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...)

FRH  
Is the report produced by the IMF under Article IV published?  
Reliability of State budget (completeness, credibility, performance...)

FRH  
Reliability of State accounts (completeness, audit, review law...)

FRH  
Reliability of State-owned firms’ accounts

FRH  
Reliability of basic economic and financial statistics (e.g. national accounts, price indices, foreign trade, currency and credit, etc.).

FRH  
Reliability of State-owned banks’ accounts

FRH  
Is the State economic policy (e.g. budgetary, fiscal, etc.)… communicated?

FRH  
Is the State economic policy (e.g. budgetary, fiscal, etc.)… publicly debated?

FRH  
Degree of transparency in public procurement

FRH  
Freedom to leave the country (i.e. passports, exit visas, etc.)

FRH  
Freedom of movement for nationals around the world

FRH  
Genuine media pluralism

FRH  
Freedom of access, navigation and publishing on Internet

PRS  
Military in politics

RSF  
Press freedom index

VDM  
Expanded freedom of expression

Non-representative Sources

AFR  
Trust parliament / national assembly  
Satisfaction with democracy

BTI  
Political participation (SI)  
Stability of democratic institutions (SI)

CCR  
Civil liberties  
Accountability and public voice

EQI  
Confidence in Parliament

FRH  
Elections are Not Free and Fair

FRH  
Independent media (NIT)  
Civil society (NIT)

GII  
Elections  
Public management

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

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
- **WCM** Institute for Management and Development World Competitiveness Yearbook
- **WJP** World Justice Project Rule of Law Index
- **WMO** IHS Markit World Economic Service