

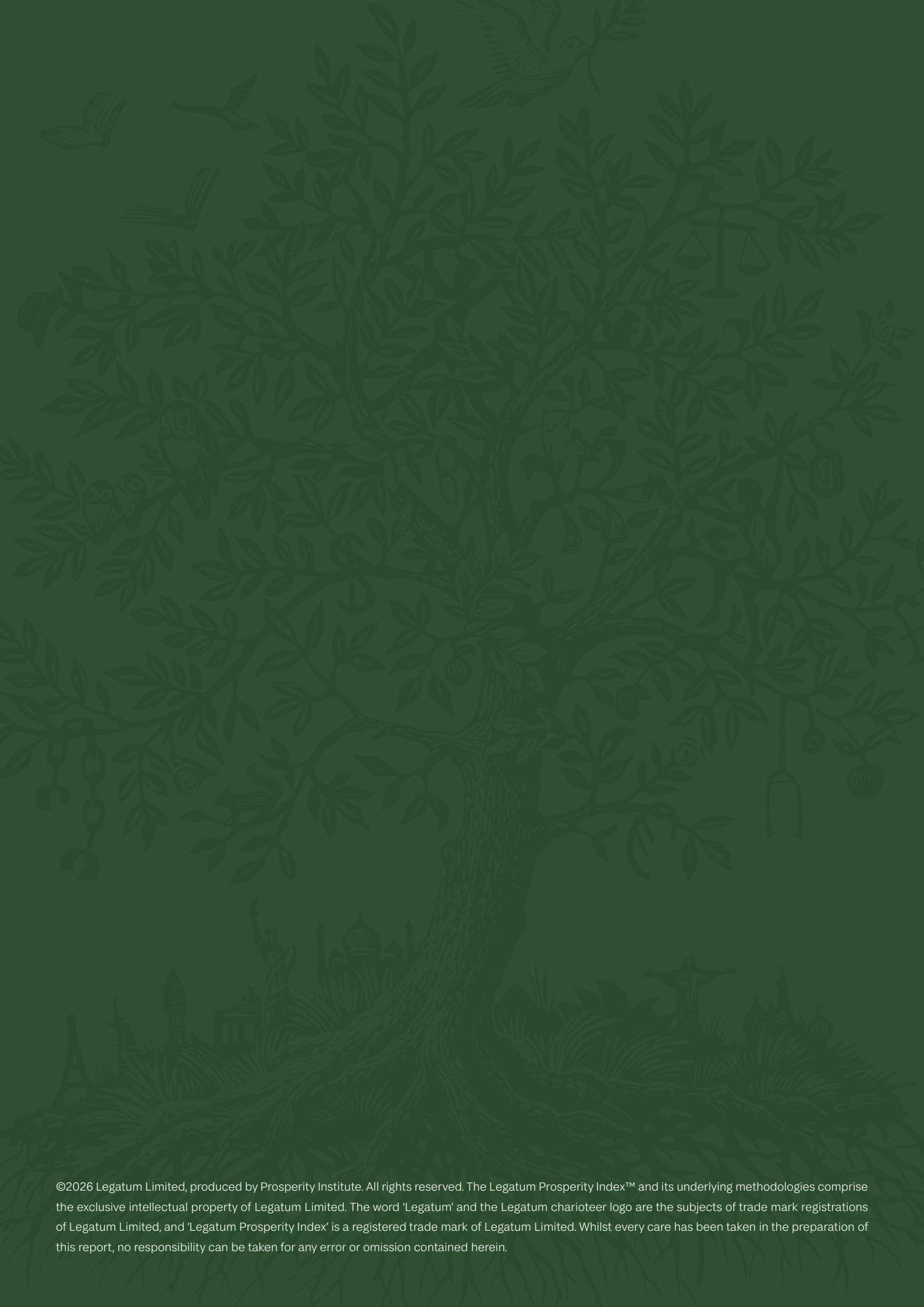


THE LEGATUM
PROSPERITY INDEX

Summary Report 2026

SEVENTEENTH EDITION





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SEVENTEENTH
EDITION

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Foreword



Paul Coleman
CEO, Prosperity Institute

So often, the most stubborn problems are addressed simply by changing how we look at them.

Scientific breakthroughs, philosophical revelations, even personal triumphs—all these are frequently the result of a willingness to step back and to reconsider things from a different angle.

It was this creative spirit that inspired the Legatum Prosperity Index when it was launched in 2007. Then, as now, the Index team were willing to break with convention and ask, “what is the true measure of a country’s prosperity?”

That first Index sought to pull together various well-known measures, such as GDP and the Human Development Index. But crucially, it added in more human measures that were less concrete but still quantifiable, to create a holistic measure of prosperity. Whilst something such as GDP is important, it has never been synonymous with our understanding of prosperity.

It was a deep resonance with this view of prosperity that led me, after 15 years leading a global legal organisation from Vienna, to return home to Britain in order to lead the Prosperity Institute. The Institute exists to advance the ideas that create prosperity, and the Index is a central part of that mission. I am thrilled to have come on board just as this new edition is launched.

Having published a new Index every year since 2007, we took a hiatus after 2023 to refresh the methodology in line with the convictions that have always underpinned the project.

The result—this new edition, using data up to date for 2025—is the best reflection yet of what we believe comprises true prosperity. It breaks prosperity down into three ‘domains’: ‘Development’, which measures how developed a country is; ‘Freedom’, which measures how free a country is, and ‘Society’, which measures how strong the social fabric is.



The 'Society' domain is new to this edition but aligns with much of what we have emphasised in the past. Notably, it is the domain that most closely correlates with overall prosperity, proving that we are measuring more than just a nation's bottom line.

A crucial innovation in our new methodology is that countries cannot simply average out or offset a serious weakness in one area with strength in another. Prosperity is not a trade-off in which, for example, material progress is allowed to compensate for the erosion of freedom or social breakdown. Our methodology therefore reflects a simple principle: the foundations of prosperity must hold together.

Switzerland, the top-ranking nation, illustrates this. It does not top every metric, but its strengths are broad and its weaknesses comparatively limited: it is well developed, substantially free, and marked by a strong social fabric. Other countries have moved significantly under the new methodology, including China, which has fallen sharply since 2023, and Estonia and the Czech Republic, which have advanced by around ten places. These movements are not merely technical adjustments; they reflect a more demanding test of whether nations are creating the conditions for prosperity that is both broad and durable.

The Index does not quantify everything meaningful for nations, communities, or individuals. But, by beginning from clear principles and then carefully selecting and weighting the very best data available, it does give a meaningful measure of the foundations which make for a life well-lived.

The team behind the Index have developed a mantra during their work: *That which gets measured gets attention. That which gets attention gets addressed. That which gets addressed gets changed.* For nearly two decades, global leaders have used the Legatum Prosperity Index to bring change. Whether they govern fledgling countries striving for growth, developing countries seeking to address what holds them back, or thriving countries securing their futures, the Index has enabled those leaders to change countless individual lives.

Many politicians across the world have lost sight of how development, freedom, and social fabric fit together. We believe the 2026 Index will be a vital tool for renewing that understanding, so that nations, communities, and individuals can build a long-lasting legacy of true prosperity.



Index in Numbers

The Legatum Prosperity Index is the world's broadest multidimensional measure of national prosperity. First launched in 2007, it has developed over time through continual refinement of data and analytical methods. This year's Index is the seventeenth edition. It covers 161 countries using over 130 indicators across 11 years of data. Over 615,877 unique data points combine to generate scores and ranks for prosperity across the globe.



17

Editions



161

Countries



14

Regions



98%

of the world
population



3

Domains



10

Pillars



130

Indicators



11

Years of data



615,877

Data points



35

Data sources



12

Expert
reviewers

Executive Summary



First launched in 2007, the Legatum Prosperity Index draws on over 130 data sets and 615,877 unique data points to rank countries from around the world according to their levels of prosperity.

From the beginning, we have continually sought to improve our approach to measuring prosperity. This 2026 edition is a significant development. The last edition was produced in 2023. Since then, we have incorporated new data, analytical approaches and statistical methods. New, bespoke software has been crafted for this purpose, and a brand-new website has been developed to enable users to explore the data.

The Index has evolved through continuous improvement over the years, but our mission remains the same: to improve people's lives by increasing prosperity across the world.

We expect to develop our approach further in the coming years and therefore welcome feedback from users in different fields, roles and countries.

An updated approach to measuring prosperity

Each country in the Index receives a score derived from measurements across three domains. New to this year's Index, these are:

1. Development: How developed is the country?
2. Freedom: How free is it?
3. Society: How strong is its social fabric?

To answer these three broad questions, we have broken them down into several smaller questions, or as we call them, pillars, of which there are ten. They are outlined in the methodology section of this report.

In keeping with our approach of continual improvement, this year's Index introduces a new mathematical approach to averaging (taking the mean) called p-averaging. This method of calculation reduces the extent to which countries with significant weaknesses in any major area, especially at the level of domains and pillars, can compensate for these with strengths in others.

Mathematically, this reflects the idea that to be prosperous, a country must flourish across all areas; great wealth cannot compensate for broken relationships or oppression, and our new statistical methods do not permit this. We call these the Legatum Averaging Principles and they are outlined in our methodology.

We welcome engagement from our users about these new methods, and we look forward to developing them further this year.

The results of our fresh approach have much in common with previous Prosperity Index releases, but with some notable differences.



Key Findings

Success Stories

Switzerland tops the Index

- Switzerland is the winner of the 2026 Index. This reflects its remarkable lack of significant weaknesses: its worst-ranking pillar, Integrity of Families, still receives a rank of #15. By comparison, Denmark, the fourth country in the Index, has a lowest pillar rank of #50 (Economic Freedom), and Ireland, in third place, has a lowest pillar rank of #47 (Education).

New entrants to the P20 and P30 challenge the traditional high-scoring countries.

- We refer to the top twenty and thirty countries in the Prosperity Index as the P20 and P30.
- North America and Western Europe no longer dominate the P20 and P30 as they once did, as certain Eastern European countries enter the groupings for the first time. Notably, Estonia and the Czech Republic enter the P20; Lithuania and Latvia join Slovenia in the P30; and Uruguay and Costa Rica draw near to the P30 with ranks of 33 and 34 respectively.
- On this theme, notably Estonia (#19) and Lithuania (#25) rank ahead of Spain (#26), and Italy (#28), and Estonia even ranks ahead of France (#21).

The USA and UK are almost tied.

- For the first time since the 2015 Index, the United States (#17) beats the United Kingdom (#18), but only just: it scores 85.5% for overall prosperity, whereas the UK scores 85.4%.
- The USA's lead is largely due to its superior score for 'Standard of Living', and especially because of its greater Gross National Income per capita. This reflects the rapid divergence of British and American GNI since a point of near equality in 2008 (see chart below).
- The USA's weakest pillars, on the other hand, are Health (#42), Integrity of Families (#37), and Integrity of Society (#34). Its results in the latter two are driven by relatively high violent crime statistics. By comparison, the UK does significantly better on Health (#30) and Integrity of Families (#13), but worse on Integrity of Society (#42).
- The UK loses to the USA on that pillar (Integrity of Society) because of a poorer rank for Factionalism (#43 vs #22). Here the UK scores worse than the USA for such factors as ethnic tension, and equality of access to state jobs amongst people of different political persuasions.

Israel performs strongly.

- Israel rises sharply from 33rd to 24th place. This reflects its lack of a weakness in every pillar except Integrity of Society, in which it ranks a mediocre #57 because of its lower performance in our ethnic tension data. Notably, Israel is #1 in the world in the Integrity of Families pillar.

Figure 1: American and British Gross National Income (GNI), World Bank

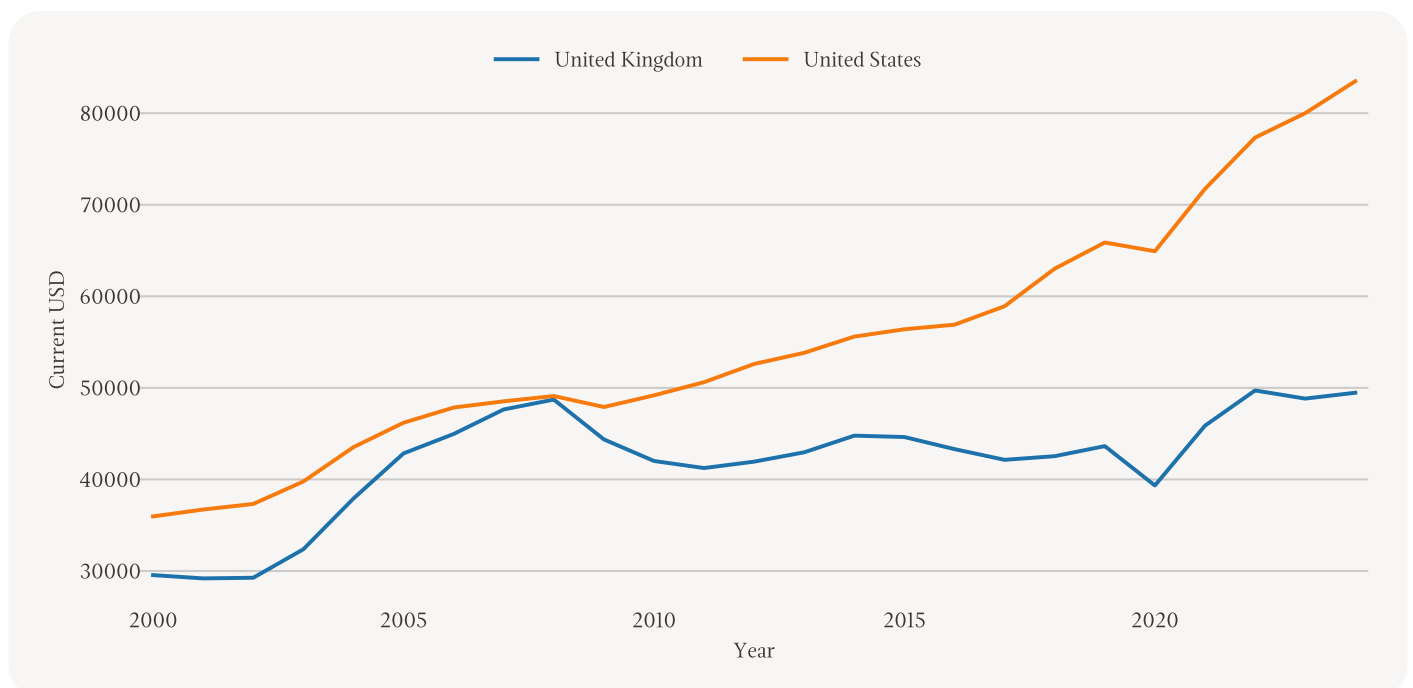
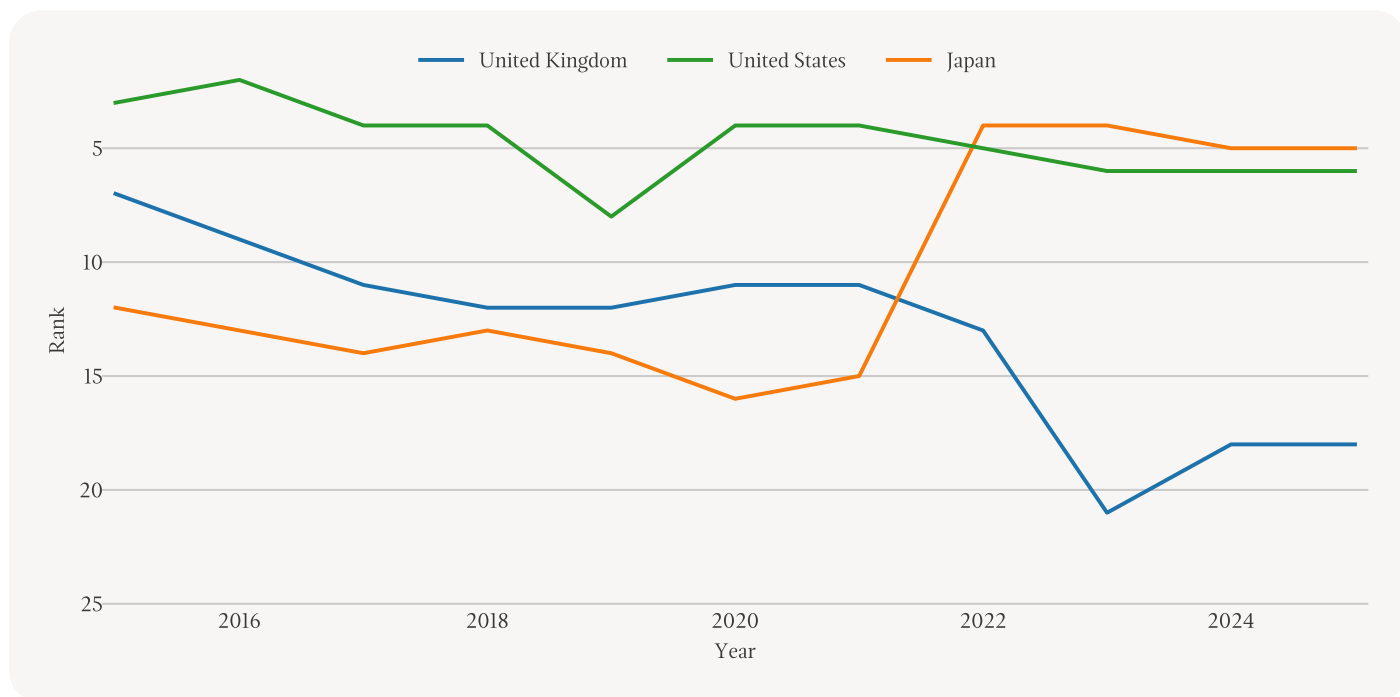


Figure 2: American, British and Japanese Ranks for our Economic Freedom Pillar



✶ Fallers

Wealthy, authoritarian states lose out.

China's position falls from #54 (2023 Index) to #110 using our updated methodology. Our results reflect the fact that China, which ranks #150 for Freedom, has a dismal record on respecting liberty. It also scores poorly in the Index for its protection of life and enabling of economic freedom. Its Development rank is middling at #60, and at #88, its Society rank could greatly improve as well. The data is clear: geopolitical power does not directly translate into human flourishing.

Meanwhile, Russia falls from #77 to #103, receiving a Freedom ranking at #142, only just above that of China. Similarly, though Belarus receives a respectable rank of #54 for Development, it ranks very poorly in both Freedom (#155) and Society (#132), and so is the worst-ranking European country in the Index, in 132nd place (down from 78th place in 2023).

A question-mark as to Scandinavian dominance.

In 2023, the top four countries in the Index were all Scandinavian: Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. While they remain very strong (all being in the top 10), they have lost their pre-eminent position this year because of their high tax burdens.

Other notable fallers:

- Though it is in the middle of the pack for Development (#66), Mexico's overall rank falls from #71 to #85, because of a poor

showing in both Freedom (#108) and Society (#104).

- The United Kingdom has dropped six ranks since the 2023 Index, from #12 to #18. In our longitudinal study using our new methodology, its decline has been particularly stark in Economic Freedom, where it has dropped from #7 in the world in 2015 to #18 today. This is largely driven by a reduced score for 'Sound Money', itself caused by an increase in inflation. Production factor cost pressures and quantitative easing have contributed to this.

➤ Priorities for Prosperity

The new Legatum Averaging Principles offer an advantage: because they are more mathematically sensitive to weaknesses than arithmetic mean averaging, they can highlight areas on which leaders and policymakers must focus if they wish to become more prosperous.

Some countries perform well across the board but are held back by just one or two key issues. If they addressed these, they could substantially improve their score in the Index. Among the most significant examples are:

- Costa Rica is a great place to do business, ranking #4 in the world for economic freedom, but has major shortcomings in education (#96).
- Croatia is a swiftly improving country that performs well overall

but is held back by its lower level of economic freedom: it could be a much better place to set up or run a business.

- The UK excels in education but does relatively poorly in the Integrity of Society pillar. Its poor result here is driven by an increase in factors suggestive of factionalism, such as a lack of political group equality in access to public services and in access to state business opportunities (according to V-Dem's assessments thereof).
- South Korea receives a very high score for Integrity of Society but needs to give urgent attention to its performance in Integrity of Families, in which it scores very poorly because of its plummeting birth rates.
- Chile performs well, ranking in the top 40 and #2 in Latin America, but is held back by low birth rates.

Significant Trends

Looking more broadly at the Index data, significant trends include the following:

- The Society domain is a stronger predictor of success in the overall Index than both Development and Freedom. In addition, the Scandinavian countries excel in this domain, taking four of the top five positions: Denmark (#1), Norway (#2), Iceland (#3), Finland (#4).
- Development or Freedom? Our findings reveal that there are several countries that score very well in Development but comparatively poorly in Freedom, and that the reverse phenomenon holds as well. Examples of countries in the first

group include Singapore (#3 for Development, #35 for Freedom) and the UAE (#13 for Development, #90 for Freedom).

- By contrast, countries like Bhutan (#102 for Development, #38 for Freedom), Uruguay (#47 for Development, #25 for Freedom), and Namibia (#111 for Development, #46 for Freedom) demonstrate the opposite tendency. These results suggest that, at least to some extent, it is possible to increase a Development score without simultaneously increasing a Freedom score, and vice versa.
- Which pillar best predicts the overall Index score? A simple correlation analysis reveals that two pillars stand out as being extremely highly correlated with performance in the overall Index, with correlation coefficients over 0.9: Civil Peace and Integrity of Society.
- Can a country be too prosperous? There are certain metrics that are negatively correlated with overall prosperity: in other words, certain metrics in which more prosperous countries tend to perform worse. The clearest example is taxation: more prosperous countries tend to tax their residents more, and they also tend to have worse fertility rates and a greater illegal trade in hard drugs. They also seem to have similar if not worse scores than unprosperous countries for social factors such as making friends, laughing, helping strangers, and volunteering – in other words, things that bring joy and fulfilment to human relationships.
- Small, high-trust societies continue to do noticeably well: only four of our top 15 countries (Germany, Australia, the Netherlands and Japan) have a population over 15 million.



Introduction

What matters most

The Legatum Prosperity Index ranks countries based on the extent to which they prosper. This raises the question: what exactly is national prosperity?

In its narrowest sense, prosperity is often understood to indicate an abundance of material wealth. After all, no one can prosper during a famine or when he or she is constantly worried about where the next meal will come from. This narrow understanding, however, is limited and fails to account for the depth of human experience. Money matters—we certainly do not shy away from this fact—but to prosper, a person must flourish in all aspects of life, and a country can only prosper when its people flourish.

The Prosperity Index seeks to put a number on this deeper understanding of “prosperity”. To do so, we imagine that there exists for each country a prosperity score (known perhaps only to God) and that our job is to collect and process relevant data in order to estimate that number.

