

# GOVERNANCE STATISTICS, 2010

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This is the first issue of Economic and Social Indicators (ESI) on Governance Statistics. It presents the situation of the country in areas of governance such as political rights and civil liberties, freedom of the press, corruption, public service delivery and gender equality. The statistics presented are latest available ones obtained from concerned agencies at national and international levels.

A technical note including the definition of terms is given at Annex.

## 2. WHAT IS GOVERNANCE?

Governance is defined as

*"... the exercise of political, economic and administrative authority to manage a nation's affairs. It is the complex mechanisms, processes and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights and obligations, and mediate their differences."* (UNDP)

*"... the traditions and institutions by which authority in a country is exercised for the common good. This includes (i) the process by which those in authority are selected, monitored and replaced, (ii) the capacity of the government to effectively manage its resources and implement sound policies, and (iii) the respect of citizens and the state for the institutions that govern economic and social interactions among them."* (World Bank)

### **NOTE TO USERS**

So far, there exists no standard methodology for measuring governance. Governance indicators are measured differently by different international agencies. The indices may differ in terms of coverage, sampling methods of data collection, etc.

Thus, caution should be exercised when assessing the level of governance of a country. A range of indicators should be looked at instead of focusing on a single one.

### 3. KEY POINTS – RATING OF MAURITIUS BY SELECTED INDEX OF GOVERNANCE

<b>Index</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Index value</b>	<b>Rank (from high to low governance)</b>
Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance <i>Source: Mo Ibrahim Foundation</i>	0 (low governance) to 100 (high governance)	2008/09	83.0	1st out of 53 countries in Africa
Political Rights and Civil liberties Index <i>Source: Freedom House</i>	1 (free) to 7 (not free)	2009	2 (free)	Not available
Freedom of the press Index <i>Source: Freedom House</i>	1 (free) to 100 (not free)	2009	27 (free)	58th out of 196 countries worldwide
Corruption Perceptions Index <i>Source: Transparency International</i>	0 (high corruption) to 10 (no corruption)	2010	5.4	39th out of 178 countries worldwide
Global Competitiveness Index <i>Source: World Economic Forum</i>	1 (lowest competitiveness) to 7 (highest competitiveness)	2010/11	4.32	55th out of 139 countries worldwide
Gender Inequality Index <i>Source: United Nations Development Program</i>	0 (no inequality) to 1 (high inequality)	2008	0.466	46th out of 138 countries

### 4. LEVEL OF GOVERNANCE RELATIVE TO OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES

The Mo Ibrahim index is a composite index measuring the level of governance in Africa. It focuses on 4 main areas namely (i) Safety and Rule of Law, (ii) Participation and Human Rights, (iii) Sustainable Economic Opportunity, and (iv) Human Development. The index is scaled from 0 (low governance) to 100 (high governance).

According to the Mo Ibrahim Index, Mauritius had an index of 83.0 in 2008/09. It scored highest on ‘Safety and Rule of Law’ (index of 90.2) and lowest on Participation and Human Rights (index of 77.5). It ranked first out of 53 African countries followed by Seychelles (index of 78.5) and Botswana (index of 75.9).

Since 2000/01, the level of governance of the country, as measured by the Mo Ibrahim Index, has been improving. The index increased from 77.9 in 2000/01 to 79.4 in 2005/06 and 83.0 in 2008/09 (Table 1).

