World Bank Worldwide Governance Indicators

The Worldwide Governance Indicators, centred on a long-running World Bank research programme, encapsulates six main dimensions of governance (Voice and Accountability, Political Stability and Lack of Violence, Government Effectiveness, Regulatory Quality, Rule of Law, as well as Corruption Control) from 1996 to the current time. They are published annually from 2002 and monitor the effectiveness of governance in more than 200 nations using close to 40 data sets provided by over 30 organisations throughout the world.

The topic has a very high chance of being asked as a UPSC Prelims Indian Polity Question or as a Current Affairs Question, as it has been in the news recently.

About Worldwide Governance Indicators

The Worldwide Governance Indicators are a collection of responses from a wide range of people acquired through a variety of surveys as well as other cross country governance evaluations. A few of these tools capture the perspectives of businesses, individuals, and government officials in the nations being evaluated. Others have been based on the judgments of commercial risk-rating firms, whereas others represent the views of NGOs and assistance donors with extensive experience in the nations under consideration. The World Bank Governance Surveys, which are country level governance analysis tools created by the World Bank Institute, provide a complementary viewpoint to the macro level Worldwide Governance Indicators. Recent econometric research examining the reliability of some of these indicators in comparison to data obtained from natural experiments as well as other observational surveys has found that the Good Governance Indicators do appear to be measuring levels of corruption as well as government effectiveness, albeit imperfectly.

India's Performance in WGI 2004 - 2020

Below is graphical representation of India's performance in the 6 component parameter of WGI for even years from 2004 to 2020:

Voice and Accountability

WGI – India Rank (Year-wise)

Year	Percentile Rank (0 to 100)
2004.	61.54
2006.	59.13
2008.	60.10
2010.	60.19
2012.	61.03
2014.	60.10
2016.	61.58
2018.	57.97
2020.	53.14

Voice and Accountability

Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism

WGI – India Rank (Year-wise)

Year	Percentile Rank (0 to 100)
2004.	13.11
2006.	16.91
2008.	13.94
2010.	11.37
2012.	10.91
2014.	13.81
2016.	14.76
2018.	14.15
2020.	16.98

Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism

Government Effectiveness
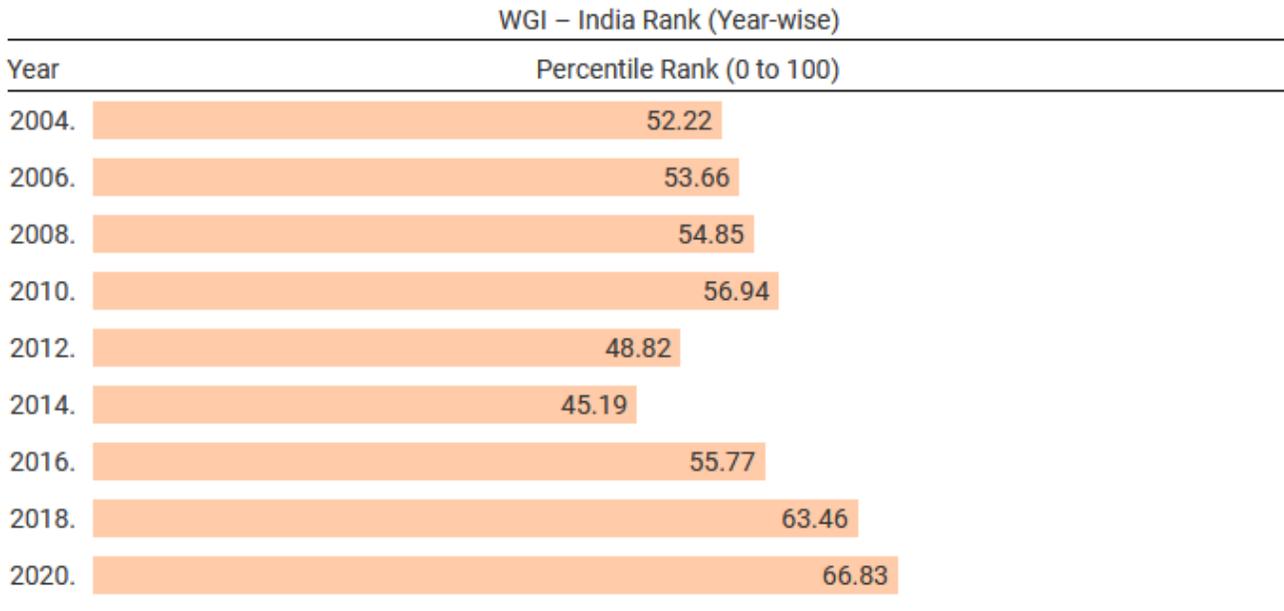
WGI – India Rank (Year-wise)

Year	Percentile Rank (0 to 100)
2004.	52.22
2006.	53.66
2008.	54.85
2010.	56.94
2012.	48.82
2014.	45.19
2016.	55.77
2018.	63.46
2020.	66.83