The Three Domains

Since our inaugural Index in 2007, we have broken this task down into smaller pieces, which are easier to put a number on than “How prosperous is this country?”. After careful deliberation, for this year’s Index we have settled on the following three domains of prosperity. Each asks one key question:

1. *Development*: How developed is the country?
2. *Freedom*: How free is the country?
3. *Society*: How strong is its social fabric?

These three domains and their three key questions cover the vast majority of what is needed to estimate a nation’s prosperity. The critical reader may question this claim, however, and argue that there are many other pertinent questions not well accounted for by these three. For example, one might add “How democratic is the country?”

or “How well does it preserve the natural environment?”.

Though we agree with this criticism philosophically – there are always going to be more good questions to ask – statistically speaking, these three are more than sufficient to robustly estimate a nation’s prosperity. To understand our perspective, we ask the reader the following rhetorical question: which countries are highly developed, very free, have a strong social fabric and yet are somehow not prosperous? To our mind, the answer is none.

It is useful to draw an analogy to human health. Physicians and actuaries have long known that to accurately estimate a person’s health, very little data is needed. How many non-smoking 20-year-olds with a healthy Body Mass Index and good blood pressure are unhealthy? Of course, the answer is very few: the physician does not need to order MRI scans, bone biopsies, or DNA tests to confidently claim that such a patient is healthy.

It is possible to estimate effectively the health of a human being, one of the most complex biological organisms on earth, without using any of the tens of thousands of sophisticated diagnostic tests available to the twenty-first century physician. The key to estimating the wellbeing of any complex system is not asking the most questions. It is about prioritising the right questions. Put differently, it is about emphasising *what matters most*.

In some sense our three domains reflect the history of indices intended to assess the wellbeing of countries. For decades after the Second World War, it was generally accepted that per capita Gross Domestic Product was the right way to measure national prosperity; however, in 1990 the Human Development Index (HDI) was launched to address an important shortcoming of per capita GDP, namely that a raw economic statistic was insufficiently focused on flesh-and-blood people. The HDI augmented per capita economic productivity data with measures reflecting both education and health, which

were viewed as additional human “capacities” alongside material wellbeing. By refining GDP statistics, the HDI—whose first edition was published in 1990—achieved a major step forward in the quantitative estimation of prosperity.

For many years, the HDI existed alongside other prominent indices that aimed to measure distinct dimensions of prosperity; for example, the Freedom in the World Index published by Freedom House, which attempts to quantify political and civil freedoms. Finally, in 2007, inspired by these more narrowly tailored indices, we launched the Legatum Prosperity Index as a means of bringing together the many dimensions of national prosperity into a single unified index, which would include measures of economic growth and life satisfaction. To the best of our knowledge, this was the first major attempt to quantify prosperity holistically.

Since the inaugural launch in 2007, we have continuously refined the Index and sought to humanise it by contextualising relatively cold measures of development (such as GDP) with measures pertaining to things like laughter and making friends. The range of domains and pillars can be explored interactively on our website, and details of all indicators we use can be downloaded from there.

The Ten Pillars

The three domains are, in turn, broken down into ten pillars. Under Development, there are three pillars; Standard of Living, Health, and Education. Under Freedom, there are three pillars; Civil Peace, Freedom of Dissent, and Economic Freedom. There are four pillars under the Society domain: Integrity of Families, Communities, Society and State.

The pillar score is arrived at through combining data from multiple indicators. Each pillar has a dedicated double page spread in this report detailing results across the world, trends over time, and the data indicators contributing to it.

How to use the Prosperity Index

The Legatum Prosperity Index is the product of conceptual and mathematical work, but its

purpose is primarily practical. It exists as a tool for starting conversations and informing decision-makers around the globe. Above all, we hope that our work on it will contribute to the advancement of human prosperity around the world, and in its fullest sense.

How does it serve this purpose? Primarily, the Index provides roadmaps to prosperity. By providing a holistic, wide-angled snapshot of prosperity, it offers users quantitative information about countries’ strengths and weaknesses. This can be used to help discern the routes countries can take towards lasting prosperity.

The new mathematical techniques introduced this year, especially p-means, place a premium on broad-based development. Now, countries with serious weaknesses in any fundamental components of prosperity—above all, those represented by our domains, namely ‘Freedom’, ‘Development’ and ‘Society’—see their better scores dragged down by their worse ones. In this way, the details of our mathematics reflect the experience of Legatum and the Prosperity Institute: prosperity must be built up carefully and stably, over many areas of business, public policy, and humanitarian work. This section offers a practical guide for users in a range of fields as to how to use the Index.

Interpreting the Index

Our Index takes 130 well-reputed indicators—everything from the total fertility rate to inflation—and uses them to score 161 countries on their overall prosperity, on their performance in three core ‘Domains’ (‘Freedom’, ‘Development’ and ‘Society’), and on their performance in ten subordinate ‘Pillars’. These results allow users to assess the countries’ relative performance in a range of fields.

Our overall Index scores, and our domain-level scores, provide a broad high-level indication of countries’ prosperity. At the more detailed level, we hope that our pillars will foster and guide discussion of practical policy agendas. Granular enough to speak to key policy questions, but broad enough to be

statistically sound, they have been carefully designed to cover what we believe to be the essentials of prosperity, and to do so in a concise and statistically elegant way.

Besides the headline 2026 results, the Index also provides longitudinal scores at the Index, Domain and Pillar level for every year from 2015. Using these data, users will be able to identify trends in countries’ prosperity, and to gain an understanding of the causes of these trends.

Applying the Index

The data in the Index and the analysis contained in the report can be used for a variety of purposes, for example:

- Benchmarking countries’ performance against peers;
- In-depth analysis of prosperity at the national level;
- Identifying the binding constraints to increased prosperity;
- Informing policy priorities for individual countries.

Resources available

There are several tools available to aid analysis and interpretation of the Prosperity Index. Alongside this report, which provides a high-level analysis of the findings from the Index, the following additional information can be found via our website: an interactive rankings table; a methodology; details of indicators (including sources and transformations used); country profiles with interactive graph tools; longitudinal data; and more.

In addition, our team at the Prosperity Institute is happy to discuss the results of the Index with users to help them make the best use of our data for their own policy-related, journalistic, philanthropic or academic work. Please contact us through our website if you would like to discuss further.



Using the Index



The Index has been designed to benefit a wide range of users, including political leaders, policymakers, investors, business leaders, philanthropists, journalists, and researchers.

Political leaders

This report provides leaders at a national and local level with an overview of their country's performance across the 10 pillars of prosperity and thus helps them to find pathways to prosperity. Prospective policies can then be developed and refined using our accompanying resources and more granular data available for that country.

Policymakers

Each of our 10 pillars speaks to a broad but distinctive aspect of public policy. Pillar-level scores are broad-based enough to statistically reliable; nonetheless, they are indicative estimates. Policymakers are encouraged to use them as starting points for their own detailed and context-sensitive analysis, as a broad guide to the development of well-balanced policy agendas.

Enterprise Conditions

Some NGOs have enhanced prosperity at a local level by working with local businesses to identify barriers to starting, operating, and growing businesses, and helping them to break through those barriers. By emphasising the importance of Economic Freedom, which is measured separately from, and in addition to, economic development, our Index will, we hope, encourage the conditions that enable enterprise, the engine of prosperity.

Investors and business leaders

The business community is well positioned to identify barriers to starting, operating, and growing businesses. They can demonstrate to governments the potential economic benefits of market-friendly reforms, for example the reduction of burdensome regulation and tax. Likewise, business leaders and investors can work with governments to improve the investment environment, contributing to the strengthening of investor protections and corporate governance; in many jurisdictions, they can also draw leaders' attention to the potential benefits of better contract enforcement. Our Index helps such leaders to identify the greatest obstacles to trade and investment within a given country or region, or indeed

globally, and so to advocate for change that will promote prosperity. Again, investors and business leaders should combine our data with granular data appropriate to their area of commerce in any given region or country.

Academics and researchers

The decade of longitudinal data in our index contains results down to the pillar level and can be a resource for academics and researchers who want to understand medium-term trends in the core components of prosperity. In particular, the broad range of our pillars allows users to compare the roles of various disparate factors in these medium-term trends.

Journalists and civil society

The Prosperity Index is based on reputed data, most of which is made publicly available by our data providers. It is a tool for public discussion, enabling governments to be held to account and stories—both positive and negative—to be developed. It provides journalists and others with an independent, quantitative account and searchable tools for ease of reference. Within this report, we have indicated how deeper dives into the data and stories underpinning each country and pillar can be developed. Our website also provides spotlight reports which give examples of how our data can be used to inform more detailed discussions of prosperity.

Philanthropists

Aside from the vital work of philanthropists in providing financial aid and improving living conditions worldwide, there are many other aspects of prosperity that they can promote—for example, community-level trust and engagement. By drawing users' attention to aspects that matter in each country, the Index can help encourage philanthropists to identify areas of focus and pursue means of promoting them. Again, this should be combined with granular qualitative and quantitative evidence in each area.

RANK	COUNTRIES	DEVELOPMENT	FREEDOM
1	Switzerland	2	5
2	Norway	1	5
3	Ireland	7	6
4	Denmark	6	9
5	Poland	17	12
6	Iceland	5	7
7	Sweden	12	12
8	Germany	11	13
9	Australia	14	15
10	Netherlands	10	10
11	Luxembourg	4	3
12	Belgium	15	14
13	New Zealand	23	23
14	Japan	24	31
15	Austria	16	19
16	Canada	18	18
17	United States	18	28
18	United Kingdom	20	20
19	Estonia	32	35
20	Czech Republic	30	33
21	France	22	19
22	Slovenia	27	30
23	Singapore	3	2
24	Israel	19	21
25	Lithuania	33	34
26	Spain	29	28

The Prosperity Index



Ranks 1-54

Rank	Country	Development	Freedom	Society	Development			Freedom			Society			
					Standard of Living	Health	Education	Civil Peace	Freedom of Dissent	Economic Freedom	Integrity of Families	Integrity of Communities	Integrity of Society	Integrity of State
1	Switzerland	2	1	7	5	10	2	2	7	1	15	10	6	10
2	Norway	1	4	2	1	5	12	6	2	24	9	2	1	2
3	Ireland	7	2	5	6	17	47	10	5	3	6	7	10	18
4	Denmark	6	13	1	9	20	15	1	1	50	4	1	3	4
5	Finland	17	3	4	17	14	16	3	4	8	25	5	4	1
6	Iceland	5	16	3	7	9	4	5	13	38	3	3	15	3
7	Sweden	12	11	6	12	6	24	4	3	33	7	8	11	11
8	Germany	11	5	14	13	27	1	7	14	7	17	25	12	14
9	Australia	14	9	8	15	11	20	13	19	10	8	22	14	8
10	Netherlands	10	12	9	10	23	28	15	18	14	11	9	18	15
11	Luxembourg	4	15	12	3	8	29	14	9	32	27	18	8	7
12	Belgium	15	8	11	14	18	26	9	8	19	10	12	20	16
13	New Zealand	23	6	10	23	25	19	8	6	15	14	16	23	5
14	Japan	24	7	16	31	1	27	12	26	5	32	38	2	12
15	Austria	16	14	17	16	19	35	16	16	20	29	13	22	17
16	Canada	18	10	25	18	28	5	17	11	12	44	26	36	19
17	United States	9	20	22	8	42	3	36	28	6	37	15	34	24
18	United Kingdom	20	18	21	20	30	9	22	20	18	13	29	42	22
19	Estonia	32	19	19	35	32	7	11	10	44	21	33	33	9
20	Czech Republic	30	24	13	33	29	17	18	17	49	12	17	9	26
21	France	22	26	18	19	16	44	27	27	29	5	30	35	25
22	Slovenia	27	29	15	30	13	18	21	32	41	2	20	25	30
23	Singapore	3	35	23	2	2	38	20	100	2	76	6	17	6
24	Israel	19	28	26	21	12	8	23	52	22	1	23	57	34
25	Lithuania	33	22	24	34	41	6	19	21	34	51	34	5	20
26	Spain	29	21	28	28	7	60	24	25	26	45	35	30	29
27	Portugal	36	31	20	36	15	82	31	23	36	20	39	13	27
28	Italy	26	33	27	24	4	59	30	31	37	41	24	16	40
29	Malta	25	30	36	27	24	34	28	33	25	68	36	21	41
30	Latvia	40	27	30	43	44	10	26	24	45	46	55	29	21
31	South Korea	21	23	44	25	3	25	25	41	13	120	45	7	28
32	Cyprus	28	32	37	29	22	31	29	36	27	24	46	38	52
33	Uruguay	47	25	32	45	48	63	33	15	28	63	56	31	13
34	Costa Rica	59	17	41	55	51	96	39	12	4	75	59	39	35
35	Slovakia	35	40	33	38	46	13	35	37	76	40	42	27	47
36	Poland	39	42	31	42	35	11	38	43	78	47	65	26	23
37	Croatia	37	44	34	37	36	39	37	50	73	16	62	45	43
38	Greece	38	41	38	41	26	49	42	51	55	34	87	24	48
39	Chile	48	34	47	51	34	56	40	22	40	87	74	46	36
40	Romania	44	47	35	44	55	46	45	48	85	31	53	43	45
41	Montenegro	49	50	39	56	33	23	44	49	97	18	54	41	66
42	Georgia	65	53	29	67	67	21	55	69	57	43	44	19	32
43	Armenia	67	37	54	71	62	48	43	35	48	28	73	44	80
44	Panama	51	43	61	52	59	61	56	39	42	53	58	70	71
45	Mauritius	63	49	48	54	79	75	49	73	51	78	37	62	46
46	Malaysia	56	52	49	57	57	58	53	96	23	85	21	63	50
47	Hungary	41	75	42	40	40	36	48	92	109	19	66	48	58
48	Bulgaria	50	70	40	50	56	52	59	56	121	26	67	28	63
49	Albania	61	51	58	63	53	69	51	67	58	55	51	52	79
50	Kuwait	42	59	70	22	37	105	62	107	21	116	95	60	39
51	United Arab Emirates	13	90	51	11	21	14	60	144	9	86	40	81	33
52	North Macedonia	64	65	46	66	43	76	61	59	98	35	80	32	69
53	Argentina	57	71	43	60	58	53	54	44	130	50	52	37	62
54	Oman	45	77	63	46	54	41	46	140	11	121	11	59	56

Ranks 55-108

Rank	Country	Development	Freedom	Society	Development			Freedom			Society			
					Standard of Living	Health	Education	Civil Peace	Freedom of Dissent	Economic Freedom	Integrity of Families	Integrity of Communities	Integrity of Society	Integrity of State
55	Fiji	96	36	66	88	108	72	34	54	47	67	75	96	59
56	Trinidad and Tobago	58	45	90	47	91	65	70	42	35	112	134	91	55
57	Moldova	73	58	59	74	88	43	47	55	100	48	77	40	87
58	Serbia	53	86	53	58	50	42	69	89	107	22	43	54	82
59	Brazil	70	63	65	68	74	98	81	53	77	82	69	65	64
60	Bosnia and Herzegovina	62	68	71	65	47	62	65	82	87	61	61	64	100
61	Dominican Republic	75	61	67	64	107	85	80	38	84	62	79	93	70
62	Bhutan	102	38	80	95	94	131	41	79	16	71	147	51	37
63	Mongolia	81	79	50	86	82	81	63	77	111	23	71	55	68
64	Indonesia	94	69	56	91	96	94	72	86	69	49	4	78	89
65	Sri Lanka	77	88	55	96	49	64	78	80	106	39	48	85	65
66	Kazakhstan	52	112	45	53	68	32	89	124	117	30	57	47	67
67	Jordan	82	66	74	97	69	71	58	118	31	107	119	53	42
68	Thailand	68	94	72	70	61	92	109	99	52	94	31	87	78
69	Peru	74	64	94	80	71	73	79	65	62	64	99	106	111
70	Botswana	97	54	89	78	124	68	68	58	53	123	132	74	44
71	Jamaica	83	60	96	85	95	78	84	29	70	130	129	100	53
72	Suriname	79	89	75	77	87	100	74	62	127	83	49	92	81
73	Paraguay	76	72	91	75	86	91	83	60	89	42	50	90	136
74	Colombia	71	80	93	73	65	88	90	71	86	77	117	103	96
75	Tunisia	88	87	78	94	70	107	76	95	96	89	118	71	57
76	Morocco	103	84	60	104	80	122	86	108	54	36	94	56	75
77	Namibia	111	46	86	106	127	110	50	34	71	106	108	80	61
78	Qatar	8	81	131	4	31	66	57	135	17	136	155	61	88
79	Philippines	99	95	68	99	106	74	107	93	79	69	27	66	102
80	Bahrain	34	115	98	32	38	55	88	149	43	98	32	114	120
81	Vietnam	84	114	57	89	85	89	93	138	80	52	14	73	76
82	Belize	80	106	81	83	76	97	121	91	102	72	82	86	90
83	Algeria	85	111	64	82	89	112	87	122	114	60	81	58	73
84	Bahamas	43	76	134	39	75	22	102	63	68	99	158	134	38
85	Mexico	66	108	104	62	72	86	125	87	101	79	103	122	119
86	South Africa	100	62	119	92	111	50	98	30	60	126	145	132	72
87	Kyrgyzstan	106	109	62	111	90	40	94	106	129	38	28	50	114
88	Ghana	114	78	69	116	120	114	71	45	124	54	64	76	92
89	Timor-Leste	126	39	73	131	130	123	32	40	72	80	123	79	51
90	Guatemala	105	82	105	101	93	127	103	72	63	104	93	120	110
91	India	109	96	79	107	104	116	96	110	75	95	60	95	74
92	Bolivia	98	100	97	100	103	77	110	78	95	58	92	88	130
93	Gabon	93	97	106	76	110	83	97	102	91	56	124	105	129
94	Uzbekistan	90	126	52	103	83	37	105	131	136	59	19	49	77
95	Ecuador	78	93	121	87	66	90	113	70	82	100	146	133	112
96	El Salvador	91	119	84	93	77	109	133	109	94	65	47	115	99
97	Saudi Arabia	31	136	87	26	39	45	142	152	30	108	70	69	93
98	Nepal	119	73	82	123	105	141	82	66	90	91	91	67	83
99	Lebanon	89	117	102	98	78	70	106	85	148	33	137	82	134
100	Senegal	130	57	76	128	114	153	67	68	56	114	63	99	49
101	Honduras	107	104	107	113	84	108	124	83	99	97	121	108	115
102	Turkey	55	137	92	49	63	87	116	145	147	73	111	121	91
103	Russia	46	142	85	48	60	30	134	148	144	74	83	94	98
104	Tanzania	129	67	83	136	118	125	77	98	46	88	89	72	84
105	Azerbaijan	69	128	124	69	81	54	115	137	122	111	86	109	143
106	Kenya	120	83	115	125	131	99	100	76	83	115	102	116	123
107	Gambia	137	74	77	140	128	144	64	57	118	84	115	77	60
108	Iraq	95	105	144	84	97	117	95	114	104	140	88	129	155

Ranks 109-161

Rank	Country	Development	Freedom	Society	Development			Freedom			Society			
					Standard of Living	Health	Education	Civil Peace	Freedom of Dissent	Economic Freedom	Integrity of Families	Integrity of Communities	Integrity of Society	Integrity of State
109	Côte d'Ivoire	128	98	99	118	146	142	108	105	61	124	76	83	104
110	China	60	150	88	59	45	101	123	160	66	125	97	89	54
111	Zambia	131	102	95	142	126	111	85	94	110	81	120	111	95
112	Papua New Guinea	133	56	133	135	125	136	73	46	59	70	152	84	146
113	Lesotho	140	48	118	138	152	104	52	47	67	133	113	75	128
114	Angola	125	122	109	120	139	128	111	111	143	127	116	124	86
115	Libya	92	135	136	81	102	106	139	130	140	93	96	118	159
116	Iran	72	144	122	79	64	67	135	153	135	143	68	126	116
117	Rwanda	134	118	100	139	117	138	114	128	92	119	106	149	31
118	Benin	143	55	112	134	150	152	66	81	39	135	122	98	94
119	Mauritania	118	123	129	117	115	140	129	119	119	129	139	145	121
120	Egypt	87	147	117	90	92	80	119	159	132	134	140	101	103
121	Togo	138	113	101	143	138	129	126	112	93	118	98	102	101
122	Bangladesh	108	139	128	109	100	118	147	139	112	139	128	142	109
123	Zimbabwe	123	134	116	126	134	93	128	129	149	113	131	113	117
124	Uganda	135	121	123	144	112	121	130	126	74	102	126	144	127
125	Pakistan	132	130	108	127	140	145	132	120	139	103	114	104	118
126	Djibouti	122	116	145	110	136	147	118	133	64	131	151	141	138
127	Eswatini	113	131	142	108	135	95	122	147	105	150	138	119	131
128	Malawi	145	85	103	153	116	134	75	61	123	101	130	110	97
129	Tajikistan	110	146	114	119	101	57	136	155	126	57	41	127	149
130	Cambodia	112	145	113	114	99	135	155	141	120	66	72	107	144
131	Congo	116	133	138	121	121	102	149	125	108	137	142	151	122
132	Belarus	54	155	132	61	52	33	145	156	153	90	156	139	85
133	Cameroon	127	129	135	129	142	120	143	121	103	142	109	138	140
134	Laos	115	141	143	115	122	126	127	150	133	151	78	97	147
135	Burkina Faso	150	92	110	148	149	157	101	97	65	141	90	68	105
136	Guinea-Bissau	142	101	147	146	145	148	92	74	125	148	136	112	150
137	Ethiopia	141	140	111	145	129	154	137	142	141	110	100	128	108
138	Nigeria	146	120	137	122	159	113	131	88	128	147	125	136	124
139	Myanmar	124	157	130	130	123	119	148	157	151	96	84	140	152
140	Sierra Leone	148	107	140	147	153	151	99	75	142	132	150	156	107
141	Liberia	147	99	149	152	151	124	104	64	115	117	154	161	113
142	Madagascar	154	110	120	159	144	139	112	101	116	128	101	125	125
143	Nicaragua	104	159	126	112	73	79	161	154	158	105	104	130	139
144	Mozambique	152	127	125	157	143	143	138	116	113	122	110	123	133
145	Equatorial Guinea	117	151	158	102	147	103	153	136	152	155	157	143	148
146	Guinea	149	132	141	132	155	155	144	117	137	145	112	152	126
147	Yemen	121	152	156	124	119	132	151	146	154	156	135	148	161
148	Venezuela	101	160	127	105	98	84	158	143	161	92	85	146	145
149	Mali	156	103	139	141	154	160	117	104	88	149	105	131	132
150	Turkmenistan	86	158	160	72	113	51	152	158	156	153	160	117	151
151	Haiti	136	143	159	133	137	133	154	90	157	146	159	158	141
152	Sudan	144	148	151	151	133	146	150	134	155	157	143	150	137
153	Dem. Rep. of Congo	151	138	150	158	148	115	146	115	146	144	141	157	158
154	South Sudan	153	149	153	137	160	130	140	132	159	152	149	153	157
155	Afghanistan	155	156	155	156	141	156	156	151	134	154	153	159	135
156	Somalia	160	124	154	154	158	159	120	113	138	161	133	135	156
157	Burundi	158	153	146	161	132	150	157	127	150	138	127	154	153
158	Central African Republic	159	125	161	160	156	149	141	84	131	158	148	160	160
159	Chad	157	154	152	149	157	158	159	123	145	159	144	147	154
160	Niger	161	91	148	155	161	161	91	103	81	160	107	137	106
161	Eritrea	139	161	157	150	109	137	160	161	160	109	161	155	142

The Pillars of Prosperity



Standard of Living

The 'Standard of Living' pillar estimates the material standard of living of citizens. Drawing on data on wealth, destitution and access to food, water and sanitation, it helps users to judge first whether a country provides the basic material resources that are necessary for its citizens to thrive; and second, how well its economy is performing more broadly.

