

Revisiting the Middle-Income Trap: Updated Transition Benchmarks and Country Classifications

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Abstract

The concept of the middle-income trap (MIT) is widely used to explain why many countries experience prolonged stagnation after reaching middle-income levels. Existing empirical studies, however, rely on transition benchmarks derived from earlier reference periods and may not fully reflect recent development experiences. This paper revisits the middle-income trap framework by updating income transition benchmarks using long-run per capita income data from the Maddison Project Database extended to 2022.

Following the methodology proposed by Felipe et al., fixed income level thresholds are retained while transition-period benchmarks are recalculated based on the observed experiences of countries that successfully completed income transitions after 1950. The results indicate that the median time required to transition from lower-middle-income to upper-middle-income has increased from 28 years to 35 years, while the median duration for transitions from upper-middle-income to high-income remains at 14 years. These findings suggest that income mobility has slowed at the lower-middle-income stage in recent decades, whereas upper-middle-income transitions have remained relatively stable.

Using the updated benchmarks, countries are classified into lower-middle-income trap, upper-middle-income trap, non-trapped middle-income, successful transition, macro-unstable, and persistently low-income categories. The analysis highlights the reference-year dependence of MIT benchmarks and shows that the middle-income trap should be understood as a moving benchmark rather than a fixed structural barrier. The updated classification provides a revised empirical basis for assessing development challenges faced by middle-income economies in the contemporary global context.

Keywords: Middle-income trap; Transition thresholds; Income Thresholds; Income transition status; Transition duration; Global growth slowdown; GDP per capita growth rate

Introduction:

Over the past several decades, a large number of developing economies have succeeded in moving out of low-income status but have struggled to sustain growth once they reached middle-income levels. This phenomenon has come to be known as the middle-income trap (MIT) and has become a central concept in development economics. The MIT literature argues that growth strategies based on low wages, basic manufacturing, and resource extraction eventually lose momentum, making further income convergence increasingly difficult.

Empirical identification of the middle-income trap depends not only on income thresholds but also on how long countries remain within middle-income categories. One influential framework proposed by Felipe et al. defines the MIT using fixed income thresholds combined with benchmark transition periods derived from historical income data. However, these benchmarks were calculated using a reference year around 2010 and may not adequately capture more recent development experiences marked by global slowdowns, structural changes, and external shocks.

This paper revisits the middle-income trap framework by updating transition benchmarks using long-run per capita income data extended to 2022. Rather than redefining income levels, the study retains the original income thresholds and recalculates transition-period benchmarks based on countries that successfully completed income transitions during the post-1950 development era. The updated benchmarks are then used to reclassify countries according to their current income transition status.

By providing an updated empirical classification of income transitions, this paper contributes to the literature in two ways. First, it shows that the duration required to escape the lower-middle-income stage has increased in recent decades, indicating a slowdown in income mobility at this level. Second, it highlights the reference-year dependence of MIT benchmarks, suggesting that the middle-income trap should be understood as a moving benchmark rather than a fixed structural barrier. These findings offer a revised basis for assessing development challenges faced by contemporary middle-income economies.

2. Data and Methodology

This study uses long-run per capita income data from the Maddison Project Database, which provides internationally comparable estimates of real GDP per capita based on purchasing power parity (PPP). The Maddison series is particularly suited for analysing income transitions over extended periods and has been widely used in the middle-income trap literature, including by Felipe et al.

Income levels are measured using Maddison's constant GDP per capita series expressed in 1990 PPP dollars. To extend the income series beyond 2010, observed annual growth rates from the most recent Maddison series based on 2011 PPP dollars are applied to the original 1990 PPP-based income levels. This approach preserves consistency in income levels while allowing the series to be extended to 2022. Income levels from different PPP bases are not mixed; only growth rates are used to extend the original series.

Following Felipe et al., fixed income thresholds of USD 2,000, USD 7,250, and USD 11,750 are retained to define transitions between low-income, lower-middle-income, upper-middle-income, and high-income categories. While income thresholds are treated as constant, transition-period benchmarks are recalculated using updated data.

3. Derivation of Updated Transition Benchmarks

Transition benchmarks are derived from countries that successfully completed income transitions during the post-1950 development era. For the lower-middle-income stage, countries that entered the lower-middle-income category after 1950 and subsequently graduated to upper-middle-income status are identified. The number of years each country spent in the lower-middle-income category between sustained entry and sustained graduation is calculated. The median of these durations is taken as the benchmark transition period.

Using income data extended to 2022, the median duration spent in the lower-middle-income category by successful transitioners is found to be **35 years**. This value is adopted as the updated benchmark for identifying prolonged lower-middle-income transitions.

A similar procedure is applied to upper-middle-income transitions. Countries that entered the upper-middle-income category after 1950 and subsequently graduated to high-income status are identified, and the median number of years spent in the upper-middle-income category is calculated. The resulting benchmark duration is **14 years**, which remains unchanged relative to earlier estimates.

Countries that entered middle-income categories before 1950 are reported separately and are not used in the benchmark calculations, as their development experiences reflect different historical conditions.

3.1 Derivation of Lower Middle Income Trap Benchmark

Table 1 below shows the countries those entered the LMI after 1950 and graduated to UMI. In Felipe's study only 9 countries are there under this category but in this study a total of 14 countries come under this category.

Table 1 Economies that became lower-middle-income after 1950 and graduated to upper-middle-income						
Sr No.	Country	Region	Year country turned LM (YLM)	Year country turned UM (YUM)	No. of years as LM	Ave. GDP per capita growth rate (%) (YLM to YUM)
1	Bulgaria	Europe	1953	2006	53	2.51
2	Romania	Europe	1962	2020	58	2.28
3	Turkey*	Europe	1953	2005	52	2.46
4	China	Asia	1992	2010	18	7.57
5	Indonesia	Asia	1986	2022	36	3.64
6	Malaysia	Asia	1969	1996	27	5.13
7	Rep. of Korea	Asia	1969	1988	19	7.18
8	Sri Lanka*	Asia	1983	2017	34	3.94
9	Thailand	Asia	1976	2004	28	4.71
10	Taipei, ROC/Taiwan	Asia	1967	1986	19	6.99
11	Iran	Middle East & North Africa	1959	2009	50	2.60
12	Oman*	Middle East	1968	1997	29	3.00
13	Dominican Republic	Latin America & Caribbean	1973	2021	48	2.77
14	Costa Rica*	Latin America	1952	2006	54	2.44

* Countries face temporary reversals

Source: Author's calculation

Felipe smoothed the shorter and longer dips and smoothed the transition for the countries graduated before 1950. For example, Greece falls back in LI in 1941 and remains until 1950 then re-entered LMI in 1951. It faced a long dip of 10 years since 1941 to 1950 but he counted this ten-year dip as LMI level as he stated that the number of years Greece lived in LMI is 48 but in case of Costa Rica who entered LMI in the year 1947 but falls back for two years 1950 and 1951 then re-enters LMI in the year 1952. He counted this small dip of 2 years of Costa Rica as dip and did not smooth transition for this period. He counted 1952 as the first sustained entry of Costa Rica in LMI. In our study all countries are treated in the same way. Beginning small dips are counted as dips and are not included in transition periods for countries becoming LMI after 1950. The reason for ignoring long dips of nations entering in LMI before 1950 may be the exogenous historical shock like World War II occupation, civil war, & massive destruction unrelated to development capacity. It was neither a development failure nor a reversal of structural status. Also, Greece in the 1930s already had modern state institutions, urban economy, and integration with Europe. Therefore, he bridges the dip and counts Greece as LMI throughout. So, in Felipe's Study there seems an unstated rule that if a country's early transition is interrupted by war, occupation, or state collapse before modern development is established, the interruption is ignored and the transition is treated as continuous. Costa Rica's dip (1950–1951) is not treated as exogenous in the same way. From Felipe's perspective: Costa Rica in the late 1940s was still in early development, institutional transformation was not yet consolidated, the dip occurs at the margin of the threshold, not after consolidation. So, Felipe interprets Costa Rica's 1947–1951 episode as a premature, unstable crossing, not a true transition. Hence, 1947 entry is treated as false start, 1952 is treated as first sustained entry. Turkey crosses LMI threshold in 1953 and falls back to LI in 1954 and re-enters LMI in 1955 and stays there. Felipe treats 1953 as a false start and 1955 is taken as the first sustained entry. So same in our study has done. In case of Sri Lanka, it entered the upper-middle-income category in 2017 but reverted to lower-middle-income status in 2022. Unlike Felipe et al., Sri Lanka is treated as having entered the upper-middle-income group in 2017, with the 2022 decline interpreted as a temporary reversal and Oman is treated as having entered the UMI in 1997, with 1998-1999 dip is interpreted as temporary reversal.

Following Felipe et. al. the median number of years is taken as the threshold for the transition in UMI from LMI. These 14 countries in the table 01 spent 35 years as LMI and hence LMI threshold is 35 years. So, from here we can say that if a nation is in LMI for more than 35 years then it is said to be in LMI trap. The average of nations lived as LMI graduating after 1950 is 37.5 years. Similar to Felipe, here is also an element of arbitrariness in taking median or average. We also do not consider all the nations for calculating threshold because recent development is relatively faster than the earlier one. The median duration in the lower-middle-income category is 35 years, with an interquartile range of 25 years, indicating substantial heterogeneity in transition speeds. Countries do not move at the same speed from lower-middle income to higher income. Some countries transition relatively quickly, while others get stuck for decades. So, there is no single LMI trajectory. But still phenomenon of MIT is required because it helps explain why many countries grow fast at low-income levels (cheap labor, basic manufacturing), but slow down or stagnate once they reach middle income. Without MIT, slow growth looks like "bad luck." With MIT, it looks like a structural problem.

Many countries that were previously classified as LMIT (under 28 years) automatically escape the trap. The “trap” threshold is an endogenous statistic, not a structural constant because the median depends on reference year (2010 vs 2022), number of successful transitioners, global growth slowdown after 2008, inclusion of crises (COVID, debt, wars). So, when the world slows down, transitions take longer, the median rises, the “trap” line moves upward. Our result implies that middle-income trap is not a fixed barrier — it is a moving benchmark. An increase in the median duration in the lower-middle-income category to 35 years mechanically raises the benchmark used to identify a trap, thereby diluting the strength of the trap classification. Now, a country must perform even worse (stay stuck longer) to be classified as trapped which reflects current global reality that the countries are not escaping faster or the global growth slows down. An increase in the median duration mechanically makes it easier for countries to avoid the ‘trap’ label, even when development challenges persist.

3.2 Derivation of Upper Middle Income Trap Benchmark:

For determination of UMI trap the transition period of UMI to HI is to be calculated. 33 countries are such who graduated to HI from UMI till 2022. Out of 34, 6 countries become upper middle income before 1950 and graduated to HI namely Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Canada and United States. Table 03 in Appendix lists these countries. The countries which became UMI after 1950 and then graduated to HI are listed below in table 02. The table shows a total of 28 countries entered UMI after 1950 and graduated to HI. According to Felipe a total of 23 countries entered UMI after 1950 and turned HI. 5 new countries namely Bulgaria, Turkey, Poland, China and Uruguay graduated to HI in the years 2021, 2018, 2012, 2017 and 2012 respectively. Argentina is included in Felipe’s study but it is a special case in our study because there are a number of ups and downs. After entering in UMI in the year 1970 it falls back in the year 1985 and 1986. It regained in the year 1987 but fall back in the next year and sustained in LMI till 1991 than regain to UMI in the year 1992 and sustained in UMI till 2010. It transited to HI in the year 2011 and fall back in the year 2012 and regained to HI in the year 2013. After 2013 it again falls back to UMI in 2014 and sustained in UMI with a compound negative growth rate till 2022. So finally, it is not a case of graduated to HI level. Since Argentina entered the upper-middle-income group in 1970 and experienced multiple reversals between income categories, including temporary episodes as a high-income economy. However, as of 2022, Argentina remains in the upper-middle-income group.

Table 02: Economies that became upper-middle-income after 1950 and graduated to high-income

Sr. No.	Country	Region	Year country turned UM (YUM)	Year country turned HI (YH)	No. of years as UM	Ave. GDP Per capita growth rate (%) (YUM to YH)
1	Austria	Europe	1964	1976	12	4.06
2	Belgium	Europe	1961	1973	12	4.41
3	Bulgaria	Europe	2006	2021	15	2.88
4	Denmark	Europe	1953	1968	15	3.28
5	Finland	Europe	1964	1979	15	3.55
6	France	Europe	1960	1971	11	4.37
7	Germany	Europe	1960	1973	13	3.44
8	Ireland	Europe	1975	1990	15	3.25
9	Italy	Europe	1963	1978	15	3.44
10	Turkey*	Europe	2005	2018	13	3.59
11	Greece	Europe	1972	2000	28	1.77
12	Poland	Europe	2000	2012	12	4.11
13	Portugal	Europe	1978	1996	18	2.77
14	Netherlands	Europe	1955	1970	15	3.33
15	Norway	Europe	1960	1975	15	3.61
16	Spain	Europe	1973	1990	17	2.70
17	Sweden	Europe	1953	1968	15	3.64
18	China	Asia	2010	2017	7	6.52
19	Rep. of Korea	Asia	1988	1995	7	6.51
20	Singapore	Asia	1978	1988	10	5.08
21	Hong Kong, China	Asia	1976	1983	7	5.88
22	Taipei, ROC/Taiwan	Asia	1986	1993	7	6.90
23	Japan	Asia	1968	1977	9	4.69
24	Chile	Latin America & Caribbean	1992	2005	13	3.68
25	Uruguay	Latin America & Caribbean	1994	2012	18	2.51
26	Israel	Middle East & North Africa	1969	1986	17	2.64
27	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	1991	2003	12	4.01
28	Malaysia	South and South East Asia	1996	2013	17	2.60

Source: Author's calculation

* Turkey entered HI group in 2018 but fall back in the next year and regained in the year 2020.

Felipe's MIT concept applies to countries stuck in LMI or UMI without ever reaching HI. Argentina does not fit cleanly into a standard MIT category. Instead, it is a case of recurrent income reversals after partial graduation. This is conceptually different from a trap. Argentina is not trapped because it cannot grow. It is macro-unstable, crisis-prone, policy-volatile case. So analytically, Argentina belongs to a different failure mode than India-type slow climbers and Vietnam-type steady risers.

Number of median years a country spends as UMI in table 2 is 14 years. So, if a country spends more than 14 years as UMI than that will be said into the upper middle-income trap. Transition period of UMIT varies from 7 years to 28 years. The median duration spent as UMI is 14 years, with an interquartile range of 3.25 years, indicates relatively lower dispersion compared to lower-middle-income transitions. The small interquartile range implies that most UMI countries cluster around similar transition durations, indicating more uniform mobility and a lower likelihood of prolonged stagnation relative to the lower-middle-income group. Mean of transition period of UMI is 13.57 years. UMI to HI transition show very few reversals as compared to LMI to UMI transition. Once countries enter UMI they either move steadily toward HI or remain under UMI without large collapses. The standard deviation of approximately 4 years and the narrow

interquartile range indicate low variability in the time countries spend in the UMI category. Most countries cluster around a similar duration near the median, suggesting more uniform transition patterns compared to lower-middle-income countries.

