

APRIL 2014

The Global Youth Wellbeing Index

PRINCIPAL AUTHOR

Nicole Goldin

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

Payal Patel

Katherine Perry

CSIS | CENTER FOR STRATEGIC &
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



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A Report of the CSIS Youth, Prosperity, and Security Initiative and the International Youth Foundation

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The International Youth Foundation (IYF) invests in the extraordinary potential of young people. Founded in 1990, IYF builds and maintains a worldwide community of businesses, governments, and civil-society organizations—now spanning more than 70 countries—committed to empowering youth to be healthy, productive, and engaged citizens. IYF programs are catalysts of change that help young men and women obtain a quality education, gain employability skills, make healthy choices, and improve their communities. The Global Youth Wellbeing Index will be a vital tool to direct future investments and policies that open new doors for today's young people.

ABOUT HILTON WORLDWIDE

Hilton Worldwide supports the development of the Global Youth Wellbeing Index to raise awareness about youth wellbeing and to advocate for increased resources to support youth development. The Index will serve as an important roadmap for the company's commitment to connect, prepare and employ one million young people by 2019. The content of this Index is the responsibility of the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the International Youth Foundation and does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of Hilton Worldwide.

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ISBN: 978-1-4422-2833-7 (pb); 978-1-4422-2834-4 (eBook)

Center for Strategic & International Studies
1616 Rhode Island Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-887-0200 | www.csis.org

Rowman & Littlefield
4501 Forbes Boulevard
Lanham, MD 20706
301-459-3366 | www.rowman.com

www.youthindex.org

Contents

Foreword	v
Acknowledgments	vii
Executive Summary	ix
1. Overview	1
Why an Index? Background and Purpose	
Situational Landscape	
2. Using the Index	4
For Youth Globally	
For Policymakers	
For Donors and Investors	
For Implementers	
3. Approach to Measuring Youth Wellbeing	6
Who Are Youth?	
What Constitutes Youth Wellbeing?	
What Does the Index Measure?	
What Are the Limitations of the Index?	
4. Results and Analysis	11
Main Findings	
Citizen Participation	
Economic Opportunity	
Education	
Health	
Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	
Safety and Security	
Analyzing Youth Outlook and Satisfaction	
5. Next Steps and General Recommendations	23
About the Authors	27

Foreword



Across the globe, we see a rising generation of young people stepping forward with hopes, expectations, talents and worries.

We wonder, will this talented cadre be a catalyst for rapid innovation, sustainable economic growth and social progress? Or will they become sidetracked on the margins of society, lacking the skills and opportunities needed to succeed in a globally-competitive market? Is this generation destined for despair or historic prosperity?

To help answer these pivotal questions, we three diverse organizations—a public policy institute, a leading global hospitality company, and an international non-governmental organization—have come together to consider the wellbeing of today's young people.

We aim for a better world, and seek to avoid the perils that may lie ahead. To this end, one of the most pressing challenges facing our world today is to ensure youth have the tools and resources they need to thrive. Yet we simply do not have enough information about this transformative generation to do so effectively. The Global Youth Wellbeing Index for the first time offers a framework to help us understand and compare where they stand. By looking at a wide range of inter-connected issues, we seek insights into what young people are thinking, what barriers they face, and what opportunities they need to be healthy individuals who can contribute to the growth and vitality of their communities and nations.

This Index will help youth have a stronger voice, and policy, society and business leaders collectively make smarter investments, develop more strategic policies, and encourage greater action that will improve outcomes for the world's young people.

We release the Index at a critical moment, when policy makers across the globe are assessing the 2015 Millennium Development Goals and planning for a world where no one is left behind. Youth must be at the forefront of that global agenda. The Index helps us make that case.

All of us, across every sector, have a genuine stake in the success of today's young people. Our unique partnership reflects a shared belief that our future as a society is increasingly dependent upon theirs.

John J. Hamre, President and CEO, CSIS

William S. Reese, President and CEO, IYF

Christopher J. Nassetta, President and CEO, Hilton Worldwide

Acknowledgments

PROJECT TEAM

Director: Nicole Goldin, Center for Strategic and International Studies; International Youth Foundation

Research and Project Associate: Payal Patel, International Youth Foundation

Contributor: Katherine Perry, Center for Strategic and International Studies

GLOBAL EXPERTS REVIEW

Alfred Adegoke, University of Ilorin, Nigeria; Angga Dwi Martha, United Nations Population Fund-Indonesia; Daniel Hyslop, Institute for Economics and Peace; Emmanuel Jimenez, World Bank; Andreas Karsten, Youthpolicy.org; Mohammed Kilany, Souktel; William Reese, International Youth Foundation; Layne Robinson, Commonwealth Secretariat; Daniel Runde, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Alejandra Saenz, Organización Iberoamericana de Juventud; Jennifer Silberman, Hilton Worldwide; Awais Sufi, International Youth Foundation

EXPERTS CONSULTED

Citizen Participation Domain

Aaron Azelton, National Democratic Institute; Carrie Bodley-Bond, Innovations for Civic Participation; Andreas Karsten, Youthpolicy.org; Katherine Kinzer, International Youth Foundation; Sally Roshdy, Project on Middle East Democracy/Atlas Corps Fellow; Wojtek Sokolowski, Johns Hopkins University; Michael Svetlik, International Foundation for Electoral Systems; Maryanne Yerkes, United States Agency for International Development; Rebecca Zylberman, British Council

Economic Opportunity Domain

Sean Carroll, Creative Associates International; Trevor Davies, KPMG; Helen Gale, Youth Business International; Kalsoom Lakhani, Invest2Innovate; Patricia Langan, Making Cents International;

William Reese, International Youth Foundation; Jennifer Silberman, Hilton Worldwide; Michael Weber, World Bank

Education Domain

Katie Appel, Plan International; Chris Capacci-Carneal, United States Agency for International Development; Charlotte Harding, World Economic Forum; Jenny Perlman Robinson, Brookings Institution; Bonnie Politz, Independent Consultant; Renee Ryberg, Child Trends; Jennifer Silberman, Hilton Worldwide; Rachel Surkin, International Research & Exchanges Board; James Williams, George Washington University; Angela Venza, International Youth Foundation; Maame Yankah, Plan International and 10x10 Youth Ambassador; Rebecca Zylberman, British Council

Health Domain

Tyler Brown, United Nations Foundation; Sarah Craven, United Nations Population Fund; Kate Gilles, Population Reference Bureau; Alisha Kramer, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Janine Kossen, Advocates for Youth; Cate Lane, United States Agency for International Development; George Patton, University of Melbourne; Suzanne Petroni, International Center for Research on Women; Susan Sawyer, University of Melbourne; Jonathan Rucks, Pathfinder International

Information Communications and Technology (ICT) Domain

Nick Martin, TechChange; Chris Neu, TechChange; Linda Raftree, Plan International; Samuel Suraphel, International Youth Foundation; Mike Tetelman, Education Development Center, Inc.; Wayan Vota, Development Gateway

Safety and Security Domain

Daniel Hyslop, Institute for Economics and Peace; Hala Nasrallah, International Research & Exchanges Board; Saji Prelis, Search for Common Ground; Awais Sufi, International Youth Foundation

Independent Data Collaborators

The Futures Company
Youth Business International
YouthPolicy.org

Technical Consultants

Institute for Economics and Peace

Report Design

Alison Bours, Center for Strategic and International Studies
Gillian McCallion, International Youth Foundation

Please visit us online at www.youthindex.org.