Figure 3: Basic Sanitation (World Bank)

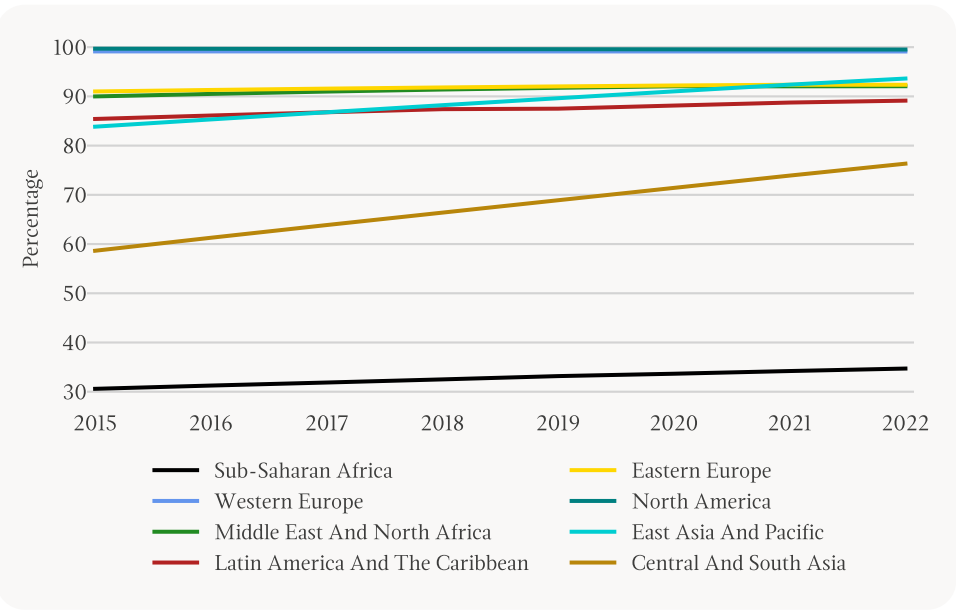
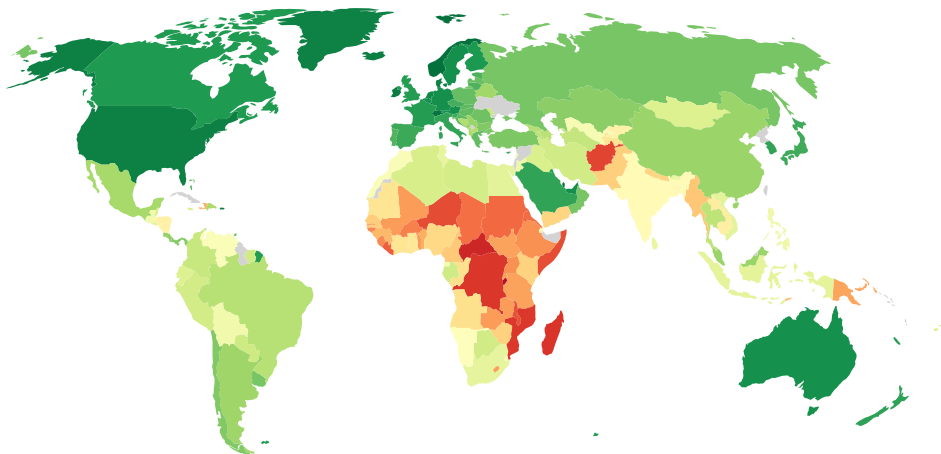


Figure 4: Global Scores for Standard of Living, 2025

Strongest

1	Norway
2	Singapore
3	Luxembourg
4	Qatar
5	Switzerland
6	Ireland
7	Iceland
8	United States
9	Denmark
10	Netherlands



Weakest

152	Liberia
153	Malawi
154	Somalia
155	Niger
156	Afghanistan
157	Mozambique
158	Dem. Rep. of Congo
159	Madagascar
160	Central African Republic
161	Burundi

Figure 5: Most improved countries for Standard of Living, 2015-2025

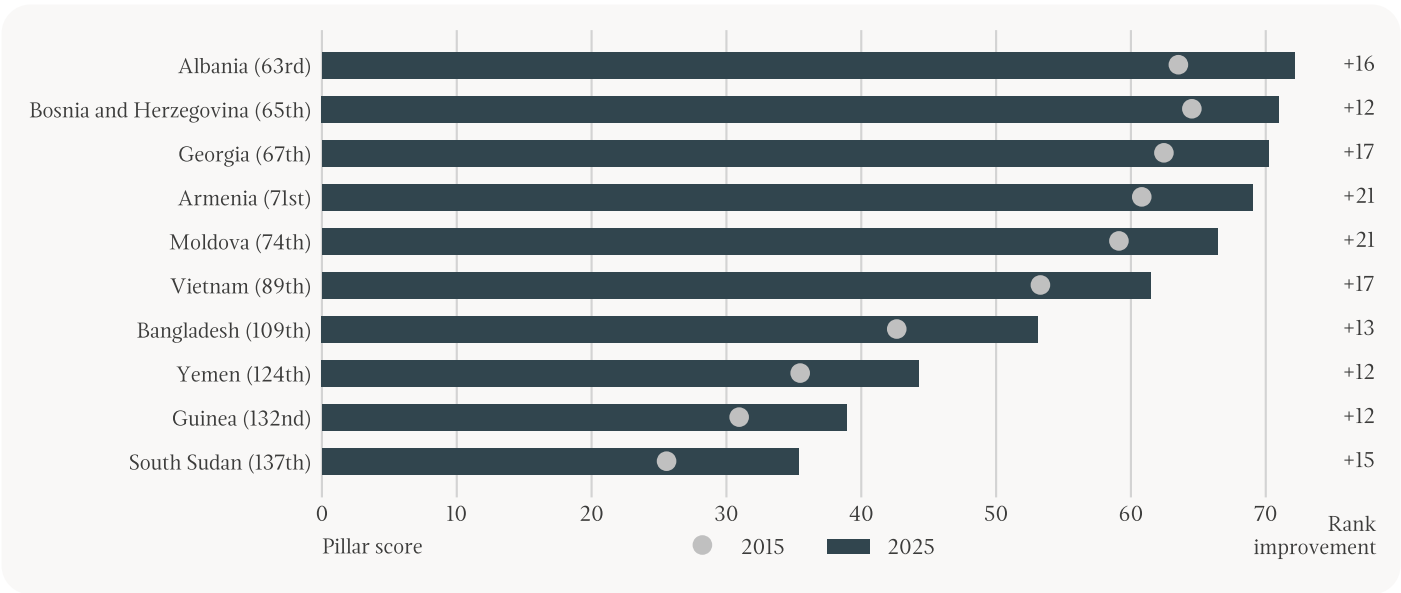


Figure 6: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

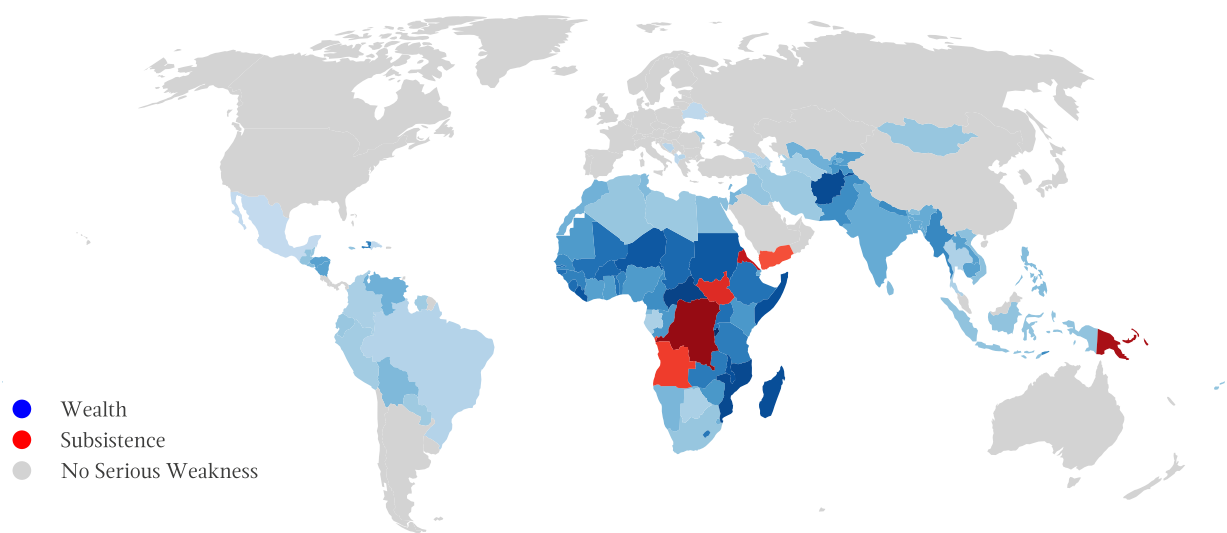


Figure 7: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

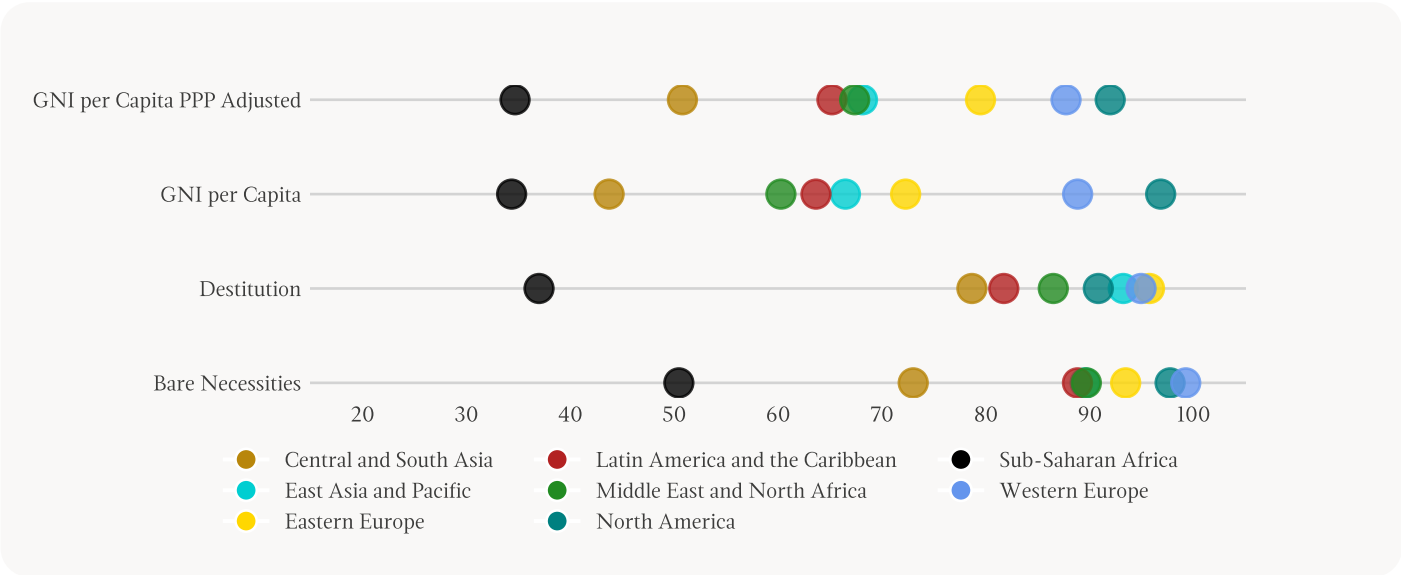


Figure 8: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Wealth (80.0%) is based on estimates of Gross National Income and Gross National Income per capita.	- GNI Per Capita - GNI Per Capita PPP Adjusted
Subsistence (20.0%) is based on estimates of the percentage of citizens living on less than three dollars per day.	- Bare Necessities - Destitution

Health

The 'Health' pillar estimates whether the population have the health needed for prosperity. It does this by considering two things: life expectancy, and child and infant mortality.

Figure 9: Child Mortality (World Health Organization)

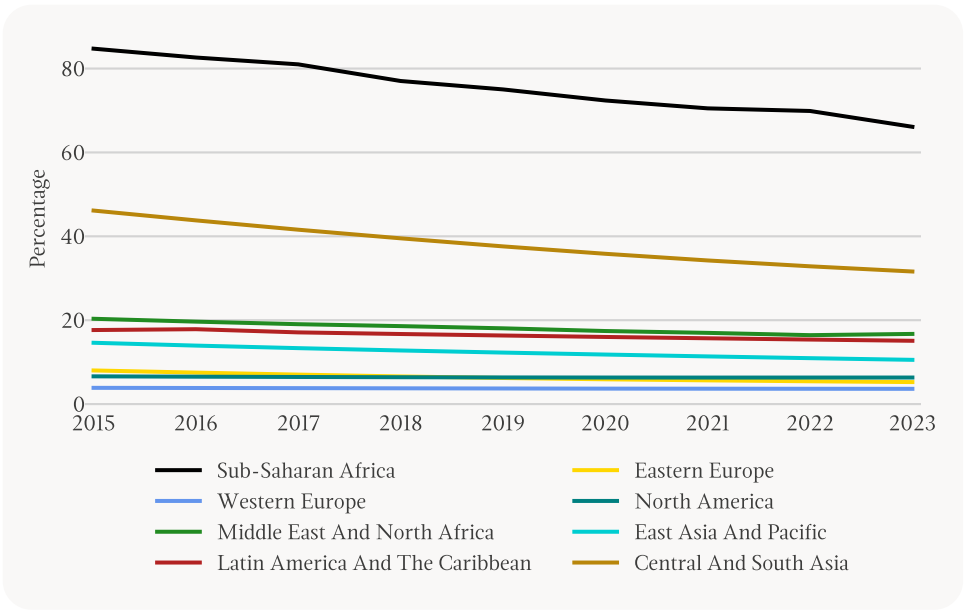


Figure 10: Global Scores for Health, 2025

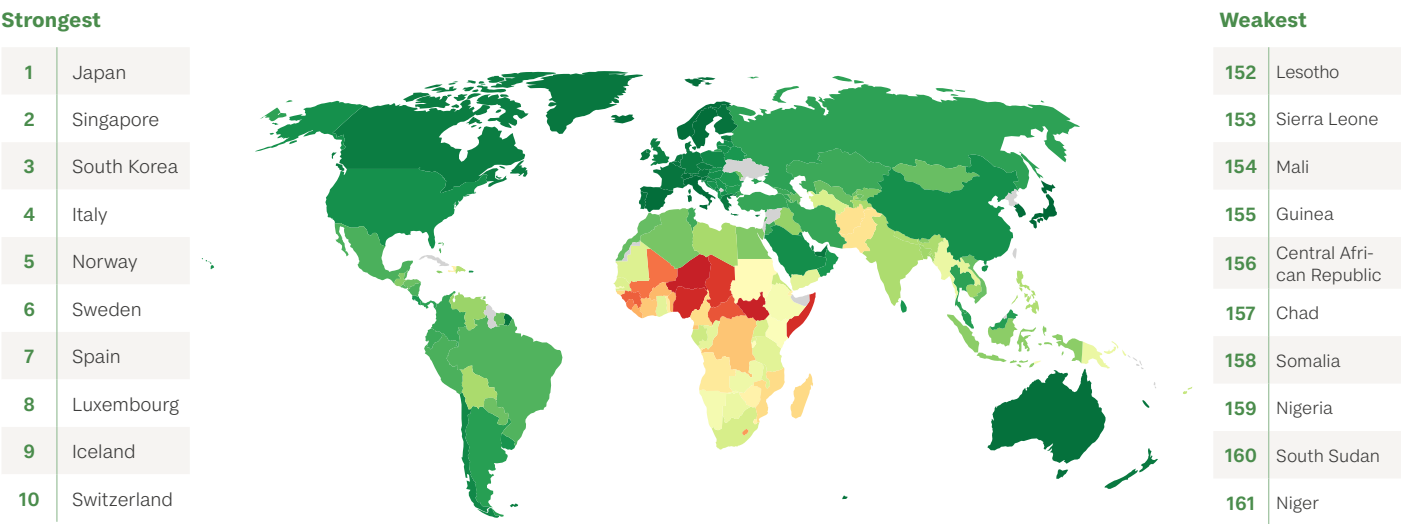


Figure 11: Most improved countries for Health, 2015-2025

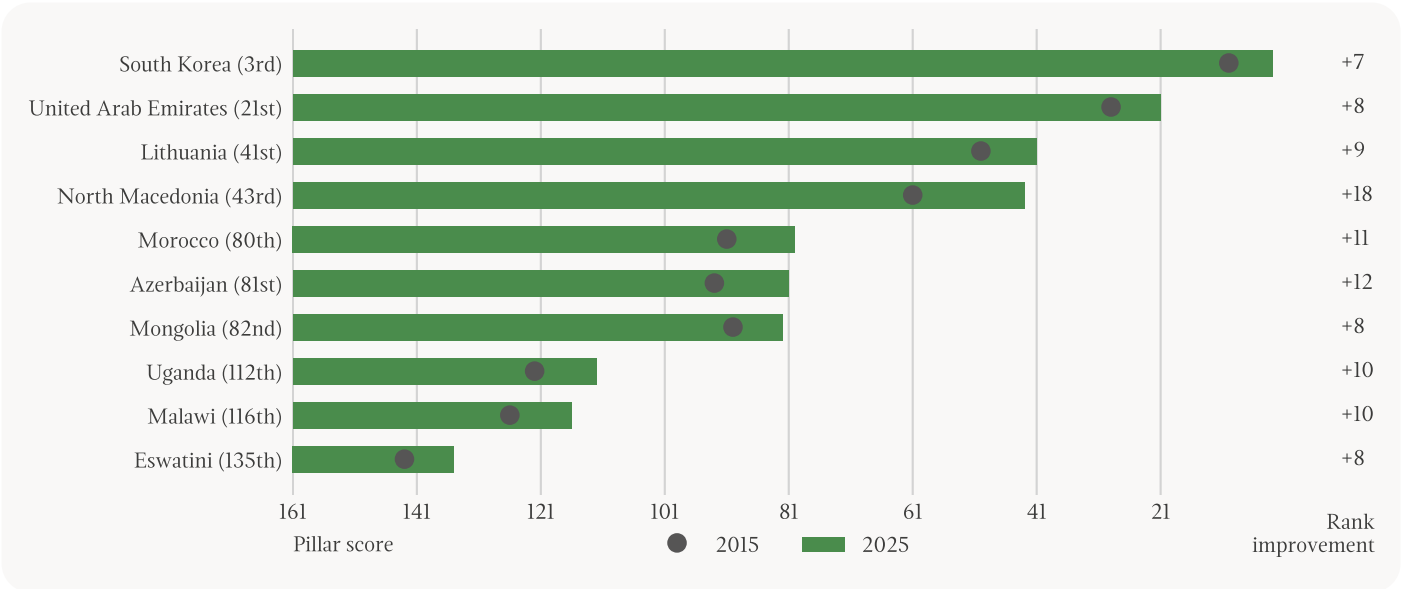


Figure 12: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

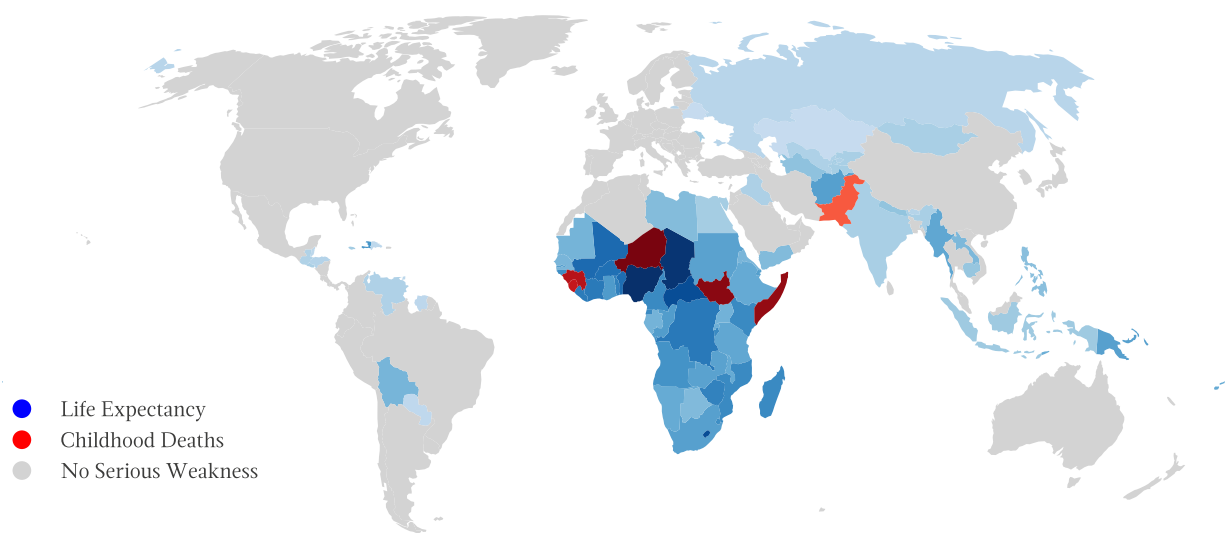


Figure 13: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

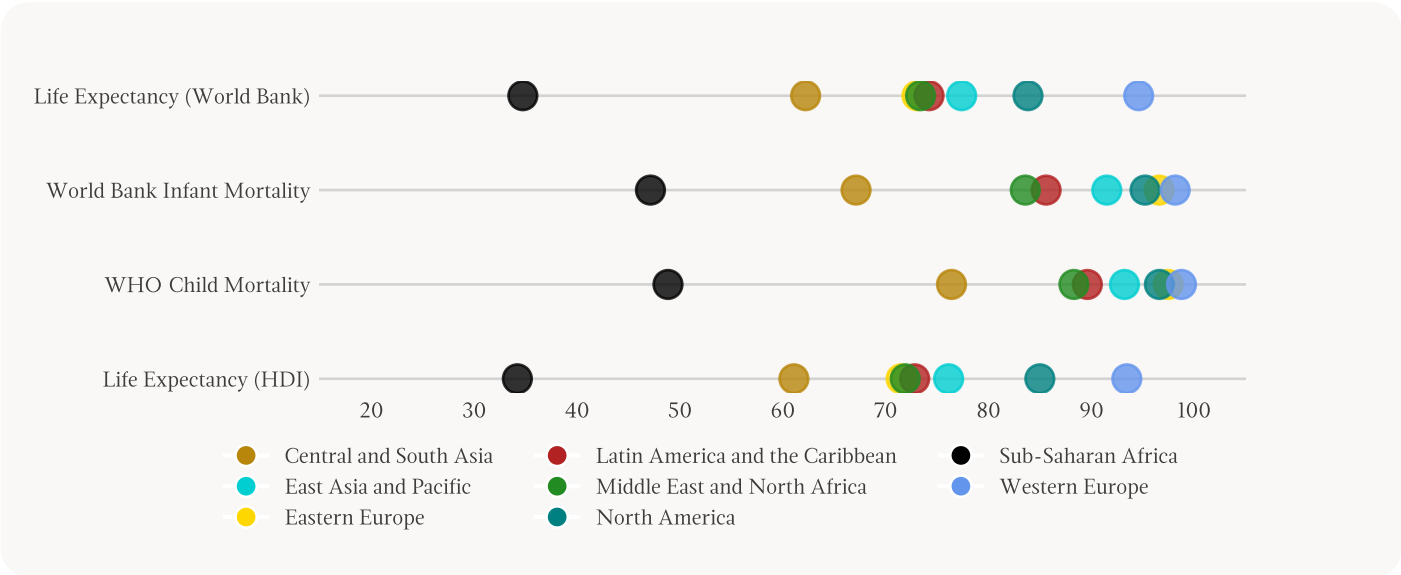


Figure 14: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Life Expectancy (25.0%) is based on estimates of life expectancy.	- Life Expectancy (HDI) - Life Expectancy (World Bank)
Childhood Deaths (75.0%) is based on estimates of childhood deaths.	- Child Mortality (WHO) - Infant Mortality (World Bank)

Education

The ‘Education’ pillar provides a broad estimate of the provision of education within countries by considering mean years of education and rates of literacy. This provides an indication of educational provision whilst avoiding some of the difficulties inherent in the comparison of education systems globally.

