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Mapping Regional Prosperity

The Legatum Prosperity Index™

2021

Prosperity by region

The varying performance of the Index's seven regions provide an illustration of how prosperity has plateaued. Five regions have experienced a deterioration in their prosperity over the last year, whilst Eastern Europe and sub-Saharan Africa are the only regions to have recorded an improvement in 2021. The greatest deterioration in the past year has been seen in Latin America and the Caribbean (4th), with all but five countries in the region weakening as a result of impact of the pandemic alongside faltering Governance. We have seen prosperity weaken in the world's two most prosperous regions — North America and Western Europe. Whilst North America (1st) remains the world's most prosperous region, it has deteriorated for the second year in a row.

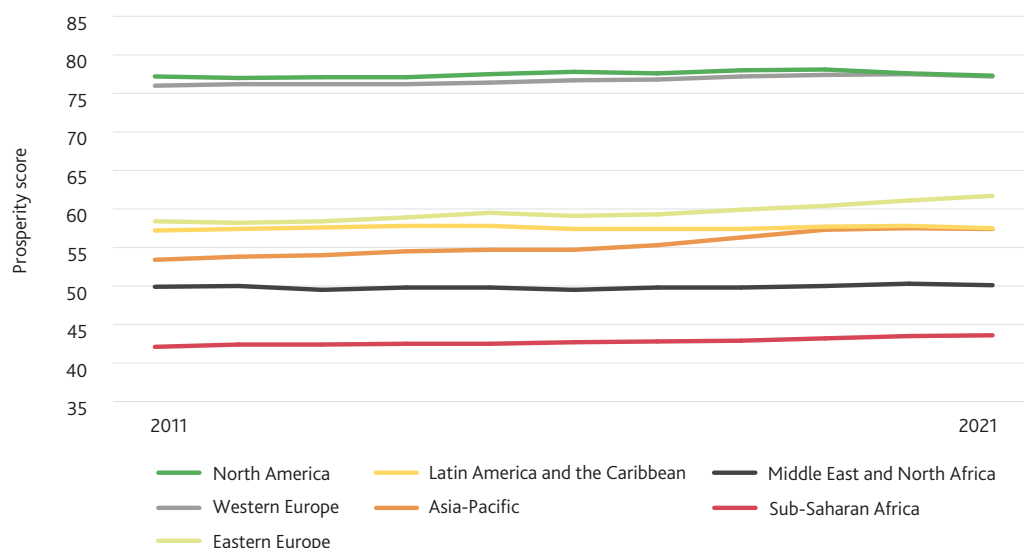
Prosperity in Eastern Europe (3rd) has improved for the fifth year in a row. Progress has been driven by growing confidence in key institutions, increasing levels of civil and social participation, as well as improving social tolerance. Though still ranked last, sub-Saharan Africa (7th) has continued its steady progress. Prosperity in the region has now increased for the 11th consecutive year, driven by consistent progress in health, levels of social tolerance, and infrastructure and market access. However, the pace of progress continues to lag behind that seen in regions like Eastern Europe and Asia-Pacific over the past decade.

The following pages explore in more detail how and why prosperity has been changing in each of these regions over the last decade.



	Overall Prosperity Ranking	Safety and Security	Personal Freedom	Governance	Social Capital	Investment Environment	Enterprise Conditions	Infrastructure and Market Access	Economic Quality	Living Conditions	Health	Education	Natural Environment
North America	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1
Western Europe	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2
Eastern Europe	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	3	5	3	4
Latin America and the Caribbean	4	5	3	5	6	5	6	5	5	4	4	4	3
Asia-Pacific	5	4	6	3	3	4	3	4	4	6	3	5	6
Middle East and North Africa	6	6	7	7	7	6	5	6	6	5	6	6	7
Sub-Saharan Africa	7	7	5	6	5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	5

PROSPERITY BY REGION



North America (1st)

Education is a particular strength in **Canada (15th)**, with 99.8% of the population enrolling in secondary school and women spending an average of 15.7 years in school, some of the highest rates seen anywhere in the world.