Executive Summary



Youth comprise a quarter of the world's population, but remain an underutilized source of innovation, energy, and enthusiasm in global efforts to achieve and promote the increased wellbeing of all. As children grow and mature into adults, they make choices that affect not only their own wellbeing, but that of their families, communities, and countries. Youth-inclusive societies are more likely to grow and prosper, while the risks of exclusion include stunted growth, crime, and unrest. Therefore, it is imperative that education and health systems, labor markets, and governments serve their interests and provide the policies, investments, tools, technology, and avenues for participation they need to thrive and succeed. Yet, at a time when policy and investment decisions are increasingly data driven, data on youth development and wellbeing is often fragmented, inconsistent, or nonexistent. Thus, our understanding of how young people are doing in their own right and vis-à-vis their peers elsewhere is limited. As a result, the needs of young people often remain unexposed and marginalized by their complexity.

In response, the International Youth Foundation (IYF) and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), with principal financial support from Hilton Worldwide, have joined forces to develop the Youth Wellbeing Index (Index) as the flagship project of a new broader policy research agenda. The joint IYF-CSIS effort is an outgrowth of a commitment made at the 2012 Clinton Global Initiative by IYF and Hilton Worldwide.

The Index is designed to facilitate both thought and action: promoting increased attention to and consultation with, deliberate dialogue about, and investment in young people as catalysts for development, prosperity, and security. In this regard, key audiences—including the world's youth,

policymakers, public- and private-sector donors and development financiers, and development program implementers—are likely to take action in different ways. While the Index can be a powerful tool to advance the youth agenda, the rigorous process of developing this first Index has also helped to identify specific areas of limitation that are important to recognize in order to inform further research activities and allow for refinement. To this end, in addition to being a strategic guide for policy and investments in youth, the Index also highlights where more youth-specific survey and age-disaggregated data worldwide could enable audiences to better understand where further support of youth is still needed.

The final Index framework was developed and validated through extensive literature research and consultative dialogues with experts across sectors, and incorporates fundamentals of positive youth development. The Index encompasses a set of 40 indicators that address the overall national environment, youth-specific outcomes, and youths' outlook and satisfaction levels across six interconnected aspects of their lives (domains): citizen participation, economic opportunity, education, health, information and communications technology (ICT), and safety and security. This inaugural Index includes 30 countries representing income and regional diversity and nearly 70 percent of the world's youth population (aged 10 to 24).

MAIN FINDINGS

- A large majority of the world's youth are experiencing lower levels of wellbeing.
- Even where young people are doing relatively well, they still face specific challenges and limitations.
- Even where youth may not be thriving, they display success in certain areas.
- How young people feel about their own wellbeing does not always align with what the objective data suggests.
- Across countries, domain average scores indicate youth faring strongest in health and weakest in economic opportunity.

The Index scores demonstrate opportunities for focus and investment in young people across all 30 countries included in the Index. A significant majority, 85 percent, of young people represented by the Index live in countries demonstrating lower median and low youth wellbeing, while only 15 percent are living in countries in the upper ranks. Even where youth are doing well, the Index finds they may not be supported by an enabling environment or have opportunities to thrive in all aspects of their lives. The Index average score among the 30 countries is highest in the health domain, .67, and lowest, .47, in the economic opportunity domain.

Wellbeing levels are spread within and between regions, and among countries with varying income levels. Because a number of indicators are based on resources, systems, and infrastructure, richer countries tend to have higher levels of youth wellbeing when compared with less wealthy countries. Of the countries analyzed, Australian youth enjoy the highest levels of wellbeing, while the quality of life for Nigerian youth has the most scope to improve. Yet as the results for Russia and South Africa demonstrate (high income and upper-middle income by World Bank standards, respectively), young people are not necessarily equally served nor benefiting from strong economic growth. At the same time, the overall results illustrate how policies and institutions can serve youth development needs even where resources may be more constrained—as in Vietnam, for example, which performs above its lower-middle-income peers.

Within domains, however, patterns are less predictable by income. In the citizen participation domain, Colombia tops the ranks, with several low- and lower-middle-income countries in Africa and Asia also in the top group; at the same time, many Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and Middle East–North Africa (MENA) region countries drop in ranks. Higher-income and OECD countries generally fare well in the economic opportunity, education, health, ICT, and safety and security domains, with some outliers. Three out of the five Americas countries, including Mexico, are ranked at the bottom of the safety and security domain. Significant opportunities for improvement exist in sub-Saharan Africa across domains, and particularly within education and health.

The results also show that youths' perceptions and outlooks, an innovative and important feature of the Index, can contradict the level of wellbeing depicted by the environment and youth outcome indicators. As actions may be driven more by perception than "reality," this reinforces the importance of understanding youth views of their own state of wellbeing.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

- Advance youth voices and participation
- Promote deeper-dive and targeted research and analysis
- Consider integrated policies and programs
- Advance the body of age-disaggregated and youth survey data

As demonstrated by the important trends and results from youth outlook indicators, the Index highlights the need for closer attention to youth satisfaction and aspirations, increasing youth participation, and elevating

youth voices. The Index also uncovers areas in which better data would provide a more comprehensive picture of global youth wellbeing. Regional and country-specific in-depth case studies to better understand youth wellbeing within countries, with particular emphasis on data disaggregation by gender and by rural and urban-based populations, where available could provide valuable insight into the commonalities and differences in the challenges and opportunities youth face. Lastly, the Index highlights the interconnectedness between indicators and domains, and encourages an integrated and coordinated approach to planning, policies, partnerships, and programs.

Global Youth Wellbeing Index Rankings

1	Australia	16	Mexico
2	Sweden	17	Jordan
3	South Korea	18	Turkey
4	United Kingdom	19	Indonesia
5	Germany	20	Morocco
6	United States	21	Ghana
7	Japan	22	Philippines
8	Spain	23	South Africa
9	Saudi Arabia	24	Egypt
10	Thailand	25	Russia
11	Vietnam	26	India
12	Peru	27	Kenya
13	Colombia	28	Tanzania
14	China	29	Uganda
15	Brazil	30	Nigeria

1 Overview

WHY AN INDEX? BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Young people face multiple transitions on the path to adulthood. Youth is a period of significant mental, emotional, and physical development, yet quantitative and comparative assessments of young people's growth and development, progress and outcomes, and overall sense of wellbeing are not fully available. To address this data gap, local and international institutions have begun to identify indicators to assess youth wellbeing. However, at an international level, data on these indicators are often uncoordinated and, in many cases, still lacking, making a comprehensive assessment of the state of youth wellbeing difficult to achieve. As a result, the needs of young people often remain unexposed and marginalized by their complexity.

In response, the International Youth Foundation (IYF) and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), with principal financial support from Hilton Worldwide, have joined forces to develop the Youth Wellbeing Index (Index) as the flagship project of a new broader policy research agenda. The joint IYF-CSIS effort is an outgrowth of a commitment made at the 2012 Clinton Global Initiative by IYF and Hilton Worldwide.

The Index, as a summary of measures, seeks to help key stakeholders make sense of separate, often conflicting data on learning, livelihoods, community or political engagement, health, physical safety, and other aspects of youth wellbeing. Ultimately, the Index can provide public- and private-sector policymakers and decisionmakers with a simpler and more direct way to understand the big picture, drive action and investments, and measure progress over time.

SITUATIONAL LANDSCAPE

The estimated 1.8 billion youth aged 10 to 24 on the planet today represent the largest youth generation in human history. Moreover, with another quarter of the world's population under age 10, we will have a youthful world for years to come. Given such demographic patterns, the foreseeable future of global development, prosperity, and security largely depends on capitalizing on the promise of, and addressing the challenges faced by, today's young people. This will require minimizing opportunity gaps that can fuel dissatisfaction and unrest, and ensuring young people are able to break free from cycles of poverty, seize economic possibilities, and are equipped to lead their communities toward a more equitable future.

