

DP IB Economics: SL



4.10 Economic Growth & Development Strategies

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4.10.1 Trade Strategies, Diversification & Social Enterprise

Your notes

Trade Strategies

- Increasing international trade helps to increase economic growth and development
- Four of the most commonly used strategies to increase international trade include **import** substitution, export promotion, economic integration and diversification

Strategies to Increase International Trade

Strategy	Explanation	Advantages	Disadvantages
Import	Aims to increase domestic production and output by moving consumers away from imports by using tariffs or quotas to increase import prices. This encourages them to buy locally	 Less dependence on imports May increase employment in the country Supports local firms 	 Higher prices and less choice for consumers Possibility of retaliation from other countries Distorts the efficient allocation of resources as more inefficient domestic firms increase production May raises costs for manufacturers who depend on imported components
Export promotion	 Aims to increase the level of exports through subsidies or facilitating international trade fairs at which local firms can connect with international buyers 	 Greater output generates higher economies of scale Greater output creates more employment 	 Some firms may be unable to compete internationally and fail There is an opportunity cost to the government for supporting firms



		 National specialisation increases International competition leads to innovation and increased efficiency 	through export promotion
Economic integration	 A process in which countries become more interdependent as they form an agreement which decreases barriers to trade (tariffs, quotas etc.) and increasing common fiscal and/or monetary policies 	 Decreases prices and increases choice Access to a wider range of technology More political cooperation between countries Expands markets for domestic firms Generates higher efficiency in the global allocation of resources 	 Some loss of national sovereignty may occur Some integration requires common barriers (e.g. tariffs) to be erected to third part nations which may limit other opportunities for increasing trade





Increasing	Occurs when a country is able to increase the number of products that it offers for export and this reduces risk - if one product fails others may well still be successful	 Reduces the problems associated with over specialisation such as price volatility (e.g. in 2019, 71% of Zambia's exports were copper and it's GDP is significantly influenced by the price of copper) Creates new employment opportunities Reduces risk of failure during recessions or periods of economic slowdown 	 Firms may fail to compete as global competitors may be well established It takes time and money to create new industries
Social Enterprise	A social enterprise focuses on meeting specific social objectives such as worker welfare, or profit sharing with workers, or providing equal ownership of the business to employees e.g Bouwland Wines in Stellenbosch, South Africa gave equal ownership shares to its 60 employees	 Raises motivation, productivity and output Can create new employment opportunities Raises income within the communities 	 These ventures tend to be small and very localised It can be difficult for them to generate economies of scale or to compete internationally



4.10.2 Market-Based & Interventionist Policies

Your notes

Market-Based Policies

 Market-based strategies create the conditions for private individuals & firms to pursue an economic activity with the aim of maximising output and profit

Market-based Strategies to Generate Economic Growth & Development

Strategy	Explanation	Advantages	Disadvantages
Trade liberalisation	Removing the barriers to international trade such as tariffs, quotas etc.	 More trade increases output, employment & incomes Lowers costs of production for firms May result in lower prices for consumers More efficient global allocation of resources 	 Global competition intensifies and some firms may fail There may be an element of structural unemployment as inefficient industries die out
Privatisation	 Government firms are usually so big that private enterprise refrains from trying to compete with them. Privatisation encourages new firms to enter the market & compete, thus increasing the total supply in the economy 	 May increase competition leading to an increase in output, employment & incomes Private firms may be more efficient than government firms 	 Government assets are often sold off cheaply at prices below fair market value The quality of services may deteriorate as private firms focus on profit maximisation



		 Competition may result in cheaper prices for consumers The money from the sale of assets can be used to provide more merit and public goods 	 Unemployment may increase as private firms seek to cut their wages in order to maximise profits Prices may actually rise as firms provide a monopoly service e.g. rail travel
Deregulation	This is the process of removing government controls/laws from markets in order to increase competition This is the process of removing government controls/laws from markets in order to increase competition	 Any regulation increases costs of production for firms and deregulation decreases costs which may result in greater supply Less regulation may result in innovation and more enterprise in an economy 	 Deregulation may create an environment of corruption leading to inefficiency Deregulation may increase the quantity of negative externalities Deregulation may allow foreign firms to monopolise industry within the nation, leading to higher prices and less output