As compared to Felipes' transition thresholds of despite global slowdown, COVID shock, post-2008 stagnation, climate and energy transition pressures the median time spent in UMI has not increased, unlike LMI (28 → 35). Lower-middle income transitions have slowed but upper-middle income transitions have remained relatively stable. This suggests that the middle-income trap has become more binding at lower income levels, rather than at the upper-middle-income stage. A possible explanation is that the transition from LMI to UMI typically depends on large-scale industrialization and structural transformation, which are historically energy- and resource-intensive processes that may now face tighter environmental and global demand constraints. In contrast, the transition from UMI to high income increasingly depends on productivity growth, institutional quality, human capital, and technological upgrading, which may be less directly constrained by fossil-fuel expansion. While this interpretation is consistent with structural transformation theory, it should be viewed as a plausible explanation rather than a direct causal inference from the data.

The estimated threshold growth rates required to avoid prolonged stagnation are approximately 3.75% per annum for the transition from lower-middle income to upper-middle income, and 3.51% per annum for the transition from upper-middle income to high income. These figures imply that, to avoid falling into a lower-middle-income trap, a country would need to sustain average per capita growth of around 3.75% so that its transition duration does not exceed the observed median of 35 years. Similarly, sustaining growth of about 3.51% would be necessary to complete the upper-middle-income transition within the typical 14-year duration and thereby reduce the risk of an upper-middle-income trap.

4. Classification of Countries by Income Transition Status

Now we are able to determine the countries who are in middle income trap and who are likely to be in the middle-income trap, who are likely to avoid the trap. Table 3 shows economies trapped in the lower middle-income level in the year 2022. 21 countries are found in LMIT while in Felipes's study there were 30 countries in this trap. This implies 9 countries escaped the trap. But actually, Nicaragua is a new country found in LMIT. It faced a long session of 1985 to 2013 as LI after being a LMI country and later it again becomes a lower middle-income country in 2014 and after a small dip in the year 2020 it is now a LMI country. Sri Lanka was in LMI trap in 2010 in Felipes' study but in our study, it has escaped the trap in 2022 and also become an upper middle-income country. Romania has escaped the trap and become UMI in the year 2022. Dominican Republic escaped the LMIT in 2021. Iran has escaped the trap in 2009. Colombia and Peru escaped the LMIT in the years 2013 and 2016 respectively. Peru

Sr. No.	Country	Region	2022 GDP per capita (1990 PPP \$)	No. of years as LM until 2022	Ave. growth (%) 2012-2022	No. of years to reach \$7,250
1	Philippines	Asia	4,597	47	3.12	15
2	Albania	Europe	6,318	52	3.02	5
3	Botswana	Sub-Saharan Africa	6,296	39	2.22	6
4	Gabon	Sub-Saharan Africa	4,495	72	-0.59	
5	Namibia	Sub-Saharan Africa	4,788	72	-0.61	
6	South Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	4,985	72	-0.45	
7	Swaziland	Sub-Saharan Africa	3,953	52	1.22	50
8	Algeria	Middle East & North Africa	4,144	53	0.08	663
9	Egypt	Middle East & North Africa	5,072	42	2.06	18
10	Jordan	Middle East & North Africa	4,586	66	-2.43	
11	Lebanon	Middle East & North Africa	3,690	72	-4.44	
12	Morocco	Middle East & North Africa	4,457	45	1.34	37
13	Tunisia	Middle East & North Africa	6,470	50	0.15	76
14	Bolivia	Latin America & Caribbean	3,895	54	1.65	38
15	Brazil	Latin America & Caribbean	7,150	64	-0.23	
16	Ecuador	Latin America & Caribbean	4,434	70	-0.27	
17	El Salvador	Latin America & Caribbean	3,707	58	1.78	38
18	Guatemala	Latin America & Caribbean	5,382	86	1.72	17
19	Jamaica	Latin America & Caribbean	3,732	67	0.50	134
20	Paraguay	Latin America & Caribbean	4,301	49	1.94	27
21	Nicaragua	Latin America	2,210	68	1.53	78

Source: Authors' Calculation

graduated in UMI in 2016 and escaped the trap as it was in the LMIT in Felipes study. Congo Rep., Yemen and Libya are in LMIT in 2010 in Felipes' study but in our study these countries are low-income group. Hence these three countries did not escape from the LMIT but these fall back in sustained low-income group.

Albania and Botswana are about to escape from LMIT in the next 5 and 6 years respectively. Gabon, Namibia, South Africa, Jordan, Lebanon, Brazil and Ecuador are facing negative combined annual growth rate for the last 10 years. So, these are unable to escape the trap unless they do not show a robust change in their growth rate acceleration.

Table 04 shows the economies trapped in upper middle-income level in the year 2022. In Felipe's study 5 countries are in UMIT namely Malaysia, Uruguay, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, and Syria. In our study also there are 5 countries are in UMIT namely Mexico, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and Thailand and Costa Rica. Malaysia and Uruguay were in UMIT in 2010 but later they graduated to high income in 2013 and 2012 respectively. Venezuela and Syria are special cases as these felt negative CAGR for the duration of 2012-2022 after being UMI country. Venezuela turned UM in the year 1948 but since 2015 it felt a negative growth rate and become LMI in 2022 with \$3097 GDP per capita. Similarly, Syria after being UMI in 1996 it felt a negative growth rate since 2008 and became LMI in 2022 with \$3160 GDP per capita. Saudi Arabia after being UMI in 1970, it became high income in 1974 and sustain in high income group for 9 years. Later it again becomes UMI and felt negative CAGR of 2.7% till 2002. It begun to recover since 2003 but still in UMI in 2022 with \$11460 GDP per capita. Felipe considered the years which were spent as UMI and drop the years which were spent as high income. Mexico become UMI in the year 2000 but still it is a UMI country in 2022 with progressive CAGR of 0.43% growth rate. If this growth rate is sustained then it will take more

Table 4 Economies in the upper-middle-income trap in 2022

Sr. No.	Country	Region	2022 GDP per capita (1990 PPP \$)	No. of years as UM until 2022	Ave. growth (%) 2012-2022	No. of years to reach \$11,750
1	Mexico	Latin America & Caribbean	8,748	22	0.43	68
2	Oman	Middle East	9,774	25	0.12	157
3	Saudi Arabia	Middle East & North Africa	11,460	52	0.72	4
4	Thailand	Asia	11,253	18	1.46	3
5	Costa Rica	Latin America	10,429	16	1.93	24

Source: Authors' Calculation

68 years to become high income. So, this country is in UMIT. Similarly, Oman has spent 25 years as UMI and it will take 157 years to become high income with a CAGR of 0.12% if sustained. Thailand has spent 18 years as UMI and may avoid the UMIT in next 3 years if CAGR of 1.46% is sustained. Costa Rica is also a middle-income country become upper middle in the year 2006. It has spent 16 years as UM and it will take 24 years to become a high-income country if the CAGR of 1.93 preserves. So, Costa Rica is a trapped in upper middle level of income.

On the whole, Out of 49 middle income countries 26 countries are in middle-income trap. 21 countries are in LMIT and 5 countries are in UMIT. Whereas three countries Argentina, Venezuela and Syria are special cases. They are macro unstable and are in UMI in the year 2022 with a negative CAGR. 12 countries are lower middle-income economies and are not in the trap in 2022. 8 countries are upper middle income but not in the trap in 2022. In this way 26 countries are in MI trap and 20 countries are not in the middle-income trap.

4.1 Countries not in the middle-income trap in 2022:

Twelve such countries are found in lower middle-income group which are not in middle income trap but there may be a risk of being in the trap in near future for some countries. The table 5 below lists these countries. 6 countries from Asia, 4 from Sub Saharan Africa and two from Latin America. Out of these Ghana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Honduras, Myanmar and

Table 5 Lower-middle-income economies not in the trap in 2022								
Sr. No.	Country	Region	2022 GDP per capita (1990 PPP \$)	No. of years as LM until 2022	No. of years before falling into the lower-middle-income trap	Ave. growth (%) 2012-2022	Ave. growth (%) to reach \$7,250	No. of years to reach \$7,250
1	Bangladesh	Asia	2,431	5	30	5.39	3.71	21
2	India	Asia	5,732	20	15	4.54	1.58	5
3	Vietnam	Asia	5,693	20	15	4.90	1.62	5
4	Ghana	Sub Saharan Africa	2,569	10	25	2.04	4.24	51
5	Lesotho	Sub Saharan Africa	2,073	12	23	-0.60	5.59	
6	Eritrea & Ethiopia	Sub Saharan Africa	2,005	0	35	5.89	3.74	22
7	Mozambique	Sub Saharan Africa	2,278	15	20	1.21	5.96	96
8	Cambodia	Latin America & Caribbean	3,944	17	18	4.06	3.44	15
9	Honduras	Latin America	2,764	18	17	0.75	5.84	128
10	Myanmar	Asia	4,482	18	17	2.38	2.87	20
11	Lao PDR	Asia	3,310	11	24	4.38	3.32	18
12	Pakistan	Asia	2,932	17	18	2.00	5.16	46

Source: Author's calculation

Pakistan may drop into the lower middle-income trap because their CAGR of last ten years is very low to catch up upper middle-income level. Ghana can take 51 years, Mozambique may take 96 years, Honduras may take 128 years, Pakistan may take 46 years to become upper middle income which are very high in comparison to LMI threshold 15 years. Myanmar likely to fall the LMIT if it sustains a growth rate of 2.87% per annum which is slightly greater than its CAGR 2.34%. Bangladesh, Vietnam, India, Eritrea & Ethiopia, Cambodia, and Lao PDR are such countries which are in lower middle-income group and likely to avoid the trap because their CAGR are higher than the required growth rate to avoid the trap. If they sustain their CAGR than they will catch up the upper middle-income level with in the threshold period of LMI transition.

Eight countries are currently classified as upper-middle-income economies but are not identified as being in the upper-middle-income trap (UMIT). Table 6 lists these countries. Dominican Republic, Romania, and Indonesia exhibit compound annual growth rates (CAGR) that exceed the minimum growth rate required to transition to high-income status within the benchmark period. Panama is projected to reach the high-income threshold in approximately two years; however, its observed CAGR suggests that the transition may take closer to three years.

Table 6 Upper-middle-income economies not in the trap in 2022								
Sr. No.	Country	Region	2022 GDP per capita (1990 PPP \$)	No. of years as UM until 2022	No. of years before falling into the upper-middle-income trap	Ave. growth (%) 2012-2022	Ave. growth (%) to reach \$11,750	No. of years to reach \$11,750
1	Panama	Latin America & Caribbean	10,869	11	2	2.70	2.63	3
2	Dominican Republic	Latin America & Caribbean	7,733	1	12	4.10	3.27	10
3	Romania	Europe	7,845	2	11	4.07	3.42	10
4	Sri Lanka	Asia	6,875	4	9	1.10	5.51	49
5	Colombia	Latin America & Caribbean	8,443	9	5	1.78	9.77	26
6	Indonesia	Asia	7,426	0	14	3.28	3.33	14
7	Iran	Middle East & North Africa	8,150	13	1	0.51	44.17	72
8	Peru	Latin America & Caribbean	7,803	6	8	1.87	5.25	22

Source: Author's calculation

In contrast, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Iran, and Peru record growth rates substantially below the level required to transition from upper-middle to high-income status within the threshold period. Based on its

observed CAGR, Sri Lanka would require approximately 49 years to reach the high-income threshold, far exceeding the benchmark of 9 years required to avoid the upper-middle-income trap. Similarly, Colombia could avoid the trap if it transitions within five years; however, its current growth trajectory implies a transition period of approximately 26 years, suggesting a high likelihood of falling into UMIT. Iran and Peru exhibit even longer projected transition periods of 72 and 22 years, respectively, compared to benchmark periods of 1 and 8 years, indicating persistent upper-middle-income stagnation.

4.2 Special Cases (Macro-Unstable Middle-Income Economies): Countries that remain in the middle-income category for an extended period without transitioning to a higher income level are typically classified as being in a middle-income trap. However, this study identifies a distinct group of countries that do not fit neatly into either the trapped or non-trapped categories. These economies experience prolonged transitions toward higher income levels, followed by significant reversals that return them to middle-income status, after which recovery and renewed transition attempts occur. Such countries are best characterized as *macro-unstable economies* rather than trapped economies. Argentina, Venezuela, and Syria exemplify this pattern, as shown in Table 7.

Table 7 Countries those become upper-middle-income, macro unstable and in LMI/UMI in the year 2022

Country	Region	Year country turned UM (YUM)	2022 GDP per capita (1990 PPP \$)	No. of years as UM until 2022	Ave. growth (%) 2012-2022	No. of years to reach \$7250/\$11,750
Argentina	Latin America & Caribbean	1970	10,860	52-7-2	-0.6749	—
Venezuela	Latin America	1948	3,097	74-7	-11.799	—
Syrian Arab Republic	Middle East	1996	3,160	16-11	-5.6094	—

Source: Authors' calculation

Argentina entered the upper-middle-income category in 1970 and temporarily reached high-income status in 2011 and 2013. However, repeated episodes of negative growth led to reversals back to upper-middle income. Moreover, during its upper-middle-income phase, Argentina fell back into the lower-middle-income category on three occasions—in 1982, 1985, and 1988—for periods of one, two, and four years, respectively. Venezuela entered the upper-middle-income category in 2003 but experienced sustained negative growth after 2014, eventually falling back into the lower-middle-income category in 2017, where it remained till 2022. Similarly, Syria became an upper-middle-income economy in 1996 but reverted to lower-middle-income status in 2012 following prolonged economic contraction, remaining at this level through 2022, with per capita income declining to approximately \$3,160.

These countries fluctuate between lower-middle, upper-middle, and, in some cases, high-income categories and frequently experience extended periods of negative growth. Consequently, they cannot be appropriately classified as being in either the lower-middle-income trap or the upper-middle-income trap. Instead, their development trajectories reflect chronic macroeconomic instability, institutional fragility, and vulnerability to severe economic shocks.

Using the updated transition benchmarks, countries are classified according to their income transition experiences up to 2022. Classification is carried out separately for the lower-middle-income and upper-middle-income stages.

Countries currently in the lower-middle-income category that have remained there for more than 35 years without graduating to upper-middle-income status are classified as being in the lower-middle-income trap (LMIT). Countries in the lower-middle-income category that have spent fewer than 35 years since entry are classified as lower-middle-income economies not in the trap.

Similarly, countries currently in the upper-middle-income category that have remained there for more than 14 years without graduating to high-income status are classified as being in the upper-middle-income trap (UMIT). Upper-middle-income countries with shorter durations are classified as not trapped.

Countries that successfully completed transitions within the benchmark periods are identified as successful transitioners. In addition, a separate group of macro-unstable countries is identified, consisting of economies that exhibit repeated and prolonged reversals across income categories. These cases are analytically distinct from trapped and non-trapped economies and are treated separately.

5. Results and Key Patterns

The updated classification reveals two main patterns. First, the duration required to transition from lower-middle-income to upper-middle-income has increased relative to earlier benchmarks, indicating a slowdown in income mobility at this stage. Second, the transition duration from upper-middle-income to high-income remains relatively stable, suggesting that stagnation is more pronounced at the lower-middle-income stage.

The reclassification also shows that several countries previously identified as being in the lower-middle-income trap under earlier benchmarks no longer meet the trap criterion when updated transition periods are applied. This highlights the sensitivity of trap identification to the choice of reference year and benchmark duration.

Macro-unstable cases constitute a small but important group, characterised by growth volatility and repeated income reversals rather than prolonged stagnation within a single income category.