The world is already benefiting from a rising group of young people who are overcoming barriers and making major contributions to their communities and the world at large: William Kamkwamba from Malawi demonstrated how we can “harness the wind” for cleaner energy and fight climate change; from a college dorm room, Mark Zuckerberg changed the face of networks and connectivity with innovation and technology; and a Pakistani teenager, Malala Yousafzai, is on the global stage fighting for human rights and bringing the world to its feet for education equality. These are just three examples to showcase how tapping into the creativity, courage, and tenacity of young people can positively impact the world.

Yet too few young people have this chance to excel. Around the world, nearly half the youth are unemployed or underemployed, more than 120 million youth are still illiterate, and over 40 percent of new HIV/AIDS infections occur among youth.¹ Roughly 85 percent of young people live in low- and lower-middle-income countries and comprise a third of the population among the 30 countries that are home to the “bottom billion” of the world's poorest, according to Oxford's Multidimensional Poverty Index. In these countries, the challenges facing youth are often more pronounced and harder to overcome; in low-income countries, and among the poor in middle-income economies, young people—who often support whole households—increasingly struggle to work their way out of poverty. In such circumstances, young women and girls are often at a significant disadvantage, which only further constrains growth and slows down the demographic transition to a population structure that is optimal for growth.

However, the picture is not all grim, especially if wise investments are made in youth. For example, studies show that an added year of secondary schooling for a girl can increase her lifetime earnings by 15 to 20 percent. Evidence reveals that as

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Young people account for nearly 50 percent of the world's Internet users, and 30 percent of the world's youth are "digital natives."

much as a third of the "miracle" growth in East Asia is attributable to the demographic dividend that resulted from favorable, youthful population structure, investment in human capital, and effective economic and social institutions and governance.² South Korea, for example, experienced nearly 7 percent growth in per capita GDP annually over a 30-year period: between 1960 and 1990, fertility fell, the labor force grew, and investments were made in education, training, and infrastructure coupled with sound

economic policies that catalyzed productivity.³ As caregivers to younger siblings and elders, and often as parents themselves, youth act as influencers and catalysts in breaking or sustaining cycles of poverty across generations. In health, there has been a recent decline in HIV prevalence among young people, despite high rates of new infection among that group. In information and communications technology, young people account for nearly 50 percent of the world's Internet users, and 30 percent of the world's

youth are "digital natives" and have been active online for at least five years.⁴ With increased connectivity that impacts all areas of life, youth will continue to benefit from greater information, inclusion, and access to opportunities. While not always peaceful, youth have historically and recently led social and political reform movements. Yet with greater voice through media and increased participation and engagement, experience is showing that youth can be a force for tolerance and social cohesion and the building of democratic institutions—all needed for development and growth to truly take root.

Using the Index 2

The Index is designed to facilitate both thought and action by promoting increased attention to and consultation with, deliberate dialogue about, and guiding investment in young people. In this regard, we anticipate key audiences, including the world's youth policymakers, public- and private-sector donors and development financiers, and youth development program implementers, will read and respond in different ways.

FOR YOUTH GLOBALLY

Young people are increasingly engaging in local, national, and global conversations and decision-making concerning their wellbeing and the future of their communities. Youth can use the findings and results of this Index to inform and validate their positions and thus advocate even more powerfully with their own governments, donors, and the international community at large as participants in youth councils, parliaments, and other policymaking and advisory forums.

FOR POLICYMAKERS

The Index highlights areas of strength and weakness within countries and helps identify trends among regions and income peer groups that may serve as a galvanizing force to move the needle of policy attention to youth. Government officials from countries included in the Index can use the results to better assess the extent to which their policies, institutions, and services are meeting the needs of youth and to help identify areas where reform or action may be needed. In countries that aren't included in these results, leaders can utilize the Index framework to guide their own internal assessments and better inform their policy decisions. Where scores reveal that objective and subjective data are not aligned, policymakers can take steps to increase meaningful consultation and engagement with young people to understand and address

this disconnect. This Index also provides clear guidance on data gaps and needs that are particularly relevant for consideration in the context of the emerging post-2015 development goals agenda, which is discussed further in the concluding section of this report.

FOR DONORS AND INVESTORS

The Index framework and findings offer donors and investors a model to help determine strategic priorities. By identifying countries where young people have lower wellbeing overall, and identifying where specific domain performance among youth is weak (even in countries with overall higher youth wellbeing), this Index can help inform their strategies, priorities, and frameworks for investment, and better direct limited resources to where they may be most needed. Given the importance of partnerships, the Index can be utilized to promote mutual understanding of the issues facing youth, convene parties, and leverage resources to address them. Such alliances will also be instrumental in efforts to address data limitations that are highlighted by the Index and are fundamental to its future.

FOR IMPLEMENTERS

The design and structure of the Index has been informed by the best practices, principles, and evaluations associated with positive youth development (PYD). At the same time, through a model composed of macro-level indicators, the Index may encourage and influence the development of programmatic indicators that, in aggregate, would support progress toward the macro indicators included in the Index. This Index serves as a tool for identifying areas for needed programmatic interventions and as an advocacy tool by youth-serving organizations.



Approach to Measuring Youth Wellbeing 3

WHO ARE YOUTH?

Youth is a stage of life, and is as much a social construct as a term of science to discuss, evaluate, and assess a heterogeneous population group that shares characteristics of “transition.” These transitions include significant physiological, cognitive, social, and economic changes when young people come to be recognized—and recognize themselves—as adults. Youth has come to include adolescents, teens, and young adults and is most often used synonymously with young people (though some do distinguish youth from young people by age). For statistical purposes, youth are most often, but not exclusively, defined as those aged 15 to 24 in the global context. On the national level, however, youth policy and programs are often designed to reach younger adolescents or young adults. International legal norms and varying thresholds for youth transitions across sectors further complicate the issue. For example, different markers include the onset of puberty around age 10 (a health-based threshold) and the granting of voting rights, nearly universally at age 18 (a citizenship-based threshold). In the Index, the youth outcome and survey indicator data span the ages of 12 to 24.

WHAT CONSTITUTES YOUTH WELLBEING?

This framework for youth wellbeing is rooted in theories of change and human development for both individuals and countries. It draws upon the body of work measuring quality of life, economic and social progress, as well as the discipline of youth development. In nontechnical terms, wellbeing has been defined as “the state of being happy,

healthy, or prosperous.” Development literature has traditionally taken a more technical approach in defining wellbeing, associating it with welfare, utility functions, and multidimensional measures of societal growth and progress. Our approach to wellbeing has been informed by measures of poverty and development that have moved from an interpretation based on income or economic growth to one that is multidimensional and includes objective as well as behavioral and subjective elements. Key influences include the Human Development Index, the 2009 “Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress,” the OECD Better Life Index, and the Global Happiness Index:

Quality of life depends on people’s health and education, their everyday activities (which include the right to a decent job and housing), their participation in the political process, the social and natural environment in which they live, and the factors shaping their personal and economic security. Measuring all these features requires both objective and subjective data.⁵

The framework of domains demonstrates a view of youth development as the process by which young people experience transitions in multiple areas of their lives and that quality wellbeing is a factor of the opportunities provided by their environment, what and how they are doing, and how they feel about it. It is informed by a rich body of research,

scientific, and policy literature, including findings summarized in such seminal works as the Search Institute’s Development Assets Profile; Growing up Global from the National Academy of Sciences; the 2007 World Development Report from the World Bank, Development and the Next Generation; and the 2012 USAID Youth In Development Policy. We also drew upon the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)-associated youth-specific indicators and monitoring targets, and the report of the UN Experts Group on Indicators for the World Programme of Action on Youth.

The approach also draws on the principles and practice of PYD—the intentional efforts of other youth, adults, communities, government agencies, and schools to focus on opportunities versus challenges among youth to enhance their interests, skills, and abilities to ensure they become contributing adults. Policymakers and implementers are increasingly using this assets-based framework to develop policies and programs that will ensure that all youth are ready to learn, work, and live a healthy, engaged, and prosperous life. Where possible, asset-based or positive outlook behavior indicators, rather than deficit-based ones, were incorporated into the framework. However, a number of reducing measures are still utilized.

