

## Democracy Index 2024

What's wrong with representative democracy?

went into reverse in 2024, with Kuwait and Qatar being cases in point. War and conflict continued to take a toll, especially in Sudan, whose score sank lower. There were some positive developments in Libya, with a reduction in militia feuding, improved security and

tentative signs of reconciliation among the military factions. The fall of the Assad regime in Syria towards the end of the year heralded the prospect of political change in that beleaguered country, but for the moment there remains only a power vacuum and political uncertainty.

**Table 2**

**Democracy Index 2024**

	Overall score	Rank	Change in rank from previous year	I Electoral process and pluralism	II Functioning of government	III Political participation	IV Political culture	V Civil liberties
<b>Full democracy</b>								
Norway	9.81	1	0	10.00	9.64	10.00	10.00	9.41
New Zealand	9.61	2	0	10.00	9.29	10.00	8.75	10.00
Sweden	9.39	3	1	9.58	9.64	8.33	10.00	9.41
Iceland	9.38	4	-1	10.00	8.93	8.89	9.38	9.71
Switzerland	9.32	5	3	9.58	9.29	8.33	10.00	9.41
Finland	9.30	6	-1	10.00	9.64	7.78	9.38	9.71
Denmark	9.28	7	-1	10.00	9.29	8.33	9.38	9.41
Ireland	9.19	8	-1	10.00	8.21	8.33	10.00	9.41
Netherlands	9.00	9	0	9.58	8.93	8.33	8.75	9.41
Luxembourg	8.88	10	1	10.00	9.29	6.67	8.75	9.71
Australia	8.85	11	3	10.00	8.57	7.22	8.75	9.71
Taiwan	8.78	12	-2	10.00	8.57	7.78	8.13	9.41
Germany	8.73	13	-1	9.58	8.21	8.33	8.13	9.41
Canada	8.69	14	-1	10.00	8.21	8.89	7.50	8.82
Uruguay	8.67	15	-1	10.00	9.29	7.78	6.88	9.41
Japan	8.48	16	0	9.58	8.93	6.67	8.13	9.12
United Kingdom	8.34	17	1	9.58	7.50	8.33	6.88	9.41
Costa Rica	8.29	18	-1	9.58	7.50	7.78	6.88	9.71
Austria	8.28	19	-1	9.58	7.50	8.89	6.88	8.53
Mauritius	8.23	20	0	9.58	7.86	6.11	8.75	8.82
Estonia	8.13	21=	6	10.00	8.57	6.67	6.88	8.53

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Spain	8.13	21=	2	9.58	7.50	7.22	7.50	8.82
Czech Republic	8.08	23=	3	9.58	6.43	7.78	7.50	9.12
Portugal	8.08	23=	8	9.58	7.14	6.11	8.75	8.82
Greece	8.07	25	-5	10.00	6.79	7.22	7.50	8.82
<b>Flawed democracy</b>								
France	7.99	26	-3	9.58	7.50	7.78	6.88	8.24
Malta	7.93	27	1	9.17	7.14	6.67	8.13	8.53
United States of America	7.85	28	1	9.17	6.43	8.89	6.25	8.53
Chile	7.83	29	-4	9.58	7.86	6.67	5.63	9.41
Slovenia	7.82	30	1	9.58	7.50	7.22	6.25	8.53
Israel	7.80	31	-1	9.58	7.50	9.44	6.88	5.59
South Korea	7.75	32	-10	9.58	7.50	7.22	5.63	8.82
Latvia	7.66	33	4	10.00	7.14	6.67	6.25	8.24
Belgium	7.64	34	2	9.58	8.21	5.00	6.88	8.53
Botswana	7.63	35	-2	9.58	6.43	6.11	7.50	8.53
Lithuania	7.59	36	3	10.00	7.14	6.67	5.63	8.53
Cabo Verde	7.58	37=	-2	9.17	6.64	6.67	6.88	8.53
Italy	7.58	37=	-3	9.58	7.14	7.22	6.88	7.06
Poland	7.40	39	2	10.00	6.43	6.67	6.25	7.65
Cyprus	7.38	40	-3	9.17	5.36	6.67	6.88	8.82
India	7.29	41	0	8.67	7.50	7.22	6.88	6.18
Slovakia	7.21	42	2	10.00	6.07	6.11	5.63	8.24
South Africa	7.16	43	4	9.17	6.79	7.78	5.00	7.06
Malaysia	7.11	44	-4	9.58	7.14	6.67	6.25	5.88
Trinidad and Tobago	7.09	45	-2	9.58	6.79	6.11	5.63	7.35
Timor-Leste	7.03	46	-1	9.58	6.07	5.56	6.88	7.06
Panama	6.84	47	1	9.58	5.71	7.22	3.75	7.94
Suriname	6.79	48	1	9.58	5.36	6.67	5.00	7.35