Government Effectiveness

Regulatory Quality

WGI – India Rank (Year-wise)

Year	Percentile Rank (0 to 100)
2004.	38.42
2006.	45.10
2008.	40.29
2010.	38.76
2012.	35.07
2014.	34.62
2016.	41.35
2018.	44.23
2020.	47.60

Regulatory Quality

Rule of Law

WGI – India Rank (Year-wise)

Year	Percentile Rank (0 to 100)
2004.	55.02
2006.	58.37
2008.	57.69
2010.	54.03
2012.	52.58
2014.	55.29
2016.	53.37
2018.	55.29
2020.	54.33
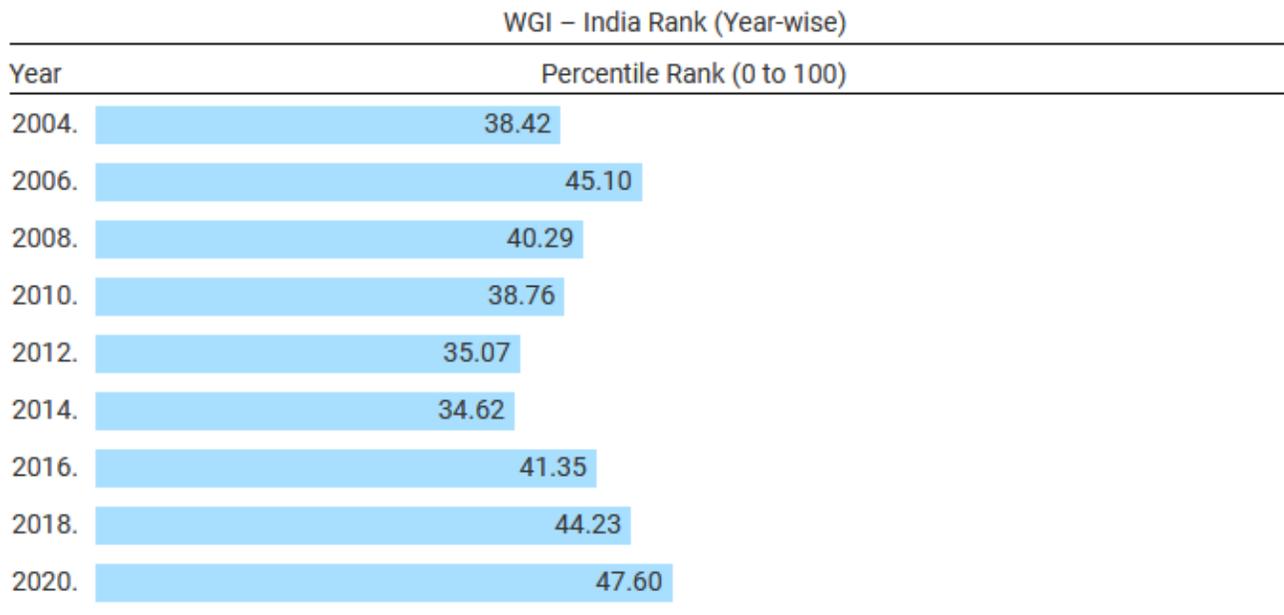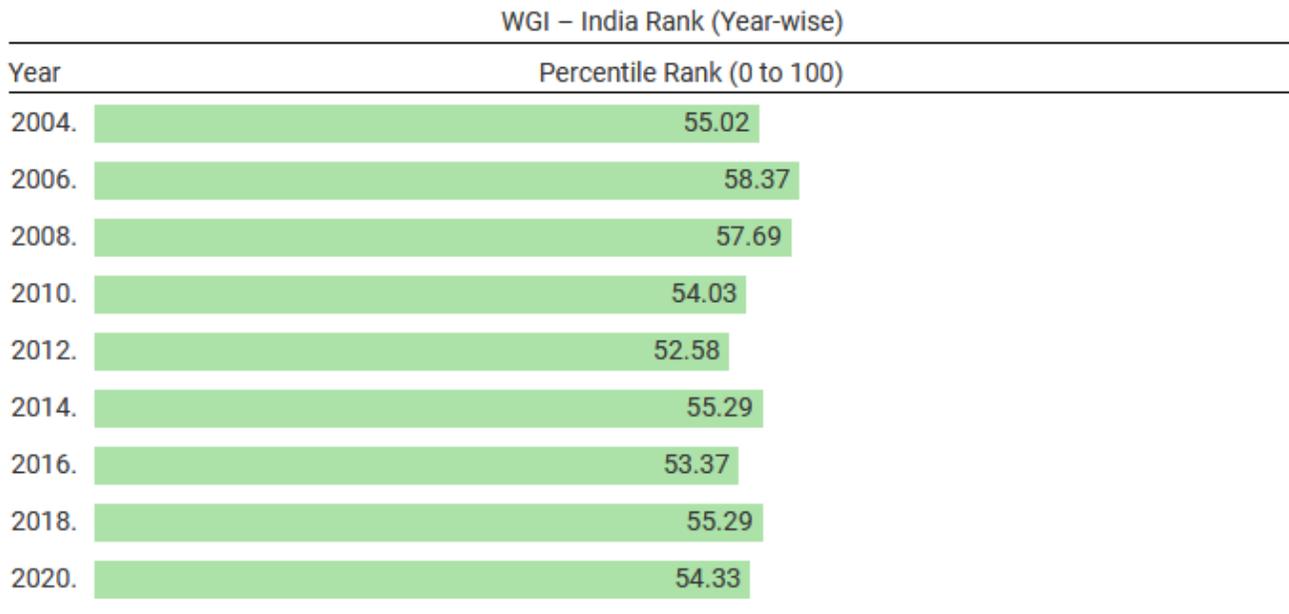
Rule of Law

