

Annual Report Indices of Social Development 2019

News

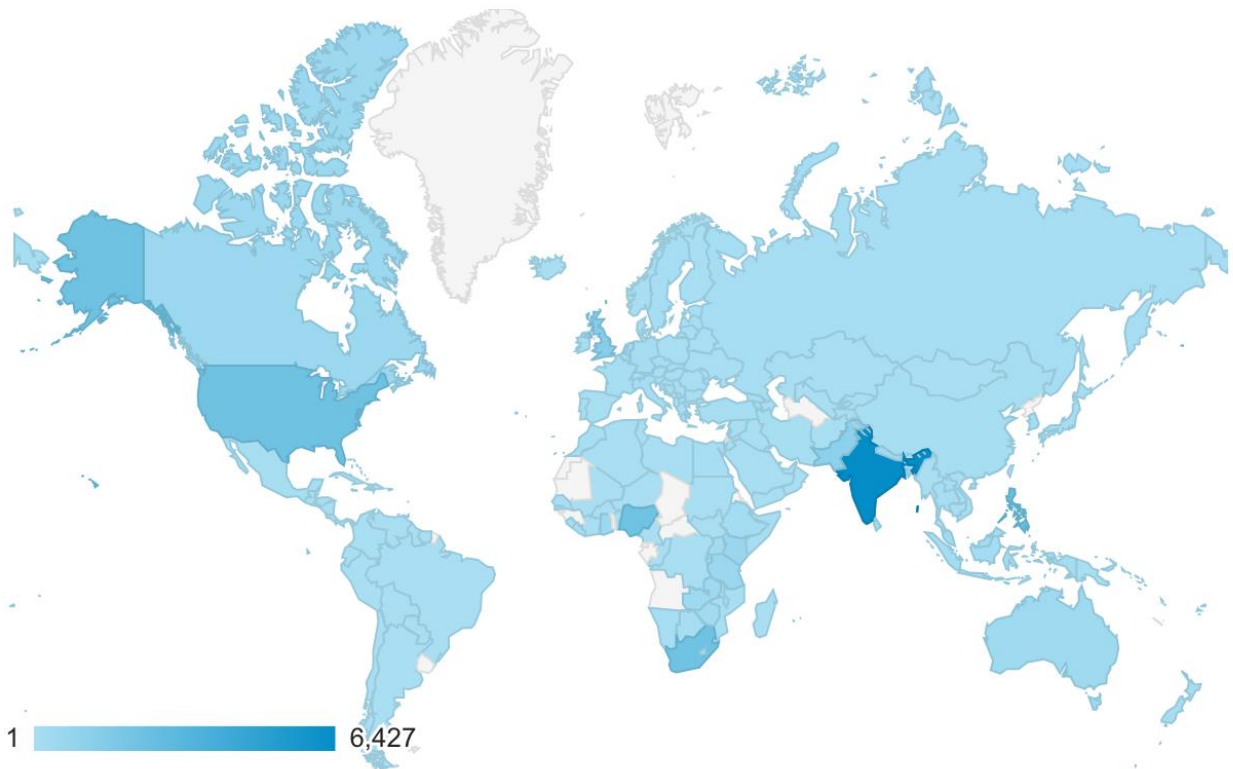
- The 2015 data are finally available. They are not uploaded to the website because the website is under construction. You can download the 2015 data, and find all relevant details, with this link: [2015 data](#).
- The ISD website will be moved to the website of the Erasmus University Rotterdam and can be reached, after the move, both through links on various pages of the EUR-website and ISS-website, and directly through its new website address. We will keep you updated through Twitter when the new website is up and running including the 2015 data.
- In 2021 we will start building the 2020 indices.

Global database use in 2019

The website had 28,650 visits in 2019. Interestingly, 99 percent of the users are new users. This means that the database is clearly reaching out to new users. Moreover, these are located in a great variety of countries, with an ongoing shift to the developing world. Moreover, the top ten countries in which users are located are partially different from previous years, mostly based in Asia and Africa.

As the map below shows in figure 1, the majority of website visitors is from India (6.427 users). The top ten countries include only three developed countries (US, UK and Canada). The developing countries that have the most users, next to India, are the Philippines, South Africa, Nigeria, Pakistan, Kenya and Tanzania.

