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NZ sixth in UN human development list

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New Zealand has clinched sixth spot in a UN report ranking the world's leading nations in terms of education, life expectancy and income.

The UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI) takes in life expectancy, education levels and income to paint a picture of the health of 187 nations.

The index once again ranked Norway first, with Australia getting second place and the US rounding out the top three nations for 2012.

Sweden and Ireland ranked behind New Zealand on equal seventh.

The Democratic Republic of Congo and Niger were at the back of the pack, ranking equal 186th.

Not far ahead was Papua New Guinea, which placed 156th.

NZN

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