

VERIFIED SOURCE SHEET

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AS A MEASURE OF NATIONAL SUCCESS

World Schools, University of Kentucky, September 11 to 13, 2026

HMDC Forensics, verified August 29, 2026

WHAT THIS DOCUMENT IS

Every factual claim that appears inside a finished HMDC asset for this motion has been traced back to the page that actually carries it, and each source below was opened live and read on August 29, 2026. The publication, the author, the affiliation and the date are recorded exactly as the source prints them, and the paragraph marked Original is copied word for word from the live page rather than remembered or reconstructed.

This sheet is the authority. When any infographic, graphic novel, video or slide disagrees with the citation recorded here, the citation recorded here is the one that is correct, because it was checked against the source and the asset was not.

HMDC Presents is our branding and it is never a source. No student material may cite HMDC, and no student material may cite a research guide, a source pack or a summary that we wrote ourselves.

SOURCE 1 - LIFE EXPECTANCY GAP

Citation: [Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker, a partnership of the Peterson Center on Healthcare and KFF, "How does U.S. life expectancy compare to other countries?", March 31 2026]

Link: <https://www.healthsystemtracker.org/chart-collection/u-s-life-expectancy-compare-countries/>

Original: "In 2024, U.S. life expectancy reached a record high of 79 years, 3.7 years below the comparable country average of 82.7 years."

Side: Proposition

Verification note: the date is March 31 2026. One of our two infographics prints March 21 2026, which is incorrect, and prints the publisher as "The Peterson XFF-Health System Tracker", which is also incorrect.

SOURCE 2 - UNPAID HOUSEHOLD WORK

Citation: [Office for National Statistics, "Household Satellite Account, UK: 2023", December 5 2025]

Link:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/nationalaccounts/satelliteaccounts/bulletins/householdsatelliteaccountuk/2023>

Original: "The value of unpaid household services was £1.2 trillion, or about 62% the size of gross domestic product (GDP), in 2014 and £1.7 trillion, or 61% of GDP in 2023."

Side: Proposition

Verification note: correct on both of our infographics. Two further figures on the same page are worth carrying, because they answer the objection that unpaid work is small or shrinking. Unpaid adult care rose 81%

between 2019 and 2023, and volunteering hours fell by over 40% between 2014 and 2023.

SOURCE 3 - SMALL ISLAND STATES AND CONCESSIONAL FINANCE

Citation: [United Nations, "Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 4: Valuing What Counts - Framework to Progress Beyond Gross Domestic Product", May 2023]

Link: <https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/our-common-agenda-policy-brief-beyond-gross-domestic-product-en.pdf>

Original: "GDP is the most widely used benchmark to measure a country's economic progress and the value of its domestic production of goods and services. It is part of the System of National Accounts that sets out a common language for statisticians, economists and policymakers across all countries."

Original, second passage: "GDP continues to play a key role as a yardstick for providing international support, including in criteria for countries classified as least developed or eligible for support by the International Development Association, leaving some countries with high vulnerabilities without access to concessional financing."

Side: Proposition for the second passage, Opposition for the first

Verification note: this one document supports both sides, which is why it is the single most useful source on the sheet. The Opposition uses the first passage to show that the number is a shared world standard, and the Proposition uses the second passage to show that the same number decides which countries are refused cheap finance after a disaster.

SOURCE 4 - DISASTERS COUNTED AS GROWTH

Citation: [Diane Coyle, Paul Allin and Tim Jackson, "Beyond GDP: changing how we measure progress is key to tackling a world in crisis - three leading experts", The Conversation, August 18 2022]

Link: <https://theconversation.com/beyond-gdp-changing-how-we-measure-progress-is-key-to-tackling-a-world-in-crisis-three-leading-experts-186488>

Original: "War, pollution, crime, prostitution, traffic congestion, disasters like wildfires and the destruction of nature - all can have a positive impact on GDP."