Control of Corruption

WGI – India Rank (Year-wise)

Year	Percentile Rank (0 to 100)
2004.	40.98
2006.	46.83
2008.	44.17
2010.	38.57
2012.	36.97
2014.	41.83
2016.	47.60
2018.	49.52
2020.	46.63
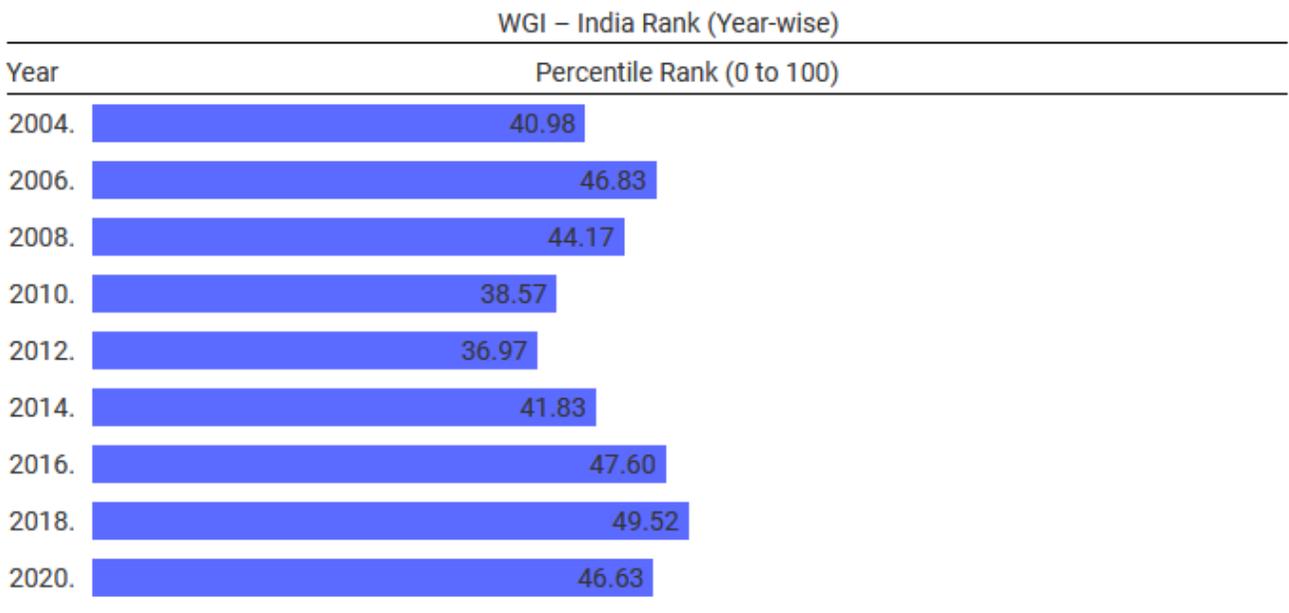
Rule of Law

Significance of Worldwide Governance Indicators

The governance indicators add to the expanding body of empirical research on governance that has offered activists and reformers around the globe with lobbying instruments for legislative changes and oversight. The indicators, as well as the data that supports them, are part of contemporary studies and views that have backed up the experiences and views of reform-minded persons in government, civil

society, as well as the commercial sector that good governance is critical for development. As empirical evidence demonstrates, their rising realisation of the connection among effective governance as well as successful development has fueled demand for long-term monitoring of governance quality throughout the world and within particular countries. Almost all of the particular data sources that underpin the aggregated indicators are available publicly, and so are the aggregate indicators altogether.

Recent Developments

A briefing by the Ministry of Finance's Economic Division revealed that India's rankings were "far below" its contemporaries on all criteria in an assessment of the World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators, a major factor for India's sovereign ratings. The nation also received the highest score fall among the world's 25 largest democratic countries in 2020, according to the Freedom House report.