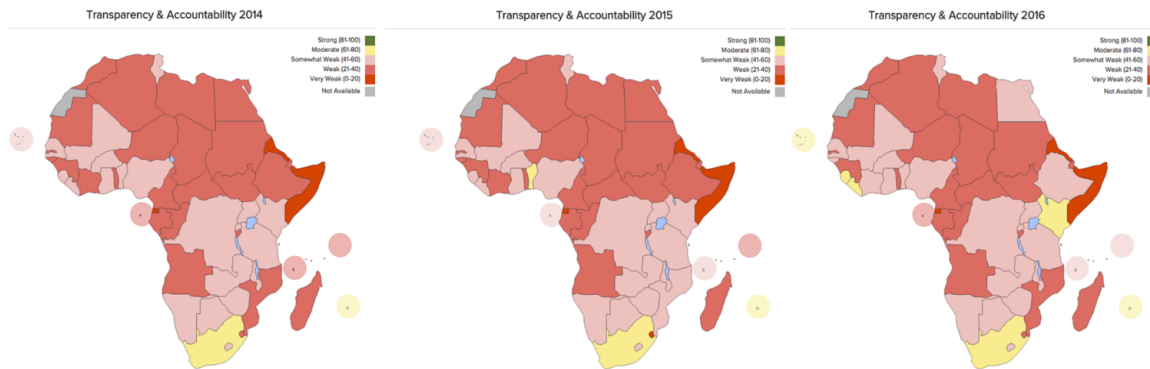


Africa Integrity Indicators – Country Findings



Who is Global Integrity?

Global Integrity supports progress toward open and accountable governance in countries and communities around the world. We focus on generating research and data, supporting the work of country-level reformers, and influencing global conversations on open governance. Our work covers a number of themes, with data, learning and citizen engagement at the core of everything we do. To know more about us, visit our website at www.globalintegrity.org.

What are the Africa Integrity Indicators?

In 2012, Global Integrity embarked on a five-year collaboration with the Mo Ibrahim Foundation to generate the Africa Integrity Indicators (AII), which assesses key social, economic, political and anti-corruption mechanisms at the national level across the continent. Global Integrity staff recruits and manages teams of in-country contributors in 54 countries to generate original governance data on an annual basis.

The questionnaire has 114 indicators and is divided in two main categories: Transparency & Accountability and Social Development. The Transparency & Accountability category consists of 59 indicators examining issues divided in the thematic areas of rule of law, accountability, elections, public management, civil service integrity, and access to information. The Social Development indicators category consists of 51 indicators about gender, rights, welfare, rural sector, business environment, health and education.

The rich data set is designed to be particularly fruitful in identifying both bright spots as well as areas for improvement at the country level. The years of data include [2013](#), [2014](#), [2015](#), [2016](#); the next round of research will begin later in 2016 and be published in April 2017. To access our data, visit our project website at <http://aii.globalintegrity.org>.

Note: Each round of research is named from its year of publication. Thus, the 2016 round of research covers the period from September 2014 to September 2015, with only sources relevant to this period of study being accepted

Get in touch with us

Global Integrity is dedicated not only to producing high quality data, but ensuring that it is as useful as possible for reformers (both inside and outside of government) around the world. If you're interested in working with this data to identify opportunities to support open governance efforts in your country, contact us at aii@globalintegrity.org.

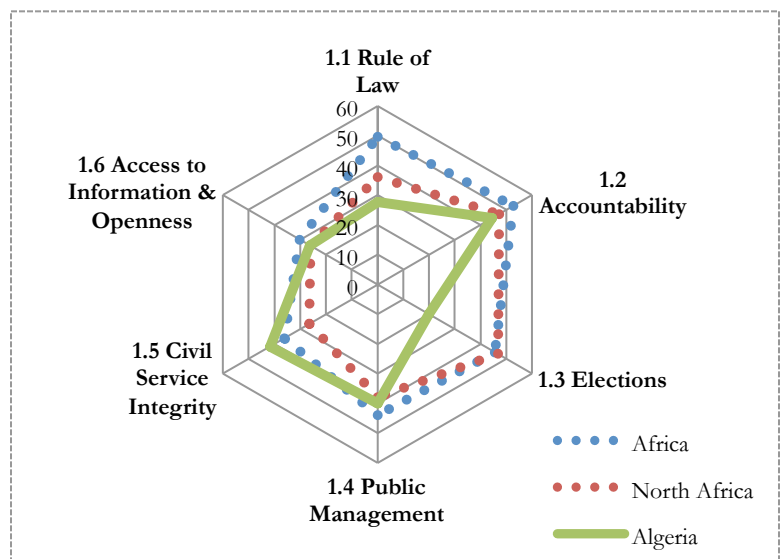
Algeria – Country Findings Summary

1. Transparency & Accountability

The Transparency & Accountability category consists of 59 indicators examining issues divided in the thematic areas of rule of law, accountability, elections, public management, civil service integrity, and access to information & openness. The indicators look into transparency of the public procurement process, media freedom, asset disclosure requirements, independence of the judiciary, and conflict of interest laws, among others.

Overall, the data points to an improvement in this category as Algeria’s average score increased by 6 points (27 in 2015 to 33 in 2016), a rebound from the previous 4 point decline between 2014 and 2015. However, this score remains lower than the North African average of 37 and the continental average of 42.

Of all 6 subcategories, Accountability is the highest scoring. Despite gaining 13 points between 2015 and 2016, with an average score of 44, it still falls in the “somewhat weak” area of the Global Integrity scale¹; the reported responsiveness of the independent human rights body and the investigations of corruption cases contributed to this score increase.



