



World Justice Project
Rule of Law Index®

2022 Insights

Highlights and data trends from
the *WJP Rule of Law Index*® 2022



World Justice
Project



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The *World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index® 2022* is the latest report in an annual series measuring the rule of law based on global surveys of more than 154,000 households and 3,600 legal practitioners and experts. It is the world's leading source for original, independent data on the rule of law.

The Index presents a portrait of the rule of law in 140 countries and jurisdictions by providing scores and rankings based on eight factors: Constraints on Government Powers, Absence of Corruption, Open Government, Fundamental Rights, Order and Security, Regulatory Enforcement, Civil Justice, and Criminal Justice.

The Index is intended for a broad audience that includes policy makers, civil society organizations, academics, citizens, and legal professionals, among others. It is our hope that this diagnostic tool will help identify strengths and weaknesses, encourage policy choices, guide program development, and inform research to strengthen the rule of law.

The following pages contain a selection of key insights and data trends from the *WJP Rule of Law Index® 2022*. The complete 2022 report—including country profiles, interactive data visualizations, methodology, and questionnaires—is available at our website: worldjusticeproject.org.

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“The rule of law
matters to all of us—
to the entire human
family.”

WJP Honorary Chair,
the Most Reverend Desmond Tutu
(1931-2021)

WJP Rule of Law Index 2022

Introduction

The *World Justice Project (WJP) Rule of Law Index*® 2022 is the latest report in an annual series measuring people's perceptions and experiences of the rule of law in 140 countries and jurisdictions. The data featured in this report comes from global surveys completed by more than 154,000 households and 3,600 legal practitioners and experts, making the Index the world's leading source for original, independent data on the rule of law.

This year, the WJP added one new country to the Index: **Gabon**.

The data included in this Insights report comes from the *WJP Rule of Law Index 2022*. The period of data collection for the 2022 data was February 2022 through June 2022.

The Index data is based on global surveys of more than 154,000 households and 3,600 legal practitioners and experts.

Status of the Rule of Law Around the World

Last year's edition of the *WJP Rule of Law Index* revealed significant, negative declines in the rule of law around the world amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. While declines are less widespread and extreme than in 2021, the 2022 edition of the Index indicates that the rule of law has continued to deteriorate in a majority of countries worldwide.

The top three performers this year were Denmark, Norway, and Finland. Venezuela, RB; Cambodia; and Afghanistan had the lowest overall rule of law scores.

The countries with the biggest improvement in rule of law in the past year were Honduras (3.1%), Kosovo (2.4%), Belize (2.0%), Moldova (1.9%), and the United States (1.8%). The countries with the biggest decline in rule of law in the past year were Sudan (-7.9%), Myanmar (-7.7%), Haiti (-6.4%), Afghanistan (-6.3%), and Nicaragua (-4.6%).

Rule of Law Trends

Weakening Rule of Law

For the fifth consecutive year, the rule of law weakened in more countries than those in which it improved (85 vs. 54 countries, or 61% vs. 39%). More than 4.4 billion people live in countries where the rule of law weakened in the past year. This is equivalent to 56% of the world's population.

Pandemic Effects

The pandemic has exacerbated a pre-existing breakdown in the rule of law. In 2021, overall rule of law scores weakened in 74% of countries and, on average, fell by 1%. This year, the rule of law declined in 61% of countries and average scores dropped by 0.5%. In 2021 and 2022, a majority of countries in the Index experienced declines in Constraints on Government Powers; timeliness of civil, criminal, and administrative justice procedures; civic space; and absence of discrimination.

Factors Explaining This Year's Results

The continued deterioration of the rule of law this year can be explained by three factors: 1) a weakening in Constraints on Government Powers; 2) an erosion in Fundamental Rights, caused by growing authoritarianism and the shrinking of civic space; and 3)

the deterioration of Civil Justice, mainly due to increasing discrimination, delays in proceedings, and the weakening of enforcement mechanisms.

Alarming Long Term Trends

Since 2015, the rule of law has weakened in 64% of countries studied in the WJP Index and overall scores have declined by an average of 2.6% globally over this period. This deterioration has been driven by authoritarian tendencies, including weaker checks and balances, diminished accountability, and eroded protection of fundamental rights. Over this time period, Index scores for Constraints on Government Powers and Fundamental Rights declined in 68% and 76% of countries, respectively. The only factor that improved in a majority of countries during this period was Regulatory Enforcement, although marginally (59% of the countries recorded score improvements with an average increase of only 0.9%).

Conceptual Framework of the WJP Rule of Law Index

The conceptual framework of the *WJP Rule of Law Index* is comprised of eight factors further disaggregated into 44 sub-factors. These factors and sub-factors are presented below.



FACTOR ONE

Constraints on Government Powers

- 1.1 Government powers are effectively limited by the legislature
- 1.2 Government powers are effectively limited by the judiciary
- 1.3 Government powers are effectively limited by independent auditing and review
- 1.4 Government officials are sanctioned for misconduct
- 1.5 Government powers are subject to non-governmental checks
- 1.6 Transition of power is subject to the law



FACTOR TWO

Absence of Corruption

- 2.1 Government officials in the executive branch do not use public office for private gain
- 2.2 Government officials in the judicial branch do not use public office for private gain
- 2.3 Government officials in the police and the military do not use public office for private gain
- 2.4 Government officials in the legislative branch do not use public office for private gain



FACTOR THREE

Open Government

- 3.1 Publicized laws and government data
- 3.2 Right to information
- 3.3 Civic participation
- 3.4 Complaint mechanisms



FACTOR FOUR

Fundamental Rights

- 4.1 Equal treatment and absence of discrimination
- 4.2 The right to life and security of the person is effectively guaranteed
- 4.3 Due process of the law and rights of the accused
- 4.4 Freedom of opinion and expression is effectively guaranteed
- 4.5 Freedom of belief and religion is effectively guaranteed
- 4.6 Freedom from arbitrary interference with privacy is effectively guaranteed
- 4.7 Freedom of assembly and association is effectively guaranteed
- 4.8 Fundamental labor rights are effectively guaranteed

 **FACTOR FIVE**

Order and Security

- 5.1 Crime is effectively controlled
- 5.2 Civil conflict is effectively limited
- 5.3 People do not resort to violence to redress personal grievances

 **FACTOR SIX**

Regulatory Enforcement

- 6.1 Government regulations are effectively enforced
- 6.2 Government regulations are applied and enforced without improper influence
- 6.3 Administrative proceedings are conducted without unreasonable delay
- 6.4 Due process is respected in administrative proceedings
- 6.5 The government does not expropriate without lawful process and adequate compensation

 **FACTOR SEVEN**

Civil Justice

- 7.1 People can access and afford civil justice
- 7.2 Civil justice is free of discrimination
- 7.3 Civil justice is free of corruption
- 7.4 Civil justice is free of improper government influence
- 7.5 Civil justice is not subject to unreasonable delay
- 7.6 Civil justice is effectively enforced
- 7.7 Alternative dispute resolution mechanisms are accessible, impartial, and effective

 **FACTOR EIGHT**

Criminal Justice

- 8.1 Criminal investigation system is effective
- 8.2 Criminal adjudication system is timely and effective
- 8.3 Correctional system is effective in reducing criminal behavior
- 8.4 Criminal justice system is impartial
- 8.5 Criminal justice system is free of corruption
- 8.6 Criminal justice system is free of improper government influence
- 8.7 Due process of the law and rights of the accused



SECTION 1

Status of the Rule of Law Around the World



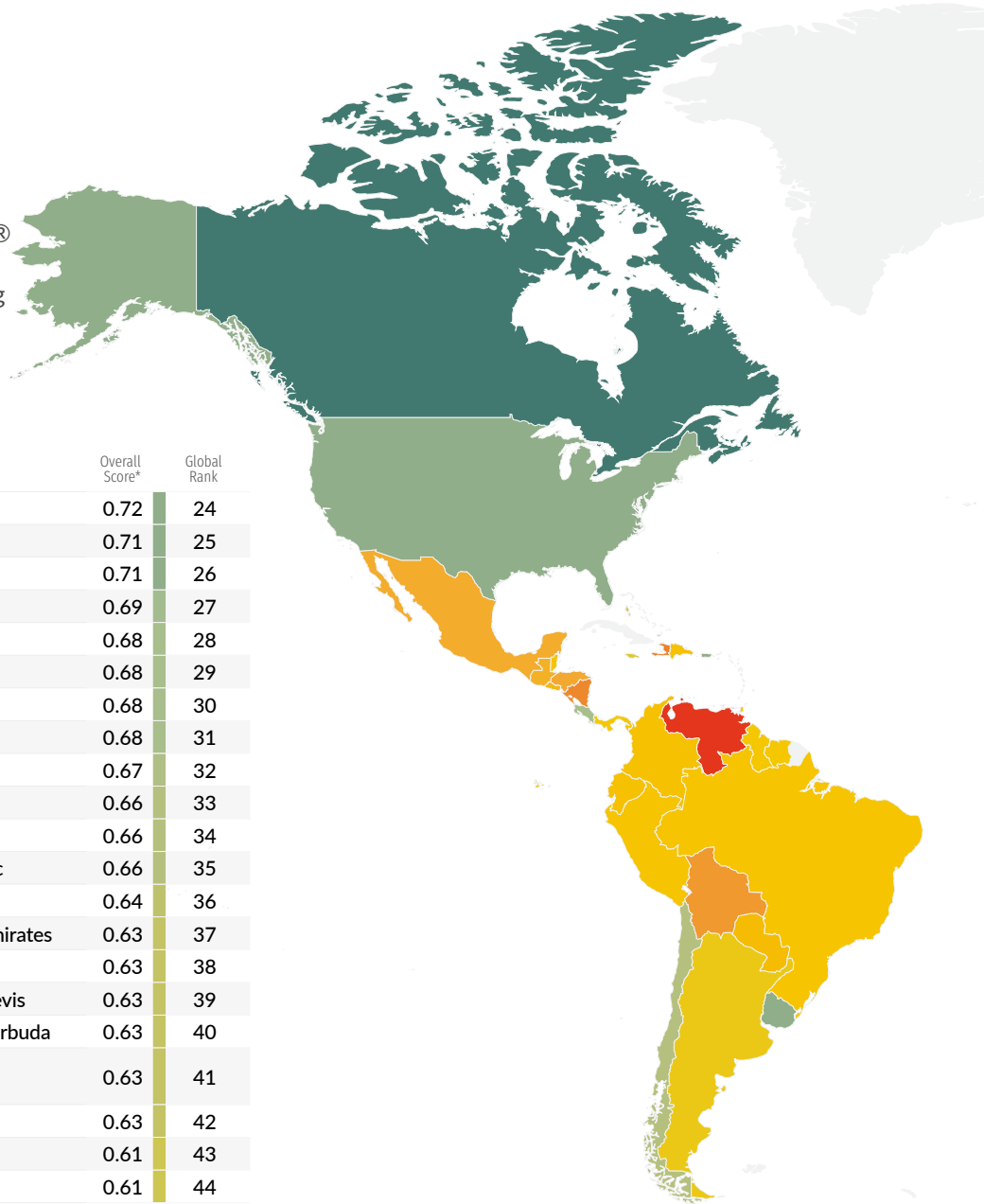
- 14 Rule of Law Around the World
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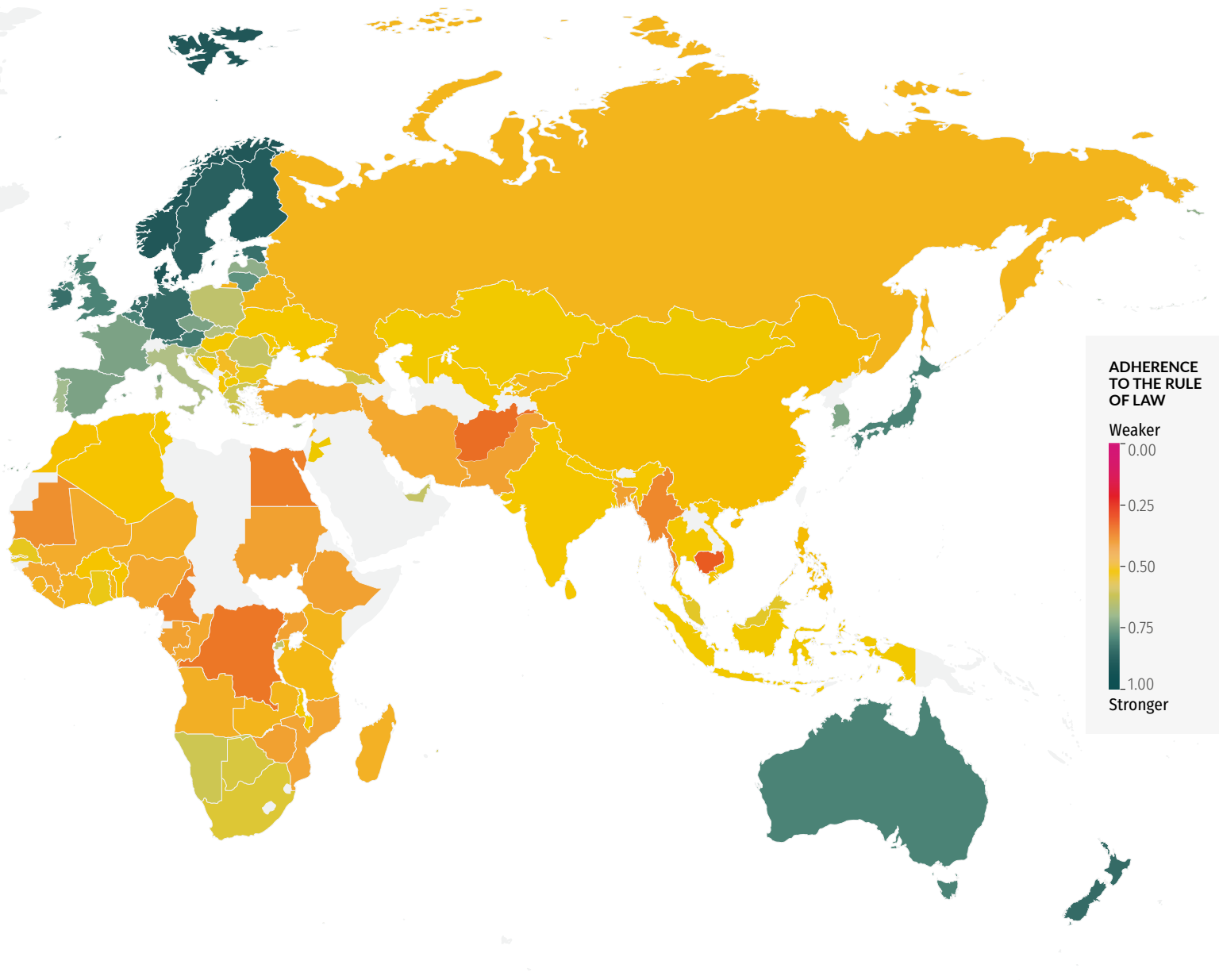
FIGURE 1. Rule of Law Around the World

Scores and rankings of the 140 countries and jurisdictions included in the *WJP Rule of Law Index® 2022*, in order of score. Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score (strong adherence to the rule of law) and 0 signifies the lowest possible score (weak adherence to the rule of law).

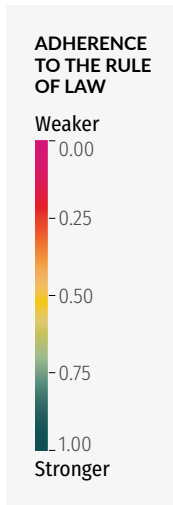
Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank	Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank
Denmark	0.90	1	Latvia	0.72	24
Norway	0.89	2	Uruguay	0.71	25
Finland	0.87	3	United States	0.71	26
Sweden	0.86	4	Portugal	0.69	27
Netherlands	0.83	5	Cyprus	0.68	28
Germany	0.83	6	Costa Rica	0.68	29
New Zealand	0.83	7	Malta	0.68	30
Luxembourg	0.83	8	Slovenia	0.68	31
Estonia	0.82	9	Italy	0.67	32
Ireland	0.81	10	Chile	0.66	33
Austria	0.80	11	Barbados	0.66	34
Canada	0.80	12	Slovak Republic	0.66	35
Australia	0.79	13	Poland	0.64	36
Belgium	0.79	14	United Arab Emirates	0.63	37
United Kingdom	0.79	15	Romania	0.63	38
Japan	0.79	16	St. Kitts and Nevis	0.63	39
Singapore	0.78	17	Antigua and Barbuda	0.63	40
Lithuania	0.76	18	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	0.63	41
Korea, Rep.	0.73	19	Rwanda	0.63	42
Czech Republic	0.73	20	St. Lucia	0.61	43
France	0.73	21	Greece	0.61	44
Hong Kong SAR, China	0.73	22			
Spain	0.73	23			

* Scores are rounded to two decimal places.





Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank	Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank	Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Global Rank
Mauritius	0.61	45	India	0.50	77	Niger	0.44	109
Namibia	0.61	46	Uzbekistan	0.50	78	Guatemala	0.44	110
Croatia	0.61	47	Suriname	0.50	79	Madagascar	0.44	111
The Bahamas	0.61	48	Thailand	0.50	80	Liberia	0.43	112
Georgia	0.60	49	Brazil	0.49	81	Angola	0.43	113
Grenada	0.59	50	Burkina Faso	0.49	82	Mali	0.42	114
Botswana	0.59	51	Serbia	0.49	83	Mexico	0.42	115
Jamaica	0.58	52	Vietnam	0.49	84	Turkey	0.42	116
Dominica	0.58	53	Belize	0.49	85	Guinea	0.41	117
South Africa	0.58	54	The Gambia	0.49	86	Nigeria	0.41	118
Malaysia	0.57	55	Albania	0.49	87	Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.41	119
Senegal	0.56	56	Benin	0.49	88	Congo, Rep.	0.41	120
Kosovo	0.56	57	Algeria	0.49	89	Honduras	0.41	121
Ghana	0.55	58	Peru	0.49	90	Mozambique	0.40	122
Argentina	0.55	59	Colombia	0.48	91	Ethiopia	0.39	123
Bulgaria	0.55	60	Dominican Republic	0.48	92	Zimbabwe	0.39	124
Jordan	0.54	61	Ecuador	0.48	93	Sudan	0.39	125
Mongolia	0.54	62	Morocco	0.48	94	Gabon	0.39	126
North Macedonia	0.53	63	China	0.47	95	Bangladesh	0.39	127
Indonesia	0.53	64	Paraguay	0.47	96	Uganda	0.39	128
Kazakhstan	0.53	65	Philippines	0.47	97	Pakistan	0.39	129
Malawi	0.52	66	Tanzania	0.46	98	Bolivia	0.38	130
Trinidad and Tobago	0.52	67	Belarus	0.46	99	Mauritania	0.37	131
Moldova	0.52	68	Kyrgyz Republic	0.46	100	Myanmar	0.36	132
Nepal	0.52	69	Togo	0.46	101	Nicaragua	0.36	133
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.52	70	El Salvador	0.46	102	Cameroon	0.36	134
Tunisia	0.52	71	Zambia	0.45	103	Egypt, Arab Rep.	0.35	135
Panama	0.52	72	Kenya	0.45	104	Haiti	0.35	136
Hungary	0.52	73	Sierra Leone	0.45	105	Congo, Dem. Rep.	0.34	137
Sri Lanka	0.50	74	Lebanon	0.45	106	Afghanistan	0.33	138
Guyana	0.50	75	Russian Federation	0.45	107	Cambodia	0.31	139
Ukraine	0.50	76	Côte d'Ivoire	0.45	108	Venezuela, RB	0.26	140


















































* Scores are rounded to two decimal places.

FIGURE 2.

Changes in Scores and Rankings

This table presents the scores, rankings, and changes for the 140 countries and jurisdictions included in the *WJP Rule of Law Index 2022* in alphabetical order.

Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score (strong adherence to rule of law) and 0 signifies the lowest possible score (weak adherence to rule of law).

