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Global Peace Index Rankings

The table below provides the GPI rankings for the 140 countries analysed in 2008 and the 121 countries analysed in 2007, as well as year-on-year comparison. Countries most at peace are ranked first. **A lower score indicates a more peaceful country.** You can click on a country to see the detail of its peace indicators and drivers.

Global Peace Index 2008

	2008	2007	Compare
Country	Rank		Score
Iceland	1		1.176
Denmark	2		1.333
Norway	3		1.343
New Zealand	4		1.350
Japan	5		1.358
Ireland	6		1.410
Portugal	7		1.412
Finland	8		1.432
Luxembourg	9		1.446
Austria	10		1.449
Canada	11		1.451
Switzerland	12		1.465
Sweden	13		1.468
Germany	14		1.475
Belgium	15		1.485
Slovenia	16		1.491
Czech Republic	17		1.501
Hungary	18		1.576
Chile	19		1.576
Slovakia	20		1.576
Uruguay	21		1.606

 Netherlands	22	1.607
 Hong Kong	23	1.608
 Romania	24	1.611
 Oman	25	1.612
 Bhutan	26	1.616
 Australia	27	1.652
 Italy	28	1.653
 Singapore	29	1.673
 Spain	30	1.683
 Poland	31	1.687
 South Korea	32	1.691
 Qatar	33	1.694
 Costa Rica	34	1.701
 Estonia	35	1.702
 France	36	1.707
 Vietnam	37	1.720
 Malaysia	38	1.721
 Latvia	39	1.723
 Ghana	40	1.723
 Lithuania	41	1.723
 United Arab Emirates	42	1.745
 Madagascar	43	1.770
 Taiwan	44	1.779
 Kuwait	45	1.786
 Botswana	46	1.792
 Tunisia	47	1.797
 Panama	48	1.797
 United Kingdom	49	1.801
 Mozambique	50	1.803
 Laos	51	1.810
 Cyprus	52	1.847
 Zambia	53	1.856
 Greece	54	1.867
 Gabon	55	1.878
 Argentina	56	1.895
 Bulgaria	57	1.903
 Tanzania	58	1.919
 Nicaragua	59	1.919
 Croatia	60	1.926
 Libya	61	1.927

 Cuba	62	1.954
 Morocco	63	1.954
 Equatorial Guinea	64	1.964
 Jordan	65	1.969
 Bosnia and Herzegovina	66	1.974
 China	67	1.981
 Indonesia	68	1.983
 Egypt	69	1.987
 Paraguay	70	1.997
 Senegal	71	2.011
 Kazakhstan	72	2.018
 Malawi	73	2.024
 Bahrain	74	2.025
 Syria	75	2.027
 Rwanda	76	2.030
 Namibia	77	2.042
 Bolivia	78	2.043
 Albania	79	2.044
 Peru	80	2.046
 Burkina Faso	81	2.062
 Dominican Republic	82	2.069
 Moldova	83	2.091
 Ukraine	84	2.096
 Serbia	85	2.110
 Bangladesh	86	2.118
 Macedonia	87	2.119
 Mongolia	88	2.155
 El Salvador	89	2.163
 Brazil	90	2.168
 Cambodia	91	2.179
 Cameroon	92	2.182
 Mexico	93	2.191
 Belarus	94	2.194
 Papua New Guinea	95	2.224
 Jamaica	96	2.226
 United States of America	97	2.227
 Trinidad and Tobago	98	2.230
 Mali	99	2.238
 Ecuador	100	2.274
 Azerbaijan	101	2.287

 Turkmenistan	102	2.302
 Guatemala	103	2.328
 Honduras	104	2.335
 Iran	105	2.341
 Yemen	106	2.352
 India	107	2.355
 Saudi Arabia	108	2.357
 Haiti	109	2.362
 Angola	110	2.364
 Uzbekistan	111	2.377
 Algeria	112	2.378
 Philippines	113	2.385
 Uganda	114	2.391
 Turkey	115	2.403
 South Africa	116	2.412
 Congo (Brazzaville)	117	2.417
 Thailand	118	2.424
 Kenya	119	2.429
 Mauritania	120	2.435
 Ethiopia	121	2.439
 Cote d'Ivoire	122	2.451
 Venezuela	123	2.505
 Zimbabwe	124	2.513
 Sri Lanka	125	2.584
 Myanmar	126	2.590
 Pakistan	127	2.694
 Democratic Republic of the Congo	128	2.707
 Nigeria	129	2.724
 Colombia	130	2.757
 Russia	131	2.777
 Lebanon	132	2.840
 North Korea	133	2.850
 Central African Republic	134	2.857
 Chad	135	3.007
 Israel	136	3.052
 Afghanistan	137	3.126
 Sudan	138	3.189
 Somalia	139	3.293
 Iraq	140	3.514