Figure 15: Mean Years of Schooling (Human Development Index)

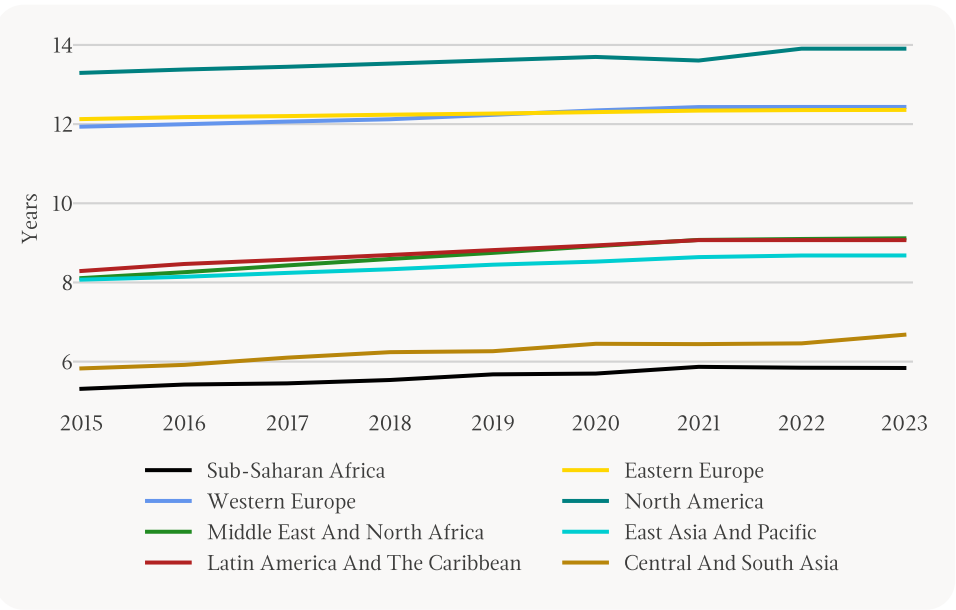
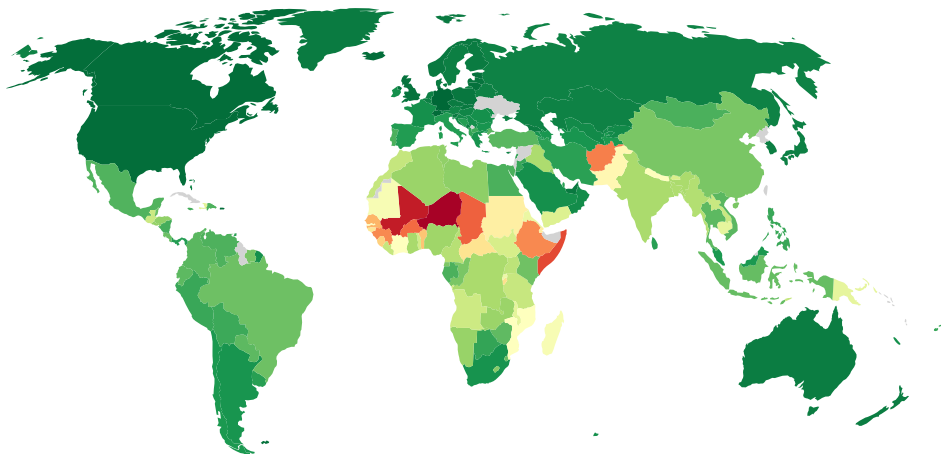


Figure 16: Global Scores for Education, 2025

Strongest

1	Germany
2	Switzerland
3	United States
4	Iceland
5	Canada
6	Lithuania
7	Estonia
8	Israel
9	United Kingdom
10	Latvia



Weakest

152	Benin
153	Senegal
154	Ethiopia
155	Guinea
156	Afghanistan
157	Burkina Faso
158	Chad
159	Somalia
160	Mali
161	Niger

Figure 17: Most improved countries for Education, 2015-2025

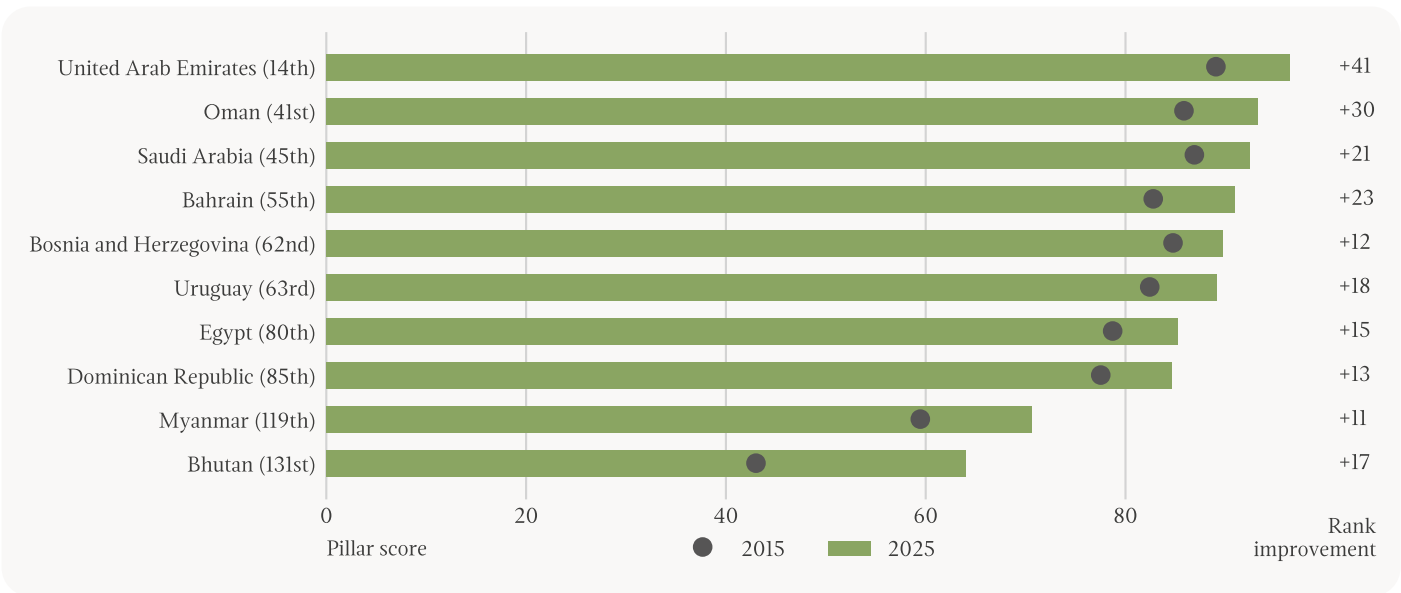


Figure 18: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

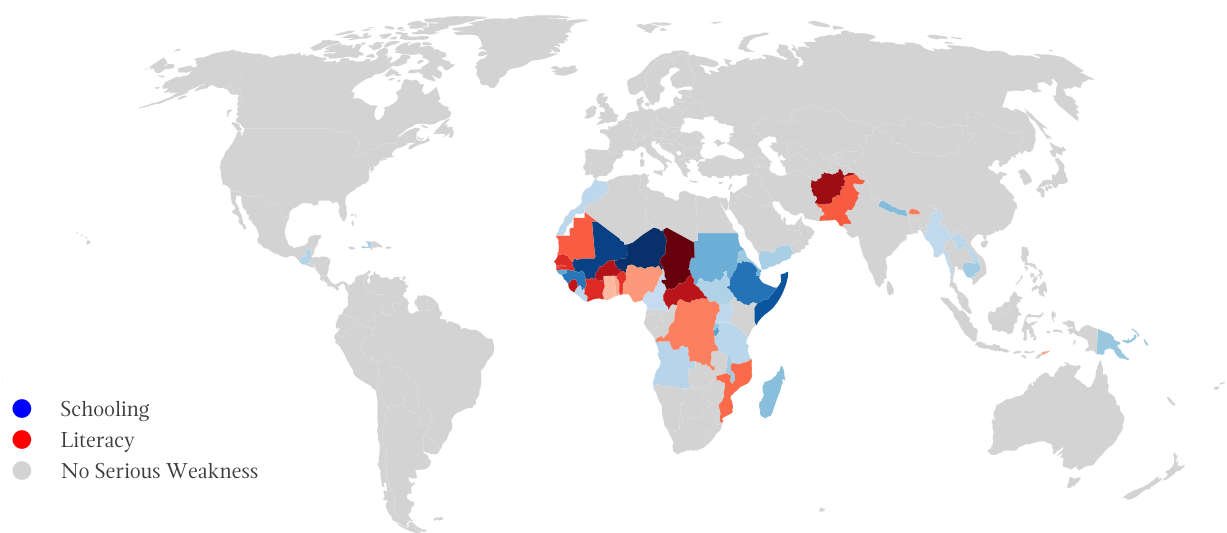


Figure 19: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

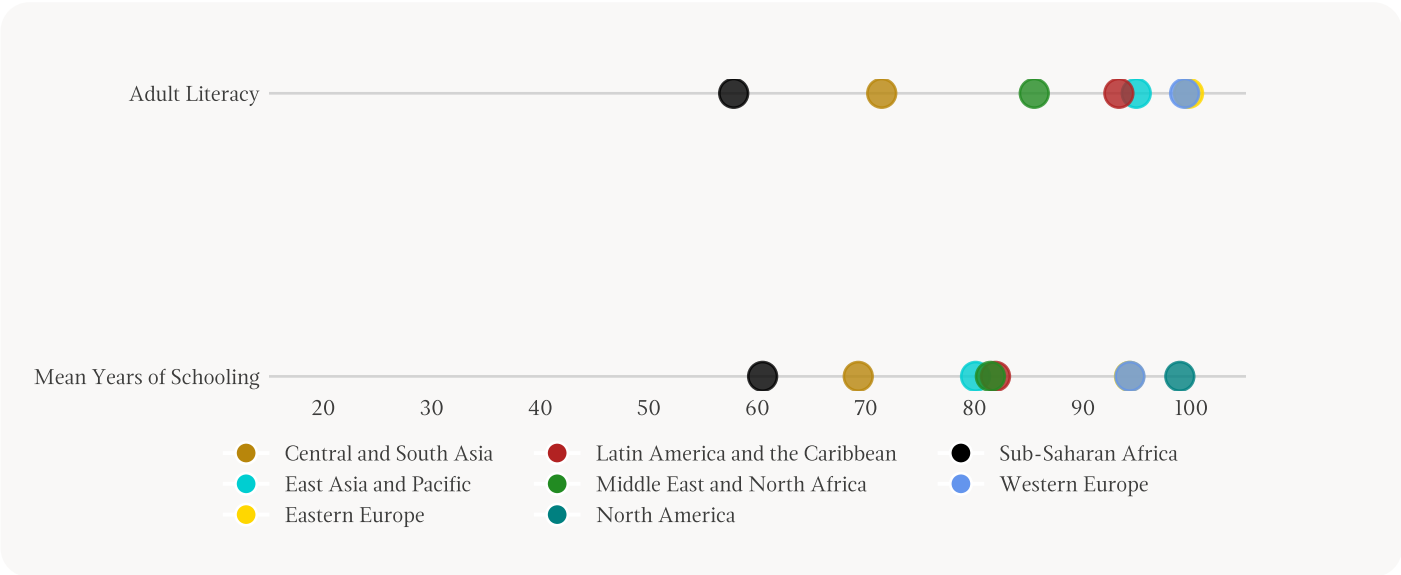


Figure 20: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Schooling (90.0%) is based on a measure of the mean number of years that citizens spend in education. These data are so scored as to ensure a law of diminishing returns: the difference between a mean of two years of education and four is much greater than that between, for example, eighteen and twenty.	Mean Years of Schooling (HDI)
Literacy (10.0%) is based on a measure of adult literacy.	Adult Literacy (UNESCO)

FREEDOM DOMAIN

Civil Peace

The 'Civil Peace' pillar estimates the extent to which citizens can go about their daily lives without unlawful interference or molestation, either by criminal actors or by arbitrary actions of the state. The pillar speaks to citizens' ability to make plans and live their lives with confidence.

Figure 21: Confidence in Police (Gallup World Poll)

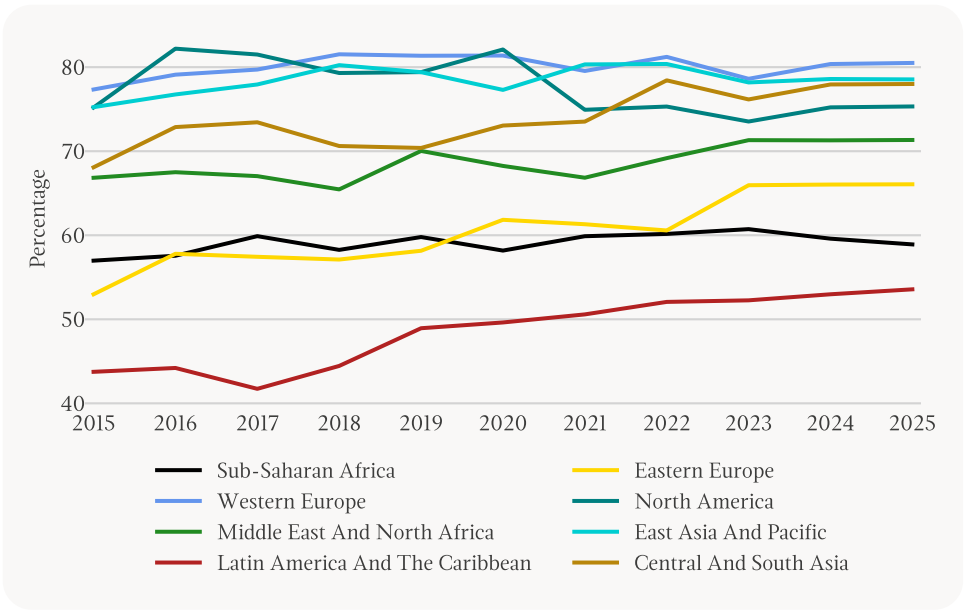
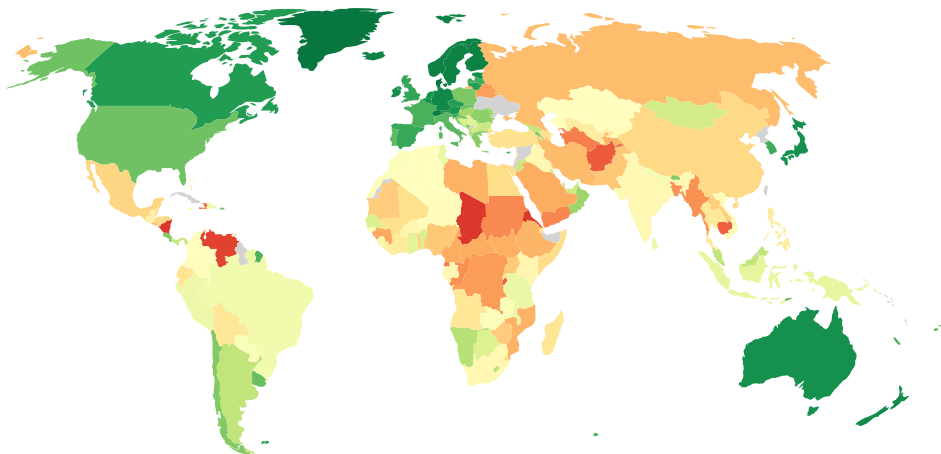


Figure 22: Global Scores for Civil Peace, 2025

Strongest

1	Denmark
2	Switzerland
3	Finland
4	Sweden
5	Iceland
6	Norway
7	Germany
8	New Zealand
9	Belgium
10	Ireland



Weakest

152	Turkmenistan
153	Equatorial Guinea
154	Haiti
155	Cambodia
156	Afghanistan
157	Burundi
158	Venezuela
159	Chad
160	Eritrea
161	Nicaragua

