



Structure of V-Dem
Indices, Components,
and Indicators

Version 6 - Mar 2016

Democracy Indices Names	Mid-Level Democracy and Governance Indices Names	Lower-Level Democracy and Governance Indices Names	Names Indicators	v2 tag indices and indicators	Uniqueness score*
Electoral democracy index				v2x_polyarchy	
	Additive polyarchy index			v2x_api	
	Multiplicative polyarchy index			v2x_mpi	
		Expanded freedom of expression index		v2x_freexp_thick	
			Government censorship effort - Media	v2mecenefm	0.3065162
			Government censorship effort - Internet	v2mecenefi	0.3154806
			Harassment of journalists	v2meharjrn	0.3341829
			Media self-censorship	v2meslfcen	0.3156025
			Media bias	v2mebias	0.2665526
			Print/broadcast media critical	v2mecrit	0.2462378
			Print/broadcast media perspectives	v2merange	0.2814066
			Freedom of discussion for men	v2cldiscm	0.3361208
			Freedom of discussion for women	v2cldiscw	0.3361208
			Freedom of academic and cultural expression	v2clacfree	0.3218591
		Freedom of association index (thick)		v2x_frassoc_thick	
			Party ban	v2psparban	0.3234373
			Barriers to parties	v2psbars	0.2757769
			Opposition parties autonomy	v2psoppaut	0.3038708
			Elections multiparty	v2elmulpar	0.441738
			CSO entry and exit	v2cseeorgs	0.3852304
			CSO repression	v2csreprss	0.4507366
		Share of population with suffrage		v2x_suffr	
			Percent of population with suffrage	v2elsuffrage	
	Clean elections index			v2xel_frefair	
			EMB autonomy	v2elembaut	0.4355622

EMB capacity	v2elembcap	0.5314994
Election voter registry	v2elrgstry	0.4951668
Election vote buying	v2elvotbuy	0.6842092
Election other voting irregularities	v2elirreg	0.3769419
Election government intimidation	v2elintim	0.3835734
Election other electoral violence	v2elpeace	0.7257005
Election free and fair	v2elfrfair	0.3257828

Elected executive index (de jure)	v2x_accex	
Lower chamber elected	v2lgello	
Upper chamber elected	v2lgelecup	
Legislature dominant chamber	v2lgdomchm	
HOS selection by legislature in practice	v2exaphos	
HOS appointment in practice	v2expathhs	
HOG selection by legislature in practice	v2exaphogp	
HOG appointment in practice	v2expathhg	
HOS appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdfcbhs	
HOG appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdjcbhg	
HOS dismisses ministers in practice	v2exdfdmhs	
HOG dismisses ministers in practice	v2exdfdshg	
HOS appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdfcbhs	

Liberal democracy index	v2x_libdem	
Electoral democracy index	v2x_polyarchy	
Liberal component index	v2x_liberal	
Equality before the law and individual liberty index	v2xcl_rol	
Rigorous and impartial public administration	v2clrspct	0.5033036
Transparent laws with predictable enforcement	v2cltrnslw	0.3688301
Access to justice for men	v2clacjstm	0.308897

Access to justice for women	v2clacjstw	0.308897
Property rights for men	v2clprptym	0.5884252
Property rights for women	v2clprptyw	0.5884252
Freedom from torture	v2cltort	0.3471919
Freedom from political killings	v2clkill	0.3535991
Freedom from forced labor for men	v2clslavem	0.5382617
Freedom from forced labor for women	v2clslavef	0.5382617
Freedom of religion	v2clrelig	0.6134967
Freedom of foreign movement	v2clfmov	0.4311264
Freedom of domestic movement for men	v2cldmovm	0.5458402
Freedom of domestic movement for women	v2cldmovw	0.5458402
Judicial constraints on the executive index	v2x_jucon	
Executive respects constitution	v2exrescon	0.5535136
Compliance with judiciary	v2jucomp	0.3629272
Compliance with high court	v2juhccomp	0.3651704
High court independence	v2juhcind	0.5103504
Lower court independence	v2juncind	0.491284
Legislative constraints on the executive index	v2xlg_legcon	
Legislature questions officials in practice	v2lgqstexp	0.5061756
Executive oversight	v2lgotovst	0.3789385
Legislature investigates in practice	v2lginvstp	0.2557661
Legislature opposition parties	v2lgoppart	0.429273
Deliberative democracy index	v2x_delibdem	
Electoral democracy index	v2x_polyarchy	
Deliberative component index	v2xdl_delib	
Reasoned justification	v2dlreason	0.3452874
Common good	v2dlcommon	0.6120504
Respect counterarguments	v2dlcountr	0.3397206
Range of consultation	v2dlconslt	0.2880881
Engaged society	v2dlengage	0.2515591

