

## Upper 4 geographers compare countries

### Birth rate explanation

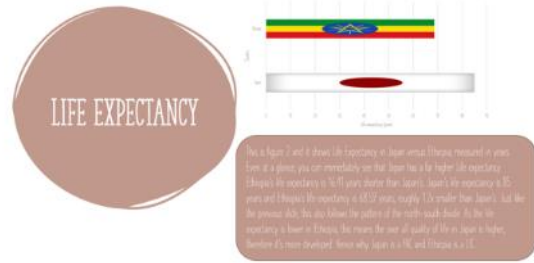


One reason why the UK has a lower birth rate than Niger is because the UK uses contraception. Niger has a contraception rate of 11% while the UK has a rate of 76.1%. This means that the UK contraception prevalence rate is 6.9 times bigger than Niger's. Contraception helps to prevent pregnancies and if a country has a higher access to contraception, less people will become pregnant, meaning that the birth rate will be lower. This shows that the development by UK (HIC) having a much higher access to contraception than Niger (LIC) showing that a higher access to contraception meaning that it will lead to lower birth rate.


Another reason why the UK has a lower birth rate than Niger is because of the infant mortality rate. Niger's infant mortality rate is 63.7 deaths per 1000 live births, while the UK's is 3.79. This means that Niger's infant mortality rate is 17.1 times higher than the UK. If the infant mortality rate is higher, more people's babies will tend to die so the birth rate will tend to be lower. The development by Niger (LIC) has a higher infant mortality rate because they don't have access to health care than UK (HIC).

Niger has the lowest mother's mean age at first birth (MFR) in the world. The UK's MFR is 26.5 years, while Niger's is 18.5 years. This means that Niger's mother's mean age at first birth is 7.0 years lower than the UK. If women have children at a younger age, they will have more kids so that if they were to start having kids at a younger age, the development by Niger (LIC) would have kids at a younger age so they can grow up quickly and get jobs or start money for their families they do this because they don't have as much resources as HIC UK.

UK has the highest school life expectancy (12 years) while Niger has 6 years. This means that the UK's highest school life expectancy is 2X. Because with staying in education for longer decreases the birth rate because most children won't have babies in their school life so they are more focused in school.



### GDP per capita



The Netherlands GDP per capita is 17.5 times higher than Zambia's. The reasoning for this is because The Netherlands have 70.2% of people working in services. When working in services, this includes jobs such as doctors and lawyers, the pay is increasingly higher than working in the agriculture sector. However, Zambia 57% of people working in their services sector, meaning The Netherlands have 13.2% more people working in higher paid jobs. Zambia also have 7.3 % of people working in the agriculture sector, with jobs such as farming, yet the Netherlands only have 1.6% of people working in this sector. Overall, The Netherlands people generally get paid more so the GDP is higher.

Over the last few weeks, Upper 4 have been exploring global development issues and how development indicators compare between high income countries (HICs) and low income countries (LICs).

This has culminated in a project in which pupils have been able to collect data from the CIA World Factbook for two countries of their choice.

Using Excel to graph the contrasts observed, data to analyse the extent of the contrasts, and geographical vocabulary to explain the trends, I have been incredibly impressed by the quality of their skills.

Pupils covered a range of countries from the USA, Denmark, Japan, Australia and the Netherlands to countries such as Ghana, South Sudan, Nigeria, Niger and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In all cases, pupils showed wonderful appreciation for geographical vocabulary and ideas.

With GCSE options so close, many have shown that they are already working at this level so congratulations to all!

Mrs Elizabeth Hayward