Interventionist Policies

- Interventionist strategies are put in place by governments to correct the failings of the free market and promote the welfare/development of its citizens
- Interventionist strategies aim to increase human capital, productivity and output

Interventionist Strategies to Generate Economic Growth & Development

Strategy Explanation Advantages Disadvantage
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Tax policies	■ A progressive tax system redistributes from those with higher income to those with lower income & reduces income inequality	 Redistribution often starts with the provision of free education & healthcare paid for from tax revenue Tax revenue provides the means of supporting poorer households and the unemployed 	 Sometimes, the benefits of a good progressive tax system are eradicated by the penalties imposed through multiple regressive (indirect) taxes If the tax burden is too high it may become a disincentive to work
Transfer payments	■ Transfer payments are usually given to the poorest & most vulnerable people in society and include unemployment & disability payments, pension payments, heating discounts, public transport subsidies etc.	 The poorest households are supported Money received from transfer payments generates consumption in the economy and increases aggregate demand 	 Poorer countries have less money available to support the poor There is an opportunity cost for the government associated with each transfer payment Supporting the poor makes good economic sense but is sometimes politically unpopular





Minimum wages	Minimum wages are set above the free market rate and firms are not allowed to pay anyone less than the legal rate	 Workers receive higher wages and have more disposable income 	Costs of production for firms increase, possibly leading to less international competitiveness
		 Consumption increases leading to increased aggregate demand Standard of living increases with higher income 	 With higher costs of production, output may fall leading to increased unemployment





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4.10.3 Merit Goods & Inward Foreign Direct Investment

Your notes

Provision of Merit Goods

- Merit goods are **beneficial to society** but are **under-provided** in a market
- Governments often have to subsidise these goods in order to lower the price and/or increase the provision
- The provision of merit goods can result in significant improvements to human development and quality of life

The Provision of Merit Goods to Aid Economic Growth & Development

Strategy	Explanation	Advantages	Disadvantages
Education programs	■ These include preschool, primary, secondary and tertiary education programs which are free at the point of consumption, but paid for with tax revenue	 Education helps to intervene and break the poverty trap by increasing human capital Increased human capital results in higher productivity and output Higher output can lead to higher wages which improve the standard of living Higher wages may lead to more consumption and an increase in aggregate demand 	 Education programs take a long time before there is an increase in productivity There is an opportunity cost associated with the provision of education Education may still be under consumed in developing nations as children are required to work for the family: family survival depends on the income they generate
Health programs	 These range from emergency-only healthcare to full 	 Universal access to vaccinations can improve life 	 Each health care intervention by the government



	healthcare and preventative healthcare (e.g. cancer screening) programs, which are free at the point of consumption, but paid for with tax revenue	expectancy and productivity significantly Improved health care helps to break the poverty trap	requires expenditure and so carries an opportunity cost How much health care should be provided is a normative issue and is subject to political pressure and ideology
Infrastructure projects	Infrastructure - including energy, transport, telecommunications, clean water and sanitation -	 Infrastructure can play a direct role in improving the health and standard of living Telecommunications speed up the flow of information and exchange of knowledge and ideas which can directly help to improve human capital and the standard of living Access to energy has a significant effect on productivity e.g. the opportunity cost of previously spending time looking for heating fuel can now be used more productively 	 Each infrastructure project requires significant government spending and so carries an opportunity cost Infrastructure projects may take a long time to complete Infrastructure projects are subject to political pressure and lobbying



Inward Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

- Inward FDI occurs when investment by foreign firms results in more than a 10% share of ownership of domestic firms
- Foreign FDI has the potential to **generate significant economic growth** as more economic activity, employment and output is generated



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- Foreign FDI has the **potential to raise household income** which helps to break the poverty cycle
- The impact of FDI on economic growth depends on **how the FDI occurs**
 - E.g. Chinese firms frequently invest overseas, but bring their own employees with them and send all of their profits home - the economy and individuals within the economy benefit less than they could have
 - E.g. Indian firms frequently invest overseas and tend to hire local employees and reinvest more of the profits than Chinese firms generally do