6. Discussion: The Middle-Income Trap as a Moving Benchmark

The findings of this study suggest that the middle-income trap should not be viewed as a fixed structural threshold. Instead, it is better understood as a moving benchmark that evolves with global development conditions. Slower global growth, increased exposure to external shocks, and changing development strategies have contributed to longer transition durations at the lower-middle-income stage.

An increase in the benchmark duration mechanically reduces the number of countries classified as trapped, even when development challenges persist. This does not imply that middle-income economies face fewer constraints, but rather that income mobility has slowed more broadly. The results therefore call for caution in using static benchmarks to assess development performance across different time periods.

The fact that transition benchmarks increase or decrease over time does not undermine the conceptual validity of the middle-income trap; rather, it reinforces its relative and context-dependent nature. The middle-income trap was never intended to represent a fixed number of years applicable across all periods, but instead to capture prolonged income stagnation relative to the experiences of countries that successfully transitioned in a given global context. Transition benchmarks are derived from observed median transition durations, and therefore they naturally evolve with changes in global growth conditions, structural transformation pathways, external shocks, and development constraints. When global growth slows or development becomes more constrained, even successful transitions take longer, leading to higher benchmark durations. Retaining outdated benchmarks under such conditions would mechanically over-classify countries as trapped and distort comparative assessment. Updating benchmarks thus preserves the analytical relevance of the trap by ensuring that it continues to identify countries whose transition durations are unusually long relative to their contemporaries. In this sense, the middle-income trap should be understood not as a fixed structural barrier, but as a moving benchmark that reflects shifts in the global development environment. The concept remains policy-relevant precisely because it highlights relative underperformance and stage-specific constraints, rather than imposing an absolute or a historical standard of development success.

Conclusion:

This study revisits the empirical framework of the middle-income trap (MIT) by updating transition-period benchmarks using long-run per capita income data from the Maddison Project Database extended to 2022 while retaining the income thresholds proposed by Felipe et al. The analysis demonstrates that the benchmark for transitioning from lower-middle-income (LMI) to upper-middle-income (UMI) has increased from 28 to 35 years, whereas the benchmark for transitioning from upper-middle-income to high-income (HI) has remained unchanged at 14 years. These findings indicate that income mobility has slowed substantially at the lower-middle-income stage, while transition patterns at the upper-middle-income stage have remained comparatively stable.

The updated benchmarks substantially alter the classification of middle-income economies. Several countries previously identified as trapped under earlier benchmarks are no longer classified as such, reflecting changes in the empirical distribution of successful transition durations rather than improvements in their underlying development performance. This finding highlights that middle-income trap classifications are inherently dependent on the reference period used to derive transition benchmarks. Consequently, the MIT should be interpreted as a relative and evolving concept rather than a fixed structural condition.

The study also identifies an analytically distinct category of macro-unstable middle-income economies, represented by countries such as Argentina, Venezuela, and Syria. These economies exhibit repeated income reversals caused by prolonged macroeconomic instability rather than persistent stagnation within a single income category. Treating such countries separately improves the conceptual clarity of the MIT framework by distinguishing structural transition failures from instability-driven reversals.

The findings further suggest that contemporary development constraints are more pronounced at the lower-middle-income stage. The increasing time required to complete the LMI-to-UMI transition may reflect slower global growth, changing patterns of industrialization, tighter environmental constraints, and more demanding requirements for structural transformation. By contrast, countries that successfully reach the upper-middle-income stage continue to exhibit relatively similar transition durations toward high-income status, indicating that the principal bottlenecks to income convergence increasingly emerge earlier in the development process.

From a policy perspective, the results imply that reliance on static transition benchmarks may lead to misleading assessments of development performance. Periodic recalibration of transition benchmarks is necessary to ensure that the middle-income trap continues to identify countries experiencing unusually prolonged income transitions relative to prevailing global conditions. Updated benchmarks therefore enhance the empirical relevance of the MIT framework while preserving its original purpose of identifying economies facing persistent barriers to sustained income convergence.

Finally, this study contributes to the middle-income trap literature by providing an updated empirical classification of middle-income economies and by demonstrating that transition benchmarks evolve alongside changes in the global development environment. Future research may extend this framework by incorporating institutional quality, human capital, technological capability, environmental transition, and structural transformation indicators to explain why some countries successfully escape the middle-income trap while others continue to experience prolonged stagnation or repeated income reversals.

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Appendix A

Table 01: List of countries under study

Revisiting the Middle-Income Trap: Updated Transition Benchmarks and Country Classifications

Sr. No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Year/Country	Afghanistan	Albania	Algeria	Angola	Argentina	Australia	Austria	Bangladesh	Bulgaria	Benin	Bolivia	Botswana	Brazil	Bulgaria	Burkina Faso
1950	645	1,001	1,365	1,052	4,987	7,412	3,706	540	5,462	1,084	1,919	349	1,672	1,651	474
1951	653	1,045	1,347	1,076	5,073	7,507	3,959	541	5,747	1,063	2,013	355	1,702	1,989	487
1952	664	1,046	1,376	1,101	4,717	7,418	3,967	548	5,668	1,043	2,031	359	1,752	1,893	500
1953	692	1,089	1,369	1,126	4,874	7,505	4,137	547	5,818	994	1,800	366	1,784	2,085	512
1954	694	1,120	1,437	1,079	4,980	7,791	4,555	547	6,029	1,002	1,799	372	1,848	2,025	526
1955	695	1,181	1,445	1,148	5,237	8,027	5,053	508	6,280	982	1,853	377	1,926	2,148	539
1956	713	1,193	1,553	1,110	5,285	8,108	5,397	551	6,422	962	1,706	383	1,896	2,128	554
1957	699	1,269	1,693	1,197	5,461	8,090	5,716	530	6,495	941	1,614	388	1,994	2,330	568
1958	723	1,326	1,719	1,241	5,698	8,305	5,907	510	6,442	956	1,616	392	2,111	2,508	583
1959	729	1,381	1,994	1,225	5,241	8,628	6,051	526	6,608	970	1,575	399	2,221	2,684	598
1960	739	1,451	2,088	1,253	5,559	8,791	6,519	545	6,952	978	1,606	403	2,335	2,912	609
1961	730	1,463	1,799	1,396	5,862	8,653	6,827	564	7,253	987	1,603	410	2,437	3,072	630
1962	726	1,511	1,433	1,335	5,677	9,027	6,950	550	7,583	932	1,654	415	2,511	3,295	665
1963	723	1,563	1,768	1,380	5,455	9,400	7,186	594	7,862	952	1,720	422	2,463	3,418	652
1964	720	1,616	1,806	1,510	5,926	9,849	7,567	589	8,341	993	1,762	430	2,472	3,657	662
1965	720	1,675	1,870	1,596	6,371	10,152	7,734	608	8,559	1,020	1,806	437	2,448	3,850	682
1966	710	1,738	1,725	1,660	6,321	10,241	8,112	604	8,776	1,032	1,891	473	2,527	4,125	679
1967	712	1,804	1,824	1,727	6,399	10,733	8,297	578	9,072	1,016	1,962	513	2,554	4,320	731
1968	719	1,869	1,977	1,672	6,578	11,148	8,621	619	9,416	1,029	2,079	557	2,704	4,368	746
1969	713	1,932	2,105	1,691	7,037	11,561	9,131	615	10,018	1,033	2,120	601	2,860	4,546	752
1970	709	2,004	2,249	1,768	7,302	12,024	9,747	630	10,611	1,027	2,176	647	3,057	4,773	745
1971	659	2,084	2,000	1,728	7,530	12,290	10,200	586	10,970	1,006	2,204	747	3,278	4,902	765
1972	630	2,165	2,350	1,712	7,635	12,404	10,771	506	11,503	1,065	2,260	956	3,538	5,110	786
1973	684	2,273	2,357	1,789	7,962	12,878	11,235	497	12,170	1,061	2,357	1,123	3,880	5,284	735
1974	703	2,282	2,428	1,711	8,334	12,985	11,658	547	12,643	955	2,418	1,300	4,081	5,414	710
1975	721	2,289	2,522	1,073	8,122	13,170	11,646	529	12,441	969	2,516	1,223	4,187	5,831	670
1976	737	2,299	2,608	954	7,965	13,559	12,201	541	13,122	983	2,647	1,381	4,470	5,982	652
1977	669	2,309	2,759	941	8,304	13,546	12,767	529	13,190	1,010	2,691	1,358	4,565	5,896	684
1978	704	2,319	3,019	960	7,807	13,769	12,731	551	13,554	1,013	2,715	1,537	4,678	6,019	746
1979	689	2,331	3,192	958	8,227	13,448	13,448	561	13,861	1,063	2,652	1,613	4,890	6,245	736
1980	690	2,347	3,152	961	8,206	14,412	13,759	549	14,467	1,128	2,572	1,765	5,195	6,044	731
1981	764	2,360	3,131	923	7,607	14,660	13,718	551	14,279	1,156	2,547	1,858	4,850	6,186	744
1982	833	2,373	3,228	862	7,246	14,412	13,961	545	14,474	1,242	2,394	1,921	4,763	6,370	742
1983	863	2,387	3,289	808	7,387	14,239	14,394	559	14,474	1,152	2,249	2,144	4,498	6,237	715
1984	847	2,400	3,363	790	7,426	15,062	14,439	576	14,833	1,206	2,234	2,300	4,643	6,430	708
1985	819	2,413	3,431	779	6,835	15,638	14,752	580	14,977	1,257	2,181	2,387	4,914	6,226	780
1986	878	2,428	3,301	694	7,224	15,757	15,081	592	15,195	1,246	2,074	2,485	5,202	6,380	878
1987	726	2,443	3,192	760	7,298	16,293	15,313	602	15,541	1,190	2,089	2,619	5,270	6,382	838
1988	656	2,459	3,043	853	7,054	16,752	15,754	605	16,252	1,189	2,124	2,937	5,155	6,335	880
1989	640	2,477	3,067	853	6,520	17,194	16,360	606	16,744	1,128	2,138	3,216	5,224	6,216	842
1990	604	2,499	2,947	868	6,433	17,173	16,895	631	17,197	1,136	2,197	3,304	4,920	5,597	807
1991	601	1,776	2,844	853	6,977	16,970	17,289	637	17,451	1,153	2,262	3,360	4,891	5,198	859
1992	553	1,632	2,822	821	7,495	17,370	17,481	655	17,645	1,162	2,246	3,354	4,800	4,882	852
1993	476	1,775	2,697	585	7,828	17,853	17,377	670	17,406	1,148	2,287	3,311	4,937	4,932	817
1994	426	1,907	2,614	579	8,371	18,424	17,753	683	17,902	1,146	2,344	3,321	5,162	5,074	800
1995	512	2,147	2,658	622	8,013	19,002	18,048	702	18,270	1,165	2,401	3,367	5,296	5,283	808
1996	526	2,333	2,709	675	8,270	19,485	18,490	720	18,439	1,193	2,453	3,458	5,366	4,842	841
1997	541	2,087	2,694	714	8,828	20,110	18,809	744	19,015	1,222	2,522	3,589	5,485	4,624	855
1998	556	2,343	2,788	748	9,155	20,978	19,463	768	19,339	1,237	2,598	3,704	5,414	4,866	882
1999	571	2,567	2,835	760	8,746	21,572	20,065	790	19,964	1,254	2,554	3,845	5,377	5,028	908
2000	565	2,741	2,863	770	8,581	21,732	20,691	822	20,656	1,285	2,561	4,084	5,532	5,350	899
2001	507	2,925	2,895	782	8,124	22,271	20,813	851	20,761	1,305	2,551	4,211	5,525	5,627	923
2002	619	3,009	2,968	876	7,181	22,910	20,956	873	21,033	1,340	2,559	4,339	5,552	5,962	929
2003	668	3,173	3,130	881	7,744	23,332	21,165	905	21,206	1,348	2,575	4,429	5,536	6,278	966
2004	685	3,343	3,251	951	8,353	23,619	21,627	948	21,802	1,347	2,630	4,489	5,772	6,755	980
2005	758	3,518	3,374	1,116	9,019	23,996	22,141	993	22,247	1,341	2,692	4,481	5,878	7,239	1,017
2006	790	3,693	3,400	1,292	9,679	24,359	22,893	1,044	22,882	1,348	2,767	4,619	6,034	7,763	1,040
2007	863	3,905	3,460	1,520	10,407	25,014	23,674	1,095	23,447	1,368	2,841	4,728	6,196	8,315	1,045
2008	869	4,149	3,520	1,684	10,995	25,301	24,131	1,146	23,655	1,394	2,959	4,769	6,429	8,886	1,063
2009	1,025	4,313	3,653	1,770	10,288	25,452	23,246	1,209	22,961	1,371	3,011	4,426	6,437	8,647	1,041
2010	1,072	4,490	3,862	1,878	11,268	25,859	23,732	1,283	23,420	1,346	3,090	4,830	6,943	8,841	1,072
2011	1,180	4,617	4,051	2,002	11,876	26,275	24,414	1,368	23,663	1,333	3,204	5,150	7,243	9,097	1,087
2012	1,281	4,690	4,109	2,092	11,621	26,795	24,470	1,438	23,689	1,355	3,307	5,057	7,319	9,219	1,122
2013	1,333	4,746	4,144	2,114	11,768	26,918	24,329	1,509	23,687	1,407	3,471	5,528	7,475	9,219	1,151
2014	1,331	4,840	4,222	2,135	11,347	27,199	24,299	1,588	23,954	1,457	3,598	5,749	7,449	9,361	1,167
2015	1,269	4,962	4,297	2,078	11,532	27,422	24,302	1,679	24,302	1,492	3,711	5,383	7,122	9,744	1,178
2016	1,272	5,135	4,356	1,953	11,173	27,724	24,473	1,776	24,486	1,497	3,809	5,680	6,833	10,111	1,213
2017	1,257	5,335	4,341	1,882	11,370	28,510	24,868	1,880	24,786	1,536	3,908	5,823	6,868	10,466	1,252
2018	1,244	5,563	4,321	1,793	10,960	28,259	25,348	2,002	25,116	1,591	4,014	5,974	6,934	10,825	1,298
2019	1,338	5,704	4,295	1,720	10,635	28,373	25,617	2,094	25,540	1,652	4,045	6,063	6,963	11,342	1,335
2020	1,270	5,537	4,015	1,568	9,485	27,493	23,859	2,181	24,056	1,668	3,643	5,453	6,684	10,959	1,325
2021	978	6,064	4,092	1,533	10,372	28,880	24,849	2,312	25,426	1,739	3,819	6,011	6,980	11,892	1,380
2022	894	6,318	4,144	1,528	10,860	29,646	25,796	2,431	25,985	1,798	3,895	6,296	7,150	12,396	1,378