**Table 1 – Mo Ibrahim Index by selected country, 2000/01, 2005/06, 2008/09**

Countries	2000/01		2005/06		2008/09	
	Index	Rank	Index	Rank	Index	Rank
<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>77.9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>83.0</b>	<b>1</b>
Seychelles	73.6	3	76.9	2	78.5	2
Botswana	74.5	2	75.8	3	75.9	3
Cape Verde	71.7	5	71.9	5	75.5	4
South Africa	72.3	4	72.6	4	71.5	5
Egypt	54.1	14	56.7	10	60.5	9
Morocco	52.7	17	56.3	12	56.6	13
Malawi	49.8	21	49.6	27	51.7	22
Madagascar	55.7	9	53.8	16	48.7	28
Nigeria	41.4	33	41.9	37	43.3	37
Togo	37.4	40	37.3	42	42.6	39
Congo, Democratic Rep.	25.6	45	31.2	41	31.1	41
Zimbabwe	35.9	44	32.8	47	32.7	49
Eritrea	37.0	42	36.7	43	31.8	50
Chad	30.8	48	29.4	51	28.8	52
Somalia	10.2	53	9.7	53	7.9	53

Source: <http://www.moibrahimfoundation.org/en/section/the-ibrahim-index>

## 5. POLITICAL FREEDOM

### 5.1 Political Rights and Civil Liberties

The overall freedom rating of the country is often assessed by the Political Rights and Civil Liberties index produced by the US-based Freedom House. The overall rating is made up of the average of 2 separate indices namely (i) Political Rights Index and (ii) Civil Liberties Index. It is presented on a scale from 1 to 7 and is interpreted as follows:

<u>Index value</u>	<u>Rating</u>
1.0 to 2.5	Free
3.0 to 5.5	Partly free
5.5 to 7.0	Not free

According to the latest figures in the report ‘2010 Freedom in the World’, Mauritius had an index of 2.0 in 2009 and fared higher with regard to political rights than to civil liberties. It was among the 89 countries rated as free out of a total of 194 countries (Table 2).

Among the 45 Sub-Saharan African countries rated as free, Mauritius ranked after Cape Verde (index of 1.0), alongside Benin, South Africa and Namibia (index of 2.0) and ahead of Botswana (index of 2.5).

**Table 2 - Political Rights and Civil Liberties index by selected country, 2009**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Political Rights and Civil Liberties Index</b>	<b>Status</b>
Australia	1.0	Free
France	1.0	Free
Cape Verde	1.0	Free
United Kingdom	1.0	Free
United States	1.0	Free
<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>Free</b>
South Africa	2.0	Free
Botswana	2.5	Free
India	2.5	Free
Seychelles	3.0	Partly Free
Singapore	4.5	Partly Free
Madagascar	5.0	Partly Free
Rwanda	5.5	Not free
Tunisia	6.0	Not free
China	6.5	Not free
Libya	7.0	Not free

Source: Freedom House <http://www.freedomhouse.org/>

## 5.2 Election

Voter turnout which is the percentage of voters at an election is often used as an indicator of democracy and political stability. The crude assumption is that the higher the turnout, the better is the state of democracy and political stability.

Based on data collected at the Electoral Commission Office on National Assembly Elections, Mauritius had a voter turnout of around 78% in 2010 (Table 3). Over the period 2000 to 2010, the percentage of voters hovered at around 80%.

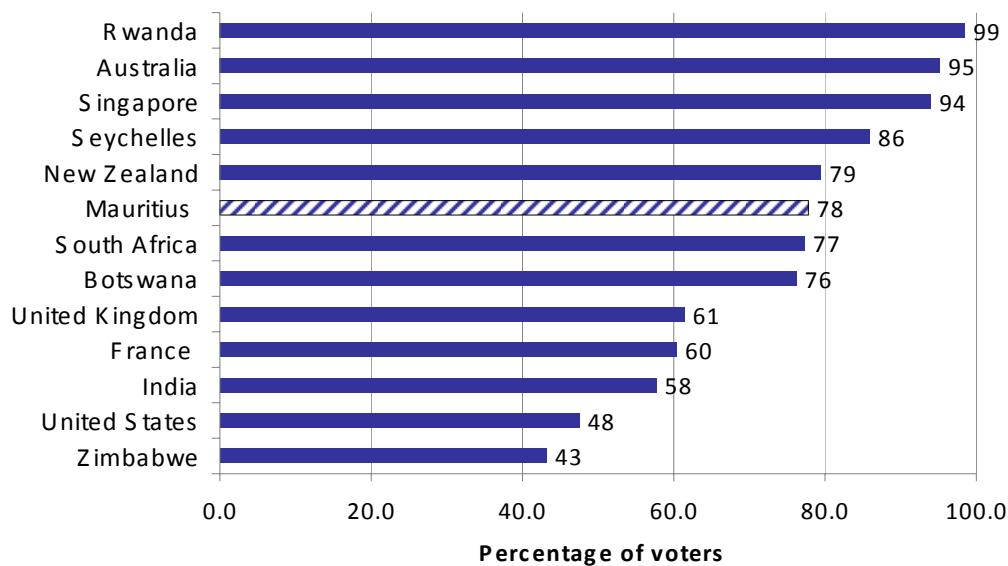
**Table 3 – Percentage of voters, Republic of Mauritius, National Assembly Elections 2000 - 2010**