< Figure 1 > Algeria’s subcategory scores in comparison to the region and the continent. The radar chart depicts the country’s aggregate scores of each of the six subcategories under Transparency & Accountability, in comparison to average scores of the continent (blue dotted lines) and the country’s region (red dotted lines).

The score for the Rule of Law subcategory has decreased (-8 points), as has the openness of the judiciary. There were slight improvements of the aggregate scores of the Public Management and Access to information & Openness subcategories, but there was no change for the Elections subcategory, as no elections were held in the study period. Elections remains the lowest performing subcategory.

Selected highlights

- **Over the study period, the mechanism for receiving citizens’ complaints in cases of human rights violations has been responsive.** As reported in [indicator 18](#), gross violations of human

¹ The Global Integrity scale on the Africa Integrity Indicators website is as follows: 81-100 (Strong), 61-80 (Moderate), 41-60 (Somewhat weak), 21-40 (Weak), 0-20 (Very Weak)

rights, including police misconduct or abuse of force are reported to the “Commission Nationale Consultative de Promotion et de Protection des Droits de l'Homme” and the Commission has a special unit for the reception of complaints. During the 2014 calendar year, for which the annual report is available, the Commission received and investigated 1734 complaints from citizens.

- **The anti-corruption entity is inactive, but allegations of corruption by high-level officials are investigated by regular law enforcement agencies.** As reported in [indicator 12](#), high-level officials involved in financial scandals such as the fraudulent bankruptcy of the Khalifa Group, the questionable procurement practices of the SONATRACH 1 (government-owned company formed to exploit the hydrocarbon resources), the 13 billion dinar (\$120 millions) contract on a highway that never came to life, and the embezzlement at the Compagnie Nationale de Navigation (CNAN) have all been investigated. However, these investigations were not the result actions taken by the anti-corruption entity (Organe National de Prévention et de Lutte contre la Corruption or ONPLC), which has largely remained inactive. Regular law enforcement institutions, such as the gendarmerie and the financial brigade, carried out all investigations.
- **The independence of the judiciary remains low and transparency of the courts has deteriorated.** As reported in [indicator 2](#), which measures the ability of courts to make decisions without political interference, the highest courts of the country are able to make decisions unhindered, particularly on electoral matters. However, judges in lower courts have been facing pressure from high-ranking officials, and in some cases, their independence was undermined by the reluctance of prosecutors to forward corruption cases to the investigative judges. It was also reported in [indicator 4](#) that, unlike in the previous year where rulings and decisions of the highest courts could be consulted online in French and Arabic, they were no longer immediately publically available during the 2016 research.
- **The Court of Accounts has been more active in its audit of important public bodies, while its capacity to audit all accounts remains limited.** As reported in [indicator 7](#), which assesses the ability of the entity to operate free from fear or favor, 829 local governments and 191 public entities audited over the study period. However, the entity still could not audit the expenses of the national army (APN) and the Bank of Algeria. Although appointments within the Court of Accounts are reported in [indicator 8](#) to have been more based on the merits of the appointees, this is a still a minor improvement, as the score on this indicator (50) is about the same as the continental average (48).
- **Transparency within the civil service and the political finance sector is very weak.** Although Algeria does have laws providing for public access to asset declarations made by high-level civil servants, this does not happen in practice; in recent times, as reported in [indicator 45](#), only the 5 candidates to the 2014 presidential elections have publicly declared their assets, while the publication of these statements in the official gazette never happened. There are also no laws providing for public access to financial statements of political parties.

2. Social Development

This category covers seven subcategories, including rights (civil society space and minority rights), gender, business environment and infrastructure, rural sector, welfare, health, education, and civil registration. Because the Social Development portion of the research only includes a small number of questions per each topic area, we only provide the scores for each individual indicator and don't provide aggregated category or subcategory scores. However, the individual indicators themselves contain a wealth of information across a breadth of topics, a select few highlights of which are noted below.

Selected highlights

- **Indicators of the rural development subcategory reveal that Algeria applies a top-down approach to rural development policies.** While rural populations have little say in the development of welfare policies, as reported in [indicator 98](#), the government has implemented more activities to ensure food security as reported in [indicator 100](#). Over the study period, two financial schemes (R'FIG and ETTAHADI) were rolled out to promote sustainable agricultural practices and provide support to small farmers and women so they could engage in agriculture. Another program, the PRCHAT2 (Programme de Renforcement des Capacités Humaines et d'Assistance Technique) has been implemented to improve the skills and know-how of stakeholders and as part of this program, at least 15594 persons were trained, 70% of them being farmers.
- **While the welfare subcategory shows an average score of 50, an improvement has been reported over the study period regarding specifically the welfare of the elderly.** As reported in [indicator 102](#), which assesses the welfare of the elderly, 2.2 million retirees benefited from an increase in the amounts paid to the elderly as part of a contributory retirement scheme. The government also began to roll out its non-contributory scheme "Allocation Forfaitaire de Solidarité (AFS)," increasing the amount paid to the elderly from \$9.3 to \$28 per person per month.
- **Algeria still has laws that discriminate against women on inheritance and divorce issues.** As noted in [indicator 79](#), contrary to constitutional provisions, inheritance rights are governed by the Sharia law, which provides that female descendants receive half of the inheritance received by males. This gender-based inequality extends to divorce issues as noted in [indicator 80](#), as in order to obtain divorce, women are required to either motivate their decisions to the court or pay a compensation to their husbands, whereas husbands can request divorce from the wives without any justification. Finally as reported in [indicator 85](#), women representation in the national cabinet has decreased from 20% in 2015 to 12% in 2016.

The above findings capture selected highlights and are not an exhaustive analysis of the collected data. We encourage interested users to access our website [here](#) for detailed comments and sources for 114 individual indicators.