

# Liberia human rights data - HRMI

The <u>Human Rights Measurement Initiative</u> (HRMI) produces robust data tools that track countries' human rights performance. These tools are available on the <u>Rights Tracker</u>.

Our methodologies are peer-reviewed and our data widely used for: <u>journalism</u>, <u>advocacy</u> (including UPR reports), <u>research</u>, and <u>policy</u>. HRMI data are recommended by: the World Bank, the Global Investigative Journalism Network, the Pacific Data Hub, and the European Commission, among <u>others</u>.

## Liberia

HRMI produces a full set of data for Liberia on the <u>Rights Tracker</u>. A summary of Liberia's scores can be downloaded as a pdf <u>here</u>.

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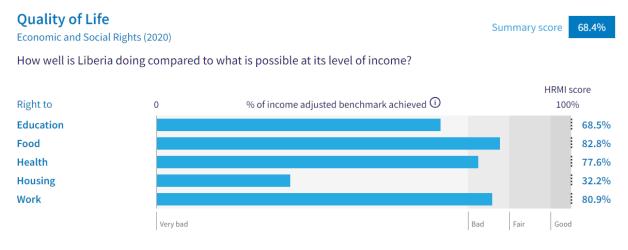
- ➤ Quality of Life
- Safety from the State
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- People at risk
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#### Quality of Life - economic and social rights

We measure **progressive realisation**. Our scores reflect what a country is achieving (as a percentage), compared to what it could achieve at its income level (100%).

Watch this <u>3-minute video</u> introduction to our economic and social rights methodology for more information.





Liberia is achieving 68.4% of what it could be achieving, at this income level, to guarantee economic and social rights for its people.

You can find much more detail on the Rights Tracker, such as:

- regional comparisons,
- additional detail for each right,
- data disaggregated by sex,
- graphs showing country performance over 20 years, and
- which groups of people are especially at risk (40 groups including women, refugees, protesters, etc).

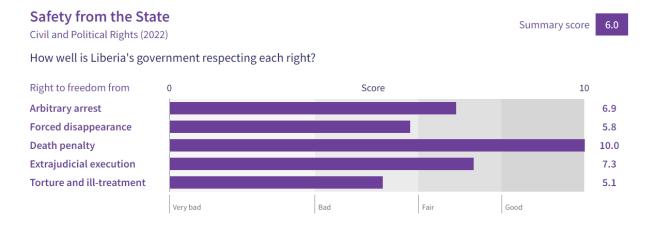
Liberia's scores show that the country has **a very long way to go** to meet its economic and social rights duties set out in international law. The country has resources to improve human rights conditions for its people, but is not using them effectively.

#### Civil and political rights

Our civil and political rights scores reflect how well a government is respecting its people's civil and political freedoms. We collect information directly from human rights practitioners monitoring events in specific countries.

Watch this <u>4-minute video</u> introduction to our civil and political rights methodology for more information.

#### Safety from the state rights



Liberia's Safety from the State score of 6.0 out of 10 suggests that **a significant number of people are not safe** from the state.



#### Empowerment rights

#### Empowerment

Summary score Civil and Political Rights (2022) How well is Liberia's government respecting each right? **Right** to 0 Score

Assembly and association					5.0
Opinion and expression					5.8
Participate in government					5.7
	Very bad	Bad	Fair	Good	

Liberia's Empowerment score of 5.4 out of 10 suggests that many people are not enjoying their civil liberties and political freedoms.

You can find much more detail on the Rights Tracker for civil and political rights, such as:

- regional comparisons.
- graphs showing country performance since 2017, and \_
- which groups of people are especially at risk (40 groups including women, refugees, protesters, etc).

### People at risk

Our people at risk data show which groups of people are especially at risk of human rights violations. We collect information directly from human rights practitioners monitoring events in specific countries.

Let's take a look at the right to freedom from arbitrary arrest in Liberia in 2022 as an example.

People at risk for Right to freedom from arbitrary arrest (2022)

Interpretation: Larger text = more human rights experts identified this group as being at risk. 25% of our human rights experts identified Human rights advocates as being at risk of having this right violated.

> People with particular political affiliations or beliefs People who protest or engage in non-violent political activity Human rights advocates People suspected of political violence Journalists **Students** Women and/or girls Academics All people Members of labour unions / workers' rights advocates Men and/or boys Sex workers

5.4

10



Human rights experts in Liberia told us that **people with particular political beliefs**, **protesters**, **and human rights advocates** are especially at risk of being arbitrarily arrested in Liberia, among other groups.

We also ask experts to give us **additional context** about the human rights violations in this country.

When asked to provide more context about who was especially vulnerable to arbitrary or political arrest and detention by government agents in 2022, our respondents mentioned all of the following:

- Students protesting the government demanding educational improvement are often arrested by the Liberian National Police (LNP)
- There are reports of police arresting people on behalf of the current government for political speech
- A member of the Alternative National Congress was arrested by the LNP for alleging on Facebook that ritualistic killings were occurring across Liberia
- Student Unification Party protesters from the state-funded University of Liberia were arbitrarily arrested by the LNP for peaceful protests at the Capitol building in Monrovia during the Independence Day protest on 26 July 2022

Human rights experts in Liberia told us that in 2022, students who protested were often arrested and that there are reports of people being arrested for political speech.

### Women's rights in Liberia: deep dive

Let's look specifically at the information that is available on the Rights Tracker on the subject of women and girls' human rights in Liberia. Note that this can be done for any of the rights or people at risk groups.

Overall, Liberia is achieving 68.4% of its potential, at its income level, to guarantee **quality of life** rights. Women and/or girls are identified as being especially at risk of violations for all 5 of these rights: education, food, health, housing, and work.

Liberia has a very long way to go to meet its economic and social rights duties for its people, especially women and/or girls.

Liberia's overall scores for **civil and political rights** fall in the 'bad' category, indicating that many people are not safe from violations of their civil and political freedoms. Women were identified as being especially at risk of violations for 6 of the 8 rights we measure.

Human rights experts in Liberia specifically mentioned female genital mutilation when providing context about violations of the right to health and the right to opinion and expression, citing:



- Female genital mutilation (FGM) is covertly supported by the government and the Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia, despite having a public anti-FGM stance.
- People who support gender equality, such as the 'He for She' movement, in Lofa County are threatened by the Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia for demonstrating against FGM.

The Rights Tracker data show that Liberia can make significant improvements to its human rights performance, especially in regard to women and girls' rights.

## Additional resources

Here are some additional resources that may be useful:

- ► How to use HRMI data for the Universal Periodic Review
- > How to use HRMI data for the Sustainable Development Goals
- > Article Liberia: progresses and challenges (2020)
- Data explanation: Youtube video
- FAQs about the HRMI survey

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at HRMI if you have any questions about our data or would like help incorporating it into your reports and other work. We want our data to be as useful as possible for the important work you are doing to improve people's lives.

Reach us at: yoyo.pasieka@hrmi.ngo or admin@humanrightsmeasurement.org.