	National Assembly Elections		
	2000	2005	2010
Number of registered electors	779,431	817,305	879,897
Number of voters	630,292	666,298	684,768
Percentage of voters (%)	80.9	81.5	77.8

Source: Electoral Commissioner's Office

When used for international comparison, voter turnout as a governance indicator has to be interpreted with caution. Though broadly speaking, the indicator can be used to indicate the level of democracy, a high voter turnout may not necessarily be the result of a high level of democracy; this could be the result of compulsory voting by law. In the same vein, a low voter turnout could also indicate that the people are not interested in voting.

**Figure 1 - Percentage of voters by selected country, Parliamentary Elections 2004 - 2010**



Source : <http://www.idea.int/>

At international level, based on data published by the Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) for the period 2004 and 2010, Rwanda (99%) had the highest voter turnout (Figure 1).

Mauritius is among the group of countries comprising New Zealand, South Africa and Botswana with a voter turnout of ranging between 75% and 80%.

## 6. FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Free press plays a key role in sustaining and monitoring a healthy democracy. The Freedom of the Press Index, published by the Freedom House, measures the level of freedom enjoyed by the global media. It assesses the degree of print, broadcast, and internet freedom of a country.

The index is calculated on a scale from 1 (Free) to 100 (Not Free) and is interpreted as follows:

<u>Index value</u>	<u>Rating of the press</u>
Below 30	Free
31 to 60	Partly free
61 and above	Not free

**Table 4 - Freedom of the press index by selected country, 2009**

Country	2010 Freedom of the Press		
	Rating	Rank	Status
Sweden	10	1	Free
Norway	10	1	Free
United States	18	24	Free
United Kingdom	19	26	Free
Japan	21	32	Free
France	23	40	Free
Mali	25	52	Free
<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>Free</b>
Cape Verde	28	60	Free
South Africa	32	70	Partly Free
India	33	72	Partly Free
Botswana	39	82	Partly Free
Turkey	51	106	Partly Free
Seychelles	58	124	Partly Free
Zambia	64	141	Not Free
Singapore	68	151	Not Free
China	84	181	Not Free
North Korea	99	196	Not Free

Source: <http://www.freedomhouse.org/images/File/fop/2010/FOTP2010Global&RegionalTables.pdf>

Based on the 2010 index, Mauritius (index of 27) is categorized as a country where the press is free and ranks 58th out of 196 countries in terms of freedom of the press in 2009. It is among the 35% of countries with a free press.

Among the 45 Sub-Saharan African countries for which the index has been calculated, Mauritius ranks third, Mali ranks first and Ghana second.

## 7. CORRUPTION

Corruption is among the most widely known areas of governance. It is described in many ways and perceived as bribery, fraud, trafficking, nepotism, etc.

In Mauritius, the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) is one of the responsible organizations to fight corruption. During the period 2004 to 2009, the ICAC received 900 complaints on average per year. It is to be noted however that many of these cases do not actually relate to corruption cases.