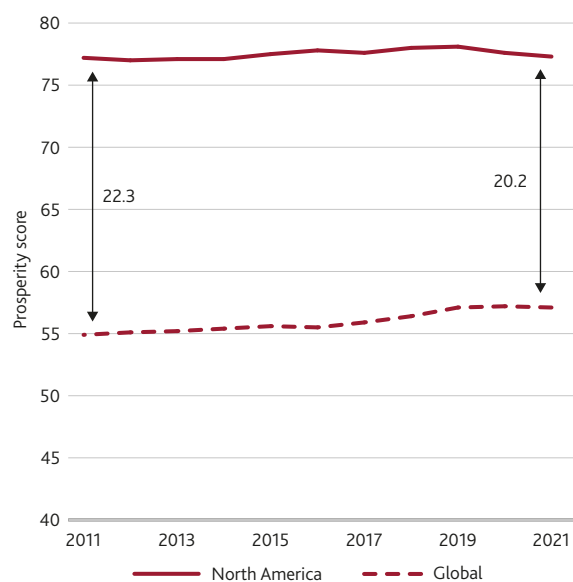
Rates of suicide in the **United States (20th)** stand at 14.5 deaths per 100,000 population, contributing to the country's low ranking for mental health (135th).

The **United States** ranks 4th for both Enterprise Conditions and Infrastructure and Market Access, a reflection of its status as a leading country for business. The United States enjoys the highest availability of skilled workers in the world.

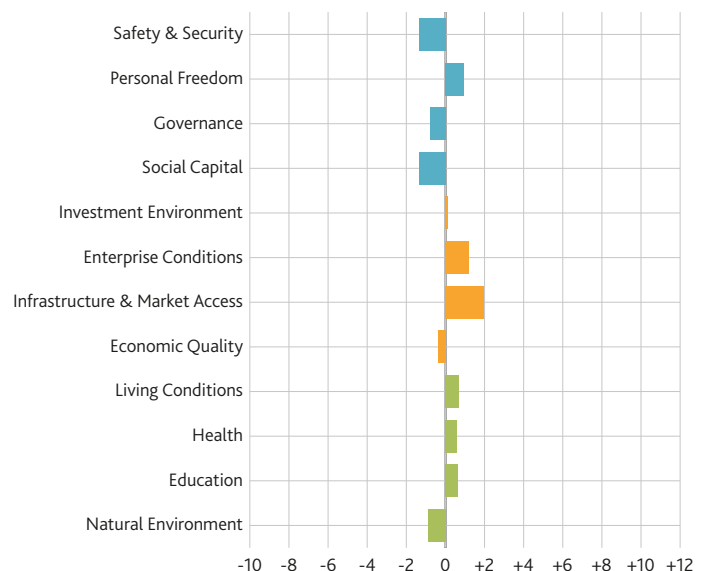
Fiscal Sustainability declined sharply in the **United States**, as the pandemic has impacted the government's balance sheet. Debt now exceeds \$28 trillion, an increase of nearly \$5 trillion in the past 14 months.

Country	Global rank
Canada	15
United States	20

NORTH AMERICA AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY



NORTH AMERICA PILLAR CHANGE, 2011-2021



Western Europe (2nd)

Education has improved in the **United Kingdom (13th)**, with a 10% increase in people completing tertiary education (90%).

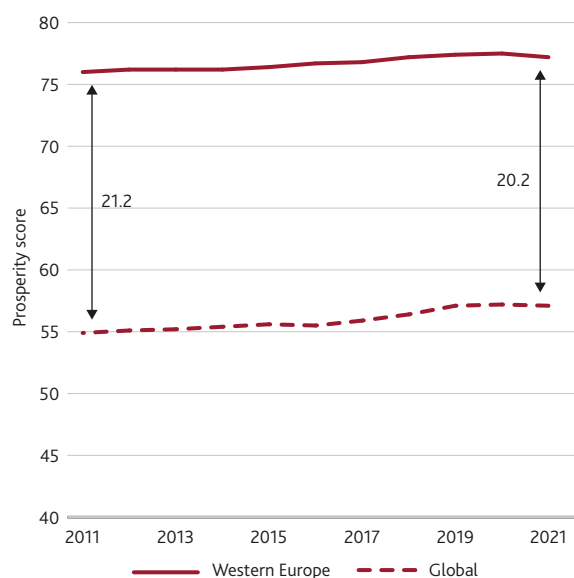
Sweden (3rd) is the Western European country whose prosperity has deteriorated the most over the last ten years. Since 2011, it has experienced a deterioration in six of the Index's 12 pillars, with the greatest deteriorations seen in Governance, Social Capital, and Investment Environment.

