

# Users guide

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## Tables

The tables are numbered by section. Countries are listed alphabetically by subregion (Sub-Saharan Africa and North Africa). Indicators are shown for the most recent year or period for which data are available and, in most tables, for an earlier year or period (usually 1980, 1990, or 1995). Time-series data are available on the Africa Development Indicators—Multiple User CD-ROM and Africa Development Indicators Online. The term *country*, used interchangeably with *economy*, does not imply political independence but refers to any territory for which authorities report separate social or economic statistics. Known deviations from standard definitions or breaks in comparability over time or across countries are noted in the tables. When available data are deemed too weak to provide reliable measures of levels and trends or do not adequately adhere to international standards, the data are not shown.

## Aggregate measure for region and subclassifications

The aggregates are based on the World Bank's regional classification for Sub-Saharan Africa and North Africa, which may differ from common geographic usage. Former Spanish Sahara is not included in any aggregates.

## Statistics

Data are shown for economies as they were constituted in 2008, and historical data are revised to reflect current political arrangements. Exceptions are noted in the tables. Consistent time-series data for 1961–2009 are available on the Africa Development Indicators—Multiple User CD-ROM and Africa Development Indicators Online. Data for some indicators, including macroeconomic statistics, Doing Business indicators, investment climate indicators, governance and

anticorruption indicators, and Country Policy and Institutional Assessment ratings are provided for 2010.

## Data consistency, reliability, and comparability

Considerable effort has been made to harmonize the data, but full comparability cannot be assured, and care must be taken in interpreting indicators. Many factors affect data availability, comparability, and reliability. Data coverage may be incomplete because of circumstances affecting the collection and reporting of data, such as conflicts. Although drawn from sources thought to be the most authoritative, data should be construed as indicating trends and characterizing differences across economies. Discrepancies in data presented in earlier editions of *Africa Development Indicators* reflect updates from countries as well as revisions to historical series and changes in methodology. Readers are therefore advised not to compare data series between editions or across World Bank publications.

## Classification of economies

For operational and analytical purposes the World Bank's main criterion for classifying economies is gross national income (GNI) per capita (calculated by the *World Bank Atlas* method; box 1). Every economy is classified as low income, middle income (subdivided into lower middle and upper middle), or high income (table 1). Low- and middle-income economies are sometimes referred to as developing economies. The term is used for convenience; it is not intended to imply that all economies in the group are experiencing similar development or that other economies have reached a preferred or final stage of development. Classification by income does not necessarily reflect development status. Because GNI per capita changes over time, the

In calculating GNI and GNI per capita in U.S. dollars for certain operational purposes, the *World Bank Atlas* conversion factor is used to reduce the impact of exchange rate fluctuations in cross-country comparison of national incomes. The *World Bank Atlas* conversion factor for any year is the average of the official exchange rate or alternative conversion factor for that year and the two preceding, adjusted for the difference between the rate of inflation in the country and that in Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the euro area. A country's inflation rate is measured by the change in its GDP deflator.

The inflation rate for Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the euro area, representing international inflation, is measured by the change in the "special drawing rights (SDR) deflator." The SDR is the International Monetary Fund's unit of account and is calculated as a weighted

average of these countries' GDP deflators in SDR terms, the weights being the amount of each country's currency in one SDR unit. Weights vary over time because both the composition of the SDR and the relative exchange rates for each currency change. The SDR deflator is calculated in SDR terms first and then converted to U.S. dollars using the SDR-to-dollar *World Bank Atlas* conversion factor. The conversion factor is then applied to a country's GNI. The resulting GNI in U.S. dollars is divided by the midyear population for the latest of the three years to derive GNI per capita.

When official exchange rates are deemed unreliable or unrepresentative of the effective exchange rate during a period, an alternative estimate of the exchange rate is used in the *World Bank Atlas* formula below.

The following formulas describe the procedures for computing the conversion factor for year  $t$ :

$$e_t^* = \frac{1}{3} \left[ e_{t-2} \left( \frac{p_t}{p_{t-2}} / \frac{p_t^{SS}}{p_{t-2}^{SS}} \right) + e_{t-1} \left( \frac{p_t}{p_{t-1}} / \frac{p_t^{SS}}{p_{t-1}^{SS}} \right) + e_t \right]$$

and for calculating per capita GNI in U.S. dollars for year  $t$ :

$$Y_t^{\$} = \left( \frac{Y_t}{N_t} \right) / e_t^*$$

where  $e_t^*$  is the *World Bank Atlas* conversion factor (national currency to the U.S. dollar) for year  $t$ ,  $e_t$  is the average annual exchange rate (national currency to the U.S. dollar) for year  $t$ ,  $p_t$  is the GDP deflator for year  $t$ ,  $p_t^{SS}$  is the SDR deflator in U.S. dollar terms for year  $t$ ,  $Y_t^{\$}$  is current GNI per capita in U.S. dollars in year  $t$ ,  $Y_t$  is current GNI (local currency) for year  $t$ , and  $N_t$  is midyear population for year  $t$ .

country composition of income groups may change from one edition of *Africa Development Indicators* to the next. Once the classification is fixed for an edition, based on GNI per capita in the most recent year for which data are available (2008 in this edition), all historical data are based on the same country grouping. Low-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of \$995 or less in 2008. Middle-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of more than \$995 but less than \$12,126. Lower middle-income and upper middle-income economies are separated at a GNI per capita of \$3,945. High-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of \$12,126 or more.

#### Alternative conversion factors

The World Bank systematically assesses the appropriateness of official exchange rates as conversion factors. An alternative conversion factor is used when the official exchange rate is judged to diverge by an exceptionally large margin from the rate effectively applied to domestic transactions of foreign currencies and traded products. This applies to only a small number of countries. Alternative conversion factors are used in the *Atlas* methodology

and elsewhere in *Africa Development Indicators* as single-year conversion factors.

#### Symbols

..	means that data are not available or that aggregates cannot be calculated because of missing data in the years shown.
\$	means current U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.
<	means less than
>	means greater than
0 or 0.0	means zero or small enough that the number would round to zero at the displayed number of decimal places.

#### Data presentation conventions

A blank means not applicable or, for an aggregate, not analytically meaningful.

A billion is 1,000 million.

Growth rates are in real terms, unless otherwise specified.

**The cutoff date for data is May 2011. However, the database may have more recent data by the time of publication.**

**Table 1** World Bank classification of economies, 2009 (GNI per capita)

<b>Low income</b>	<b>Lower middle income</b>	<b>Upper middle income</b>	<b>High income</b>
<b>\$995 or less</b>	<b>\$996–\$3,945</b>	<b>\$3,946–\$12,195</b>	<b>\$12,196 or more</b>
Benin	Algeria	Botswana	Equatorial Guinea
Burkina Faso	Angola	Gabon	
Burundi	Cameroon	Libya	
Central African Republic	Cape Verde	Mauritius	
Chad	Congo, Rep.	Seychelles	
Comoros	Djibouti	South Africa	
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Egypt, Arab Rep.		
Côte d'Ivoire	Lesotho		
Eritrea	Morocco		
Ethiopia	Namibia		
Gambia, The	Sudan		
Ghana	Swaziland		
Guinea	Tunisia		
Guinea-Bissau			
Kenya			
Liberia			
Madagascar			
Malawi			
Mali			
Mauritania			
Mozambique			
Niger			
Nigeria			
Rwanda			
São Tomé and Príncipe			
Senegal			
Sierra Leone			
Somalia			
Tanzania			
Togo			
Uganda			
Zambia			
Zimbabwe			

Source: World Bank.