At the international level, the Corruption Perceptions Index of Transparency International is mostly used for measuring corruption. The index measures the perceived level of public-sector corruption in different countries. It ranges from 0 (high corruption) to 10 (no corruption).

**Table 5 – Corruption Perceptions Index by selected country, 2005 & 2010**

Country	2005		2010	
	Corruption Perceptions Index	Rank	Corruption Perceptions Index	Rank
<b>No. of countries covered</b>	<b>158</b>		<b>178</b>	
New Zealand	9.6	2	9.3	1
Singapore	9.4	5	9.3	1
Norway	8.9	8	8.6	10
United Kingdom	8.6	11	7.6	20
France	7.5	18	6.8	25
Botswana	5.9	32	5.8	33
<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>39</b>
Seychelles	4.0	55	4.8	49
South Africa	4.5	46	4.5	54
Brazil	3.7	62	3.7	69
China	3.2	78	3.5	78
India	2.9	88	3.3	87
Madagascar	2.8	97	2.6	123
Somalia	2.1	144	1.1	178

Source: <http://www.transparency.org>

According to 2010 Corruption Perceptions Index, Mauritius (index of 5.4) was 39<sup>th</sup> out of 178 countries when ranked from low to high corruption level (Table5). New Zealand was the least corrupt country (index of 9.3) and Somalia the most corrupt country (index of 1.1).

Among Sub-Saharan countries, Mauritius ranks second after Botswana (index of 5.8).

Compared to 2005, there has been a decrease in the perceived level of corruption in the country as indicated by an increase in the index from 4.2 to 5.4. At the same time, the country's ranking improved from 51 (out of 130 countries) to 39 (out of 170 countries).

## 8. ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

The Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) is used to assess the economic competitiveness of a country with particular focus on the macroeconomic environment, the quality of the country's institutions, and the state of the country's technology and supporting infrastructure. Though it is not a governance indicator, it assesses several aspects related to governance such as corruption, confidence in public institution, rule of law and service delivery.

The index ranges from 1 (lowest degree of competitiveness) to 7 (highest degree of competitiveness).

**Table 6 – Global Competitiveness Index by selected country, 2010/11**

Country	Global Competitiveness Index 2010/11	
	Score	Rank
Switzerland	5.63	1
Sweden	5.56	2
Singapore	5.48	3
United States	5.43	4
Japan	5.37	6
United Kingdom	5.25	12
France	5.13	15
Malaysia	4.88	26
China	4.84	27
India	4.33	51
South Africa	4.32	54
<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>4.32</b>	<b>55</b>
Botswana	4.05	76
Madagascar	3.46	124
Zimbabwe	3.03	136
Chad	2.73	139

Source: <http://www.weforum.org>

According to the 2010/11 Global Competitiveness Report published by the World Economic Forum, Mauritius had an index of 4.32 and was 55<sup>th</sup> out of a total of 139 countries when



ranked from high to low competitiveness. Switzerland and Sweden are the 2 countries with the highest degree of competitiveness whilst Angola and Chad were found to have the lowest degree of competitiveness.

Among Sub-Saharan Africa, Mauritius is second to South Africa in terms of competitiveness. Both countries are the only two in Sub-Saharan Africa to have made it in the top 50% of countries.

