

Least Developed, Most Developed—KEY

9.3.3
b

The United Nations (2002) designated the following 49 countries as the *least developed countries* in the world:

Afghanistan	Liberia
Angola	Madagascar
Bangladesh	Malawi
Benin,	Maldives
Bhutan	Mali,
Burkina Faso	Mauritania
Burundi	Mozambique
Cambodia	Myanmar
Cape Verde	Nepal
Central African Republic	Niger
Chad	Rwanda
Comoros	Samoa
Democratic Republic of the Congo	São Tomé and Príncipe
Djibouti	Senegal
Equatorial Guinea	Sierra Leone
Eritrea	Solomon Islands
Ethiopia	Somalia
Gambia	Sudan
Guinea	Togo
Guinea-Bissau,	Tuvalu
Haiti	Uganda,
Kiribati	United Republic of Tanzania
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Vanuatu,
Lesotho	Yemen
Zambia	

According to the United Nations, the following is a list of the *most developed countries* of the world (2002):

Australia	Netherlands
Austria	New Zealand
Belgium	Norway
Canada	Russia
Denmark	South Korea
France	Sweden
Germany	Switzerland
Italy	United States
Japan	United Kingdom

Three nations not mentioned on this list are considered "newly developed" countries:

Mexico India South Africa

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Among the most developed countries, the following eight nations are members of the **G8** (2003), an organization of the most highly industrialized countries of the world:

Canada
France
Germany
Italy

Japan
Russia
United States
United Kingdom

In 1975, this group began as the *G6*, as it had only six members. Canada became a member in 1976 making it the *G7*; and Russia became a member in 1997 making it the *G8*. The European Union also participates in *G8* meetings, represented by the President of the European Commission and by the leader of the country that holds the presidency of the European Council at the time of the *G8* Summit.

Sources:

Canada's G8 Website:

<www.g8.gc.ca/menu-en.asp>

The Least Developed Countries Report 2002, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

<www.unctad.org/Templates/webflyer.asp?docid=2026&intItemID=1397&lang=1&mode=highlights>

