

WORLD PROGRESS 1970-2010 THE FACTS

The world that the New Internationalist describes has changed radically over the 40 years the magazine has been in existence – and it shows in the way it would have looked. Here are our panel of presenters' take-home historical ways of presenting statistics to show some of the changes.

POPULATION

There are about 7 billion people on the planet today, up from 3 billion in 1970. The world population is growing at a rate of 1.2% per year. The world population is projected to reach 9 billion by 2050.

Average world fertility rate 1970: 4.7
2010: 2.5



LIFE EXPECTANCY

The world of human development is a lot different from the way it was in 1970. Life expectancy has increased from 47 years in 1970 to 72 years in 2010. This is due to a combination of factors, including improved healthcare, better nutrition, and a decline in infant mortality.



CHILD MORTALITY

Infant mortality rates have fallen significantly since 1970. In 1970, 100 children under the age of 5 died for every 1,000 live births. By 2010, this rate had fallen to 54. This is a major achievement in global health.

Year	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)
1970	100
2010	54

WEALTH AND POVERTY

World average GDP per capita has risen from \$1,000 in 1970 to \$5,400 in 2010. This is a 4.3x increase. However, the world is still a long way from achieving the goal of universal basic income.

Average income per capita 1970 and 2010
1970: \$1,000
2010: \$5,400
41.3x larger

World's wealthiest 1% own 45% of the world's wealth

Year	World's Wealthiest 1% Share of World's Wealth
1970	30%
2010	45%



Income share of the top 1% in the world's richest countries



New Internationalist

The people, the ideas, the action in the fight for global justice

World progress 1970 - 2010

NEW INTERNATIONALIST EASIER ENGLISH
IELTS / ADVANCED READY LESSON

This lesson:

- 1) Reading** – about global issues and comparing simplified and original articles
- 2) Speaking** – discussing global issues – practice for the IELTS speaking exam
- 3) Writing** – practice interpreting graphs and writing 150 word summary for IELTS writing exam

How can we measure progress?

a) discuss, then read and make notes from:

http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Measuring_progress

b) discuss again, then read the original article:

<http://newint.org/features/2013/03/01/a-measure-of-progress-keynote/>

c) now compare the two articles and note down some new vocabulary



Now look at the graphs on the infographic on the next slide (or on the link below, with zoom feature) – and discuss what they show:

<http://newint.org/features/2013/03/01/world-progress-the-facts-infographic/>

WORLD PROGRESS 1970-2010 THE FACTS

The world that the *New Internationalist* describes has changed radically over the 40 years the magazine has been in existence – and not always in the ways it would have wished. Here we use some of the magazine's time-honoured ways of presenting statistics to chart some of the changes.

POPULATION

There are almost twice the number of people on the planet today that there were in 1970. And yet world population growth has slowed much faster than was envisaged in 1970. Fertility rates have fallen steeply over the period.

Average world fertility rate¹

1970 **4.7** children per woman



2010 **2.5** children per woman



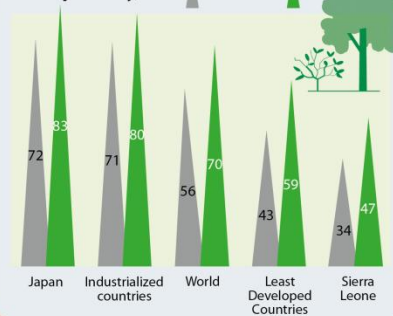
The highest fertility rates are in the poorest countries – the Least Developed Countries, most of which are in Sub-Saharan Africa. Reduce these faster through improving women's rights and the living standards of the poor, and world population will stabilize earlier than the current projected peak of 9 billion around 2050.



LIFE EXPECTANCY

The acid test of human development is whether people are living longer – and the improvement in life expectancy worldwide since 1970 is remarkable. World average life expectancy has increased by 25% since 1970 and is now approaching the level enjoyed in rich countries four decades ago. The gulf between the countries with the highest and lowest life expectancy (Japan and Sierra Leone) remains, however, vast and unacceptable.