Indicators were vetted and selected through an analytic and expert consultative process. In addition to an extensive literature and scientific review and global data audit, a series

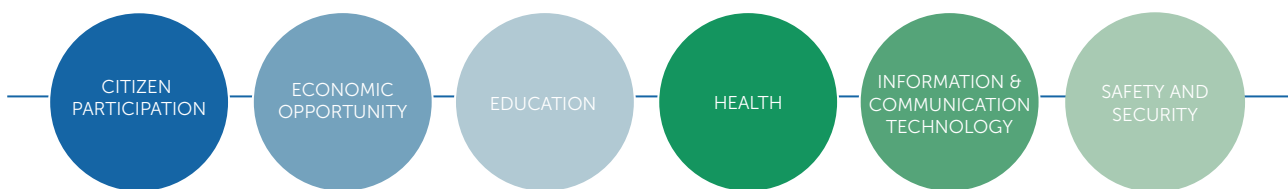
of workshops took place with relevant experts and stakeholders to discuss the viability and utility of the proposed indicators and associated data sets. Young people were actively engaged and played an important role in the expert consultation process. A technical consulting team from the Institute of Economics and Peace in Sydney, Australia, constructed and tested the Index. In the final design and review stages, a global advisory review engaged 15 experts from nine countries across five regions in an intense technical review of the full Index architecture and data, and in an analytical hierarchy process to inform weighting. In total, over 50 experts and stakeholders were engaged from more than 35 organizations.

WHAT DOES THE INDEX MEASURE?

Once these perspectives were incorporated and mathematical soundness was ensured, this inaugural Index encompasses a set of 40 indicators across six connected domains of young people's lives that together give a comprehensive account of their quality of life: citizen participation, economic opportunity, education, health, information and communications technology (ICT), and safety and security. As noted above, the Index assumes that quality wellbeing among youth results from the opportunities provided by their environment, what and how well they are doing, and how they feel about it. To this end, within each domain, the included indicators reflect their utility and feasibility (in terms of data) and measure the overall national environment, youth-specific outcomes or status, and youths' outlook and satisfaction levels.

Youth Wellbeing

INDEX DOMAINS



The national and enabling environment measures reflect factors that are not necessarily youth specific, but significantly impact young people's quality of life and opportunities, such as infrastructure, investment, or levels of conflict. Youth outcome indicators are those that directly measure the status of the youth cohort in a given area, such as youth literacy rates. Youth perception indicators are subjective indicators that reflect youths' outlook, such as whether youth are satisfied with their government.

Global Youth Wellbeing Index

DOMAIN	INDICATOR
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION	Economist Democracy Index
	Existence of youth policy
	Volunteer frequency
	Candidacy age for national office
	Youths' perception of value in society
	Youths' feeling served by government
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY	GDP per capita
	Economic climate and competitiveness
	Youth lending from a financial institution
	Youth involved in early-stage entrepreneurial activity
	Youth unemployment
	Youth Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET)
	Youths' income and wealth expectations
EDUCATION	Public spending on education
	School enrollment secondary
	School enrollment tertiary
	Youth literacy
	School life expectancy, primary to tertiary
	Educational satisfaction
HEALTH	Improved water source
	Life expectancy at birth
	People living with HIV/AIDs
	Adolescent fertility
	Tobacco use among youth
	All cause of youth mortality
	Self-harm among youth
	Perceived stress levels among youth
	Youths' prioritization of healthy eating and living
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT)	Access to electricity
	Households with radio
	ICT for development score
	Digital natives
	Youths' dependence on the Internet
SAFETY AND SECURITY	Global Peace Index-Internal
	Trafficking- U.S. State Department Tier Placement
	Global disaster risk reduction score
	Fundamental Rights- World Justice Report
	Interpersonal violence among youth
	Road injuries among youth
Youths' concern for personal safety from crime and violence	

Further details about the technical methodology and the inaugural Index construction and data including weightings and full sources can be found in the Methodology Report (posted on our website).

WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS OF THE INDEX?

The Index can be a powerful tool for advancing the policy dialogue concerning youth, elevating youth opinion in policymaking, and providing strategic guidance for investment. Yet the rigorous process of developing this first Index has also helped to reveal limitations in current data, opportunities for refinement, and the scope for further research efforts. This provisional Index framework proposes a model with results for a set of 30 countries that account for nearly 70 percent of the world's youth population. It is our hope that as more data become available, the Index could grow to include additional nations.

Current data on youth is often incomplete, inconsistent, and uncoordinated across sectors, institutions, countries, and regions. As a result, making credible comparisons on youth wellbeing is challenging. While publicly available and verified data sets managed by the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, among others, provide robust objective data, developing the Index revealed a lack of sufficient age-disaggregated data or coverage. The inability to include certain indicators in the model (such as youth voting) reaffirms the crucial role this inaugural Index can play as an advocate and roadmap for youth data. In terms of subjective data, though surveys among young people are increasing, the small sample sizes, limited global scope, and generally narrow line of inquiry (for example, consumer behavior or political opinion) also constrained the diversity and number of countries we were able to include at this time.

Furthermore, youth are not monolithic. They are a diverse group who share differences and commonalities that often reflect the societies and communities in which they live. Their individual quality of life is likely shaped by factors such as gender, socioeconomic status, marital status, religion, disability, ethnicity and language group, or sexual orientation. We know, for example, that young men and women experience differences in equity and outcomes as evidenced by differing rates of education enrollment or interpersonal violence. Levels of wellbeing also differ, often significantly, between rural and urban areas. Ideally, the Index could account for these differences, but such disaggregated data do not exist at scale, nor do estimates of sector inequality. In education, for example, efforts have been made to develop a globally comparative nationwide Gini coefficient,⁶ but such efforts have not been more recently repeated or replicated in other sectors.

4 Results and Analysis

MAIN FINDINGS

- A large majority of the world's youth are experiencing lower levels of wellbeing.
- Even where young people are doing relatively well, they still face specific challenges and limitations.
- Even where youth may not be thriving, they display success in certain areas.
- How young people feel about their own wellbeing does not always align with what the objective data suggest.
- Across countries, domain average scores indicate youth faring strongest in health and weakest in economic opportunity.

The Index demonstrates that the vast majority of young people represented are not generally experiencing high quality of life or conditions that will enable them to thrive and prosper. Even where young people are doing well, there are still outcome or aspiration gaps in certain areas. Overall youth wellbeing and domain rankings are based on composite scores between 0 and 1, with 1 being the highest. Because relative peer performance is analytically important, and can be useful to galvanize collective action, countries are also grouped into four performance tiers based upon scores and score distributions around the 30-country average (high, upper-middle, lower-middle, and low).

The average score for overall wellbeing across the 30 countries is .576 with 12 countries ranking above the mean (just over a third of all), and 18 countries placing below the mean. Put simply, more countries (nearly two-thirds) display

below-average wellbeing than above average. In terms of population, roughly 15 percent of the total youth across the 30 countries are experiencing high or upper-middle quality of life (above the overall mean), while 85 percent are experiencing lower-middle and low wellbeing. With an Index score of .752, Australian youth enjoy the highest levels of wellbeing of the 30 countries included, while Nigeria, at last place, scores an overall .375.

Index scores reveal that young people in wealthier countries tend to have higher overall wellbeing. This is not necessarily surprising given that a number of the indicators related to infrastructure and systems are those in which more advanced economies are likely to show strength (e.g., access to water, GDP per capita, or education expenditure). Indeed, all of the top seven countries are members of the OECD and high income according to classification by the World Bank. However, the results for Russia and South Africa (high income and upper-middle income, respectively) show, for example, that young people are not necessarily equally served and benefiting from strong economic growth. Similarly, the overall results illustrate how policies and institutions can serve youth development needs even where resources may be more constrained—as in Vietnam, which performs above its lower-middle-income peers.

