

Voice and Accountability

Voice and accountability captures perceptions of the extent to which a country's citizens are able to participate in selecting their government, as well as freedom of expression, freedom of association, and a free media. This table lists the individual variables from each data source used to construct this measure in the Worldwide Governance Indicators. Please note that the table refers to the questions in the most recently-used edition of each source in the WGI. Questions in some sources have changed over time and some sources have been discontinued from the WGI. For more details, please refer to the data files for each source available at www.govindicators.org.

Representative Sources

- EIU** Democracy index
 - Vested interests
 - Accountability of public officials
 - Human rights
 - Freedom of association
- FRH** Political rights (FRW)
 - Civil liberties (FRW)
 - Freedom of the net (FOTN)
- GWP** Confidence in honesty of elections
- IPD** Freedom of elections at national level
 - Are electoral processes flawed?
 - Do the representative institutions (e.g. parliament) operate in accordance with the formal rules in force (e.g. Constitution)?
 - Freedom of the press (freedom of access to information, protection of journalists, etc.)
 - Freedom of association
 - Freedom of assembly, demonstration
 - Respect for the rights and freedoms of minorities (ethnic, religious, linguistic, immigrants...)
 - Is the report produced by the IMF under Article IV published?
 - Reliability of State budget (completeness, credibility, performance...)
 - Reliability of State accounts (completeness, audit, review law...)
 - Reliability of State-owned firms' accounts
 - Reliability of basic economic and financial statistics (e.g. national accounts, price indices, foreign trade, currency and credit, etc.)
 - Reliability of State-owned banks' accounts
 - Is the State economic policy (e.g. budgetary, fiscal, etc.)... communicated?
 - Is the State economic policy (e.g. budgetary, fiscal, etc.)... publicly debated?
 - Degree of transparency in public procurement
 - Freedom to leave the country (i.e. passports, exit visas, etc.)
 - Freedom of entry for foreigners (excluding citizens of countries under agreements on free movement, e.g. Schengen Area, etc.)
 - Freedom of movement for nationals around the world
 - Genuine media pluralism
 - Freedom of access, navigation and publishing on Internet
- PRS** Military in politics
 - Democratic accountability
- RSF** Press freedom index
- VDM** Expanded freedom of expression
 - Freedom of association
 - Clean elections

Non-representative Sources

- AFR** Trust parliament / national assembly
 - Satisfaction with democracy
 - Freeness and fairness of the last national election
- BTI** Political participation (SI)
 - Stability of democratic institutions (SI)
 - Political and social integration (SI)
- CCR** Civil liberties
 - Accountability and public voice
- EQI** Confidence in Parliament
 - Elections are Not Free and Fair
- FRH** Independent media (NIT)
 - Civil society (NIT)
 - Electoral Process (NIT)
- GII** Elections
 - Public management
 - Access to information and openness
 - Rights
- HRM** Right to Opinion and Expression
 - Right to Participate in Government
 - Right to Assembly and Association
- IFD** Policies and framework for rural development and rural poverty alleviation
 - Legal frameworks for and autonomy of rural people's organizations
- IRP** Electoral index
- LBO** Satisfaction with democracy

Trust in parliament
MSI People have rights to create, share, and consume information; people have adequate access to channels of information; there are appropriate channels for government information; there are diverse channels for information flow; and information channels are independent.
OBI Open budget index
VAB Trust in parliament
Satisfaction with democracy
WCY Transparency of government policy is satisfactory
WJP Factor 1: Limited government powers
Factor 4: Fundamental rights
Factor 3: Open government

Code Data Source Name

ADB African Development Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessments
AFR Afrobarometer
ASD Asian Development Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessments
BPS Business Enterprise Environment Survey
BTI Bertelsmann Transformation Index
CCR Freedom House Countries at the Crossroads
EBR European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Transition Report
EIU Economist Intelligence Unit Riskwire & Democracy Index
EQI European Quality of Government Index (Underlying Survey Data)
FRH Freedom House
GCB Transparency International Global Corruption Barometer Survey
GCS World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report
GII Global Integrity Index
GWP Gallup World Poll
HER Heritage Foundation Index of Economic Freedom
HRM Human Rights Measurement Initiative
HUM Cingranelli Richards Human Rights Database and Political Terror Scale
IFD IFAD Rural Sector Performance Assessments
IJT iJET Country Security Risk Ratings
IPD Institutional Profiles Database
IRP African Electoral Index
LBO Latinobarometro
MSI International Research and Exchanges Board Vibrant Information Barometer
OBI International Budget Project Open Budget Index
PIA World Bank Country Policy and Institutional Assessments
PRC Political Economic Risk Consultancy Corruption in Asia Survey
PRS Political Risk Services International Country Risk Guide
RSF Reporters Without Borders Press Freedom Index
TPR US State Department Trafficking in People Report
VAB Vanderbilt University Americas Barometer
VDM Varieties of Democracy Project
WCY Institute for Management and Development World Competitiveness Yearbook
WJP World Justice Project Rule of Law Index
WMO IHS Markit World Economic Service