Figure 23: Most improved countries for Civil Peace, 2015-2025

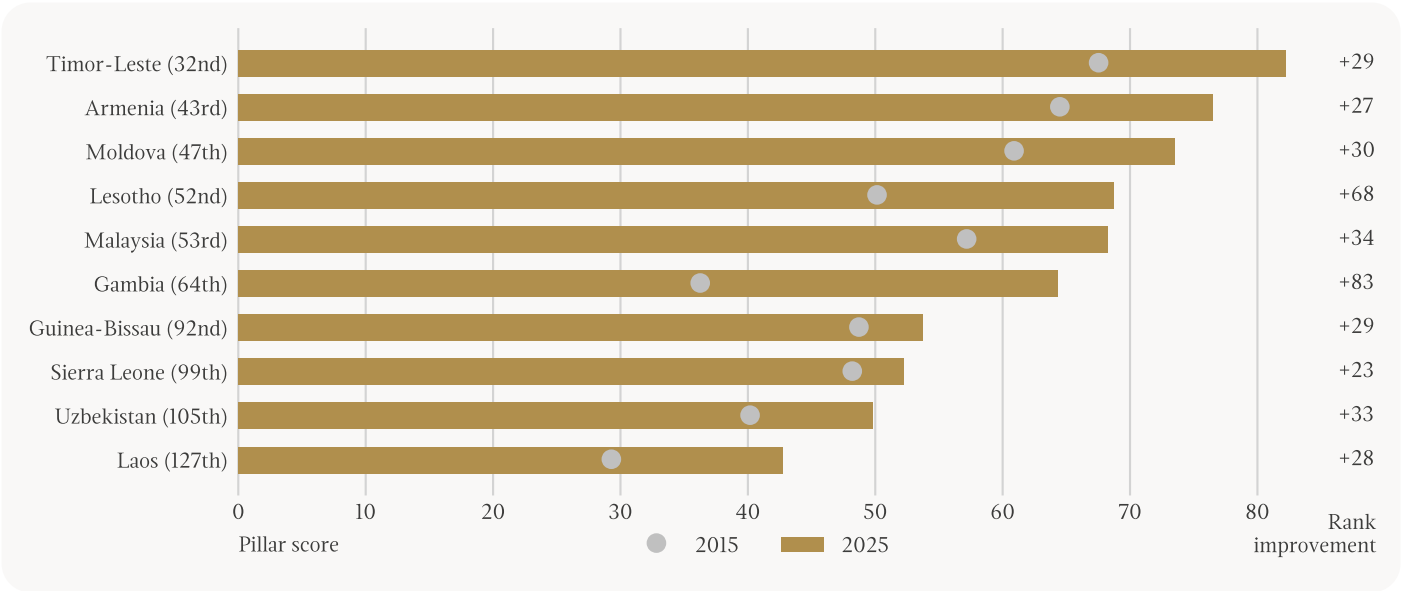


Figure 24: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

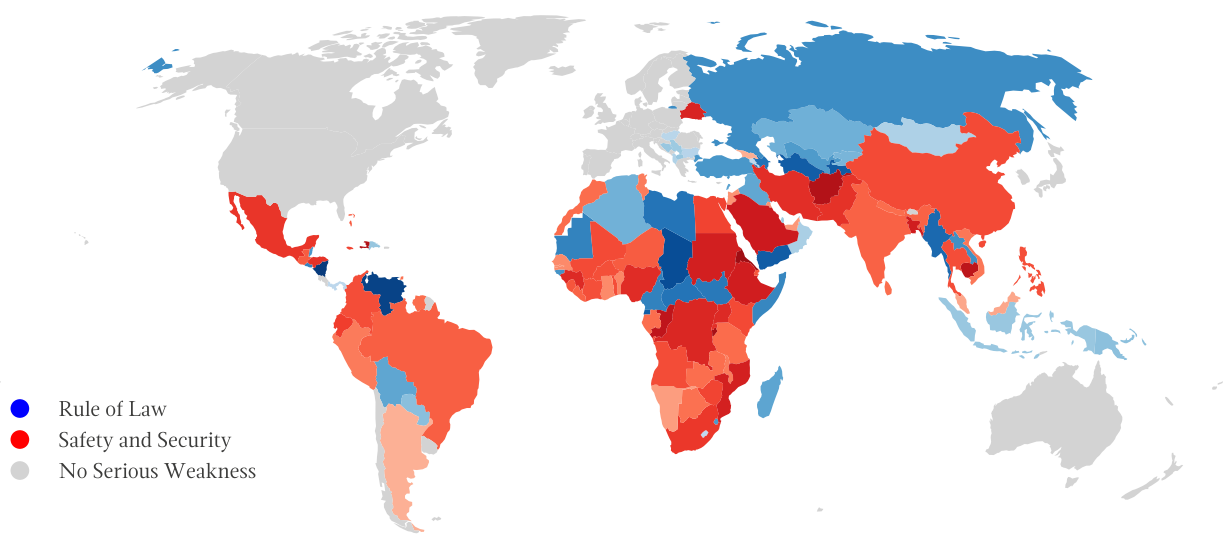


Figure 25: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

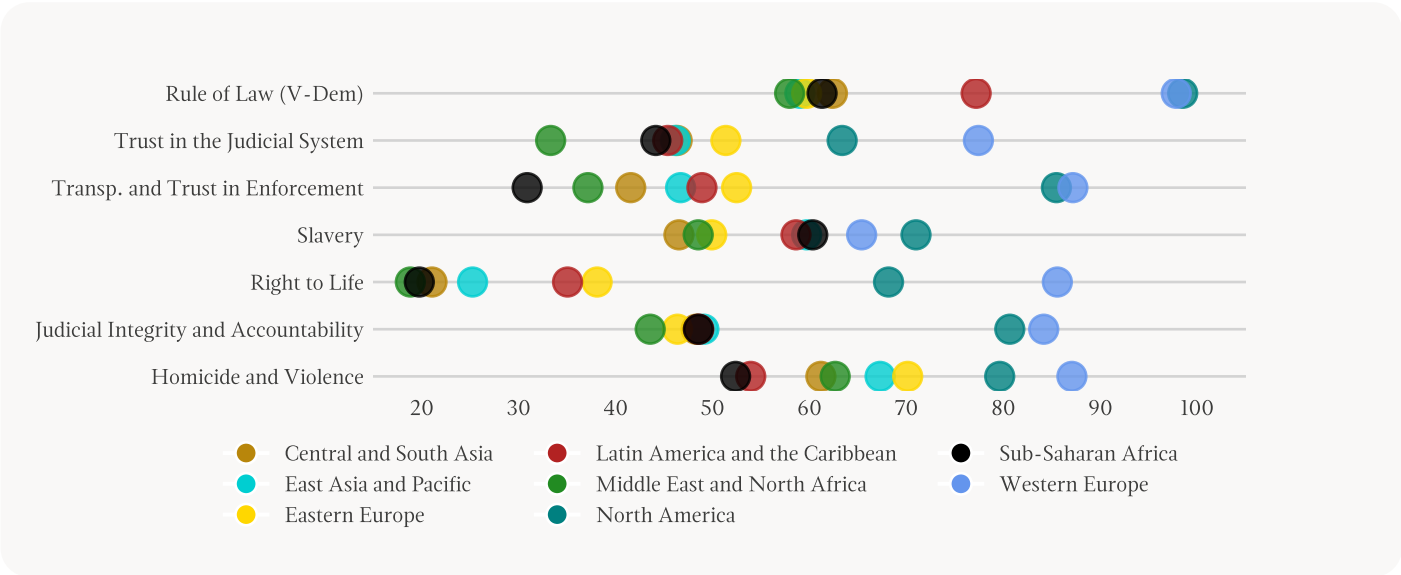


Figure 26: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Rule of Law (50.0%) estimates the extent to which the state is subject to the law, justice is administered impartially and without corruption, and citizens have reasonable access to legal recourses to injury. The certainty and stability provided by reliable and predictable enforcement of the laws allows individuals and firms to make long-term plans and to feel secure, and we take it to be an essential component of prosperity.	- Judicial Integrity And Accountability - Transparency And Trust in Enforcement - Trust in The Judicial System - Rule of Law (V-Dem)
Safety And Security (50.0%) estimates the extent of the threat to life and liberty posed by criminal actors, taking account of the prevalence of violent crime, human trafficking and smuggling, and slavery. The significance of these factors for human well-being and prosperity is, we believe, evident.	- Right to Life - Homicide And Violence - Slavery

FREEDOM DOMAIN

Freedom of Dissent

The 'Freedom of Dissent' pillar estimates the extent to which citizens can express and live by reasonable convictions that differ from those most favoured by the ruling power and prevailing culture. The pillar speaks to citizens' ability to criticize their rulers and received opinions, and so to highlight failures, fallacies, and abuses.

Figure 27: Internet Usage (World Bank)

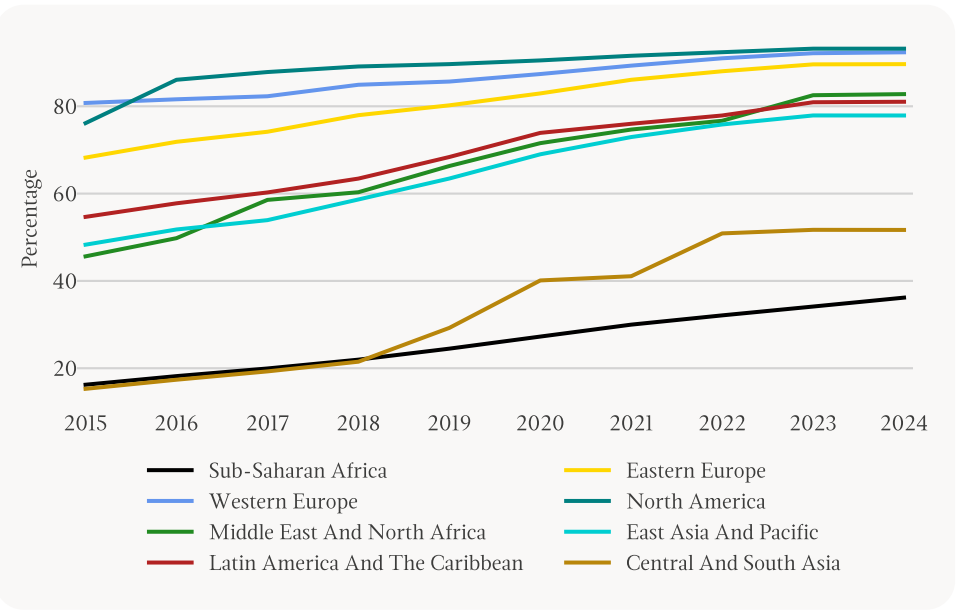
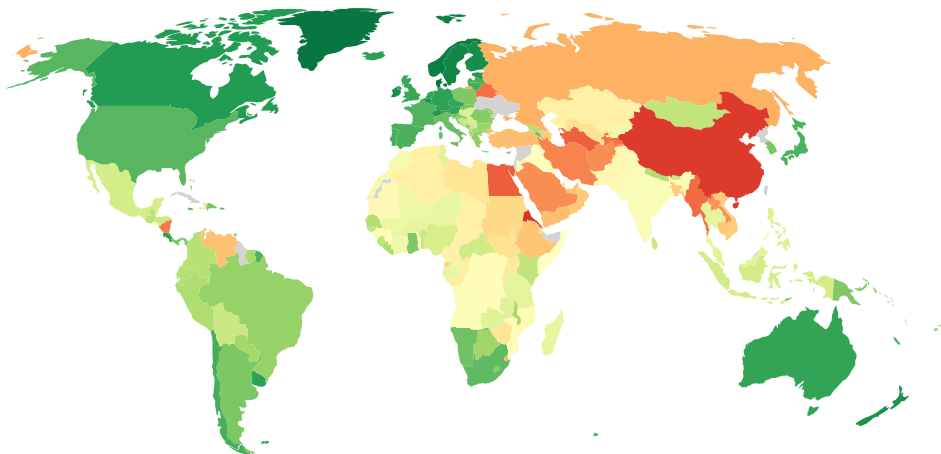


Figure 28: Global Scores for Freedom of Dissent, 2025

Strongest

1	Denmark
2	Norway
3	Sweden
4	Finland
5	Ireland
6	New Zealand
7	Switzerland
8	Belgium
9	Luxembourg
10	Estonia



Weakest

152	Saudi Arabia
153	Iran
154	Nicaragua
155	Tajikistan
156	Belarus
157	Myanmar
158	Turkmenistan
159	Egypt
160	China
161	Eritrea

Figure 29: Most improved countries for Freedom of Dissent, 2015-2025

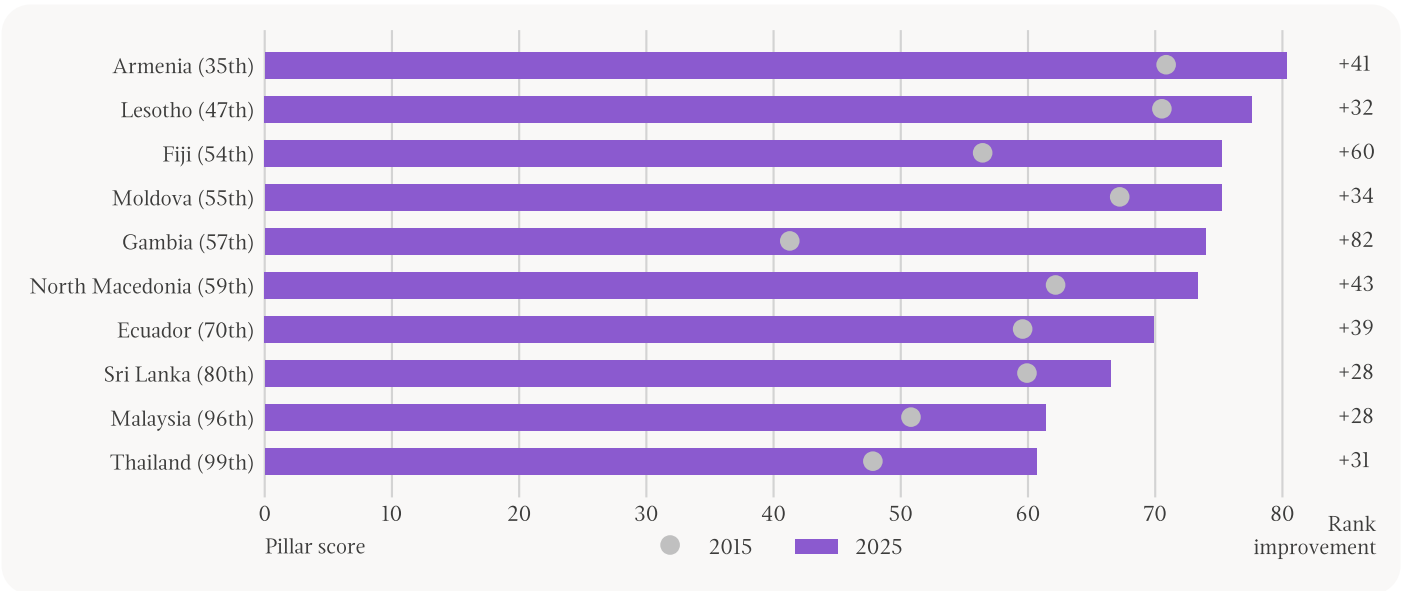


Figure 30: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

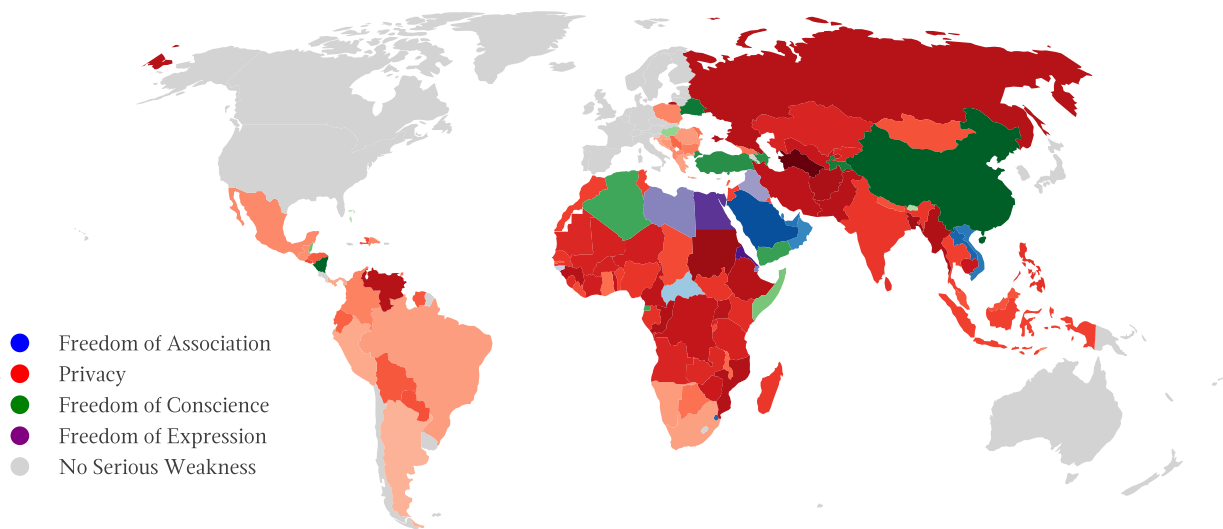


Figure 31: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

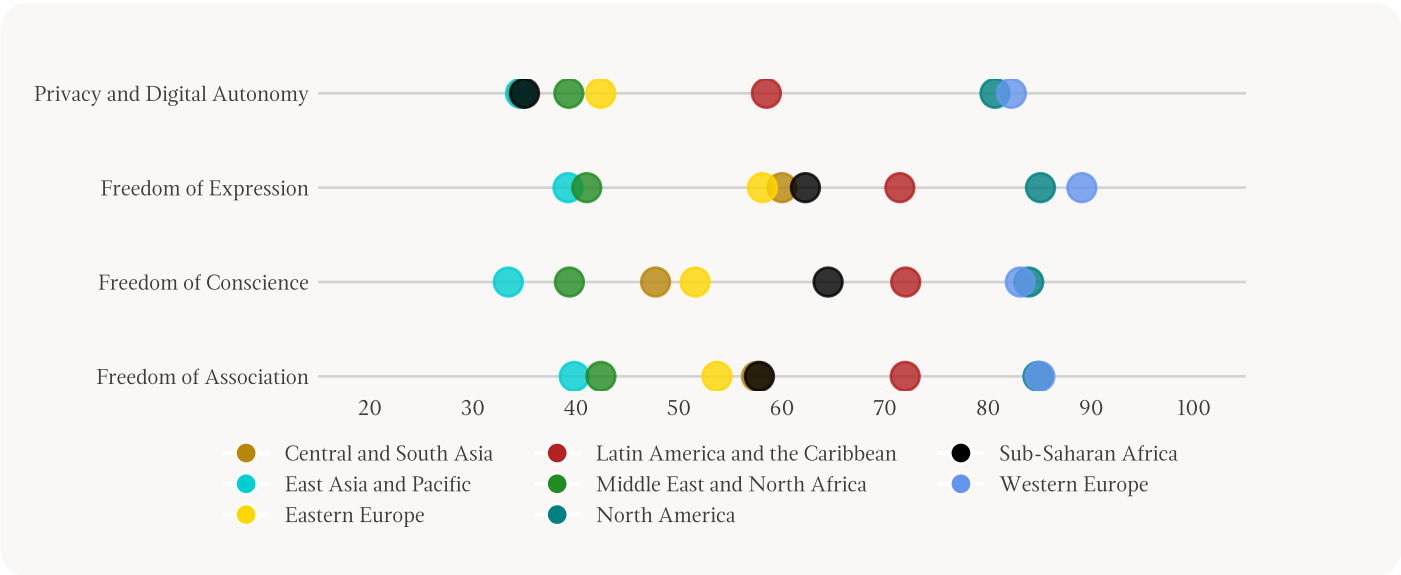


Figure 32: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Freedom of Expression (54.55%) estimates the extent to which citizens are free, both de jure and de facto, to express themselves freely, even when their views go against received opinions or the views of the powerful. It includes measures of press freedom.	- Freedom of Discussion - Freedom of The Press
Freedom of Conscience (18.18%) estimates the extent to which citizens are able to live their lives in accordance with their convictions, within the reasonable limits necessary for a peaceful society. It considers both freedom of religion and freedom of academic and cultural expression.	- Academic And Cultural Expression - Freedom of Belief
Freedom of Association (18.18%) estimates the extent to which citizens are able to assemble and associate freely, and to belong to political groups and parties.	- Civic And Nonpolitical Participation - Right to Assemble - Political Organisation
Privacy And Digital Autonomy (9.09%) estimates the extent to which the state guarantees the privacy of individuals in practice, and avoids censoring them on the internet without good cause.	- Privacy - Digital Autonomy

FREEDOM DOMAIN

Economic Freedom

The 'Economic Freedom' pillar estimates the extent to which citizens can own property, engage in voluntary exchange and enjoy the fruits of their labour. It considers the regulatory and tax burden, the soundness of the money, and the rule of law as to contracts and property.

Figure 33: World Tax Revenue over GDP (IMF)

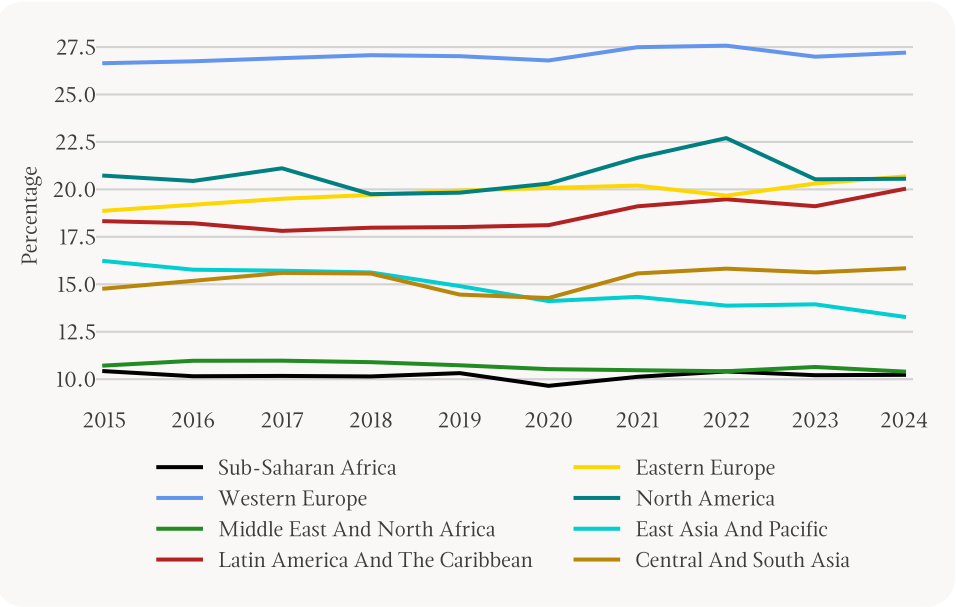
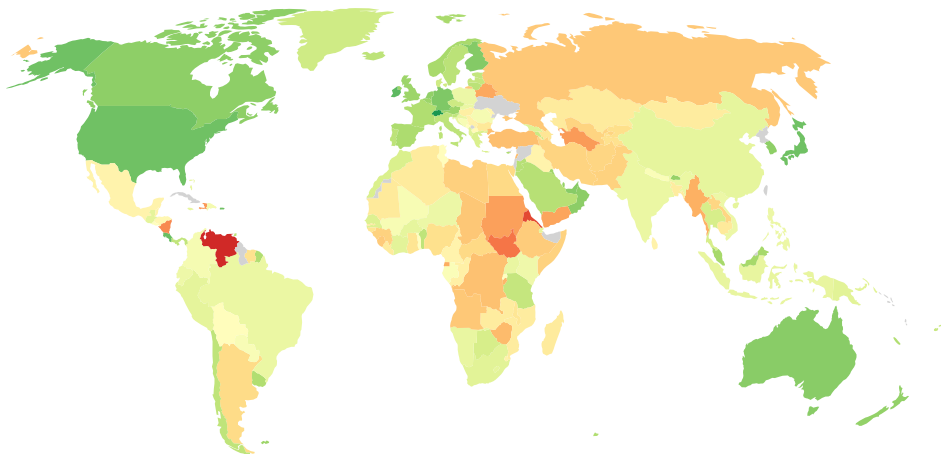


Figure 34: Global Scores for Economic Freedom, 2025

Strongest

1	Switzerland
2	Singapore
3	Ireland
4	Costa Rica
5	Japan
6	United States
7	Germany
8	Finland
9	United Arab Emirates
10	Australia



Weakest

152	Equatorial Guinea
153	Belarus
154	Yemen
155	Sudan
156	Turkmenistan
157	Haiti
158	Nicaragua
159	South Sudan
160	Eritrea
161	Venezuela