Country	Global rank
Denmark	1
Norway	2
Sweden	3
Finland	4
Switzerland	5
Netherlands	6
Luxembourg	7
Germany	9
Iceland	10
Austria	11
Ireland	12
United Kingdom	13
France	22
Belgium	23
Spain	24
Malta	25
Portugal	28
Italy	31
Cyprus	34
Greece	43

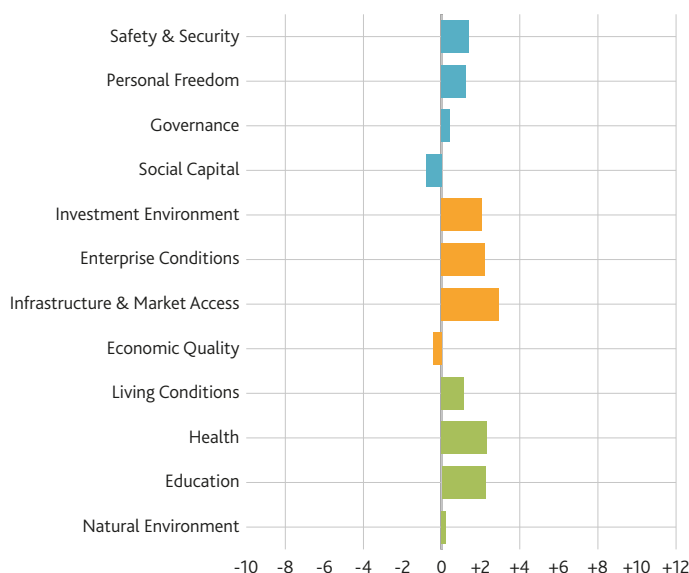
Spain (24th) is the Western European country whose prosperity has improved most in the past decade, driven by a notable improvement in Safety and Security. There has been a sharp decline in property crime, while the percentage of people who have reported stolen property in the last year has fallen from 14% to 8%.

Greece (43rd) is the least prosperous country in Western Europe. It ranks 131st for Social Capital, with only 8.4% of the population agreeing that people can be trusted, down from 21% just ten years ago.

WESTERN EUROPE AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY



WESTERN EUROPE PILLAR CHANGE, 2011-2021



Eastern Europe (3rd)

Hungary (44th) is the Eastern European country whose prosperity has deteriorated the most over the last ten years. It now ranks 82nd for Governance, with trust in government, the legislature, and the public sector continuing to fall.

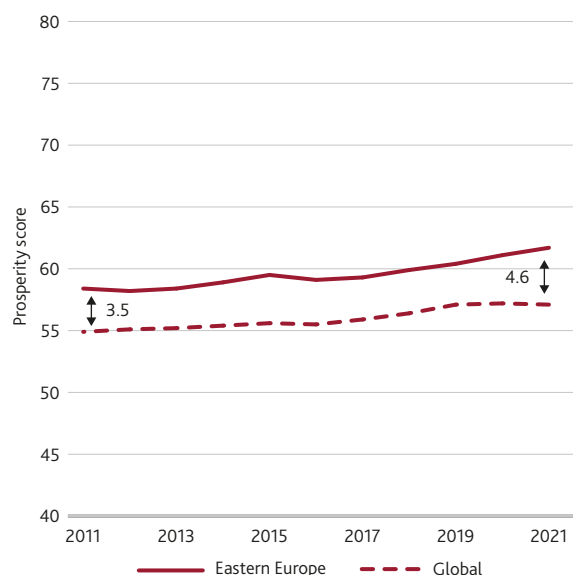
Estonia (17th) is the most prosperous country in Eastern Europe, ranking in the top 25 for all but one pillar. It has seen particular improvement in its Living Conditions over the past decade, with 88% now able to live on their household income, up from just 59% in 2011.