Advantages and Disadvantages of FDI to Generate Economic Growth and Development

Advantages of FDI Disadvantages of FDI ■ FDI can be a major **source of finance** in less Weak local regulations are often exploited economically developed countries leading to poor working conditions and increased negative externality's of production • FDI helps to generate extra national income • **Profits** tend to be moved off-shore or returned which can increase the level of savings - and higher savings can help to increase funds to the home country of the multinational firms available for domestic investment which means that less is reinvested back into the development of the host nation Expansion of supply can lead to increased employment opportunities • Multinational firms often pay very little tax to host nations as they use sophisticated corporate ■ The government may receive **higher tax** practices to reduce the amount of tax they are **revenue** generated by the increased profits liable for (e.g. transfer pricing) from the additional level of national output • Local firms may **struggle to compete** with As more foreign firms invest, governments multinational firms who are now based in their often start to develop **new infrastructure** to country - and they go out of business support their business activity Multinationals are likely to have the power to keep wages low Multinationals may use workers from their country for **management roles** and only employ local unskilled labour for manual tasks. The workers may not develop many new skills from the role





4.10.4 Foreign Aid & Development Assistance

Your notes

Foreign Aid

- Foreign aid is often offered to developing nations in several different forms, including:
 - Humanitarian/development aid
 - Debt relief
 - Official Development Assistance (ODA)
 - Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- Contextual factors can influence the effectiveness of any of these and some that work well in one context may be less effective in another

1. Humanitarian/development aid

■ Two of the most common forms are **grants** & **soft loans**

An Evaluation of Humanitarian Aid

Advantages	Disadvantages
 Aid has proven beneficial in times of distress It is particularly helpful in response to large-scale one-off events such as earthquakes or tsunamis 	 Critics argue that aid breeds dependency, corruption & disincentivises individual responsibility E.g. The Central African Republic receives ongoing food aid

2. Debt relief

- Many developing nations have borrowed significant sums of money in the past which have to be repaid (with interest) over a long period of time
- The **opportunity cost** of these repayments is significant & often includes
 - Loss of infrastructure development



- Inability to create a welfare system
- Investment in human capital/education
- Countries began to default on their loans in 1982 (Mexico was the first) & this has led to the restructuring of these loans to make it more affordable
- More recently there has been significant progress in writing off the entire debt of the most heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) so that they can focus on building their economies

Your notes

An Evaluation of Debt Relief

Advantages	Disadvantages
 The actual repayment of debt is removed or reduced 	 The country may have a lot more funds available than ever before and this can breed corruption as individuals in government seek to get their hands on
 The opportunity cost of debt repayments is reduced or eliminated 	it
 The Government is able to use the money saved to provide new services and additional public/merit goods 	 Once the debt is forgiven, many developing nations borrow more money and the cycle starts again

3. Official development assistance (ODA)

- ODA can be bilateral (from donor government to recipient government) or provided through a multilateral development agency, such as the United Nations
- Two of the most common forms of ODA are **grants** & **soft loans**
- The United Nations has set a target for more economically developed countries to spend 0.7 per% of their gross domestic product (GDP) on ODA to help countries eliminate poverty and become developed

An Evaluation of ODA

Advantages	Disadvantages
 Funds are available to the LEDC over a long-term period	 Countries may become dependent
to help with the economic development goals	on the ODA

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 Bilateral ODA can help to develop the relationship between the two countries, possibly facilitating the exchange of resources, ideas and technology

- Corruption may mean funds are diverted from their true purpose
- ODA in the form of loans has to be repaid and these repayments carry an opportunity cost



4. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

- These are typically voluntary, community-based organisations which do not aim to make a profit but seek to meet a need or provide a service
- They operate locally, nationally and/or internationally
- With a community based emphasis, they are able to
 - Engage in **small scale projects** giving control to community stakeholders
 - Draw on local skills
 - Encourage sustainability & remove the need for aid
 - Tackle **environmental sustainability** using local knowledge & resources
- NGOs have played a major role in many LEDCs and their aid often comes with fewer conditions or expectations than ODA
- Examples of NGOs include Oxfam International, Save the Children International and World Vision International

