

School Systems Around the World

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In today's world, there are many facets of things representing different parts of the world. For example, education systems differ greatly around the world, and this leads to different levels of knowledge, or less access to information. School systems may seem like a widely discussed topic, but in truth it is usually bits and pieces, and lately focused on US schools. While this contradicts this, these systems are generally divided by location, and so this is a general overview by regions.

The years of basic schooling range for 12 years in places such as Ghana and South Africa, while in other places it can be as little as only 5 years of mandatory school. While some parts would be compared to 'American standards' there is still another factor. "One in five primary school-age children in sub-Saharan Africa are out of school"(Ouma 1). Much fewer people attend school because of a range of causes from lack of necessities to family struggles and need to work. Also, many kids find it to be better to skip school and use their time for something else because of the bad school environments. One of the main issues is lack of qualified teachers. There are also less structured curriculums than more developed countries as well as worse physical learning conditions.

In China 9 years of education are required though most continue their education beyond. North Korea on the other hand (which is a communist country) required students to attend school for 11 years. Enrollment rates across all of Asia usually vary from 90%-100%, as most countries strictly enforce attendance. A few common things that show up in most developed Asian countries is consistency across the region, strict on what subjects that are learned, and interestingly, uniforms.

The years of basic schooling in Europe varies from 8-13 years, though it averages to 12 years across all European countries. "The average for 2020 based on 41 countries was 100.65 percent." (The Global Economy 1). These are some of the highest enrollment rates in the world, and along with the high requirement of years of school, it is no wonder that European countries are high ranked in education.

That leads to world rankings by country. The USA is ranked number one in the world in the education index, requiring 11 years of school and having an average of 90% attendance rates; they also lead in many other industries and departments globally. Following are the UK and Germany, and though it is interrupted by Canada, more European countries follow. The education index shows that 14 out of the first 20 countries are European. On the other hand, only

five African countries, leading with South Africa in 33rd, even show up on the top 78 countries. Finally, Asia has a mix, though most countries fall in the top 20s and lower.

The world is a very complex place with different cultures and people, and one very important thing everywhere is education. Though it is not always clear, there are strong connections between classrooms and the complex systems of the countries. Learning about the differences and the causes behind them can help us make a better world.

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