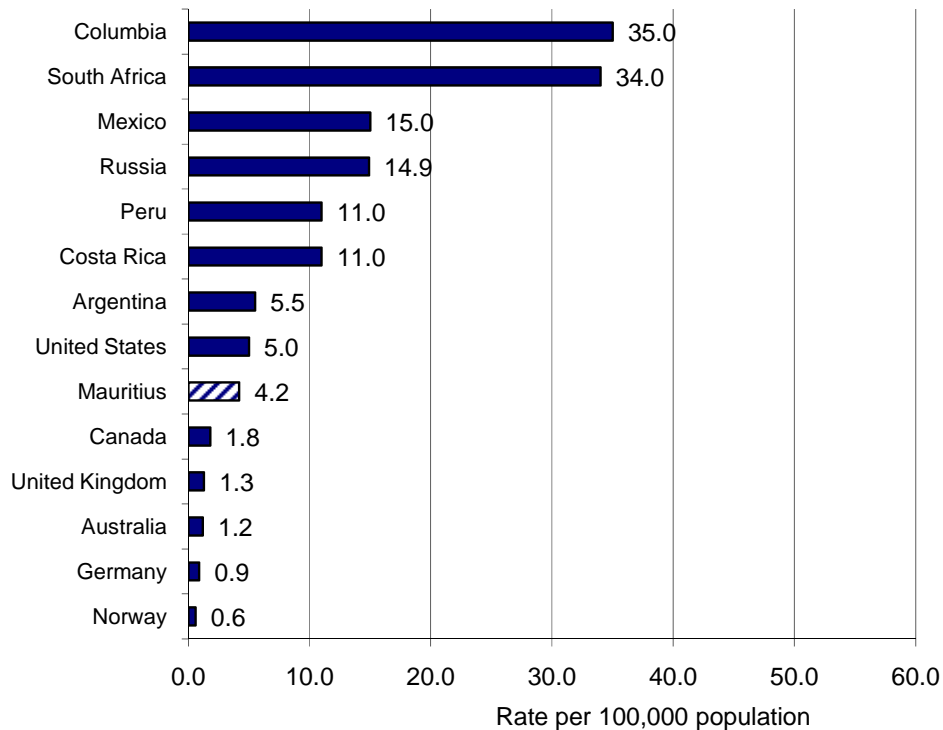
## 9. SOCIAL STABILITY AND GENDER EQUALITY

### 9.1 CRIME

Crime statistics are often used as indicators of the level of social stability in a country.

The intentional homicide rate of Mauritius was 2.6 per 100,000 population in 2000; it increased to 3.0 in 2005 and to 4.2 in 2009. This compares with a rate of 0.6 for Norway (ranked among countries with the lowest intentional homicide rates) and a rate of 35.0 for Columbia (ranked among countries with the highest intentional homicide rates).

**Figure 2 - Intentional homicide rate by selected country, 2009**



Source: UNODC <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/homicide.html>

## 9.2 GENDER EQUALITY

Poor systems of governance result in discrimination related to sex among others. In that respect, indicators of gender equality are often used to assess the governance of a country. For instance, the UN Millennium Declaration sets a specific goal on gender equality namely, the Millennium Development Goal 3 which is to promote gender equality and women empowerment. This is assessed in three areas: education, wage employment and representation in National Parliament.

### Gender situation in education, employment and politics

In Mauritius, there exists no gender disparity in education. In primary schools, there were around 97 girls for every 100 boys at primary level during the period 2000 to 2010, seemingly in favour of boys. However, given that there are fewer girls than boys of primary school age (sex ratio is around 97), there is no gender disparity at primary level. At secondary level, the ratio is in favour of girls in spite of more boys of secondary school age being more numerous than girls in the population.

**Table 7 – Ratio of girls to boys by education level, Republic of Mauritius 2000 - 2010**

Education level	2000	2005	2010
Primary	96.8	97.0	96.8
Secondary	101.3	103.2	105.4

*\* number of girls per 100 boys*

*Source: Ministry of Education and Human Resources*

However, the gender gap in labour market and politics is yet to be bridged. According to the 2010 Continuous Multi-purpose Household Survey (CMPHS) data, women in Mauritius make up more than half of the total population of working age (16 years and over) but only 35% of the working population. Among the unemployed, there are 2 women for every unemployed man.

As regards women's participation in politics, there has been an increase in the proportion of female candidates at the National Assembly Elections from 6.5% in 2000 to 16.1% in 2010. During the same period, there has been appreciable increase (from 6.1% in 2000 to 18.8% in 2010) in the proportion of seats held by women in national parliament.

