

# Classification of Economies

**Table 1 Classification of economies by income and region, July 2003**

		Sub-Saharan Africa		Asia		Europe and Central Asia		Middle East and North Africa		
Income group	Subgroup	East and Southern Africa	West Africa	East Asia and Pacific	South Asia	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	Rest of Europe	Middle East	North Africa	Americas
<i>Low-income</i>		Angola Burundi Comoros Congo, Dem. Rep. Eritrea Ethiopia Kenya Lesotho Madagascar Malawi Mozambique Rwanda Somalia Sudan Tanzania Uganda Zambia Zimbabwe	Benin Burkina Faso Cameroon Central African Republic Chad Congo, Rep. Côte d'Ivoire Equatorial Guinea Gambia, The Ghana Guinea Guinea-Bissau Liberia Mali Mauritania Niger Nigeria São Tomé and Príncipe Senegal Sierra Leone Togo	Cambodia Indonesia Korea, Dem. Rep. Lao PDR Mongolia Myanmar Papua New Guinea Solomon Islands Timor-Leste Vietnam	Afghanistan Bangladesh Bhutan India Nepal Pakistan	Azerbaijan Georgia Kyrgyz Republic Moldova Tajikistan Uzbekistan		Yemen, Rep. of		Haiti Nicaragua
<i>Middle-income</i>	<i>Lower</i>	Namibia South Africa Swaziland	Cape Verde	China Fiji Kiribati Marshall Islands Micronesia, Fed. Sts. Philippines Samoa Thailand Tonga Vanuatu	Maldives Sri Lanka	Albania Armenia Belarus Bosnia and Herzegovina Bulgaria Kazakhstan Macedonia, FYR <sup>a</sup> Romania Russian Federation Serbia and Montenegro Turkmenistan Ukraine	Turkey	Iran, Islamic Rep. Iraq Jordan Syrian Arab Republic West Bank and Gaza	Algeria Djibouti Egypt, Arab Rep. Morocco Tunisia	Bolivia Brazil Cuba Dominican Republic Ecuador El Salvador Guatemala Guyana Honduras Jamaica Paraguay Peru St. Vincent and the Grenadines Suriname
	<i>Upper</i>	Botswana Mauritius Mayotte Seychelles	Gabon	American Samoa Malaysia N. Mariana Islands Palau		Croatia Czech Republic Estonia Hungary Latvia Lithuania Poland Slovak Republic		Lebanon Oman Saudi Arabia	Libya	Argentina Belize Chile Costa Rica Dominica Grenada Mexico Panama St. Kitts and Nevis St. Lucia Trinidad and Tobago Uruguay Venezuela, RB
<i>Subtotal</i>	152	25	23	24	8	26	1	9	6	30

**Table 1 Classification of economies by income and region, July 2003 (continued)**

Income group	Subgroup	Sub-Saharan Africa		Asia		Europe and Central Asia		Middle East and North Africa		Americas
		East and Southern Africa	West Africa	East Asia and Pacific	South Asia	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	Rest of Europe	Middle East	North Africa	
High-income	OECD			Australia Japan Korea, Rep. New Zealand			Austria Belgium Denmark Finland France <sup>b</sup> Germany Greece Iceland Ireland Italy Luxembourg Netherlands Norway Portugal Spain Sweden Switzerland United Kingdom			Canada United States
	Non-OECD			Brunei French Polynesia Guam Hong Kong, China <sup>c</sup> Macao, China <sup>d</sup> New Caledonia Singapore Taiwan, China		Slovenia	Andorra Channel Islands Cyprus Faeroe Islands Greenland Isle of Man Liechtenstein Monaco San Marino	Bahrain Israel Kuwait Qatar United Arab Emirates	Malta	Antigua and Barbuda Aruba Bahamas, The Barbados Bermuda Cayman Islands Netherlands Antilles Puerto Rico Virgin Islands (U.S.)
Total	209	25	23	36	8	27	28	14	7	41

a. Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

b. The French overseas departments French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Réunion are included in France.

c. On 1 July 1997 China resumed its exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong.

d. On 20 December 1999 China resumed its exercise of sovereignty over Macao.

Source: World Bank data.

#### Definitions of groups

For operational and analytical purposes, the World Bank's main criterion for classifying economies is gross national income (GNI) per capita. Every economy is classified as low income, middle income (subdivided into lower middle and upper middle), or high income. Other analytical groups, based on geographic regions and levels of external debt, are also used.

Low-income and middle-income economies are sometimes referred to as developing economies. The use of the term is convenient; 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.

This table classifies all World Bank member economies, and all other economies with populations of more than 30,000. Economies are divided among income groups according to 2002 GNI per capita, calculated using the World Bank Atlas method. The groups are: low income, \$735 or less; lower middle income, \$736–2,935; upper middle income, \$2,936–9,075; and high income, \$9,076 or more.

