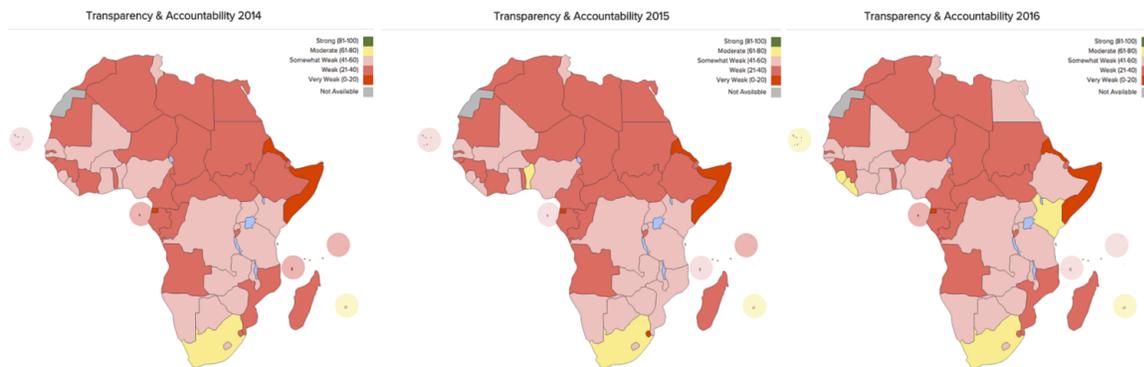


Africa Integrity Indicators – Country Findings



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 aai@globalintegrity.org.

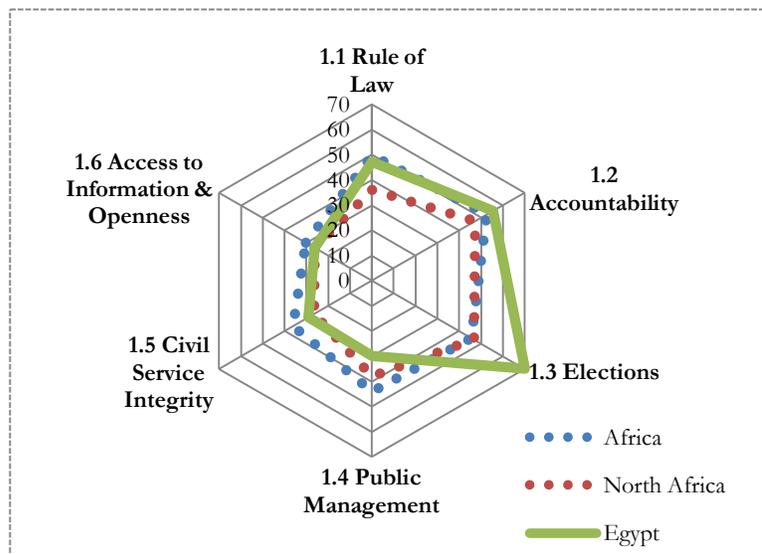
Egypt – Country Findings Summary

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 Egypt’s average score increased by 10 points from 33 in 2015 to 43 in 2016. This shows a continued improvement from the 7 point increase between 2014 and 2015 (25 to 33) and moves Egypt from the “weak” to the “somewhat weak” area of the Global Integrity scale.¹ While the 2016 score is higher than the North African average of 37, it is lower than the continental average of 42.

Of all [six subcategories](#), Elections became the highest scoring with a significant increase from 50 in 2015 to 70 in 2016, placing Egypt in the “moderate” area of Global Integrity scale. This increase is primarily driven by improved independence of the elections body. Significant increases were also observed in three other subcategories: Public Management (+10), Civil Service Integrity (+13) and Access to information & Openness (+14). However, these changes only moved each of these subcategories from the “very weak” to “weak” area of the Global Integrity scale with respective scores of 30, 29 and 26 in 2016. A small score increase (+3) was also observed in the Accountability subcategory, moving its average from 53 in 2015 to 56 in 2016. The Rule of Law subcategory remained unchanged keeping its score of 47.



< Figure 1 > Egypt’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).