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
 Afghanistan	0.33	-0.02	-6.3%	138	3 ▼
 Albania	0.49	0.00	-0.9%	87	4 ▼
 Algeria	0.49	-0.01	-1.1%	89	7 ▼
 Angola	0.43	0.00	-0.3%	113	1 ▲
 Antigua and Barbuda	0.63	0.00	-0.4%	40	1 ▼
 Argentina	0.55	-0.01	-1.7%	59	3 ▼
 Australia	0.79	0.00	0.1%	13	0
 Austria	0.80	-0.01	-1.2%	11	2 ▼
 The Bahamas	0.61	0.00	-0.4%	48	1 ▼
 Bangladesh	0.39	-0.01	-1.5%	127	2 ▼
 Barbados	0.66	0.01	1.1%	34	1 ▲
 Belarus	0.46	-0.02	-3.2%	99	2 ▼
 Belgium	0.79	0.00	-0.1%	14	0
 Belize	0.49	0.01	2.0%	85	8 ▲
 Benin	0.49	0.00	0.4%	88	3 ▲
 Bolivia	0.38	-0.01	-3.0%	130	0
 Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.52	0.00	0.9%	70	2 ▲
 Botswana	0.59	0.00	0.3%	51	0
 Brazil	0.49	-0.01	-1.2%	81	4 ▼
 Bulgaria	0.55	0.01	1.0%	60	2 ▲
 Burkina Faso	0.49	-0.01	-2.5%	82	7 ▼
 Cambodia	0.31	-0.01	-2.0%	139	0
 Cameroon	0.36	0.00	1.0%	134	2 ▲
 Canada	0.80	0.00	0.0%	12	0
 Chile	0.66	0.00	-0.2%	33	1 ▼
 China	0.47	0.00	0.5%	95	3 ▲
 Colombia	0.48	-0.01	-1.1%	91	5 ▼
 Congo, Dem. Rep.	0.34	0.00	-1.2%	137	1 ▲
 Congo, Rep.	0.41	-0.01	-3.0%	120	2 ▼
 Costa Rica	0.68	0.00	0.7%	29	2 ▲
 Côte d'Ivoire	0.45	0.00	-0.3%	108	3 ▼
 Croatia	0.61	0.00	0.6%	47	1 ▼
 Cyprus	0.68	0.00	0.0%	28	0
 Czech Republic	0.73	0.00	0.5%	20	2 ▲
 Denmark	0.90	0.00	0.3%	1	0
 Dominica	0.58	0.00	-0.3%	53	0
 Dominican Republic	0.48	0.01	1.1%	92	2 ▲
 Ecuador	0.48	0.00	-0.6%	93	1 ▼
 Egypt, Arab Rep.	0.35	0.00	1.4%	135	2 ▲
 El Salvador	0.46	-0.02	-4.1%	102	7 ▼
 Estonia	0.82	0.01	1.2%	9	2 ▲
 Ethiopia	0.39	-0.01	-3.6%	123	1 ▼
 Finland	0.87	-0.01	-0.8%	3	0
 France	0.73	0.01	1.4%	21	2 ▲
 Gabon	0.39	-	-	126	-
 The Gambia	0.49	0.00	0.0%	86	3 ▲
 Georgia	0.60	0.00	-0.6%	49	0

* Scores and changes in score are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

† The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index. The one new country added to the Index this year is Gabon.

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
Germany	0.83	-0.01	-0.6%	6	1 ▼
Ghana	0.55	0.00	-0.3%	58	0
Greece	0.61	0.01	1.0%	44	4 ▲
Grenada	0.59	0.00	0.4%	50	0
Guatemala	0.44	0.00	-1.0%	110	1 ▼
Guinea	0.41	0.00	-0.8%	117	3 ▲
Guyana	0.50	0.00	0.1%	75	3 ▲
Haiti	0.35	-0.02	-6.4%	136	3 ▼
Honduras	0.41	0.01	3.1%	121	5 ▲
Hong Kong SAR, China	0.73	-0.02	-2.8%	22	3 ▼
Hungary	0.52	0.00	-0.8%	73	4 ▼
India	0.50	0.00	-0.4%	77	2 ▲
Indonesia	0.53	0.01	1.6%	64	4 ▲
Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.41	-0.01	-2.6%	119	0
Ireland	0.81	0.00	0.1%	10	0
Italy	0.67	0.01	1.0%	32	2 ▲
Jamaica	0.58	0.01	1.6%	52	3 ▲
Japan	0.79	0.00	0.0%	16	1 ▼
Jordan	0.54	-0.01	-1.8%	61	2 ▼
Kazakhstan	0.53	0.00	0.7%	65	1 ▲
Kenya	0.45	0.00	1.0%	104	2 ▲
Korea, Rep.	0.73	0.00	-0.4%	19	1 ▲
Kosovo	0.56	0.01	2.4%	57	3 ▲
Kyrgyz Republic	0.46	-0.01	-1.3%	100	1 ▼

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
Latvia	0.72	0.01	1.1%	24	0
Lebanon	0.45	0.00	-0.8%	106	2 ▼
Liberia	0.43	-0.01	-1.7%	112	2 ▼
Lithuania	0.76	0.01	1.7%	18	0
Luxembourg	0.83	0.00	-0.2%	8	0
Madagascar	0.44	0.00	-0.4%	111	1 ▲
Malawi	0.52	0.00	0.2%	66	1 ▲
Malaysia	0.57	-0.01	-1.7%	55	1 ▼
Mali	0.42	0.00	-0.5%	114	1 ▲
Malta	0.68	0.00	-0.3%	30	0
Mauritania	0.37	0.00	0.4%	131	3 ▲
Mauritius	0.61	0.00	0.5%	45	0
Mexico	0.42	-0.01	-1.2%	115	2 ▼
Moldova	0.52	0.01	1.9%	68	5 ▲
Mongolia	0.54	-0.01	-1.3%	62	1 ▼
Morocco	0.48	-0.01	-1.5%	94	4 ▼
Mozambique	0.40	-0.01	-1.4%	122	1 ▲
Myanmar	0.36	-0.03	-7.7%	132	3 ▼
Namibia	0.61	-0.01	-1.0%	46	2 ▼
Nepal	0.52	0.00	0.2%	69	1 ▲
Netherlands	0.83	0.00	0.2%	5	1 ▲
New Zealand	0.83	0.00	-0.5%	7	0
Nicaragua	0.36	-0.02	-4.6%	133	1 ▼
Niger	0.44	0.00	0.4%	109	2 ▲
Nigeria	0.41	0.00	-1.1%	118	3 ▲

* Scores and changes in score are rounded to two decimal places.

† The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index, Gabon.

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
 North Macedonia	0.53	0.00	0.4%	63	1 ▲
 Norway	0.89	-0.01	-1.1%	2	0
 Pakistan	0.39	0.00	-0.2%	129	2 ▲
 Panama	0.52	0.00	-0.2%	72	1 ▼
 Paraguay	0.47	-0.01	-1.6%	96	0
 Peru	0.49	0.00	-0.8%	90	3 ▼
 Philippines	0.47	0.01	1.4%	97	5 ▲
 Poland	0.64	0.00	0.3%	36	0
 Portugal	0.69	-0.01	-1.5%	27	1 ▼
 Romania	0.63	0.01	0.9%	38	3 ▲
 Russian Federation	0.45	-0.02	-3.5%	107	6 ▼
 Rwanda	0.63	0.01	1.4%	42	0
 Senegal	0.56	0.01	1.2%	56	1 ▲
 Serbia	0.49	0.00	-0.8%	83	2 ▼
 Sierra Leone	0.45	0.01	1.2%	105	3 ▲
 Singapore	0.78	0.00	-0.5%	17	0
 Slovak Republic	0.66	-0.01	-0.9%	35	2 ▼
 Slovenia	0.68	-0.01	-0.8%	31	2 ▼
 South Africa	0.58	-0.01	-1.3%	54	2 ▼
 Spain	0.73	0.00	-0.3%	23	2 ▼
 Sri Lanka	0.50	0.00	-0.3%	74	2 ▲
 St. Kitts and Nevis	0.63	0.00	0.3%	39	1 ▲
 St. Lucia	0.61	0.00	-0.8%	43	0

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
 St. Vincent and the Grenadines	0.63	-0.01	-0.8%	41	3 ▼
 Sudan	0.39	-0.03	-7.9%	125	9 ▼
 Suriname	0.50	0.00	1.0%	79	5 ▲
 Sweden	0.86	0.00	-0.5%	4	0
 Tanzania	0.46	0.00	-0.8%	98	2 ▲
 Thailand	0.50	0.00	-0.2%	80	0
 Togo	0.46	0.00	0.9%	101	2 ▲
 Trinidad and Tobago	0.52	-0.01	-2.1%	67	4 ▼
 Tunisia	0.52	-0.01	-1.9%	71	6 ▼
 Turkey	0.42	0.00	-0.4%	116	1 ▲
 Uganda	0.39	0.00	-0.8%	128	2 ▼
 Ukraine	0.50	-0.01	-2.0%	76	2 ▼
 United Arab Emirates	0.63	-0.01	-0.9%	37	0
 United Kingdom	0.79	0.00	0.3%	15	1 ▲
 United States	0.71	0.01	1.8%	26	1 ▲
 Uruguay	0.71	0.00	0.0%	25	0
 Uzbekistan	0.50	0.01	1.0%	78	7 ▲
 Venezuela, RB	0.26	0.00	-1.4%	140	0
 Vietnam	0.49	0.00	0.1%	84	4 ▲
 Zambia	0.45	0.01	1.5%	103	4 ▲
 Zimbabwe	0.39	0.00	-0.4%	124	3 ▲

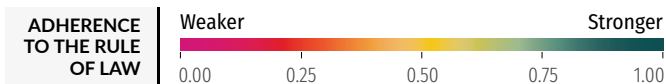
* Scores and changes in score are rounded to two decimal places.

† The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index, Gabon.

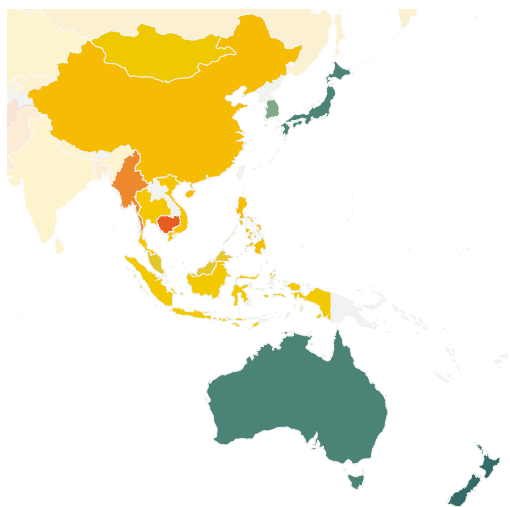
FIGURE 3.

Rule of Law Around the World by Region

This table presents the scores, rankings, and changes for the 140 countries and jurisdictions included in the *WJP Rule of Law Index 2022* by region. Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score (strong adherence to rule of law) and 0 signifies the lowest possible score (weak adherence to rule of law).

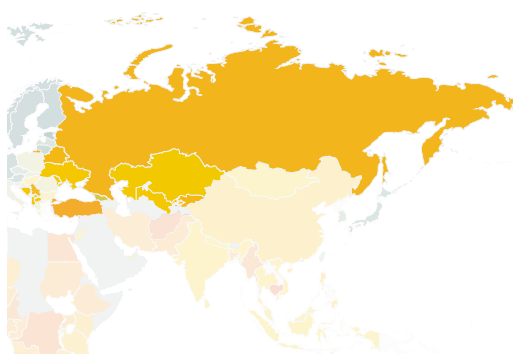


East Asia and Pacific



Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
New Zealand	1/15	0.83	0.00	-0.5%	7	0
Australia	2/15	0.79	0.00	0.1%	13	0
Japan	3/15	0.79	0.00	0.0%	16	1 ▼
Singapore	4/15	0.78	0.00	-0.5%	17	0
Korea, Rep.	5/15	0.73	0.00	-0.4%	19	1 ▲
Hong Kong SAR, China	6/15	0.73	-0.02	-2.8%	22	3 ▼
Malaysia	7/15	0.57	-0.01	-1.7%	55	1 ▼
Mongolia	8/15	0.54	-0.01	-1.3%	62	1 ▼
Indonesia	9/15	0.53	0.01	1.6%	64	4 ▲
Thailand	10/15	0.50	0.00	-0.2%	80	0
Vietnam	11/15	0.49	0.00	0.1%	84	4 ▲
China	12/15	0.47	0.00	0.5%	95	3 ▲
Philippines	13/15	0.47	0.01	1.4%	97	5 ▲
Myanmar	14/15	0.36	-0.03	-7.7%	132	3 ▼
Cambodia	15/15	0.31	-0.01	-2.0%	139	0

Eastern Europe and Central Asia

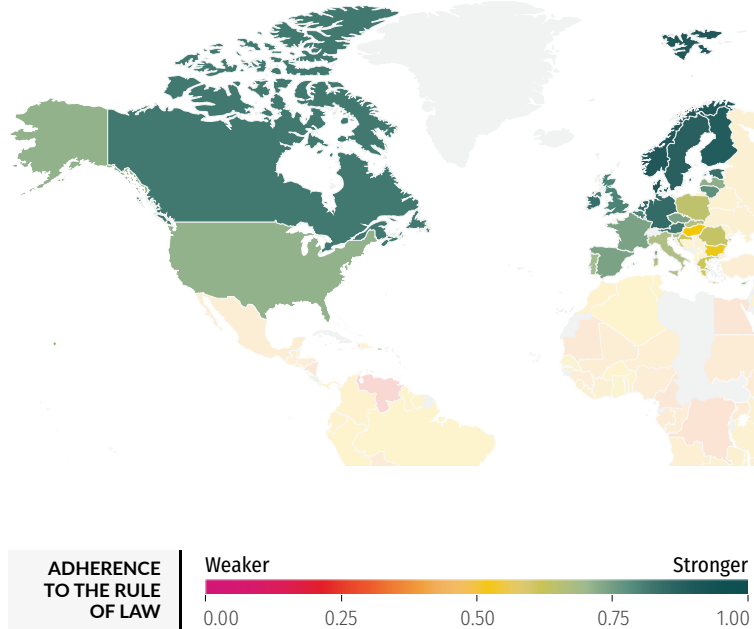


Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
Georgia	1/14	0.60	0.00	-0.6%	49	0
Kosovo	2/14	0.56	0.01	2.4%	57	3 ▲
North Macedonia	3/14	0.53	0.00	0.4%	63	1 ▲
Kazakhstan	4/14	0.53	0.00	0.7%	65	1 ▲
Moldova	5/14	0.52	0.01	1.9%	68	5 ▲
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6/14	0.52	0.00	0.9%	70	2 ▲
Ukraine	7/14	0.50	-0.01	-2.0%	76	2 ▼
Uzbekistan	8/14	0.50	0.01	1.0%	78	7 ▲
Serbia	9/14	0.49	0.00	-0.8%	83	2 ▼
Albania	10/14	0.49	0.00	-0.9%	87	4 ▼
Belarus	11/14	0.46	-0.02	-3.2%	99	2 ▼
Kyrgyz Republic	12/14	0.46	-0.01	-1.3%	100	1 ▼
Russian Federation	13/14	0.45	-0.02	-3.5%	107	6 ▼
Turkey	14/14	0.42	0.00	-0.4%	116	1 ▲

* Scores and changes in score are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

† The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index. The one new country added to the Index this year is Gabon.

EU, EFTA, and North America

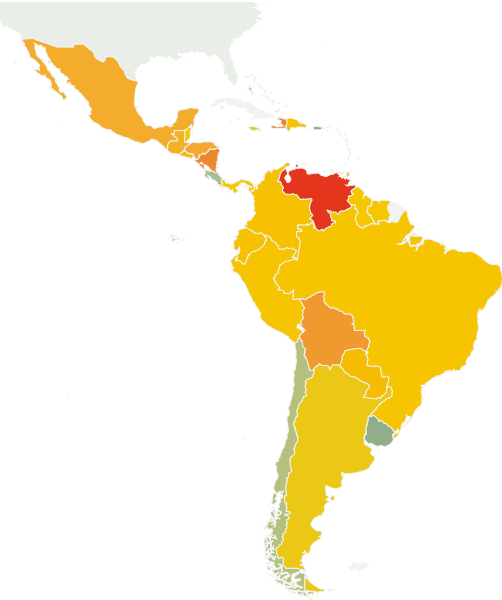


Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
Denmark	1/31	0.90	0.00	0.3%	1	0
Norway	2/31	0.89	-0.01	-1.1%	2	0
Finland	3/31	0.87	-0.01	-0.8%	3	0
Sweden	4/31	0.86	0.00	-0.5%	4	0
Netherlands	5/31	0.83	0.00	0.2%	5	1 ▲
Germany	6/31	0.83	-0.01	-0.6%	6	1 ▼
Luxembourg	7/31	0.83	0.00	-0.2%	8	0
Estonia	8/31	0.82	0.01	1.2%	9	2 ▲
Ireland	9/31	0.81	0.00	0.1%	10	0
Austria	10/31	0.80	-0.01	-1.2%	11	2 ▼
Canada	11/31	0.80	0.00	0.0%	12	0
Belgium	12/31	0.79	0.00	-0.1%	14	0
United Kingdom	13/31	0.79	0.00	0.3%	15	1 ▲
Lithuania	14/31	0.76	0.01	1.7%	18	0
Czech Republic	15/31	0.73	0.00	0.5%	20	2 ▲
France	16/31	0.73	0.01	1.4%	21	2 ▲
Spain	17/31	0.73	0.00	-0.3%	23	2 ▼
Latvia	18/31	0.72	0.01	1.1%	24	0
United States	19/31	0.71	0.01	1.8%	26	1 ▲
Portugal	20/31	0.69	-0.01	-1.5%	27	1 ▼
Cyprus	21/31	0.68	0.00	0.0%	28	0
Malta	22/31	0.68	0.00	-0.3%	30	0
Slovenia	23/31	0.68	-0.01	-0.8%	31	2 ▼
Italy	24/31	0.67	0.01	1.0%	32	2 ▲
Slovak Republic	25/31	0.66	-0.01	-0.9%	35	2 ▼
Poland	26/31	0.64	0.00	0.3%	36	0
Romania	27/31	0.63	0.01	0.9%	38	3 ▲
Greece	28/31	0.61	0.01	1.0%	44	4 ▲
Croatia	29/31	0.61	0.00	0.6%	47	1 ▼
Bulgaria	30/31	0.55	0.01	1.0%	60	2 ▲
Hungary	31/31	0.52	0.00	-0.8%	73	4 ▼

* Scores and changes in score are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

† The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index. The one new country added to the Index this year is Gabon.