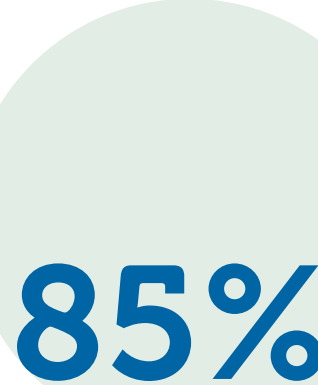
Overall youth wellbeing trends correlate more strongly with countries' income levels than their regions, demonstrating diverse geographical performance.

For example, countries within the Asia-Pacific and Europe regions rank in each of the four tiers on composite youth wellbeing. Countries of the Americas rank in three of the four tiers (high, upper middle, and lower middle), and countries of sub-Saharan Africa place in two tiers (lower middle and low).⁷



15%

of youth represented
experience high or upper-
middle wellbeing



85%

of youth represented
experience lower-middle
and low wellbeing

Global Youth Wellbeing Index Rankings by World Bank Income Classification

1	Australia	16	Mexico
2	Sweden	17	Jordan
3	South Korea	18	Turkey
4	United Kingdom	19	Indonesia
5	Germany	20	Morocco
6	United States	21	Ghana
7	Japan	22	Philippines
8	Spain	23	South Africa
9	Saudi Arabia	24	Egypt
10	Thailand	25	Russia
11	Vietnam	26	India
12	Peru	27	Kenya
13	Colombia	28	Tanzania
14	China	29	Uganda
15	Brazil	30	Nigeria

KEY



High Income



Lower-middle Income



Upper-middle Income

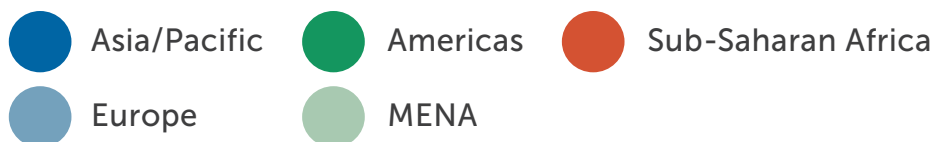


Low Income

Global Youth Wellbeing Index Rankings by Geographic Region

1	Australia	16	Mexico
2	Sweden	17	Jordan
3	South Korea	18	Turkey
4	United Kingdom	19	Indonesia
5	Germany	20	Morocco
6	United States	21	Ghana
7	Japan	22	Philippines
8	Spain	23	South Africa
9	Saudi Arabia	24	Egypt
10	Thailand	25	Russia
11	Vietnam	26	India
12	Peru	27	Kenya
13	Colombia	28	Tanzania
14	China	29	Uganda
15	Brazil	30	Nigeria

KEY



Domain Rankings

	CITIZEN PARTICIPATION	ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY	EDUCATION	HEALTH	ICT	SAFETY AND SECURITY
Australia	9	4	1	2	7	5
Brazil	14	16	12	20	10	27
China	28	10	22	11	15	14
Colombia	1	21	11	22	17	25
Egypt	29	28	25	14	20	20
Germany	18	3	7	3	5	3
Ghana	6	14	24	24	26	16
India	3	19	26	25	28	19
Indonesia	5	18	18	18	24	24
Japan	23	2	9	8	6	2
Jordan	25	29	15	10	14	10
Kenya	13	23	23	27	27	17
Mexico	16	13	16	19	11	23
Morocco	19	26	27	13	16	11
Nigeria	17	27	30	29	25	30
Peru	15	17	21	17	12	12
Philippines	24	24	19	21	23	18
Russia	30	15	13	23	13	29
Saudi Arabia	22	12	8	4	9	21
South Africa	2	30	14	26	21	26
South Korea	11	8	4	9	1	4
Spain	26	25	2	1	8	7
Sweden	12	7	6	7	2	1
Tanzania	4	20	29	28	29	13
Thailand	8	5	10	15	19	22
Turkey	27	22	17	16	18	9
Uganda	7	11	28	30	30	28
United Kingdom	10	9	5	5	4	6
United States	20	1	3	12	3	8
Vietnam	21	6	20	6	22	15

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

During the transition from childhood to adulthood, young people begin to establish their identities as individuals as well as develop voices independent of their families and communities. It is during this period that youth typically gain the right to vote, receive legal rights, serve in the military, engage more concretely and volunteer in their communities, and pay taxes. Citizen participation is a critical component of youth wellbeing as it is strongly correlated with community cohesion and stability. Without positive and peaceful avenues for civic engagement and political expression, youths' frustration can lead to apathy, economic and social instability, or violent demonstration or extremist behavior. The earlier that youth engage in positive and peaceful ways, the greater the likelihood they will maintain such engagement as adults.

The results for citizen participation are the most incongruous with country performance in other domains. In particular, African and certain Asian countries do well in indicators related to volunteering, policy, as well as a more positive outlook among youth. While many of the overall top performers in Europe, the United States, and parts of MENA do well in terms of democratic and open environments, they lack specific youth policies, have higher age barriers for political office, and feel less valued by their governments and societies. The mean score in this domain is .53, with roughly half of the ranked countries falling above and below the mean (16 and 14, respectively). These trends may be explained partly by this domain being heavier on youth-survey-based indicators measuring the opinions and outlook of youth themselves, and lighter on infrastructure or resource-based indicators, where wealthy countries are more likely to be particularly strong.

Meaningful participation can be an empowering experience for every young person. Too frequently, however, participation is reduced to a playground for democracy without real impact. The Global Youth Wellbeing Index therefore seeks to capture the quality of participation frameworks, an aspect that deserves more attention in the design, implementation and evaluation of youth policies and programmes. ”

—ANDREAS KARSTEN
Executive director, *YouthPolicy.org*

Accounting for youth voting: One might ask why an indicator for youth voting is not included—arguably the most fundamental expression of citizen participation and method for exercising civil and political rights. The right to vote at the age of 18 is nearly constant, with few exceptions in countries not included in this Index, where the age is 16 (Argentina, Austria, Ecuador, Nicaragua). Whether or not youth exercise that right, or why they do or don't, would be an interesting and meaningful indicator; however, while data on voter registration and turnout are widely available for entire voting populations, this age-disaggregated data are not systematically measured or recorded or collected globally. Verifiable data on youth voter registration, education, and turnout is particularly lacking across the developing world.

“When young people leave school, and how they become income earners and financially independent, can have lasting effects on their lives as well as those of their families. It will depend on whether they are prepared for the world of work, how easily they can get jobs or find success as an entrepreneur, and whether these livelihoods help them to be upwardly mobile.

