

Measuring and Mapping Human Wellbeing



There are generally two ways in which information about human wellbeing can be measured and reported :

Quantitative data information about quantities, i.e. numbers. Examples of quantitative data would be the numbers of fingers you have or the number of leaves on a tree. **If it can be measured in numbers, then it is quantitative data.**

Qualitative data information about the quality of something, what it is like. Qualitative data can't be measured with numbers for example, the softness of someone's skin or the colour of leaves on a tree. **If it can't be measured in numbers it is qualitative data.**

Below is a list of information. Your task is to determine whether the information is **quantitative or qualitative** data:

Data	Quantitative ✓	Qualitative ✓
The number of mobile phones in your household		
The colour of grass		
The loudness of a rock concert		
Your heartbeat		
Your favourite genre of music		
Your house is a modernist style of architecture		
Your football's team's win/loss ratio		



Discuss your answers with the class.

Below is a list of data that could be useful in measuring human wellbeing. Decide whether each item is **quantitative or qualitative**:

Data	Quantitative ✓	Qualitative ✓
Opportunities for education		
Gross National Product per capita		
Number of internet connections per 1,000 people		
Access to leisure facilities		
Level of unemployment		
Energy consumption per capita		
Type of government		



Again, you might want to discuss your responses as a class.

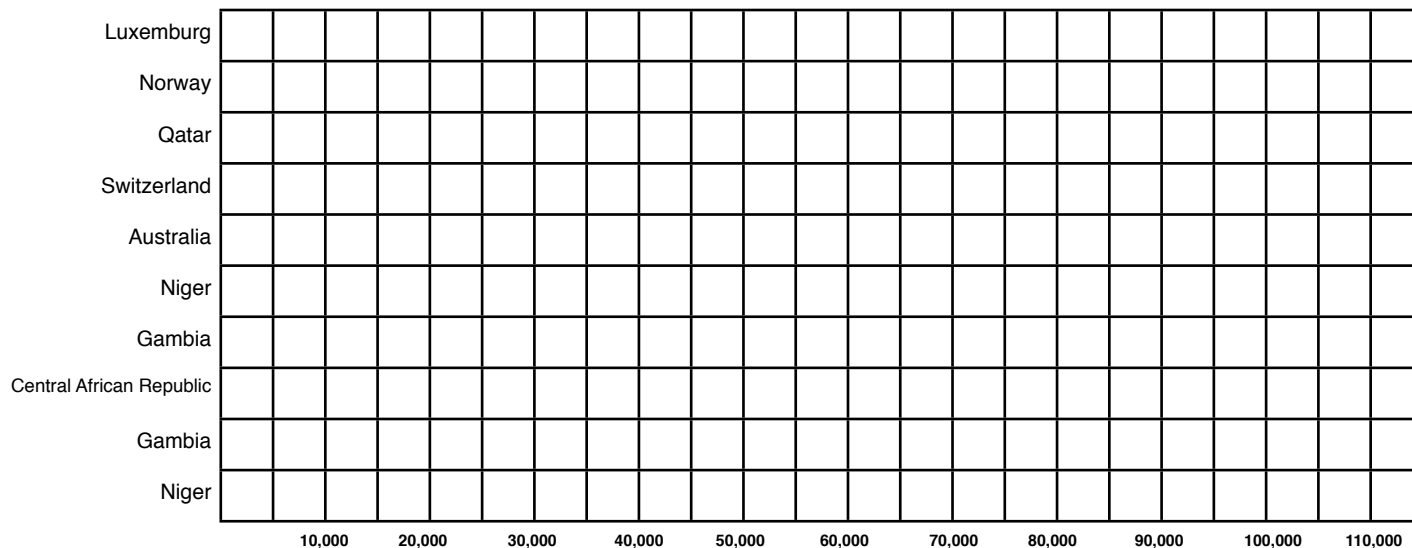
Quantitative Indicators of Development

Gross National Product is the total value of good and services produced in a country in a given year plus the total income received from other countries minus payment made to other countries. **GNP per capita** is found by dividing the GNP by a country's population. GNP per capita is often used to compare the wellbeing of different countries.

Use the list of the five richest countries and the five poorest countries, based on GDP per capita, to construct a horizontal bar graph in the space provided:

World's five richest countries (GNP per capita) 2014 <i>Source - World Bank</i>			World's five poorest countries (GNP per capita) 2014 <i>Source - World Bank</i>		
Rank	Country	GNP per capita (US\$)	Rank	Country	GNP per capita (US\$)
1	Luxembourg	110,665	5	Malawi	253
2	Norway	97,363	4	Burundi	295
3	Qatar	93,397	3	Central African Republic	378
4	Switzerland	84,733	2	Gambia	422
5	Australia	61,887	1	Niger	440

TITLE:



What difficulty did you have in graphing the information?

Using figures from the graph or table, write a statement comparing the GNP per capita of the five richest countries and the five poorest countries.

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The Human Development Index (HDI) is a quantitative indicator of development used to measure the wellbeing of a country. It was developed to overcome the shortfalls of other economic measurements like GNP that only take into account finance. The HDI takes into account a country's income per capita, life expectancy and education. Countries are divided into four categories of human development -

1. Very high
2. High
3. Medium
4. Low

Select **three** countries to investigate (take countries from different categories of human development, i.e. more developed, less developed and least developed) and provide a general overview of each HDI category as well as looking at specific aspects of each of -



- Health
- Education
- Poverty (include GDP per Capita)
- Human Security
- Two other topics of your choice

Useful websites -

1. List of where countries rank on HDI:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_Human_Development_Index#Very_high_human_development Search



2. CIA world Fact book website:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/> Search



3. Another useful website that provides interactive maps of various indicators of development that you might want to look at is StatPlanet:

<http://www.sacmeq.org/interactive-maps/statplanet/StatPlanet.html> Search