Figure 35: Most improved countries for Economic Freedom, 2015-2025

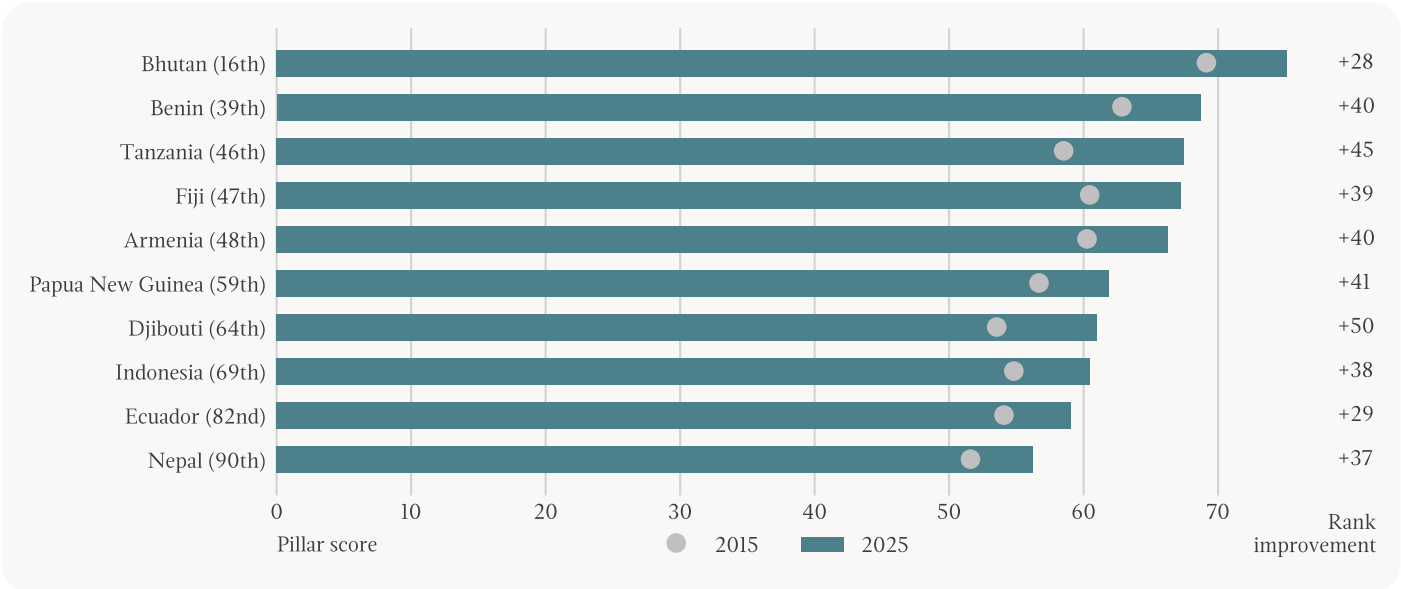


Figure 36: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

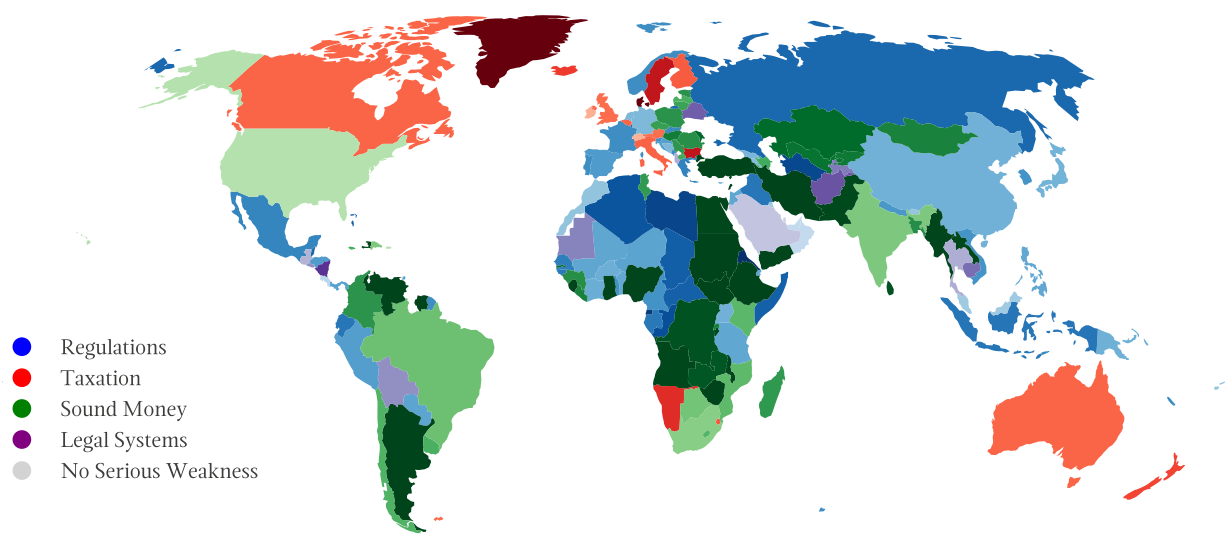


Figure 37: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

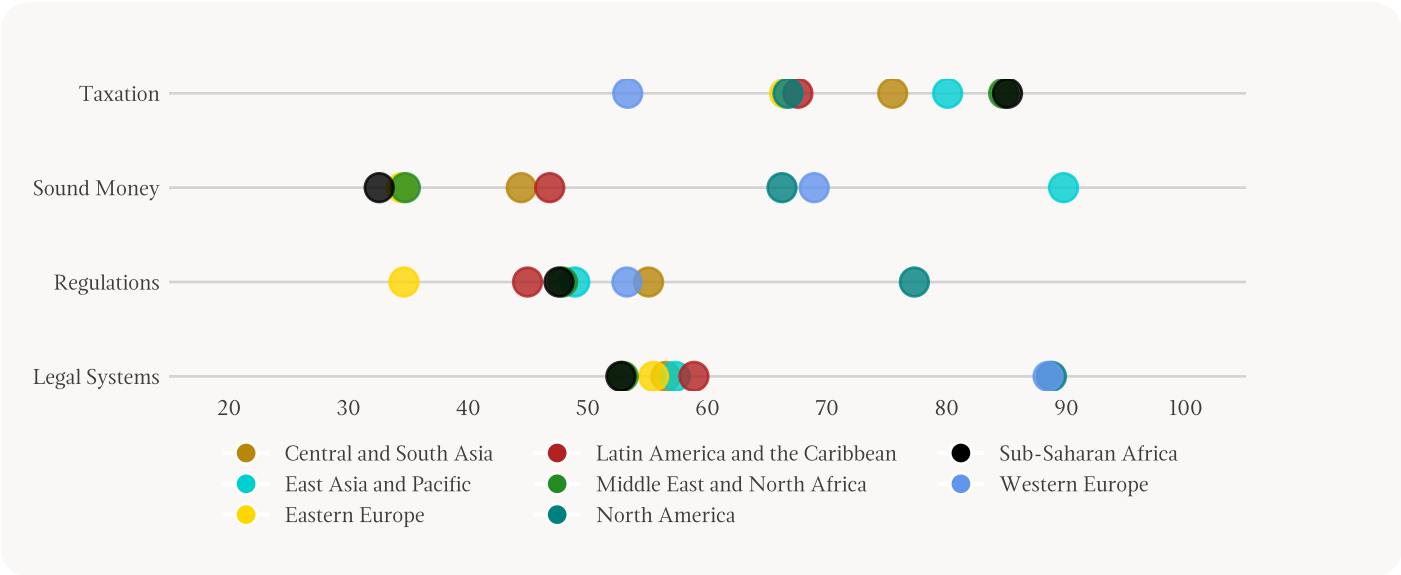


Figure 38: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Legal Systems (57.14%) estimates the extent to which the law in practice provides security and certainty of property and contracts, allowing businesses and individuals to trade, save and invest with confidence.	- Property Rights - Rule of Law - Contract Enforcement
Sound Money (14.29%) estimates the stability of the money supply, as an essential pre-requisite of trade and investment.	Inflation
Taxation (14.29%) estimates the burden of taxation upon individuals and businesses, the premise of this element being that individuals have a right to the fruit of their labour except insofar as the state has serious reasons for taxing them, for necessary ends.	World Tax Revenue Over GDP
Regulations (14.29%) estimates the quality of regulations upon individuals and businesses. The element recognises the value of concise and clear regulations in many areas, but also considers whether regulations are unreasonably burdensome upon businesses and individuals.	- Business Regulations - Labour Market Regulations - Trade Regulation - Regulatory Quality (WGI)

Integrity of Families

'Integrity of Families' estimates the extent to which citizens can and do enjoy the natural goods of family life, whilst retaining the choice of their state in life. It is a measure both of cultural and political barriers to family formation, and of the health of the relations between the sexes within the culture. It draws on data about fertility rates, women's basic rights, and related matters.

Figure 39: Total Fertility Rate (World Bank

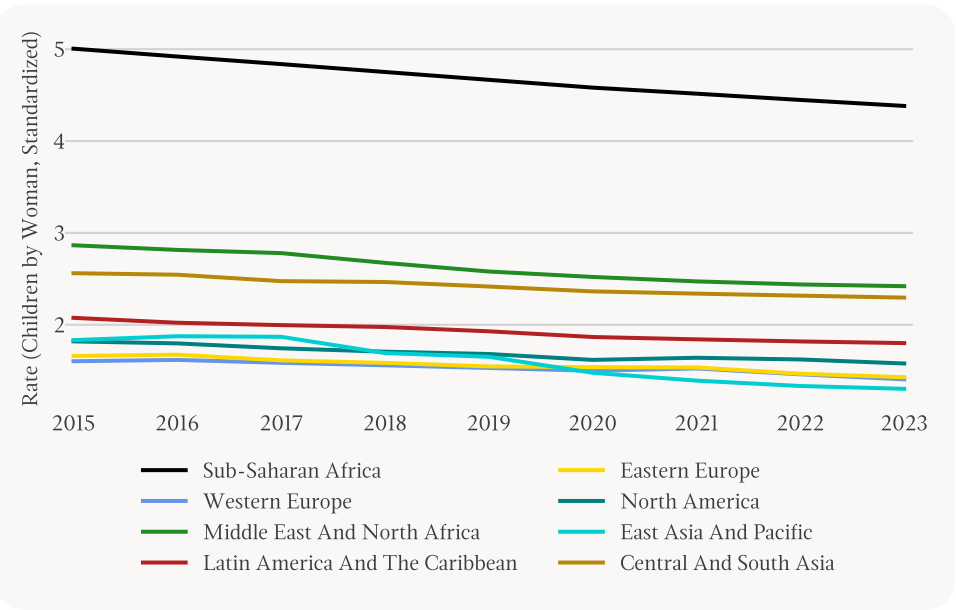
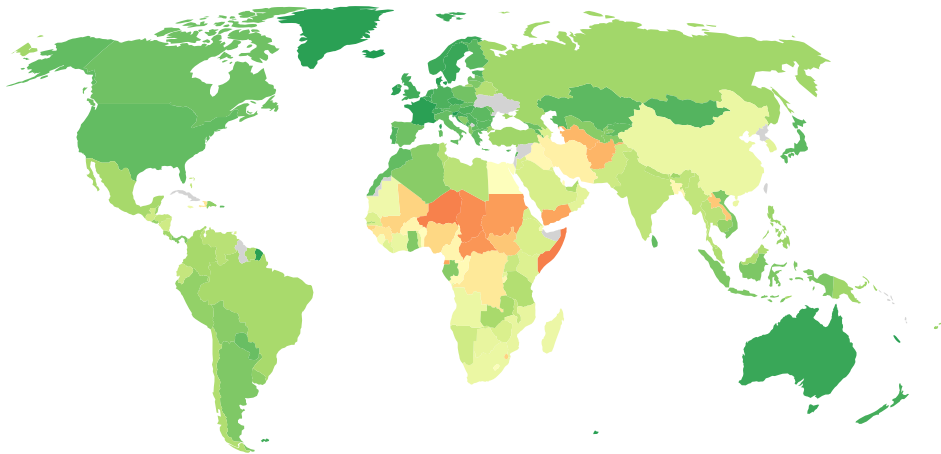


Figure 40: Global Scores for Integrity of Families, 2025

Strongest

1	Israel
2	Slovenia
3	Iceland
4	Denmark
5	France
6	Ireland
7	Sweden
8	Australia
9	Norway
10	Belgium



Weakest

152	South Sudan
153	Turkmenistan
154	Afghanistan
155	Equatorial Guinea
156	Yemen
157	Sudan
158	C.A.R
159	Chad
160	Niger
161	Somalia

Figure 41: Most improved countries for Integrity of Families, 2015-2025

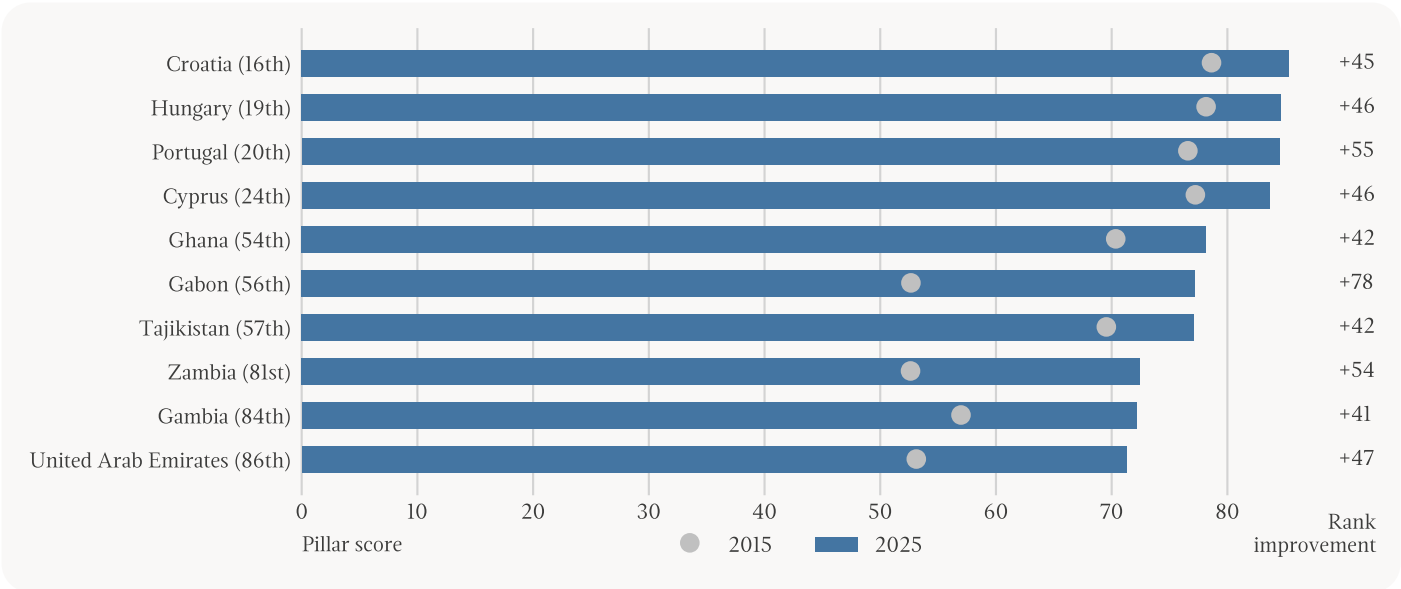


Figure 42: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

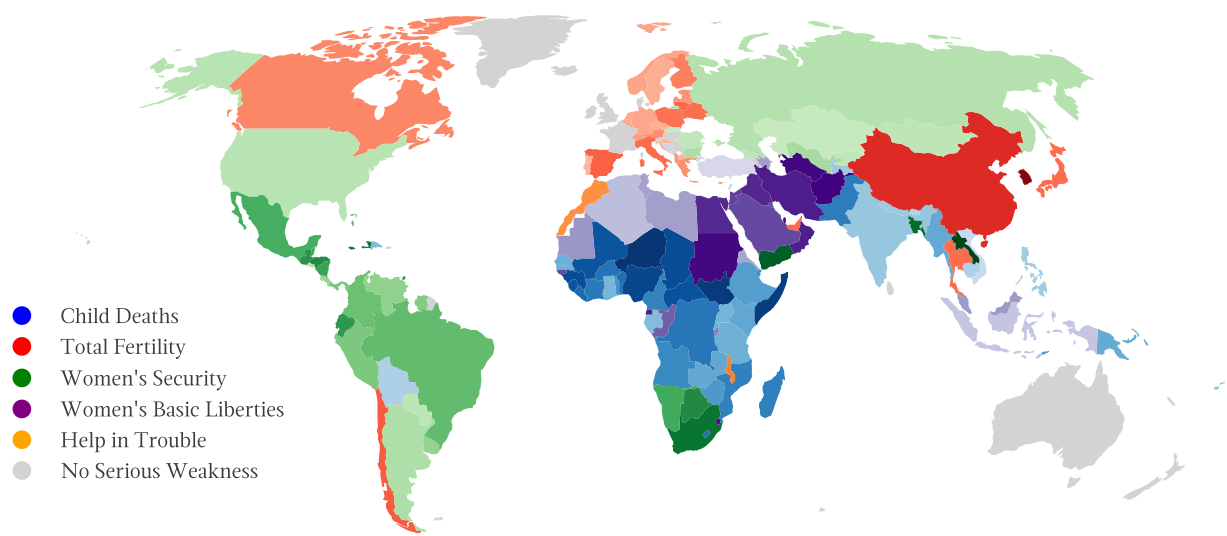


Figure 43: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

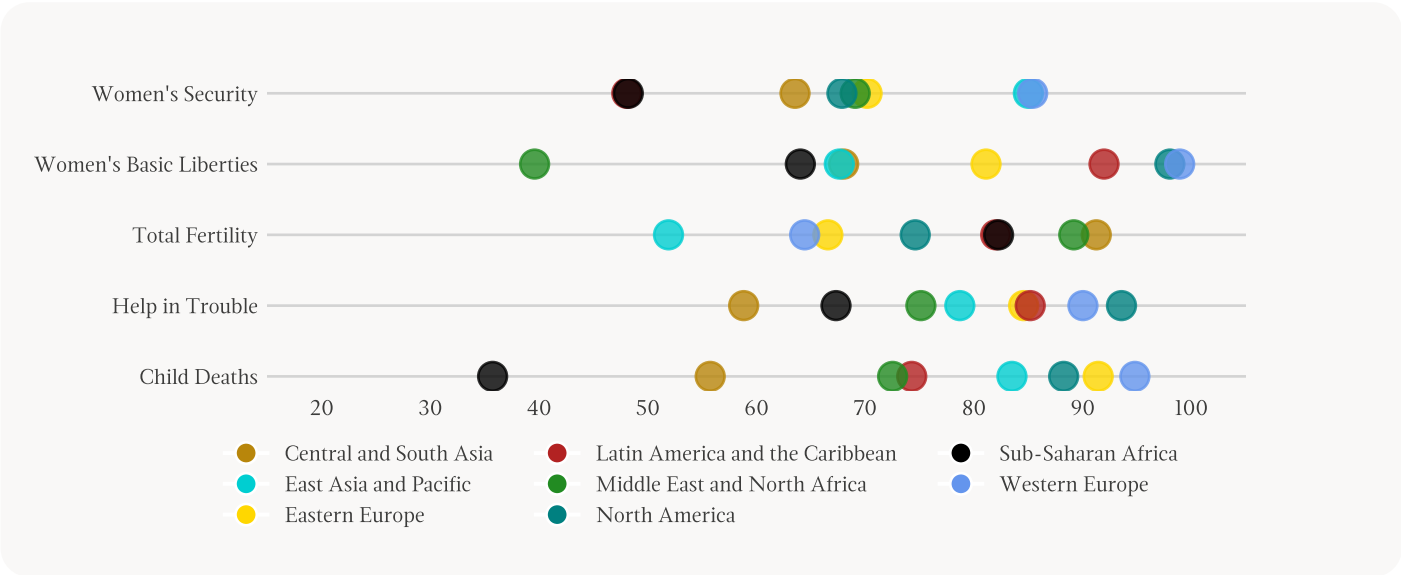


Figure 44: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Women's Basic Liberties (23.08%) estimates the degree to which women enjoy fundamental liberties such as the right to work, travel and have a bank account. This element complements the 'Total Fertility' element by providing an indication of whether women are freely able to choose their state of life.	• Women's Basic Rights (World Bank) • Freedom of Discussion for Women (V-Dem) • Property Rights for Women (VDEM)
Women's Security (23.08%) estimates the degree to which women enjoy physical security. This element again complements 'Total Fertility' by speaking to the respect with which women are treated. The premise of the element is that, if fertility is high primarily because women are treated as chattel, then it is not a true indicator of unqualified prosperity.	• Women's Basic Rights (World Bank) • Freedom of Discussion for Women (V-Dem) • Property Rights for Women (V-Dem)
Total Fertility (23.08%) is based on estimates of the total fertility rate.	• Total Fertility Rate (UN) • Total Fertility Rate (World Bank)
Child Deaths (23.08%) is based on data about child and infant mortality. This premise of this element is that in the world of today, families cannot be said unqualifiedly to be strong if children are dying at a high rate.	• Child Mortality (WHO) • Infant Mortality (World Bank)
Help in Trouble (7.69%) is a single indicator: the World Poll finding of the percentage of people who say that they have family and friends upon whom they could rely for help in trouble. This is a low-weighted node which provides some indication of the trust and affection within families.	

Integrity of Communities

'Integrity of Communities' estimates the strength of local communities, where this is understood in terms of the degree of trust and affection that residents of a town or neighbourhood feel for each other. The pillar draws on data about employment, happiness and sociability, and neighbourhood crime.

Figure 45: Life Evaluation Thriving (Gallup World Poll)