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)

Selected highlights

- **The electoral body enjoyed increased independence from the executive, but equal media coverage for political parties was not guaranteed in the months leading up to the 2015 elections.** The High Elections Committee (HEC) is a seven-member committee whose members are drawn from the judiciary according to criteria set in law. The chairman is the President of the Cairo Court of Appeal and Committee further consists of two Court of Cassation deputies, the oldest two deputies to the President of the State Council, and the two oldest presidents in the courts of appeal of the country. Although [indicator 21](#) reports that the HEC is a non-permanent body appointed in August 2015, no attempts were made against its independence, and its chairman exercised his powers in removing the HEC spokesperson without executive interference. However, [indicator 23](#) notes that with opposition parties boycotting the 2015 elections, media coverage had the tendency of favoring political parties with greater visibility, such as bigger and older parties, and those led by famous politicians.
- **Laws provide for transparency in public procurement, but the practice shows weak implementation.** As noted in [indicator 24](#), Article 39 of the Egypt Tender Law 89 of 1998 requires competitive bidding for major public procurements. While each tender is announced on the electronic procurement portal, [indicator 25](#) notes that in practice, the criteria by which tenders are evaluated are not made accessible to the public. Similarly, [indicator 27](#) notes that the law provides for disbarment of companies found guilty of violating procurement regulations. However, in practice, it is impossible to verify the enforcement of such a law since information pertaining to the ban is not in the public domain, as reported in [indicator 28](#). This lack of transparency is also observed when it comes to documents associated with procurement contracts, as [indicator 26](#) reports. Apart from journalists who can access them upon request, these documents are out of reach for regular citizens. While some state-owned companies, particularly those listed in the Egyptian Stock Market, do publish their financial information on a quarterly or annual basis, [indicator 29](#) reports that companies controlled by the army do not release such information. Finally, as noted in [indicator 30](#), unlike international companies operating in the oil sector (BP, British Gas, Dana Gas, Eni and RWE) that do release their financial records, Egyptian public and private companies operating in the exploitation of natural resources (natural gas, iron ore, phosphate, limestone, manganese, talc, zinc, asbestos and gypsum) limit access to their financial records to journalists.
- **Legal frameworks to ensure civil service integrity remain weak.** Although corruption is criminalized as a specific offence, and as noted in [indicator 37](#), the law provides for formal rules to prevent conflicts of interest, nepotism, cronyism and patronage in all branches of government, no law requires Egyptian civil servants to report corruption nor protects those who do so, as reported in [indicator 35](#). There are also no legal restrictions for civil servants entering the private sector after leaving the government, as noted in [indicator 36](#).