Sr. No.	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Year/Country	Burundi	Cambodia	Cameroon	Canada	Centr. Afr. Rep.	Chad	Chile	China	Colombia	Zaire (Congo-Kinshasa) DRC	Congo 'Brazzaville' RC	Costa Rica	Côte d'Ivoire	Denmark	Dominican Republic
1950	360	482	671	7,291	772	476	3,670	448	2,153	570	1,198	1,963	1,041	6,943	1,027
1951	374	486	687	7,533	790	486	3,731	491	2,150	624	1,222	1,951	1,058	6,936	1,117
1952	379	504	704	7,833	809	497	3,893	538	2,214	668	1,245	2,114	1,075	6,955	1,172
1953	388	497	720	7,984	827	507	4,112	552	2,277	693	1,267	2,353	1,092	7,292	1,123
1954	402	542	737	7,699	845	518	3,907	557	2,358	720	1,290	2,289	1,110	7,371	1,150
1955	408	518	754	8,201	864	529	3,975	577	2,373	734	1,313	2,460	1,127	7,395	1,183
1956	416	572	771	8,652	881	540	3,957	616	2,391	768	1,334	2,301	1,144	7,439	1,260
1957	424	594	788	8,607	899	552	4,264	636	2,400	776	1,356	2,406	1,162	7,965	1,296
1958	428	608	805	8,534	917	563	4,392	690	2,383	738	1,378	2,605	1,179	8,095	1,320
1959	445	650	822	8,676	934	574	4,042	686	2,473	747	1,399	2,598	1,191	8,637	1,284
1960	444	671	832	8,753	925	569	4,270	662	2,497	748	1,416	2,715	1,256	8,812	1,302
1961	372	647	829	8,833	943	566	4,366	553	2,540	653	1,430	2,723	1,326	9,312	1,232
1962	397	680	840	9,277	901	586	4,465	550	2,594	767	1,444	2,785	1,335	9,747	1,394
1963	407	712	857	9,566	881	567	4,639	590	2,597	783	1,458	2,919	1,492	9,732	1,437
1964	420	674	872	9,999	878	542	4,638	645	2,675	747	1,472	2,961	1,688	10,326	1,484
1965	425	687	874	10,473	866	533	4,577	702	2,689	738	1,486	3,127	1,581	10,953	1,259
1966	433	700	898	10,946	843	512	4,984	746	2,750	768	1,527	3,258	1,628	11,160	1,384
1967	462	717	905	11,078	858	505	5,046	707	2,784	738	1,569	3,349	1,574	11,437	1,387
1968	447	730	946	11,479	847	492	5,128	675	2,874	746	1,610	3,497	1,730	11,837	1,349
1969	434	722	973	11,912	872	514	5,220	713	2,976	792	1,653	3,622	1,717	12,531	1,453
1970	540	647	982	12,050	891	513	5,231	778	3,094	768	1,696	3,754	1,808	12,686	1,561
1971	571	615	990	12,562	844	512	5,597	795	3,194	795	1,786	3,889	1,803	12,934	1,680
1972	519	577	1,011	13,072	808	467	5,429	798	3,355	775	1,882	4,118	1,811	13,538	1,837
1973	554	777	1,003	13,838	828	435	5,034	838	3,499	819	1,981	4,319	1,866	13,945	2,005
1974	542	658	1,024	14,205	787	484	4,992	835	3,618	823	2,084	4,430	1,839	13,751	2,067
1975	535	580	1,052	14,316	782	555	4,273	871	3,621	761	2,191	4,396	1,764	13,621	2,111
1976	566	643	1,044	14,902	795	535	4,347	853	3,713	697	2,141	4,506	1,893	14,466	2,183
1977	622	717	1,070	15,223	838	485	4,700	894	3,793	681	1,909	4,769	1,903	14,655	2,250
1978	600	810	1,094	15,680	831	472	5,011	978	4,042	623	1,824	4,870	2,009	14,826	2,248
1979	583	831	1,120	16,170	764	362	5,345	1,039	4,177	603	2,043	4,959	1,969	15,313	2,289
1980	603	828	1,192	16,176	737	341	5,680	1,061	4,257	598	2,324	4,911	2,041	15,227	2,372
1981	642	816	1,351	16,472	728	345	5,932	1,110	4,255	596	2,725	4,681	2,034	15,096	2,413
1982	625	852	1,416	15,779	722	347	5,035	1,186	4,202	577	2,857	4,235	1,964	15,563	2,400
1983	630	886	1,471	16,076	661	382	4,810	1,258	4,175	570	2,913	4,230	1,820	15,966	2,450
1984	614	926	1,537	16,836	686	385	5,011	1,396	4,229	585	3,008	4,432	1,696	16,676	2,403
1985	672	966	1,622	17,582	673	466	5,030	1,519	4,272	570	2,787	4,340	1,716	17,384	2,292
1986	684	990	1,683	17,862	670	434	5,227	1,597	4,436	579	2,519	4,446	1,705	17,993	2,310
1987	695	935	1,550	18,348	638	410	5,480	1,737	4,577	576	2,460	4,530	1,618	18,023	2,432
1988	703	924	1,435	18,993	632	459	5,780	1,830	4,669	561	2,389	4,561	1,533	18,224	2,397
1989	697	913	1,268	19,108	638	472	6,283	1,834	4,726	540	2,402	4,698	1,470	18,261	2,647
1990	705	881	1,211	18,872	642	434	6,401	1,871	4,826	510	2,380	4,747	1,307	18,452	2,471
1991	723	915	1,132	18,255	621	465	6,795	1,967	4,806	452	2,363	4,736	1,252	18,644	2,443
1992	706	937	1,067	18,139	564	458	7,505	2,132	4,893	392	2,351	4,957	1,214	18,949	2,551
1993	685	931	1,005	18,303	549	442	7,905	2,312	5,011	328	2,254	5,129	1,173	18,870	2,557
1994	654	936	955	18,936	569	457	8,399	2,515	5,223	305	2,062	5,237	1,154	19,847	2,623
1995	567	974	962	19,227	585	441	8,973	2,863	5,400	295	2,081	5,242	1,197	20,350	2,695
1996	517	1,005	985	19,319	530	436	9,505	2,892	5,410	287	2,106	5,186	1,252	20,810	2,840
1997	518	1,011	1,010	19,953	559	441	9,997	3,013	5,392	268	2,040	5,372	1,289	21,388	3,025
1998	529	1,004	1,035	20,613	568	461	10,186	2,993	5,333	258	2,058	5,718	1,321	21,771	3,193
1999	509	1,092	1,056	21,563	576	458	9,984	3,162	5,025	239	1,935	6,144	1,309	22,255	3,392
2000	496	1,148	1,075	22,488	575	449	10,309	3,421	5,079	218	2,004	6,174	1,246	22,975	3,639
2001	492	1,191	1,105	22,599	568	479	10,535	3,759	5,069	207	1,989	6,135	1,217	23,059	3,711
2002	499	1,235	1,149	23,156	557	511	10,646	4,197	5,084	207	2,040	6,213	1,173	23,083	3,815
2003	477	1,276	1,166	23,409	507	565	10,942	4,803	5,234	213	2,005	6,503	1,129	23,089	3,746
2004	483	1,800	1,182	23,943	506	725	11,479	5,169	5,396	220	2,023	6,680	1,120	23,493	3,737
2005	470	2,006	1,182	24,470	510	758	12,001	5,575	5,618	230	2,120	6,969	1,116	23,973	4,022
2006	475	2,185	1,192	24,971	521	740	12,432	6,048	5,917	236	2,190	7,473	1,100	24,680	4,026
2007	475	2,367	1,204	25,809	532	723	12,894	6,303	6,270	243	2,100	7,868	1,094	24,995	4,303
2008	479	2,482	1,212	25,267	536	706	13,185	6,725	6,330	249	2,159	8,032	1,095	24,621	4,464
2009	479	2,433	1,221	24,312	534	761	12,751	7,171	6,357	256	2,286	7,832	1,128	23,421	4,525
2010	485	2,426	1,246	24,853	541	854	13,259	7,930	6,531	275	2,438	8,097	1,149	23,889	4,923
2011	486	2,496	1,284	25,448	540	824	13,817	8,392	6,879	293	2,496	8,322	1,099	24,247	5,099
2012	492	2,649	1,306	25,617	544	865	14,508	8,988	7,078	308	2,677	8,614	1,191	24,211	5,175
2013	499	2,813	1,334	25,938	337	881	14,845	9,632	7,372	326	2,609	8,717	1,269	24,341	5,365
2014	506	2,982	1,369	26,416	333	908	14,962	10,276	7,575	338	2,732	8,912	1,347	24,603	5,680
2015	469	3,150	1,400	26,392	342	894	15,127	10,941	7,725	348	2,583	9,125	1,431	25,007	6,009
2016	476	3,312	1,420	26,356	352	818	15,227	11,609	7,801	337	2,258	9,395	1,497	25,607	6,343
2017	483	3,488	1,432	26,834	361	772	15,222	12,341	7,808	338	2,115	9,673	1,551	26,165	6,572
2018	494	3,692	1,450	27,192	368	765	15,549	13,118	7,870	343	1,971	9,815	1,573	26,552	6,961
2019	500	3,896	1,459	27,310	370	766	15,373	13,860	7,939	348	1,948	9,944	1,665	26,842	7,241
2020	487	3,728	1,426	25,627	365	726	14,168	14,144	7,223	342	1,786	9,420	1,656	26,248	6,691
2021	489	3,796	1,438	26,765	361	696	15,654	15,327	7,909	352	1,771	10,049	1,733	27,410	7,442
2022	485	3,944	1,448	27,458	354	692	15,945	15,796	8,443	364	1,779	10,429	1,804	28,206	7,733

Revisiting the Middle-Income Trap: Updated Transition Benchmarks and Country Classifications

Sr. No.	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
Year/Country	Ecuador	Egypt	El Salvador	Eritrea & Ethiopia	Finland	France	Gabon	Gambia	Germany	Ghana	Greece	Guatemala	Guinea	Guinea Bissau	Haiti
1950	1,863	910	1,489	390	4,253	5,186	3,108	607	3,881	1,122	1,915	2,085	303	289	1,051
1951	1,835	905	1,480	395	4,571	5,461	3,204	627	4,206	1,134	2,062	2,047	317	306	1,050
1952	2,009	900	1,550	399	4,674	5,564	3,302	632	4,553	1,084	2,053	2,024	322	323	1,091
1953	1,998	894	1,616	415	4,652	5,684	3,401	640	4,905	1,202	2,309	2,032	329	342	1,039
1954	2,103	889	1,589	408	5,002	5,915	3,504	660	5,247	1,317	2,358	2,004	343	408	1,105
1955	2,101	885	1,624	422	5,197	6,199	3,611	664	5,797	1,200	2,514	1,989	349	389	1,042
1956	2,121	905	1,701	428	5,295	6,448	3,718	671	6,177	1,236	2,706	2,100	357	439	1,113
1957	2,156	925	1,740	417	5,490	6,762	3,827	678	6,492	1,241	2,859	2,148	363	465	1,028
1958	2,159	947	1,725	423	5,474	6,855	3,939	678	6,737	1,187	2,963	2,177	368	476	1,088
1959	2,211	969	1,748	427	5,754	6,979	4,052	697	7,177	1,321	3,040	2,211	383	478	1,017
1960	2,289	991	1,764	440	6,230	7,398	4,184	722	7,705	1,378	3,146	2,193	392	501	1,062
1961	2,279	1,031	1,769	453	6,658	7,718	4,639	815	7,952	1,388	3,393	2,216	411	532	999
1962	2,331	1,074	1,920	462	6,819	8,067	4,725	781	8,222	1,416	3,499	2,223	433	562	1,073
1963	2,320	1,120	1,941	513	6,994	8,363	4,832	762	8,386	1,424	3,841	2,360	403	583	983
1964	2,411	1,166	2,058	527	7,307	8,819	4,851	787	8,822	1,414	4,141	2,393	421	642	941
1965	2,566	1,213	2,101	547	7,670	9,165	4,860	846	9,186	1,393	4,509	2,447	442	685	931
1966	2,556	1,192	2,172	557	7,824	9,544	5,003	955	9,388	1,354	4,749	2,530	443	728	907
1967	2,612	1,151	2,216	569	7,947	9,907	5,130	957	9,397	1,339	4,951	2,581	448	771	870
1968	2,675	1,146	2,210	566	8,093	10,267	5,176	939	9,864	1,318	5,266	2,751	453	794	886
1969	2,739	1,201	2,206	575	8,878	10,886	5,518	1,007	10,440	1,325	5,766	2,821	458	833	896
1970	2,845	1,254	2,187	595	9,577	11,410	5,869	879	10,839	1,424	6,211	2,919	465	872	919
1971	2,922	1,283	2,222	607	9,765	11,845	6,332	949	11,077	1,491	6,624	3,012	470	833	969
1972	3,012	1,284	2,298	624	10,448	12,264	6,892	985	11,481	1,402	7,400	3,160	471	883	995
1973	3,290	1,294	2,342	630	11,085	12,824	7,289	997	11,966	1,397	7,655	3,297	482	882	1,025
1974	3,383	1,317	2,436	623	11,361	13,113	9,544	1,157	12,063	1,455	7,350	3,426	506	912	1,075
1975	3,459	1,421	2,504	610	11,441	12,957	9,406	1,050	12,041	1,247	7,722	3,412	517	925	1,035
1976	3,687	1,606	2,532	611	11,358	13,466	12,340	1,134	12,684	1,178	8,105	3,579	556	902	1,107
1977	3,810	1,767	2,613	613	11,355	13,913	9,529	1,152	13,072	1,181	8,255	3,767	557	823	1,096
1978	3,961	1,844	2,715	597	11,559	14,240	6,721	1,058	13,455	1,260	8,695	3,862	561	915	1,132
1979	4,060	1,930	2,605	627	12,332	14,634	6,659	1,191	13,993	1,210	8,904	3,951	551	918	1,196
1980	4,129	2,069	2,354	648	12,949	14,766	6,777	1,039	14,114	1,157	8,971	4,005	558	754	1,268
1981	4,181	2,076	2,186	633	13,134	14,840	6,541	997	14,149	1,142	8,896	3,925	550	871	1,213
1982	4,114	2,223	2,084	615	13,485	15,132	6,211	1,088	14,040	1,042	8,879	3,703	549	903	1,152
1983	3,922	2,322	2,076	627	13,767	15,245	6,105	926	14,329	933	8,866	3,504	544	811	1,141
1984	3,975	2,390	2,091	600	14,107	15,382	6,142	871	14,783	960	9,067	3,431	535	824	1,123
1985	4,036	2,471	2,105	552	14,522	15,530	5,818	770	15,140	978	9,316	3,320	519	850	1,104
1986	4,048	2,460	2,089	577	14,819	15,833	5,356	783	15,469	988	9,440	3,222	516	824	1,082
1987	3,697	2,465	2,105	615	15,382	16,158	4,546	797	15,701	1,007	9,375	3,198	519	793	1,052
1988	3,988	2,510	2,106	608	16,088	16,790	4,542	849	16,160	1,034	9,784	3,191	537	805	1,039
1989	3,894	2,528	2,092	600	16,946	17,300	4,637	875	16,558	1,057	10,111	3,227	545	790	1,028
1990	3,903	2,523	2,119	574	16,866	17,647	4,797	878	15,929	1,062	10,015	3,240	540	797	1,005
1991	4,054	2,381	2,142	530	15,703	17,755	4,971	863	16,650	1,087	10,204	3,270	516	818	988
1992	4,126	2,408	2,259	489	15,023	17,994	4,681	867	16,891	1,099	10,201	3,374	515	803	836
1993	4,139	2,395	2,362	542	14,767	17,723	4,666	885	16,645	1,119	9,982	3,451	526	794	801
1994	4,219	2,437	2,459	537	15,284	18,008	4,711	884	17,028	1,122	10,136	3,499	530	796	719
1995	4,248	2,496	2,563	554	15,753	18,349	4,815	822	17,299	1,141	10,321	3,582	537	812	740
1996	4,235	2,565	2,561	594	16,300	18,467	4,858	841	17,420	1,168	10,543	3,603	546	832	755
1997	4,281	2,647	2,620	605	17,262	18,825	5,002	851	17,709	1,192	10,902	3,670	566	858	760
1998	4,205	2,738	2,668	580	18,193	19,213	5,042	851	18,029	1,221	11,248	3,781	585	602	762
1999	3,829	2,843	2,706	597	18,856	19,754	4,052	876	18,380	1,247	11,617	3,854	593	636	769
2000	3,219	2,936	2,714	611	19,770	20,422	3,844	895	18,944	1,265	12,111	3,927	591	680	761
2001	3,334	2,979	2,709	639	20,246	20,684	3,820	917	19,157	1,289	12,626	3,948	610	667	740
2002	3,317	3,015	2,719	629	20,522	20,778	3,728	860	19,140	1,317	13,093	3,959	616	620	722
2003	3,371	3,052	2,731	587	20,846	20,891	3,732	890	19,088	1,354	13,725	3,982	607	604	711
2004	3,561	3,119	2,733	643	21,574	21,262	3,686	926	19,284	1,400	14,319	4,036	608	605	673
2005	3,693	3,200	2,768	698	22,141	21,536	3,711	945	19,417	1,452	14,705	4,086	614	614	672
2006	3,767	3,358	2,835	749	23,190	21,920	3,675	978	20,041	1,514	15,339	4,212	617	606	679
2007	3,802	3,534	2,917	805	24,132	22,287	3,801	1,010	20,547	1,568	15,925	4,381	613	609	689
2008	3,987	3,725	2,940	867	24,344	22,223	3,811	1,043	20,801	1,650	16,362	4,461	628	617	686
2009	3,977	3,902	2,882	914	22,240	21,481	3,894	1,091	19,906	1,692	15,757	4,382	611	627	707
2010	4,085	4,117	2,956	969	22,818	21,815	4,268	1,142	21,003	1,784	15,009	4,408	628	645	686
2011	4,373	4,124	3,059	1,050	23,314	22,180	4,690	1,076	22,065	1,988	13,781	4,491	655	686	727
2012	4,554	4,138	3,107	1,131	22,879	22,141	4,770	1,112	22,116	2,099	12,874	4,537	679	661	738
2013	4,713	4,176	3,154	1,213	22,568	22,154	4,850	1,139	22,152	2,193	12,642	4,602	691	669	759
2014	4,825	4,277	3,191	1,304	22,389	22,257	4,889	1,123	22,547	2,197	12,787	4,713	680	658	771
2015	4,764	4,345	3,261	1,402	22,437	22,414	4,912	1,151	22,687	2,186	12,846	4,813	663	676	768
2016	4,644	4,401	3,333	1,508	23,006	22,575	4,859	1,141	23,006	2,204	12,837	4,854	716	701	771
2017	4,693	4,435	3,399	1,612	23,685	22,994	4,739	1,164	23,535	2,326	13,003	4,917	770	724	779
2018	4,694	4,569	3,476	1,696	23,920	23,307	4,647	1,215	23,694	2,412	13,246	4,997	799	734	782
2019	4,637	4,724	3,559	1,778	24,189	23,627	4,703	1,258	23,891	2,509	13,510	5,110	822	749	758
2020	4,225	4,699	3,272	1,858	23,580	21,710	4,502	1,234	22,989	2,464	12,320	4,937	840	743	724
2021	4,352	4,943	3,626	1,919	24,252	23,118	4,460	1,266	23,583	2,537	13,432	5,244	861	773	702
2022	4,434	5,072	3,707	2,005	24,690	23,616	4,495	1,296	23,832	2,569	14,311	5,382	880	789	682