Life expectancy, 1970 and 2010²



CHILD MORTALITY

Huge progress has been made in saving the lives of children under five. Globally the child mortality rate has been cut by almost 60 per cent – though in the poorest countries 1 in 9 still die, and in Sub-Saharan Africa the rate is closer to 1 in 8.

Under 5 mortality rates (per 1,000 live births) by region, 1970 and 2010¹

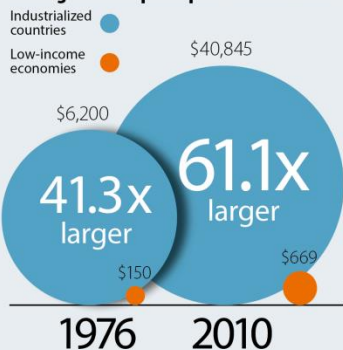


In Sub-Saharan Africa there were actually more child deaths in 2010 (3.7 million) than there were in 1970 (3.1 million) – the child mortality rate is much lower but the population is much higher.

WEALTH AND POVERTY

Measures and classifications change over time and cannot easily be compared with each other – gross national product (GNP) has been replaced by gross national income (GNI), and those countries considered 'low income' or 'least developed' in 1976 are not the same as those in 2010. But the broad-brush message is clear – far from having been reduced by four decades of development efforts and latterly by globalization, the gap between the richest countries and the poorest has actually become wider.

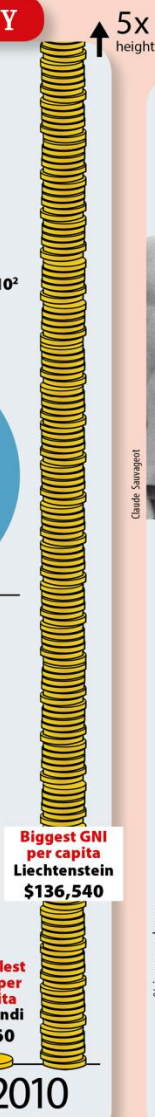
Average income per capita 1976 and 2010²



Within these extremes, some developing countries have, of course, made major strides over the four decades, especially in Asia – both China and India were counted as 'low-income economies' by the World Bank in 1976. This table gives a sense of how different regions have fared in economic terms over two periods: 1970-1990 and 1990-2010.

GDP per capita, average annual growth¹

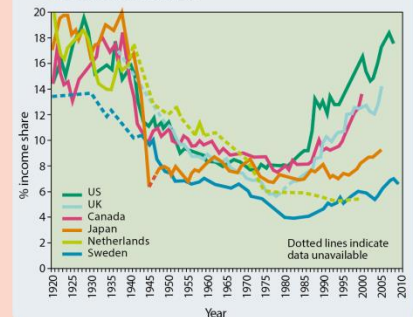
Region	1970-1990 (%)	1990-2010 (%)
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.0%	2.0%
South Asia	2.1%	4.5%
East Asia and Pacific	5.6%	7.4%
Latin America & Caribbean	1.4%	1.6%
Middle East & North Africa	-0.2%	2.4%
Industrialized countries	2.4%	1.6%
Least Developed Countries	-0.2%	2.6%



INEQUALITY

In the UK, US and Canada, the 1970s – the decade of *New Internationalist's* launch – was the high-water mark of social equality. From the 1980s onwards the neoliberal economic policies pushed by Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher – and exported to much of the world – have taken levels of inequality back to the levels experienced in the 1920s and 1930s. But these are political choices made, not economic inevitabilities, even under globalization. Some other rich countries have remained much more equal and socially cohesive – as in the Netherlands, Japan and Sweden.

Income share of the best-off 1% in six selected countries³



¹ UNICEF, *The State of the World's Children 2012*. ² 1976 figures are in gross national product per capita and are taken from the World Bank's *World Development Report 1978*. 2010 figures are in gross national income per capita and come from *The State of the*

World's Children 2012, though UNICEF also derive their figures from the World Bank. ³ Danny Dorling, *The No-Nonsense Guide to Equality*, New Internationalist, 2012, drawing from The World Top Incomes Database.

Writing

Now choose one of the sections of the infographic and write (in pairs, or alone) a summary of what it shows – 150 words