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Jamaica	6.74	49	-4	8.75	6.43	5.00	5.00	8.53
Montenegro	6.73	50	2	8.75	7.14	6.67	3.75	7.35
Philippines	6.63	51	2	8.75	4.64	8.33	4.38	7.06
Dominican Republic	6.62	52	9	9.17	5.00	7.22	4.38	7.35
Mongolia	6.53	53	6	8.75	5.71	6.67	5.63	5.88
Argentina	6.51	54=	0	9.17	5.00	6.11	3.75	8.53
Hungary	6.51	54=	-4	8.75	5.71	4.44	6.88	6.76
Croatia	6.50	56	2	9.17	6.07	6.11	4.38	6.76
Brazil	6.49	57	-6	9.58	5.00	6.11	5.00	6.76
Namibia	6.48	58	-1	7.42	5.36	6.67	5.00	7.94
Indonesia	6.44	59	-3	7.92	6.79	7.22	5.00	5.29
Colombia	6.35	60	-5	9.17	5.71	6.11	3.13	7.65
Bulgaria	6.34	61	1	8.75	5.36	5.56	4.38	7.65
North Macedonia	6.28	62	10	8.75	6.07	6.11	3.13	7.35
Thailand	6.27	63	0	6.50	5.00	8.33	5.63	5.88
Serbia	6.26	64	0	7.83	5.71	6.67	3.75	7.35
Ghana	6.24	65	0	8.33	4.64	6.11	6.25	5.88
Albania	6.20	66	0	7.00	5.71	5.00	6.25	7.06
Sri Lanka	6.19	67	3	7.00	4.29	7.22	6.25	6.18
Singapore	6.18	68	1	5.33	7.14	4.44	7.50	6.47
Guyana	6.11	69	-2	6.92	6.07	6.11	5.00	6.47
Lesotho	6.06	70	1	9.17	3.79	5.56	5.63	6.18
Moldova	6.04	71	-3	6.50	5.36	7.22	4.38	6.76
<b>Hybrid regime</b>								
Romania	5.99	72	-12	8.25	5.36	5.56	3.75	7.06
Papua New Guinea	5.97	73	-1	6.92	6.07	3.89	5.63	7.35
Senegal	5.93	74	9	7.42	5.36	4.44	6.25	6.18
Paraguay	5.92	75	-1	8.33	5.36	6.67	1.88	7.35

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Malawi	5.85	76	0	7.00	4.29	5.56	6.25	6.18
Zambia	5.73	77	1	7.92	3.29	5.00	6.88	5.59
Peru	5.69	78	-1	8.75	5.71	5.00	2.50	6.47
Bhutan	5.65	79	2	8.75	5.93	3.89	5.00	4.71
Liberia	5.57	80	-1	7.83	2.71	6.11	5.63	5.59
Fiji	5.39	81	-1	6.58	5.00	4.44	5.63	5.29
Armenia	5.35	82	2	7.92	4.29	6.11	3.13	5.29
Madagascar	5.33	83	4	6.58	3.93	6.11	5.63	4.41
Mexico	5.32	84	6	6.92	5.00	7.22	1.88	5.59
Ecuador	5.24	85	0	8.75	5.00	5.56	1.88	5.00
Tanzania	5.20	86	0	4.42	5.00	5.00	6.88	4.71
Hong Kong	5.09	87	1	2.75	4.00	3.89	6.88	7.94
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5.06	88	6	7.00	3.64	5.00	3.75	5.88
Kenya	5.05	89	3	3.50	5.36	6.67	5.63	4.12
Honduras	4.98	90	5	8.75	3.93	4.44	2.50	5.29
Morocco	4.97	91	2	5.25	4.29	5.56	5.63	4.12
Ukraine	4.90	92	-1	5.17	2.71	7.22	5.00	4.41
Tunisia	4.71	93	-11	3.42	3.93	5.56	5.63	5.00
Georgia	4.70	94	-5	5.67	3.21	5.56	3.75	5.29
El Salvador	4.61	95	1	6.17	3.21	5.56	3.13	5.00
Nepal	4.60	96	2	4.83	5.36	5.00	2.50	5.29
Guatemala	4.55	97	3	6.08	3.93	5.00	1.88	5.88
Uganda	4.49	98	1	3.42	3.57	3.89	6.88	4.71
Gambia	4.47	99	1	4.42	4.29	3.89	5.63	4.12
Bangladesh	4.44	100=	-25	6.08	2.57	5.00	5.00	3.53
Benin	4.44	100=	-3	1.75	5.36	4.44	6.25	4.41
Sierra Leone	4.32	102	1	4.83	2.86	3.89	5.00	5.00
Bolivia	4.26	103=	3	4.33	3.93	5.56	1.88	5.59

