



L-Università
ta' Malta



The Malta Foundation
for the Wellbeing of Society

GLOBAL INDICATORS

Objective Wellbeing

Notes

1. **GDP per capita** measures the value of goods and services produced within a country in any given year, divided by the number of inhabitants. It is a common metric used to approximate average income per head within a country, and serves as an indicator of both the level of development within the country as well as its general standard of living. It does not include other important facets of wellbeing like the environment or governance. It is widely-available across the world over long spans of time, with international comparability ensured via reputable data sources like the World Bank and Eurostat which adjust GDP per capita for inflation and exchange rates. Data for Malta is available from the year 2000 from Eurostat: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/sdg_08_10/default/table?lang=en
2. The **Human Development Index (HDI)** is a composite index developed by the United Nations Development Programme, measuring average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development: life expectancy, access to knowledge (measured by the mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling) and the standard of living (measured by GNI per capita). There are also variations of the HDI, adjusted for inequality and gender. HDI data is available since 1990 for some 190 countries around the world, including Malta: <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI>
3. **Life evaluation data** is collected by **Gallup** using nationally representative samples in around 140 countries (varies by year). It is reported in the World Happiness Report, an annual publication of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, together with GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity adjusted to constant 2017 international dollars, taken from the World Development Indicators released by the World Bank), healthy life expectancy at birth (based on data from the World Health Organization Global Health Observatory data repository), as well as social support, freedom to make life choices, generosity and perceptions of corruption (based on the Gallup World Poll questions). WHR data for Malta is available from 2009: <https://worldhappiness.report/ed/2023/#appendices-and-data>

4. The **SDG Index** is a quantitative dashboard to keep track of individual country progress towards the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 by the United Nations. Collated by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), the index includes 170 quantitative targets across each of the SDGs, spanning a wide variety of topics like no poverty, climate action, gender equality and decent work and economic growth in almost 200 countries around the world. The data set commences in 2015, and Malta's commences from 2016. It is likely to be extended retrospectively to 2000 for all countries. <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/rankings>
5. The **European version of the SDG Index** has been specifically developed by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), in collaboration with other institutions in order to capture progress of European countries (primarily EU member states) towards their SDG goals. Based on recommendations by the EU's Joint Research Centre (JRC), it captures 113 indicators using data primarily from Eurostat, the JRC and the European Environment Agency, among others. It is of greater relevance for European countries like Malta. The time series starts from 2020: <https://eu-dashboards.sdgindex.org/explorer?metric=overall>
6. The **EU Quality of Life Indicators (EUQOLI)** are a set of metrics related to quality of life and its various dimensions (Eurostat, 2021). The indicators cover overall life satisfaction, material living conditions, housing conditions, employment, time use, education, health, social relations, safety, governance, and environment. Each theme includes a number of statistics drawn from a mixture of data sources, notably from standard data routinely reported to Eurostat by EU member states. The EUQOLI does not include a single overall summary index for each EU member state. Data on life satisfaction is available for 2013, 2018, and from 2021 onwards. https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/infographs/qol/index_en.html
7. The **Better Life Index (BLI)** was developed by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). It consists of a set of 11 indicators which include housing, income, jobs, community, education, environment, governance, health, life satisfaction, safety, and work-life balance, covering 35 countries. The dataset was launched in 2011, with the most recent version of the index published in 2020. Since Malta is not part of the OECD, no data related to the BLI is available.