—EMMANUEL JIMENEZ
Director, Public Sector Evaluation, Independent Evaluation Group, and lead author, 2007 World Development Report, Development and the Next Generation

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Access to viable economic opportunities is a critical component of youth wellbeing and one that clearly impacts society as a whole. When youth are employed, earning, and have access to financial institutions, they are less likely to rely on government support, have a better health status, and are less likely to be involved in criminal activity. This domain has an important impact on creating stability and optimism among young people, which then impacts other domains. The costs of economic exclusion are high for young people, their communities, and society as a whole.⁸

Scores across this domain indicate youth commonly face weaker economic opportunities and outcomes, even in countries with high overall wellbeing. This is not necessarily surprising given that young people worldwide have been hard hit by the global recession and are experiencing a jobs crisis in which they are three or four times more likely to be unemployed than the adult population.⁹ Relative to other domains, all 30 countries score lower in this domain, with the lowest Index average score of .47. Results here also indicate the largest spread of all the domains between the score of the #1 rank—the United States (.68)—and its closest follower, Japan (.58). Despite its top position, however, based on robust GDP, economic climate, youth financial inclusion, and relatively lower youth unemployment and idleness, American youth had a low economic outlook. The country rankings in this domain, however, are consistent with those in the composite overall Index—with a couple of notable exceptions. Spain, for example, scores low as the result of the youth unemployment crisis, in combination with high rates of youth not in education, employment, or training (NEET) and low prospects. On the other hand, Uganda scores comparatively well in economic opportunity driven by very high levels of youth entrepreneurship and a positive outlook.¹⁰

EDUCATION

Education plays a critical role in youth wellbeing. Developing a high level of cognitive thinking during secondary and tertiary education is arguably just as foundational to youths' long-term success as gaining a solid foundation during early education. Education impacts all other domains of wellbeing—in particular, employment, health, and citizen participation. During these years, young people may also decide to pursue vocational or technical training to prepare them for direct integration into the workforce.¹¹

In the education domain, where performance on a number of the indicators is resource-driven, richer countries see higher results than poorer ones. Russia and South Africa, for example, do better in education (as compared with their overall rank) due to better performance on youth outcome indicators in comparison to enabling environment and youth outlook indicators. As in economic opportunity, there is also a sizable gap (.05) between the highest scorer, Australia, and the second-highest, Spain. While those in the upper-, middle-, and high-performance tiers generally align with countries that display high and upper-middle youth wellbeing overall, there are a few that diverge. In this domain, the countries average a score of .60, with fairly equal distribution above and below. Interestingly, however, this domain has a smaller group of high performers, with just six countries in the top tier.

There is clear evidence that high-quality, relevant education has measurable, positive effects on young people's health, improved child mortality rates, gender equality, reduced population growth and greater economic growth. Ensuring that young people complete primary school and experience high-quality and relevant post-primary learning opportunities is critical for human development, poverty alleviation and sustained economic growth. ”

—JENNY ROBINSON
Nonresident fellow, *Brookings Institution*

Accounting for education quality and performance: One limitation of the Index with respect to the education domain is that there is no clear way to comparatively measure learning outcomes among youth across countries. Though we include literacy, this domain could be more accurate and paint a clearer picture if a better measure of learning—particularly in math and science—could be included. However, a consistent comparable data set could not be identified or easily developed for even the 30 countries included in this Index. Laudable efforts are underway to scale comparative baseline testing among adolescents and secondary learners that could be applied and used to improve this and other measures of youth educational progress and development.

“Health underpins every aspect of adolescent development: without health the transitions through education to employment, civic engagement and parenthood will fail.

—GEORGE PATTON
Professor of adolescent health research, University of Melbourne

HEALTH

Adolescence is a time of significant physiological and social changes. The choices young people make during this period can have long-term consequences that impact their health as adults. At the same time, young people, especially young women, often do not have the power or resources to control or make decisions that affect their health. Without access to adequate health information, options, and care, youth may not make healthy choices and may not receive the information or treatment they need to prevent or address illnesses. Health is a vital component of youth development that encompasses mental, emotional, and physical wellness.¹²

Countries' scores in the health domain reveal significant variance in enabling environments, youth outcomes, and youth perception. Countries perform better in health than any other domain, with the highest Index domain average of .69. More than two-thirds (21 of 30) perform above the average, and the fewest number of countries display lower-middle and low tier status in the health domain, with four countries in each of these tiers. While high-income countries tend to have comparatively lower fertility rates and mortality rates, they also tend to have higher levels of youth self-harm and stress levels. Vietnam and countries in MENA (Saudi Arabia and Jordan especially) score noticeably higher in health as compared with their results in overall wellbeing. Vietnam scores above the Index average on all nine indicators, with particularly lower stress and smoking levels. The United States scores lower relative to its all-around performance on account of high levels of stress, self-harm, and smoking among youth. Generally, lower-income countries may experience higher youth mortality rates, but achieve higher levels of youth satisfaction.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

As the world becomes more globally connected through the Internet, and as technology continues to develop and ease communications and innovation, a nation's ICT infrastructure and enabling conditions become vitally important. For this global generation of "digital natives," new media coupled with old media has become the central tools of access to and achievement in all aspects of life. ICT is a critical component of health care, education, government, transportation, finances, community building, information sharing, news gathering, and communications.¹³

Country scores in ICT are the most dispersed of any of the domains, and are likely highly influenced by the rural-urban divide. Countries with a larger rural population see lower ICT scores due to inadequate infrastructure and resulting connectivity issues. While the domain average is .58, the top performer, South Korea, boasts an ICT score of .94, and the bottom performer, Uganda, scores a mere .18. In rank order, results for this domain are highly correlated to overall youth wellbeing with a few outliers. Because ICT availability, access, and affordability are dependent on infrastructure and are tightly correlated with income and development levels, Vietnam, for example (a lower-middle-income country), lags behind on ICT compared with its overall performance, while youth in Russia (high-income country) experience better status here than in other domains or overall.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Personal safety, community security, and living free from violence and conflict are fundamental to youth wellbeing. Globally, more young people die from traffic and road accidents than any other cause. In terms of crime and violence, youth are often more vulnerable to feeling unsafe and being victims of violence. Though they can be resilient, they are often poorly positioned to overcome risks or adversity, which can potentially have a lifelong impact on a young person's social, emotional, physical development and economic trajectories. Further, conflict can cause youth to miss important development milestones and undermines other aspects of wellbeing. Violence among youth can impact a nation as a whole by increasing the costs for health care, welfare, and criminal justice systems, reducing individual productivity, and generally creating a hostile environment.¹⁴

While this domain's global average of .62 is the second-highest after health, 9 of the 30 countries fell into the lowest performance tier, indicating that ensuring the safety and security for and among youth poses a serious challenge for many countries. Outside of the top performers in this domain—all of which are high-income countries—levels of youth safety and security are not necessarily assured by income. Notable divergence from all-around Index results includes weaker scores among the Americas—Brazil,

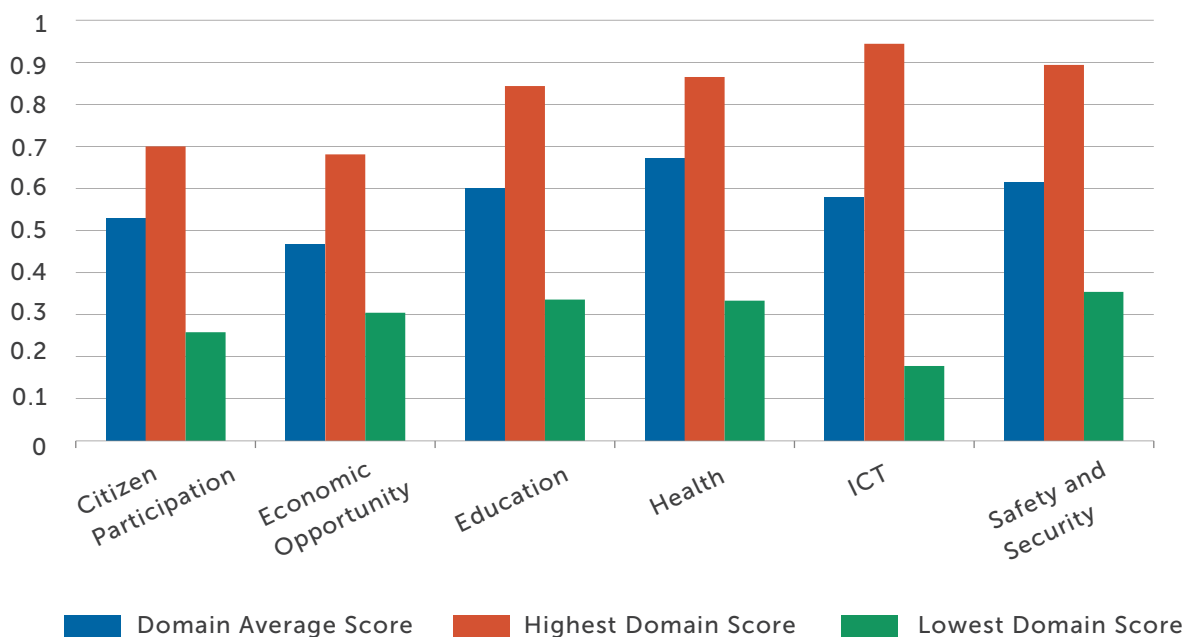
ICT and youth have long been linked as new generations embrace new technology to improve their lives, find jobs, and engage their community. ”

—NICK MARTIN
Cofounder and president, TechChange

“ Young men and women are exposed to many forms of violence or harm, and such exposure during one's youth can cause serious or even lifelong damage to one's psychological health and wellbeing. When young people's safety and security is advanced, it promotes more resilient, healthier and economically stronger communities.