Latin America and Caribbean



Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
Uruguay	1/32	0.71	0.00	0.0%	25	0
Costa Rica	2/32	0.68	0.00	0.7%	29	2 ▲
Chile	3/32	0.66	0.00	-0.2%	33	1 ▼
Barbados	4/32	0.66	0.01	1.1%	34	1 ▲
St. Kitts and Nevis	5/32	0.63	0.00	0.3%	39	1 ▲
Antigua and Barbuda	6/32	0.63	0.00	-0.4%	40	1 ▼
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	7/32	0.63	-0.01	-0.8%	41	3 ▼
St. Lucia	8/32	0.61	0.00	-0.8%	43	0
The Bahamas	9/32	0.61	0.00	-0.4%	48	1 ▲
Grenada	10/32	0.59	0.00	0.4%	50	0
Jamaica	11/32	0.58	0.01	1.6%	52	3 ▼
Dominica	12/32	0.58	0.00	-0.3%	53	0
Argentina	13/32	0.55	-0.01	-1.7%	59	3 ▼
Trinidad and Tobago	14/32	0.52	-0.01	-2.1%	67	4 ▼
Panama	15/32	0.52	0.00	-0.2%	72	1 ▼
Guyana	16/32	0.50	0.00	0.1%	75	3 ▲
Suriname	17/32	0.50	0.00	1.0%	79	5 ▲
Brazil	18/32	0.49	-0.01	-1.2%	81	4 ▼
Belize	19/32	0.49	0.01	2.0%	85	8 ▲
Peru	20/32	0.49	0.00	-0.8%	90	3 ▼
Colombia	21/32	0.48	-0.01	-1.1%	91	5 ▼
Dominican Republic	22/32	0.48	0.01	1.1%	92	2 ▲
Ecuador	23/32	0.48	0.00	-0.6%	93	1 ▼
Paraguay	24/32	0.47	-0.01	-1.6%	96	0
El Salvador	25/32	0.46	-0.02	-4.1%	102	7 ▼
Guatemala	26/32	0.44	0.00	-1.0%	110	1 ▼
Mexico	27/32	0.42	-0.01	-1.2%	115	2 ▼
Honduras	28/32	0.41	0.01	3.1%	121	5 ▲
Bolivia	29/32	0.38	-0.01	-3.0%	130	0
Nicaragua	30/32	0.36	-0.02	-4.6%	133	1 ▼
Haiti	31/32	0.35	-0.02	-6.4%	136	3 ▼
Venezuela, RB	32/32	0.26	0.00	-1.4%	140	0

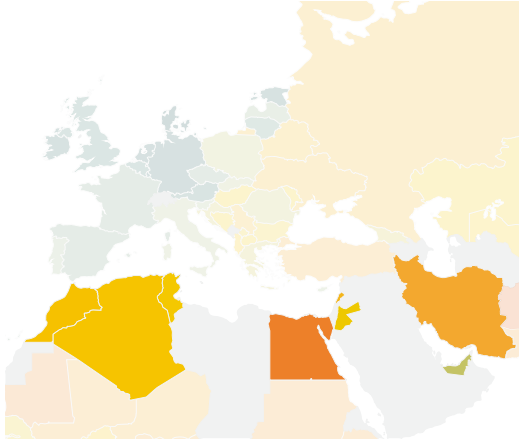
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Middle East and North Africa

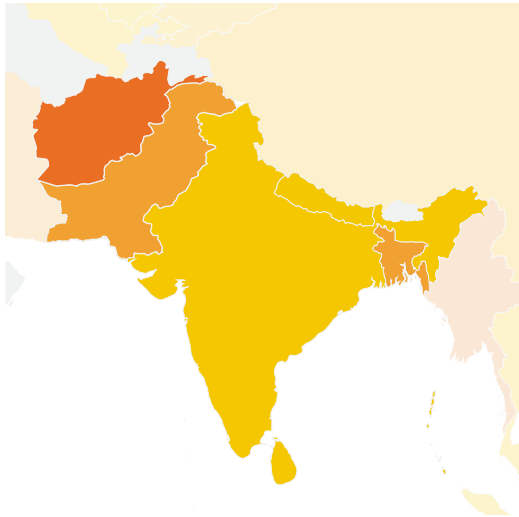


Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
United Arab Emirates	1/8	0.63	-0.01	-0.9%	37	0
Jordan	2/8	0.54	-0.01	-1.8%	61	2 ▼
Tunisia	3/8	0.52	-0.01	-1.9%	71	6 ▼
Algeria	4/8	0.49	-0.01	-1.1%	89	7 ▼
Morocco	5/8	0.48	-0.01	-1.5%	94	4 ▼
Lebanon	6/8	0.45	0.00	-0.8%	106	2 ▼
Iran, Islamic Rep.	7/8	0.41	-0.01	-2.6%	119	0
Egypt, Arab Rep.	8/8	0.35	0.00	1.4%	135	2 ▲

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South Asia

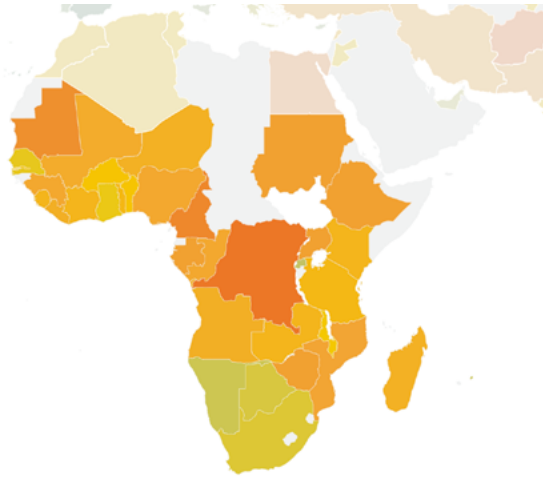
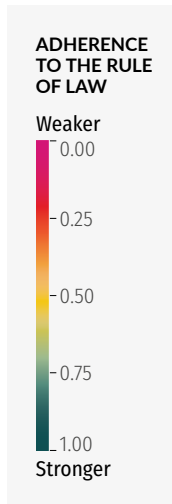


Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
Nepal	1/6	0.52	0.00	0.2%	69	1 ▲
Sri Lanka	2/6	0.50	0.00	-0.3%	74	2 ▲
India	3/6	0.50	0.00	-0.4%	77	2 ▲
Bangladesh	4/6	0.39	-0.01	-1.5%	127	2 ▼
Pakistan	5/6	0.39	0.00	-0.2%	129	2 ▲
Afghanistan	6/6	0.33	-0.02	-6.3%	138	3 ▼

* Scores and changes in score are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

† The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index. The one new country added to the Index this year is Gabon.

Sub-Saharan Africa



Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score*	Annual Change in Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank†
Rwanda	1/34	0.63	0.01	1.4%	42	0
Mauritius	2/34	0.61	0.00	0.5%	45	0
Namibia	3/34	0.61	-0.01	-1.0%	46	2 ▼
Botswana	4/34	0.59	0.00	0.3%	51	0
South Africa	5/34	0.58	-0.01	-1.3%	54	2 ▼
Senegal	6/34	0.56	0.01	1.2%	56	1 ▲
Ghana	7/34	0.55	0.00	-0.3%	58	0
Malawi	8/34	0.52	0.00	0.2%	66	1 ▲
Burkina Faso	9/34	0.49	-0.01	-2.5%	82	7 ▼
The Gambia	10/34	0.49	0.00	0.0%	86	3 ▲
Benin	11/34	0.49	0.00	0.4%	88	3 ▲
Tanzania	12/34	0.46	0.00	-0.8%	98	2 ▲
Togo	13/34	0.46	0.00	0.9%	101	2 ▲
Zambia	14/34	0.45	0.01	1.5%	103	4 ▲
Kenya	15/34	0.45	0.00	1.0%	104	2 ▲
Sierra Leone	16/34	0.45	0.01	1.2%	105	3 ▲
Côte d'Ivoire	17/34	0.45	0.00	-0.3%	108	3 ▼
Niger	18/34	0.44	0.00	0.4%	109	2 ▲
Madagascar	19/34	0.44	0.00	-0.4%	111	1 ▲
Liberia	20/34	0.43	-0.01	-1.7%	112	2 ▼
Angola	21/34	0.43	0.00	-0.3%	113	1 ▲
Mali	22/34	0.42	0.00	-0.5%	114	1 ▲
Guinea	23/34	0.41	0.00	-0.8%	117	3 ▲
Nigeria	24/34	0.41	0.00	-1.1%	118	3 ▲
Congo, Rep.	25/34	0.41	-0.01	-3.0%	120	2 ▼
Mozambique	26/34	0.40	-0.01	-1.4%	122	1 ▲
Ethiopia	27/34	0.39	-0.01	-3.6%	123	1 ▼
Zimbabwe	28/34	0.39	0.00	-0.4%	124	3 ▲
Sudan	29/34	0.39	-0.03	-7.9%	125	9 ▼
Gabon	30/34	0.39	-	-	126	-
Uganda	31/34	0.39	0.00	-0.8%	128	2 ▼
Mauritania	32/34	0.37	0.00	0.4%	131	3 ▲
Cameroon	33/34	0.36	0.00	1.0%	134	2 ▲
Congo, Dem. Rep.	34/34	0.34	0.00	-1.2%	137	1 ▲

* Scores and changes in score are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

† The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index. The one new country added to the Index this year is Gabon.

FIGURE 4.

Rule of Law Around the World by Income

This table presents the scores, rankings, and changes for the 140 countries and jurisdictions included in the *WJP Rule of Law Index 2022* by income group.* Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score (strong adherence to rule of law) and 0 signifies the lowest possible score (weak adherence to rule of law).

Low Income

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score [†]	Annual Change in Overall Score [‡]	Annual % Change in Overall Score [‡]	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank [‡]
Rwanda	1/17	0.63	0.01	1.4%	42	0
Malawi	2/17	0.52	0.00	0.2%	66	1 ▲
Burkina Faso	3/17	0.49	-0.01	-2.5%	82	7 ▼
The Gambia	4/17	0.49	0.00	0.0%	86	3 ▲
Togo	5/17	0.46	0.00	0.9%	101	2 ▲
Sierra Leone	6/17	0.45	0.01	1.2%	105	3 ▲
Niger	7/17	0.44	0.00	0.4%	109	2 ▲
Madagascar	8/17	0.44	0.00	-0.4%	111	1 ▲
Liberia	9/17	0.43	-0.01	-1.7%	112	2 ▼
Mali	10/17	0.42	0.00	-0.5%	114	1 ▲
Guinea	11/17	0.41	0.00	-0.8%	117	3 ▲
Mozambique	12/17	0.40	-0.01	-1.4%	122	1 ▲
Ethiopia	13/17	0.39	-0.01	-3.6%	123	1 ▼
Sudan	14/17	0.39	-0.03	-7.9%	125	9 ▼
Uganda	15/17	0.39	0.00	-0.8%	128	2 ▼
Congo, Dem. Rep.	16/17	0.34	0.00	-1.2%	137	1 ▲
Afghanistan	17/17	0.33	-0.02	-6.3%	138	3 ▼

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Weaker

0.00

-0.25

-0.50

-0.75

1.00

Stronger

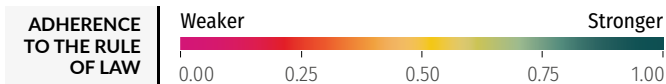
* Income groups used in this year's report are based on the World Bank's 2022 fiscal year income group classifications. For the 2022 fiscal year, low-income economies are defined as those with a GNI per capita, calculated using the World Bank Atlas method, of \$1,045 or less in 2020; lower middle-income economies are those with a GNI per capita between \$1,046 and \$4,095; upper middle-income economies are those with a GNI per capita between \$4,096 and \$12,695; high-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of greater than \$12,695. <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>

[†] Scores and changes in score are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place.

[‡] The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index. The one new country added to the Index this year is Gabon.

Lower-Middle Income

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score [†]	Annual Change in Overall Score [†]	Annual % Change in Overall Score [†]	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank [‡]
Senegal	1/38	0.56	0.01	1.2%	56	1 ▲
Ghana	2/38	0.55	0.00	-0.3%	58	0
Mongolia	3/38	0.54	-0.01	-1.3%	62	1 ▼
Indonesia	4/38	0.53	0.01	1.6%	64	4 ▲
Nepal	5/38	0.52	0.00	0.2%	69	1 ▲
Tunisia	6/38	0.52	-0.01	-1.9%	71	6 ▼
Sri Lanka	7/38	0.50	0.00	-0.3%	74	2 ▲
Ukraine	8/38	0.50	-0.01	-2.0%	76	2 ▼
India	9/38	0.50	0.00	-0.4%	77	2 ▲
Uzbekistan	10/38	0.50	0.01	1.0%	78	7 ▲
Vietnam	11/38	0.49	0.00	0.1%	84	4 ▲
Belize	12/38	0.49	0.01	2.0%	85	8 ▲
Benin	13/38	0.49	0.00	0.4%	88	3 ▲
Algeria	14/38	0.49	-0.01	-1.1%	89	7 ▼
Morocco	15/38	0.48	-0.01	-1.5%	94	4 ▼
Philippines	16/38	0.47	0.01	1.4%	97	5 ▲
Tanzania	17/38	0.46	0.00	-0.8%	98	2 ▲
Kyrgyz Republic	18/38	0.46	-0.01	-1.3%	100	1 ▼
El Salvador	19/38	0.46	-0.02	-4.1%	102	7 ▼
Zambia	20/38	0.45	0.01	1.5%	103	4 ▲
Kenya	21/38	0.45	0.00	1.0%	104	2 ▲
Côte d'Ivoire	22/38	0.45	0.00	-0.3%	108	3 ▼
Angola	23/38	0.43	0.00	-0.3%	113	1 ▲
Nigeria	24/38	0.41	0.00	-1.1%	118	3 ▲
Iran, Islamic Rep.	25/38	0.41	-0.01	-2.6%	119	0
Congo, Rep.	26/38	0.41	-0.01	-3.0%	120	2 ▼
Honduras	27/38	0.41	0.01	3.1%	121	5 ▲
Zimbabwe	28/38	0.39	0.00	-0.4%	124	3 ▲
Bangladesh	29/38	0.39	-0.01	-1.5%	127	2 ▼
Pakistan	30/38	0.39	0.00	-0.2%	129	2 ▲
Bolivia	31/38	0.38	-0.01	-3.0%	130	0
Mauritania	32/38	0.37	0.00	0.4%	131	3 ▲
Myanmar	33/38	0.36	-0.03	-7.7%	132	3 ▼
Nicaragua	34/38	0.36	-0.02	-4.6%	133	1 ▼
Cameroon	35/38	0.36	0.00	1.0%	134	2 ▲
Egypt, Arab Rep.	36/38	0.35	0.00	1.4%	135	2 ▲
Haiti	37/38	0.35	-0.02	-6.4%	136	3 ▼
Cambodia	38/38	0.31	-0.01	-2.0%	139	0



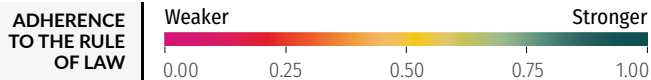
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‡ The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index. The one new country added to the Index this year is Gabon.

Upper-Middle Income

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score [†]	Annual Change in Overall Score [†]	Annual % Change in Overall Score [†]	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank [‡]
Costa Rica	1/42	0.68	0.00	0.7%	29	2 ▲
Romania	2/42	0.63	0.01	0.9%	38	3 ▲
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	3/42	0.63	-0.01	-0.8%	41	3 ▼
St. Lucia	4/42	0.61	0.00	-0.8%	43	0
Mauritius	5/42	0.61	0.00	0.5%	45	0
Namibia	6/42	0.61	-0.01	-1.0%	46	2 ▼
Georgia	7/42	0.60	0.00	-0.6%	49	0
Grenada	8/42	0.59	0.00	0.4%	50	0
Botswana	9/42	0.59	0.00	0.3%	51	0
Jamaica	10/42	0.58	0.01	1.6%	52	3 ▲
Dominica	11/42	0.58	0.00	-0.3%	53	0
South Africa	12/42	0.58	-0.01	-1.3%	54	2 ▼
Malaysia	13/42	0.57	-0.01	-1.7%	55	1 ▼
Kosovo	14/42	0.56	0.01	2.4%	57	3 ▲
Argentina	15/42	0.55	-0.01	-1.7%	59	3 ▼
Bulgaria	16/42	0.55	0.01	1.0%	60	2 ▲
Jordan	17/42	0.54	-0.01	-1.8%	61	2 ▼
North Macedonia	18/42	0.53	0.00	0.4%	63	1 ▲
Kazakhstan	19/42	0.53	0.00	0.7%	65	1 ▲
Moldova	20/42	0.52	0.01	1.9%	68	5 ▲
Bosnia and Herzegovina	21/42	0.52	0.00	0.9%	70	2 ▲
Panama	22/42	0.52	0.00	-0.2%	72	1 ▼
Guyana	23/42	0.50	0.00	0.1%	75	3 ▲
Suriname	24/42	0.50	0.00	1.0%	79	5 ▲
Thailand	25/42	0.50	0.00	-0.2%	80	0
Brazil	26/42	0.49	-0.01	-1.2%	81	4 ▼
Serbia	27/42	0.49	0.00	-0.8%	83	2 ▼
Albania	28/42	0.49	0.00	-0.9%	87	4 ▼
Peru	29/42	0.49	0.00	-0.8%	90	3 ▼
Colombia	30/42	0.48	-0.01	-1.1%	91	5 ▼
Dominican Republic	31/42	0.48	0.01	1.1%	92	2 ▲
Ecuador	32/42	0.48	0.00	-0.6%	93	1 ▼
China	33/42	0.47	0.00	0.5%	95	3 ▲
Paraguay	34/42	0.47	-0.01	-1.6%	96	0
Belarus	35/42	0.46	-0.02	-3.2%	99	2 ▼
Lebanon	36/42	0.45	0.00	-0.8%	106	2 ▼
Russian Federation	37/42	0.45	-0.02	-3.5%	107	6 ▼
Guatemala	38/42	0.44	0.00	-1.0%	110	1 ▼
Mexico	39/42	0.42	-0.01	-1.2%	115	2 ▼
Turkey	40/42	0.42	0.00	-0.4%	116	1 ▲
Gabon	41/42	0.39	-	-	126	-
Venezuela, RB	42/42	0.26	0.00	-1.4%	140	0



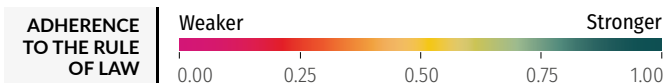
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[‡] The change in rankings was calculated by comparing the positions of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the rankings of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index. The one new country added to the Index this year is Gabon.

High Income

Country/Jurisdiction	Regional Rank	Overall Score [†]	Annual Change in Overall Score [†]	Annual % Change in Overall Score [†]	Global Rank	Annual Change in Global Rank [‡]							
Denmark	1/43	0.90	0.00	0.3%	1	0							
Norway	2/43	0.89	-0.01	-1.1%	2	0							
Finland	3/43	0.87	-0.01	-0.8%	3	0							
Sweden	4/43	0.86	0.00	-0.5%	4	0							
Netherlands	5/43	0.83	0.00	0.2%	5	1 ▲							
Germany	6/43	0.83	-0.01	-0.6%	6	1 ▼							
New Zealand	7/43	0.83	0.00	-0.5%	7	0							
Luxembourg	8/43	0.83	0.00	-0.2%	8	0							
Estonia	9/43	0.82	0.01	1.2%	9	2 ▲							
Ireland	10/43	0.81	0.00	0.1%	10	0							
Austria	11/43	0.80	-0.01	-1.2%	11	2 ▼							
Canada	12/43	0.80	0.00	0.0%	12	0							
Australia	13/43	0.79	0.00	0.1%	13	0							
Belgium	14/43	0.79	0.00	-0.1%	14	0							
United Kingdom	15/43	0.79	0.00	0.3%	15	1 ▲							
Japan	16/43	0.79	0.00	0.0%	16	1 ▼							
Singapore	17/43	0.78	0.00	-0.5%	17	0							
Lithuania	18/43	0.76	0.01	1.7%	18	0							
Korea, Rep.	19/43	0.73	0.00	-0.4%	19	1 ▲							
Czech Republic	20/43	0.73	0.00	0.5%	20	2 ▲							
France	21/43	0.73	0.01	1.4%	21	2 ▲							
Hong Kong SAR, China	22/43	0.73	-0.02	-2.8%	22	3 ▼							
Spain	23/43	0.73	0.00	-0.3%	23	2 ▼							
Latvia	24/43	0.72	0.01	1.1%	24	0							
Uruguay	25/43	0.71	0.00	0.0%	25	0							
United States	26/43	0.71	0.01	1.8%	26	1 ▲							
Portugal	27/43	0.69	-0.01	-1.5%	27	1 ▼							
Cyprus	28/43	0.68	0.00	0.0%	28	0							
Malta	29/43	0.68	0.00	-0.3%	30	0							
Slovenia	30/43	0.68	-0.01	-0.8%	31	2 ▼							
Italy	31/43	0.67	0.01	1.0%	32	2 ▲							
Chile	32/43	0.66	0.00	-0.2%	33	1 ▼							
Barbados	33/43	0.66	0.01	1.1%	34	1 ▲							
Slovak Republic	34/43	0.66	-0.01	-0.9%	35	2 ▼							
Poland	35/43	0.64	0.00	0.3%	36	0							
United Arab Emirates	36/43	0.63	-0.01	-0.9%	37	0							
St. Kitts and Nevis	37/43	0.63	0.00	0.3%	39	1 ▲							
Antigua and Barbuda	38/43	0.63	0.00	-0.4%	40	1 ▼							
Greece	39/43	0.61	0.01	1.0%	44	4 ▲							
Croatia	40/43	0.61	0.00	0.6%	47	1 ▼							
The Bahamas	41/43	0.61	0.00	-0.4%	48	1 ▼							
Trinidad and Tobago	42/43	0.52	-0.01	-2.1%	67	4 ▼							
Hungary	43/43	0.52	0.00	-0.8%	73	4 ▼							



* Income groups used in this year's report are based on the World Bank's 2022 fiscal year income group classifications. For the 2022 fiscal year, low-income economies are defined as those with a GNI per capita, calculated using the World Bank Atlas method, of \$1,045 or less in 2020; lower middle-income economies are those with a GNI per capita between \$1,046 and \$4,095; upper middle-income economies are those with a GNI per capita between \$4,096 and \$12,695; high-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of greater than \$12,695. <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>

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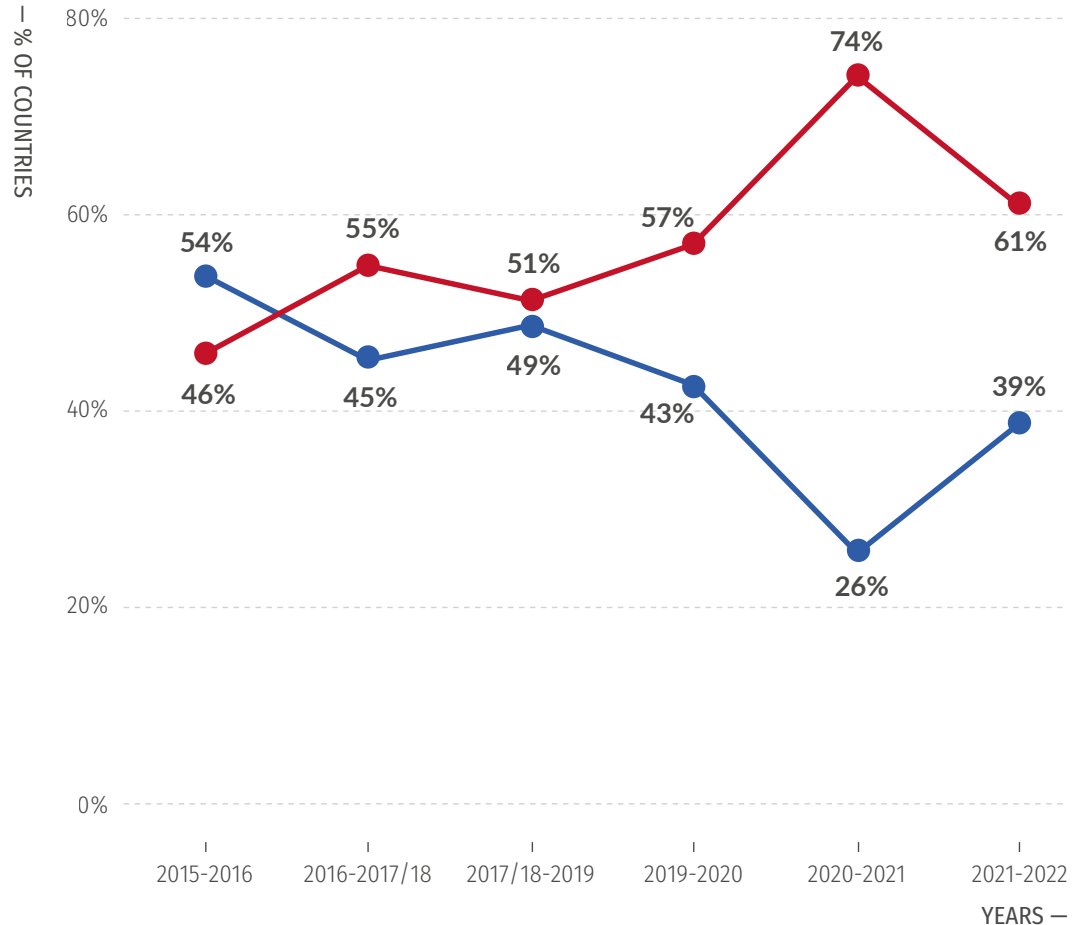
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FIGURE 5.