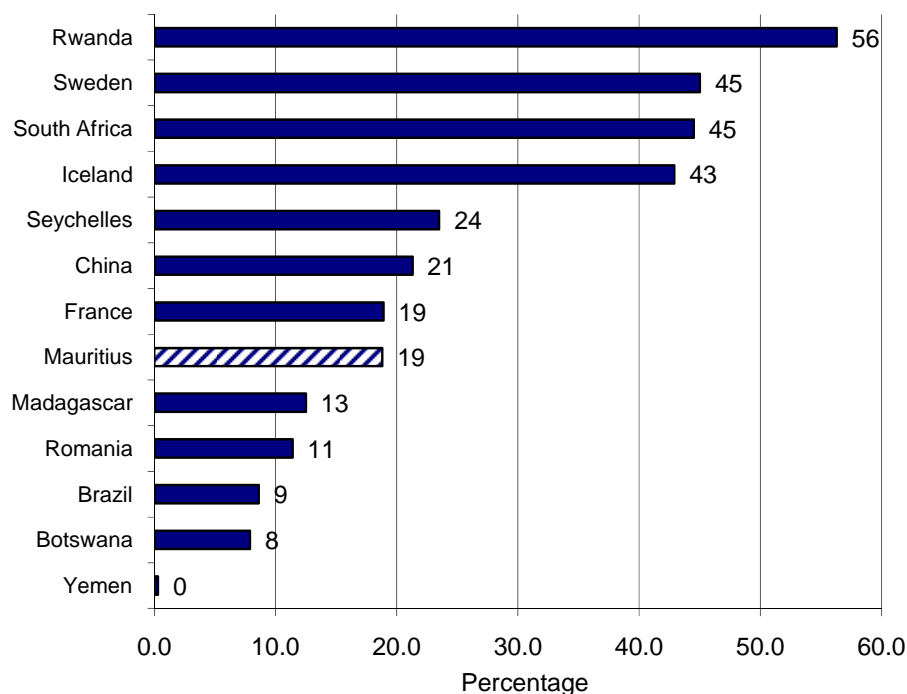
**Table 8 – Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament, Republic of Mauritius, National Assembly Elections 2000 - 2010**

	2000	2005	2010
Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (%)	6.1	17.1	18.8

Source: Electoral Commissioner's Office

Based on figures published by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Mauritius is at par with France regarding female representation in parliament (19.0%). Rwanda had the highest proportion of women in parliament (56.0%) with more women than men among parliamentarians.

**Figure 3 - Percentage of women in parliament by selected country, 2007 - 2010**



Source: <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

### Gender Inequality Index

The Gender Inequality Index (GII) devised by the UN measures gender disparity and reflects women's disadvantage in reproductive health, education, decision making in parliament and labour force. It is calculated on a scale from 0 (women and men fare equally) to 1 (women fare poorly).

According to latest figure published in the 2010 UN Human Development Report, Mauritius is ranked 46<sup>th</sup> out of 138 countries with a GII value of 0.466 in 2008. Netherlands ranked first with a value of 0.174 and Yemen last with a value of 0.853.

**Table 9 – UN Gender Inequality Index by selected country, 2008**

Country	2008	
	Index	Rank
Netherlands	0.174	1
Denamrk	0.209	2
Sweden	0.212	3
Singapore	0.255	10
France	0.260	11
United Kngdom	0.355	32
United States	0.400	37
China	0.405	38
<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>0.466</b>	<b>46</b>
Brazil	0.631	80
South Africa	0.635	82
Rwanda	0.638	83
Botswana	0.663	91
Yemen	0.853	138

Source: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/gii/>

## **10. PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY**

The quality of public service determines to some extent the effectiveness of Government and its capacity to effectively formulate and implement policies.

### **10.1 COMPLAINTS ON MALADMINISTRATION IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR**

The number of complaints on maladministration in the public sector can broadly be used as an indicator of the quality of the public sector. In Mauritius, the Ombudsman institution is an independent organization which is empowered to inquire into complaints on maladministration in the public sector. In 2000, 458 complaints were received; the number decreased to 364 in 2005 and 329 in 2009.