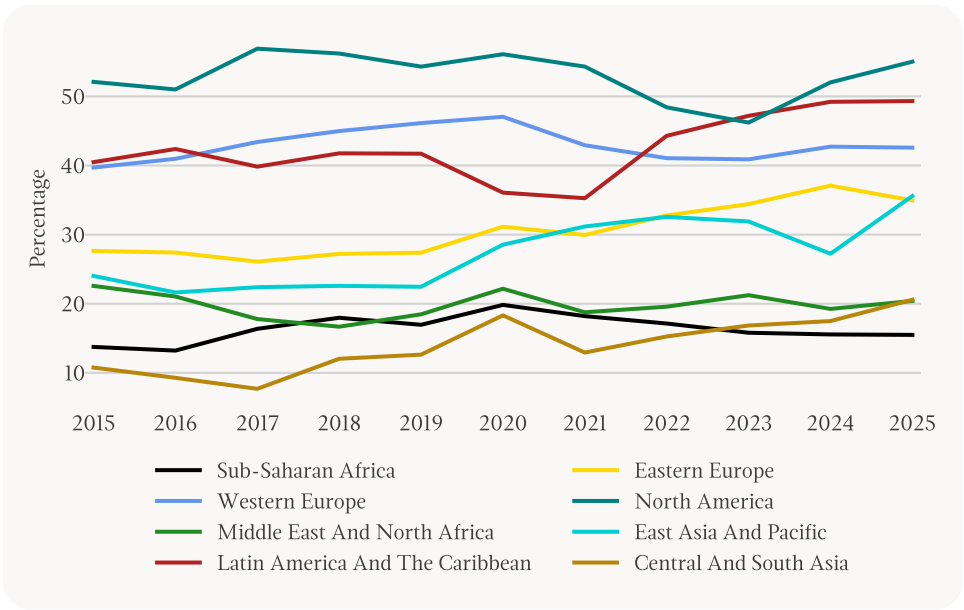


Figure 46: Global Scores for Integrity of Communities, 2025

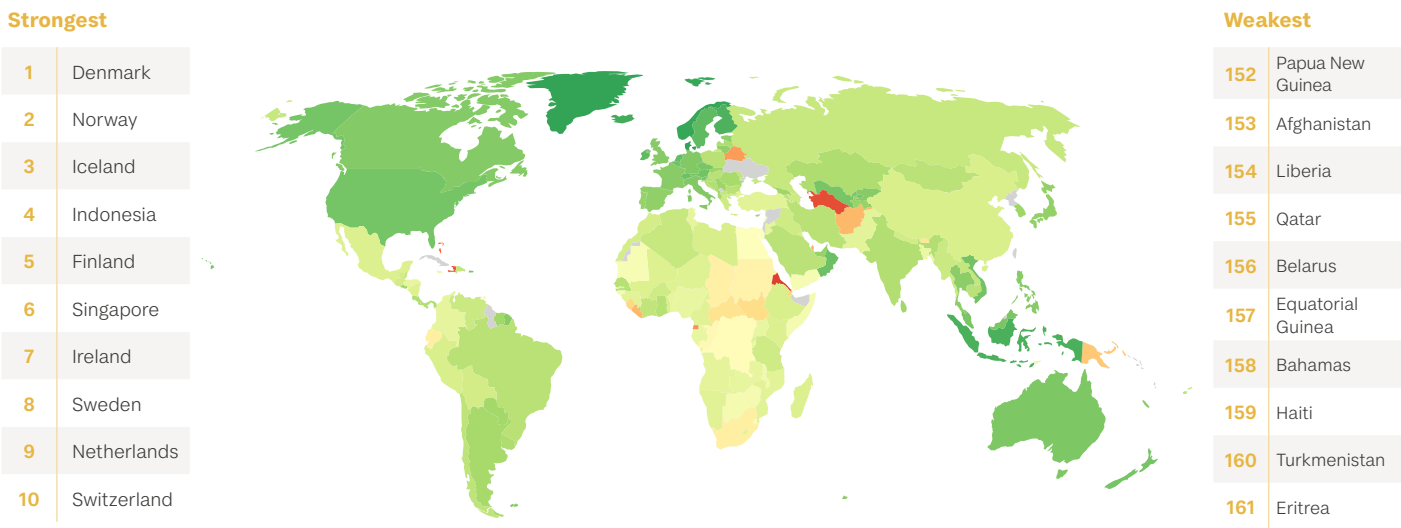


Figure 47: Most improved countries for Integrity of Communities, 2015-2025

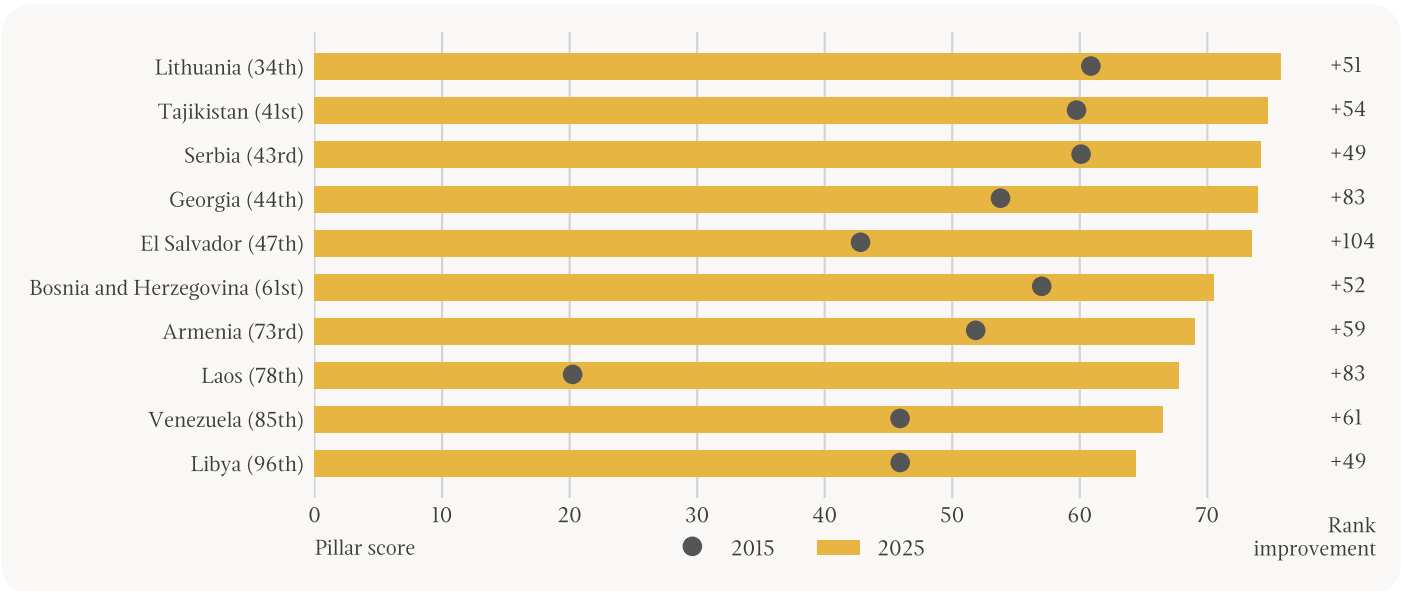


Figure 48: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

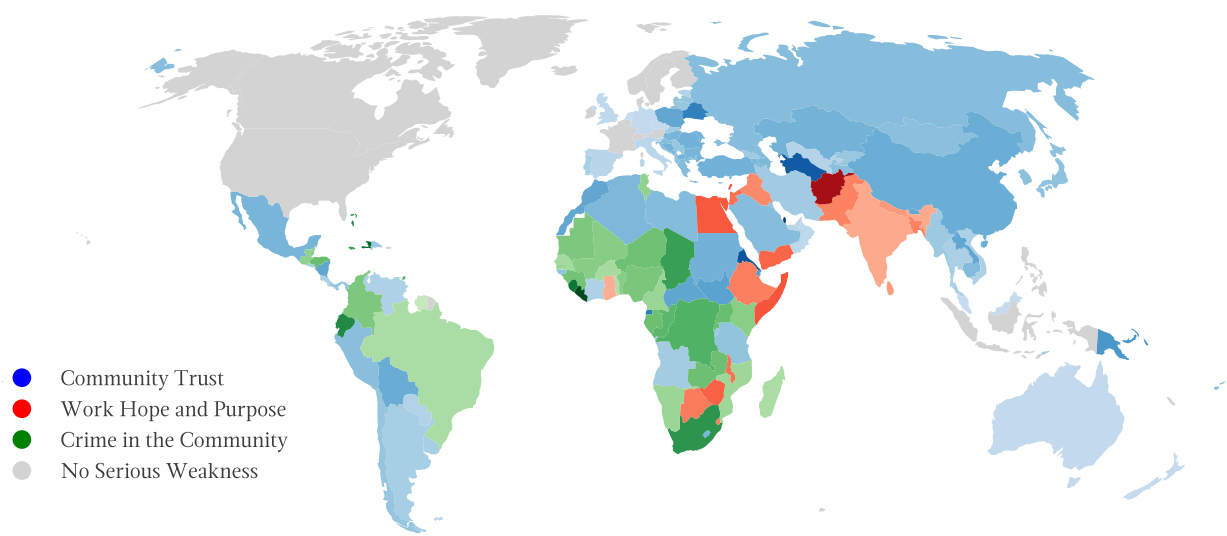


Figure 49: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

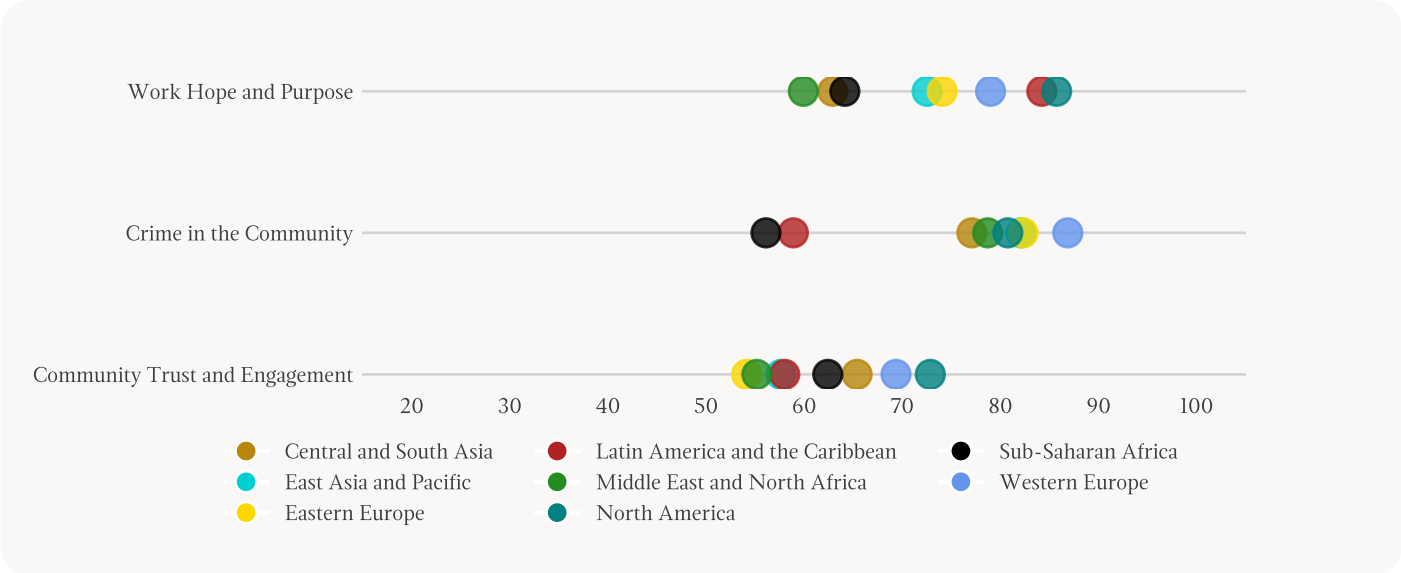


Figure 50: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Work Hope And Purpose (33.33%) estimates the extent to which citizens feel a sense of hope and purpose: a vital component of prosperity, and in particular something without which, we think, local communities cannot achieve a thriving and happy atmosphere.	- Laughed or Smiled Yesterday (World Poll) - Unemployment Index (World Poll) - Life Evaluation Thriving (World Poll) - Life Evaluation Suffering (World Poll)
Crime in The Community (33.33%) estimates the extent of crime at the local level, here taken for the purposes of the estimation as crime other than serious organised crime.	- Violent Deaths - Victim of Violence (GOCI) - Victim of Theft (World Poll)

SOCIETY DOMAIN

Integrity of Society

The 'Integrity of Society' pillar aims to measure the extent to which the national population is splintered into various different ethnic or social groups that perceive their interests and values to be different from those of other groups, and the degree of mutual suspicion between citizens as such; or, on the other hand, the degree to which citizens feel mutual trust, and have a shared awareness of shared interests and values.

Figure 51: Access to public services distributed by social group (V-Dem)

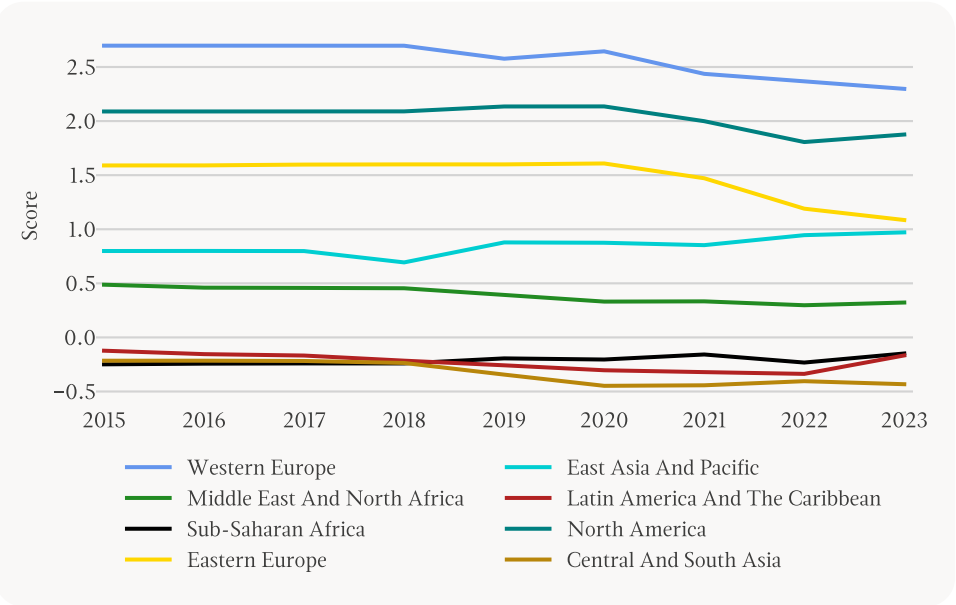


Figure 52: Global Scores for Integrity of Society, 2025

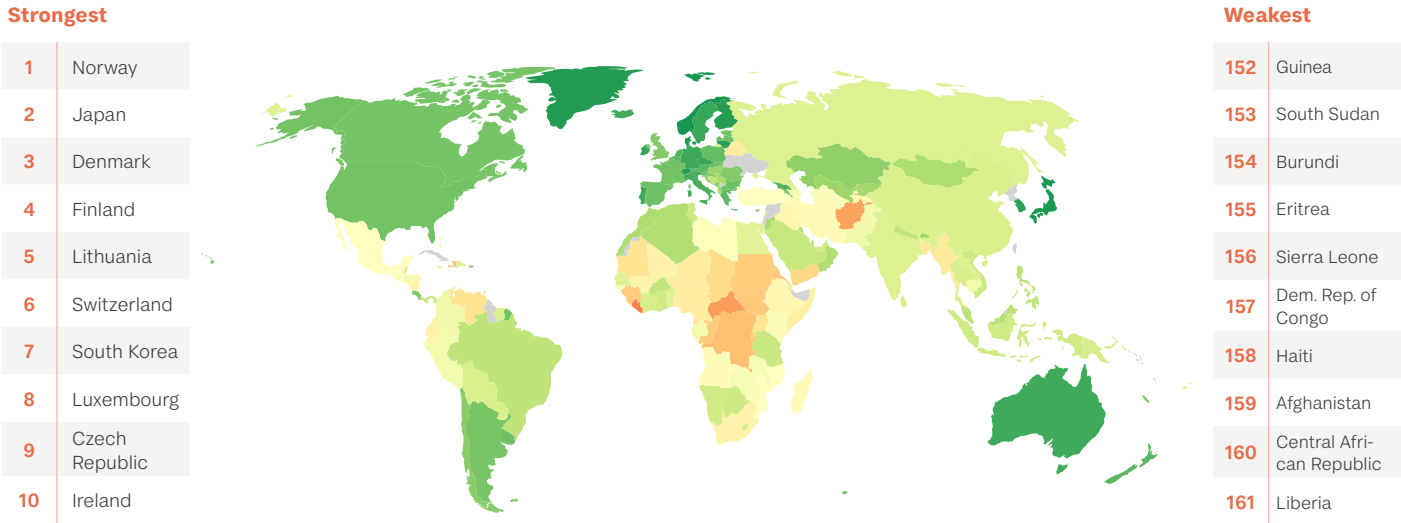


Figure 53: Most improved countries for Integrity of Society, 2015-2025

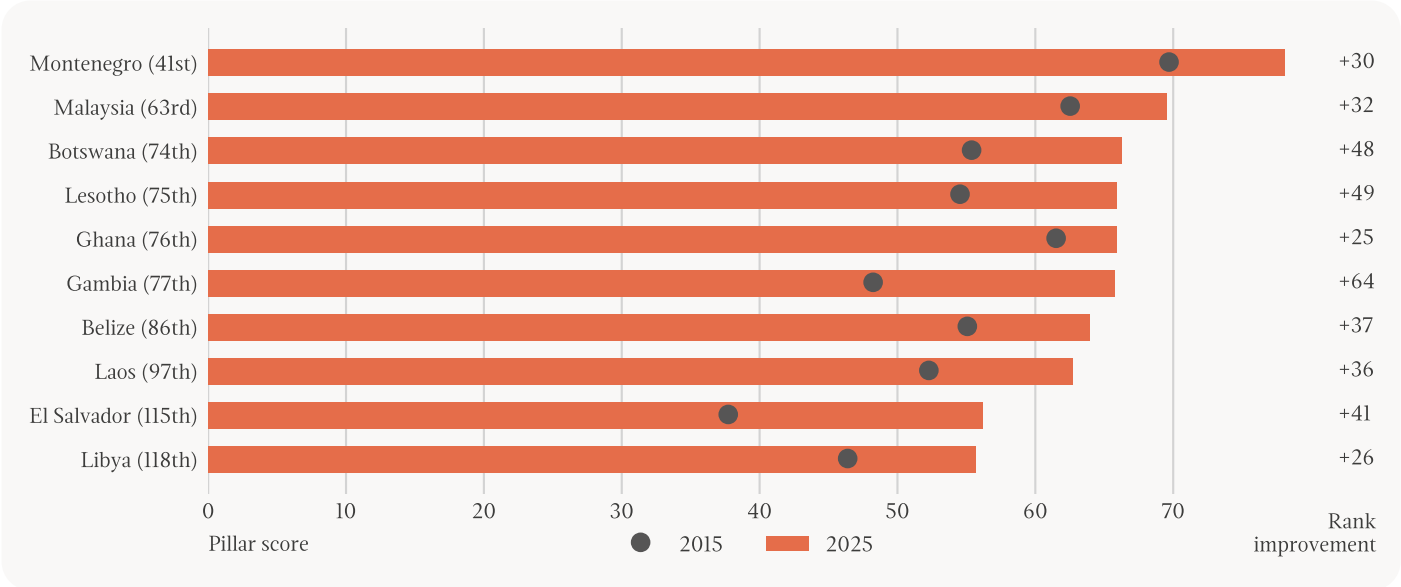


Figure 54: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

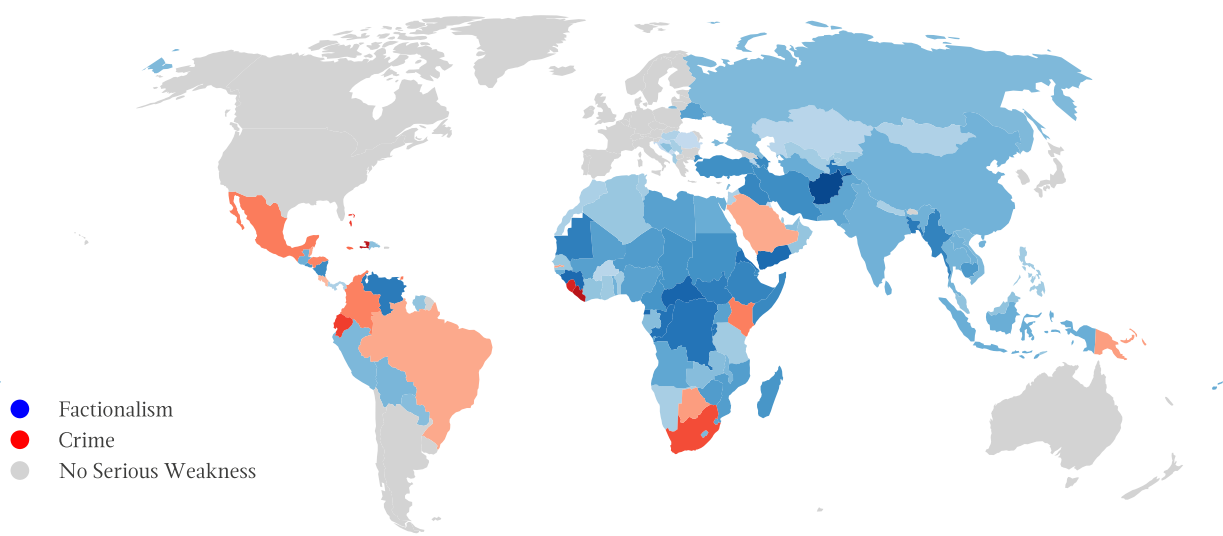


Figure 55: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

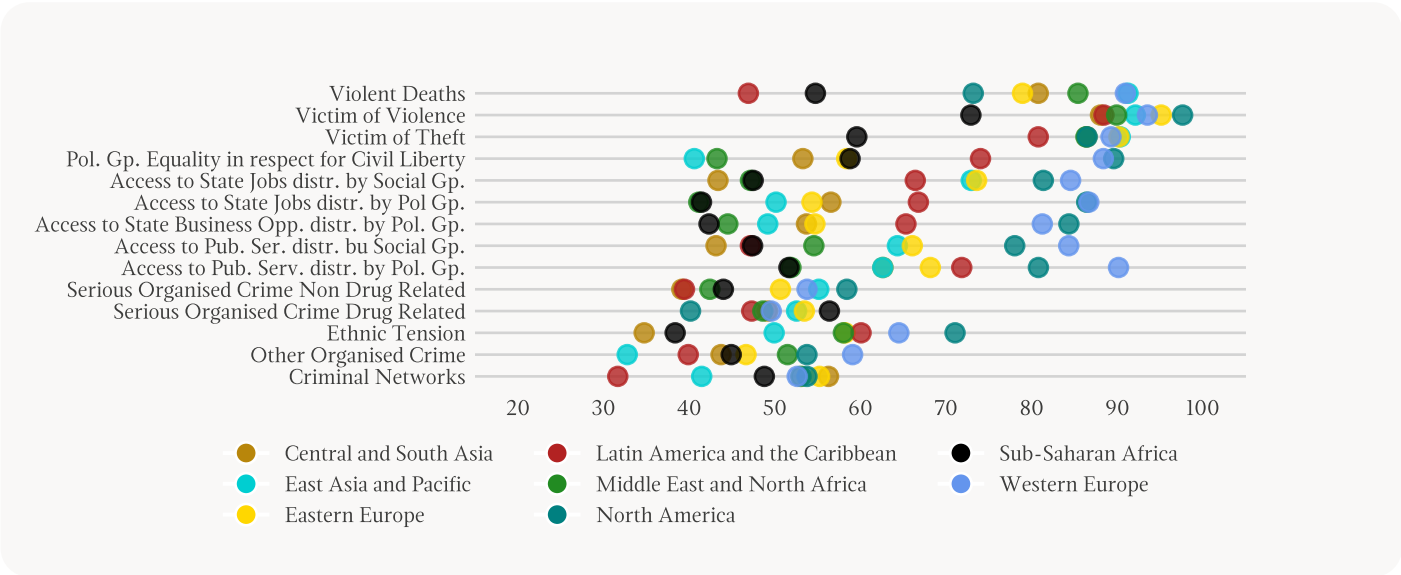


Figure 56: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
Factionalism (50.0%) estimates the extent to which the state treats different ethnic, social and political groups impartially, as something indicative of factionalism more broadly.	- Political Group Equality in Respect For Civil Liberty (V-Dem) - Access to Public Services Distributed amongst Political Groups (V-Dem) - Access to State Jobs Distributed amongst Political Groups (V-Dem) - Access to State Business Opportunity Distributed Amongst Political Groups (V-Dem) - Access to Public Services Distributed Amongst Social Groups (V-Dem) - Access to State Jobs Distributed Amongst Social Groups (V-Dem) - Ethnic Tension (PRS)
Crime (50.0%) estimates the extent of crime, including serious organised crime. The premise of this element is that high levels of crime undermine trust between fellow citizens.	- Serious Organised Crime Drug Related - Serious Organised Crime Non Drug Related - Other Organised Crime - Criminal Networks Conceptual - Violent Deaths - Victim of Theft (World Poll) - Victim of Violence (GOCI)

Integrity of State

'Integrity of State' estimates the extent to which citizens feel themselves to have some share and interest in the life of the political community as a body having a meaningful common good that they can serve. It includes estimates of border security, the state's internal hegemony of force, state corruption, and public trust in the political process.

