



## 2008 Statistical Update

### Romania

#### The Human Development Index - going beyond income

Each year since 1990 the Human Development Report Office has published the human development index (HDI) which looks beyond GDP to a broader definition of well-being. The HDI provides a composite measure of three dimensions of human development: living a long and healthy life (measured by life expectancy), being educated (measured by adult literacy and enrolment at the primary, secondary and tertiary level) and having a decent standard of living (measured by purchasing power parity, PPP, income). The index is not in any sense a comprehensive measure of human development. It does not, for example, include important indicators such as gender or income inequality and more difficult to measure indicators like respect for human rights and political freedoms. What it does provide is a broadened prism for viewing human progress and the complex relationship between income and well-being.

The HDI for Romania is 0.825, which gives the country a rank of 62<sup>nd</sup> out of 179 countries with data (Table 1).

Table 1: Romania's human development index 2006 and underlying indicators in comparison with selected countries.

HDI 2006	value	Life expectancy at birth (years) 2006	Adult literacy rate (% ages 15 and above) 2006	Combined secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio (%) 2006	primary, GDP per capita (PPP 2006 US\$)
1. Iceland (0.968)	1. (82.4)	Japan 1. (100.0)	Georgia 1. (100.0)	1. Australia (114.2)	1. Luxembourg (77,089)
60. Saint Kitts and Nevis (0.830)	77. (72.3)	Latvia 77. (72.3)	Uruguay 27. (97.8)	57. Philippines (79.6)	62. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (11,115)
61. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (0.826)	78. (72.2)	Jordan 78. (72.2)	Argentina 28. (97.6)	58. Saint Lucia (79.3)	63. Mauritius (10,571)
62. Romania (0.825)	79. (72.2)	Romania 79. (72.2)	Romania 29. (97.6)	59. Romania (79.2)	64. Romania (10,433)
63. Malaysia (0.823)	80. (72.0)	Brazil 80. (72.0)	Cyprus 30. (97.6)	60. Mongolia (79.0)	65. Bulgaria (10,295)
64. Montenegro	81.	81.	31.	61. Jordan (78.7)	66. Uruguay



(0.822)	Seychelles (72.0)	Mongolia (97.4)	(10,203)
179. Sierra Leone (0.329)	179. Swaziland (40.2)	147. Mali (22.9)	179. Djibouti (25.5)
			178. Congo (Democratic Republic of the) (281)

NB Changes in HDI values and ranks between two reports result from revisions to data for each of the HDI's three components (4 indicators) as well as real changes in the level of human development in different countries. The data revisions this year – especially of the GDP per capita (PPP US\$) series – have resulted in more substantial apparent movements in the HDI than is normally the case between successive publications. For these reasons, HDI values and rankings are not comparable across different publications.

## Human poverty in Romania: focusing on the most deprived in multiple dimensions of poverty

The HDI measures the average progress of a country in human development. The Human Poverty Index for developing countries (HPI-1), focuses on the proportion of people below a threshold level in the same dimensions of human development as the human development index - living a long and healthy life, having access to education, and a decent standard of living. By looking beyond income deprivation, the HPI-1 represents a multi-dimensional alternative to the \$1.25 a day (PPP US\$) poverty measure.

The HPI-1 value of 5.8 % for Romania, ranks 20<sup>th</sup> among 135 developing countries for which the index has been calculated.

The HPI-1 measures severe deprivation in health by the proportion of people who are not expected to survive age 40. Education is measured by the adult illiteracy rate. And a decent standard of living is measured by the underweighted average of people without access to an improved water source and the proportion of children under age 5 who are underweight for their age. Table 2 shows the values for these variables for Romania and compares them to other countries.

Table 2: Selected indicators of human poverty for Romania

Human Poverty Index 2006	Probability of not surviving past age 40 (%) 2005	Adult illiteracy rate (%ages 15 and older) 2006	People access to improved source (%)2006	without Children to an underweight for ages 0-5) 2006
1. Czech	1. Singapore (1.8)	1. Cuba (0.2)	1. Bosnia	and 1. Croatia (1)



Republic (1.7)				Herzegovina (1)		
18. Georgia (5.5)	20. Tunisia (4.6)	16. Uruguay (2.2)	49. India (11)	11. Russian Federation (3)		
19. Ukraine (5.6)	21. Argentina (4.9)	17. Argentina (2.4)	50. China (12)	12. Georgia (3)		
20. Romania (5.8)	22. Romania (5.0)	18. Romania (2.4)	51. Romania (12)	13. Romania (3)		
21. Moldova (6.0)	23. Mauritius (5.1)	19. Mongolia (2.6)	52. Uzbekistan (12)	14. Singapore (3)		
22. Jordan (6.1)	24. Occupied Palestinian Territories (5.2)	20. Maldives (3.0)	53. Gabon (13)	15. Kyrgyzstan (3)		
135. Afghanistan (60.2)	135. Zimbabwe (57.4)	127. Mali (77.1)	123. Afghanistan (78)	135. Bangladesh (48)		

## Building the capabilities of women

The HDI measures average achievements in a country, but it does not incorporate the degree of gender imbalance in these achievements. The gender-related development index (GDI), introduced in Human Development Report 1995, measures achievements in the same dimensions using the same indicators as the HDI but captures inequalities in achievement between women and men. It is simply the HDI adjusted downward for gender inequality. The greater the gender disparity in basic human development, the lower is a country's GDI relative to its HDI.

To measure the impact of gender inequalities on human development achievement, Romania's GDI value, 0.825 can be compared to its HDI value of 0.825. Its GDI value is 100.0% of its HDI value. Out of the 157 countries with both HDI and GDI values, one country has a better ratio than Romania's.

Table 3 shows how Romania's ratio of GDI to HDI compares to other countries, and also shows its values for selected underlying indicators in the calculation of the GDI.

Table 3: The GDI compared to the HDI – a measure of gender disparity

GDI as % of HDI	Life expectancy at birth (years) 2006	Adult literacy rate (% ages 15 and older) 2006	Female as % male	Combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio 2006	Female as % male
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1. Sweden (99.9%)	1. Russian Federation (123.1%)	1. Lesotho (122.5%)	1. United Arab Emirates (120.2%)
2. Romania (99.9%)	20. Guatemala (110.6%)	45. Paraguay (98.5%)	35. Slovakia (106.7%)
3. Lithuania (99.9%)	21. Argentina (110.5%)	46. Croatia (98.5%)	36. Sri Lanka (106.5%)
4. Vanuatu (99.9%)	22. Romania (110.4%)	47. Romania (98.5%)	37. Romania (106.5%)
5. Bahamas (99.9%)	23. Bulgaria (110.3%)	48. Namibia (98.3%)	38. Occupied Palestinian Territories (106.3%)
6. Kenya (99.9%)	24. Slovenia (110.1%)	49. United Arab Emirates (98.3%)	39. Italy (106.3%)
157. Occupied Palestinian Territories (92.8%)	157. Niger (96.9%)	135. Chad (31.3%)	157. Chad (60.4%)

The gender empowerment measure (GEM) reveals whether women take an active part in economic and political life. It tracks the share of seats in parliament held by women; of female legislators, senior officials and managers; and of female professional and technical workers—and the gender disparity in earned income, reflecting economic independence. Differing from the GDI, the GEM exposes inequality in opportunities in selected areas.

Romania ranks 80<sup>th</sup> out of 108 countries in the GEM, with a value of 0.500.