

Editor's Note: A special thanks to EAA graduate assistant Nancy Asplund for helping compose this online supplement.

How Free Are Postcolonial Polities? Select Nation Profiles

Freedom House is an independent organization that advocates for increased freedom and democracy around the world. Partnering with frontline human rights activists to advance democratic change, Freedom House recognizes that freedom is only possible within the context of a democratic government that is accountable to its own people.

Established in New York City in 1941, Freedom House has expanded to include offices in a dozen countries. Furthermore, among its goals include collaboration with like-minded governments that seek to oppose authoritarian regimes. In addition to its social justice efforts, Freedom House publishes annual reports that analyze the various aspects and levels of freedom present in nations across the world. These reports include *Freedom in the World*, *Freedom on the Net*, and *Freedom of the Press*.

In determining a Freedom in the World rating, Freedom House analyzes political rights and civil liberties, both measured on a scale from 1 to 7, with 1 indicating the most freedom and 7 indicating the least. Scores are determined based on a series of questions that are meant to address a range of concerns related to political rights and civil liberties. Some of the issues that are evaluated include the electoral process, political participation, functioning of government, freedom of expression and belief, rule of law, and individual rights. The scores for political rights and civil liberties are averaged to result in a Freedom Rating.

A country with a Freedom Rating in the 1.0 to 2.5 range would be designated **Free**.

A country with a Freedom Rating in the 3.0 to 5.0 range would be designated **Partly Free**.

A country with a Freedom Rating in the 5.5 to 7.0 range would be designated **Not Free**.

Each country is also given an aggregate score out of 100 (with 100 being Most Free), which is determined based on the specific number of points allocated for the methodology questions.

Freedom House analyzes Internet freedom using a Freedom on the Net index. According to Freedom House, "The Freedom on the Net index measures each country's level of Internet and digital media freedom based on a set of methodology questions . . ." The categories measured include Obstacles to Access, Limits on Content, and Violations of User Rights, with more points allotted for greater restrictions on freedom. In determining a country's Net Freedom status, the following system is used: 0 to 30 points is Free, 31 to 60 points is Partly Free, and 61 to 100 points is Not Free.

Press Freedom is evaluated using twenty-three questions that focus primarily on three subcategories: Legal Environment, Political Environment, and Economic Environment. More points are allocated for situations that are more restrictive to press freedom, and press freedom status (Free, Partly Free, or Not Free) is designated using the same numerical system as Freedom on the Net.

The following is a select profile of some postcolonial Asian nations and their current ratings of freedom from the 2017 *Freedom in the World* report.

Information about Freedom House (<https://freedomhouse.org>) used in this supplement can be found on their website under "About Us" (<https://freedomhouse.org/about-us>) and "Reports" (<https://freedomhouse.org/reports>). To view Freedom in the World 2017 on the Freedom House website, visit <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/freedom-world-2017>.

Cambodia Profile

FREEDOM STATUS: **NOT FREE**



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



Freedom Rating: 5.5/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



Quick Facts

Population:	15,800,000
Capital:	Phnom Penh
GDP/capita:	\$1,159
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free
Net Freedom Status:	Partly Free

China Profile

FREEDOM STATUS: **NOT FREE**



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



Freedom Rating: 6.5/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



Quick Facts

Population:	1,378,000,000
Capital:	Beijing
GDP/capita:	\$8,028
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free
Net Freedom Status:	Not Free

India Profile

FREEDOM STATUS: **FREE**



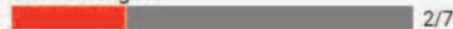
Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score

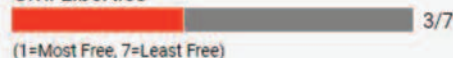


Freedom Rating: 2.5/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



Quick Facts

Population:	1,328,900,000
Capital:	New Delhi
GDP/capita:	\$1,598
Press Freedom Status:	Partly Free
Net Freedom Status:	Partly Free

Indonesia Profile

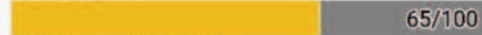
FREEDOM STATUS:

PARTLY FREE



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 3/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	259,400,000
Capital:	Jakarta
GDP/capita:	\$3,346
Press Freedom Status:	Partly Free
Net Freedom Status:	Partly Free

Laos Profile

FREEDOM STATUS: NOT FREE



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 6.5/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	7,100,000
Capital:	Vientiane
GDP/capita:	\$1,818
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free

Malaysia Profile

FREEDOM STATUS:

PARTLY FREE



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 4/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	30,800,000
Capital:	Kuala Lumpur
GDP/capita:	\$9,768
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free
Net Freedom Status:	Partly Free

Myanmar Profile

FREEDOM STATUS:

PARTLY FREE



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 5/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	52,400,000
Capital:	Nay Pyi Taw
GDP/capita:	\$1,161
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free
Net Freedom Status:	Not Free

North Korea Profile

FREEDOM STATUS: NOT FREE



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 7/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	25,100,000
Capital:	Pyongyang
GDP/capita:	\$1,800
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free

Pakistan Profile

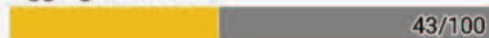
FREEDOM STATUS:

PARTLY FREE



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 4.5/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	203,400,000
Capital:	Islamabad
GDP/capita:	\$1,435
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free
Net Freedom Status:	Not Free

Philippines *Profile*

FREEDOM STATUS:

PARTLY FREE



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 3/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	102,600,000
Capital:	Manila
GDP/capita:	\$2,904
Press Freedom Status:	Partly Free
Net Freedom Status:	Free

Singapore *Profile*

FREEDOM STATUS:

PARTLY FREE



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 4/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	5,600,000
Capital:	Singapore
GDP/capita:	\$52,889
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free
Net Freedom Status:	Partly Free

South Korea *Profile*

FREEDOM STATUS: **FREE**



Freedom in the World Scores

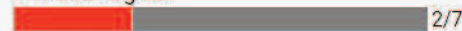
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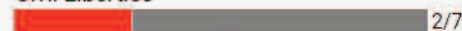
(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 2/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	50,800,000
Capital:	Seoul
GDP/capita:	\$27,222
Press Freedom Status:	Partly Free
Net Freedom Status:	Partly Free

Taiwan Profile

FREEDOM STATUS: **FREE**



Freedom in the World Scores

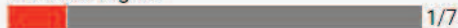
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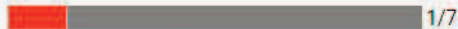
(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 1/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	23,500,000
Capital:	Taipei
GDP/capita:	\$47,800
Press Freedom Status:	Free

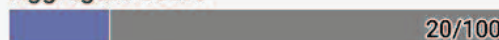
Vietnam Profile

FREEDOM STATUS: **NOT FREE**



Freedom in the World Scores

Aggregate Score



(0=Least Free, 100=Most Free)

Freedom Rating: 6/7

Political Rights



Civil Liberties



(1=Most Free, 7=Least Free)

Quick Facts

Population:	92,700,000
Capital:	Hanoi
GDP/capita:	\$2,111
Press Freedom Status:	Not Free
Net Freedom Status:	Not Free