An Evaluation of NGOs

Advantages	Disadvantages
 NGOs can elicit support for particular need from a very wide audience including the global public and many wealthy governments They often have specialists working for them who provide in country support so as to increase the efficiency of their aid 	 The country receiving the aid can become overly dependent on it The scope of what an NGO can do may be limited or only focussed on one segment of the population e.g children



- They conduct research, gather data and as a result often make highly specific project proposals aimed at directly improving the standard of living
- NGOs can help develop human skills in the countries in which they work and this helps to break the poverty trap



Multilateral Development Assistance

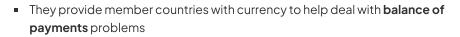
- Multilateral organisations are made up of member governments from around the world
 - They pool their resources together which enables large-scale development programmes to be funded
- The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) play an active role in providing multilateral development assistance

An Explanation of Organisations that Assist in Development

Organisation	Explanation of what they do
World Bank	Founded in 1944 as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to fund postwar redevelopment
	They provide reconstruction loans to countries devastated by war
	They provide loans to developing countries to aid in their development
	 They provide loans to countries to assist with the development of infrastructure
	 They work with governments and institutions so as to encourage economic reform and trade liberalisation
International Monetary Fund (IMF)	 Founded in 1944 with the aim of establishing a stable global financial system that could help with postwar reconstruction efforts and better deal with challenges such as the Great Depression of the 1930s
	John Maynard Keynes was one of two founders
	They aim to facilitate a stable global financial system
	 They oversee exchange rates and the system of international payments that occurs between nations and individuals



They monitor country policies and national, regional and global economic
and financial developments through a formal system known as surveillance





4.10.5 Institutional Change

Your notes

Changing Institutional Factors

• **Sound institutions**, free from corruption and well-established help a country to progress in human development

1. Access to credit and banking (finance)

- Financial institutions enable individuals and firms to **borrow money** which can be used for investment or to generate growth
- A lack of financial institutions prevents this from happening and causes the poverty trap to continue
- Mobile banking has increased significantly in most developing countries
 - This allows customers to conduct financial transactions more easily and facilitates a flow of finance in more remote areas
- Microfinance has been very successful in breaking the poverty trap for some households in LEDCs
 - **The Grameen Bank** pioneered the use of microfinance in Bangladesh and the country saw significant gains in economic development

The Advantages and Disadvantages of Microfinance

Advantages	Disadvantages
 Small but meaningful loans can be made to poor households to help them start a business The loans can be targeted at women Running a business improves human capital and also raises income Loan repayment helps to build self esteem 	 Some loans are not repaid (a very small %) Some microfinance organisations raise money from private donors and have been criticised for taking high management fees and salaries e.g. Kiva



Your notes

2. Property and land rights

- In many countries, property is the main household asset which can be used to secure loans or generate income
- A lack of property rights in some developing countries prevents this from happening and causes the poverty trap to continue

The Advantages and Disadvantages of Permitting Property Rights

Advantages	Disadvantages
 The more certain the legal protection of property rights, the easier it is for households to access loans 	 The issuing of property rights can lead to property monopolies over time as wealthier individuals purchase multiple properties
Property rights also provide shelter security	 Property monopolies could reduce the amount of property available for purchase or rent - and raise
 Property rights help households to generate income 	housing or rental prices

3. Women's empowerment

- **Gender inequality** reduces the incentive for women to enter the workforce resulting in a smaller production possibility curve for the nation
 - This represent a loss of efficiency for a nation
 - Household income is suppressed which worsens the quality of life
- Increasing women's empowerment reverses these effects
 - The additional income helps to break the poverty trap in LEDCs
 - Increased opportunity incentivises young girls to study harder which helps to close any existing education gaps between genders

4. Reducing corruption



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- Corruption reduces investment, limits economic growth and affects the pattern of government spending within a country
 - These consequences of corruption hold back economic development and growth
 - Corruption is often enabled or led by the government or figures in the government

Tackling corruption has the following advantages:

- 1. There is **more confidence** in the economy and foreign direct investment increases
- 2. Money allocated to development projects in the country actually gets used for development
- 3. As national output rises, **tax revenue rises** and the government is able to provide more services, merit goods, and public goods
- 4. An increase in national output leads to more employment opportunities, which can raise household income