Country	Global rank
Estonia	17
Slovenia	26
Czechia	27
Latvia	30
Lithuania	33
Slovakia	35
Poland	36
Croatia	40
Hungary	44
Romania	47
Bulgaria	48
Montenegro	49
Serbia	52
Georgia	53
Armenia	55
North Macedonia	60
Belarus	66
Albania	69
Russia	70
Moldova	72
Bosnia and Herzegovina	76
Ukraine	78
Azerbaijan	86

Georgia (53rd) has seen a major improvement in fixed broadband subscriptions over the past decade, with the number increasing by more than six times. As a result, since 2011, the percentage of the population using the internet has increased from 20% to almost 70%.

Azerbaijan (86th) is the least prosperous country in Eastern Europe. Alongside weak Governance and Natural Environment, it performs particularly poorly for Personal Freedom. It ranks 153rd for Freedom of Assembly and Association and 158th for Freedom of Speech and Access to Information, both of which have deteriorated over the past decade.

EASTERN EUROPE AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY



EASTERN EUROPE PILLAR CHANGE, 2011-2021



Latin America and the Caribbean (4th)

Venezuela (147th) is the country in this region whose prosperity has deteriorated the most over the last ten years. The number of people in Venezuela that have not had enough money to buy food has nearly doubled to 73% since 2011.

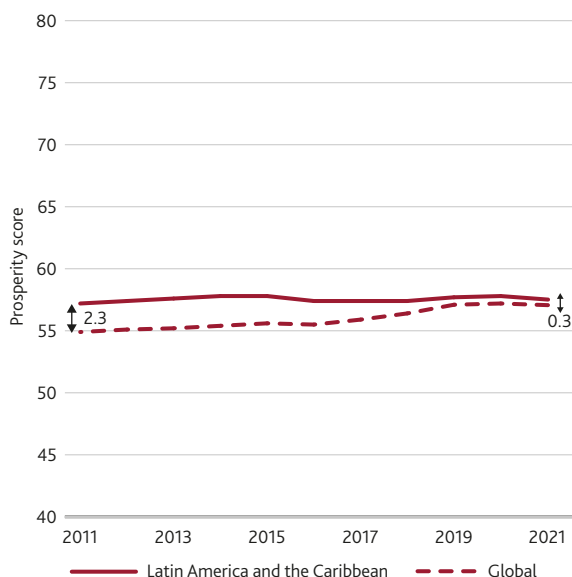
Haiti (155th) is the least prosperous country in Latin America and the Caribbean. It ranks below 150th for six pillars, while for its best performing pillar — Personal Freedom — it still ranks only 107th. It performs particularly poorly in Health, with immunisation rates for hepatitis currently at 51%, almost 40 percentage points lower than the global average.

Country	Global rank
Uruguay	37
Chile	38
Costa Rica	39
Panama	51
Argentina	57
Trinidad and Tobago	59
Peru	61
Jamaica	65
Brazil	68
Mexico	71
Dominican Republic	73
Colombia	77
Paraguay	79
Ecuador	83
Suriname	89
Guyana	94
Belize	95
El Salvador	97
Cuba	102
Guatemala	103
Bolivia	106
Honduras	111
Nicaragua	113
Venezuela	147
Haiti	155