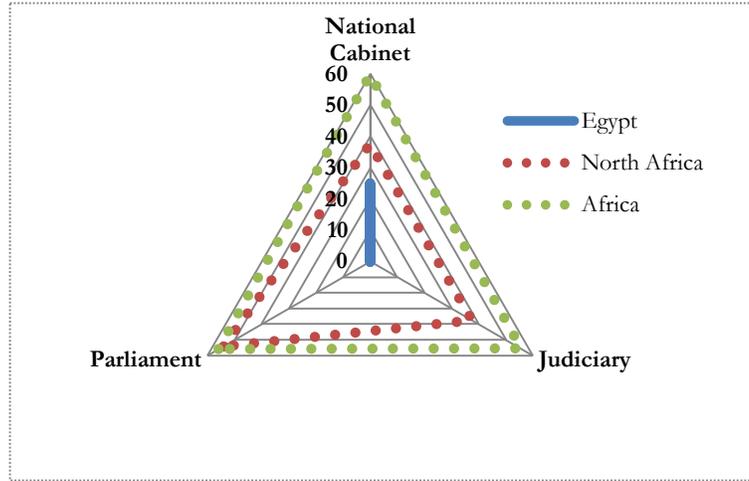
2. Social Development

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

- **Civic space in Egypt remains extremely restricted.** Egyptian workers demanding better working conditions faced repression as courts barred them from participating in strikes. [Indicator 65](#) reports that following a May 2015 verdict of the High Court, which authorized forced retirement of any worker who participated in a strike, dozens of striking workers were facing trial at the time of the research. Under the New Protest Law of November 2013, citizens continued to be denied the right to assemble, and protests were interrupted and citizens arrested and even sentenced to jail time, as noted in [indicator 67](#). NGOs continued to face restrictions as the government cracked down on those receiving foreign funding. [Indicator 68](#) notes that NGOs working on the promotion of freedom of speech and human rights faced additional administrative barriers in their registration process. Moreover, [indicator 70](#) reports that a total of 380 NGOs were shut down by court order as part of government crackdown on the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood. These restrictions were not limited to administrative aspects; [indicator 69](#) reports that NGO workers faced a hostile work environment, as shows the arrest case of Yara Sallam of the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR). Others were subject to death threats, as was the case with Bahey El-Din Hassan, director of the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS).
- **No specific legal framework exists for the protection of ethnic, religious or sexual minorities.** Data also reveal that apart from general principles in the Constitution of 2014, no specific laws exist to protect minority rights. [Indicator 71](#) notes that no laws exist to provide for special protections of ethnic minorities such as the Nubians, and [indicator 73](#) notes that the same holds for religious minorities such as Christians and Jews. [Indicator 75](#) notes that Egyptian law still provides for the criminalization of certain sexual orientation, and in practice LGBT persons are either jailed when they are citizens, or deported when they are foreigners, as noted in [indicator 76](#).

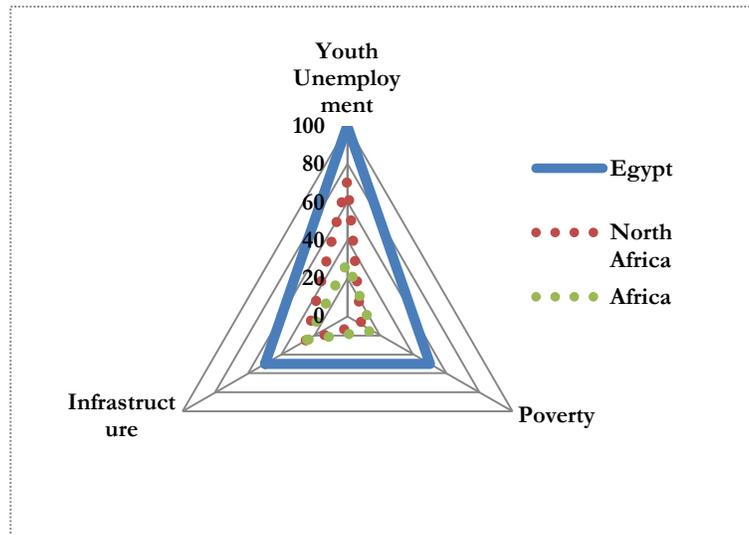
- **Women’s representation in the three branches of government remains almost inexistent.** As noted in [indicator 85](#), women’s representation in the national cabinet has been decreasing in Egypt and out of 33 cabinet members, only three are female (9.55%). Egypt’s score on this indicator is significantly below the regional average of 37 and the continental average of 60. The picture is even grimmer when it comes to the highest branch of the judiciary. [Indicator 86](#) reports that there is not a single woman among the 11



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

members of the Constitutional Court. Egypt thus scored a 0 while the regional average stands at 37 and the continental average at 57. Finally on [indicator 87](#), which assesses women’s representation in the legislature, Egypt earned a 0 score because there was no legislature at the time of research. The regional average was 54 and the continental average was 56. Even before the dissolution of the parliament in 2012, there were just ten women out of 508 members (1.7%), which still corresponds to a 0 score.

- **Egypt has a comparatively high statistical capacity.** Egypt frequently collects data on youth unemployment. As noted in [indicator 91](#), Egypt’s statistics body, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) publishes an annual report on youth that includes statistics on unemployment. Egypt’s score of 100 is above the regional average of 71 and the continental average of 28. CAPMAS also collects and publishes statistics on poverty through its Poverty Rates Household Income and Expenditure Survey, as noted in [indicator 92](#). The



< Figure 3 > Egypt’s collection of statistics on youth unemployment, poverty and infrastructure compared to the country’s region and the continent.

50 score in this indicator stands above the regional average of 8 and the continental average of 15. Finally, CAPMAS also provides regular statistics on infrastructures, as noted in [indicator 93](#), and the country’s score of 50 is twice the regional average of 25 and the continental average of 25.

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.