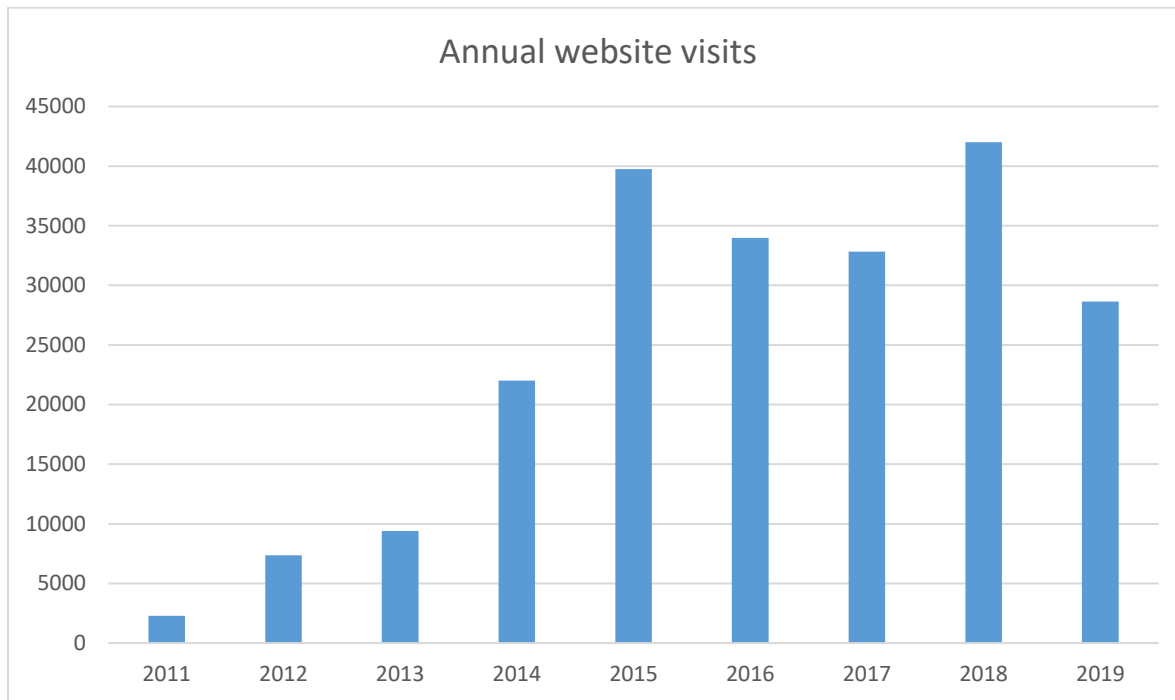
Figure 1: world map with website visits by country in 2019



Source: Google Analytics.

As is shown in figure 2 below, the trend in website visits over the years, since the start of the database in 2011, is not linear. In fact, we see an increase in most years, but a decline in 2016, 2017 and 2019. We hope that the release of the 2015 data will result in an increase in website visits as well as data downloads in 2020 again.

Figure 2. ISD website visits 2011-2019



Source: Google Analytics.

We have also information about data downloads in 2019. Over the past year, indices have been downloaded 1035 times, which is on average 86 times per month. There is a decline in downloads which may be due to the fact that researchers find the latest available year (2010) too long ago, and they wait for the 2015 data to become available. On the other hand, those who found the data were almost all new users, as was shown above.

Examples of data-use in external publications

- The index *Inclusion of Minorities* was used in an article analyzing the relationship between tropical climate and social exclusion and discrimination. Evert van de Vliert, 'The Global Ecology of Differentiation between Us and Them', *Nature Human Behaviour* 4, 270–278 (2020). Published online December 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-019-0783-3>
- The *Gender Equality Index* was used in an analysis of financial inclusion of women. S.A. Balasubramanian, T. Kuppasumani, and T. Natarajan, 'Financial Inclusion and Land Ownership Status of Women', *International Journal of Development Issues* 18(1): 51-69.

- The indices on *Inclusion of Minorities* and *Intergroup Cohesion* were used to analyze the relationship between education and ethnic diversity. M. Angeles Caraballo and Eva M. Buitrago, 'Ethnolinguistic Diversity and Education. A Successful Pairing. *Sustainability* 11(23): 6655, 2019. <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/11/23/6625>
- Three indices were used in a chapter on entrepreneurship and social progress: David Urbano, Sabastian Aparicio, and David B. Audretsch, 'Social Progress Orientation, Entrepreneurship and Economic Development', in David Urbano, Sabastian Aparicio, and David B. Audretsch, *Institutions, Entrepreneurship and Economic Performance*. Cham: Springer, 2019. <https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030133726>
- The *Gender Equality Index* was used in an article analyzing the gap between women's self-assessment of life satisfaction and various indices measuring objective gender inequality at country level. Charles Kurzman, Willa Dong, Brandon Gorman, Karam Hwang, Renee Ryberg, and Batool Zaidi, 'Women's Assessment of Gender Equality', *Socius* 5: 1-13, 2019. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2378023119872387>

The database: a summary

The Indices of Social Development (ISD) database is hosted by the International Institute of Social Studies and brings together 200 indicators, synthesizing them into a usable set of six measures to track how different societies perform along six dimensions of social development:

- *Civic Activism*, measuring use of media and protest behaviour
- *Clubs and Associations*, defined as membership in local voluntary associations
- *Intergroup Cohesion*, which measures ethnic and sectarian tensions, and discrimination
- *Interpersonal Safety and Trust*, focusing on perceptions and incidences of crime and personal transgressions
- *Gender Equality*, reflecting gender discrimination in home, work and public life.
- *Inclusion of Minorities*, measures levels of discrimination against vulnerable groups such as indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees, or lower caste groups.

The database is freely available online and part of the Creative Commons and can be accessed through the following link: www.IndSocDev.org The data are also safely stored in the Dutch Academic data repository [DANS](https:// DANS.nl). The ISD 2015 data can be found with this link: [2015 data](#).

The ISD database director is Prof. Irene van Staveren. The database receives support from the [International Institute of Social Studies](https://www.iisg.nl/) of Erasmus University Rotterdam. The 2019 management

team consists of Sanchita Bakshi and Irene van Staveren, while the 2015 data have been built by Christopher Knowles, Jimena Pacheco de Miranda and Sanchita Bakshi.

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