



Human Rights Measurement Initiative

HRMI 2025 Data Codebook
Version 2025.6.18

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If you use HRMI data in formal research, please cite the following references.

Anytime you use any of the current HRMI data, please cite:

Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI). 2025. "HRMI Human Rights Dataset." <https://humanrightsmasurement.org/>. Version 2025.6.18.

If you are using any of the Civil and Political Rights data, you should also cite:

K. Chad Clay, Ryan Bakker, Anne-Marie Brook, Daniel W. Hill, and Amanda Murdie. 2020. "Using practitioner surveys to measure human rights: The Human Rights Measurement Initiative's civil and political rights metrics." *Journal of Peace Research* 57 (6): 715-727.

Matthew Rains, K. Chad Clay, Ryan Bakker, Anne-Marie Brook, Daniel W. Hill, Meridith LaVelle, and Amanda Murdie. 2025. "HRMI Civil and Political Rights Metrics 2025 Technical Note." Version 2025.6.18. <https://humanrightsmasurement.org/methodology-handbook/>.

K. Chad Clay, Matthew Rains, Anne-Marie Brook, Thalia Kehoe-Rowden, Pratibha Singh, Meridith LaVelle, Asia Parker, and Susan Randolph. 2025. "HRMI 2025 Annual Survey & People Data Report." Version 2025.6.18. <https://humanrightsmasurement.org/methodology-handbook/>.

If you are using any of the Economic and Social Rights data, you should also cite:

Susan Randolph, Thalia Kehoe Rowden, Shaan Badenhorst, John Stewart, and K. Anne Watson. 2025. "HRMI Methodology Handbook: Economic and Social Rights Scores." June 2025. <https://humanrightsmasurement.org/methodology-handbook/>

Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Terra Lawson-Remer and Susan Randolph. 2015. *Fulfilling Social and Economic Rights*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Economic & Social Rights Empowerment Initiative. 2025. <https://serfindex.uconn.edu/>.

If you are using any of the People at Risk data, you should also cite:

K. Chad Clay, Ryan Bakker, Anne-Marie Brook, Daniel W. Hill, and Amanda Murdie. 2020. "Using practitioner surveys to measure human rights: The Human Rights Measurement Initiative's civil and political rights metrics." *Journal of Peace Research* 57 (6): 715-727.

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Contents of HRMI Dataset (Version 2024.6.18)

All HRMI datasets can be found in separate sheets in the HRMI_Website_DataSet Excel file. They can also be found as separate comma-delimited (CSV) files in the “CSV files” folder.

Dataset Name	Brief Description
CPR	Civil and Political Rights Dataset
People_at_Risk	People At Risk Dataset
ESR_LMY_IncomeAdjusted	Economic and Social Rights Income Adjusted Dataset - Low and Middle-Income Assessment Standard
ESR_HiY_IncomeAdjusted	Economic and Social Rights Income Adjusted Dataset - High-Income Assessment Standard
ESR_LMY_GlobalBest	Economic and Social Rights Global Best Dataset – Low and Middle-Income Assessment Standard
ESR_HiY_GlobalBest	Economic and Social Rights Global Best Dataset – High-Income Assessment Standard
ESR_Sex_Disaggregated	Economic and Social Rights Sex Disaggregated Dataset
ESR_Pacific_Taiwan_Data	Economic and Social Rights Data Sources used for Taiwan and Pacific Countries

HRMI Civil and Political Rights (CPR) Dataset

HRMI's civil and political rights dataset contains the following basic country information:

Variable	Description
country	Country name
year	Year of concern
countryyear	ISO 3 letter country code and year combined
iso3c	ISO 3 letter country code
Iso3n	ISO 3 digit numeric country codes
cowcode	Correlates of War numerical country code
hrmicode	HRMI survey numerical country code

Derived entirely from the HRMI Expert Survey, the Civil and Political Rights (CPR) dataset contains information on the following rights:

Variable Label ("right")	Human Right Covered
arrest	Right to freedom from arbitrary or political arrest and imprisonment
assem	Right to assembly and association
disap	Right to freedom from disappearance
dpex	Right to freedom from death penalty execution
exkill	Right to freedom from extrajudicial execution
express	Right to opinion and expression
polpart	Right to participate in government
rel	Right to freedom of religion and belief
tort	Right to freedom from torture and ill-treatment
physint	Overall right to safety from the state, i.e. Physical Integrity Rights -Based on scores for arrest, disap, dpex, exkill, and tort
empower	Overall right to empowerment -Based on scores for assem, express, polpart, and rel