For the 5th Consecutive Year, Rule of Law Has Declined in More Countries Than It Improved

Percentage of countries whose overall rule of law score has improved or declined since 2015.* Over the last year, 61.2% of countries experienced declines in rule of law performance, and 38.8% improved. The proportion of declining countries peaked at the height of the pandemic.

- % of countries that improved
- % of countries that declined



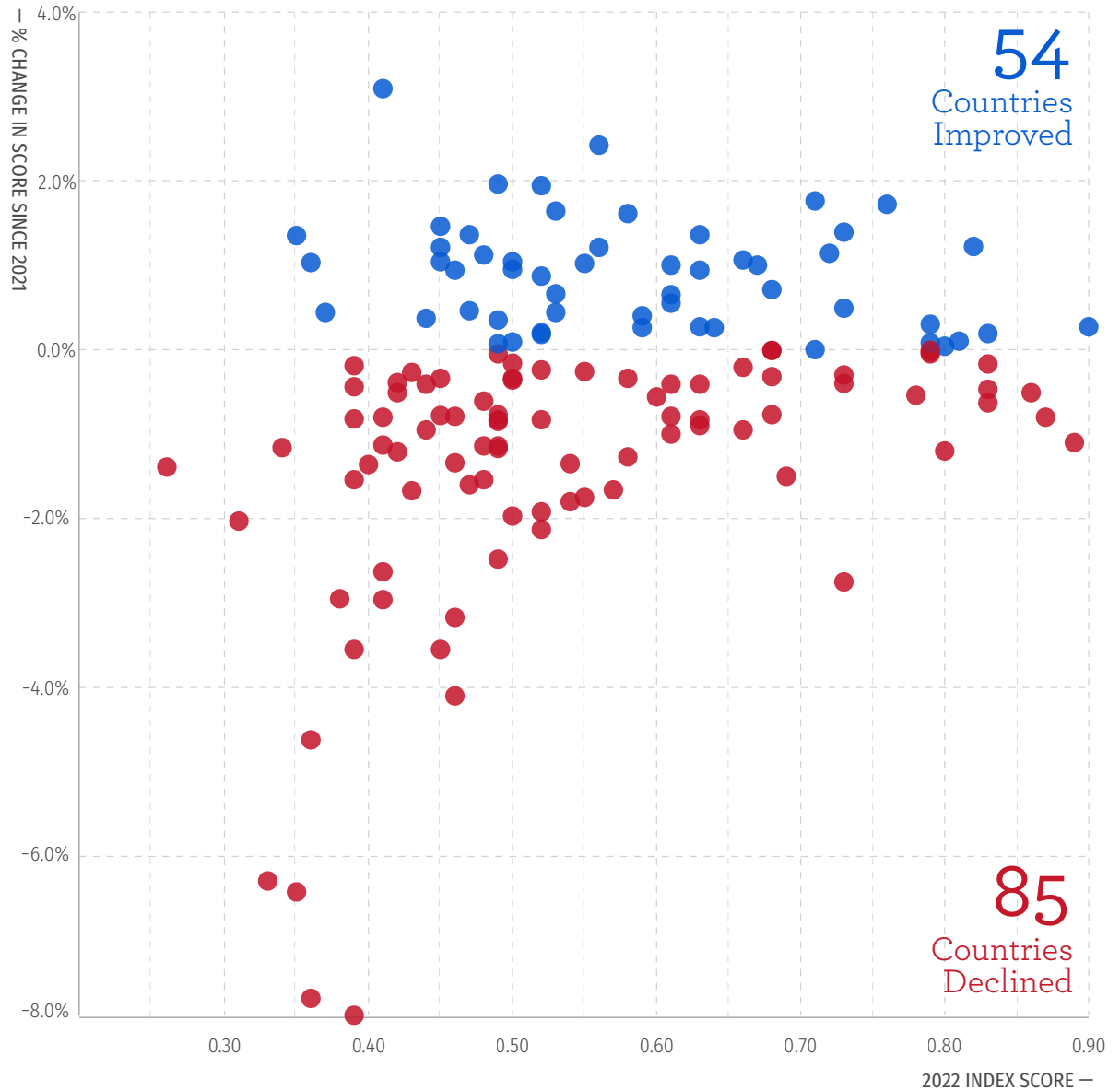
* Percentage of countries that improved or declined is calculated using the number of countries and jurisdictions common to the years in question.

FIGURE 6.
Declines Were Widespread from 2021 to 2022

Countries with both strong and weak rule of law experienced declines. However, the steepest declines were seen in countries that already had weak rule of law. In all but one region, more countries declined than improved.*

[See Regional Rule of Law Insights section for more information.](#)

- Positive Change
- Negative Change



* Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. It is calculated by comparing the scores of the 139 countries and jurisdictions measured in the 2021 Index with the scores of the same 139 countries and jurisdictions in 2022, exclusive of the one new addition to the 2022 Index, Gabon. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

Improving ROL

Country/Jurisdiction	Annual % Change in Overall Score
Australia	0.1%
Barbados	1.1%
Belize	2.0%
Benin	0.4%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.9%
Botswana	0.3%
Bulgaria	1.0%
Canada	0.0%
Cameroon	1.0%
China	0.5%
Costa Rica	0.7%
Croatia	0.6%
Czech Republic	0.5%
Denmark	0.3%

Dominican Republic	1.1%
Egypt, Arab Rep.	1.4%
Estonia	1.2%
France	1.4%
Greece	1.0%
Grenada	0.4%
Guyana	0.1%
Honduras	3.1%
Indonesia	1.6%
Ireland	0.1%
Italy	1.0%
Jamaica	1.6%
Kazakhstan	0.7%
Kenya	1.0%

Kosovo	2.4%
Latvia	1.1%
Lithuania	1.7%
Malawi	0.2%
Mauritania	0.4%
Mauritius	0.5%
Moldova	1.9%
Nepal	0.2%
Netherlands	0.2%
Niger	0.4%
North Macedonia	0.4%
Philippines	1.4%
Poland	0.3%

Romania	0.9%
Rwanda	1.4%
Senegal	1.2%
Sierra Leone	1.2%
St. Kitts and Nevis	0.3%
Suriname	1.0%
Togo	0.9%
United Kingdom	0.3%
United States	1.8%
Uruguay	0.0%
Uzbekistan	1.0%
Vietnam	0.1%
Zambia	1.5%

Declining ROL

Country/Jurisdiction	Annual % Change in Overall Score
Afghanistan	-6.3%
Albania	-0.9%
Algeria	-1.1%
Angola	-0.3%
Antigua and Barbuda	-0.4%
Argentina	-1.7%
Austria	-1.2%
The Bahamas	-0.4%
Bangladesh	-1.5%
Belarus	-3.2%
Belgium	-0.1%
Bolivia	-3.0%
Brazil	-1.2%
Burkina Faso	-2.5%
Cambodia	-2.0%
Chile	-0.2%
Colombia	-1.1%
Congo, Dem. Rep.	-1.2%
Congo, Rep.	-3.0%
Côte d'Ivoire	-0.3%
Cyprus	0.0%
Dominica	-0.3%

Ecuador	-0.6%
El Salvador	-4.1%
Ethiopia	-3.6%
Finland	-0.8%
The Gambia	0.0%
Georgia	-0.6%
Germany	-0.6%
Ghana	-0.3%
Guatemala	-1.0%
Guinea	-0.8%
Haiti	-6.4%
Hong Kong SAR, China	-2.8%
Hungary	-0.8%
India	-0.4%
Iran, Islamic Rep.	-2.6%
Japan	0.0%
Jordan	-1.8%
Korea, Rep.	-0.4%
Kyrgyz Republic	-1.3%
Lebanon	-0.8%
Liberia	-1.7%







Luxembourg	-0.2%
Madagascar	-0.4%
Malaysia	-1.7%
Mali	-0.5%
Malta	-0.3%
Mexico	-1.2%
Mongolia	-1.3%
Morocco	-1.5%
Mozambique	-1.4%
Myanmar	-7.7%
Namibia	-1.0%
New Zealand	-0.5%
Nicaragua	-4.6%
Nigeria	-1.1%
Norway	-1.1%
Pakistan	-0.2%
Panama	-0.2%
Paraguay	-1.6%
Peru	-0.8%
Portugal	-1.5%
Russian Federation	-3.5%
Serbia	-0.8%

Singapore	-0.5%
Slovak Republic	-0.9%
Slovenia	-0.8%
South Africa	-1.3%
Spain	-0.3%
Sri Lanka	-0.3%
St. Lucia	-0.8%
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	-0.8%
Sudan	-7.9%
Sweden	-0.5%
Tanzania	-0.8%
Thailand	-0.2%
Trinidad and Tobago	-2.1%
Tunisia	-1.9%
Turkey	-0.4%
Uganda	-0.8%
Ukraine	-2.0%
United Arab Emirates	-0.9%
Venezuela, RB	-1.4%
Zimbabwe	-0.4%

FIGURE 7. Rule of Law Changes Are Often Slow and Inconsistent

Annual percentage change in score* between editions of the *WJP Rule of Law Index* since 2015.† In the past five years (including 2022), Brazil; Dominica; Hong Kong SAR, China; Hungary; Mexico; Morocco; Myanmar; Nigeria; and Trinidad and Tobago each had consecutive declines in score. Italy, Kazakhstan, Malawi, and Uzbekistan are the only countries to have improved in score for the past five consecutive years.

HOW TO READ
THIS GRAPHIC?

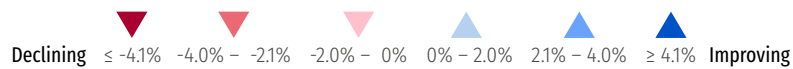
Declining       Improving
 ≤ -4.1% -4.0% - -2.1% -2.0% - 0% 0% -2.0% 2.1% -4.0% ≥ 4.1%

Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
Afghanistan	-2.2%	-0.3%	0.9%	4.3%	-2.7%	-6.3%	0.33
Albania	-3.2%	0.8%	-0.3%	-1.2%	-1.7%	-0.9%	0.49
Algeria	-	-	-	-2.3%	-0.5%	-1.1%	0.49
Angola	-	-	-	3.1%	0.5%	-0.3%	0.43
Antigua and Barbuda	-	-5.8%	0.1%	0.5%	0.4%	-0.4%	0.63
Argentina	6.7%	5.0%	0.1%	-0.5%	-3.7%	-1.7%	0.55
Australia	0.5%	0.2%	-0.4%	-0.3%	-1.2%	0.1%	0.79
Austria	1.3%	-2.4%	1.0%	-0.6%	-0.6%	-1.2%	0.80
The Bahamas	-	-0.9%	1.5%	-0.9%	0.5%	-0.4%	0.61
Bangladesh	-2.1%	0.2%	1.4%	-1.6%	-2.8%	-1.5%	0.39
Barbados	-	-2.8%	0.2%	-0.7%	0.7%	1.1%	0.66
Belarus	1.4%	-4.6%	0.8%	-0.5%	-7.5%	-3.2%	0.46
Belgium	2.8%	-2.0%	2.4%	-0.5%	0.6%	-0.1%	0.79
Belize	-2.8%	-0.2%	0.8%	0.1%	0.0%	2.0%	0.49
Benin	-	-	-	-0.4%	-2.3%	0.4%	0.49
Bolivia	-2.7%	-5.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%	-3.0%	0.38
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-1.7%	-4.9%	-0.2%	-1.4%	-0.8%	0.9%	0.52
Botswana	-9.9%	1.3%	1.3%	1.7%	-1.5%	0.3%	0.59
Brazil	2.9%	-3.1%	-1.2%	-2.9%	-2.9%	-1.2%	0.49
Bulgaria	-0.8%	-2.4%	2.4%	0.5%	-1.0%	1.0%	0.55

* Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

† Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

HOW TO READ THIS GRAPHIC?

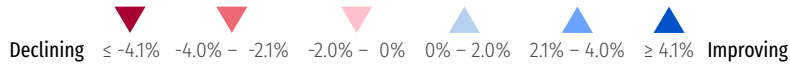


Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score	Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
Burkina Faso	3.1%	4.8%	0.5%	-0.1%	-0.9%	-2.5%	0.49	Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	0.68
Cambodia	-12.2%	-1.1%	0.5%	0.7%	-2.3%	-2.0%	0.31	Czech Republic	4.1%	-1.2%	-1.4%	0.6%	-0.4%	0.5%	0.73
Cameroon	-8.0%	-0.1%	2.8%	-4.4%	-2.1%	1.0%	0.36	Denmark	1.9%	0.6%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.90
Canada	3.8%	0.3%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-1.0%	0.0%	0.80	Dominica	-	-0.8%	-1.8%	-0.6%	-0.6%	-0.3%	0.58
Chile	0.8%	-2.4%	1.5%	-0.9%	-0.8%	-0.2%	0.66	Dominican Republic	-3.4%	-0.4%	-0.4%	3.1%	0.0%	1.1%	0.48
China	0.3%	3.8%	-2.7%	-1.5%	-1.9%	0.5%	0.47	Ecuador	-3.4%	3.7%	1.2%	2.0%	-0.1%	-0.6%	0.48
Colombia	1.2%	-0.4%	-1.4%	0.8%	-2.2%	-1.1%	0.48	Egypt, Arab Rep.	-16.7%	-1.0%	-1.1%	0.1%	-2.8%	1.4%	0.35
Congo, Dem. Rep.	-	-	-	2.6%	1.2%	-1.2%	0.34	El Salvador	-3.2%	-2.8%	-0.4%	3.2%	-3.3%	-4.1%	0.46
Congo, Rep.	-	-	-	-	-	-3.0%	0.41	Estonia	1.8%	1.2%	1.3%	0.0%	-0.1%	1.2%	0.82
Costa Rica	0.4%	-0.1%	0.3%	-0.5%	-0.8%	0.7%	0.68	Ethiopia	-9.4%	-0.8%	3.3%	5.6%	-1.0%	-3.6%	0.39
Côte d'Ivoire	-1.4%	1.4%	-1.3%	-0.4%	-3.4%	-0.3%	0.45	Finland	3.0%	-0.3%	0.6%	-0.1%	0.4%	-0.8%	0.87
Croatia	1.0%	1.0%	-0.6%	1.1%	-1.0%	0.6%	0.61	France	-2.9%	2.8%	0.0%	-1.3%	-0.9%	1.4%	0.73

* Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

† Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

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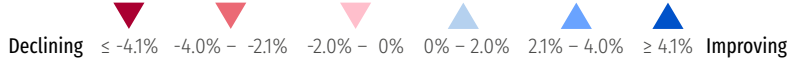
Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
The Gambia	-	-	-	-	-3.1%	0.0%	0.49
Georgia	-0.2%	-6.7%	-0.2%	-1.1%	0.5%	-0.6%	0.60
Germany	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	-0.6%	0.83
Ghana	-3.7%	2.4%	-2.5%	-1.9%	-2.2%	-0.3%	0.55
Greece	-0.2%	0.5%	2.3%	-0.9%	-0.5%	1.0%	0.61
Grenada	-	-7.8%	-1.4%	-1.8%	0.1%	0.4%	0.59
Guatemala	-0.1%	0.1%	4.6%	-2.3%	-1.2%	-1.0%	0.44
Guinea	-	-	-	-3.9%	-1.4%	-0.8%	0.41
Guyana	-	1.9%	0.0%	0.2%	-0.7%	0.1%	0.50
Haiti	-	-	-	-	-	-6.4%	0.35
Honduras	-0.5%	-3.9%	-0.3%	0.2%	-2.2%	3.1%	0.41
Hong Kong SAR, China	1.3%	-0.4%	-0.2%	-0.4%	-2.0%	-2.8%	0.73

Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
Hungary	-1.3%	-3.9%	-2.2%	-1.1%	-1.4%	-0.8%	0.52
India	1.4%	0.9%	-1.2%	-0.5%	-1.9%	-0.4%	0.50
Indonesia	-0.1%	-0.9%	0.9%	1.3%	-1.0%	1.6%	0.53
Iran, Islamic Rep.	7.5%	1.8%	-6.2%	-4.2%	-2.3%	-2.6%	0.41
Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	0.1%	0.81
Italy	0.1%	0.6%	0.9%	0.5%	0.2%	1.0%	0.67
Jamaica	1.5%	0.7%	-2.0%	0.8%	0.4%	1.6%	0.58
Japan	-0.8%	1.1%	-0.8%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.79
Jordan	4.1%	1.5%	-4.8%	-0.1%	-3.0%	-1.8%	0.54
Kazakhstan	1.3%	2.2%	0.9%	0.9%	0.3%	0.7%	0.53
Kenya	-3.5%	4.0%	0.5%	-0.2%	-0.9%	1.0%	0.45
Korea, Rep.	-7.7%	-1.0%	1.7%	0.0%	0.4%	-0.4%	0.73

* Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

† Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

HOW TO READ THIS GRAPHIC?

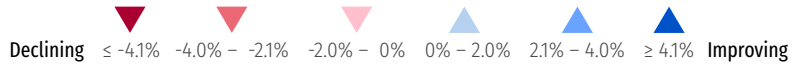


Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
Kosovo	-	-	-	-	0.6%	2.4%	0.56
Kyrgyz Republic	-0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	1.4%	-3.7%	-1.3%	0.46
Latvia	-	-	-	-	-	1.1%	0.72
Lebanon	-5.4%	2.7%	0.2%	-3.3%	-0.9%	-0.8%	0.45
Liberia	0.1%	1.2%	1.4%	-1.3%	-2.6%	-1.7%	0.43
Lithuania	-	-	-	-	-	1.7%	0.76
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	-	-0.2%	0.83
Madagascar	0.6%	-3.9%	-1.4%	2.4%	-0.6%	-0.4%	0.44
Malawi	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%	1.0%	0.2%	0.52
Malaysia	-5.2%	-0.5%	3.6%	5.1%	-1.4%	-1.7%	0.57
Mali	-	-	-	-2.8%	-2.9%	-0.5%	0.42
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	-0.3%	0.68

Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
Mauritania	-	-	-	4.0%	0.9%	0.4%	0.37
Mauritius	-	-	-	-0.1%	-0.9%	0.5%	0.61
Mexico	-1.7%	-0.7%	-0.2%	-2.8%	-2.9%	-1.2%	0.42
Moldova	2.4%	-0.5%	-1.0%	2.2%	3.2%	1.9%	0.52
Mongolia	1.1%	0.8%	0.3%	-2.2%	2.0%	-1.3%	0.54
Morocco	1.4%	-3.4%	-1.2%	-0.5%	-2.6%	-1.5%	0.48
Mozambique	-	-	-	-3.4%	-2.9%	-1.4%	0.40
Myanmar	4.0%	-3.2%	-0.5%	0.0%	-6.3%	-7.7%	0.36
Namibia	-	-	-	0.6%	-1.2%	-1.0%	0.61
Nepal	-2.2%	1.1%	0.8%	-0.7%	-1.1%	0.2%	0.52
Netherlands	3.4%	-0.7%	-1.5%	-0.5%	-0.5%	0.2%	0.83
New Zealand	0.0%	-0.3%	-0.5%	0.3%	0.7%	-0.5%	0.83

* Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.
 † Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

HOW TO READ THIS GRAPHIC?