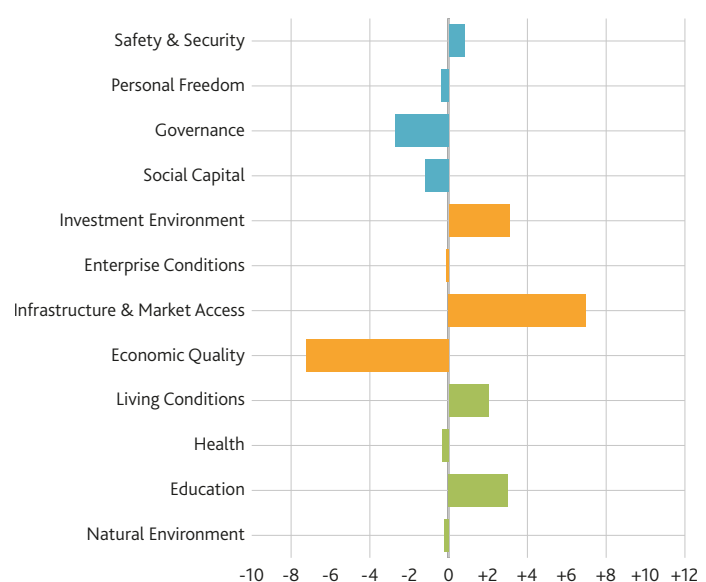
Pre-primary enrolment in **Peru (61st)** has improved from 77.8% to 99.7%, contributing to a boost in Education in the country.

Uruguay (37th) is the most prosperous country in Latin America and the Caribbean, ranking 16th in the world for Personal Freedom and 28th for Governance. More than 90% of survey respondents were satisfied with their degree of freedom to choose what to do with their lives.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN PILLAR CHANGE, 2011-2021



Asia-Pacific (5th)

Pakistan (138th) is one of the least prosperous countries in Asia-Pacific. It is ranked 167th in the world for Natural Environment, 150th for Safety and Security, and 143rd for Education. Though improving, rates of primary and secondary school completion remain low, at 58% and 46% respectively.

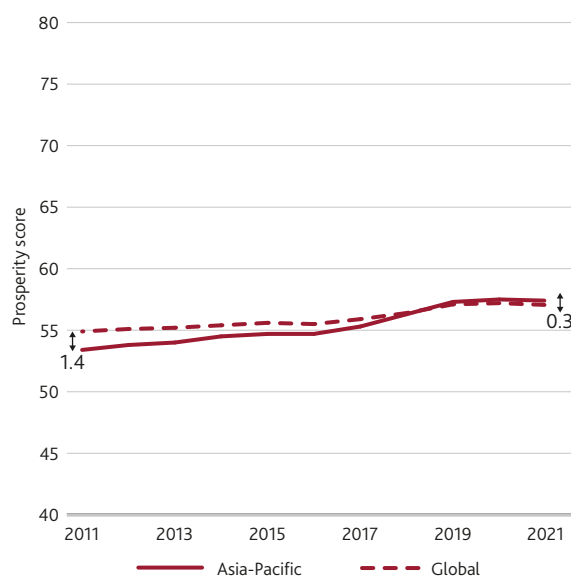
India (101st) has seen a great improvement in its Social Capital. Trust in key institutions such as local police, banks, the judicial system and courts, and the national government has increased by ten percentage points since 2011.

Papua New Guinea (128th) is the country in Asia-Pacific whose prosperity has deteriorated the most over the last ten years. It has experienced a significant deterioration in its Health, with immunisation rates falling. The proportion of children receiving hepatitis immunisations has fallen from 65% in 2011 to just 37%, the lowest rate anywhere in the world.

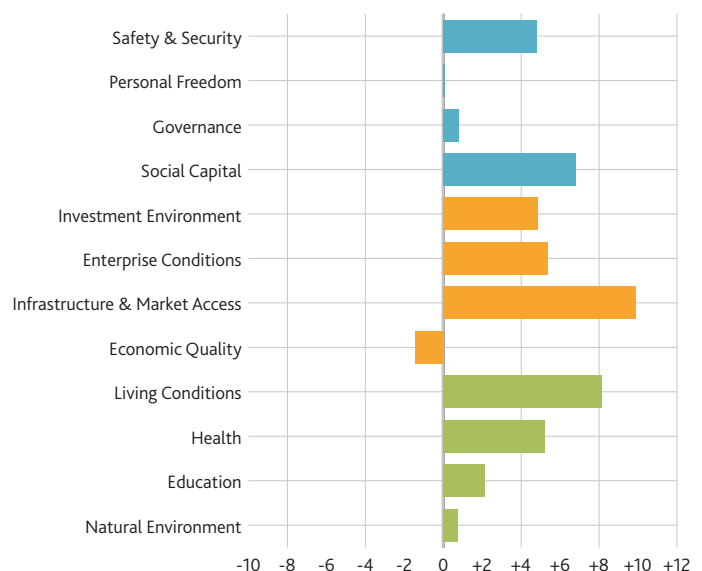
Country	Global rank
New Zealand	8
Singapore	14
Australia	16
Hong Kong	18
Japan	19
Taiwan, China	21
South Korea	29
Malaysia	42
China	54
Indonesia	62
Thailand	63
Kazakhstan	64
Vietnam	74
Philippines	84
Mongolia	87
Sri Lanka	88
Kyrgyzstan	90
Uzbekistan	100
India	101
Turkmenistan	108
Tajikistan	110
Nepal	114
Laos	115
Cambodia	118
Bangladesh	126
Papua New Guinea	128
Myanmar	133
Pakistan	138
Afghanistan	163