4.10.6 Evaluating Market Orientated Approaches Versus Government Intervention

Your notes

Pros & Cons of Market Oriented Approaches

- Market orientated approaches aim to reduce government intervention and free up private-sector economic activity so that national output (real GDP) increases
- As national output increases, the potential to break the poverty trap increases and this can lead to better economic development in a nation

Pros and Cons of Market-Orientated Approaches

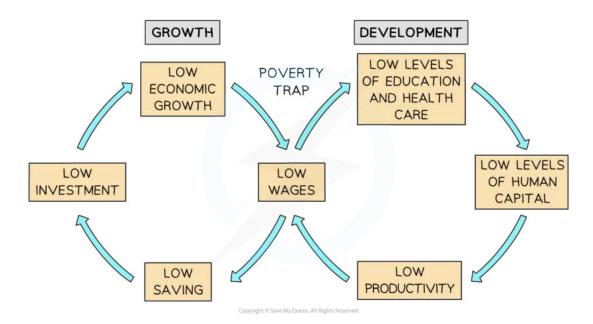
Pros Cons • Increased market failure: with less government **Competitiveness:** the more competitive the environment the more foreign firms are intervention the amount of negative likely to invest as competition lowers costs externalities will increase (both production and and generates innovation consumption) • **Efficiency**: Less government intervention Development of a dual economy: Many LEDCs have both a large informal sector and a thriving should result in better allocation of resources as the process is led by the formal sector based around the activities of market forces of demand and supply multinational corporations which contributes to growing income inequality • **Economic growth:** free markets encourage entrepreneurship in the search of profit and • Increasing inequality: the benefits of free this increases real GDP markets are increasingly concentrated in the hands of a few as those with assets continue to • Increased FDI: Multinational corporations buy up the factors of production prefer to invest in economies where the markets are more open, where there is less regulation and government intervention • Trade liberalisation: Removing the barriers to international trade such as tariffs and quotas increases economic growth, raising household income



Examiner Tips and Tricks

You will notice a lot of similarities in the lists on this page with the pros and cons of supply-side policy, but there is one distinct difference. When evaluating supply-side policy, the focus is on increasing national output (real GDP). When evaluating pros and cons in the context of economic development, focus on how to market policies have the potential to improve lives and the standard of living.

One way to do this is to always link a policy to the poverty trap diagram - and then explain where the policy would intervene to break the poverty trap. Here is an example



More international trade increases national output \rightarrow more workers are required to produce this output \rightarrow employment increases \rightarrow human capital increases as a result of employment \rightarrow productivity increases \rightarrow wages increase \rightarrow health and education increase \rightarrow leading to higher human development and a better standard of living

Pros & Cons of Government Intervention

- Government intervention can be vital to the development of its citizens
- Provision of services, merit goods, and public goods enhances the lives of a country's citizens

Pros and Cons of Government Intervention







Pros	Cons
 Infrastructure: energy, transport, health and telecommunications infrastructure improves the standard of living Investment in human capital: education increases skills leading to higher productivity in an economy Provision of social welfare: support mechanisms for the most vulnerable in society helps to raise the standard of living Stable economic growth: government 	 Inefficiencies: The government focusses on services and not necessarily on generating profit. This can generate inefficiencies in resource allocation and the development of large, overstaffed organisations Corruption: large amounts of money generated through taxation can prove tempting to those managing the budgets leading to the misuse of government funds and other forms of corruption Government capture: powerful business
 intervention can even out the swings in the business cycle Reduction in income inequality: governments are able to regulate the disparity between rich and poor through the use of policies such as progressive taxation Institutional systems: Strong institutions such as police and defence forces can be used to deal with national emergencies such as earthquakes which helps a country to recover more quickly 	people or large corporations can build such strong relationships with government ministers that they end up controlling the resources through the influence Poor planning and decision-making: politicians are assigned to run departments in which they do to necessarily have any expertise and this can lead to poor planning and decision making Fluctuating political agendas: government terms are relatively short and two party government systems tend to result in wild fluctuations of policy which can create



instability



4.10.7 Progress Towards Sustainable Development Goals

Your notes

Case Study 1 - Armenia

Armenia's Progress Towards Three of the SGDs (Source: SDGIndex.org)