Sr. No.	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
Year/Country	Honduras	Hong Kong, China	Hungary	India	Indonesia	Iran	Iraq	Ireland	Israel	Italy	Jamaica	Japan	Jordan	Kenya	Kuwait
1950	1,313	2,218	2,480	619	803	1,720	1,364	3,453	2,817	3,502	1,327	1,921	1,663	651	28,878
1951	1,344	2,295	2,695	623	851	1,674	1,445	3,544	3,159	3,738	1,412	2,126	1,695	771	29,777
1952	1,356	2,377	2,762	629	879	1,629	1,557	3,642	3,029	3,997	1,504	2,336	1,726	667	30,023
1953	1,421	2,460	2,786	657	910	1,588	2,129	3,747	2,910	4,260	1,691	2,474	1,757	633	31,361
1954	1,300	2,546	2,850	672	952	1,546	2,463	3,794	3,374	4,449	1,858	2,582	1,787	687	33,200
1955	1,293	2,636	3,070	676	964	1,504	2,298	3,920	3,701	4,676	2,020	2,771	1,625	718	32,257
1956	1,354	2,729	2,906	701	962	1,594	2,389	3,897	3,860	4,859	2,190	2,948	2,139	736	32,876
1957	1,372	2,825	3,169	680	1,012	1,767	2,300	3,914	3,992	5,118	2,468	3,136	2,104	738	31,447
1958	1,370	2,924	3,367	716	960	1,918	2,493	3,870	4,109	5,360	2,458	3,289	2,220	725	29,907
1959	1,360	3,027	3,484	717	985	2,024	2,523	4,038	4,501	5,653	2,541	3,554	2,287	720	29,568
1960	1,398	3,134	3,649	753	1,012	2,156	2,735	4,282	4,663	5,916	2,654	3,986	2,330	726	28,813
1961	1,386	3,244	3,816	758	1,060	2,272	2,961	4,508	4,996	6,373	2,702	4,426	2,685	686	26,112
1962	1,416	3,652	3,962	758	1,037	2,250	3,017	4,636	5,267	6,827	2,722	4,777	2,620	701	26,443
1963	1,417	4,083	4,168	779	977	2,426	2,872	4,821	5,593	7,262	2,757	5,129	2,649	714	25,331
1964	1,438	4,327	4,388	821	993	2,526	3,115	4,986	5,916	7,487	2,904	5,668	2,981	758	25,303
1965	1,507	4,825	4,410	771	983	2,753	3,288	5,051	6,272	7,598	3,070	5,934	3,183	743	23,533
1966	1,538	4,865	4,646	762	963	2,940	3,349	5,080	6,190	7,942	3,129	6,506	3,137	812	24,050
1967	1,568	4,824	4,894	807	922	3,176	3,164	5,352	6,222	8,454	3,178	7,152	3,059	826	22,409
1968	1,603	4,880	4,934	809	991	3,550	3,604	5,770	7,033	9,105	3,284	7,983	2,674	857	22,300
1969	1,559	5,345	5,062	845	1,091	3,897	3,604	6,089	7,723	9,566	3,480	8,874	2,773	881	20,963
1970	1,556	5,695	5,028	868	1,181	4,189	3,473	6,199	8,101	9,719	3,849	9,714	2,395	915	30,695
1971	1,562	5,968	5,238	856	1,221	4,577	3,567	6,354	8,711	9,839	3,803	10,040	2,366	941	30,930
1972	1,563	6,473	5,336	834	1,328	5,174	3,323	6,663	9,478	10,060	3,858	10,734	2,355	956	30,291
1973	1,581	7,105	5,596	853	1,490	5,462	3,753	6,867	9,645	10,634	4,130	11,434	2,388	970	26,689
1974	1,745	7,091	5,716	843	1,530	5,778	3,825	7,042	10,025	11,046	3,908	11,145	2,506	981	21,934
1975	1,732	6,991	5,805	897	1,497	5,883	4,315	7,316	10,148	10,742	3,845	11,344	2,583	942	18,162
1976	1,851	7,906	5,791	889	1,591	6,691	5,023	7,302	10,071	11,385	3,564	11,669	3,096	943	18,166
1977	1,979	8,707	6,126	937	1,675	6,402	4,992	7,795	9,863	11,668	3,451	12,064	3,182	991	16,417
1978	2,103	9,277	6,253	966	1,711	5,464	5,693	8,250	10,125	12,064	3,439	12,585	3,718	1,039	16,539
1979	2,128	9,796	6,251	895	1,763	4,817	6,756	8,366	10,515	12,720	3,336	13,163	3,919	1,036	17,675
1980	2,062	10,503	6,306	938	1,870	3,974	6,377	8,541	10,984	13,149	3,121	13,428	4,480	1,051	13,271
1981	2,031	11,202	6,351	977	1,957	3,693	5,041	8,716	11,357	13,200	3,162	13,754	4,502	1,033	10,290
1982	1,929	11,333	6,583	985	1,845	4,100	4,833	8,821	11,390	13,252	3,149	14,078	4,643	1,054	8,685
1983	1,852	11,797	6,525	1,043	1,878	4,459	4,269	8,740	11,586	13,391	3,210	14,307	4,556	1,021	8,966
1984	1,859	12,846	6,710	1,060	1,966	4,361	4,136	9,056	11,484	13,719	3,174	14,773	4,767	1,000	9,024
1985	1,874	12,763	6,557	1,079	1,972	4,299	3,932	9,306	11,672	14,096	3,020	15,331	4,754	1,006	8,165
1986	1,824	13,960	6,699	1,101	2,051	3,754	3,759	9,265	12,020	14,496	3,064	15,679	5,002	1,040	8,475
1987	1,868	15,597	6,814	1,125	2,114	3,584	3,797	9,698	12,670	14,946	3,296	16,251	4,963	1,065	7,789
1988	1,899	16,716	7,031	1,216	2,196	3,293	2,908	10,234	12,708	15,523	3,386	17,185	4,750	1,092	7,727
1989	1,911	17,043	6,903	1,270	2,351	3,327	2,571	10,880	12,604	15,969	3,606	17,943	4,103	1,105	7,968
1990	1,857	17,541	6,459	1,309	2,514	3,526	2,458	11,818	13,067	16,313	3,786	18,789	3,792	1,117	6,121
1991	1,853	18,323	5,694	1,303	2,602	3,759	947	11,969	13,303	16,539	3,781	19,355	3,486	1,097	8,108
1992	1,904	19,270	5,528	1,345	2,840	3,908	1,196	12,275	13,697	16,637	3,843	19,482	3,829	1,049	9,677
1993	1,980	20,131	5,507	1,399	2,994	3,980	1,161	12,533	13,666	16,436	3,865	19,478	3,932	1,021	12,412
1994	1,886	20,770	5,678	1,474	3,169	4,069	1,070	13,191	14,333	16,754	3,891	19,637	4,029	1,023	12,872
1995	1,899	21,029	5,772	1,553	3,369	4,162	945	14,389	14,799	17,215	3,905	19,979	4,164	1,042	12,454
1996	1,912	21,364	5,861	1,645	3,584	4,359	1,032	15,481	15,040	17,376	3,797	20,616	4,093	1,059	11,529
1997	1,953	22,087	6,146	1,693	3,704	4,535	962	17,143	15,137	17,693	3,696	20,929	4,067	1,056	11,164
1998	1,958	20,834	6,464	1,771	3,172	4,580	1,075	18,265	15,192	17,834	3,639	20,267	4,044	1,049	10,542
1999	1,871	21,367	6,756	1,845	3,147	4,635	1,132	19,922	15,235	18,160	3,596	20,198	4,046	1,038	9,976
2000	1,912	23,328	7,132	1,892	3,276	4,838	1,221	21,551	16,172	18,774	3,598	20,738	4,089	1,013	10,083
2001	1,912	23,246	7,444	1,966	3,358	4,979	1,294	22,605	15,755	19,069	3,626	20,736	4,176	998	9,765
2002	1,915	23,513	7,789	2,001	3,456	5,188	1,346	23,823	15,370	19,107	3,630	20,755	4,290	982	9,726
2003	1,953	24,098	8,137	2,134	3,582	3,995	1,023	24,602	15,427	19,090	3,723	21,092	4,345	983	10,959
2004	2,025	25,997	8,548	2,278	3,709	5,810	995	25,379	15,921	19,300	3,742	21,576	4,592	1,000	11,711
2005	2,101	27,667	8,913	2,423	3,870	6,045	962	26,643	16,422	19,420	3,746	21,976	4,836	1,030	12,519
2006	2,191	29,426	9,284	2,617	4,030	6,367	994	27,760	16,980	19,798	3,814	22,420	5,092	1,066	12,708
2007	2,280	31,130	9,419	2,817	4,228	6,824	983	29,090	17,549	20,110	3,835	22,950	5,412	1,110	12,572
2008	2,323	31,704	9,500	2,975	4,428	6,944	1,049	27,898	17,937	19,909	3,668	22,816	5,702	1,098	12,894
2009	2,239	30,544	9,071	3,152	4,603	7,313	1,132	26,656	17,800	18,864	3,550	21,590	5,839	1,120	12,025
2010	2,295	32,101	9,340	3,340	4,865	7,832	1,255	27,359	18,399	19,257	3,505	22,504	5,814	1,202	11,818
2011	2,356	33,114	9,736	3,519	5,133	7,952	1,403	27,559	18,910	19,471	3,563	22,483	5,821	1,264	13,235
2012	2,408	33,309	9,664	3,677	5,378	7,746	1,529	26,648	19,046	18,839	3,552	22,842	5,866	1,284	13,841
2013	2,431	34,204	9,865	3,856	5,613	7,431	1,573	27,110	19,520	18,455	3,566	23,340	5,430	1,298	13,746
2014	2,462	34,906	10,310	4,077	5,830	7,699	1,534	28,545	19,900	18,451	3,591	23,422	4,894	1,329	13,575
2015	2,508	35,435	10,718	4,332	6,051	7,466	1,536	29,932	19,992	18,623	3,626	23,816	4,664	1,361	13,430
2016	2,560	35,979	10,986	4,669	6,293	7,826	1,731	30,207	20,490	18,900	3,682	24,029	4,585	1,387	13,607
2017	2,638	37,062	11,486	4,900	6,550	8,125	1,637	31,208	20,958	19,251	3,708	24,076	4,604	1,408	12,772
2018	2,693	37,810	12,117	5,201	6,826	8,010	1,676	32,681	21,394	19,470	3,776	24,684	4,598	1,454	12,899
2019	2,718	36,905	12,712	5,383	7,106	7,677	1,735	33,610	21,861	19,613	3,812	24,639	4,594	1,495	12,656
2020	2,435	34,615	12,162	4,968	6,900	7,631	1,431	31,022	21,074	17,939	3,433	23,671	4,458	1,458	11,389
2021	2,698	37,185	13,092	5,399	7,096	7,964	1,509	32,228	22,515	19,291	3,589	24,218	4,520	1,534	11,398
2022	2,764	35,908	13,728	5,732	7,426	8,150	1,597	33,904	23,597	20,065	3,732	24,598	4,586		

Revisiting the Middle-Income Trap: Updated Transition Benchmarks and Country Classifications