For each of the rights in the table above, we provide data on the intensity of respect for that right. Those data consist of 4 variables for each right in the current dataset:

Variable	Description
"right" mean	Average intensity score
"right" sd	Standard deviation
"right" lo	10th percentile
"right" hi	90th percentile

HRMI People at Risk (PaR) Dataset

In the annual HRMI Expert Survey, we ask our respondents to tell us which people were least likely to enjoy several of their human rights. The HRMI People at Risk contains the following basic country information:

Variable	Description
country	Country name
year	Year of concern
countryyear	ISO 3 letter country code and year of concern combined
iso3c	ISO 3 letter country code
Iso3n	ISO 3 digit numeric country codes
cowcode	Correlates of War numerical country code
hrmicode	HRMI survey numerical country code

This dataset contains information on the following rights:

Variable Label ("right")	Human Right Covered
arrest	Right to freedom from arbitrary or political arrest and imprisonment
assem	Right to assembly and association
disap	Right to freedom from disappearance
dpex	Right to freedom from death penalty execution
exkill	Right to freedom from extrajudicial execution
express	Right to opinion and expression
polpart	Right to participate in government
relig	Right to freedom of religion and belief
tort	Right to freedom from torture and ill-treatment
food	Right to food
educ	Right to education
health	Right to health
house	Right to housing
work	Right to work, including rights to a job, to just and favourable work conditions, and to form/join unions and strike
job	Right to a job (2018 only)
jobcond	Right to just and favourable work conditions (2018 only)
union	Rights to form and join unions and to go on strike (2018 only)

For all the rights above, we asked respondents to tell us which people, if any, were likely to be targeted by the government and its agents for violations of/restrictions on each right. We provided our respondents with 39 potential identities for each right. Those options, along with their numerical codes used in the dataset, are as follows:

Numerical Code ("X")	People At Risk
1	All people
2	Indigenous people
3	People of particular ethnicities
4	People of particular races
5	People from particular social or cultural backgrounds
6	People with particular religious beliefs or practices, including religious sects
7	People of particular nationalities
8	People in particular geographic locations
9	People beyond the country's borders
10	Women and/or girls
11	LGBTQIA+ people
12	Children
13	Older people
14	People with disabilities
15	People with specific medical conditions
16	People with particular political affiliations or beliefs
17	Journalists
18	Human rights advocates
19	Members of labour unions and/or workers' rights advocates
20	People who protest or engage in non-violent political activity
21	People suspected of political violence
22	People suspected of terrorist activity
23	Detainees or those accused of crimes
24	Migrants and/or immigrants
25	Refugees or asylum seekers
26	People with low social or economic status
27	People who are homeless
28	People with less education
29	Academics
30	Professionals (e.g. doctors, lawyers, teachers)
31	Other people (selected if there was no fit in any of the other categories)
32	Men and/or boys
33	Street children or homeless youth
34	Single parent families
35	Internally displaced people
36	People without a legal identity, including stateless people

37	People affected by climate change
38	Members of the military
39	Students
40	People from particular castes or communities discriminated against on the basis of work or descent (included in group 5 prior to 2022 data)
41	Sex workers

Finally, for each right, we report the total number of respondents that answered the question. For each identity of people at risk of not enjoying each right, we report both the total number and the overall proportion of respondents that selected those people as being at risk for non-enjoyment of that right. Those variables are identified as follows:

Variable	Description
"right" _total_atrisk_resp	Total Number of Respondents
"right" atrisk_count"X"	Number of respondents selecting "X" as at risk for a lack of enjoyment of "right"
"right" atrisk_prop"X"	Proportion of respondents selecting "X" as at risk for a lack of enjoyment of "right"

As such, the variable named “food_atrisk_prop3” provides the proportion of respondents that said that people of particular ethnicities were at risk of lacking enjoyment of their right to food, while the variable named “house_atrisk_count24” provides the number of respondents that said that immigrants were at risk to lack enjoyment of their right to housing.