**Table 2 Classification of economies by income and indebtedness, July 2003**

Income group	Sub-group	Severely indebted	Moderately indebted	Less indebted	Not classified by indebtedness	
<i>Low-income</i>		Afghanistan Angola Benin Burkina Faso Burundi Central African Republic Chad Comoros Congo, Dem. Rep. Congo, Rep. Côte d'Ivoire Ethiopia Gambia, The Guinea Guinea-Bissau Indonesia Kyrgyz Republic Lao PDR Liberia Madagascar Malawi Mauritania Moldova Myanmar Nicaragua Niger Nigeria Pakistan Rwanda São Tomé and Príncipe Sierra Leone Somalia Sudan Tajikistan Zambia	Bhutan Cambodia Cameroon Ghana Haiti Kenya Mali Mongolia Papua New Guinea Senegal Tanzania Togo Uganda Uzbekistan Zimbabwe	Azerbaijan Bangladesh Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Georgia India Korea, Dem. Rep. Lesotho Mozambique Nepal Solomon Islands Vietnam Yemen, Rep.	Timor-Leste	
<i>Middle-income</i>	<i>Lower</i>	Brazil Cuba Ecuador Guyana Iraq Jordan Peru Serbia and Montenegro Syrian Arab Republic	Bolivia Bulgaria Colombia Honduras Jamaica Kazakhstan Philippines Russian Federation Samoa St. Vincent and the Grenadines Thailand Tunisia Turkey Turkmenistan	Albania Algeria Armenia Belarus Bosnia and Herzegovina Cape Verde China Djibouti Dominican Republic Egypt, Arab Rep. El Salvador Fiji Guatemala Iran, Islamic Rep.	Kiribati Macedonia, FYR <sup>a</sup> Maldives Morocco Namibia Paraguay Romania South Africa Sri Lanka Suriname Swaziland Tonga Ukraine Vanuatu	Marshall Islands Micronesia, Fed. Sts. West Bank and Gaza
	<i>Upper</i>	Argentina Belize Gabon Lebanon Panama Uruguay	Chile Croatia Dominica Estonia Grenada Hungary Latvia Malaysia Slovak Republic St. Kitts and Nevis	Botswana Costa Rica Czech Republic Libya Lithuania Mauritius Mexico Oman Poland Saudi Arabia Seychelles	St. Lucia Trinidad and Tobago Venezuela, RB	American Samoa Mayotte N. Mariana Islands Palau

Table 2 Classification of economies by income and indebtedness, July 2003 (continued)

Income group	Sub-group	Severely indebted	Moderately indebted	Less indebted	Not classified by indebtedness
High-income	OECD				Australia Austria Belgium Canada Denmark Finland France <sup>b</sup> Germany Greece Iceland Ireland Italy Japan
	Non-OECD				Andorra Antigua and Barbuda Aruba Bahamas, The Bahrain Barbados Bermuda Brunei Cayman Islands Channel Islands Cyprus Faeroe Islands French Polynesia Greenland Guam Hong Kong, China <sup>d</sup>
					Korea, Rep. Luxembourg Netherlands New Zealand Norway Portugal Spain Sweden Switzerland United Kingdom United States  Isle of Man Israel Kuwait Liechtenstein Macao, China <sup>c</sup> Malta Monaco Netherlands Antilles New Caledonia Puerto Rico Qatar San Marino Singapore Slovenia Taiwan, China United Arab Emirates Virgin Islands (U.S.)
Total	209	50	39	55	65

a. Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

b. The French overseas departments French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Réunion are included in France.

c. On 20 December 1999 China resumed its exercise of sovereignty over Macao.

d. On 1 July 1997 China resumed its exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong.

Source: World Bank data.

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Standard World Bank definitions of severe and moderate indebtedness are used to classify economies in this table.

*Severely indebted* means either: present value of debt service to GNI exceeds 80 percent or present value of debt service to exports exceeds 220 percent. *Moderately indebted* means

either of the two key ratios exceeds 60 percent of, but does not reach, the critical levels. For economies that do not report detailed debt statistics to the World Bank Debtor Reporting System (DRS), present-value calculation is not possible.

Instead, the following methodology is used to classify the non-DRS economies. *Severely indebted* means three of four key ratios (averaged over 1999–2001) are above critical levels: debt to GNI (50 percent); debt to exports (275 percent); debt service to exports (30 percent); and interest to exports (20 percent). *Moderately indebted* means three of the four key ratios exceed 60 percent of, but do not reach, the critical levels. All other classified low- and middle-income economies are listed as *less indebted*.

