**The Human Development Index HDI**

The Human Development Index was devised by the United Nations in 1990 and uses a number of indicators of development to give each country in the world a development score. The score ranges from 0 to 1, with 1 being the most developed. No country has reached a score of 1, although some, such as Japan and Canada have attained marks well over 0.9.

**The indicators of development used in the index are:**

* Literacy
* Life Expectancy
* The GNP per person, adjusted to take into account the cost of living in that country.

The HDI is a more effective measure than just using GDP, as it brings in social considerations also. However it still has problems because it does not show any of the regional differences within a country.

**Scatter graphs:**

It is easy to compare two different indicators of development, using the figures for a number of different countries to plot a scatter graph. Scatter graphs show whether there is any connection between the two sets of figures. This is called a **correlation** and it can be either positive or negative.

The graph below shows the comparison between life expectancy and population per doctor. The figures for five countries have been plotted and a "line of best fit" drawn in. This slopes down from left to right, meaning that the figures show a negative correlation.

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