## **10.2 PUBLIC PERCEPTION ON LOCAL POLICE**

Public trust in the local police is often used as an indicator of governance. Based on data collected on public perception on the local police at the 2009 Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey, it can be concluded that the Mauritian population is broadly satisfied with police performance. However, police brutality appears to be a cause for concern.

The following main results were obtained at the survey:-

Of all respondents interviewed, around

- 72 % reported that police performance in their locality was either high or average;
- 75% believed that the police was giving an efficient service to the country in general;
- 76% had much or average trust on them; and
- 65% thought that police brutality was either a very serious or serious problem in Mauritius.

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## TECHNICAL NOTE

### **CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX**

The Corruption Perceptions Index is an index produced by Transparency International (<http://www.transparency.org>) which measures corruption in international business transactions.

It is an aggregate indicator that brings together data from 13 sources. These sources measure the overall extent of corruption in public and political sectors, and provide a ranking of countries, i.e. include an assessment of multiple countries.

The evaluation of the extent of corruption is done by Country experts and business leaders. The expert analysis is done on data provided by African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, Bertlesman Foundation, Economist Intelligence Unit, Freedom House, Global Insight and World Bank.

The index is calculated by averaging all of the standardized values of each country and is presented on a scale from 0 (high corruption) to 10 (no corruption).

### **CRIME RATE**

The Crime Rate is defined as the number of reported crimes per 1,000 mid-year population.

### **FREEDOM OF THE PRESS INDEX**

The Index measures the state of press freedoms in countries. It is produced by the Freedom House ([www.freedomhouse.org](http://www.freedomhouse.org)) based on data collected at the annual survey of media independence in 195 countries and territories.

The index assesses the degree of print, broadcast, and internet freedom in every country in the world, analyzing the events of each calendar year such as legal environment for the media, political pressures that influence reporting, and economic factors that affect access to information. It is presented on a scale from 1 to 100 and is interpreted as follows:-

<u>Index value</u>	<u>Rating of the press</u>
Below 30	Free
31 to 60	Partly free
61 and above	Not free

### **GENDER INEQUALITY INDEX**

The gender Inequality index is published by the United Nations. It reflects women's disadvantage in reproductive health, empowerment and labour market. The index shows the loss in human development due to inequality between female and male achievements in these dimensions. It ranges from 0 (women and men fare equally) to 1 (women fare poorly).

The indicators used for the computation of the index are as follows:-

- (1) *Maternal mortality ratio*
- (2) *Adolescent fertility rate*
- (3) *Share of parliamentary seats held by each sex*
- (4) *Attainment at secondary and higher education levels*
- (5) *Labour market participation rate*

#### **GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS INDEX**

The Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) is produced by the World Economic Forum with Columbia University <http://www.weforum.org>. It attempts to quantify the impact of a number of key factors which contribute to create the conditions for competitiveness, with particular focus on the macroeconomic environment, the quality of the country's institutions, and the state of the country's technology and supporting infrastructure.

The index ranges from 1 (lowest degree of competitiveness) to 7 (highest degree of competitiveness). It is composed of 11 pillars which are as follows:-

