Rule of Law

Rule of law captures perceptions of the extent to which agents have confidence in and abide by the rules of society, and in particular the quality of contract enforcement, property rights, the police, and the courts, as well as the likelihood of crime and violence. 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**
  - Violent crime
  - Organized crime
  - Fairness of judicial process
  - Enforceability of contracts
  - Speediness of judicial process
  - Confiscation/expropriation
  - Intellectual property rights protection
  - Private property protection

- **GCS**
  - Business costs of crime and violence
  - Organized crime
  - Judicial independence
  - Efficiency of legal framework in challenging regulations
  - Intellectual property protection
  - Property rights

- **GWP**
  - Confidence in the police force
  - Confidence in judicial system
  - Have you had money property stolen from you or another household member?
  - Have you been assaulted or mugged?

- **IPD**
  - Degree of security of goods and persons
  - Violent activities by criminal organizations (drug trafficking, weapons, prostitution...)
  - Degree of judicial independence vis-à-vis the State
  - Degree of enforcement of court orders
  - Timeliness of judicial decisions
  - Equal treatment of foreigners before the law (compared to nationals)
  - Practical ability of the administration to limit tax evasion
  - Efficiency of the legal means to protect property rights in the event of conflict between private stakeholders?
  - Generally speaking, does the State exercise arbitrary pressure on private property (e.g. red tape...)?
  - Does the State pay compensation equal to the loss in cases of expropriation (by law or fact) when the expropriation concerns land ownership?
  - Does the State pay compensation equal to the loss in cases of expropriation (by law or fact) when the expropriation concerns production means?
  - Degree of observance of contractual terms between national private stakeholders
  - Degree of observance of contractual terms between national and foreign private stakeholders
  - In the past 3 years, has the State withdrawn from contracts without paying the corresponding compensation... vis-à-vis national stakeholders?
  - In the past 3 years, has the State withdrawn from contracts without paying the corresponding compensation... vis-à-vis foreign stakeholders?
  - Respect for intellectual property rights relating to... trade secrets and industrial patents
  - Respect for intellectual property rights relating to... industrial counterfeiting
  - Does the State recognize formally the diversity of land tenure system?

- **PRS**
  - Law and order

- **TPR**
  - Trafficking in people

- **VDM**
  - Access to land
  - Access to water for agriculture

- **WMO**
  - Expropriation. The risk that the state or other sovereign political authority will deprive, expropriate, nationalise, or confiscate the assets of private businesses, whether domestic or foreign.
  - State contract alteration. The risk that a government or state body alters the terms of, cancels outright, or frustrates (usually through delay) contracts it has with private parties without due process.
  - Contract enforcement. The risk that the judicial system will not enforce contractual agreements between private-sector entities, whether domestic or foreign, due to inefficiency, corruption, bias, or an inability to enforce rulings promptly and firmly.

Non-representative Sources

- **ADB**
  - Property rights and rule based governance

- **AFR**
  - How often feared crime in home
  - Trust courts of law
  - Trust police

- **ASD**
  - Property rights and rule based governance

- **BPS**
  - How often is following characteristic associated with the court system: Fair and honest?
  - How often is following characteristic associated with the court system: Enforceable?
  - How often is following characteristic associated with the court system: Quick?
  - How problematic is crime for the growth of your business?
  - How problematic is judiciary for the growth of your business?

- **BTI**
  - Rule of law (separation of powers, independent judiciary, civil rights, prosecution of office abuse)

- **CCR**
  - Rule of law

- **EQI**
  - Quality of Police Force

- **FRH**
  - Judicial framework and independence (NIT)

- **GII**
  - Rule of law
  - Public management
  - Gender

- **IFD**
  - Access to land
  - Access to water for agriculture
Trust in judiciary
Trust in police
Have you been a victim of crime?

Property rights and rule based governance

Trust in supreme court
Trust in justice system
Trust in police
Have you been a victim of crime?

Tax evasion is not a threat to your economy
Justice is fairly administered
Parallel (black-market, unrecorded) economy does not impair economic development
Intellectual property rights are adequately enforced

Factor 5.1: Crime is effectively controlled (order and security)
Factor 7: Civil justice
Factor 8: Criminal justice

Code | Data Source Name
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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
WCM | Institute for Management and Development World Competitiveness Yearbook
WJP | World Justice Project Rule of Law Index
WMO | IHS Markit World Economic Service