

**Defining Level of Development**

Resources found at the United Nations Development Programme website for [Indices and Data for Development Indicators](#) will help students understand these concepts.

Define the terms	Examples of countries by category
<p><b>Human Development Index</b>            What factors are included in determining either high or low levels of HDI?             How does this classification system help in determining the level of development in a country?             How is it different than just looking at GDP or levels of industrialization?</p>	<p>Very High Human Development</p> <hr/> <p>High Human Development</p> <hr/> <p>Medium Human Development</p> <hr/> <p>Low Human Development</p>
Economic Development Terms	Countries that could be in this category
<p><b>More Developed</b>            The term <b>developed country</b> is used to describe countries that have a high level of development according to some criteria. Which criteria, and which countries are classified as being developed, is an issue open to fierce debate. Economic criteria such as per capita income have dominated the discussion. Countries with high <u>gross domestic product</u> (GDP) per capita would thus be described as developed countries. Another economic criterion is industrialization; countries in which the <i>tertiary</i> and <i>quaternary</i> sectors of industry dominate would thus be described as developed. Recently another measure, the <u>Human Development Index</u> (HDI), which combines national income with other measures such as life expectancy and education has become prominent. This criterion would define developed countries as those with a very high (HDI) rating.</p>	
<p><b>Newly Industrialized</b>            Countries with a lower <u>GDP</u> relative to the developed world but with a higher level of <u>GDP growth</u>. Newly industrialized countries are characterized by a great deal of industry and/or international trade. Newly industrialized countries have relatively (though not entirely) stable governments.</p>	
<p><b>Less Developed</b>            A country with lower <u>GDP</u> relative to other countries. Less developed countries are characterized by little industry and sometimes a comparatively high dependence on foreign aid or provide a source for foreign investment or use of resources. They often are major borrowers from organizations such as the <i>World Bank</i>.</p>	
<p><b>Which is a more accurate in assessing development – Economic development using GDP or the HDI index? Support your answer with evidence.</b></p>	