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Russia

Global Peace Index 2008

	2008	2007
Overall peace index		
Rank		131
Score		2.777
<p>Peace Index scores from 1 to 5 where 1 = most peaceful. Ranked out of 140 countries where rank 1 = most peaceful country. Click on an indicator or driver title for more detailed information</p>		
Indicator information		
Level of distrust in other citizens		4
Number of internal security officers and police 100,000 people		4
Number of homicides per 100,000 people		4
Number of jailed population per 100,000 people		4.292
Ease of access to weapons of minor destruction		4
Level of organised conflict (internal)		3
Likelihood of violent demonstrations		2
Level of violent crime		3
Political instability		2.5
Respect for human rights		4
Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons, as recipient (Imports) per 100,000 people		1
Potential for terrorist acts		2
Number of deaths from organised conflict (internal)		2
Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP		2.298
Number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people		1.552
UN Deployments 2006-07 (percentage of total forces)		4.996
Non-UN Deployments 2006-07 (percentage of total forces)		1.024
Aggregate number of heavy weapons per 100,000 people		1.502

Military capability/sophistication	4
Number of displaced people as a percentage of the population	1.022
Relations with neighbouring countries	3
Number of external and internal conflicts fought: 2000-05	2
Estimated number of deaths from organised conflict (external)	1
Driver information	
democracy and transparency	
Political Democracy Index	4.6
Electoral process	5.7
Functioning of government	2.9
Political participation	5.6
Political culture	3.8
Civil liberties	5.3
Corruption perceptions (CPI score: 10 = highly clean, 0 = highly corrupt)	2.3
Women in parliament (as a percentage of the total number of representatives in the lower house)	9.8
Freedom of the press	56.9
international openness	
Exports + Imports % of GDP	55.1
Foreign Direct Investment (flow) % of GDP	3.1%
Number of visitors as % of domestic population	0.1%
Net Migration (% of total population)	0%
demographics	
15-34 year old males as a % of total population	15.9%
Gender ratio of population: women/men	116.1
Gender Inequality	0.7
regional & international framework/conditions	
The extent of regional integration	2
education	
Current education spending (% of GDP)	3.5%
Primary school enrolment ratio (% Net)	91%
Secondary school enrolment ratio (% Net)	91%
Higher education enrolment (% Gross)	68.2%
Mean years of schooling	13.3
Adult literacy rate (% of pop over 15)	99.4%
culture	
Hostility to foreigners/private property	2
Importance of religion in national life	2
Willingness to fight	4
material well-being	
Nominal GDP (US\$PPP bn)	1868.4

Nominal GDP (US\$bn)	984.6
GDP per capita	6905
Gini-coefficient	39.9
Life expectancy	65.5
Unemployment %	7.2%
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	14.3
Total Population (millions)	142.6
other	
Number of paramilitary personnel per 100,000 people	293.2

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Australia

Global Peace Index 2008

	2008	2007
Overall peace index		
Rank		27
Score		1.652
<p>Peace Index scores from 1 to 5 where 1 = most peaceful. Ranked out of 140 countries where rank 1 = most peaceful country. Click on an indicator or driver title for more detailed information</p>		
Indicator information		
Level of distrust in other citizens		2
Number of internal security officers and police 100,000 people		2
Number of homicides per 100,000 people		1
Number of jailed population per 100,000 people		1.591
Ease of access to weapons of minor destruction		2
Level of organised conflict (internal)		1
Likelihood of violent demonstrations		2
Level of violent crime		2
Political instability		1
Respect for human rights		1
Volume of transfers of major conventional weapons, as recipient (Imports) per 100,000 people		2.293
Potential for terrorist acts		2.5
Number of deaths from organised conflict (internal)		1
Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP		1.724
Number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people		1.197
UN Deployments 2006-07 (percentage of total forces)		4.99
Non-UN Deployments 2006-07 (percentage of total forces)		2.411
Aggregate number of heavy weapons per 100,000 people		1.098

Military capability/sophistication	4
Number of displaced people as a percentage of the population	1
Relations with neighbouring countries	1
Number of external and internal conflicts fought: 2000-05	3
Estimated number of deaths from organised conflict (external)	1
Driver information	
democracy and transparency	
Political Democracy Index	9.1
Electoral process	10
Functioning of government	8.9
Political participation	7.8
Political culture	8.8
Civil liberties	10
Corruption perceptions (CPI score: 10 = highly clean, 0 = highly corrupt)	8.6
Women in parliament (as a percentage of the total number of representatives in the lower house)	24.7
Freedom of the press	8.8
international openness	
Exports + Imports % of GDP	42.9
Foreign Direct Investment (flow) % of GDP	3.4%
Number of visitors as % of domestic population	0.2%
Net Migration (% of total population)	0%
demographics	
15-34 year old males as a % of total population	14.1%
Gender ratio of population: women/men	101
Gender Inequality	0.7
regional & international framework/conditions	
The extent of regional integration	3
education	
Current education spending (% of GDP)	4.6%
Primary school enrolment ratio (% Net)	96%
Secondary school enrolment ratio (% Net)	85%
Higher education enrolment (% Gross)	72.2%
Mean years of schooling	20.4
Adult literacy rate (% of pop over 15)	99%
culture	
Hostility to foreigners/private property	1.5
Importance of religion in national life	1
Willingness to fight	1
material well-being	
Nominal GDP (US\$PPP bn)	721.5

