



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Summary Overview of Transparency International's 2024 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) with Focus on Jamaica

February 11, 2025

1. Jamaica's position on Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) Country Rankings has fallen 4 places for 2024. Jamaica is now ranked #73 out of 180 countries, compared to #69 out of 180 countries in 2023. TI's 2024 CPI was released at 12:01am today, Tuesday, February 11, 2025.
2. Jamaica's 2023 CPI score of 44 out of 100, where 0 means 'Highly Corrupt', and 100 'Very Clean', has however remained unchanged for 2024. Jamaica's CPI score of 44/100 continues to stand as its best score ever. It was previously attained in 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, and now in 2024.
3. In the 23 years that TI has been ranking Jamaica, the country has averaged a CPI score of only 38 out of 100. Prior to attaining its 44/100 CPI score for the first time in 2017, Jamaica had never scored higher than 41 - its CPI score in 2015. Jamaica's lowest CPI score ever was 30, recorded in 2009.
4. Instructively, 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 then 3 leading Anti-Corruption Commissions into a single entity - the Integrity Commission.
5. A CPI score of below 50 means that a country has a serious corruption problem. Jamaica has been firmly planted in this category for 23 years. A poor CPI signals prevalent bribery, lack of punishment for corruption and public institutions that do not respond to citizens' needs.
6. TI says that its CPI "highlights the stark contrast between nations with strong, independent institutions and free, fair elections, and those with repressive authoritarian regimes." It then explains that "full democracies have a CPI average of 73, while flawed democracies average 47, and non-democratic regimes just 33." According to TI, this therefore puts Jamaica in the category of a "flawed democracy."
7. Nine English-Speaking Caribbean Countries were ranked by TI in 2024. Barbados, Bahamas and St. Vincent came out on top, with Jamaica, T&T and Guyana at the

bottom - the same order as they were in 2023, 2022 and 2021. Instructively, the country rankings for all 9 were improved in 2024, except for Jamaica, T&T and Guyana, which logged declines.

8. Barbados now has the distinction of being ranked the least corrupt of the 9 English-Speaking Caribbean Countries for 5 consecutive years - 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024. The 9 countries, their Country Rankings (out of 180), and their CPI Scores (out of 100), are shown as follows:
9. TI's 2024 English-Speaking Caribbean CPI Country Rankings: Country Rank (out of 180) and CPI (out of 100):

Barbados: 23/68
Bahamas: 28/65
St Vincent: 32/63
Dominica: 36/60
St Lucia: 38/59
Grenada: 46/56

Jamaica: 73/44
T&T: 82/41
Guyana: 92/39

10. Notably, Jamaica, T&T and Guyana are the only countries on the 9-country list with consistently poor sub-50 CPI scores over the years. This indicates that they all have a serious corruption problem and, relative to the other 6 English-Speaking Caribbean countries, a very serious corruption problem.
11. Topping TI's 2024 CPI Country Rankings are Denmark, Finland, Singapore, New Zealand, Luxembourg, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden, Netherlands, Australia, Iceland and Ireland, in that order.
12. Denmark, Finland and Singapore, the top 3 performers, had CPI scores of 90/100, 88/100, and 84/100 respectively. Luxembourg, Norway and Switzerland were tied with a CPI of 81/100, whereas Australia, Iceland and Ireland, which shared 10th place, were tied with a CPI of 77/100.
13. At the other end of the scale, in TI's 2024 CPI Country Rankings, are South Sudan, Somalia, Venezuela, Syria, Yemen, Libya, Eritrea, Equatorial Guinea, Nicaragua, Sudan, North Korea, Myanmar and Haiti, in that order.
14. South Sudan, Somalia and Venezuela, the worst performers, had CPI scores of 8/100, 9/100, 10/100, respectively. Notably, Yemen, Libya, Eritrea and Equatorial Guinea were tied with a CPI score of 13/100, while sharing the 173rd country ranking spot.
15. TI reports that the 2024 global CPI average of 43/100 for the 180 countries in its rankings, has "stood still for years", with over two-thirds of the 180 countries scoring below 50.

16. François Valérien, TI's Chair, says that the dangerous trends revealed in this year's CPI highlight the need for countries to urgently follow through with concrete action to address global corruption.
17. "Corruption is an evolving global threat that does far more than undermine development. It is a key cause of declining democracy, instability and human rights violations," he said.
18. "The international community and every nation must make tackling corruption a top and long-term priority. This is crucial to pushing back against authoritarianism and securing a peaceful, free and sustainable world," he urged.
19. Turning to the Americas, which recorded a 2024 CPI average of 42/100, TI has said that the region must take urgent action to control corruption. "The absence of effective measures promotes human rights violations, and increases the influence of economic and political elites and organized crime in public affairs. This environment fosters impunity," it has warned.
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 2024 CPI draws upon 13 independent sources to measure public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories.

Source for data: Transparency International

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