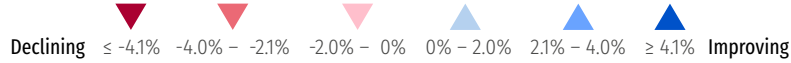
Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
Nicaragua	-1.1%	3.2%	-6.9%	-2.6%	-3.7%	-4.6%	0.36
Niger	-	-	-	-1.0%	-1.5%	0.4%	0.44
Nigeria	9.0%	-1.2%	-1.0%	-0.9%	-3.7%	-1.1%	0.41
North Macedonia	-1.7%	-2.3%	1.8%	-0.9%	-0.3%	0.4%	0.53
Norway	1.7%	0.8%	0.7%	0.1%	0.5%	-1.1%	0.89
Pakistan	1.1%	1.9%	-0.2%	-0.7%	-0.4%	-0.2%	0.39
Panama	-1.9%	-0.3%	-0.2%	0.5%	-0.7%	-0.2%	0.52
Paraguay	-	-	-	-	-	-1.6%	0.47
Peru	3.1%	1.7%	-2.9%	-1.5%	-2.0%	-0.8%	0.49
Philippines	-3.6%	-7.7%	0.4%	0.8%	-2.9%	1.4%	0.47
Poland	-0.2%	-5.8%	-0.9%	-1.1%	-2.4%	0.3%	0.64
Portugal	1.7%	0.9%	-0.8%	-1.1%	-0.6%	-1.5%	0.69

Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
Romania	6.6%	-0.7%	-1.9%	-1.5%	-0.8%	0.9%	0.63
Russian Federation	-4.1%	3.2%	1.0%	-1.4%	-0.7%	-3.5%	0.45
Rwanda	-	-	-	1.3%	0.5%	1.4%	0.63
Senegal	0.8%	-4.0%	0.3%	-0.1%	0.5%	1.2%	0.56
Serbia	-0.7%	-0.3%	0.1%	0.6%	-1.8%	-0.8%	0.49
Sierra Leone	1.8%	2.0%	0.1%	-0.9%	-1.5%	1.2%	0.45
Singapore	1.0%	-2.6%	0.0%	-0.9%	-1.0%	-0.5%	0.78
Slovak Republic	-	-	-	-	-	-0.9%	0.66
Slovenia	1.9%	-0.3%	0.5%	1.7%	-0.4%	-0.8%	0.68
South Africa	1.7%	0.3%	-1.6%	1.4%	-0.4%	-1.3%	0.58
Spain	2.0%	0.9%	2.4%	1.3%	0.1%	-0.3%	0.73
Sri Lanka	0.6%	2.8%	-0.9%	-0.2%	-3.0%	-0.3%	0.50

* Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

† Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

HOW TO READ THIS GRAPHIC?



Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
St. Kitts and Nevis	-	-0.5%	-2.2%	-2.1%	-0.2%	0.3%	0.63
St. Lucia	-	-2.1%	-2.1%	0.7%	-0.1%	-0.8%	0.61
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	-	-0.4%	1.6%	2.8%	-0.2%	-0.8%	0.63
Sudan	-	-	-	-	-	-7.9%	0.39
Suriname	-	-3.9%	0.4%	-1.8%	-1.9%	1.0%	0.50
Sweden	1.3%	0.2%	-0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	-0.5%	0.86
Tanzania	-1.4%	0.2%	-0.3%	0.5%	-1.1%	-0.8%	0.46
Thailand	-0.3%	-1.8%	-0.4%	0.9%	-2.2%	-0.2%	0.50
Togo	-	-	-	-0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	0.46
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-2.1%	-3.0%	-0.7%	-0.5%	-2.1%	0.52
Tunisia	-4.6%	0.3%	-0.2%	0.7%	-1.5%	-1.9%	0.52

Country/ Jurisdiction	2015 to 2016	2016 to 2017/18	2017/18 to 2019	2019 to 2020	2020 to 2021	2021 to 2022	2022 Overall Score
Turkey	-7.2%	-3.1%	2.7%	0.3%	-2.5%	-0.4%	0.42
Uganda	-4.1%	2.6%	0.6%	-1.8%	-0.9%	-0.8%	0.39
Ukraine	1.9%	1.6%	1.0%	0.8%	0.6%	-2.0%	0.50
United Arab Emirates	-2.1%	-1.5%	-0.7%	0.6%	-0.9%	-0.9%	0.63
United Kingdom	3.0%	-0.1%	-0.7%	-1.7%	-0.4%	0.3%	0.79
United States	1.4%	-1.1%	-1.5%	-0.6%	-2.9%	1.8%	0.71
Uruguay	1.9%	-1.9%	-0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.0%	0.71
Uzbekistan	-1.4%	1.9%	1.0%	1.7%	4.1%	1.0%	0.50
Venezuela, RB	-13.7%	4.0%	-3.5%	-2.6%	-1.5%	-1.4%	0.26
Vietnam	2.9%	-2.1%	-2.4%	0.6%	-0.6%	0.1%	0.49
Zambia	0.5%	-0.8%	-1.2%	-2.6%	-2.3%	1.5%	0.45
Zimbabwe	0.8%	0.6%	7.1%	-1.5%	0.0%	-0.4%	0.39

* Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Scores are rounded to two decimal places.

† Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

‡ Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

A stylized profile of a woman's face, rendered in a gradient of warm colors from light yellow to deep orange. The face is shown in profile, facing right, with a soft, rounded jawline and a slight smile. The background is a solid, bright yellow.

SECTION 2

Rule of Law Trends



40 Rule of Law Declined in 61% of Countries from 2021 to 2022

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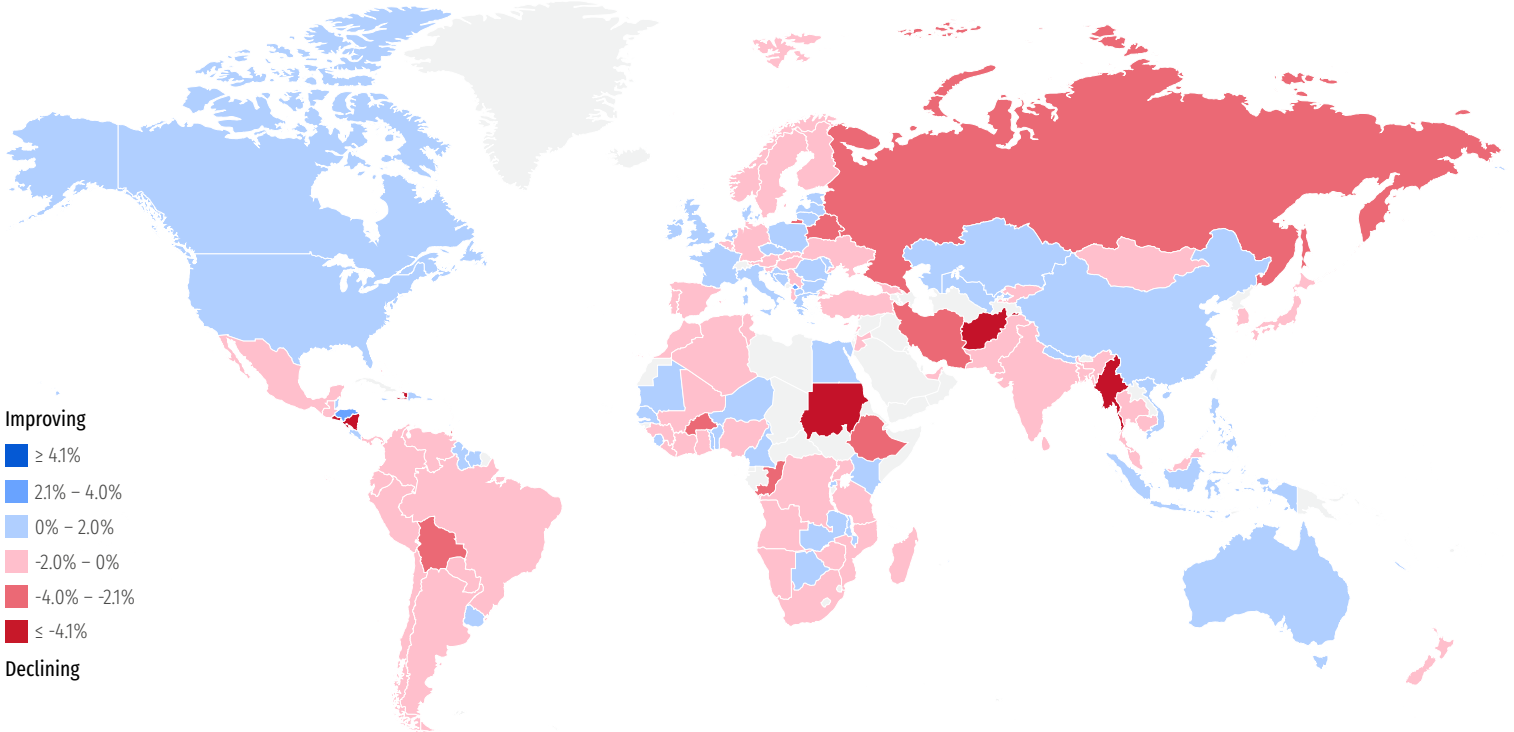
50 Declines in Sub-Factors of the Rule of Law 2015-2022

52 Improvements and Declines in Rule of Law 2015-2022

FIGURE 8.

Rule of Law Declined in 61% of Countries from 2021 to 2022

For the fifth consecutive year, the rule of law weakened in more countries than those in which it improved (85 vs. 54 countries, or 61% vs. 39%). More than 4.4 billion people live in countries where the rule of law weakened in the past year. This is equivalent to 56% of the world's population. Figures in the below heat map reflect annual percentage change* in overall rule of law score from 2021 to 2022.†



Rises and falls

↑ Top improvers globally

Country/Jurisdiction	Annual % Change in Overall Score
Honduras	3.1%
Kosovo	2.4%
Belize	2.0%
Moldova	1.9%
United States	1.8%

↓ Top decliners globally

Country/Jurisdiction	Annual % Change in Overall Score
Sudan	-7.9%
Myanmar	-7.7%
Haiti	-6.4%
Afghanistan	-6.3%
Nicaragua	-4.6%

* Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

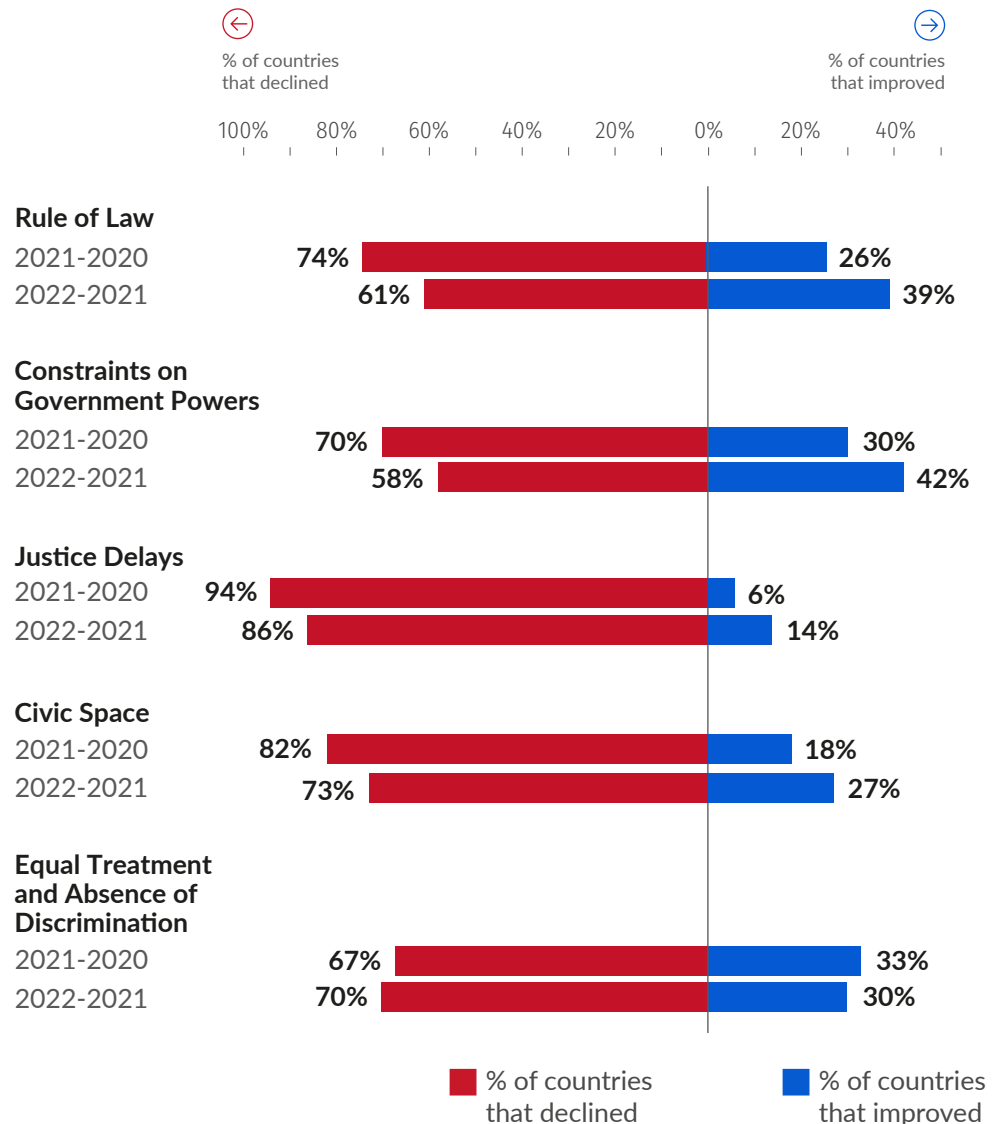
† Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

FIGURE 9. Pandemic Effects

The pandemic has exacerbated a pre-existing breakdown in the rule of law. In 2021, overall rule of law scores weakened in 74% of countries and, on average, fell by 1%. This year, the rule of law declined in 61% of countries and average scores dropped by 0.5%.

While rule of law declined in fewer countries in 2022 than in 2021, two-thirds of those countries that saw a decline in 2021 experienced a further decline in 2022.

In 2021, the main deteriorations were in Constraints on Government Powers; timeliness of civil, criminal, and administrative justice procedures; civic space; and absence of discrimination.* Scores in these areas fell in 70%, 94%, 82%, and 67% of countries, respectively. In 2022, there were deteriorations in these factors in the majority of countries. However, with the exception of discrimination scores, the scores declined in fewer countries as the pandemic effects eased in some countries. This year, scores in these areas fell in 58%, 86%, 73%, and 70% of countries, respectively. †



* Constraints on Government Powers includes data from all sub-factors of Factor 1; Justice Delays includes data from sub-factors 6.3, 7.5, and 8.2; Civic Space includes data from sub-factors 3.3, 4.4, and 4.7; Equal Treatment and Absence of Discrimination includes data from sub-factor 4.1. See pages 10-11 for a full description of each sub-factor.

† Percentage of countries is rounded to the nearest whole number.

Factors Explaining This Year's Results

The continued deterioration of the rule of law in 2022 can be explained by three factors:

- 1.** A weakening in the effectiveness of government checks and balances. Scores on this indicator fell in 58% of the countries, decreasing by an average of 0.7%.
- 2.** A weakening in the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms, caused by growing authoritarianism and the shrinking of civic space. Aggregate indicator scores fell in 66% of the countries and decreased by 1.0% on average.

Scores fell for indicators measuring whether political dissidents or the media are subjected to unreasonable searches, detention, threats, or abusive treatment (by 1.6%), freedom of opinion and expression (by 0.9%), and freedom of assembly and association (by 1.3%) in 55%, 63%, and 57% of countries, respectively.

- 3.** Scores that measure the performance of the civil justice system declined, mainly due to increasing discrimination, delays in proceedings, and the weakening of enforcement mechanisms. Aggregate indicator scores fell in 61% of the countries, decreasing by an average of 0.8%.

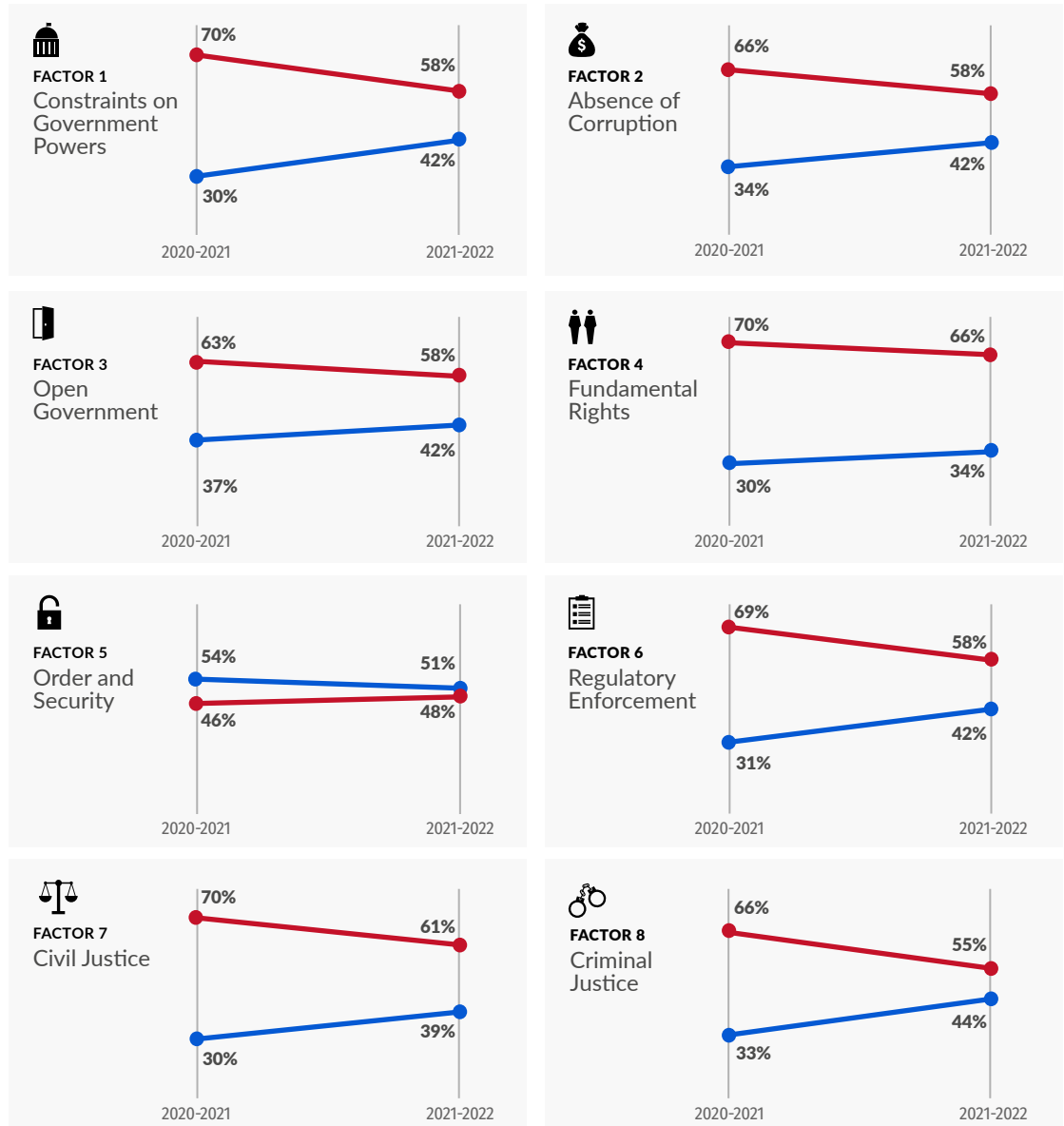
FIGURE 10.

Rule of Law Fell in 7 of 8 Factors from 2021 to 2022

Percentage of countries* whose score has improved or declined for each of the eight factors of the *WJP Rule of Law Index*® over the last year. For the second year in a row, more countries declined than improved in seven factors of the *WJP Rule of Law Index*. However, the percentage of countries that improved in these seven factors has increased since last year.