Nominal GDP (US\$bn)	755.8
GDP per capita	37300
Gini-coefficient	35.2
Life expectancy	80.6
Unemployment %	5.1%
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	5
Total Population (millions)	20.3
other	
Number of paramilitary personnel per 100,000 people	0

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Methodology and Data Sources

The indicators

Twenty-four indicators of the existence or absence of peace were chosen by the panel, which are divided into three key thematic categories. Many of the indicators have been "banded" on a scale of 1-5; qualitative indicators in the index have been scored by the Economist Intelligence Unit's extensive team of country analysts, and gaps in the quantitative data have been filled by estimates. Indicators of quantitative data such as military expenditure or jailed population have been normalised on the basis of:

$$x = (x - \text{Min}(x)) / (\text{Max}(x) - \text{Min}(x))$$

Where Min (x) and Max (x) are respectively the lowest and highest values in the 140 countries for any given indicator. The normalised value is then transformed from a 0-1 value to a 1-5 score to make it comparable with the other indicators.

Measures of ongoing domestic and international conflict

The Global Peace Index is intended as a review of the state of peace in nations over the past year, although many indicators are based on available data from the last two years. The advisory panel decided against including data reflecting a country's longer-term historical experience of domestic and international conflict on the grounds that the GPI uses authoritative statistics on ongoing civil and trans-national wars collated by institutes such as the Uppsala Conflict Data Program and the International Peace Research Institute, Oslo. These, combined with two indicators scored by the Economist Intelligence Unit's analysts, comprise five of the 24 indicators.

- Number of external and internal conflicts fought: 2001-06
- Estimated number of deaths from organised conflict (external)
- Number of deaths from organised conflict (internal)
- Level of organised conflict (internal)
- Relations with neighbouring countries

Measures of societal safety and security

Ten of the indicators assess the levels of safety and security in a society (country), ranging from the level of distrust in other citizens, to the level of respect for human rights and the rate

of homicides and violent crimes. Crime data is from the UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Five of these indicators have been scored by the Economist Intelligence Unit's team of country analysts.

- Level of distrust in other citizens
- Number of displaced people as a percentage of the population
- Political instability
- Level of disrespect for human rights (Political Terror Scale)
- Potential for terrorist acts
- Number of homicides per 100,000 people
- Level of violent crime
- Likelihood of violent demonstrations
- Number of jailed population per 100,000 people
- Number of internal security officers and police per 100,000 people

Measures of militarization

Nine of the indicators are related to a country's military build-up - reflecting the assertion that the level of militarization and access to weapons is directly linked to how at peace a country feels internationally. Comparable data are readily available from sources such as the International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS).

- Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP
- Number of armed services personnel per 100,000 people
- Volume of transfers (imports) of major conventional weapons per 100,000 people
- Volume of transfers (exports) of major conventional weapons per 100,000 people
- UN Deployments 2007-08 (percentage of total armed forces)
- Non-UN Deployments 2007-08 (percentage of total armed forces)
- Aggregate number of heavy weapons per 100,000 people
- Ease of access to small arms and light weapons
- Military capability/sophistication

Weighting the index

The advisory panel apportioned scores based on the relative importance of each of the indicators on a 1-5 scale. Two sub-component weighted indices were then calculated from the GPI group of indicators, 1) a measure of how at peace a country is internally; 2) a measure of how at peace a country is externally (its state of peace beyond its borders). The overall composite score and index was then formulated by applying a weight of 60% to the measure of internal peace and 40% for external peace. The heavier weight applied to internal peace was agreed within the advisory panel, following robust debate. The decision was based on the innovative notion that a greater level of internal peace is likely to lead to, or at least correlate with, lower external conflict - in other words, if 'charity begins at home' - so might peace.

GPI Year-on-Year Comparison

The expansion of the GPI from 121 countries to 140 does not lend itself to direct comparisons of changes in rank as the introduction of a number of countries instantly pushes various countries downwards. The normalisation of a number of our series for our index also makes direct year-on-year comparisons difficult as the normalised series essentially measure countries in direct reference to their respective differences for that given time period

(maximums and minimums will differ between the 2007 GPI measurements and 2008).

Nevertheless, we have developed a special comparative version of the Global Peace Index in 2008 for the original 121 countries. The comparison excludes new 2008 countries.

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