Figure 57: Confidence in Elections (Gallup World Poll)

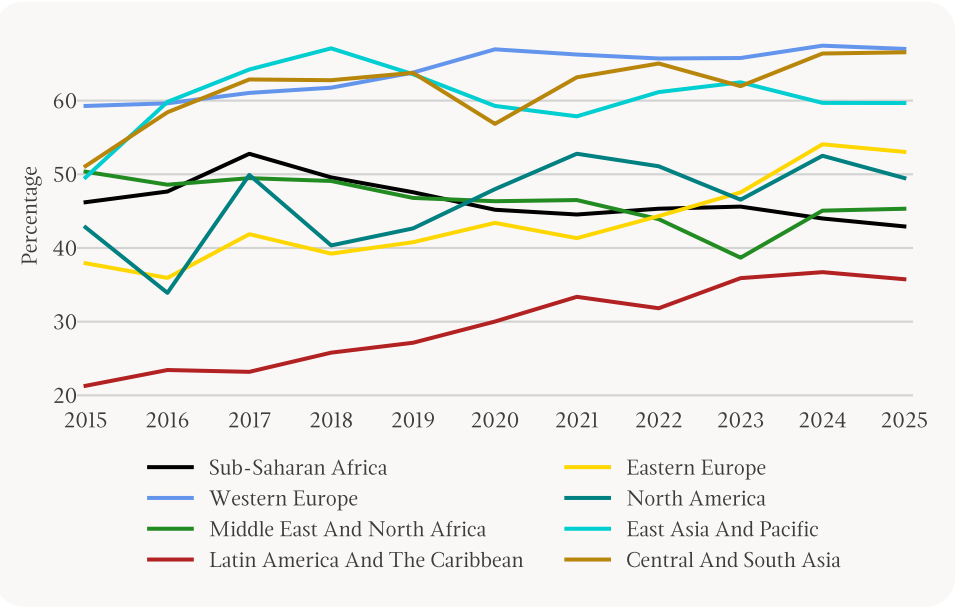


Figure 58: Global Scores for Integrity of State, 2025

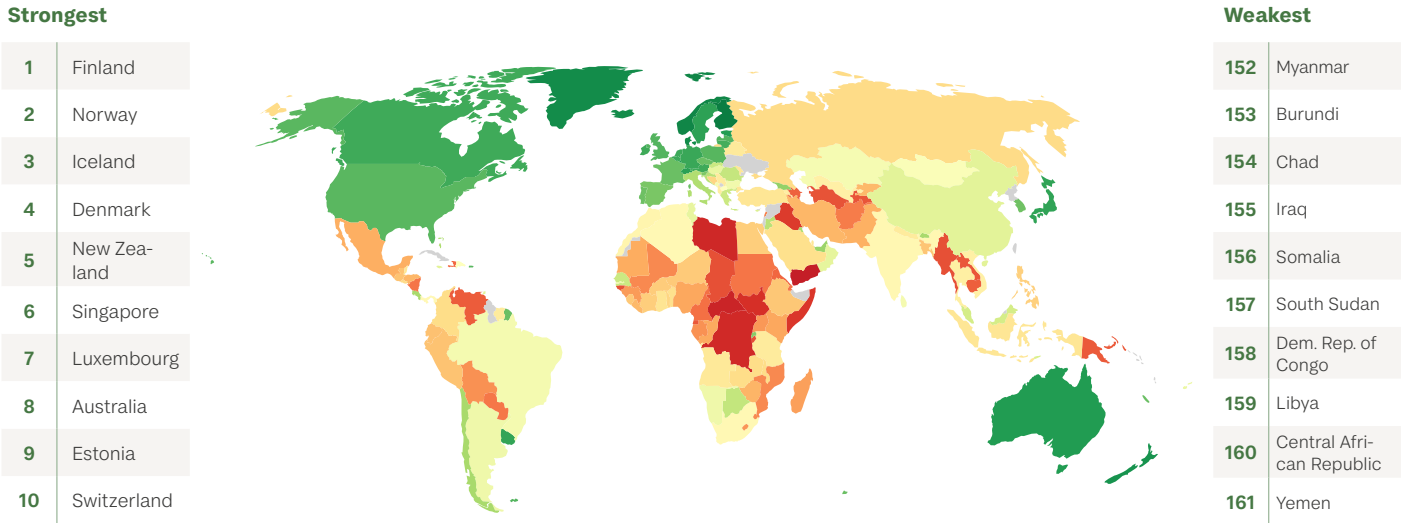


Figure 59: Most improved countries for Integrity of State 2015-2025

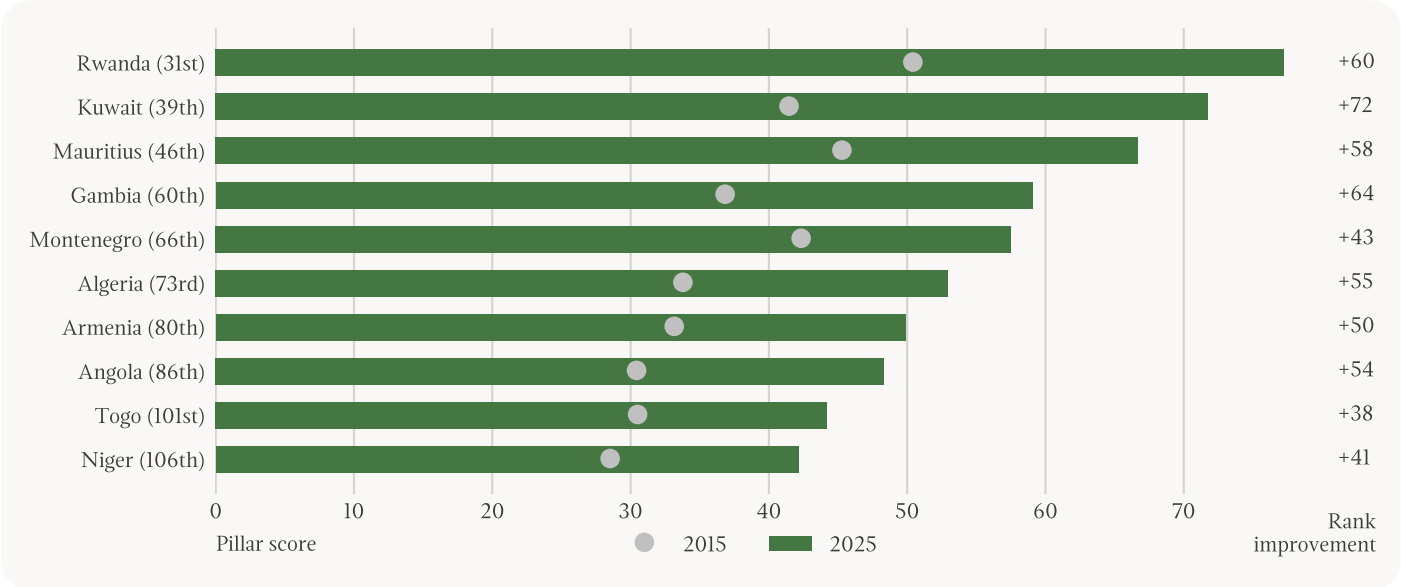


Figure 60: Weakest element by country (lower scores shaded more darkly)

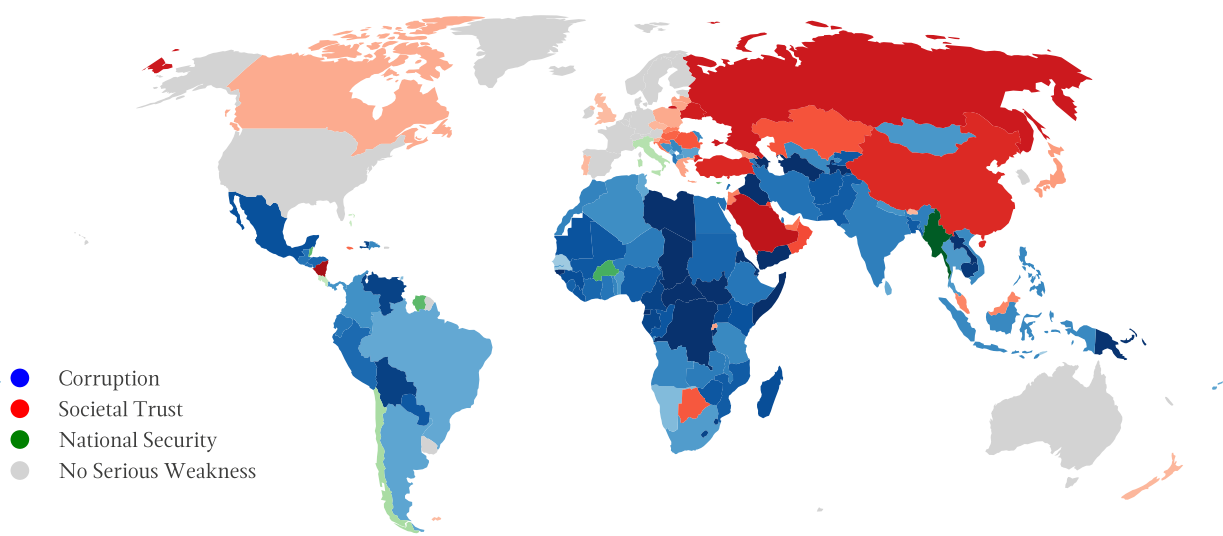


Figure 61: Distribution of average scores by region (population-weighted averages)

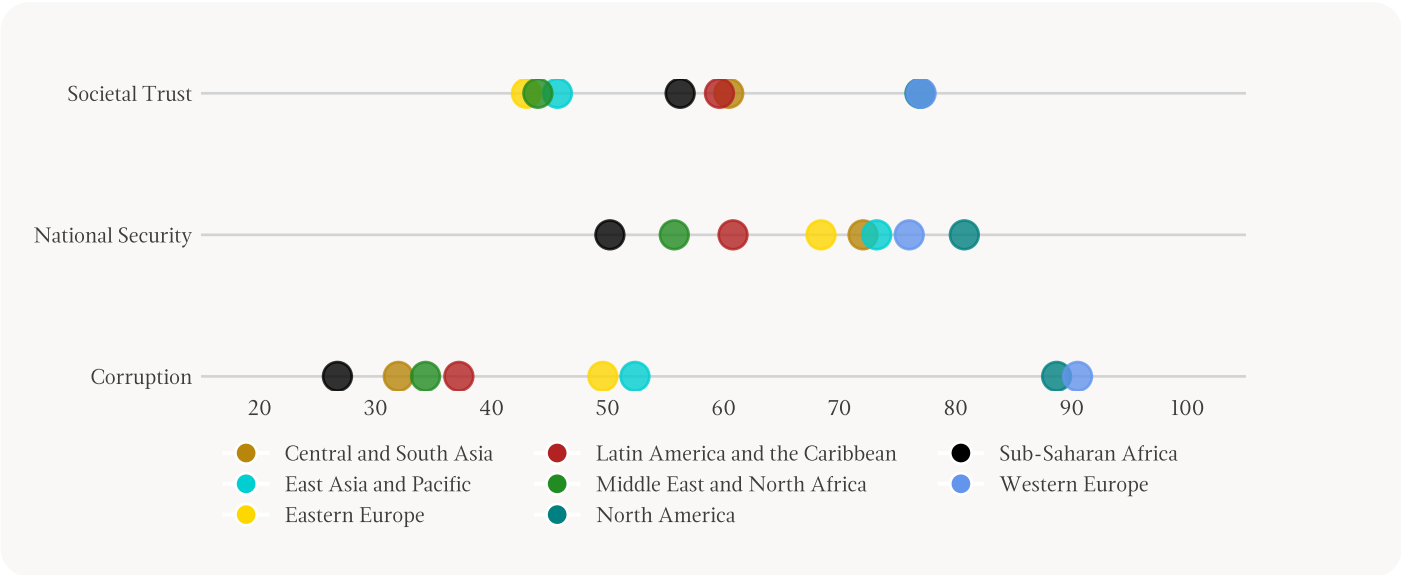


Figure 62: Pillar composition by elements (with weighting) and indicators (with source)

Element (weight %)	Sub-Elements
National Security (44.44%) estimates the extent to which the state is able to secure its hegemony of force and defend its borders. The premise of this element is that these are essential pre-requisites if a state is to be reliable, and something in which citizens can take pride.	- State Embedded Actors (GOI) - Hegemony of Territory (V-Dem) - Territorial Integrity (GOI) - Foreign Actors (GOI) - Law Enforcement Score (GOI) - Global Terrorism Index
Corruption (44.44%) estimates the extent to which corruption is prevalent within a state, as something that breeds cynicism and uncertainty and undermines the state's moral authority.	- Government Officials in the Executive Branch do not use Public Office For Private Gain (WJP) - Government Officials in the Judicial Branch do not use Public Office for Private Gain (WJP) - Government Officials in the Police and the Military do not Use Public Office For Private Gain (WJP) - Government Officials in the Legislative Branch do not use Public Office For Private Gain (WJP) - Political Corruption Index (V-Dem)
Societal Trust And Political Engagement (11.11%) estimates the extent to which citizens take an active interest in politics and engage with officials where necessary to voice their opinions.	- Politically Engaged Society (V-Dem) - Voiced Opinion to Official (World Poll) - Confidence in Elections (World Poll)

Methodology

The 2026 Prosperity Index retains the same mission as previous editions and features a substantially revised and developed methodology. For a more detailed summary, please visit the Methodology page of our website.

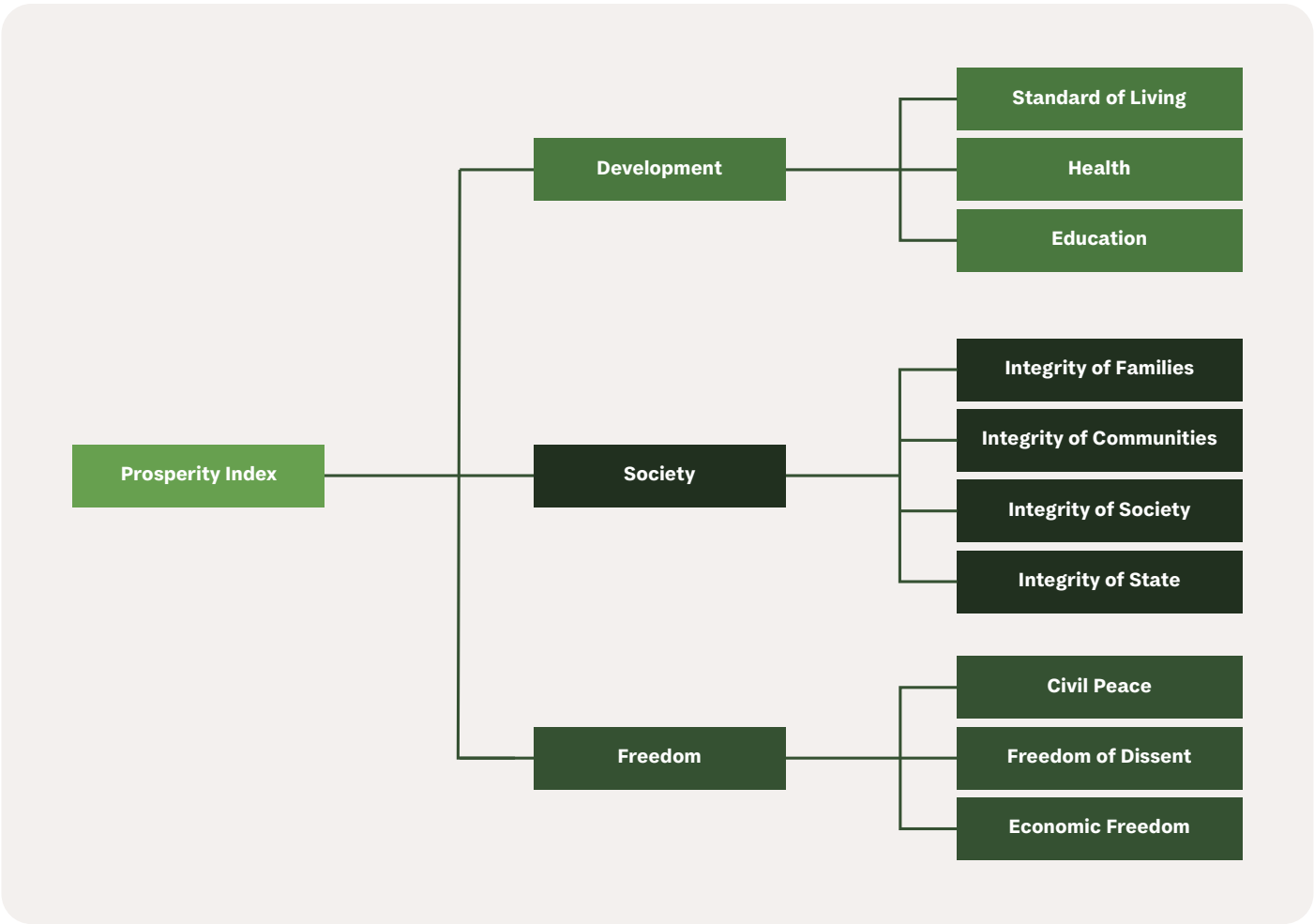
In this year's Index, we are not only emphasising what matters most with our three core domains but also introducing an entirely new way of processing data. We consider it sub-optimal for a country to be able to "average out" a relative weakness with a relative success, especially if the relative weakness is in something important. Our revised mathematical techniques make it difficult for a country to offset a poor showing in one domain or pillar with an excellent performance in something else, and vice versa. For example, a very wealthy country cannot be considered prosperous, or even of average prosperity, if it has very low levels of freedom.

The analogy with health is helpful here: consider two people, one with average heart and liver health and the other with the healthiest heart in the world (perhaps an endurance athlete) who is suffering from end stage cirrhosis: clearly the health of the two organs does

not somehow "average out". In other words, the second person's overall organ health is better represented by his liver health (or lack thereof) than his heart health. We believe this phenomenon holds for the prosperity of nations as well: it is better for a nation to have a middling score in each of the three domains than to have a very high score in one domain and a very low score in another.

To apply this intuition to our Index, we have had to adopt a more mathematically sophisticated means of averaging, called p-averaging, that depends on the choice of a number, denoted p. When p is 1, it is the ordinary average, but when p is less than 1, it punishes weaknesses more than it rewards strengths. The extent to which p is less than 1 reflects how much we wish to punish weakness, which in large part reflects the extent to which one variable can substitute for another. Can an increase in Development substitute for a decrease in Freedom, or vice versa? Perhaps a little bit, but not really.

This means that it is better for a country to have a middling score of 50% in both Development and Freedom than, say, 70% in Development and 30% in Freedom (or vice versa). We have used p-averaging with p less than 1 extensively throughout our 2026 Index, which has had some profound effects on the rankings of certain countries, causing some nations to rise and others to fall relative to their results in previous editions of the Index.



The pillars supporting the domains

Even though our three domains break the larger problem of estimating national prosperity down into smaller chunks, each of these three domains is, conceptually speaking, still very large. Therefore, to make further progress, we break them down into what we call *pillars*, which are illustrated in the figure below.

As the figure suggests, our Development domain has been inspired by the Human Development Index, which measures three “capacities” We call these Standard of Living, Health, and Education. We have chosen to stick with this general approach but have added additional variables that reflect absolute levels of deprivation for each of the three capacities.

For example, while GDP per capita (perhaps adjusted for purchasing power) is an excellent measure of access to material resources on average, it says relatively less about the extent to which a country has a sizeable minority of people living in abject poverty, perhaps in shanty towns only a short distance from the country's primary commercial centre. For this reason, we have added data pertaining to basic access to food and the number of people living under \$3 per day, among others. We have taken a similar approach to Education and Health as well, where we have a primary variable (e.g. average years of schooling) and another variable that checks for extreme deprivation in the primary variable (e.g. basic literacy).

Our Freedom domain focusses relentlessly on the essence of freedom: the absence of illegitimate coercion, either as literal violence or the threat thereof. Typically, the primary coercive force in a country is government, as the recent Iranian protests and subsequent massacres clearly demonstrate. In addition to government, individuals can play a role as well. For example, the United States scores very well for limitations on government coercion; however, it has higher levels of gun violence than comparably prosperous countries.

We have broken down our Freedom domain into three pillars: Civil Peace, Freedom of Dissent, and Economic Freedom. Civil Peace considers questions of safety and security and rule of law; Freedom of Dissent considers everything from freedom of religion and expression to digital autonomy and privacy; and Economic Freedom emphasizes property rights, contract enforcement, and a fair and efficient legal system for handling disputes. It also considers the effect of inflation, taxes, and regulations.

Our Society domain shines a spotlight directly on people and their relationships with one another. Its particular focus is on constitutive relationships—those that ground the individual person, giving him or her a sense of security, place and purpose. To assess the strength of these relationships, we employ a concentric model, starting with the most intimate of the relationships that we believe form a person's sense of self—namely those of the family—and working outwards wider relationships that people have with

their local communities, their national society, and lastly, with their state. Are families stable and loving? Are communities trusting and purposeful? Do people feel that they have something in common with their fellow citizens as such? Do they feel part of a coherent political community that has common interests and purposes? These are the questions that the Society Domain seeks to answer.

So, what does it take to be prosperous? We believe that, at minimum, a prosperous nation will be highly developed, very free, and have a strong social fabric. Because our new method of averaging punishes weakness more than it rewards strength, we have doubled down on what matters most.

Our goal with this project is to shed light on what works. We want to provide information, but beyond that, our aim is to enable conversations that inspire change for the better in a wide range of arenas. The Index is not the final word on prosperity; rather it is a starting point for discussion about prosperity: what it means, and how it can be improved. This idea is summarized nicely by our mantra:

*“That which gets measured
gets attention;
that which gets attention
gets addressed;
that which gets addressed
gets changed.”*

It is our hope that this project, like all of Legatum's other endeavours, will change the world for the better.

About Us

Prosperity Institute

From inception, the Prosperity Institute's vision has been to “help others prosper” through its policy and educational work. With a focus on world-class research, writing and convening, the purpose of the Prosperity Institute is to unlock how individuals, families, communities, and nations can become more prosperous.

The Prosperity Institute is independent and unaffiliated to any political party. Its mission is to pursue the truth through empirical research and to improve people's lives in tangible and enduring ways. The Prosperity Institute was known as the Legatum Institute from 2007 to 2024. While previously organised as a charity, it is now a private Company Limited by Guarantee with the express aim to protect the principles that advance national prosperity. The Institute continues to receive funding support from Legatum, a global investment and philanthropic firm with the mission of generating and allocating the capital and ideas to help people lead more prosperous lives.

www.prosperity.com

Legatum

Legatum was founded as a company that could use its ideas, energy and capital to support people all across the world to do well.

Since beginning in 2006, they have pursued this ambition by creating a diverse collection of ventures which have positively impacted the lives of over half a billion people so far. All of them reflect the ideas and values that form the core of Legatum and the difference they hope to make in the world.

Legatum first began establishing metrics for prosperity in 2006 when it engaged a team of Oxford University academics.

Together, they sought to define the pillars that would allow them to understand the overall quality of life for a nation's people, using an evidence-based approach. The report produced from this work was the foundation upon which the Prosperity Index was established in 2007.

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