Sr. No.	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
Year/Country	Lao PDR	Lebanon	Lesotho	Liberia	Libya	Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Mali	Mauritania	Mauritius	Mexico	Mongolia	Morocco	Mozambique
1950	613	2,429	355	1,055	857	951	324	1,559	457	464	2,490	2,365	435	1,455	1,133
1951	621	2,121	370	1,090	925	972	332	1,440	464	477	2,540	2,477	447	1,458	1,155
1952	628	2,193	375	1,097	963	992	339	1,471	472	490	2,528	2,504	462	1,460	1,178
1953	635	2,457	384	1,113	949	1,012	347	1,440	480	504	2,530	2,439	476	1,468	1,199
1954	642	2,745	399	1,147	915	1,032	355	1,490	488	517	2,587	2,605	490	1,476	1,207
1955	649	2,886	405	1,156	1,115	1,052	354	1,460	496	531	2,587	2,742	505	1,483	1,259
1956	655	2,744	413	1,170	1,314	1,072	376	1,505	504	545	2,594	2,843	520	1,451	1,242
1957	661	2,717	422	1,183	1,325	1,092	383	1,455	512	558	2,613	2,965	536	1,420	1,246
1958	667	2,269	430	1,187	1,410	1,112	388	1,413	521	572	2,610	3,025	552	1,389	1,280
1959	673	2,395	435	1,223	1,470	1,132	393	1,467	530	586	2,685	3,016	569	1,358	1,323
1960	679	2,393	458	1,230	1,830	1,125	394	1,530	534	625	2,777	3,155	586	1,329	1,327
1961	686	2,482	457	1,226	1,936	1,116	404	1,592	527	722	3,319	3,172	603	1,341	1,337
1962	692	2,507	517	1,209	2,473	1,129	393	1,637	519	697	3,249	3,211	621	1,354	1,400
1963	698	2,459	560	1,204	3,212	1,096	376	1,669	543	645	3,629	3,343	640	1,367	1,321
1964	705	2,534	593	1,231	4,366	1,116	359	1,728	557	827	3,283	3,594	659	1,381	1,349
1965	712	2,706	593	1,218	5,378	1,088	397	1,804	553	928	3,302	3,702	679	1,394	1,351
1966	719	2,804	577	1,408	6,107	1,087	426	1,846	564	920	3,108	3,813	699	1,436	1,364
1967	726	2,592	626	1,360	6,545	1,123	455	1,830	571	938	3,180	3,922	720	1,480	1,425
1968	733	2,831	610	1,384	8,395	1,174	437	1,942	579	1,006	2,907	4,073	742	1,524	1,549
1969	740	2,810	605	1,442	9,043	1,192	453	2,005	564	975	3,006	4,185	764	1,570	1,693
1970	748	2,917	604	1,492	9,115	1,226	447	2,079	586	1,059	2,945	4,320	787	1,616	1,743
1971	755	3,001	535	1,519	8,252	1,246	498	2,180	593	1,051	3,047	4,365	811	1,665	1,816
1972	763	3,176	624	1,530	6,979	1,202	534	2,289	609	1,047	3,309	4,602	835	1,669	1,823
1973	770	3,155	769	1,447	6,664	1,144	562	2,560	581	966	3,680	4,853	860	1,694	1,873
1974	777	3,502	797	1,508	5,379	1,139	582	2,688	554	1,046	4,020	5,013	886	1,751	1,684
1975	784	3,460	715	1,248	5,515	1,126	586	2,648	616	962	3,969	5,158	912	1,831	1,404
1976	804	3,523	814	1,263	6,540	1,063	591	2,910	684	1,020	4,551	5,244	939	1,992	1,295
1977	821	3,613	936	1,221	6,945	1,061	603	3,076	720	989	4,768	5,293	968	2,050	1,263
1978	836	3,709	1,054	1,235	6,991	1,006	637	3,271	691	966	4,863	5,595	997	2,069	1,235
1979	856	3,506	962	1,255	7,565	1,075	646	3,457	844	991	4,943	5,968	1,027	2,122	1,215
1980	876	3,524	1,005	1,162	7,272	1,054	630	3,657	733	1,009	4,367	6,320	1,058	2,272	1,220
1981	891	3,362	990	1,155	5,648	936	580	3,824	697	1,026	4,550	6,717	1,115	2,169	1,217
1982	899	3,134	1,001	1,091	5,234	893	567	3,954	646	984	4,738	6,514	1,175	2,337	1,162
1983	904	3,100	892	1,052	4,968	875	573	4,096	663	1,009	4,708	6,088	1,210	2,262	1,063
1984	911	3,165	944	1,012	4,397	819	580	4,308	680	916	4,882	6,162	1,247	2,294	1,022
1985	918	3,245	953	969	3,953	813	606	4,157	683	921	5,179	6,194	1,282	2,374	920
1986	921	3,101	948	968	3,586	795	587	4,105	714	950	5,658	5,834	1,364	2,495	928
1987	923	2,169	972	964	3,380	789	568	4,218	714	957	6,184	5,818	1,374	2,378	980
1988	925	1,968	1,070	935	3,303	778	547	4,482	700	969	6,550	5,771	1,405	2,558	1,067
1989	927	1,964	1,159	918	3,232	785	542	4,789	756	982	6,783	5,899	1,403	2,555	1,114
1990	929	1,936	1,181	1,060	3,087	792	540	5,131	747	948	7,208	6,085	1,332	2,591	1,114
1991	931	2,638	1,201	1,255	2,825	720	564	5,494	726	949	7,597	6,226	1,181	2,708	1,144
1992	953	2,733	1,228	1,213	2,637	707	504	5,847	771	932	7,865	6,333	1,047	2,544	1,032
1993	1,020	2,896	1,246	1,193	2,453	700	543	6,278	737	948	8,287	6,339	998	2,466	1,080
1994	1,054	3,091	1,215	1,229	2,363	679	496	6,702	740	962	8,553	6,504	1,003	2,667	1,075
1995	1,079	3,249	1,341	1,262	2,321	670	582	7,199	775	984	8,759	6,001	1,046	2,441	1,051
1996	1,077	3,331	1,442	1,254	2,381	664	611	7,747	791	1,021	9,115	6,209	1,050	2,686	1,089
1997	1,105	3,416	1,485	1,161	2,467	668	618	8,139	825	1,034	9,553	6,525	1,074	2,573	1,177
1998	1,110	3,469	1,419	1,051	2,322	673	622	7,383	846	1,045	10,018	6,753	1,093	2,724	1,289
1999	1,167	3,393	1,434	1,009	2,291	684	631	7,673	882	1,060	10,437	6,915	1,075	2,672	1,350
2000	1,203	3,403	1,469	990	2,313	695	639	8,162	894	1,085	10,593	7,275	1,059	2,652	1,338
2001	1,241	3,507	1,504	983	2,391	715	599	8,027	978	1,104	11,232	7,177	1,043	2,771	1,477
2002	1,281	3,573	1,562	1,012	2,367	606	597	8,198	995	1,120	11,501	7,145	1,028	2,812	1,551
2003	1,322	3,670	1,598	697	2,447	645	607	8,512	1,041	1,153	12,183	7,159	1,013	2,934	1,638
2004	1,373	3,890	1,660	716	2,509	659	623	8,931	1,039	1,183	12,641	7,357	1,062	3,062	1,727
2005	1,435	3,936	1,668	729	2,703	669	628	9,235	1,075	1,216	12,958	7,511	1,047	3,104	1,836
2006	1,519	3,910	1,800	750	2,818	682	655	9,597	1,103	1,322	13,297	7,795	1,031	3,294	1,959
2007	1,594	4,152	1,888	781	2,961	702	694	10,013	1,120	1,303	13,741	7,972	1,016	3,319	2,059
2008	1,669	4,453	1,952	802	2,994	730	744	10,292	1,145	1,299	14,529	7,979	1,001	3,465	2,160
2009	1,775	5,009	1,971	829	3,144	684	776	10,041	1,159	1,281	14,594	7,558	1,022	3,577	2,077
2010	1,900	5,574	2,074	844	3,472	675	798	10,700	1,180	1,338	14,813	7,919	1,123	3,677	2,003
2011	2,032	5,791	2,103	810	1,535	674	805	11,170	1,176	1,393	15,007	8,195	1,360	3,834	1,937
2012	2,157	5,811	2,201	843	3,013	676	796	11,615	1,137	1,442	15,497	8,377	1,505	3,902	2,020
2013	2,291	5,404	2,294	889	2,404	673	813	11,994	1,133	1,489	15,984	8,413	1,656	4,032	2,102
2014	2,425	4,848	2,370	874	1,804	678	835	12,541	1,181	1,552	16,563	8,558	1,762	4,093	2,197
2015	2,567	4,632	2,429	855	1,753	681	836	12,991	1,220	1,536	17,142	8,748	1,778	4,223	2,283
2016	2,706	4,665	2,487	834	1,693	690	832	13,395	1,257	1,515	17,777	9,001	1,766	4,198	2,309
2017	2,848	4,713	2,379	838	2,198	699	843	14,000	1,288	1,568	18,446	9,106	1,825	4,362	2,334
2018	2,981	4,723	2,315	832	2,322	704	857	14,503	1,313	1,600	19,157	9,190	1,924	4,449	2,351
2019	3,097	4,587	2,253	798	2,021	718	881	14,970	1,338	1,642	19,689	9,053	1,989	4,531	2,343
2020	3,151	3,633	2,059	759	1,398	651	867	13,987	1,285	1,585	16,795	8,219	1,863	4,164	2,255
2021	3,215	3,773	2,072	781	1,762	672	885	14,267	1,289	1,583	17,362	8,542	1,863	4,452	2,248
2022	3,310	3,690	2,073	802	1,519	684	870	15,340	1,296	1,651	18,795	8,748	1,928	4,457	2,278

Sr. No.	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
Year/Country	Myanmar	Namibia	Nepal	Netherlands	New Zealand	Nicaragua	Niger	Nigeria	Norway	Oman	Pakistan	Panama	Paraguay	Peru	Philippines
1950	396	2,160	496	5,996	8,456	1,616	617	753	5,430	623	643	1,916	1,584	2,308	1,070
1951	446	2,176	505	6,032	7,653	1,674	630	792	5,670	650	608	1,851	1,573	2,426	1,151
1952	449	2,191	517	6,084	7,796	1,900	642	830	5,814	677	596	1,901	1,506	2,487	1,186
1953	454	2,223	543	6,543	7,856	1,888	654	831	5,985	707	637	1,969	1,509	2,579	1,254
1954	419	2,292	549	6,907	8,743	2,002	667	867	6,226	736	636	1,993	1,495	2,583	1,308
1955	467	2,310	554	7,326	8,725	2,072	679	865	6,301	766	635	2,055	1,523	2,703	1,358
1956	490	2,339	572	7,499	9,000	2,008	692	821	6,575	799	638	2,108	1,547	2,751	1,410
1957	510	2,370	566	7,614	9,045	2,111	704	830	6,711	831	650	2,270	1,578	2,810	1,442
1958	488	2,376	592	7,482	9,185	2,052	717	797	6,652	866	643	2,241	1,625	2,743	1,448
1959	555	2,451	601	7,737	9,630	2,019	729	808	6,874	900	633	2,322	1,581	2,682	1,501
1960	564	2,616	607	8,287	9,465	1,983	761	820	7,204	935	647	2,391	1,555	2,969	1,476
1961	567	2,579	613	8,202	9,745	2,065	777	824	7,595	923	669	2,574	1,588	3,142	1,512
1962	606	2,869	618	8,639	9,731	2,219	841	846	7,746	1,084	699	2,710	1,657	3,281	1,537
1963	613	3,076	623	8,832	10,132	2,382	905	899	7,982	1,103	723	2,882	1,659	3,334	1,595
1964	612	3,486	626	9,437	10,418	2,578	888	910	8,316	1,075	758	2,920	1,687	3,465	1,600
1965	617	3,626	631	9,798	10,879	2,734	935	944	8,690	1,053	771	3,085	1,739	3,594	1,633
1966	580	3,668	663	9,936	11,362	2,736	904	887	8,945	1,080	812	3,219	1,712	3,788	1,654
1967	586	3,430	641	10,341	10,682	2,835	889	728	9,423	1,749	820	3,388	1,774	3,831	1,690
1968	612	3,369	633	10,894	10,545	2,783	877	699	9,551	3,094	854	3,531	1,789	3,685	1,722
1969	626	3,396	649	11,462	11,511	2,875	832	861	9,899	3,782	885	3,699	1,810	3,676	1,750
1970	642	3,321	653	11,967	11,189	2,812	839	1,094	10,027	3,799	952	3,814	1,872	3,854	1,764
1971	650	3,314	633	12,319	11,576	2,856	867	1,188	10,472	3,716	931	4,010	1,902	3,916	1,808
1972	642	3,387	640	12,597	11,850	2,862	804	1,197	10,922	3,934	913	4,109	1,946	3,930	1,853
1973	628	3,401	625	13,081	12,424	2,921	652	1,262	11,324	3,279	954	4,248	2,038	4,023	1,964
1974	648	3,425	651	13,497	12,879	3,235	693	1,367	11,726	3,541	962	4,230	2,143	4,119	1,979
1975	663	3,334	647	13,374	12,489	3,129	659	1,287	12,271	4,267	978	4,196	2,219	4,326	2,033
1976	692	3,389	662	13,885	12,648	3,186	648	1,385	12,930	4,597	1,006	4,162	2,313	4,271	2,152
1977	720	3,505	668	14,177	11,989	3,349	682	1,393	13,425	4,390	1,023	4,097	2,504	4,157	2,211
1978	756	3,658	682	14,424	12,034	3,022	756	1,272	13,840	4,086	1,079	4,419	2,717	4,049	2,262
1979	778	3,703	683	14,647	12,284	2,151	791	1,320	14,411	4,044	1,087	4,510	2,952	4,181	2,323
1980	828	3,767	652	14,705	12,347	2,154	810	1,305	15,076	4,072	1,161	5,082	3,301	4,263	2,376
1981	859	3,825	637	14,525	12,884	2,195	801	1,164	15,169	4,523	1,207	5,186	3,494	4,342	2,396
1982	889	3,789	699	14,291	12,996	2,119	772	1,119	15,145	4,800	1,256	5,362	3,281	4,247	2,421
1983	910	3,577	662	14,483	13,184	2,168	740	1,023	15,636	5,346	1,303	5,292	3,093	3,594	2,407
1984	936	3,425	708	14,900	13,666	2,074	600	958	16,513	5,976	1,321	5,164	3,100	3,676	2,176
1985	945	3,341	733	15,283	13,664	1,944	596	1,017	17,320	6,545	1,399	5,295	3,131	3,666	1,967
1986	919	3,344	745	15,617	13,880	1,862	608	1,010	17,882	6,442	1,444	5,360	3,038	3,946	1,983
1987	867	3,339	754	15,737	13,891	1,804	572	976	18,164	6,712	1,483	5,383	3,079	4,192	2,019
1988	757	3,277	792	16,044	13,816	1,562	589	1,046	18,059	6,670	1,532	4,455	3,185	3,766	2,105
1989	774	3,364	789	16,695	13,869	1,499	574	1,085	18,157	6,708	1,560	4,352	3,276	3,237	2,184
1990	786	3,141	825	17,262	13,687	1,437	547	1,112	18,466	6,479	1,588	4,466	3,281	3,008	2,197
1991	771	3,229	854	17,520	13,347	1,364	544	1,149	19,045	6,606	1,631	4,773	3,268	3,020	2,136
1992	837	3,444	863	17,747	13,343	1,324	493	1,150	19,561	6,898	1,715	5,064	3,230	2,931	2,099
1993	878	3,284	870	17,765	14,031	1,280	484	1,146	19,974	7,048	1,711	5,230	3,266	3,034	2,099
1994	930	3,415	914	18,055	14,572	1,293	487	1,111	20,905	7,070	1,732	5,288	3,270	3,377	2,144
1995	981	3,467	919	18,510	14,941	1,314	483	1,113	21,703	7,159	1,773	5,286	3,325	3,595	2,194
1996	1,030	3,483	941	18,988	15,237	1,340	483	1,156	22,728	7,115	1,810	5,309	3,276	3,608	2,267
1997	1,076	3,543	953	19,620	15,289	1,375	480	1,161	23,775	7,298	1,782	5,433	3,271	3,848	2,331
1998	1,125	3,581	947	20,636	15,263	1,398	512	1,154	24,138	7,240	1,782	5,543	3,172	3,787	2,267
1999	1,234	3,630	955	21,461	15,976	1,634	491	1,139	24,470	6,979	1,803	5,618	3,103	3,760	2,293
2000	1,389	3,661	994	22,161	16,246	1,520	467	1,161	25,102	7,113	1,814	5,655	3,011	3,817	2,377
2001	1,530	3,660	1,026	22,433	16,675	1,532	482	1,170	25,468	7,387	1,799	5,587	2,994	3,767	2,364
2002	1,697	3,703	1,004	22,301	17,170	1,510	479	1,161	25,733	7,324	1,820	5,615	2,916	3,894	2,413
2003	1,913	3,789	1,017	22,237	17,486	1,516	482	1,258	25,879	7,221	1,872	5,731	2,951	3,992	2,479
2004	2,150	3,992	1,036	22,602	17,912	1,923	460	1,305	26,765	7,359	1,974	5,870	2,996	4,132	2,581
2005	2,417	4,048	1,053	22,929	18,231	1,600	481	1,346	27,377	7,466	2,084	5,942	3,007	4,352	2,656
2006	2,711	4,292	1,077	23,587	18,405	1,631	490	1,400	27,899	7,657	2,166	6,099	3,060	4,625	2,741
2007	3,009	4,484	1,097	24,320	18,801	1,652	488	1,468	28,013	7,982	2,240	6,410	3,190	4,970	2,877
2008	3,104	4,571	1,134	24,695	18,653	1,674	514	1,524	28,500	8,332	2,239	6,675	3,295	5,388	2,926
2009	3,180	4,529	1,170	23,780	18,528	1,637	493	1,648	28,538	9,012	2,273	6,697	3,130	5,402	2,932
2010	3,266	4,743	1,207	24,129	18,737	1,700	515	1,831	29,227	9,406	2,308	6,999	3,504	5,813	3,127
2011	3,362	4,922	1,228	24,557	19,017	1,818	508	1,917	30,027	9,054	2,366	7,734	3,621	6,141	3,213
2012	3,541	5,089	1,267	24,214	19,407	1,899	540	1,947	30,437	9,660	2,405	8,329	3,550	6,484	3,381
2013	3,784	5,273	1,299	24,112	19,641	1,965	547	1,999	30,377	9,960	2,458	8,757	3,797	6,831	3,551
2014	4,055	5,481	1,358	24,367	19,927	2,033	562	2,072	30,656	9,884	2,518	9,161	3,950	6,964	3,713
2015	4,315	5,600	1,377	24,735	20,317	2,112	565	2,075	30,906	10,169	2,592	9,561	4,019	7,161	3,883
2016	4,547	5,492	1,371	25,143	20,691	2,177	574	1,992	30,992	10,465	2,666	9,895	4,142	7,417	4,099
2017	4,764	5,330	1,477	25,722	21,103	2,246	581	1,959	31,508	10,286	2,751	10,303	4,290	7,575	4,320
2018	5,023	5,283	1,571	26,175	21,605	2,140	599	1,947	31,560	10,211	2,809	10,540	4,376	7,751	4,523
2019	5,316	5,141	1,657	26,513	21,897	2,049	613	1,940	31,700	9,898	2,766	10,713	4,307	7,753	4,724
2020	5,438	4,641	1,589	25,341	21,269	1,986	612	1,857	31,114	9,396	2,779	8,693	4,222	6,809	4,187
2021	4,426	4,678	1,628	26,436	22,446	2,161	598	1,877	32,154	9,486	2,896	9,938	4,341	7,673	4,335
2022	4,482	4,788	1,691	27,354	22,690	2,210	640	1,893	32,911	9,774	2,932	10,869	4,301	7,803	4,597