HRMI Economic and Social Rights (ESR) Data Sets

Income-Adjusted Data Sets: Compares country performance to what experience shows is possible at the country's income level. This benchmark reflects a country's immediate duty under the *International Covenant for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* regarding a country's obligation of results to fulfil the substantive rights concerned. Data are for both sexes combined.

Global Best Data Sets: Compares country performance to that of the best performing countries at any income level. This benchmark reflects a country's current full obligation under the *International Covenant for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* to fulfill the substantive rights concerned. Data are for both sexes combined.

Sex-Disaggregated Data Sets: Provides both Income Adjusted and Global Best data sets separately for males and females on those indicators for which sex disaggregated data are available. It should be noted that the frontiers for both males and females are the same except for the child survival rate and the adult survival rates, the two cases where biological differences influence what is feasible.

Pacific and Taiwan Indicator Values and Sources: Provides the raw input data values and their sources for all Pacific countries and Taiwan by country-year.

HRMI's ESR datasets contain the following basic country information:

Table 1: ESR Data, Basic Country Information

Variable/Term	Description
Country	Country Name
Country Code	ISO 3 letter country code
High Income Country	Set to 1 if country was classified by the World Bank as a high-income country in 2022, 0 otherwise
Year	Year of concern

Indicator information and scores in the ESR datasets are coded in the format **Indicator_Group_Factor** (where applicable; for example, H_EducQual_All_GBPenalty). Indicators are summarized in the table below; the remaining labels are summarized in the table that follows. Appendices A and B of the Methodology manual provides full definitions of each indicator (Appendix A) as well as the natural minimums and equations specifying the frontier values for each indicator (Appendix B).

Table 2: ESR Data, Indicators and Sources¹

Indicators	Standard Source(s)	Assessment Standard	
		Low- and Middle-Income (LMY)	High-Income (HiY)
Right to Education*			
H_EducQual: Harmonized Education Scores*	WB_HCI	√	
PISAmath: % PISA math scores >level 2*	WB_Ed, PISA		√
PISAreading: % PISA reading scores >level 2*	WB_Ed, PISA		√
PISAscience: % PISA science scores >level 2*	WB_Ed, PISA		√
PISAAverage: Average of the PISA math, reading, and science scores*	WB_Ed, PISA		√
TotNetPrimEn: Total net primary school enrolment rate*	UNESCO	√	
TotNetUpSecEn: Total net upper secondary school enrolment rate*	UNESCO	√	√
Right to Food*			
FoodSecure: % of people with food security (household level)*	UNSDG		√
NotStunted: % of children (under 5) not stunted*	WB_WDI	√	
Right to Health			
AdultSurvival: % of adults age 15 surviving to age 60*	UNPD	√	
Contraception: Modern contraceptive use rate	WB_WDI	√	
NotLowBirWt: % of newborns not low birthweight	OECD1, WB_WDI		√
SeniorSurvival: % of adults age 60 surviving to age 80*	UNPD		√
U5Survival: % of children surviving to age 5*	WB_WDI, UNPD	√	√
Right to Housing			
AffordHouse: % of people in bottom income quintile with affordable housing	EuroStat		√
BasicSanitation: % of people with at least basic sanitation	WB_WDI	√	
SafeSanitation: % of people with safely managed sanitation	WB_WDI		√
WaterInHome: % of people with water on premises in their homes	JMP_WASH	√	
Right to Work			
NotAbsPoor: % of people not absolutely poor (>3.65 2017 PPP\$ per day)	WB_WDI	√	
NotLTUnemploy: % of unemployed not long-term unemployed (>12 months)	OECD2		√
NotRelPoor: % of people not relatively poor (>50% median income)	LIS, OECD3		√

* Indicators and metrics also available disaggregated by sex.

The remaining labels for indicator information and scores are summarized in the next table. Note that only indicators for which information is available split by sex (marked with an asterisk in the table above) have a Group label.

¹ URLs for the Table 2 sources: EuroStat ([link](#)), LIS ([link](#)), OECD1 ([link](#)), OECD2 ([link](#)), OECD3 ([link](#)), PISA ([link](#)), UNESCO ([link](#)), UNPD ([link](#)), UNSDG ([link](#)), JMP_Wash ([link](#)), WB_WDI ([link](#)), WB_Ed ([link](#)), WB_HCI ([link](#)). Note: OECD data bases have been in transition during 2025.