Side: Proposition

Verification note: the date is August 18 2022, and this was established from Tim Jackson, one of the three authors, announcing publication that day. One of our two infographics prints August 10 2022, which is incorrect.

SOURCE 5 - WELFARE AND INCOME CORRELATE AT 0.98

Citation: [Charles I. Jones, Stanford GSB and NBER, and Peter J. Klenow, Stanford University and NBER, "Beyond GDP? Welfare across Countries and Time", Version 5.0, February 10 2016; published in American Economic Review, volume 106, number 9, September 2016, pages 2426 to 2457]

Link: <https://web.stanford.edu/~chadj/rawls.pdf>

Original: "While welfare is highly correlated with GDP per capita, deviations are often large. Western Europe looks considerably closer to the U.S., emerging Asia has not caught up as much, and many developing countries are further behind."

Original, second passage: "the two measures have a correlation of 0.98"

Side: Opposition

Verification note: correct on both of our infographics, and the 0.98 figure appears verbatim in the paper. Our debaters must know that the same paper carries the Proposition's answer, because it also reports that many developing countries have welfare levels 25 to 50 percent below their incomes, and that the correlation between welfare growth and income growth is 0.97 rather than 1. A high correlation across the whole world is compatible with a very large error for the particular country a judge cares about.

SOURCE 6 - GROWTH AND POVERTY

Citation: [Max Roser, Our World in Data, "How much economic growth is necessary to reduce global poverty substantially?", March 15 2021]

Link: <https://ourworldindata.org/poverty-minimum-growth-needed>

Original: "a world economy with substantially less poverty is at a minimum 5-times bigger than today's global economy"

Side: Opposition

Verification note: the publisher is Our World in Data. One of our two infographics prints "Our World in Date", which is incorrect.

SOURCE 7 - ONE SHARED WORLD STANDARD

Citation: [Eurostat, "New global standards for macroeconomic statistics", April 9 2025]

Link: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/web/products-eurostat-news/w/cn-20250409-1>

Original: "As international standards, the SNA and BPM allow countries to compile macroeconomic statistics according to best practices and in a consistent way, providing users with relevant, consistent, comprehensive and comparable data across countries."

Side: Opposition

Verification note: the date is correct on both of our infographics. The wording on the infographics is not. Both print "Every country calculates it the same way", and the source does not say that. It says that the standards allow countries to compile statistics in a consistent way, and it also says that Eurostat is still revising the European standard to match the new global one. A skilled opponent will punish the stronger wording, so our debaters should say that the world shares one accounting framework rather than that every country calculates the number identically.

SOURCE 8 - GROWTH FUNDS HEALTH SPENDING

Citation: [Christoph Kurowski, Martin Schmidt, David B. Evans, Ajay Tandon, Patrick Hoang-Vu Eozenou, Jewelwayne Salcedo Cain and Eko Setyo Pambudi, World Bank, "Government Health Spending Outlook - Projections Through 2029", November 2024]

Link: <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/d8a3d06a-efcc-43f4-a695-a807eac90457>

Side: Opposition

Verification note: correct on both of our infographics. This source is archived on the team drive as WSD-GDP-WorldBank-2024-Government-Health-Spending-Outlook-2029.pdf, so the Original paragraph should be lifted from the archived file rather than from the web, because the file is the copy we can prove we read.

WHERE THE TWO GDP INFOGRAPHICS ARE INCORRECT

The file named Both Sides IMG-01 carries the wildfire date as August 10 2022, which is incorrect, and is otherwise accurate.

The file named Both Sides IMG-02 carries the life expectancy date as March 21 2026, which is incorrect, prints the publisher as "The Peterson XFF-Health System Tracker", which is incorrect, and prints "Our World in Date", which is incorrect.

Neither file is fully correct, and the two disagree with each other on two dates, so neither should be shown to a student or a judge until it is rebuilt from this sheet.

