owned and democratically run

KEY ISSUE 3

Why Are Energy Resources Important for Development?

Development depends on abundant low-cost energy.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.3.1: Explain the principal sources of demand for fossil fuels.

- Most energy is supplied by three fossil fuels: coal, petroleum, and natural gas.
- Developed countries and developing countries each consume approximately half of the world's energy.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.3.2: Describe the distribution of production of the three fossil fuels.

- Fossil fuels are not distributed uniformly around the world, and they are nonrenewable sources of energy.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.3.3: Analyze the distribution of reserves of fossil fuels and differentiate between proven and potential reserves.

- Reserves are divided into proven (fields already discovered) and potential (fields thought to exist).
- Proven reserves are not distributed uniformly.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.3.4: Describe the role of OPEC and changes in the price and availability of petroleum.

- Much of the world's petroleum reserves are located in countries that belong to OPEC.
- The United States has increased its dependence on petroleum imported from neighbors in the Western Hemisphere.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.3.5: Describe the distribution of nuclear energy and challenges in using it.

- Nuclear is the principal source of energy other than the three fossil fuels in the United States and a couple dozen other countries.
- Numerous problems limit the use of nuclear power, including threat of accidents, disposal of waste, use in making weapons, limited reserves, and high costs.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.3.6: Identify challenges to increasing the use of alternative energy sources.

- Leading renewable energy sources include biomass, hydroelectric, geothermal, wind, and solar.

LEARNING OUTCOME 9.3.7: Compare and contrast between passive and active solar energy.

- Active solar energy captures energy with special devices, such as photovoltaic cells, whereas passive solar energy does not.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 9.3: The average American consumes approximately 500 gallons of gas a year in his or her car. Does your family use more or less than the average? To answer this, you need to know how many miles your or your family's vehicles are driven and the vehicles' fuel efficiency (average miles per gallon). The fuel efficiency can be found by Googling "fuel efficiency" plus the vehicle model and year.

GOOGLE EARTH 9.3: If you fly to 1301 W 120 St., Chicago, what type of energy is being supplied by the large rectangular feature?



cooperatives and requires employers to pay workers fair wages, permit union organization, and comply with minimum environmental and safety standards.

Female labor force participation rate (p. 311) The percentage of women holding full-time jobs outside the home.

Fission (p. 322) The splitting of an atomic nucleus to release energy.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) (p. 332) Investment made by a foreign company in the economy of another country.

Fossil fuel (p. 314) An energy source formed from the residue of plants and animals buried millions of years ago.

Fracking (hydraulic fracturing) (p. 319) The pumping of water at high pressure to break apart rocks in order to release natural gas.

Fusion (p. 325) Creation of energy by joining the nuclei of two hydrogen atoms to form helium.

Gender Inequality Index (GII) (p. 310) A measure of the extent of each country's gender inequality.

Geothermal energy (p. 325) Energy from steam or hot water produced from hot or molten underground rocks.

Gross domestic product (GDP) (p. 302) The value of the total output of goods and services produced in a country in a given time period (normally one year).

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Gross national income (GNI) (p. 302) The value of the output of goods and services produced in a country in a year, including money that leaves and enters the country.

Housing bubble (p. 335) A rapid increase in the value of houses followed by a sharp decline in their value.

Human Development Index (HDI) (p. 301) An indicator of the level of development for each country, constructed by the United Nations, that is based on income, literacy, education, and life expectancy.

Hydroelectric power (p. 324) Power generated from moving water.

Inequality-adjusted HDI (IHDI) (p. 303) Modification of the HDI to account for inequality within a country.

Literacy rate (p. 307) The percentage of a country's people who can read and write.

Maternal mortality ratio (p. 312) The number of women who die giving birth per 100,000 births.

Microfinance (p. 337) Provision of small loans and other financial services to individuals and small businesses in developing countries.

Millennium Development Goals (p. 339) Eight international development goals that all members of the United Nations have agreed to achieve by 2015.