Table 3: ESR Data, Indicator Groups and Factors

Label	Categories	Description
Group	All	The metric in question captures outcomes for individuals of all sexes in a country-year.
	Female	The metric in question captures outcomes for individuals identified as female in a country-year.
	Male	The metric in question captures outcomes for individuals identified as male in a country-year.
Factor	GBPenalty	If a country's income is sufficient to achieve the Global Best benchmark but fails to do so, a penalty is imposed that is higher the lower is its achievement and the greater is its income.
	GBScore	Score on the right aspect measured as the percentage (above the minimum value) of the global best benchmark achieved on the indicator minus any penalty.
	IAFrontier	Benchmark for standard. For the Income Adjusted data sets, this differs for each country, year, and indicator.
	IAPenalty	If a country's income is sufficient to achieve the Income Adjusted benchmark but fails to do so, a penalty is imposed that is higher the lower is its achievement and the greater is its income.
	IAScore	Score on the right aspect measured as the percentage (above the minimum value) of the income-adjusted benchmark achieved on the indicator minus any penalty.
	MRGDP	This is the value for a country's GDP per capita (2021PPP, international \$) in the most recent year for which data were available for both GDP and the relevant indicator.
	MRValue	This is the value of the relevant indicator in the most recent year for which data were available for both the indicator and GDP per capita (MRGDP).
	MRYear	This is the most recent year for which data were available for both the relevant indicator (MRValue) and GDP per capita (MRGDP).

The aggregate metrics and rights scores in the ESR datasets are coded in the format **IncomeStandard_Right_Group_Factor** (for example, LMY_Education_All_IAScore). Each of these labels is explained in greater detail in the table below.

Table 4: ESR Data, Aggregate Metrics

Label	Categories	Description
Income Standard	LMY	This income assessment standard is more relevant for low- and middle-income countries.
	HiY	This income assessment standard is more relevant for high-income countries.
Right	QofL	This is the country-year average of all of the rights scores for the given income assessment standard (LMY or HiY).
	Education	<p>This is the country-year average of all of the indicator scores (either IAScore or GBScore) for the given income assessment standard (LMY or HiY) for Education.</p> <p>For the LMY standard, this is the average of H_EducQual, and TotNetPrimEn, TotNetUpSecEn.</p> <p>For the HiY standard, this is the average of PISAAverage and TotNetUpSecEn.</p>

	Food	<p>This is the country-year average of all of the indicator scores (either IAScore or GBScore) for the given income assessment standard (LMY or HiY) for Food.</p> <p>For the LMY standard, this is the score for NotStunted.</p> <p>For the HiY standard, this is the score for FoodSecure.</p>
	Health	<p>This is the country-year average of all of the indicator scores (either IAScore or GBScore) for the given income assessment standard (LMY or HiY) for Health.</p> <p>For the LMY standard, this is the average of AdultSurvival, Contraception, and U5Survival.</p> <p>For the HiY standard, this is the average of NotLowBirWt, SeniorSurvival, and U5Survival.</p>
	Housing	<p>This is the country-year average of all of the indicator scores (either IAScore or GBScore) for the given income assessment standard (LMY or HiY) for Housing.</p> <p>For the LMY standard, this is the average of BasicSanitation and WaterInHome.</p> <p>For the HiY standard, this is the average of AffordHouse and SafeSanitation.</p>
	Work	<p>This is the country-year average of all of the indicator scores (either IAScore or GBScore) for the given income assessment standard (LMY or HiY) for Work.</p> <p>For the LMY standard, this is the score for NotAbsPoor.</p> <p>For the HiY standard, this is the average of NotLTUnemploy and NotRelPoor.</p>
Group	All	The metric in question captures outcomes for individuals of all sexes in a country-year.
	Female	The metric in question captures outcomes for individuals identified as female in a country-year.
	Male	The metric in question captures outcomes for individuals identified as male in a country-year.
Factor	IAScore	This is the country-year score calculated using the income adjusted benchmark (for the indicator or right concerned).
	GBScore	This is the country-year score calculated using the global best benchmark (for the indicator or right concerned.)