

Bangladesh – Summary Statement 2023

In 2023, the Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI) conducted its first human rights expert survey in Bangladesh. This survey asked local experts for their insights about the human rights landscape in the country. The pool of survey responses allowed HRMI to produce a complete human rights dataset for Bangladesh, which includes scores for five economic and social rights, nine civil and political rights, and information about people groups at risk along with some context-specific details about these violations.

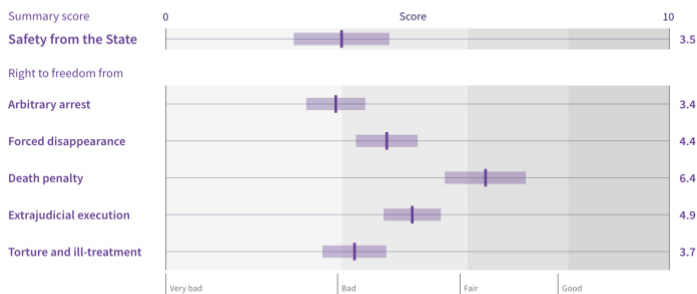
HRMI's 2023 data show that civil and political rights continue to be a pressing issue in Bangladesh. Out of the three broad categories of rights that HRMI measures, Bangladesh scores the lowest on the right to be **safe from the state** with a summary score of 3.5 out of 10. This score suggests that **many people in Bangladesh are not safe** from one or more of the following: arbitrary arrest, torture and ill-treatment, forced disappearance, death penalty, or extrajudicial killing.

Safety from the State - overview

(2022)

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How well is Bangladesh's government respecting each right?



Source: HRMI 2023 rightstracker.org

A significant number of human rights experts identified **political opponents and dissidents, human rights defenders, protestors, journalists, and those suspected of political violence** as being especially vulnerable to the violations of these physical integrity rights, among many others.

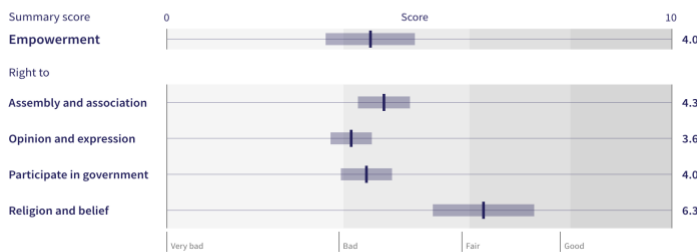
Bangladesh scores 4.0 out of 10 on **empowerment rights**, indicating that many people in the country are not enjoying their civil liberties and political freedoms. The three empowerment rights to assembly and association, opinion and expression, and political participation fall in the 'bad' range, and the country is performing worse than average in our sample of 30 countries. However, on the right to freedom of religion and belief, Bangladesh scores 6.3 out of 10.

Empowerment - overview

(2022)

[How to read](#)

How well is Bangladesh's government respecting each right?

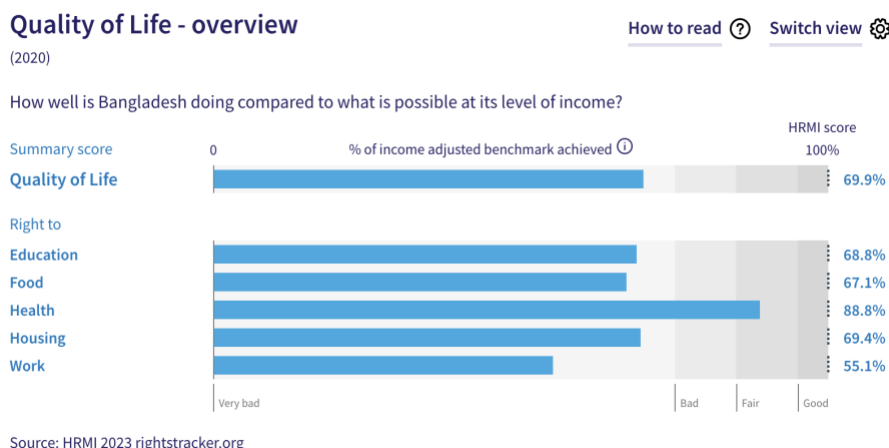


Source: HRMI 2023 rightstracker.org

Human rights experts identified **political opponents and dissidents, human rights defenders, journalists, and protestors, among others**, as being at risk of violations of these empowerment rights. Religious, ethnic, and linguistic minorities, Indigenous communities, atheists, and LGBTQIA+ people were identified by many experts as being at risk of violation of their freedom of religion and belief.

Overall, **political opponents, critics, human rights defenders, protesters, journalists, and civil society organisations**, were some groups, among others, were prominently identified as being specifically vulnerable to the violations of their civil and political rights by the government.

On fulfilment of **economic and social rights**, Bangladesh has an overall income-adjusted score of 69.9%. This means that the government of Bangladesh is achieving significantly less than what it actually can with its existing level of income to ensure that its people are enjoying their rights to education, food, health, housing, and work.



Human rights experts from Bangladesh identified **socio-economically disadvantaged people, refugees, Indigenous communities, women and girls, people living in remote areas**, among others, to be at a high risk of being unable to fulfil these rights. Bangladesh’s **large population, climate change and environmental degradation, and lack of infrastructure** were cited as reasons for people not being able to enjoy their economic and social rights.

HRMI Spokesperson Thalia Kehoe Rowden said, ‘All people in Bangladesh deserve to have all their human rights protected and upheld by their government. HRMI’s scores, based on both local reporting and international databases, show that the government is currently not keeping the promises it has made under international law.’

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All the data are freely available on the [Rights Tracker](#), and more information can be found on the [HRMI website](#).