

2026 IIAG Scorecard - South Africa

OVERALL GOVERNANCE

2025 SCORE/100	2025 RANK/54	CHANGE 2016-2025
66.6	5 th	-0.4

TREND

Increasing Improvement	Bouncing Back	No Change
Slowing Improvement	Slowing Deterioration	Not Classified
Warning Signs	Increasing Deterioration	

SECURITY & RULE OF LAW

	SCORE/100 2025	RANK/54 2025	CHANGE 2016-2025
SECURITY & RULE OF LAW	60.8	11	-3.8
SECURITY & SAFETY	64.8	42	-0.8
Absence of Armed Conflict	97.3	29	-1.4
Absence of Violence against Civilians	78.7	34	+5.6
Absence of Forced Migration	98.8	1	-0.5
Absence of Human Trafficking & Forced Labour	67.4	14	-6.0
Absence of Crime	16.9	54	-3.6
Public Perception of Security & Safety	29.9	33	+1.2
RULE OF LAW & JUSTICE	64.0	9	-5.2
Executive Compliance with the Rule of Law	81.1	5	-0.4
Impartiality of the Judicial System	94.8	1	-3.3
Judicial Processes	65.5	8	-7.8
Equality before the Law	55.5	18	-3.3
Law Enforcement	45.1	19	-3.6
Property Rights	78.8	10	-4.7
Public Perception of the Rule of Law	27.6	31	-13.1
ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY	67.6	3	+2.4
Institutional Checks & Balances	80.2	5	-1.3
Absence of Undue Influence	59.3	7	+8.4
Civic Checks & Balances	85.2	2	+2.4
Disclosure of Public Records	78.8	1	+10.4
Accessibility of Public Records	73.6	1	+5.7
Public Perception of Accountability	28.4	33	-11.2
ANTI-CORRUPTION	46.7	15	-11.5
Anti-Corruption Mechanisms	58.0	5	-12.5
Absence of Corruption in State Institutions	53.3	18	-5.4
Absence of Corruption in the Public Sector	42.3	22	-8.0
Public Procurement Procedures	38.9	19	-10.9
Absence of Corruption in the Private Sector	55.1	15	-11.5
Public Perception of Anti-Corruption	32.3	29	-20.8

FOUNDATIONS FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

	SCORE/100 2025	RANK/54 2025	CHANGE 2016-2025
FOUNDATIONS FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY	67.7	4	-0.5
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	73.4	8	-3.7
Civil Registration	50.0	35	-25.0
Capacity of the Statistical System	68.8	7	+2.5
Effective Administration	70.0	5	-0.5
Tax & Revenue Mobilisation	92.4	1	+2.2
Budgetary & Financial Management	94.4	2	+2.7
Public Perception of Easiness to Obtain an Identity Document	65.0	12	-4.0
BUSINESS & LABOUR ENVIRONMENT	66.4	2	-0.8
Regional Integration	49.2	18	+4.1
Economic Diversification	94.9	2	-4.5
Business & Competition Regulations	88.9	1	-1.8
Access to Banking Services	57.4	4	+2.8
Labour Relations	69.1	8	+10.8
Secure Employment Opportunities	90.5	4	-1.4
Public Perception of Economic Opportunities	14.6	33	-16.1
INFRASTRUCTURE	63.2	7	+3.0
Transport Network	49.8	6	-4.4
Access to Energy	88.5	9	+4.4
Mobile Communications	96.3	2	+8.1
Internet	67.6	2	+31.2
Shipping & Postal Network	52.9	11	-0.3
Public Perception of Infrastructure	24.3	30	-20.8
RURAL ECONOMY	.	.	.
Rural Land & Water Access	.	.	.
Rural Market Access	.	.	.
Rural Economy Support	.	.	.
Rural Representation & Participation	.	.	.

PARTICIPATION, RIGHTS & INCLUSION

	SCORE/100 2025	RANK/54 2025	CHANGE 2016-2025
PARTICIPATION, RIGHTS & INCLUSION	73.7	5	+2.6
PARTICIPATION	77.8	4	+9.0
Freedom of Association & Assembly	87.5	1	+25.0
Political Pluralism	89.5	1	+20.8
Civil Society Space	77.2	12	+6.0
Democratic Elections	84.3	3	+3.9
Deliberative & Participatory Governance	78.4	5	+2.5
Public Perception of Political Participation	49.7	27	-4.5
RIGHTS	82.4	2	+1.6
Personal Liberties	79.3	3	+2.9
Freedom of Expression & Belief	93.3	3	-0.7
Media Freedom	86.6	1	+3.9
Digital Freedom	82.4	8	-2.5
Protection against Discrimination	88.9	1	0.0
Public Perception of Freedom of Speech	64.2	21	+6.1
INCLUSION & EQUALITY	65.0	7	+0.9
Equal Political Power	64.7	4	-7.5
Equal Political Representation	79.7	1	+3.6
Equal Civil Liberties	72.1	11	+0.9
Equal Socioeconomic Opportunities	58.5	23	-0.6
Equal Access to Public Services	51.5	18	+12.1
Public Perception of Inclusion & Equality	63.5	12	-2.9
WOMEN'S EQUALITY	69.6	15	-1.0
Political Power & Representation of Women	77.3	3	+7.0
Rights & Civil Liberties for Women	82.4	20	-5.9
Socioeconomic Opportunity for Women	45.5	30	-10.5
Access to Public Services for Women	47.9	23	+8.8
Laws on Violence against Women	100.0	1	0.0
Public Perception of Female Leadership	64.2	18	-5.9

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

	SCORE/100 2025	RANK/54 2025	CHANGE 2016-2025
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	64.3	10	0.0
HEALTH	69.3	7	+0.7
Access to Healthcare	74.3	5	+7.2
Access to Water & Sanitation	72.7	10	+0.8
Control of Communicable Diseases	82.0	23	-0.9
Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)	71.6	26	+4.8
Child & Maternal Health	84.8	8	+0.1
Health Quality	50.0	15	-2.9
Public Perception of Health Provision	50.1	20	-3.5
EDUCATION	60.1	15	+3.4
Equality in Education	39.1	34	-5.2
Education Enrolment	47.5	14	+1.9
Education Completion	94.6	2	+6.6
Human Resources in Education	.	.	.
Education Quality	57.1	13	+9.4
Public Perception of Education Provision	62.1	13	+4.4
SOCIAL PROTECTION & WELFARE	61.8	13	-6.4
Social Safety	60.7	7	-4.2
Poverty Reduction Policies	65.2	10	-8.8
Socioeconomic Inequality Mitigation	42.5	49	-3.8
Decent Housing	79.4	8	-2.8
Food Security	83.1	9	-5.7
Public Perception of Social Protection & Lived Poverty	39.6	18	-13.3
SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT	66.0	6	+2.4
Promotion of Environmental Sustainability	85.7	2	-1.6
Enforcement of Environmental Policies	51.8	23	+6.0
Air Quality	87.4	8	+4.6
Sustainable Use of Land & Forests	59.8	23	+5.4
Land & Water Biodiversity Protection	45.2	25	-2.7