Egalitarian democracy Index		v2x_egaldem		
Electoral democracy index		v2x_polyarchy		
Egalitarian component index		v2x_egal		
	Equal protection index	v2xeg_eqprotec		
		Access to justice for men	v2clacjstm	0.5343487
		Access to justice for women	v2clacjstw	0.5343487
		Social class equality in respect for civil liberties	v2clacjust	0.4390821
		Social group equality in respect for civil liberties	v2clsocgrp	0.4932379
		Weaker civil liberties population	v2clslnpct	0.6576946
	Equal distribution of resources index	v2xeg_eqdr		
		Power distributed by socioeconomic position	v2pepwrses	0.5306214
		Power distributed by social group	v2pepwrsoc	0.5736972
		Educational equality	v2peedueq	0.3074101
		Health equality	v2pehealth	0.2830762
		Power distributed by gender	v2pepwrgen	0.5637614
		Encompassingness	v2dlencmps	0.5781065
		Means-tested vs. universalistic	v2dlunivl	0.5955204
Participatory democracy index		v2x_partipdem		
Electoral democracy index		v2x_polyarchy		
Participatory component index		v2x_partip		
	Civil society participation index	v2x_cspart		
		Candidate selection--National/local	v2pscnslnl	0.6898671
		CSO consultation	v2cscnsult	0.44001
		CSO participatory environment	v2csprtcpt	0.4412551
		CSO womens participation	v2csgender	0.6732682
	Direct popular vote index	v2xdd_dd		
		Initiatives permitted	v2ddlegci	
		Initiatives signatures %	v2ddsigcip	

	Initiatives signature-gathering time limit	v2ddgrtlci	
	Initiatives signature-gathering period	v2ddgrgpci	
	Initiatives level	v2ddlevci	
	Initiatives participation threshold	v2ddbndci	
	Initiatives approval threshold	v2ddthreci	
	Initiatives administrative threshold	v2dddistsci	
	Initiatives super majority	v2ddsmpjci	
	Occurrence of citizen-initiative this year	v2ddciniyr	
Local government index		v2xel_locelec	
	Local government elected	v2ellocelc	
	Local offices relative power	v2ellocpwr	
	Local government exists	v2ellocgov	
Regional government index		v2xel_regelec	
	Regional government elected	v2elsrgel	
	Regional offices relative power	v2elrgpwr	
	Regional government exists	v2elreggov	

Women political empowerment index		v2x_gender	
Women civil liberties index		v2x_gencl	
	Freedom of domestic movement for women	v2cldmovew	0.4477691
	Freedom from forced labor for women	v2clslavef	0.4412078
	Property rights for women	v2clprptyw	0.3956303
	Access to justice for women	v2clacjstw	0.3670681
Women civil society participation index		v2x_gencs	
	Freedom of discussion for women	v2cldiscw	0.5266486
	CSO womens participation	v2csgender	0.2789745
	Percent (%) female journalists	v2mefemjrn	0.5157283

Women political participation index		v2x_genpp	
	Power distributed by gender	v2pepwrgen	
	Lower chamber female legislators	v2lgfemleg	
Electoral regime index		v2x_elecreg	
Legislative or constituent assembly election		v2xel_elecparl	
	v2eltype	v2eltype_0	
	v2eltype	v2eltype_1	
	v2eltype	v2eltype_4	
	v2eltype	v2eltype_5	
Legislature closed down or aborted		v2xlg_leginter	
	Legislature bicameral	v2lgbicam	
Presidential election		v2xel_elecpres	
	v2eltype	v2eltype_6	
	v2eltype	v2eltype_7	
Chief executive no longer elected		v2x_hosinter	
	HOS = HOG?	v2exhoshog	
	HOG appointment in practice	v2expathhg	
	HOS appointment in practice	v2expathhs	
Corruption index		v2x_corr	
	Legislature corrupt activities	v2lgcrrpt	
	Judicial corruption decision	v2jucorrdc	
Public sector corruption index		v2x_pubcorr	
	Public sector corrupt exchanges	v2excrrtps	-0.270265
	Public sector theft	v2exthftps	-0.209808
Executive corruption index		v2x_execorr	
	Executive bribery and corrupt exchanges	v2exbribe	-0.34133
	Executive embezzlement and theft	v2exembez	-0.20138
Electoral component index		v2x_EDcomp_thick	
	Freedom of association index (thick)	v2x_frassoc_thick	