— % of countries that improved

— % of countries that declined

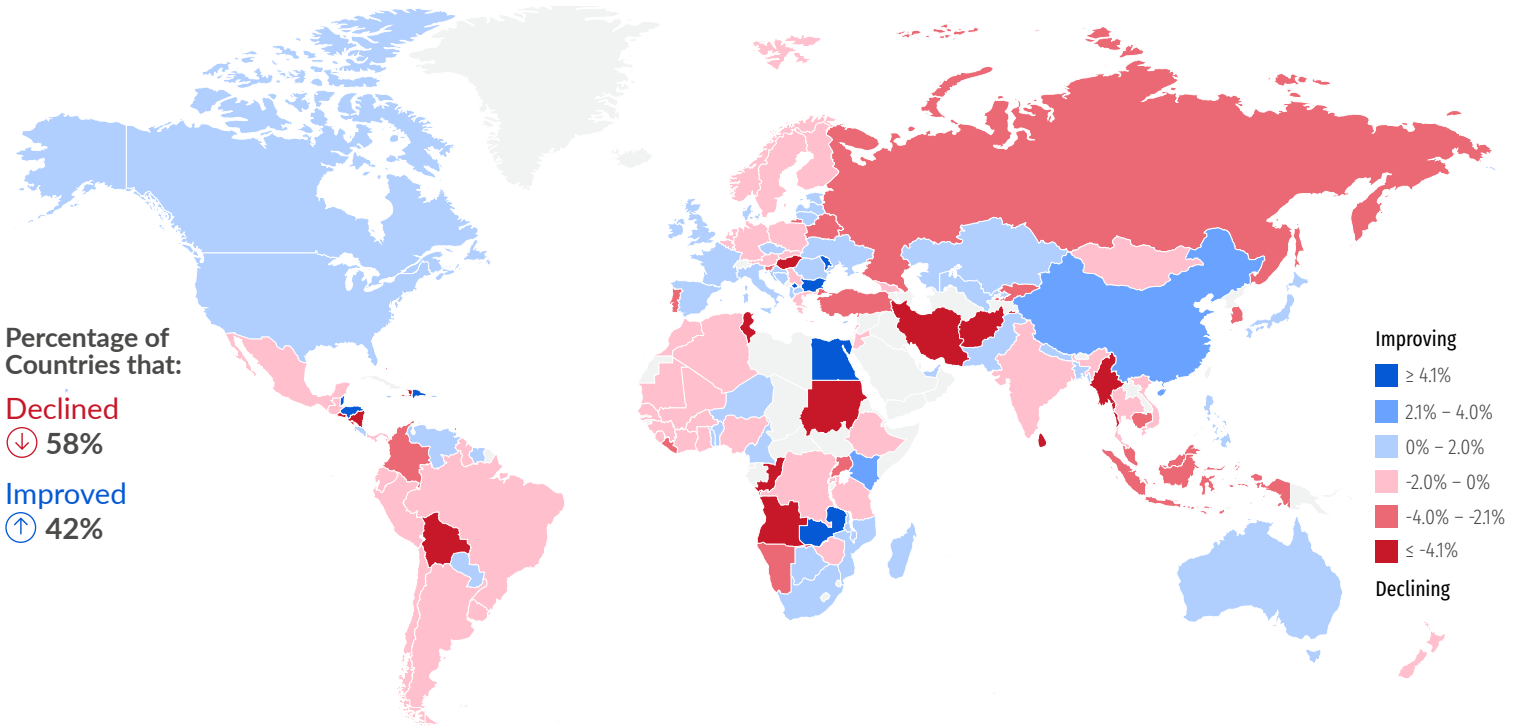


* Percentage of countries that improved or declined in the past year is calculated using the number of countries and jurisdictions common to the years in question. Percentages may not add up to a 100%.

FIGURE 11.

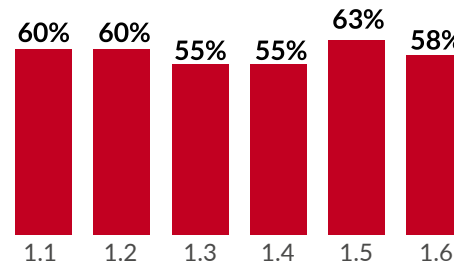
Checks on Government Powers Eroded in 58% of Countries from 2021 to 2022

The heat map shows percentage change* in Constraints on Government Powers (Factor 1) scores in each country over the last year.†



Percentage of countries that declined in each sub-factor of Factor 1

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1.1 Limits by legislature | 1.4 Sanctions for official misconduct |
| 1.2 Limits by judiciary | 1.5 Non-governmental checks |
| 1.3 Independent auditing | 1.6 Lawful transition of power |



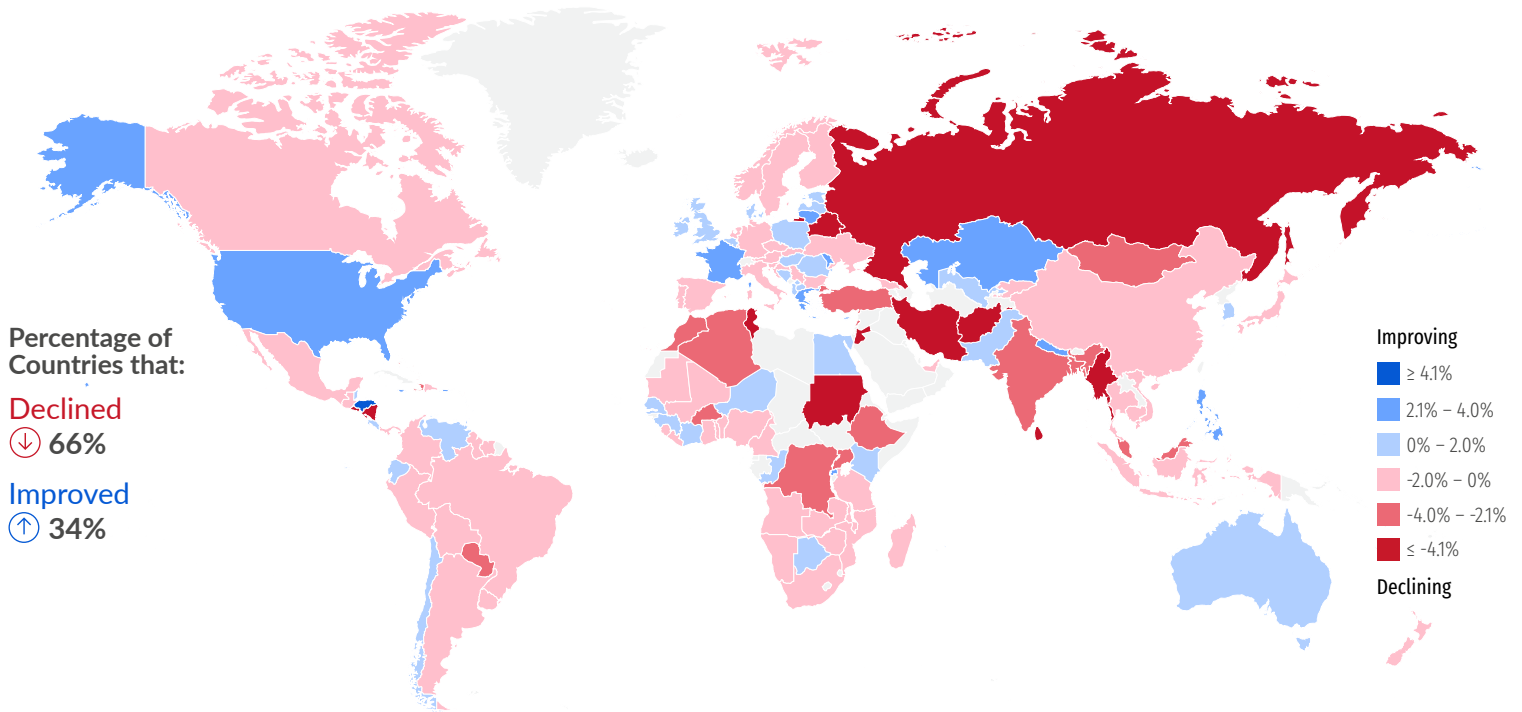
* Annual percentage change in Factor 1 score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in Factor 1 scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

† Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

FIGURE 12.

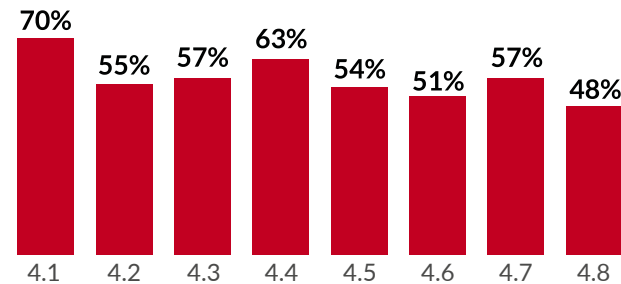
Respect for Fundamental Rights Fell in 66% of Countries from 2021 to 2022

The heat map shows percentage change* in Fundamental Rights (Factor 4) scores in each country over the last year.†



Percentage of countries that declined in each sub-factor of Factor 4

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 4.1 No discrimination | 4.5 Freedom of religion |
| 4.2 Right to life and security | 4.6 Right to privacy |
| 4.3 Due process of law | 4.7 Freedom of association |
| 4.4 Freedom of expression | 4.8 Labor rights |



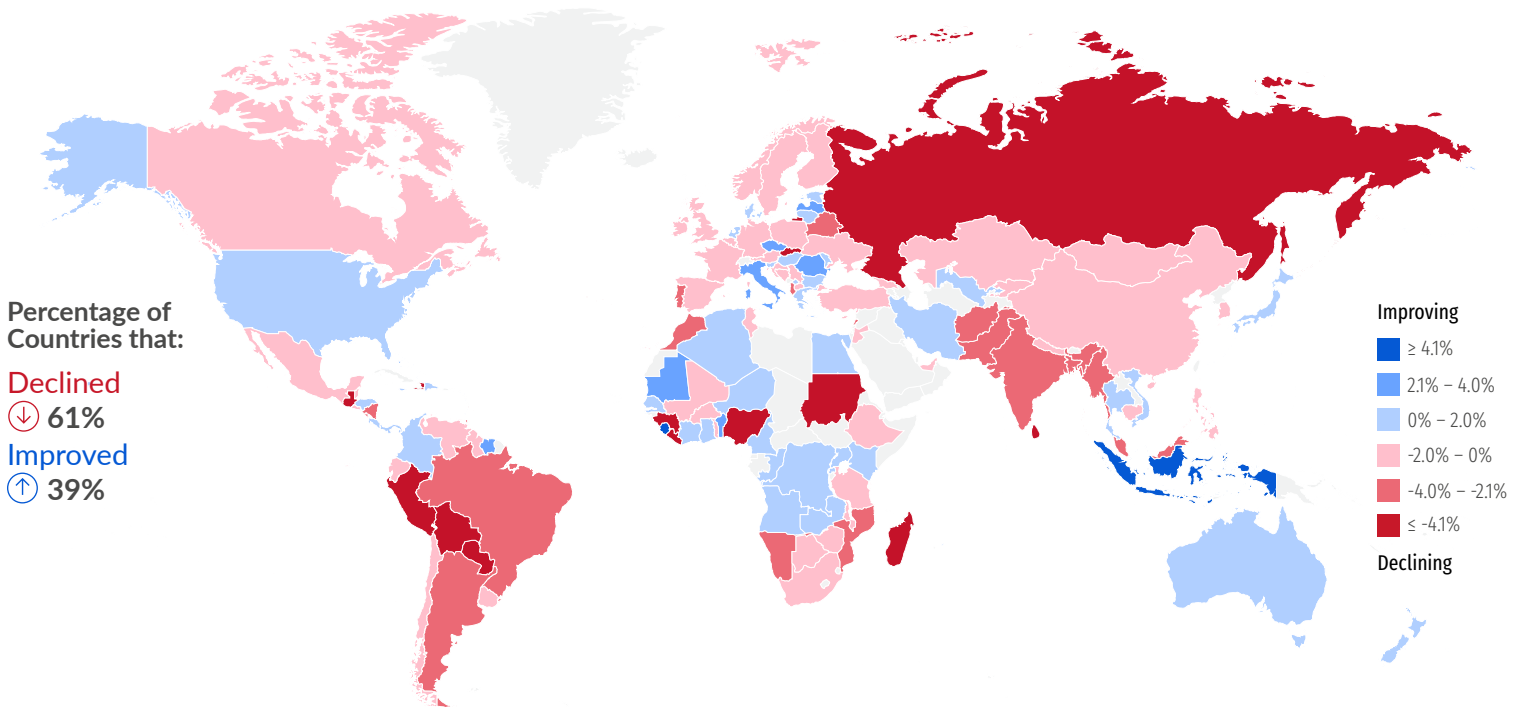
* Annual percentage change in Factor 4 score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in Factor 4 scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

† Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

FIGURE 13.

Effectiveness of Civil Justice Systems Fell in 61% of Countries from 2021 to 2022

The heat map shows percentage change* in Civil Justice (Factor 7) scores in each country over the last year.†



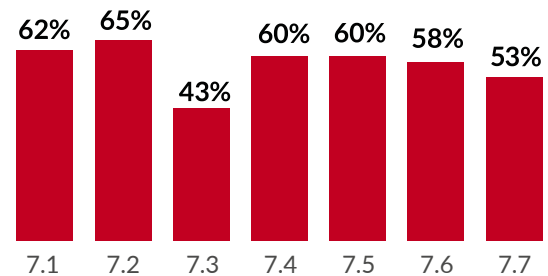
Percentage of Countries that:

Declined
 ↓ 61%
Improved
 ↑ 39%

Improving
 ≥ 4.1%
 2.1% - 4.0%
 0% - 2.0%
 -2.0% - 0%
 -4.0% - -2.1%
Declining
 ≤ -4.1%

Percentage of countries that declined in each sub-factor of Factor 7

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 7.1 Accessibility and affordability | 7.5 No unreasonable delay |
| 7.2 No discrimination | 7.6 Effective enforcement |
| 7.3 No corruption | 7.7 Impartial and effective ADRs |
| 7.4 No improper government influence | |



* Annual percentage change in Factor 7 score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in Factor 7 scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

† Countries and jurisdictions that are new to the Index in 2022 are not included.

Alarming Long-Term Trends

Since 2015, rule of law scores have weakened in 64% of countries studied in the Index and have declined by an average of 2.6% globally.

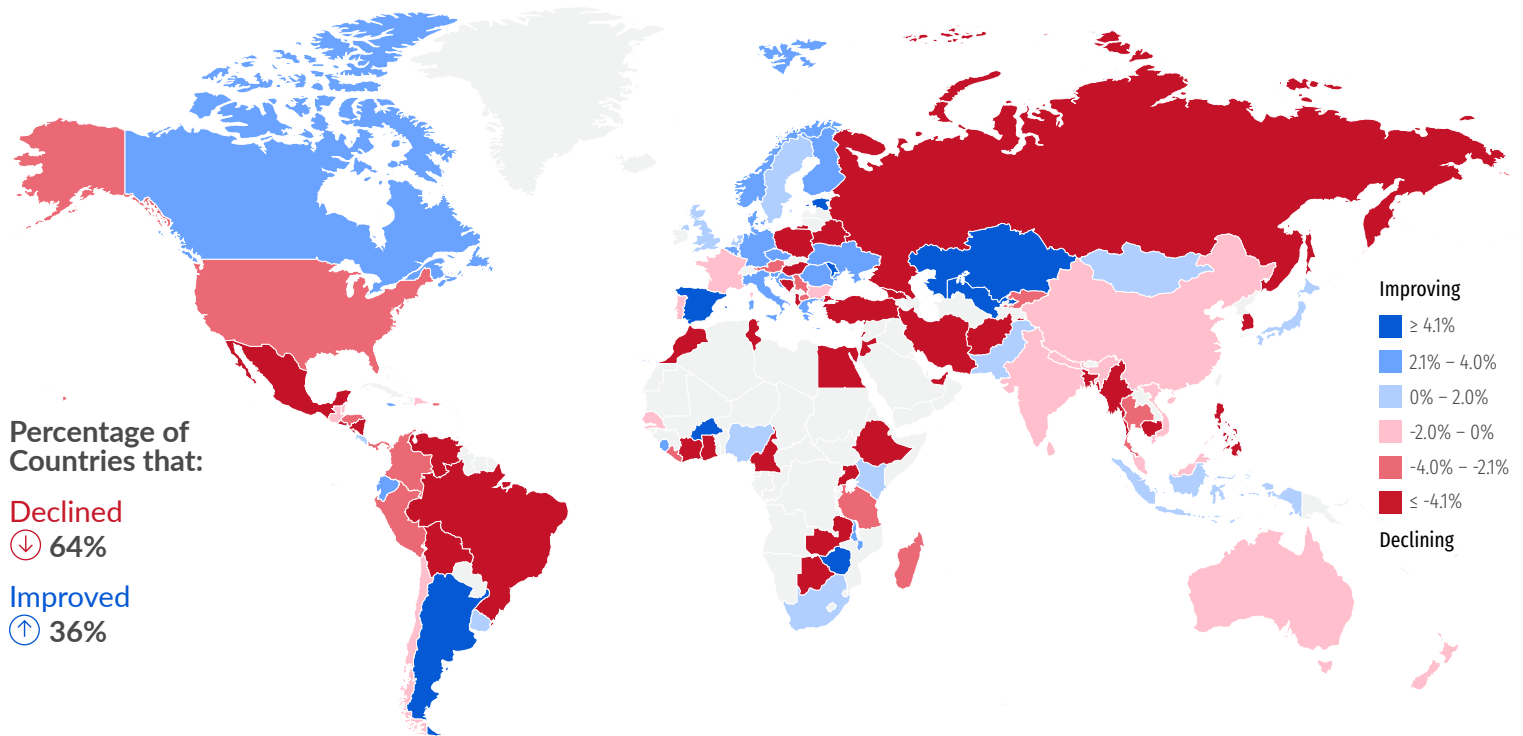
This deterioration has been driven by authoritarian tendencies, including weaker checks and balances, diminished accountability, and eroded protection of fundamental rights. Over this time period, Index scores for Constraints on Government Powers and Fundamental Rights declined in 68% and 76% of countries, respectively. In a majority of countries, scores also fell on indicators measuring whether political dissidents or the media are subjected to unreasonable searches, detention, threats, or abusive treatment (66% of countries), and those measuring freedom of opinion and expression (81% of countries), and freedom of assembly and association (85% of countries).

The only factor that improved in a majority of countries during this period was Regulatory Enforcement, although marginally (59% of the countries recorded improvements and an average increase of only 0.9%).

FIGURE 14.

Percentage Change in Rule of Law 2015-2022

Percentage change* in overall rule of law scores in each country since 2015. Map is limited to the 102 countries that were included in the 2015 edition of the Index.