Revisiting the Middle-Income Trap: Updated Transition Benchmarks and Country Classifications

Sr. No.	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105
Year/Country	Poland	Portugal	Qatar	Rep. of Korea	Romania	Rwanda	Saudi Arabia	Senegal	Sierra Leone	Singapore	South Africa	Spain	Sri Lanka	Sudan	Swaziland
1950	2,447	2,086	30,387	854	1,182	547	2,231	1,259	656	2,219	2,535	2,189	1,253	821	721
1951	2,510	2,168	30,523	787	1,256	567	2,374	1,281	685	2,253	2,591	2,386	1,293	837	745
1952	2,521	2,161	30,107	835	1,333	574	2,470	1,303	697	2,280	2,619	2,558	1,313	855	751
1953	2,618	2,298	30,919	1,072	1,411	584	2,664	1,324	714	2,314	2,675	2,528	1,299	871	762
1954	2,715	2,393	32,302	1,124	1,496	604	2,912	1,346	744	2,320	2,763	2,696	1,296	889	787
1955	2,794	2,475	31,137	1,169	1,578	610	2,922	1,367	760	2,358	2,830	2,778	1,337	907	793
1956	2,864	2,564	31,762	1,149	1,623	620	3,075	1,388	777	2,333	2,914	2,978	1,312	976	803
1957	2,962	2,659	31,351	1,206	1,672	628	3,119	1,409	795	2,318	2,951	3,046	1,297	936	814
1958	3,057	2,672	31,394	1,234	1,724	631	3,204	1,429	807	2,295	2,939	3,150	1,301	949	817
1959	3,096	2,794	32,896	1,243	1,783	652	3,458	1,448	841	2,186	2,995	3,050	1,285	1,033	843
1960	3,215	2,956	32,810	1,226	1,844	656	3,719	1,445	856	2,310	3,041	3,072	1,295	1,024	935
1961	3,426	3,119	30,437	1,247	1,951	625	4,066	1,475	858	2,422	3,092	3,436	1,286	996	1,028
1962	3,341	3,330	29,049	1,245	2,007	695	4,445	1,487	884	2,520	3,179	3,800	1,297	1,037	1,214
1963	3,502	3,504	28,176	1,316	2,137	611	4,715	1,507	886	2,701	3,321	4,151	1,291	980	1,252
1964	3,622	3,718	26,466	1,390	2,258	525	5,005	1,499	883	2,541	3,450	4,515	1,320	944	1,399
1965	3,787	3,992	25,785	1,436	2,386	548	5,469	1,511	932	2,667	3,559	4,762	1,329	984	1,577
1966	3,991	4,164	31,782	1,569	2,643	570	6,102	1,508	976	2,891	3,615	5,060	1,284	947	1,602
1967	4,103	4,481	34,860	1,645	2,743	594	6,463	1,449	955	3,163	3,760	5,334	1,368	893	1,709
1968	4,317	4,873	36,393	1,812	2,739	618	6,848	1,499	1,032	3,540	3,819	5,588	1,437	923	1,588
1969	4,241	4,987	35,280	2,040	2,824	666	7,170	1,362	1,109	3,965	3,946	6,032	1,461	954	1,612
1970	4,428	5,473	32,573	2,167	2,853	717	7,624	1,435	1,129	4,439	4,045	6,319	1,499	888	2,036
1971	4,707	5,871	37,473	2,332	3,221	705	8,475	1,390	1,101	4,904	4,135	6,618	1,457	923	2,015
1972	5,010	6,355	39,157	2,456	3,396	687	9,497	1,436	1,072	5,460	4,109	7,099	1,460	878	2,201
1973	5,340	7,063	42,916	2,824	3,477	688	11,040	1,315	1,087	5,977	4,175	7,661	1,492	780	2,258
1974	5,601	7,048	36,132	3,015	3,637	700	12,333	1,329	1,113	6,276	4,299	8,149	1,517	833	2,443
1975	5,808	6,517	34,421	3,162	3,761	806	11,787	1,396	1,125	6,430	4,271	8,346	1,527	910	2,462
1976	5,895	6,814	34,611	3,476	3,917	766	12,106	1,487	1,070	6,797	4,267	8,599	1,546	1,044	2,472
1977	5,949	7,166	28,858	3,775	3,966	779	13,064	1,403	1,065	7,224	4,155	8,833	1,620	1,165	2,473
1978	6,111	7,340	29,531	4,064	4,063	827	12,919	1,306	1,048	7,752	4,174	9,023	1,690	1,108	2,462
1979	5,942	7,733	28,737	4,294	4,148	876	12,843	1,354	1,087	8,362	4,232	9,068	1,766	956	2,421
1980	5,740	8,044	28,771	4,114	4,135	952	13,217	1,268	1,116	9,058	4,390	9,203	1,830	931	2,397
1981	5,385	8,114	23,405	4,302	4,087	982	13,421	1,219	1,162	9,450	4,480	9,186	1,913	920	2,481
1982	5,288	8,280	18,222	4,557	4,072	1,030	12,883	1,360	1,157	9,654	4,323	9,293	1,977	1,003	2,548
1983	5,498	8,255	14,521	5,007	4,027	1,057	10,863	1,351	1,117	10,298	4,112	9,478	2,050	958	2,474
1984	5,650	8,089	12,769	5,375	4,178	983	10,253	1,248	1,108	10,938	4,186	9,571	2,125	881	2,437
1985	5,660	8,306	10,388	5,670	4,159	1,000	9,048	1,255	1,054	10,710	4,006	9,722	2,186	799	2,497
1986	5,797	8,641	8,081	6,263	4,215	1,025	8,091	1,274	995	10,900	3,912	9,998	2,263	807	2,494
1987	5,683	9,185	8,042	6,916	4,110	983	8,105	1,285	1,023	11,743	3,897	10,520	2,252	808	2,607
1988	5,789	9,868	7,837	7,621	4,085	918	8,027	1,308	1,026	12,718	3,964	11,046	2,279	804	2,429
1989	5,684	10,372	7,614	8,027	3,941	907	8,004	1,242	1,025	13,475	3,956	11,582	2,307	849	2,478
1990	5,113	10,826	7,343	8,704	3,511	877	8,993	1,254	1,026	14,220	3,834	12,055	2,424	760	2,435
1991	4,738	11,304	7,076	9,404	3,063	823	9,602	1,210	919	14,711	3,716	12,327	2,507	786	2,385
1992	4,842	11,417	7,495	9,803	2,797	859	9,498	1,199	845	15,252	3,566	12,414	2,586	800	2,324
1993	5,011	11,138	7,234	10,232	2,843	758	8,860	1,139	855	16,647	3,534	12,262	2,727	801	2,329
1994	5,265	11,179	7,180	10,974	2,957	456	8,415	1,138	865	18,005	3,584	12,534	2,841	796	2,395
1995	5,623	11,614	7,179	11,850	3,174	707	8,091	1,163	766	18,822	3,646	12,860	2,960	798	2,467
1996	5,956	11,994	7,317	12,579	3,307	668	7,942	1,187	569	19,638	3,752	13,152	3,039	819	2,499
1997	6,357	12,427	8,832	13,066	3,114	653	7,872	1,212	454	20,588	3,801	13,643	3,201	879	2,536
1998	6,705	12,939	9,245	12,282	2,971	677	7,783	1,245	441	19,861	3,777	14,236	3,318	905	2,564
1999	7,014	13,356	9,320	13,350	2,940	714	7,509	1,274	404	20,886	3,808	14,872	3,428	951	2,610
2000	7,309	13,813	9,844	14,375	3,006	742	7,650	1,313	409	22,518	3,890	15,622	3,597	1,017	2,630
2001	7,400	14,021	9,958	14,947	3,180	775	7,469	1,337	458	21,642	3,950	16,163	3,504	1,052	2,647
2002	7,510	14,068	9,787	15,764	3,343	826	7,273	1,315	553	21,699	4,048	16,573	3,601	1,089	2,700
2003	7,804	13,897	9,925	16,177	3,510	814	7,629	1,363	572	21,958	4,130	17,059	3,771	1,145	2,752
2004	8,226	14,048	11,163	16,873	3,813	825	7,835	1,402	596	23,467	4,156	17,588	3,934	1,187	2,804
2005	8,527	14,118	11,773	17,493	3,974	861	8,079	1,440	624	24,772	4,316	18,194	4,137	1,239	2,865
2006	9,060	14,262	13,255	18,357	4,338	898	8,152	1,434	640	26,455	4,503	18,895	4,410	1,350	2,953
2007	9,681	14,482	15,051	19,243	4,565	943	8,244	1,460	666	28,138	4,689	19,551	4,663	1,457	3,065
2008	10,160	14,436	17,311	19,614	4,895	1,020	8,435	1,456	686	28,107	4,793	19,706	4,895	1,524	3,150
2009	10,538	14,048	18,581	19,516	4,751	1,035	8,495	1,444	694	27,657	4,748	19,001	5,007	1,568	3,252
2010	11,014	14,364	21,728	20,539	4,904	1,059	9,151	1,459	715	31,572	4,942	19,072	5,343	1,624	3,336
2011	11,670	14,178	25,069	20,986	5,143	1,083	10,379	1,440	745	33,220	5,169	18,960	5,727	1,607	3,427
2012	11,848	13,658	24,877	21,378	5,265	1,142	10,671	1,452	838	33,857	5,213	18,387	6,164	1,307	3,503
2013	11,959	13,606	25,089	21,954	5,298	1,160	10,711	1,443	989	34,916	5,261	18,196	6,357	1,303	3,620
2014	12,424	13,788	25,420	22,515	5,536	1,197	10,876	1,487	1,010	35,819	5,255	18,505	6,703	1,328	3,677
2015	12,978	14,093	25,757	23,026	5,738	1,277	11,122	1,535	787	36,453	5,244	19,234	6,926	1,353	3,696
2016	13,371	14,423	25,797	23,611	5,937	1,327	11,126	1,584	817	37,281	5,200	19,801	7,216	1,376	3,708
2017	14,061	14,966	24,793	24,289	6,888	1,345	10,834	1,652	827	38,940	5,182	20,354	7,622	1,344	3,754
2018	14,900	15,417	24,573	24,887	7,187	1,426	10,901	1,706	836	40,139	5,185	20,732	7,739	1,274	3,813
2019	15,574	15,827	24,295	25,357	6,967	1,527	10,733	1,736	860	40,210	5,126	20,974	7,668	1,208	3,885
2020	15,272	14,498	23,068	25,142	7,426	1,446	10,005	1,712	823	38,764	4,733	18,500	7,351	1,133	3,789
2021	16,400	15,309	23,124	26,231	7,816	1,575	10,672	1,768	838	41,985	4,923	19,531	7,547	1,110	4,047
2022	17,352	16,355	24,043	26,910	7,845	1,643	11,460	1,805	851	43,264	4,985	20,474	6,875	1,054	3,953