New Zealand (8th) is the most prosperous country in Asia-Pacific, due in part to its strong Social Capital (4th). Almost 60% of New Zealanders think most people can be trusted, one of the highest proportions worldwide.

ASIA-PACIFIC AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY



ASIA-PACIFIC PILLAR CHANGE, 2011-2021



Middle East and North Africa (6th)

Israel (32nd) is the most prosperous country in the MENA region. It has some of the highest immunisation rates in the world with over 96% of children receiving immunisations for diphtheria, measles, and hepatitis.

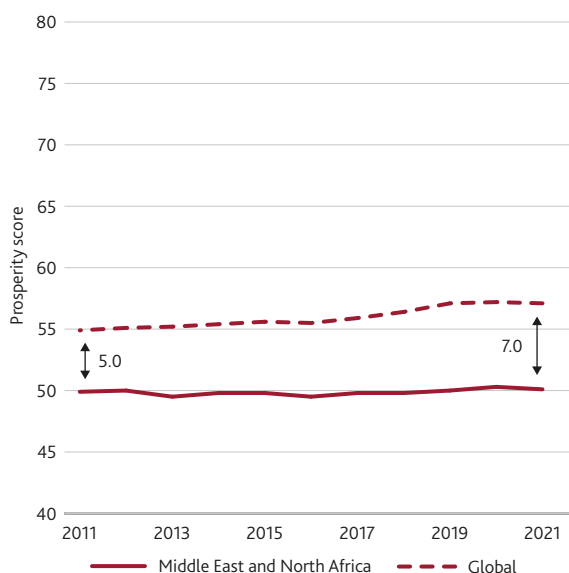
Syria (158th) has seen its prosperity deteriorate more than any other country in the world in the past decade as a result of its civil war. It now has the greatest number of conflict-driven internally displaced people in the world, having increased from 20,000 per million people in 2011 to over 375,000 per million people.

Country	Global rank
Israel	32
United Arab Emirates	41
Qatar	46
Bahrain	56
Kuwait	58
Oman	67
Saudi Arabia	75
Jordan	81
Morocco	91
Turkey	93
Tunisia	96
Algeria	107
Lebanon	109
Egypt	121
Iran	123
Iraq	141
Libya	154
Syria	158
Yemen	165

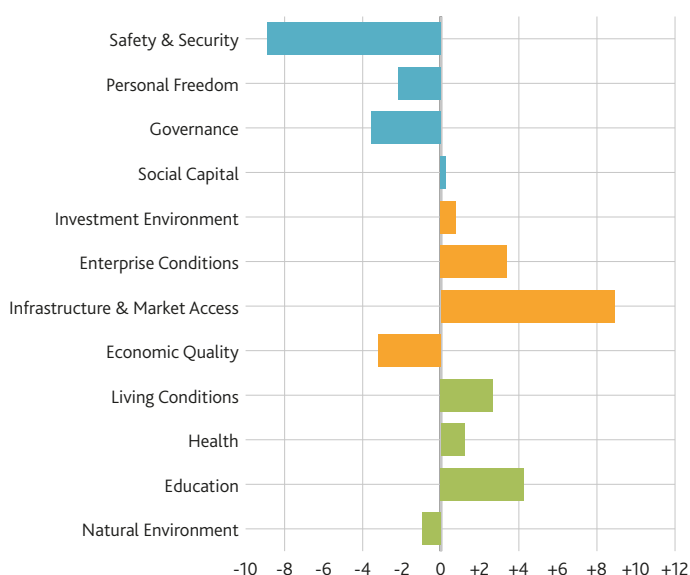
Over the past decade, **Saudi Arabia's (75th)** prosperity has improved more than any other nation in the region, driven in large part by improvements in Education. Tertiary enrolment rates have more than doubled to 71%, while secondary enrolment rates are now over 96%, placing Saudi Arabia in the top 20 in the world.