- (1) ***Institutions*** – e.g. *Public institution (Property rights, Ethics and corruption Government inefficiency, Judicial independence, Reliability of police services, etc.) & Private institutions (Corporate ethics and Accountability.)*
- (2) ***Infrastructure*** – *Transport infrastructure, Energy and telephony infrastructure*
- (3) ***Macroeconomic environment*** – *Government budget balance, Government debt, inflation, National saving rate, etc.*
- (4) ***Health and primary education*** – *Incidence of malaria, tuberculosis and HIV; Infant mortality, life expectancy, quality of primary education and enrolment rate, etc.*
- (5) ***Higher education and training*** – *Secondary and tertiary enrolment rates, quality of education, extent of staff training, etc.*
- (6) ***Goods market efficiency*** - *Domestic competition (Number of procedures required to start a business, Intensity of local competition, Total tax rate, etc.), Foreign competition (Prevalence trade barriers, Trade tariffs, Imports as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product), and Degree of customer orientation etc.*
- (7) ***Labour market efficiency*** – *Flexibility of wage determination, Hiring and firing practices, Extent and effect of taxation, Pay and productivity, Reliance of professional management, Brain drain and Female participation in labour market, etc).*
- (8) ***Financial market development*** – *Availability and affordability of financial services, Ease of access to loans, Soundness of banks, etc.*
- (9) ***Technological readiness*** – *Availability of latest technologies, ICT use etc.*

(10) **Market size** – Domestic and foreign market size

(11) **Business sophistication** – Local supplier quantity and quality, Extent of marketing, Production process sophistication, Capacity of innovation, Quality of scientific research institutions, etc.

#### **INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE**

Intentional homicide is defined as death deliberately inflicted on a person by another person. It includes infanticide and abortion.

#### **INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE RATE**

Intentional Homicide Rate is defined as the number of reported intentional homicides per 100,000 mid-year population

#### **LABOUR FORCE**

Labour force or economically active population is made up of employed and unemployed population

#### **MO IBRAHIM INDEX**

The Mo Ibrahim Index is compiled by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation (<http://www.moibrahimfoundation.org/en>). It is a composite index which assesses governance in Africa. It measures the delivery of public goods and services to citizens by government and non-state actors on the basis of four main categories which are as follows:-

- (1) **Safety and Rule of Law** – Personal safety, Rule of law (e.g. Strength of judicial process, judicial independence, Property rights etc.), Accountability and Corruption, and National security (e.g. Domestic armed conflict, Government involvement in armed conflict, etc.).
- (2) **Participation and Human Rights** – Participation (e.g. Political participation, free and fair elections, etc.), Rights (Human, political, workers rights, Press Freedom, Civil liberties, etc.) and Gender (e.g. Ration of girls to boys in primary and secondary education, women in parliament, women's rights etc.)
- (3) **Sustainable Economic Opportunity** – Public management (e.g. Quality of public management, quality of budget management, ratio of total revenue to total expenditure, inflation, etc.), Private sector (e.g. investment climate, competitive environment), infrastructure (quality of physical infrastructure, access to electricity and, computer usage, etc.) and environmental sustainability, etc.
- (4) **Human Development** – Health and welfare (child mortality, immunisation, social exclusion, access to improved water and sanitation, etc.) and education (e.g. Education provision and quality, Primary completion rate, progression to secondary school, tertiary enrolment rate, etc.).

The index is scaled from 0 (low governance) to 100 (high governance).



## **POLITICAL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES INDEX**

The Political Rights and Civil Liberties Index is produced by the Freedom House ([www.freedomhouse.org](http://www.freedomhouse.org)). It shows the overall freedom rating of a country in terms of political and civil rights.

The index is based on Freedom in the World survey which measures freedom on two broad categories: political rights and civil liberties.

- (1) ***Political rights** enable people to participate freely in the political process, including the right to vote freely for distinct alternatives in legitimate elections, compete for public office, join political parties and organizations, and elect representatives who have a decisive impact on public policies and are accountable to the electorate.*
- (2) ***Civil liberties** allow for the freedoms of expression and belief, associational and organizational rights, rule of law, and personal autonomy without interference from the state.*

The index is computed as an average of the 2 separate indices and by country; it is interpreted as follows:-

<u>Index value</u>	<u>Rating</u>
1.0 to 2.5	Free
3.0 to 5.5	Partly free
5.5 to 7.0	Not free

## **UNEMPLOYMENT**

Unemployed population comprises all Mauritians aged 16 years and over who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work during the reference period.

## **VOTER TURNOUT**

The number of voters per 100 registered electors.