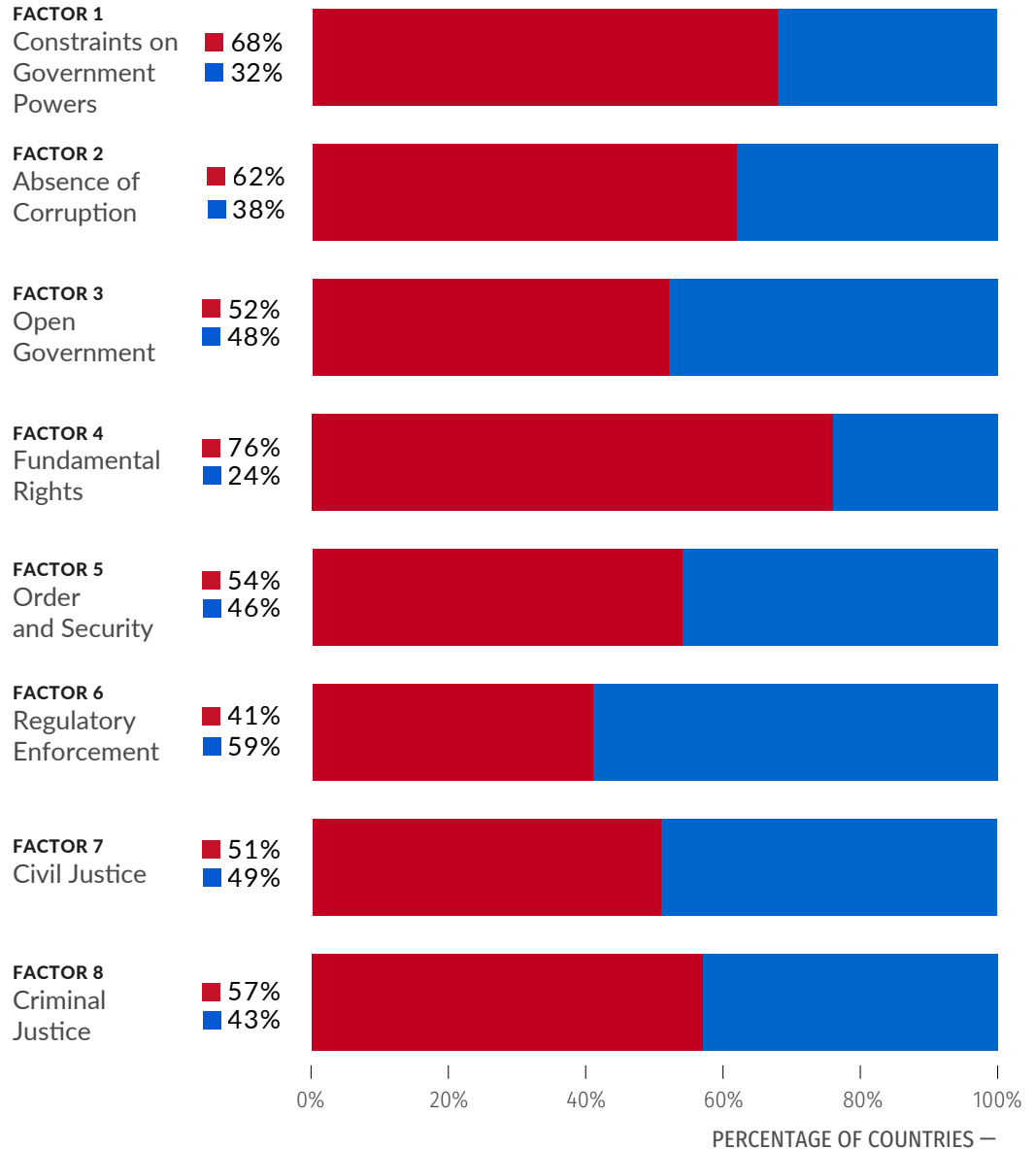
* Percentage change in overall rule of law score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with percentage changes in rule of law scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

FIGURE 15.

Factors of the Rule of Law 2015-2022

Percentage of countries that improved and declined in each factor between 2015 and 2022.* The factors with the most declines since 2015 are Fundamental Rights, Constraints on Government Powers, and Absence of Corruption.

■ % of countries that declined
 ■ % of countries that improved



* Percentage of countries is rounded to the nearest whole number.

FIGURE 16.

Declines in Sub-Factors of the Rule of Law 2015-2022

Percentage of countries that declined in each sub-factor between 2015 and 2022.*

FACTOR 1 Constraints on Government Powers

1.1 Limits by legislature
61%

1.2 Limits by judiciary
61%

1.3 Independent auditing
50%

1.4 Sanctions for official misconduct
73%

1.5 Non-governmental checks
77%

1.6 Lawful transition of power
67%

FACTOR 2 Absence of Corruption

2.1 In the executive branch
73%

2.2 In the judiciary
22%

2.3 In the police/military
47%

2.4 In the legislature
74%

FACTOR 3 Open Government

3.1 Publicized laws and government data
50%

3.2 Right to information
62%

3.3 Civic participation
75%

3.4 Complaint mechanisms
34%

FACTOR 4 Fundamental Rights

4.1 No discrimination
75%

4.2 Right to life and security
66%

4.3 Due process of law
50%

4.4 Freedom of expression
81%

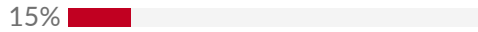
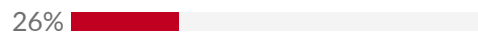
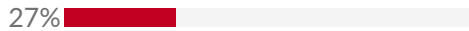
4.5 Freedom of religion
78%

4.6 Right to privacy
55%

4.7 Freedom of association
85%

4.8 Labor rights
48%

* Percentage of countries is rounded to the nearest whole number.

FACTOR 5**Order and Security****5.1 Absence of crime****5.2 Absence of civil conflict****5.3 Absence of violent redress****FACTOR 6****Regulatory Enforcement****6.1 Effective regulatory enforcement****6.2 No improper influence****6.3 No unreasonable delay****6.4 Respect for due process****6.5 No expropriation w/out adequate compensation****FACTOR 7****Civil Justice****7.1 Accessibility and affordability****7.2 No discrimination****7.3 No corruption****7.4 No improper government influence****7.5 No unreasonable delay****7.6 Effective enforcement****7.7 Impartial and effective ADRs****FACTOR 8****Criminal Justice****8.1 Effective investigations****8.2 Timely and effective adjudication****8.3 Effective correctional system****8.4 No discrimination****8.5 No corruption****8.6 No improper government influence****8.7 Due process of law**

* Percentage of countries is rounded to the nearest whole number.

FIGURE 17.

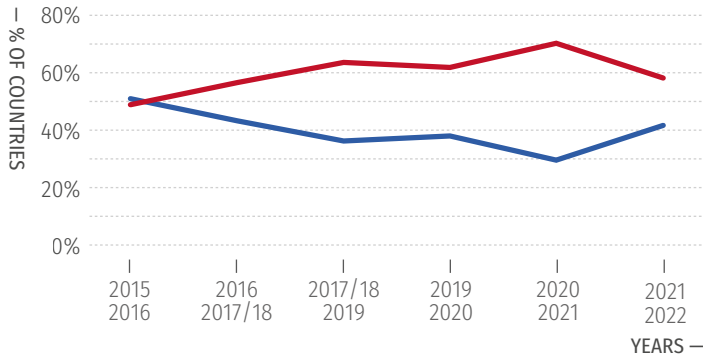
Improvements and Declines in Rule of Law 2015-2022

Percentage of countries* that improved and declined overall and in each factor of the rule of law over time.

■ % of countries that declined ■ % of countries that improved

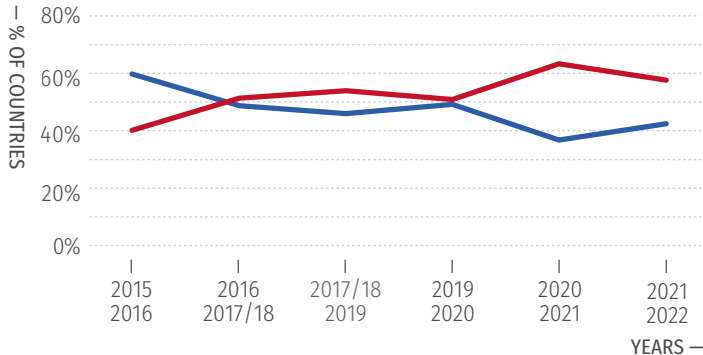
FACTOR 1

Constraints on Government Powers



FACTOR 3

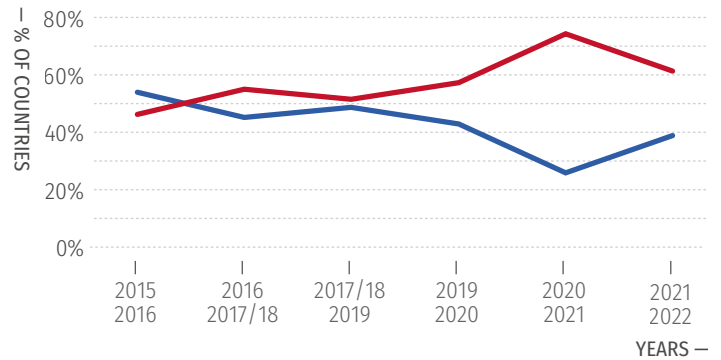
Open Government



* Percentage of countries is rounded to the nearest whole number.

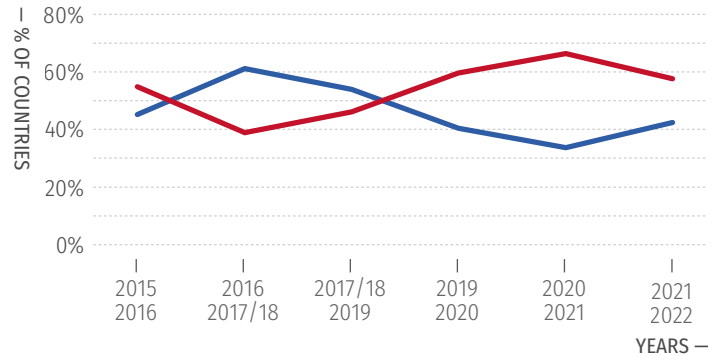
OVERALL SCORE

Rule of Law



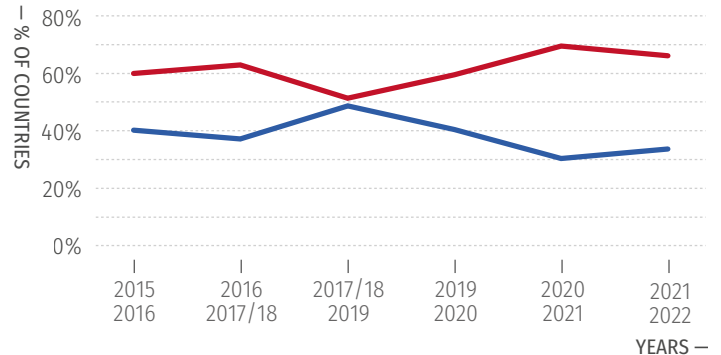
FACTOR 2

Absence of Corruption

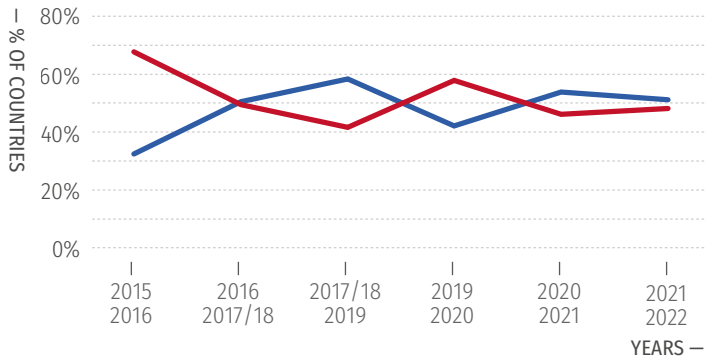


FACTOR 4

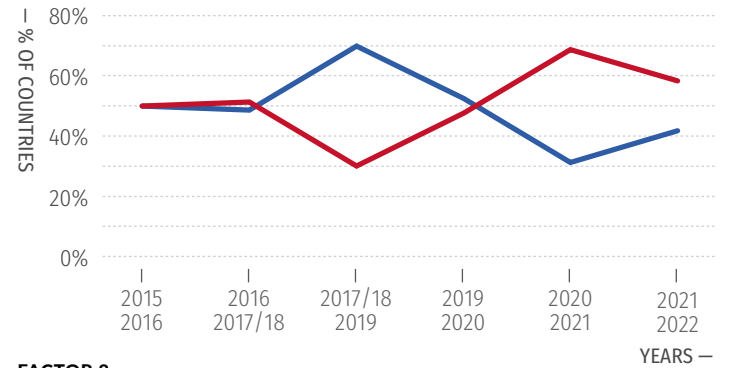
Fundamental Rights



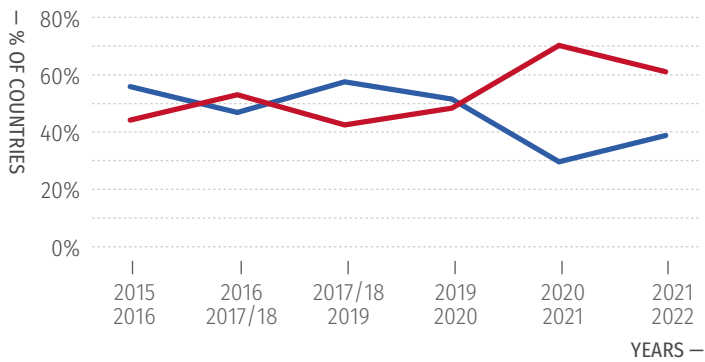
FACTOR 5
Order and Security



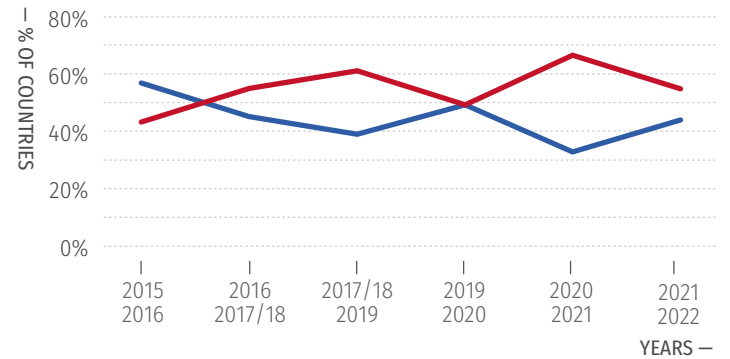
FACTOR 6
Regulatory Enforcement



FACTOR 7
Civil Justice



FACTOR 8
Criminal Justice



* Percentage of countries is rounded to the nearest whole number.



SECTION 3

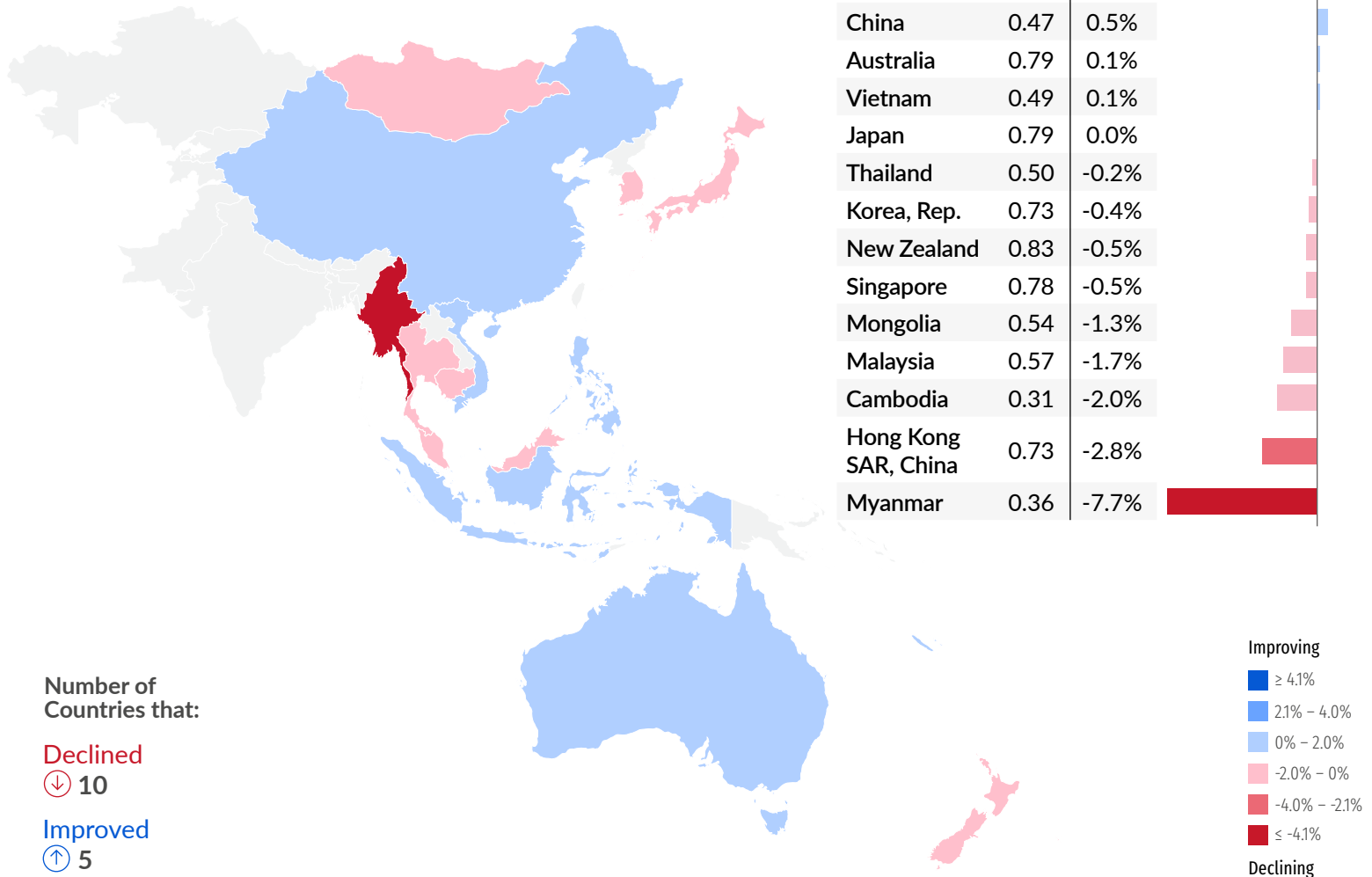
Regional Rule of Law Insights



- 56 Rule of Law Changes in East Asia and the Pacific from 2021 to 2022
- 57 Rule of Law Changes in Eastern Europe and Central Asia from 2021 to 2022
- 58 Rule of Law Changes in the European Union from 2021 to 2022
- 59 Rule of Law Changes in Latin America and the Caribbean from 2021 to 2022
- 60 Rule of Law Changes in the Middle East and North Africa from 2021 to 2022
- 61 Rule of Law Changes in South Asia from 2021 to 2022
- 62 Rule of Law Changes in Sub-Saharan Africa from 2021 to 2022

FIGURE 18.

Rule of Law Changes in East Asia and the Pacific from 2021 to 2022



* Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.



FIGURE 19.

Rule of Law Changes in Eastern Europe and Central Asia from 2021 to 2022

Number of Countries that:

Declined

↓ 8

Improved

↑ 6

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score	Annual % Change in Overall Score*
Kosovo	0.56	2.4%
Moldova	0.52	1.9%
Uzbekistan	0.50	1.0%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.52	0.9%
Kazakhstan	0.53	0.7%
North Macedonia	0.53	0.4%
Turkey	0.42	-0.4%
Georgia	0.60	-0.6%
Serbia	0.49	-0.8%
Albania	0.49	-0.9%
Kyrgyz Republic	0.46	-1.3%
Ukraine	0.50	-2.0%
Belarus	0.46	-3.2%
Russian Federation	0.45	-3.5%

* Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

FIGURE 20.

