

Freedom in the World, Freedom House

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Summary

Freedom in the World is an institutional effort by Freedom House to monitor the progress of political rights and civil liberties. It emerged in 1955. The official website of Freedom House is <http://www.freedomhouse.org/>.

The Freedom in the World 2008 survey contains reports on 192 countries and 15 related and disputed territories. Each country report begins with a section containing basic political, economic, and social data arranged in the following categories: polity, economy, population, purchasing power parities (PPP), life expectancy, religious groups, ethnic groups, capital, political rights, civil liberties, and status (free, partly free, or not free).

Freedom House has been publishing annual yearbook since 1978.

Since 1989, Freedom House has been conducting surveys and gathering information from a wide range of sources, including many human rights activists, journalists, and political figures around the world. The survey team also consults a large array of published materials, ranging from the reports of other human rights organizations to regional newspapers and journals.

Apart from surveys, Freedom House obtains data from CIA Factbook, United Nations Development Program Human Development Report, The World Almanac and Book of Facts. The political rights and civil liberties categories contain numerical ratings between 1 and 7 for each country or territory rated, with 1 representing the most free and 7 the least free. Each country report is divided into two parts: an overview and an analysis of political rights and civil liberties. While the overview provides a brief historical background and a description of major recent events, the political rights and civil liberties section summarizes each country or territory's degree of respect for the rights and liberties.

Tables In IFs

| Variable | Definition | Years | UsedInPreprocessor | UsedInPreprocessorFileName |
|----------|--|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Freedom | Civil and political freedom level on scale of 2 to 14 (lower is freer) | 1972-2024 1 | | SOCIOPOL |

Data Pulling Instructions

1. Go to <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world>
2. Scroll down to "The Data" section. Click "All Data, FIW 2013-2014 (Excel Download)" to download the data.

The Data

The *Freedom in the World* report is composed of numerical ratings and supporting descriptive texts for 195 countries and 15 territories. External analysts assess 210 countries and territories, using a combination of on-the-ground research, consultations with local contacts, and information from news articles, nongovernmental organizations, governments, and a variety of other sources. Expert advisers and regional specialists then vet the analysts' conclusions. The final product represents the consensus of the analysts, advisers, and Freedom House staff.

For each country and territory, *Freedom in the World* analyzes the electoral process, political pluralism and participation, the functioning of the government, freedom of expression and of belief, associational and organizational rights, the rule of law, and personal autonomy and individual rights.

Comparative and Historical Data Files:

- All Data, FIW 2013-2024 (Excel Download)
- Country and Territory Ratings and Statuses, 1973-2024 (Excel Download)
- Aggregate Category and Subcategory Scores, 2003-2024 (Excel Download)
- List of Electoral Democracies, FIW 2024 (Excel Download)

3. The downloaded data looks like below:

| Freedom in the World 2013-2024 Raw Data | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|-----|---------|--------|-----------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| Country/Territory | Region | C/T | Edition | Status | PR rating | CL rating | A1 | A2 | A3 | A | B1 | B2 | B3 | B4 | B | C1 | C2 | C3 | C | Add Q | Add A | PR | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | |
| Abkhazia | Eurasia | t | 2,024 | PF | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 0 | N/A | 17 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | |
| Afghanistan | Asia | c | 2,024 | NF | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | N/A | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Albania | Europe | c | 2,024 | PF | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 0 | N/A | 28 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | |
| Algeria | Africa | c | 2,024 | NF | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | N/A | 10 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | |
| Andorra | Europe | c | 2,024 | F | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 15 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 11 | 0 | N/A | 38 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | |
| Angola | Africa | c | 2,024 | NF | 6 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | N/A | 10 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |
| Antigua and Barbuda | Americas | c | 2,024 | F | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 0 | N/A | 33 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | |
| Argentina | Americas | c | 2,024 | F | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 11 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 16 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 0 | N/A | 35 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | |
| Armenia | Eurasia | c | 2,024 | PF | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 0 | N/A | 23 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | |
| Australia | Asia | c | 2,024 | F | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 15 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 11 | 0 | N/A | 38 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | |
| Austria | Europe | c | 2,024 | F | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 15 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 0 | N/A | 37 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | |
| Azerbaijan | Eurasia | c | 2,024 | NF | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | N/A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | |

4. We will use "Country/Territory", "Edition", and the sum of "PR rating" and "CL rating".
5. Get "SeriesFreedom" from IFsHistSeries from 1972 - 2012, and combined the data with new data from 2013 -2024.

Data Notes

For country concordance, be careful about the Countries/Territories below:

| Country | FIPS_CODE | Country/Territory |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Palestine | WBG | West Bank |
| Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic | ESH | Western Sahara |

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