

УДК 369.011.4

Н.Ю. Мариненко, канд. економ. наук, доц., І.Ю. Крамар, канд. економ. наук
Тернопільський національний технічний університет імені Івана Пулюя, Україна

ПОКАЗНИКИ ЕКОНОМІЧНОГО І СОЦІАЛЬНОГО ДОБРОБУТУ ЛЮДЕЙ

N. Yu. Marynenko, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof., I. Yu. Kramar, Ph.D.

INDICATORS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HUMAN WELL-BEING

Standard of living is the level of wealth, comfort, material goods and necessities available to a certain population in a certain geographic area. It includes factors such as income, quality and availability of employment, class disparity, poverty rate, quality and affordability of housing, hours of work required to purchase necessities, GDP, inflation rate, number of vacation days per year, affordable (or free) access to quality healthcare, quality and availability of education, life expectancy, incidence of disease, cost of goods and services, infrastructure, national economic growth, economic and political stability, political and religious freedom, environmental quality, climate and safety.

A living wage is the minimum hourly income necessary for a worker to meet basic needs (shelter, clothing, nutrition etc). It differs from the minimum wage in that the latter is set by law and can fail to meet the requirements of a living wage. It differs somewhat from basic needs in that the basic needs model usually measures a minimum level of consumption, without regard for the source of the income. The International Labor Organization uses various criteria to recommend minimum wage levels: the needs of workers and their families, the general level of wages in a country, the cost of living, social security benefits, the relative living standards of social groups and economic factors such as economic development and employment maintenance.

The quality of life evaluates the general well-being of individuals and societies. Its standard indicators include wealth and employment, the built environment, physical and mental health, education, recreation and leisure time, social belonging. Unlike per capita GDP or standard of living, both of which can be measured in financial terms, it is harder to make objective or long-term measurements of the quality of life experienced by nations or other groups of people. Researchers have begun in recent times to distinguish two aspects of personal well-being: emotional well-being, in which respondents are asked about the quality of their everyday emotional experiences – the frequency and intensity of their experiences of joy, stress, sadness, anger, affection and life evaluation, in which respondents are asked to think about their life in general and evaluate it against a scale.

Such and other systems and scales of measurement of socio-economic development and well-being in the country have been recently in use: 1. Human Development Index (HDI) – combines measures of life expectancy, education, and standard of living, in an attempt to quantify the options available to individuals within a given society. 2. The Physical Quality of Life Index (PQLI) is a measure based on basic literacy, infant mortality, and life expectancy. It is mostly replaced by HDI. 3. The Happy Planet Index is unique among quality of life measures in that, in addition to standard determinants of well-being, it uses each country's ecological footprint as an indicator. 4. The assessment of Gross National Happiness (GNH) was designed in an attempt to define an indicator that measures quality of life or social progress in more holistic and psychological terms than only the economic indicator of GDP. The GNH concept is treating happiness as a socioeconomic development metric by tracking seven development areas including the nation's mental and emotional health. GNH value is proposed to be an index function of the total average per capita of the following measures: economic, environmental, physical, mental, workplace, social and political wellness.