

Peaceful Countries and States - 2018

Summary:

1. Economy: Socialist leaning countries are more peaceful than capitalist societies
2. Education: Highly educated states/countries are more peaceful
3. Health: States with universal and affordable health care are more peaceful
4. Incarceration Levels: Low levels of prison spending/police are more peaceful
5. Income Distribution: Countries with more equal income distribution are more peaceful
6. Military Spending/War: High military spending results in more involvement in war.
7. Politics: Liberal states are more peaceful than conservative ones.
8. Prosperity: A thriving middle class is a strong indicator of a peaceful society.
9. Religious Affiliation: Humanistic or justice focused religions are more peaceful.
10. Union Membership: High levels of labor unions/collective bargaining/worker ownership are more peaceful.

SOURCES: Global Peace Index: www.visionofhumanity.org. Economics and Peace: www.economicsandpeace.org. The Equality Trust: www.equalitytrust.org. Center for Economic and Policy Research: www.cepr.net. Worker Representation Systems in the European Union and the Accession Countries: www.social-law.net/IMG/pdf/ETUCO. United Nations Development Programme: www.undp.org.

Ten Most Peaceful countries:

1. Iceland
2. New Zealand
3. Austria
4. Portugal
5. Denmark
6. Canada
7. Czech Republic
8. Singapore
9. Japan
10. Ireland

Ten Least Peaceful Countries:

154. Russia
 155. Central African Republic
 156. Dem. Rep Congo
 157. Libya
 158. Yemen
 159. Somalia
 160. Iraq
 161. South Sudan
 162. Afghanistan
 163. Syria
- US: 121/163

Ten Most Peaceful States:

1. Maine
2. Vermont
3. New Hampshire
4. Minnesota
5. Utah
6. North Dakota
7. Washington
8. Hawaii
9. Rhode Island
10. Iowa

Ten Least Peaceful States:

41. Mississippi
42. South Carolina
43. Arkansas
44. Texas
45. Missouri
46. Arizona
47. Florida
48. Nevada
49. Tennessee
50. Louisiana

*It is not enough to cure the plague;
We must also learn to weep for it."*

Miguel de Unamuno

(Notes: JJ Fahey)