



# INTEGRITY COMMISSION

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## Summary of Transparency International's 2022 Corruption Perception Index (CPI)

1. Jamaica has improved one (1) place in Transparency International's (TI's) 2022 Corruption Perception Index (CPI) Country Rankings. It has moved from position #70 out of 180 countries in 2021, to position #69 out of 180 countries in 2022. TI's Rankings were released this morning, January 31.
2. Jamaica's 2021 CPI score of 44 out of 100, where 0 means 'Highly Corrupt', and 100 'Very Clean', has, however, remained unchanged for 2022. Jamaica's 2022 CPI score of 44 continues to stand as its best score ever. It was previously attained in 2017, 2018, 2020 and 2021.
3. In the 21 years that TI has been ranking Jamaica, the country has averaged a CPI score of only 38 out of 100. Prior to its 2017 CPI score of 44, it had never scored higher than 41 - its CPI score in 2015. Jamaica's lowest CPI score ever was 30. This was recorded in 2009.
4. Jamaica's CPI jump in TI's 2017 rankings came in the same year that Parliament passed a long-awaited anti-corruption law - the Integrity Commission Act. The Act merged the country's 3 leading Anti-Corruption Commissions into a single agency - the Integrity Commission.
5. A CPI score of below 50 means that a country has a serious corruption problem. Jamaica has been firmly fixed in this category for 21 years. A poor CPI signals prevalent bribery, lack of punishment for corruption and public institutions that do not respond to citizens' needs.
6. Nine (9) English-Speaking Caribbean Countries were ranked by TI in 2022. Barbados, Bahamas and St Vincent came out on top, with Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, and Guyana at the bottom - the same order as they were in 2021. Trinidad and Tobago improved considerably in the country rankings, moving from #82 to #77.
7. Barbados now has the distinction of being the least corrupt of the 9 English-Speaking C'bean Countries for 3 consecutive years - 2020, 2021 and 2022. The 9 countries, their Country Rankings (out of 180), and their CPI Scores (out of 100), are shown as follows:

8. TI's 2022 English-Speaking Caribbean CPI Country Rankings: Country Rank (out of 180) and CPI (out of 100):

Barbados: 29/65  
Bahamas: 30/64  
St Vincent: 35/60  
Dominica: 45/55  
St Lucia: 45/55  
Grenada: 51/52  
Jamaica: 69/44  
T&T: 77/42  
Guyana: 85/40

9. Topping Transparency International's 2022 CPI Country Rankings, not surprisingly, are some of the typical outstanding performers. They are Denmark, Finland, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Netherlands, Germany and Ireland, in that order.

10. Denmark, Finland and New Zealand, the top 3 performers, had CPI scores of 90, 87 and 87. Notably, the Prime Ministers of all three (3) countries, in 2022, were women. Respectively, they were Mette Frederiksen, Sanna Marin, and Jacinda Ardern, who recently stepped down from office.

11. At the other end of the scale, in TI's 2022 CPI Country Rankings, are Somalia, Syria, South Sudan, Venezuela, Yemen, Libya, North Korea, Haiti, Equatorial Guinea and Burundi, in that order.

12. TI says that its 2022 CPI "shows that most of the world continues to fail to fight corruption. 95% of countries have made little to no progress since 2017." It's, therefore, calling on gov't's "to prioritize anti-corruption commitments to finally rid the world of corruption."

13. It says that the global CPI average remains unchanged for over a decade at just 43 out of 100. "More than two-thirds of countries scored below 50, while 26 fell to their lowest scores yet. 155 made no significant progress against corruption, or have declined since 2012."

14. Turning to the Americas, TI says that for the 4th consecutive year, the region has scored a CPI average of 43. "A lack of bold, decisive action to fight corruption and strengthen public institutions is fuelling organized criminal activities and other sources of violence, and undermining democracy and human rights."

15. "Leaders have failed to take decisive action against corruption ... This has allowed criminal networks to strengthen their hold, wielding significant power over politicians in many countries, and aggravating violence in the region with the highest per capita homicide rate."

16. Instructively, TI also says that “weak law enforcement institutions, and high levels of corruption, have allowed drug cartels to expand to the Caribbean.” It then singled out Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago in the following terms:

17. “In TI’s 2019 Global Corruption Barometer, 50% of the population in Jamaica (44) and 61% in Trinidad and Tobago (42) considered the Police to be corrupt. While T&T saw a decrease in homicides during the pandemic, crime remains a significant problem for both” countries.

18. Delia Ferreira Rubio, the Chair of TI, made the following remarks: “Corruption has made our world a more dangerous place. As governments have collectively failed to make progress against it, they fuel the current rise in violence and conflict, and endanger people everywhere.”

19. “The only way out is for states to do the hard work, rooting out corruption at all levels to ensure governments work for all people, and not just (for) an elite few.”

20. Since its inception in 1995, the CPI, TI’s flagship research product, has become the leading global indicator of public sector corruption. The index offers an annual snapshot of the relative degree of corruption by ranking countries and territories from all over the globe.

21. TI’s 2022 CPI draws upon 13 surveys and expert assessments to measure public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories. To examine TI’s 2022 CPI Rankings in detail, please click on this link: <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2022>

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