

How're they doing?

Independence has proved a rocky time for most of the transition economies of Europe and Central Asia, with many still struggling to get back to the living standards of the Soviet era. Plainly, though, the economies most integrated with Western Europe – think the Baltic states, Slovenia, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic – are making it. At the other end of the spectrum, it's hard to find much to cheer about in Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia and Serbia.

	GDP GROWTH, 1989-2004 (%)	INFLATION, 2004 (%)	FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT, 2000-03 (US\$, BILLIONS)	FEMALE SECONDARY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT, 2002 (%)	FERTILITY RATE, 2002 (%) (CHILDREN/ WOMAN)	GDP PER CAPITA, 2004 (PURCHASING POWER US\$)
Czech Republic	12%	3.2%	\$21.0	90%	1.2%	\$18,400
Estonia	8	3.5	1.6	88	1.4	15,200
Hungary	19	6.8	9.2	94	1.3	15,500
Latvia	-10	6.2	1.3	88	1.2	12,000
Lithuania	-9	1.5	1.6	94	1.2	13,000
Poland	42	3.6	17.1	92	1.3	12,500
Slovakia	19	7.5	8.1	88	1.2	15,100
Slovenia	25	3.7	2.1	93	1.2	20,300
Albania	36	3.4	0.7	77	2.2	4,900
Bulgaria	-11	6.0	3.9	88	1.2	8,500
Croatia	-6	2.5	4.8	87	1.5	11,600
Macedonia	-20	2.8	0.8	94	1.8	7,200
Romania	-2	11.9	4.8	81	1.3	7,600
Serbia-Montenegro	-45	8.5	2.1	N/A	1.7	4,900
Armenia	-3	7.8	0.4	83	1.2	3,800
Azerbaijan	-22	9.2	3.6	76	2.1	4,000
Belarus	6	19.5	0.8	85	1.3	6,600
Georgia	-56	6.0	0.7	61	1.1	2,800
Kazakhstan	3	6.7	8.5	87	1.8	7,400
Kyrgyzstan	-22	6.2	0.0	N/A	2.4	1,900
Moldova	-66	10.0	0.4	69	1.4	2,100
Russia	-17	10.7	-3.3	N/A	1.3	10,200
Tajikistan	-33	6.3	0.1	83	2.9	1,300
Turkmenistan	13	8.8	0.8	N/A	2.7	7,300
Ukraine	-43	8.1	3.5	85	1.2	6,600
Uzbekistan	10	12.0	0.3	N/A	2.4	1,700

SOURCES: European Central Bank, World Bank, CIA World Factbook