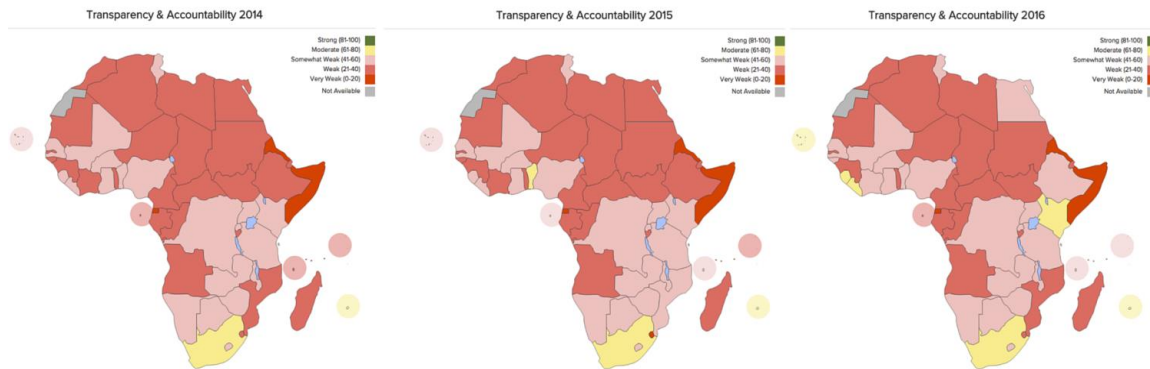


Africa Integrity Indicators – Country Findings



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.

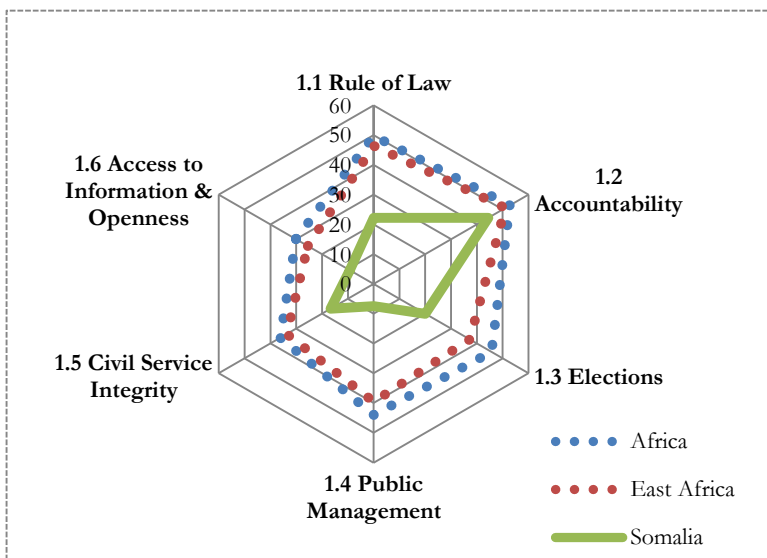
Somalia – Country Findings Summary

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.

The overall category score increased by three points from 17 in 2015 to 20 in 2016 (“very weak” on the Global Integrity scale).¹

Of all [six subcategories](#), Accountability was the highest performing subcategory with an aggregate score of 44 (“somewhat weak” on the Global Integrity scale). It was followed by the subcategories Rule of Law (22), Elections (20), and Civil Service Integrity (17). Access to Information & Openness and Public Management were the lowest performing subcategories with respective aggregate scores of 9 and 8 in 2016. All subcategories, except Accountability, fell in the “very weak” range of the Global Integrity scale.



< Figure 1 > Somalia'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).

Selected highlights

- **The newly approved Anti-Corruption Commission was not operational during the study period, and allegations of corruption in the public sector remained uninvestigated.** The Somali Penal Code of 1962 criminalizes corruption as a specific offense ([indicator 10](#)), and the Provisional Constitution of 2012 mandates the Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate allegations of public sector corruption ([indicator 11](#)). By law, the Commission is not required to solely act upon complaints, it is empowered to conduct inquiries at its own discretion. In January 2015, the parliament approved the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Commission when it passed

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)

the Anti-Corruption Commission Act. However, the Commission was not operational until the end of the study period (indicators [13](#) and [14](#)), and a number of corruption allegations against high-level politicians were not investigated, such as those against President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud on the misappropriation of aid, controversial deals with foreign oil companies, and weapon trading with the Islamist militant group al-Shabaab ([indicator 12](#)). Moreover, while the Auditor General mentioned widespread corruption in ministries and other government agencies in media, he never pointed to specific allegations nor published any reports on the matter.

