

DATA

Clean elections index (best estimate)

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Free and fair elections index, 2024

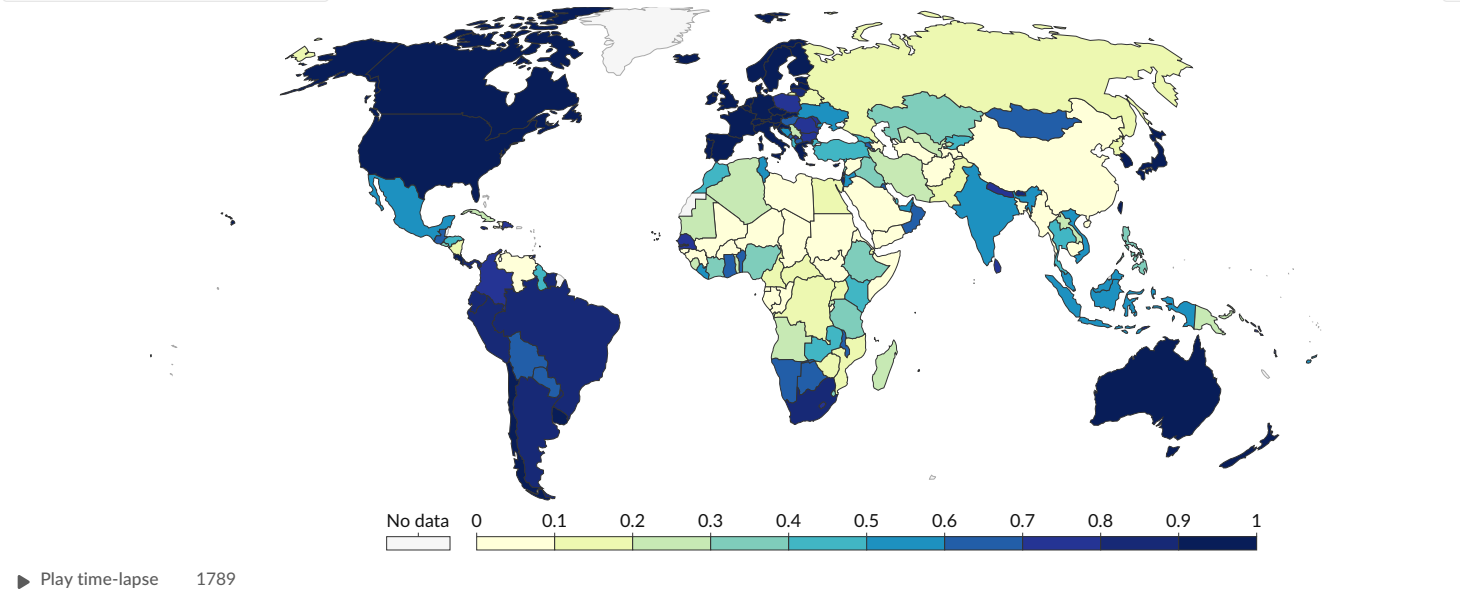
Based on the expert estimates and index by V-Dem. It captures the extent to which election violence, government intimidation, fraud, large irregularities, and vote buying are absent. It ranges from 0 to 1 (most free and fair).

Table

Map

Chart

V



Data source: V-Dem (2025) – [Learn more about this data](#)

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What you should know about this indicator

How is this data described by its producer?

Question: To what extent are elections free and fair?

CLEAN ELECTIONS INDEX
(BEST ESTIMATE)

Clarification: Free and fair connotes an absence of registration fraud, systematic irregularities, government intimidation of the opposition, vote buying, and election violence.

Scale: Interval, from low to high (0-1).

Indicator name: v2xel_frefair

Best estimate of the extent to which registration fraud, systematic irregularities, government intimidation of the opposition, vote buying, and election violence are absent, and the election management body is autonomous and has enough staff and resources.

Source
V-Dem (2025) – [processed](#) by Our World in Data

Last updated
March 17, 2025

Next expected update
March 2026

Date range
1789–2024

Sources and processing

This data is based on the following sources

V-Dem – Democracy report

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The Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) project publishes data and research on democracy and human rights.

It acknowledges that democracy can be characterized differently and measures electoral, liberal, participatory, deliberative, and egalitarian characterizations of

How we process data at Our World in Data

All data and visualizations on Our World in Data rely on data sourced from one or several original data providers. Preparing this original data involves several processing steps. Depending on the data, this can include standardizing country names and world region definitions, converting units, calculating derived indicators such as per capita measures, as well as adding or adapting metadata such as the name or the description given to an indicator.

At the link below you can find a detailed description of the structure of our data pipeline, including links to all the code used to prepare data across Our World in Data.

[Read about our data pipeline](#) →

NOTES ON OUR PROCESSING STEP FOR THIS INDICATOR

We expand the years covered by V-Dem further: To expand the time coverage of today's countries and include more of the period when they were still non-sovereign territories, we identified the historical entity they were a part of and used that regime's data whenever available

For example, V-Dem only provides regime data since Bangladesh's independence in 1971. There is, however, regime data for Pakistan and the colony of India, both of which the current territory of Bangladesh was a part. We, therefore, use the regime data of Pakistan for Bangladesh from 1947 to 1970, and the regime data of India from 1789 to 1946. We did so for all countries with a past or current population of more than one million.

Reuse this work

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Citations

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HOW TO CITE THIS DATA

In-line citation


If you have limited space (e.g. in data visualizations), you can use this abbreviated in-line citation:

V-Dem (2025) - processed by Our World in Data



Full citation

V-Dem (2025) - processed by Our World in Data. "Clean elections index - (best estimate)" [dataset]. V-Dem, "Democracy report v15" [original data]. Retrieved April 10, 2025 from <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/free-and-fair-elections-index>



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