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Turkey	4.26	103=	-1	3.50	4.64	6.11	5.00	2.06
Côte d'Ivoire	4.22	105	0	4.33	2.86	4.44	5.63	3.82
Nigeria	4.16	106	-2	5.17	3.57	3.89	3.75	4.41
Angola	4.05	107	0	4.50	2.86	5.56	5.00	2.35
<b>Authoritarian</b>								
Mauritania	3.96	108	0	3.50	3.21	5.56	3.13	4.41
Lebanon	3.56	109	3	3.08	0.79	6.67	3.13	4.12
Algeria	3.55	110	0	3.08	2.50	3.33	5.00	3.82
Kyrgyz Republic	3.52	111	-2	3.42	1.86	3.89	3.13	5.29
Palestine	3.44	112	3	1.58	0.00	8.33	3.75	3.53
Mozambique	3.38	113	0	1.67	1.43	5.56	5.00	3.24
Rwanda	3.34	114	3	1.42	4.29	3.33	5.00	2.65
Jordan	3.28	115	7	3.08	2.86	4.44	2.50	3.53
Ethiopia	3.24	116	0	0.42	2.86	6.11	5.63	1.18
Qatar	3.17	117	-6	0.00	3.93	2.78	5.63	3.53
Kazakhstan	3.08	118	2	0.50	3.21	5.00	3.75	2.94
United Arab Emirates	3.07	119	6	0.00	4.29	2.78	5.63	2.65
Oman	3.05	120	-1	0.08	3.57	2.78	5.00	3.82
Togo	2.99	121	5	0.92	2.14	3.33	5.63	2.94
Zimbabwe	2.98	122	0	0.00	2.50	4.44	5.00	2.94
Cambodia	2.94	123	-2	0.00	2.36	5.00	5.00	2.35
Comoros	2.84	124=	-2	0.83	2.21	3.89	3.75	3.53
Pakistan	2.84	124=	-6	0.83	4.29	2.78	2.50	3.82
Azerbaijan	2.80	126=	4	0.50	2.50	3.33	5.00	2.65
Iraq	2.80	126=	2	4.83	0.00	6.11	1.88	1.18
Congo (Brazzaville)	2.79	128=	3	0.00	2.50	4.44	3.75	3.24
Egypt	2.79	128=	-1	0.42	2.86	3.89	5.00	1.76
Kuwait	2.78	130	-16	0.92	3.21	2.78	3.75	3.24

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Haiti	2.74	131	-2	0.00	0.29	2.78	5.63	5.00
Djibouti	2.70	132	2	0.00	1.64	3.89	5.63	2.35
Vietnam	2.62	133	3	0.00	3.93	2.78	3.75	2.65
Eswatini	2.60	134	-2	0.00	1.64	2.78	5.63	2.94
Cuba	2.58	135	0	0.00	2.86	3.33	3.75	2.94
Cameroon	2.56	136	2	0.33	2.14	3.89	4.38	2.06
Burkina Faso	2.55	137	-4	0.00	2.14	3.33	3.75	3.53
Bahrain	2.45	138	1	0.42	2.36	3.33	4.38	1.76
Mali	2.40	139	-2	0.00	0.00	5.00	4.38	2.65
Libya	2.31	140	17	1.25	0.00	3.89	3.75	2.65
Niger	2.26	141	0	0.33	1.14	1.67	3.75	4.41
Venezuela	2.25	142	0	0.00	1.07	5.00	3.13	2.06
Gabon	2.18	143	3	0.83	1.14	2.22	3.75	2.94
Burundi	2.13	144	3	0.00	0.00	3.89	5.00	1.76
China	2.11	145	3	0.00	3.21	3.33	3.13	0.88
Uzbekistan	2.10	146	2	0.00	1.86	2.78	5.00	0.88
Nicaragua	2.09	147	-4	0.00	2.14	2.78	3.75	1.76
Saudi Arabia	2.08	148	2	0.00	3.57	2.22	3.13	1.47
Guinea	2.04	149	-4	0.00	0.43	3.33	4.38	2.06
Guinea-Bissau	2.03	150=	-10	2.17	0.00	2.78	3.13	2.06
Russia	2.03	150=	-6	0.00	2.14	2.22	3.75	2.06
Belarus	1.99	152	-1	0.00	0.79	3.33	4.38	1.47
Eritrea	1.97	153	-1	0.00	2.14	0.56	6.88	0.29
Iran	1.96	154	-1	0.00	2.50	3.33	2.50	1.47
Yemen	1.95	155	-1	0.00	0.00	3.89	5.00	0.88
Democratic Republic of Congo	1.92	156=	4	2.08	0.43	2.78	3.13	1.18
Equatorial Guinea	1.92	156=	0	0.00	0.43	3.33	4.38	1.47
Chad	1.89	158	3	0.00	0.00	3.33	3.75	2.35

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Tajikistan	1.83	159	-4	0.00	2.21	1.67	4.38	0.88
Laos	1.71	160	-1	0.00	2.86	1.67	3.75	0.29
Turkmenistan	1.66	161	1	0.00	0.79	2.22	5.00	0.29
Sudan	1.46	162	-4	0.00	0.00	1.11	5.63	0.59
Syria	1.32	163	0	0.00	0.00	2.22	4.38	0.00
Central African Republic	1.18	164	0	0.00	0.00	1.67	1.88	2.35
North Korea	1.08	165	0	0.00	2.50	1.67	1.25	0.00
Myanmar	0.96	166	0	0.00	0.00	1.67	3.13	0.00
Afghanistan	0.25	167	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.25	0.00

Source: EIU.