Rule of Law Changes in the European Union from 2021 to 2022

Number of Countries that:

Declined

↓ 13

Improved

↑ 14

Improving

≥ 4.1%

2.1% – 4.0%

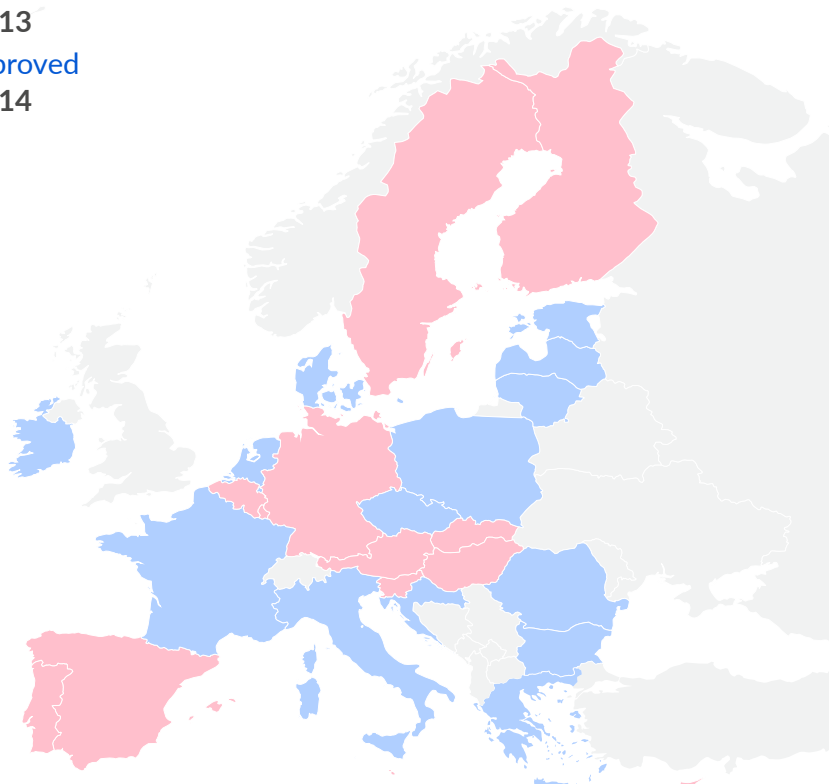
0% – 2.0%

-2.0% – 0%

-4.0% – -2.1%

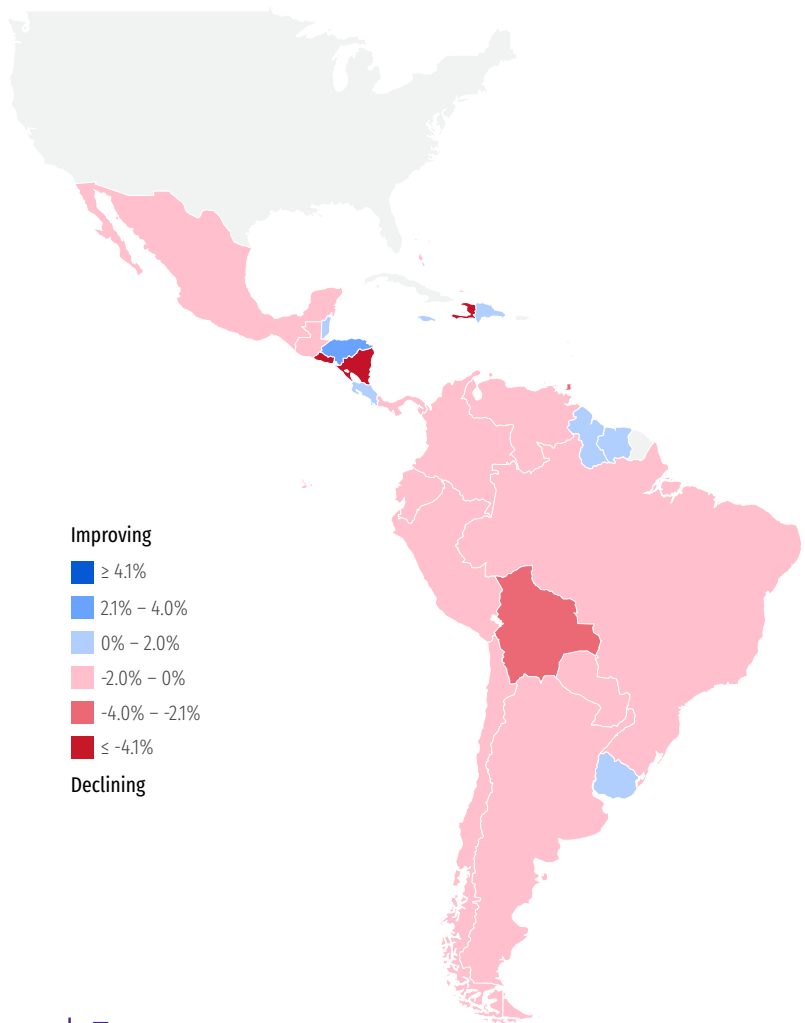
≤ -4.1%

Declining



Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*
Lithuania	0.76	1.7%
France	0.73	1.4%
Estonia	0.82	1.2%
Latvia	0.72	1.1%
Bulgaria	0.55	1.0%
Italy	0.67	1.0%
Greece	0.61	1.0%
Romania	0.63	0.9%
Croatia	0.61	0.6%
Czech Republic	0.73	0.5%
Denmark	0.90	0.3%
Poland	0.64	0.3%
Netherlands	0.83	0.2%
Ireland	0.81	0.1%
Cyprus	0.68	0.0%
Belgium	0.79	-0.1%
Luxembourg	0.83	-0.2%
Spain	0.73	-0.3%
Malta	0.68	-0.3%
Sweden	0.86	-0.5%
Germany	0.83	-0.6%
Slovenia	0.68	-0.8%
Finland	0.87	-0.8%
Hungary	0.52	-0.8%
Slovak Republic	0.66	-0.9%
Austria	0.80	-1.2%
Portugal	0.69	-1.5%

* Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.



Improving

- ≥ 4.1%
- 2.1% – 4.0%
- 0% – 2.0%
- -2.0% – 0%
- -4.0% – -2.1%
- ≤ -4.1%

Declining

FIGURE 21.

Rule of Law Changes in Latin America and the Caribbean from 2021 to 2022

Number of
Countries that:

Declined **Improved**
 (↓) 21 (↑) 11

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score ^a	Annual % Change in Overall Score*
Honduras	0.41	3.1%
Belize	0.49	2.0%
Jamaica	0.58	1.6%
Dominican Republic	0.48	1.1%
Barbados	0.66	1.1%
Suriname	0.50	1.0%
Costa Rica	0.68	0.7%
Grenada	0.59	0.4%
St. Kitts and Nevis	0.63	0.3%
Guyana	0.50	0.1%
Uruguay	0.71	0.0%
Chile	0.66	-0.2%
Panama	0.52	-0.2%
Dominica	0.58	-0.3%
Antigua and Barbuda	0.63	-0.4%
The Bahamas	0.61	-0.4%
Ecuador	0.48	-0.6%
St. Lucia	0.61	-0.8%
Peru	0.49	-0.8%
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	0.63	-0.8%
Guatemala	0.44	-1.0%
Colombia	0.48	-1.1%
Brazil	0.49	-1.2%
Mexico	0.42	-1.2%
Venezuela, RB	0.26	-1.4%
Paraguay	0.47	-1.6%
Argentina	0.55	-1.7%
Trinidad and Tobago	0.52	-2.1%
Bolivia	0.38	-3.0%
El Salvador	0.46	-4.1%
Nicaragua	0.36	-4.6%
Haiti	0.35	-6.4%

* Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

FIGURE 22.

Rule of Law Changes in the Middle East and North Africa from 2021 to 2022

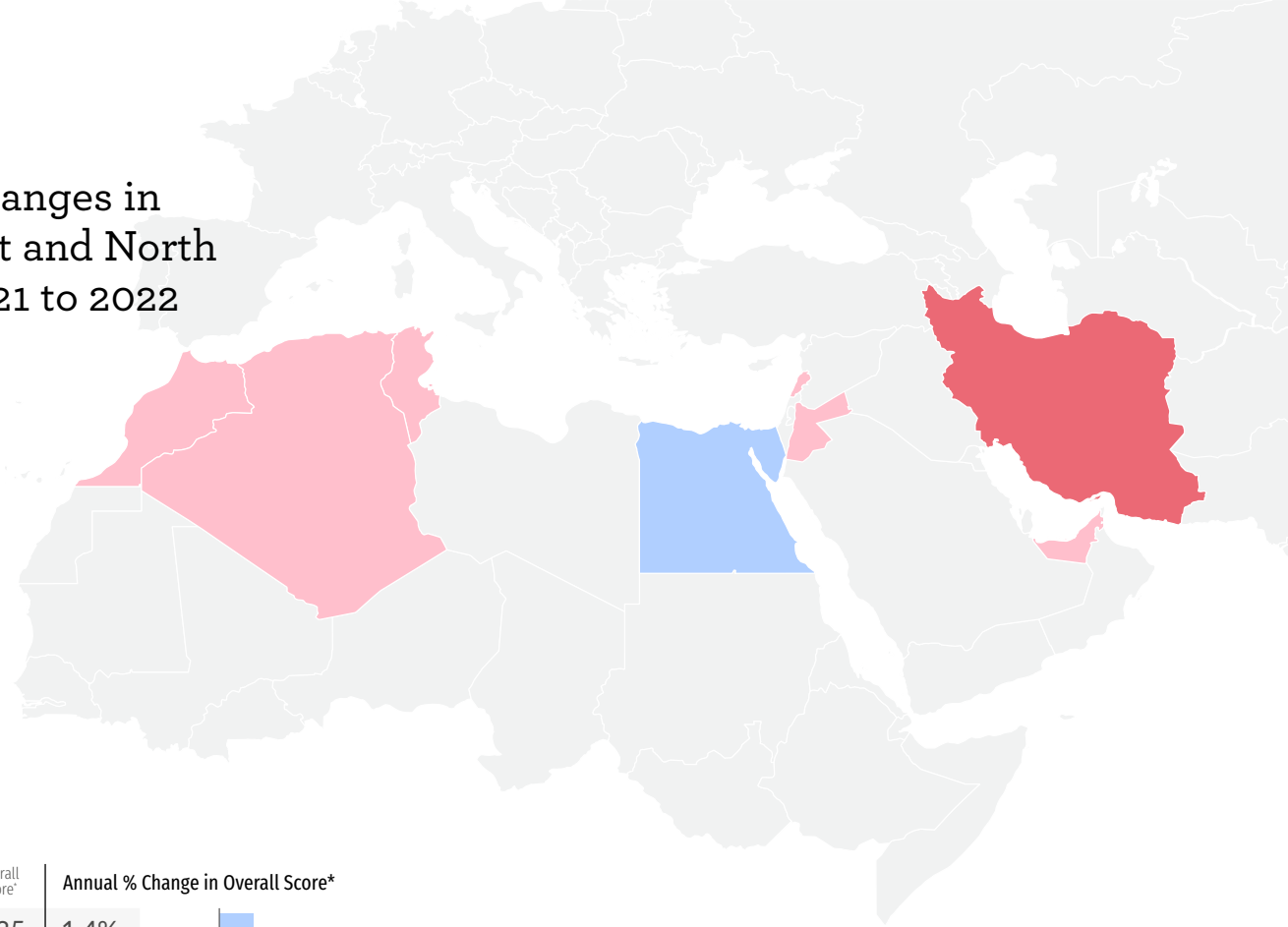
Number of Countries that:

Declined

↓ 7

Improved

↑ 1



Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*
Egypt, Arab Rep.	0.35	1.4%
Lebanon	0.45	-0.8%
United Arab Emirates	0.63	-0.9%
Algeria	0.49	-1.1%
Morocco	0.48	-1.5%
Jordan	0.54	-1.8%
Tunisia	0.52	-1.9%
Iran, Islamic Rep.	0.41	-2.6%

Improving

■ ≥ 4.1%

■ 2.1% – 4.0%

■ 0% – 2.0%

■ -2.0% – 0%

■ -4.0% – -2.1%

■ ≤ -4.1%

Declining

* Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

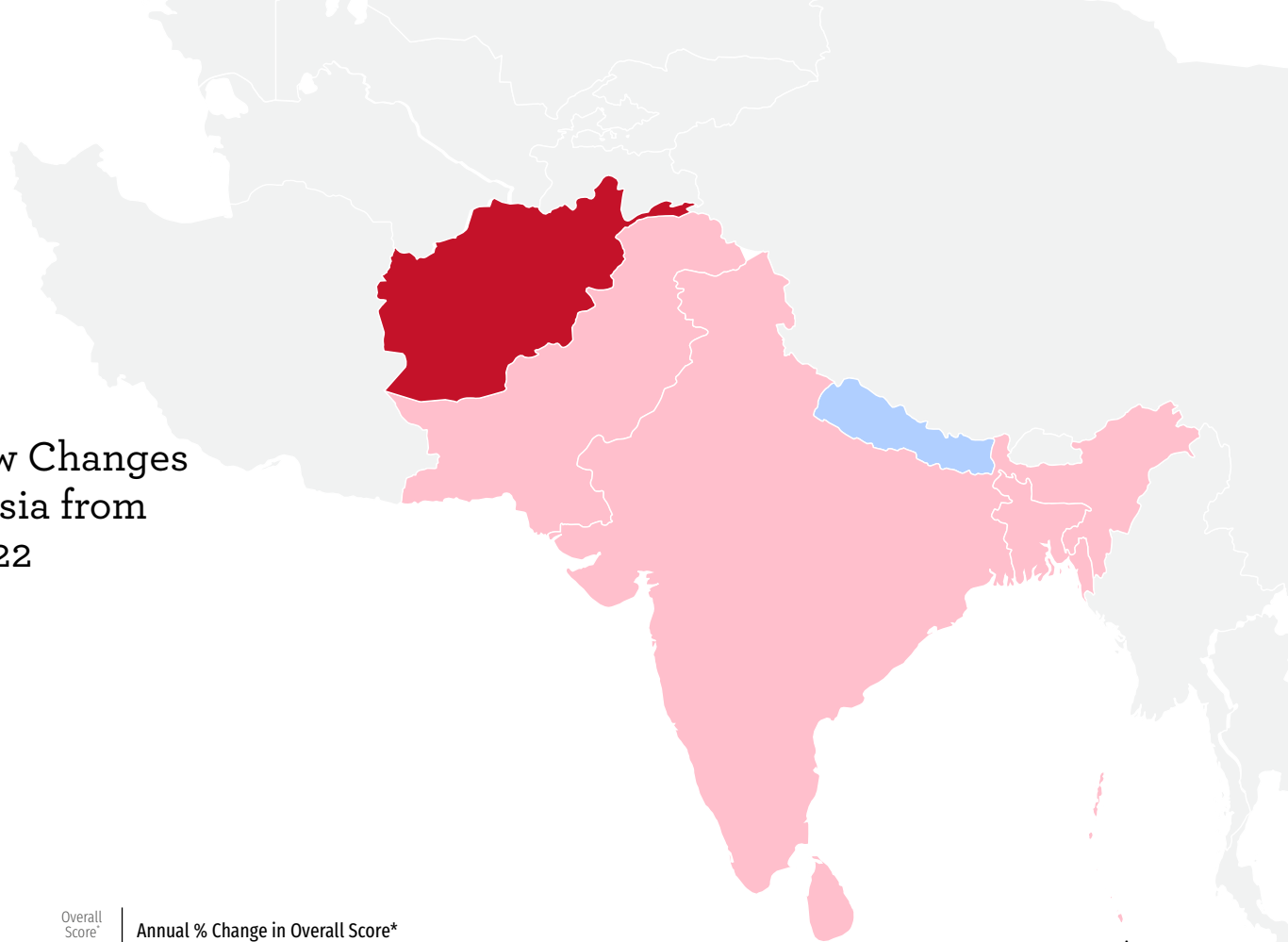


FIGURE 23.

Rule of Law Changes in South Asia from 2021 to 2022

Number of Countries that:

Declined

↓ 5

Improved

↑ 1

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score*	Annual % Change in Overall Score*
Nepal	0.52	0.2%
Pakistan	0.39	-0.2%
Sri Lanka	0.50	-0.3%
India	0.50	-0.4%
Bangladesh	0.39	-1.5%
Afghanistan	0.33	-6.3%

Improving

- ≥ 4.1%
- 2.1% – 4.0%
- 0% – 2.0%

Declining

- 2.0% – 0%
- 4.0% – -2.1%
- ≤ -4.1%

* Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.

Country/Jurisdiction	Overall Score ²	Annual Percentage Change in Overall Score*
Gabon	0.39	-
Zambia	0.45	1.5%
Rwanda	0.63	1.4%
Senegal	0.56	1.2%
Sierra Leone	0.45	1.2%
Kenya	0.45	1.0%
Cameroon	0.36	1.0%
Togo	0.46	0.9%
Mauritius	0.61	0.5%
Mauritania	0.37	0.4%
Niger	0.44	0.4%
Benin	0.49	0.4%
Botswana	0.59	0.3%
Malawi	0.52	0.2%
The Gambia	0.49	0.0%
Ghana	0.55	-0.3%
Angola	0.43	-0.3%
Côte d'Ivoire	0.45	-0.3%
Madagascar	0.44	-0.4%
Zimbabwe	0.39	-0.4%
Mali	0.42	-0.5%
Tanzania	0.46	-0.8%
Guinea	0.41	-0.8%
Uganda	0.39	-0.8%
Namibia	0.61	-1.0%
Nigeria	0.41	-1.1%
Congo, Dem. Rep.	0.34	-1.2%
South Africa	0.58	-1.3%
Mozambique	0.40	-1.4%
Liberia	0.43	-1.7%
Burkina Faso	0.49	-2.5%
Congo, Rep.	0.41	-3.0%
Ethiopia	0.39	-3.6%
Sudan	0.39	-7.9%

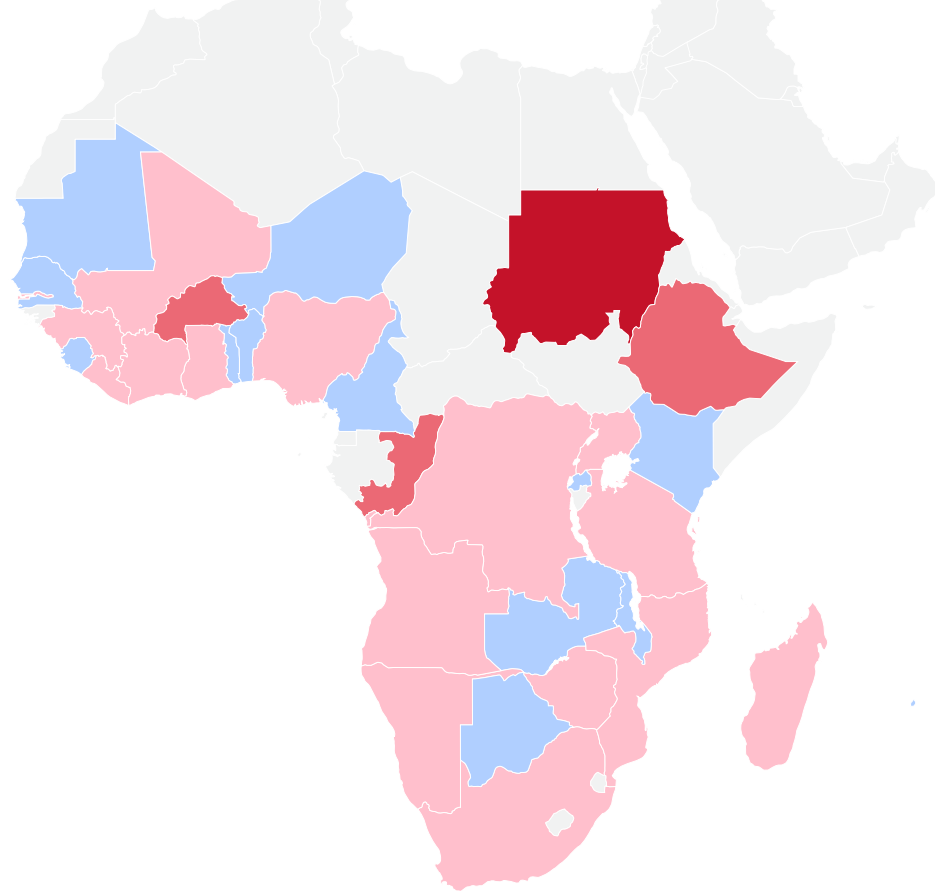


FIGURE 24.

Rule of Law Changes in Sub-Saharan Africa from 2021 to 2022

Number of Countries that:

Declined ↓ 20 Improved ↑ 13

Improving

■ ≥ 4.1%

■ 2.1% - 4.0%

■ 0% - 2.0%

■ -2.0% - 0%

■ -4.0% - -2.1%

■ ≤ -4.1%

Declining

* Scores are rounded to two decimal places. Annual percentage change in score is rounded to one decimal place. Countries with annual percentage changes in scores that round to 0.0% have been graphed according to their unrounded score in order to show changes.



SECTION 4

About the WJP

- 64 About the WJP Rule of Law Index
- 65 Defining the Rule of Law
- 66 About the World Justice Project
- 66 Other Publications

About the WJP Rule of Law Index

The *WJP Rule of Law Index*® is a quantitative assessment tool designed to measure how the rule of law is experienced and perceived in practical, everyday situations by the general public worldwide. Performance is measured across the eight primary rule of law factors and 44 sub-factors outlined in the Conceptual Framework of the *WJP Rule of Law Index* on pages 10-11.

To present an accurate portrait of the rule of law as experienced by ordinary people, each score of the Index is calculated using a large number of questions drawn from two original data sources collected by the WJP in each country: A General Population Poll (GPP) conducted by leading local polling companies, using a representative sample of 1,000 respondents in each country; and Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (QRQs) consisting of closed-ended questions completed by in-country practitioners and academics with expertise in civil and commercial law, criminal justice, labor law, and public health.

For the full methodology of the Index and more detailed country-level information, please refer to the *World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2022* report, available for download at worldjusticeproject.org.



Scan the QR code or visit worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/ to view our interactive data portal.

Defining the Rule of Law

The World Justice Project defines the rule of law as a durable system of laws, institutions, norms, and community commitment that delivers:



UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLE ONE

Accountability

The government as well as private actors are accountable under the law.



UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLE THREE

Open Government

The processes by which the law is adopted, administered, adjudicated, and enforced are accessible, fair, and efficient.



UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLE TWO

Just Law

The law is clear, publicized, and stable and is applied evenly. It ensures human rights as well as property, contract, and procedural rights.



UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLE FOUR

Accessible and Impartial Justice

Justice is delivered timely by competent, ethical, and independent representatives and neutrals who are accessible, have adequate resources, and reflect the makeup of the communities they serve.

About the World Justice Project

The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to create knowledge, build awareness, and stimulate action to advance the rule of law worldwide. Effective rule of law reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small. It is the foundation for communities of justice, opportunity, and peace—underpinning development, accountable government, and respect for fundamental rights.

Learn more at: worldjusticeproject.org

Other Publications





**World Justice
Project**