Goal	Progress	Chart
2 mm / marx	 The prevalence of undernourishment considers the percentage of the population whose food intake is "insufficient to meet dietary energy requirements for a minimum of one year" (SDGIndex) "Dietary energy requirements are defined as the amount of dietary energy required by an individual to maintain body functions, health and normal activity" (SDGIndex) There has been good progress with the value falling from 27 in 2001 to 3.40 in 2019 Undernourishment causes productivity to fall and it can be assumed that with more nourishment, health and productivity will improve Since 2015, there has been a slight increase in the undernourishment indicator 	Prevalence of undernourishment 5 SDD achieved On back or mattering SDD activeved activevened 10 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 5 Larg Sem Decime
8 month spins and country and	 This metric consider "the percentage of adults, 15 years and older, who report having an account (by themselves or with someone else) at a bank or another type of financial institution, or who have personally used a mobile money service within the past 12 months" (SDGIndex) Access to banking increases the ability to make transactions that can improve the standard of living e.g. remote vendors selling agricultural products can receive payment by mobile phone Between 2014 and 2018 there has been a significant improvement in access to banking moving from 20% of the population to 50% This value is still well below the target but the data is not current and judging by the trend, the current percentage could be a lot higher 	Adults with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-move-service provider is of proposition agent 10 or over the financial institution of the financial institution or with a mobile moving of the financial institution or with a mobile moving of the financial institution or with a mobile moving of the financial institution or with a mobile moving of the financial institution or with a mobile moving of the financial institution or with a mobile moving of the financial institution or with a mobile moving of the financial institution of





- The number of intentional homicides per 100,000 people
- "Intentional homicides are estimates of unlawful homicides purposely inflicted as a result of domestic disputes and interpersonal violence and do not include all killing, such as killing in armed conflict" (SDGIndex)
- The progress in Armenia between 2000 and 2020 has been erratic
- Overall, there is a **positive downward trend** from a value of 3 in 2000 to a value of 1.7 in 2020
- The value peaked in 2008/9 at 3.4





Case Study 2 - Ecuador

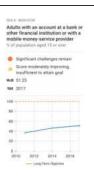
Ecuador's Progress Towards Three of the SGDs (Source: SDGIndex.org)

Goal	Progress	Chart
2 ======	 The prevalence of undernourishment considers the percentage of the population whose food intake is "insufficient to meet dietary energy requirements for a minimum of one year" (SDGIndex) "Dietary energy requirements are defined as the amount of dietary energy required by an individual to maintain body functions, health and normal activity" (SDGIndex) Between 2008 and 2011 there was good progress with the value falling from 22 to 8 Undernourishment has been increasing slowly, but steadily since then and in 2020 was at 13 Undernourishment causes productivity to fall and it can be assumed that with increasing undernourishment, health and productivity will worsen 	Prevalence of undernourishment Significant challenges sensor Bours decreasing Mar 12-80 Mar 2019 25 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20





- This metric considers "the percentage of adults, 15 years and older, who report having an account (by themselves or with someone else) at a bank or another type of financial institution, or who have personally used a mobile money service within the past 12 months" (SDGIndex)
- Access to banking increases the ability to make transactions that can improve the standard of living e.g. remote vendors selling agricultural products can receive payment by mobile phone
- Progress is slow. Between 2011 and 2018 there has been a small improvement in access to banking moving from 38% of the population to 50%
- In the final 4 years the increasing trend was starting to flatten
- This value is still well below the target but the data is not current.
 However, judging by the trend, the current percentage is not likely to be much higher



Your notes



- The number of intentional homicides per 100,000 people
- "Intentional homicides are estimates of unlawful homicides purposely inflicted as a result of domestic disputes and interpersonal violence and do not include all killing, such as killing in armed conflict" (SDGIndex)
- The progress in Ecuador between 2000 and 2020 has been mostly positive
- It initially increased between 2001 and 2007 when it peaked at a value of 18
- Homicides then fell steadily until 2018 with the lowest recorded value
 of 6
- Since 2018 there has been a concerning **upward trend** in this value
- Overall, there is a positive downward trend from a value of 15 in 2000 to a value of 8 in 2020