SOURCES ADDED AFTER THE GRAPHIC NOVEL AND VIDEO AUDITS

The five sources below appear inside the graphic novels or the videos but on none of the infographics. All five were verified on August 29 2026 and belong on this sheet.

SOURCE 9 - THE AVERAGE AND THE TYPICAL FAMILY

Citation: [Brian Nolan, Max Roser and Stefan Thewissen, University of Oxford, "GDP Per Capita Versus Median Household Income: What Gives Rise to the Divergence Over Time and how does this Vary Across OECD Countries?", Review of Income and Wealth, first published 2018, DOI 10.1111/roiw.12362]

Link: <https://www.inet.ox.ac.uk/publications/gdp-per-capita-versus-median-household-income-what-gives-rise-to-the-divergence-over-time-and-how-does-this-vary-across-oecd-countries>

Original: "GDP per capita has risen faster than median household income in most of these countries"

Original, second passage: "the size of that divergence varied very substantially, with the USA a clear outlier"

Side: Proposition

SOURCE 10 - HAPPINESS SCORES CANNOT BE COMPARED ACROSS MOST COUNTRIES

Citation: [Petra Raudenská, "Single-item measures of happiness and life satisfaction: the issue of cross-country invariance of popular general well-being measures", Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, volume 10, November 23 2023]

Link: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-023-02299-1>

Original: "the item parameters of the survey items varied among several countries in each round of the program, indicating that the observed score means could only be compared between a few participating countries"

Side: Opposition

SOURCE 11 - THE ONE COUNTRY THAT LEGISLATED A WELLBEING MEASURE

Citation: [Adrian Crompton, Auditor General for Wales, Audit Wales, "Ten years on, the Well-being of Future Generations Act has increased prominence but is not driving the system-wide change that was intended", April 29 2025]

Link: <https://www.audit.wales/news/ten-years-well-being-future-generations-act-has-increased-prominence-not-driving-system-wide>

Original: "The Act is not driving the system-wide change that was intended."

Side: Opposition

Verification note: this is ten years after the 2015 Act, not five. One video frame says five years, which is incorrect. The auditor also did not say the Act failed; he said it has increased prominence but is not driving the intended change, and the precise wording is the stronger card.

SOURCE 12 - THE NUMBER ROSE WHILE NATURE FELL

Citation: [Yale School of the Environment, featuring Eli Fenichel, co-author of the World Bank report, "Going Beyond GDP to Measure the Changing Wealth of Nations", October 22 2024]

Link: <https://environment.yale.edu/news/article/going-beyond-gdp-measure-changing-wealth-nations>

Original: "real GDP per capita increased approximately 50% in all regions"

Original, second passage: "renewable natural capital - driven by an overexploitation across almost all natural resources, such as forests, marine capture fisheries, and mangroves - declined by more than 20% globally"

Original, third passage: "marine fish stocks per capita have dropped by more than 45% in real terms since 1995"

Side: Proposition

Verification note: the period is 1995 to 2020 and all three figures shown in the video match this source exactly. This is probably the single strongest Proposition card in the project, because it holds the rising number and the falling natural wealth in the same period.

SOURCE 13 - A REAL STATE MEASURED BOTH AND FOUND A GAP

Citation: [Kirsten L.L. Oleson, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and Regina Ostergaard-Klem, Hawai'i Pacific University, "Updating the Genuine Progress Indicator for the State of Hawai'i", funded by the Hawai'i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, February 23 2022]

Original: "The state's GPI was consistently lower than the state GDP (55% on average)."

Original, second passage: "GPI of \$43.7 billion (in 2020 US\$) was 55% of the average GDP at \$79.3 billion"

Side: Proposition

Verification note: archived on the team drive as WSD-GDP-Hawaii-2022-Updating-Genuine-Progress-Indicator-Hawaii-Report.pdf, so the Original comes from a file we own rather than from the web.