Sr. No.	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
Year/Country	Sweden	Switzerland	Syrian Arab Republic	Taipei, ROC/Taiwan	Tanzania	Thailand	Togo	Tunisia	Turkey	Uganda	United Arab Emirates	United Kingdom	United States	Uruguay	Venezuela
1950	6,769	9,064	2,409	916	424	817	574	1,115	1,623	687	15,798	6,939	9,561	4,659	7,462
1951	6,979	9,684	2,264	949	466	849	584	1,106	1,784	642	16,709	7,123	10,116	4,955	7,663
1952	6,974	9,630	2,786	1,028	464	869	593	1,220	1,947	664	17,246	7,091	10,316	4,957	7,992
1953	7,043	9,840	3,084	1,084	437	935	602	1,244	2,108	675	18,418	7,346	10,613	5,139	7,956
1954	7,339	10,287	3,453	1,145	461	898	611	1,249	1,993	648	19,884	7,619	10,359	5,391	8,417
1955	7,478	10,867	3,039	1,189	460	945	621	1,164	2,093	672	19,683	7,868	10,897	5,352	8,750
1956	7,702	11,439	3,508	1,208	454	930	630	1,223	2,097	690	20,377	7,929	10,914	5,360	9,124
1957	7,897	11,705	3,627	1,253	452	910	639	1,159	2,194	700	20,282	8,017	10,920	5,333	10,058
1958	8,045	11,297	3,039	1,290	444	914	647	1,291	2,222	685	20,372	7,966	10,631	5,402	9,816
1959	8,356	11,870	3,062	1,329	453	992	656	1,217	2,252	700	21,426	8,240	11,230	4,860	9,997
1960	8,792	12,457	3,023	1,353	459	1,078	698	1,343	2,247	713	22,433	8,645	11,328	4,960	9,646
1961	9,237	13,099	3,168	1,398	441	1,100	728	1,436	2,221	686	23,180	8,857	11,402	5,036	9,002
1962	9,602	13,354	3,796	1,459	468	1,149	736	1,379	2,297	694	24,250	8,865	11,905	4,858	9,058
1963	10,021	13,710	3,673	1,545	483	1,205	754	1,556	2,454	751	25,025	9,149	12,242	4,820	9,134
1964	10,618	14,191	3,637	1,679	494	1,249	841	1,589	2,496	785	25,676	9,568	12,773	4,858	9,562
1965	11,045	14,504	3,512	1,810	497	1,308	932	1,653	2,504	779	26,164	9,752	13,419	4,860	9,841
1966	11,276	14,727	3,139	1,916	544	1,412	991	1,654	2,735	803	26,483	9,885	14,134	4,974	9,677
1967	11,623	15,010	3,291	2,070	549	1,486	1,019	1,605	2,795	822	26,610	10,049	14,330	4,721	9,922
1968	12,036	15,374	3,306	2,186	561	1,561	1,043	1,735	2,917	818	26,374	10,410	14,863	4,747	10,249
1969	12,540	16,031	3,801	2,334	554	1,636	1,126	1,760	3,002	881	25,495	10,552	15,179	4,991	10,262
1970	13,011	16,904	3,340	2,537	568	1,694	1,075	1,827	3,078	867	24,552	10,767	15,030	5,184	10,672
1971	13,227	17,381	3,759	2,804	574	1,725	1,126	1,982	3,282	869	24,806	10,941	15,304	5,130	10,446
1972	13,533	17,774	4,544	3,113	593	1,748	1,138	2,287	3,412	856	24,806	11,294	15,944	4,945	10,245
1973	14,018	18,204	4,017	3,448	593	1,874	1,067	2,221	3,477	835	24,887	12,025	16,689	4,974	10,625
1974	14,485	18,414	4,821	3,422	588	1,910	1,087	2,343	3,665	817	28,449	11,859	16,491	5,123	10,507
1975	14,575	17,224	5,570	3,522	600	1,959	1,056	2,446	3,895	780	25,465	11,847	16,284	5,417	10,472
1976	14,825	17,170	5,976	3,918	625	2,091	1,026	2,569	4,138	765	25,598	12,115	16,975	5,602	10,929
1977	14,560	17,635	5,705	4,236	623	2,249	1,057	2,592	4,224	757	26,296	12,384	17,567	5,629	11,251
1978	14,498	17,662	5,998	4,717	623	2,422	1,138	2,700	4,255	697	22,545	12,828	18,373	5,888	11,164
1979	14,929	18,050	6,010	4,998	613	2,496	1,178	2,811	4,133	606	24,802	13,167	18,789	6,215	10,920
1980	15,016	18,779	6,508	5,260	601	2,554	1,097	2,944	4,022	572	27,709	12,931	18,577	6,555	10,139
1981	14,909	18,956	6,891	5,489	577	2,654	998	3,030	4,087	579	26,635	12,747	18,856	6,873	9,841
1982	15,076	18,560	6,786	5,590	568	2,745	928	2,957	4,182	610	22,983	12,955	18,325	5,972	9,356
1983	15,337	18,560	6,638	5,979	549	2,847	847	3,039	4,230	636	20,538	13,404	18,920	5,583	8,745
1984	15,804	19,038	6,143	6,521	546	2,961	842	3,068	4,367	563	20,160	13,720	20,123	5,487	8,623
1985	16,049	19,586	6,290	6,762	529	3,050	851	3,161	4,485	556	18,546	14,165	20,717	5,560	8,521
1986	16,442	19,786	5,772	7,477	530	3,170	847	3,037	4,695	538	13,770	14,742	21,236	6,015	8,725
1987	16,905	19,792	5,681	8,598	539	3,421	829	3,164	4,998	550	13,480	15,393	21,788	6,453	8,805
1988	17,298	20,243	6,219	8,898	544	3,820	836	3,099	5,086	566	12,682	16,110	22,499	6,413	9,080
1989	17,710	20,935	5,480	9,538	546	4,225	837	3,151	5,041	583	13,220	16,414	23,059	6,454	8,094
1990	17,781	21,487	5,701	9,938	549	4,633	800	3,335	5,399	585	13,961	16,430	23,201	6,465	8,313
1991	17,438	21,051	5,909	10,577	545	4,964	768	3,400	5,346	570	13,191	16,157	22,849	6,607	8,970
1992	16,997	20,831	6,152	11,256	532	5,295	714	3,597	5,562	567	12,759	16,133	23,298	7,047	9,382
1993	16,597	20,598	6,623	11,929	520	5,666	600	3,610	5,902	593	11,904	16,463	23,616	7,215	9,143
1994	17,066	20,653	6,946	12,660	508	6,098	700	3,662	5,482	609	12,172	17,137	24,279	7,564	8,624
1995	17,592	20,608	7,177	13,354	509	6,577	708	3,691	5,775	663	12,392	17,561	24,603	7,357	8,953
1996	17,824	20,647	7,481	14,052	521	6,883	741	3,895	6,073	701	12,447	17,997	25,230	7,670	8,750
1997	18,362	21,003	7,469	14,835	504	6,712	678	4,049	6,421	716	12,568	18,527	26,052	7,993	9,160
1998	19,073	21,594	7,829	15,371	509	5,945	644	4,190	6,508	728	12,391	19,023	26,849	8,304	8,986
1999	19,917	21,797	7,392	16,078	513	6,154	644	4,394	6,101	759	12,117	19,516	27,735	8,025	8,300
2000	20,710	22,475	7,368	16,872	525	6,398	614	4,550	6,446	773	12,929	20,353	28,467	7,873	8,433
2001	20,890	22,594	7,448	16,354	544	6,487	601	4,722	5,869	787	12,496	20,590	28,405	7,562	8,590
2002	21,361	22,536	7,691	16,855	569	6,782	611	4,752	6,234	815	12,206	20,946	28,604	6,690	7,717
2003	21,733	22,342	7,585	17,356	588	7,195	626	4,966	6,499	823	13,023	21,461	29,074	6,799	7,013
2004	22,292	22,787	7,611	18,350	614	7,593	623	5,210	6,974	835	13,642	22,096	29,845	7,558	8,176
2005	22,987	23,259	7,767	19,055	646	7,886	614	5,370	7,449	856	14,115	22,518	30,481	8,013	8,888
2006	23,912	23,986	7,976	19,899	675	8,238	621	5,598	7,850	916	14,793	23,107	31,004	8,529	9,627
2007	24,496	24,748	8,125	20,962	695	8,584	615	5,892	8,104	958	15,094	23,642	31,357	9,129	10,263
2008	24,409	25,104	8,360	20,926	744	8,750	606	6,103	8,066	1,008	15,589	23,742	31,178	9,893	10,596
2009	23,209	24,709	8,343	20,452	784	8,596	614	6,244	7,571	1,055	14,368	22,523	30,047	10,075	10,140
2010	24,667	25,626	8,259	22,505	833	9,144	627	6,356	8,239	1,099	14,674	22,754	30,552	10,921	10,059
2011	24,345	26,283	7,573	23,215	897	9,127	646	6,187	8,932	1,134	15,942	22,895	30,805	11,451	10,436
2012	24,023	26,312	5,628	23,652	915	9,733	665	6,373	9,241	1,128	16,113	23,074	31,277	11,826	10,871
2013	24,104	26,477	4,418	24,164	948	9,940	680	6,450	9,897	1,138	16,313	23,347	31,634	12,344	10,870
2014	24,500	26,770	4,287	25,241	981	9,986	702	6,571	10,247	1,165	16,548	23,911	32,121	12,710	10,337
2015	25,331	26,903	4,388	25,547	1,009	10,253	721	6,558	10,726	1,216	17,410	24,290	32,748	12,723	9,605
2016	25,532	27,161	4,282	26,043	1,044	10,562	744	6,559	10,935	1,172	18,135	24,613	33,054	12,903	7,897
2017	25,837	27,276	4,335	26,859	1,081	10,961	755	6,636	11,604	1,200	18,057	25,064	33,582	13,078	6,683
2018	26,037	27,850	4,330	27,581	1,122	11,383	772	6,744	11,789	1,222	18,114	25,340	34,389	13,105	5,555
2019	26,286	27,968	4,288	28,413	1,166	11,585	791	6,789	11,712	1,278	18,161	25,607	35,019	13,116	4,153
2020	25,531	27,104	3,678	29,364	1,188	10,839	781	6,138	11,824	1,220	17,133	22,686	33,722	12,282	2,912
2021	26,745	28,033	3,398	31,269	1,212	10,978	808	6,358	13,048	1,251	17,688	24,312	35,672	12,789	2,880
2022	27,265	28,359	3,160	31,991	1,231	11,253	835	6,470	13,639	1,274	18,846	25,145	36,270	13,427	3,097

Revisiting the Middle-Income Trap: Updated Transition Benchmarks and Country Classifications

Sr. No.	121	122	123	124
Year/Country	Vietnam	Yemen, Rep.	Zambia	Zimbabwe
1950	658	911	661	701
1951	676	918	688	722
1952	694	924	715	724
1953	712	930	743	760
1954	732	936	772	772
1955	750	942	736	808
1956	764	946	803	892
1957	775	951	817	924
1958	785	955	776	906
1959	792	959	915	925
1960	799	964	960	938
1961	812	969	938	956
1962	885	975	905	939
1963	882	984	902	901
1964	895	989	996	953
1965	877	996	1,147	984
1966	859	1,007	1,056	967
1967	731	1,019	1,107	1,015
1968	699	1,028	1,092	999
1969	739	1,040	1,056	1,086
1970	735	1,230	1,073	1,282
1971	754	1,414	1,042	1,353
1972	802	1,495	1,105	1,423
1973	836	1,640	1,062	1,432
1974	783	1,696	1,114	1,427
1975	710	1,784	1,041	1,402
1976	809	2,003	1,071	1,357
1977	818	2,162	990	1,221
1978	806	2,281	967	1,232
1979	795	2,342	910	1,211
1980	757	2,290	911	1,295
1981	767	2,363	936	1,407
1982	811	2,336	877	1,405
1983	836	2,401	828	1,374
1984	891	2,422	796	1,297
1985	923	2,332	784	1,335
1986	929	2,311	762	1,322
1987	941	2,329	755	1,257
1988	976	2,351	777	1,326
1989	996	2,353	762	1,368
1990	1,025	2,272	806	1,355
1991	1,063	2,197	783	1,391
1992	1,134	2,220	749	1,233
1993	1,203	2,200	779	1,220
1994	1,286	2,168	658	1,278
1995	1,385	2,327	627	1,272
1996	1,491	2,389	653	1,385
1997	1,589	2,500	660	1,403
1998	1,658	2,538	633	1,427
1999	1,715	2,548	632	1,401
2000	1,809	2,617	640	1,320
2001	1,911	2,626	656	1,279
2002	2,023	2,638	665	1,203
2003	2,147	2,644	689	1,082
2004	2,290	2,657	715	1,048
2005	2,456	2,711	742	1,015
2006	2,630	2,702	776	958
2007	2,825	2,697	812	900
2008	2,970	2,699	845	779
2009	3,083	2,725	925	836
2010	3,233	2,855	1,022	912
2011	3,384	2,425	1,081	985
2012	3,527	2,411	1,128	1,138
2013	3,677	2,456	1,149	1,149
2014	3,865	2,385	1,167	1,164
2015	4,085	1,673	1,165	1,170
2016	4,306	1,480	1,172	1,160
2017	4,552	1,373	1,177	1,199
2018	4,838	1,354	1,187	1,236
2019	5,138	1,344	1,169	1,140
2020	5,230	1,205	1,103	1,032
2021	5,309	1,170	1,120	1,097
2022	5,693	1,162	1,127	1,108

Table 02: Economies that became lower-middle-income on or before 1950 and graduated to upper-middle-income

Sr. No.	Country	Region	Year country turned LM (YLM)	Year country turned UM (YUM)	No. of years as LM	Ave. growth rate (YLM to YUM)
1	Austria**	Europe	1876	1964	88	1.52
2	Belgium	Europe	1854	1961	107	1.18
3	Denmark**	Europe	1870	1953	83	1.57
4	Finland**	Europe	1912	1964	52	2.50
5	France**	Europe	1869	1960	91	1.44
6	Germany**	Europe	1874	1960	86	1.51
7	Ireland	Europe	1913*	1975		
8	Italy**	Europe	1906	1963	57	2.25
9	Norway	Europe	1907	1960	53	2.41
10	Poland	Europe	1929*	2000		
11	Portugal	Europe	1947	1978	31	4.17
12	Spain**	Europe	1911	1973	62	2.18
13	Sweden	Europe	1896	1953	57	2.19
14	United Kingdom**	Europe	1839	1953	114	1.12
15	Netherlands**	Europe	1827	1955	128	1.02
16	Greece**	Europe	1924	1972	48	2.70
17	Switzerland**	Europe	1858	1945	87	1.49
18	Hungary	Europe	1910*	2001	91	1.45
19	Japan	Asia	1929	1968	39	3.58
20	Singapore	Asia	1950*	1978		
21	Hong Kong, China	Asia	1950*	1976		
22	Australia	Pacific	1848	1942	94	1.35
23	New Zealand	Pacific	1860*	1949		
24	Canada	North America	1881	1943	62	2.07
25	United States	North America	1860*	1941	81	1.65
26	Mauritius	Sub-Saharan Africa	1950*	1991		
27	Argentina	Latin America & Caribbean	1890*	1970		
28	Chile**	Latin America & Caribbean	1891	1992	101	1.27
29	Colombia	Latin America & Caribbean	1946	2013	67	2.74
30	Mexico	Latin America & Caribbean	1942	2000	58	2.22
31	Panama**	Latin America & Caribbean	1945*	2011	66	1.99
32	Peru	Latin America & Caribbean	1946	2016	70	1.89
33	Uruguay**	Latin America & Caribbean	1870*	1994	124	1.01
34	Venezuela	Latin America & Caribbean	1925	1948	23	5.67
35	Israel	Middle East & North Africa	1950*	1969		
36	Saudi Arabia	Middle East & North Africa	1950*	1970		
37	Syrian Arab Republic	Middle East & North Africa	1950*	1996	40	2.87

Table 03: Economies that became upper-middle-income before 1950 and graduated to high-income

Sr. No.	Country	Region	Year country turned UM (YUM)	Year country turned H (YH)	No. of years as UM	Ave. growth rate (YUM to YH)
1	Australia**	Pacific	1942	1970	28	1.70
2	New Zealand**	Pacific	1949	1972	23	2.00
3	Switzerland	Europe	1945	1959	14	3.09
4	United Kingdom**	Europe	1941	1973	32	1.49
5	Canada**	North America	1943	1969	26	1.92
6	United States**	North America	1941	1962	21	1.79