Yemen (165th) is the least prosperous country in the MENA region. High corruption levels across the judiciary, legislature, and public sector have hindered prosperity, while the economy is struggling with the lowest labour participation in the world at just 39%.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA PILLAR CHANGE, 2011-2021



Sub-Saharan Africa (7th)

Côte d'Ivoire (120th) has experienced the greatest improvement in its prosperity of any country in the world in the past decade. It has seen major improvements in all pillars apart from Personal Freedom and Natural Environment, rising 24 places in the global rankings as a result. It has made particularly strong progress in Economic Quality since 2011, with high-tech manufactured exports more than doubling as a share of total exports.

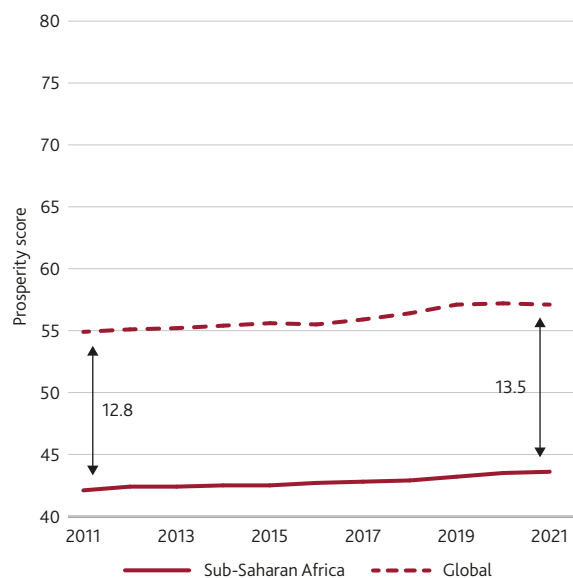
Mali (151st) has seen the second greatest deterioration in prosperity in sub-Saharan Africa in the last decade, after South Sudan. Ongoing and widespread insecurity has seen the number of terrorism deaths increase more than tenfold from one to 25 deaths per million people since 2011.

Country	Global rank	Country	Global rank
Mauritius	45	Madagascar	136
Seychelles	50	Togo	137
Cabo Verde	80	Liberia	139
Botswana	82	Guinea	140
South Africa	85	Zimbabwe	142
Namibia	92	Nigeria	143
São Tomé and Príncipe	98	Sierra Leone	144
Ghana	99	Ethiopia	145
Rwanda	104	Mozambique	146
Senegal	105	Niger	148
Kenya	112	Cameroon	149
The Gambia	116	Guinea-Bissau	150
Tanzania	117	Mali	151
Benin	119	Congo	152
Côte d'Ivoire	120	Mauritania	153
Djibouti	122	Angola	156
Zambia	124	Burundi	157
Gabon	125	Sudan	159
Uganda	127	Democratic Republic of Congo	160
Malawi	129	Somalia	161
Comoros	130	Eritrea	162
Eswatini	131	Chad	164
Equatorial Guinea	132	Central African Republic	166
Burkina Faso	134	South Sudan	167
Lesotho	135		

South Sudan (167th) is the least prosperous country in the world. War and civil conflict have persistently troubled this country, resulting in large numbers of refugees. There are almost 200,000 refugees in South Sudan per million inhabitants.

Mauritius (45th) is the most prosperous country in sub-Saharan Africa. It ranks in the top 50 for seven of the Index's 12 pillars.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND GLOBAL PROSPERITY



SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA PILLAR CHANGE, 2011-2021