—SAJI PRELIS
Director of children and youth programmes,
Search for Common Ground

Low, High and Average Scores by Domain



Mexico, and Colombia, owing to high youth crime, violence, and poor sense of security among youth. Saudi Arabia also underperforms here compared with its position in other domains, due primarily to its weaker protection in terms of rights, trafficking, and global peace measures. Yet in Africa, results also reflect relative peace and safety in Tanzania and Ghana, two of the more peaceful, stable, and rights-respecting Sub-Saharan African societies with lower levels of violent crime.

ANALYZING YOUTH OUTLOOK AND SATISFACTION

As discussed previously, the inclusion of subjective youth outlook and satisfaction indicators alongside enabling environment and youth outcome measures is an innovative and important feature of the Index's approach to youth wellbeing. Of the 40 indicators included in the Index, 8 are based on surveys of youth attitudes, opinions, satisfaction, and outlook:

- Youths' perception of value in society (citizen participation)
- Youths' feeling served by government (citizen participation)
- Youths' income and wealth expectations (economic opportunity)
- Educational satisfaction (education)
- Perceived stress levels among youth (health)
- Youths' prioritization of healthy eating and living (health)
- Youths' dependence on the internet (ICT)
- Youths' concern for personal safety from crime and violence (safety and security)

The impact of including subjective views of wellbeing alongside objective and behavioral factors is revealed if these elements are removed. When an Index comprising only the 32 enabling and youth outcome indicators was tested, results showed that the inclusion of subjective, perception-based

indicators can alter youth wellbeing measures. In this model, the mean score across the 30 countries raises slightly to .59, indicating that these measures bring scores down. Simply put, across domains and countries, youth today are likely to exhibit a certain level of dissatisfaction with their lives.

In certain cases, the Index reveals more pronounced levels of dissatisfaction. While there is little change in the ranking of the top eight countries and bottom five countries, there are notable changes among the remaining countries. Mexico ranks seven spots higher with the exclusion of the subjective indicators, Brazil moves up five places, Russia moves four, and Turkey and the Philippines both move up three places. These changes indicate their Index scores were driven down by a generally negative outlook among young people in these countries. Conversely, other countries drop in rankings with the elimination of outlook and satisfaction indicators, indicating that positive outlook and opinion among youth is lifting their Index scores: Vietnam moves down five spots in the rankings, Thailand moves down four places, and China, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia each move down three ranks.

There are also dramatic changes within countries' domain rankings that demonstrate a mismatch between youth perception and "reality."¹⁵ Perhaps most dramatically, in the citizen participation domain, negative youth opinion moves the United States' and Sweden's by 11 and 9 places, respectively. Spain's movement in the economic opportunity domain reflects youths' low assessment of their prospects, and South Korea's ranking in the health domain has been decidedly impacted by high stress levels. Conversely, Ghana's, Jordan's, Saudi Arabia's, and Peru's altered scores and ranking in the citizen participation domain indicate youth satisfaction and positive views of government and their value in society. In safety and security, Tanzanian youth express a robust sense of personal safety and freedom from violence, though data show they are at fairly significant risk of harm from traffic accidents.

Such movements in the domain and overall rankings illustrate the value of including perception-based indicators in assessing youth wellbeing, and in part help explain why wealthier countries, such as Russia, score lower than others of the same income level. These movements also reflect growing dissatisfaction among youth, which is often not aligned with prosperity levels. Recent expressions of youth dissatisfaction around the world have demonstrated the importance of addressing such aspirational and satisfaction gaps.

There are 1.8 billion young people in this planet, representing the largest generation in human history, who have the right to realize their full potential. Their voice needs to be heard. Youth satisfaction and outlook is definitely an important component in measuring youth wellbeing. This analysis will be one of the main sources of information for developing an evidenced-based national youth strategy and policy, and to put young people at the core of development. ”

—ANGGA DWI MARTHA
Youth advocate, United Nations
Population Fund

5 Next Steps and General Recommendations

ADVANCE YOUTH VOICES AND PARTICIPATION

Within the Index, youths' perceptions and outlooks play a role in a country's overall ranking. Results indicate that youth voices matter in terms of outlook, satisfaction, and behaviors across domains. Though more limited, evidence is showing that policies and programs aimed at serving young people or improving youth outcomes are more effective and impactful when designed in consultation with them. This holds across geographies and level of country income. The Index should serve as a reminder that the active participation of young people is critical in crafting policies and programs that create real opportunities for young people. Considerable care and attention should be given to ensure that such participation and processes are intentional and meaningful, and youth are equal stakeholders alongside adults with genuine and measurable influence.

PROMOTE DEEPER DIVE AND TARGETED RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

The Index is intended to serve as a starting point for conducting deeper-dive case studies. As stated earlier, youth wellbeing is not only a function of success in domains included in the Index, but can also be impacted by their gender, sexual orientation, province, religious association, socioeconomic status, marital status, disability, and ethnicity or language group. Deep-dive case studies in countries or regions could improve and strengthen the knowledge base around youth development and wellbeing, identify promising policy and programs, and shed important light on those at a greatest disadvantage and most in need of support. Findings from such case studies would be integral in formulating next steps for the Index.

CONSIDER INTEGRATED POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

The Index should foster dialogue among all stakeholders, including youth, policymakers, public- and private-sector donors, and implementers in considering the best methods to promote and improve youth wellbeing. Though results across and within domains point to gaps and opportunities for domain, sector, and indicator-specific programmatic investments and policy reforms, they also highlight the interconnectedness between indicators and across domains. This, in turn, encourages cross-sector policies and programs, as well as greater coordination between and among youth organizations and practitioners, government agencies, business units, and bilateral and multilateral donors.

These policies and programs should also take a systems and network view. The Index framework and results demonstrate that youth outcomes are affected by the robustness of broader ecosystems and enabling environments. Youth-inclusive policies, transparent and responsive institutions, supportive communities, and strong peer networks are necessary components in fostering youth capacity, creating opportunity, improving satisfaction and outlook, and advancing overall youth wellbeing.

ADVANCE THE BODY OF AGE-DISAGGREGATED AND YOUTH SURVEY DATA


The Index should serve as a critical tool to encourage governments and

other stakeholders to carry out better age-disaggregated data collection. This would include expanding global collection of current indicators and collecting data for a set of “wish list” indicators that are imperative signs of youth wellbeing—including the quality of education and youth voter turnout. Even more importantly, the Index is a call to action for the collection of data on youth perceptions and outlook on a global scale, utilizing a range of questions and a sizable sample. If such data became available, more countries could be included in the Index and other comparative analyses conducted.