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	Barriers to parties	v2psbars	0.2757769
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	HOG appointment in practice	v2expathhg	
	HOS appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdfcbhs	
	HOG appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdjcbhg	
	HOS dismisses ministers in practice	v2exdfdmhs	
	HOG dismisses ministers in practice	v2exdfdshg	

	HOS appoints cabinet in practice	v2exdfcbhs	
Freedom of expression index		v2x_freexp	
	Government censorship effort - Media	v2mecenefm	0.310343
	Harassment of journalists	v2meharjrn	0.3337733
	Media self-censorship	v2meslfcen	0.3455981
	Freedom of discussion for men	v2cldiscm	0.306966
	Freedom of discussion for women	v2cldiscw	0.306966
	Freedom of academic and cultural expression	v2clacfree	0.3218591
Civil liberties index		v2x_civlib	
Private civil liberties index		v2x_clpriv	
	Freedom from forced labor for men	v2clslavem	0.5422706
	Freedom from forced labor for women	v2clslavef	0.5422706
	Property rights for men	v2clprptym	0.5101579
	Property rights for women	v2clprptyw	0.5101579
	Freedom of foreign movement	v2clfmov	0.3407731
	Freedom of domestic movement for men	v2cldmovm	0.4719498
	Freedom of domestic movement for women	v2cldmovw	0.4719498
	Freedom of religion	v2clrelig	0.4906992
	Religious organization repression	v2csrlgrop	0.4886841
Physical integrity rights index		v2x_clphy	
	Freedom from political killings	v2clkill	0.3128765
	Freedom from torture	v2cltort	0.1609352
Political civil liberties index		v2x_clpol	
	Government censorship effort - Media	v2mecenefm	0.3385782
	Harassment of journalists	v2meharjrn	0.3579494
	Media self-censorship	v2meslfcen	0.3598899
	Freedom of discussion for men	v2cldiscm	0.319801
	Freedom of discussion for women	v2cldiscw	0.319801
	Freedom of academic and cultural expression	v2clacfree	0.3544335
	Party ban	v2psparban	0.4057603
	Barriers to parties	v2psbars	0.342822

Opposition parties autonomy	v2psoppaut	0.3510246
CSO entry and exit	v2cseeorgs	0.285655
CSO repression	v2csreprss	0.3068713

Core civil society index		v2xcs_ccsi	
	CSO entry and exit	v2cseeorgs	0.1800713
	CSO repression	v2csreprss	0.3535349
	CSO participatory environment	v2csprtcpt	0.4812102
Party institutionalization index		v2xps_party	
	Party organizations	v2psorgs	0.2437139
	Party branches	v2psprbrch	0.3129493
	Party linkages	v2psprlnks	0.8031864
	Distinct party platforms	v2psplats	0.4645187
	Legislative party cohesion	v2pscohesv	0.8686854
Alternative sources of information index		v2xme_altinf	
	Media bias	v2mebias	0.2715563
	Print/broadcast media critical	v2mecrit	0.269164
	Print/broadcast media perspectives	v2merange	0.2555607
Divided party control of legislature index		v2x_lgdivparctrl	
	National party control	v2psnatpar	
	National party control ordinal version	v2psnatpar_ord	
Division of power index		v2x_feduni	
	Local government exists	v2ellocgov	
	Regional government exists	v2elreggov	
	Local government elected	v2ellocelc	
	Regional government elected	v2elsrgel	
	Local offices relative power	v2ellocpwr	
	Regional offices relative power	v2elrgpwr	

* Uniqueness is the variance that is 'unique' to the variable and not shared with other variables.