

Gains and Declines in Aggregate Scores, 2002–2011

The following graph depicts gains and declines in aggregate scores between the 2003 and 2012 surveys. Political rights and civil liberties ratings (1 to 7) are determined by the total number of points (up to 100) each country receives on 10 political rights questions and 15 civil liberties questions. This point total is referred to as the country’s aggregate score. Countries receive 0 to 4 points on each question, with 0 representing the smallest degree and 4 the greatest degree of freedom. Many changes in these scores are too small to trigger a change in the political rights or civil liberties ratings, but they can often illustrate long-term trends with greater subtlety.

For the full *Freedom in the World* methodology, please visit the Freedom House website (www.freedomhouse.org).