One platform for greater monitoring of young people’s wellbeing is the global development agenda currently embodied in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which are set to expire in 2015. Planning for the subsequent framework is underway as this report goes to print, creating an opportunity for a more youth-inclusive agenda at the global level that would influence development planning, investments, and monitoring at the country and even sub-regional level. While a single youth empowerment goal, akin to MDG goal three for gender equality and women’s empowerment, is one way to make the next global development agenda more inclusive of youth, it is not necessarily the only method to ensure the agenda is youth-inclusive. Youth should be integral to all goals set, with specific, evidence-driven sub-goals and targets that will not only drive policy and programs to better serve and respond to youth needs, but also encourage and require

data collection with age in mind to aid monitoring and to track progress. Youth development is a discipline with an emerging set of lessons learned and principles, yet we still have much to learn.

To ensure no young people are left behind, the next MDG framework should consider and include youth outcome targets and indicators across the many interconnected domains of youth lives: education, health, political and civic engagement, safety, peace and security, economic growth, and the extent to which young people are equipped with tools and infrastructure to grow, participate, and prosper. The proposed framework by the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons took some notable steps in this direction in education and employment, but did not necessarily go far enough in these other areas. The Index can inform these gaps.



Endnotes

1. See "Generation Jobless," *Economist*, April 27, 2013, <http://www.economist.com/news/international/21576657-around-world-almost-300m-15-24-year-olds-are-not-working-what-has-caused>; "Adult and Youth Literacy: UIS Fact Sheet," UNESCO Institute for Statistics, September 2013, <http://www.uis.unesco.org/literacy/Documents/fs26-2013-literacy-en.pdf>; and "Fact sheet: Adolescents, young people and HIV," UNAIDS, 2012, http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/factsheet/2012/20120417_FS_adolescentsyoungpeoplehiv_en.pdf.
2. David Bloom and Jeffrey Williamson, "Demographic Transitions and Economic Miracles in Emerging Asia," *World Bank Economic Review*, no. 12 (1998): 419–56.
3. James Gribble, "South Korea's Demographic Dividend," Population Reference Bureau, November 2012, <http://www.prb.org/Publications/Articles/2012/south-korea-population.aspx>.
4. International Telecommunication Union (ITU), *Measuring the Information Society, 2012* (Geneva: ITU, 2012): 7, http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/publications/mis2012/MIS2012_without_Annex_4.pdf.
5. Joseph E. Stiglitz, Amartya Sen, and Jean-Paul Fitoussi, *Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress* (September 2009): 15, http://www.stiglitz-sen-fitoussi.fr/documents/rapport_anglais.pdf.
6. Vinod Thomas, Yan Wang, and Xibo Fan, "Measuring Education Inequality: Gini Coefficients of Education," World Bank, December 15, 2000, <http://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/pdf/10.1596/1813-9450-2525>.
7. The Index has been correlated against over 100 indices and data sets, as discussed in the Methodology Report. These comparisons show that the distribution of the Index scores, when analyzed against other indices, tends to fall into two clusters. Countries that perform well include Australia, Germany, Spain, Japan, South Korea, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Countries in the lower tier of performance include Uganda, Tanzania, India, Nigeria, and Kenya. Depending on which data the Index is being compared with, the difference between these two groups and the remaining countries in the middle can be quite pronounced, suggesting that there is a large differential between the wellbeing of youth within the very top performers and middle scorers.
8. See, for example, Hanna Morsey, "Scarred Generation," *Finance and Development* 49, no. 1 (March 2012), and International Labor Organization (ILO), *Global Youth Unemployment Trends 2012* (Geneva: ILO, 2012).
9. See ILO, *Global Youth Unemployment Trends for Youth 2013: A Generation at Risk* (Geneva: ILO, 2013).
10. A caveat to entrepreneurship measures, particularly among youth, is that many young entrepreneurs take this path as a matter of necessity (inability to secure employment) rather than opportunity. For further discussion of this dynamic, see Jacqui Kew et al., *Generation Entrepreneur? The State of Global Youth Entrepreneurship* (London: Youth Business International, September 2013), <http://www.youthbusiness.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/GenerationEntrepreneur.pdf>.
11. See, for example, Eric Hanushek and Ludger Wößmann, "The Role of Education Quality in Economic Growth," World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 4122 (February 2007), <http://elibrary.worldbank.org/doi/pdf/10.1596/1813-9450-4122>; World Bank Group Education Strategy 2020, *Learning for All: Investing in People's Knowledge and Skills to Promote Development* (Washington, DC: World Bank, 2011), http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EDUCATION/Resources/ESSU/Education_Strategy_4_12_2011.pdf; Education For All (EFA), *Youth and Skills: Putting Education to Work*, EFA Global Monitoring Report 2012 (Paris: UNESCO, 2012), <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002180/218003e.pdf>.
12. See, for example, Robert W. Blum et al., "Adolescent Health in the 21st Century," *Lancet* 379, issue 9826 (April 2012); Michael D. Resnick et al., "Seizing the Opportunity of Adolescent Health," *Lancet* 379, issue 9826 (April 2012); and Susan M. Sawyer et al., "Adolescence: A Foundation for the Future" *Lancet* 379, issue 9826 (April 2012).
13. See David J. McKenzie, "Youth, ICTs and Development," World Bank Paper no. 38937 (March 2007), http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDS/IB/2007/03/14/000310607_20070314135629/Rendered/PDF/389370Youth1IC1ent0Mar200701PUBLIC1.pdf; and ITU, *Measuring the Information Society, 2012*.
14. See UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, World Youth Report 2003: *The Global Situation of Young People* (New York: United Nations, 2004), <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/worldyouthreport.pdf>.
15. Note that with an equal weighting scheme across domains, the relative impact of subjective indicators on domain scores will vary with their share of the domains. For example, in citizen participation, subjective indicators account for a third of the score (two of six indicators in the domain), but in economic opportunity, outlook is one of seven total in the domain, thus having less impact.

About the Authors



NICOLE GOLDIN is director of the Global Youth Wellbeing Index and director of the Youth, Prosperity, and Security Initiative at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), in partnership with the International Youth Foundation (IYF). Until December 2012, Dr. Goldin served as senior adviser for policy at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), where she led the creation of USAID's first youth in development policy. Dr. Goldin previously served at the Department of State as senior adviser to the undersecretary for citizen security, democracy, and human rights for policy on global youth, Africa, and international organizations. She sits on the Board of Directors of the Society for International Development—Washington Chapter, on the Advisory Board of She's the First, and is a member of the Global Philanthropy Forum. Dr. Goldin is also a professorial lecturer at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs. She has worked with Peace Dividend Trust, the Clinton Global Initiative, and Chemonics International among other organizations. Dr. Goldin holds a Ph.D. in economics from the School of Oriental and African Studies, an M.Sc. in development from the London School of Economics, an M.A. in international political economy from American University, and a B.A. in East Asian studies from Union College.

PAYAL PATEL is the research and project associate for the Global Youth Wellbeing Index and serves as program coordinator for corporate programming at the International Youth Foundation (IYF). Prior to joining IYF, Ms. Patel worked with UN Women in Tanzania on the government of Tanzania's programming to eliminate violence against women. Before UN Women, she lived and worked in rural India with the Barefoot College, where she developed education programming for rural women. She has also worked extensively in the hospitality industry, which she is merging with her development experience through IYF's partnership with Hilton Worldwide. Ms. Patel earned her B.A. in Spanish from Southwestern University and her M.A. in sustainable international development from Brandeis University.

KATHERINE PERRY is a contributing researcher and writer for the Global Youth Wellbeing Index and serves as a research intern with the CSIS Youth, Prosperity, and Security Initiative. Prior to her work at CSIS, she lived and worked in Hokkaido, Japan, teaching English through the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program. Ms. Perry earned her B.A. in international relations and Japanese from San Francisco State University and is a master's candidate (2014) at the Elliott School of International Affairs at the George Washington University, concentrating on international security and development.

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