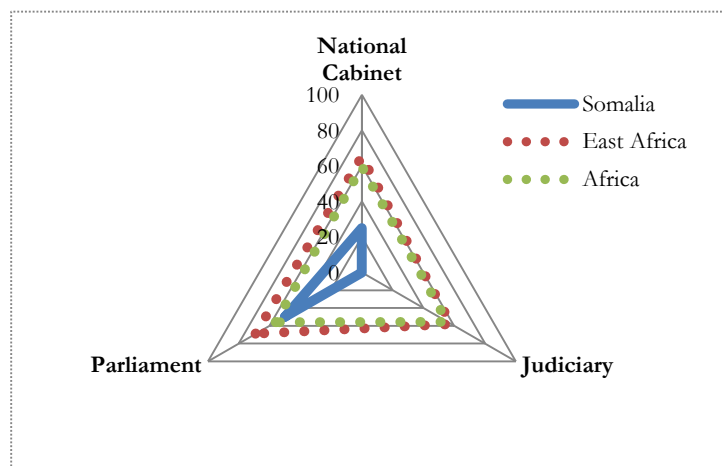
- **Legal frameworks to regulate public procurement are weak and few mechanisms are in place to ensure transparency in the sector.** As reported in [indicator 24](#), no legal requirement exists that requires major public procurements to follow competitive bidding, as such a bill was passed by the Council of Ministers in May 2014, but not approved by parliament until the end of the study period. In practice, despite improvements observed in the details contained in advertised bids and the time provided for bidders to prepare their offers, not all tenders followed open and competitive bidding ([indicator 25](#)). For instance, in January 2015, the Financial Governance Committee (FGC) reviewed nine major procurement contracts awarded by the government and revealed that none of them “were tendered competitively, nor do they respond to any pre-defined terms of reference or scope of activities”. Citizens are not able to access the results or documents associated with procurement contracts (full contract, proposals, execution reports, financial audits, etc.), as no central archive exists ([indicator 26](#)). Although individual government agencies have offline archives, these are only accessible to bidders, but not to the general public. Citizens are also not able to obtain any information on companies found guilty of having violated procurement regulations ([indicator 28](#)). The absence of a tracking mechanism is mainly due to the fact that such companies can face either imprisonment or a fine, as outlined in the Somali Penal Code, but are not banned by the law to participate in future bidding ([indicator 27](#)).
- **Few laws contain provisions to promote integrity within the civil service, and civil servants’ work is not free from political influence.** While Article 282 of the Somali Penal Code requires civil servants to report any “offense of which he has had knowledge in the exercise or by reason of his function” ([indicator 35](#)), no law exists to protect public sector whistleblowers from recrimination or other negative consequences ([indicator 36](#)). There is also no law that prevents conflict of interest, nepotism, cronyism or patronage ([indicator 37](#)), or puts restrictions on civil servants entering the private sector after leaving the government ([indicator 40](#)). In practice, civil servants are not free from political influence; as report indicators [38](#) and [39](#), the recruitment of civil servants is not based on a merit-based system as advertised job requirements are often unclear. Moreover, despite the establishment of the independent National Civil Service Commission to oversee the recruitment and removal processes, during a political rift with his then-Prime Minister Abdiweli Shaike Ahmed in December 2014, the President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, issued a presidential decree forbidding any hiring or firing of civil servants without his consent.

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

- Citizens and workers faced hurdles in exercising their rights to associate freely. NGOs, while not being confronted with governmental interference, were restricted in their operations due to security issues.** [Indicator 67](#) reports that protests, in particular of political nature, were suppressed throughout the country. For instance, in the autonomous Somaliland region, protests in Borama were dispersed by the police through gun shots in the air in December 2014. In the semi-autonomous state Puntland, police forces dispersed and temporarily arrested supporters of the former education minister, gathered at the Garowe Airport in June 2015 to receive the minister who had been fired from the cabinet by the President a few days earlier. Unions were also subject to governmental interference, as illustrates the open letter by the secretary general of the Trade Union Congress to the Prime Minister, reporting the intervention by the Labor Minister in the selection of trade union delegates to the 42nd Arab Labour Conference ([indicator 65](#)). The same Minister further attempted to replace the independent Federation of Somali Trade Unions (FESTU) with a state-controlled union in April 2015. During the study period, NGOs did not face any governmental interference. For example, no NGOs were shut down ([indicator 70](#)) and the registration process to establish new ones was also simple ([indicator 68](#)). However, several aid workers were killed in attacks by the Islamic militant group al-Shabaab, explaining the 0 score of [indicator 69](#). For example, in April 2015, seven aid workers were killed in a suicide attack on a UNICEF van in Puntland. In the Somali capital Mogadishu, three employees of the NGO Al-Manhal were either killed or injured by unknown gunmen in February 2015.
- Women's representation was low in all branches of government.** The new cabinet of January 2015 was composed of 25 ministers, of which three were women (12%). [Indicator 85](#), thus, earned a 25 score, while the East African average stood at 65 and the continental average at 60. According to the Provisional Constitution, the highest court of the country is the Constitutional



< Figure 2 > Somalia's female representation in the three branches of government compared to the country's region and the continent.

Court, but this Court had not been established until the end of the study period. There were no women in the Federal High Court, the second highest court, reason for which [indicator 86](#) earned a 0 score far below the regional average of 58 and the continental average of 56. In the federal parliament, 42 out of a total of 275 members (15.3%) were women. [Indicator 87](#), thus, earned a 50 score, which was close to the continental averages of 56, but significantly lower than the regional average of 69.

- **In the absence of a national statistics office, the country does not collect any data on youth unemployment, poverty or infrastructure.** As indicators [91](#) and [92](#) indicate, the most recent information on youth unemployment and poverty is from a United Nations report from 2012. [Indicator 93](#) further explains that data collection is made difficult by the fact that a large part of the country is controlled by al-Shabaab fighters.

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