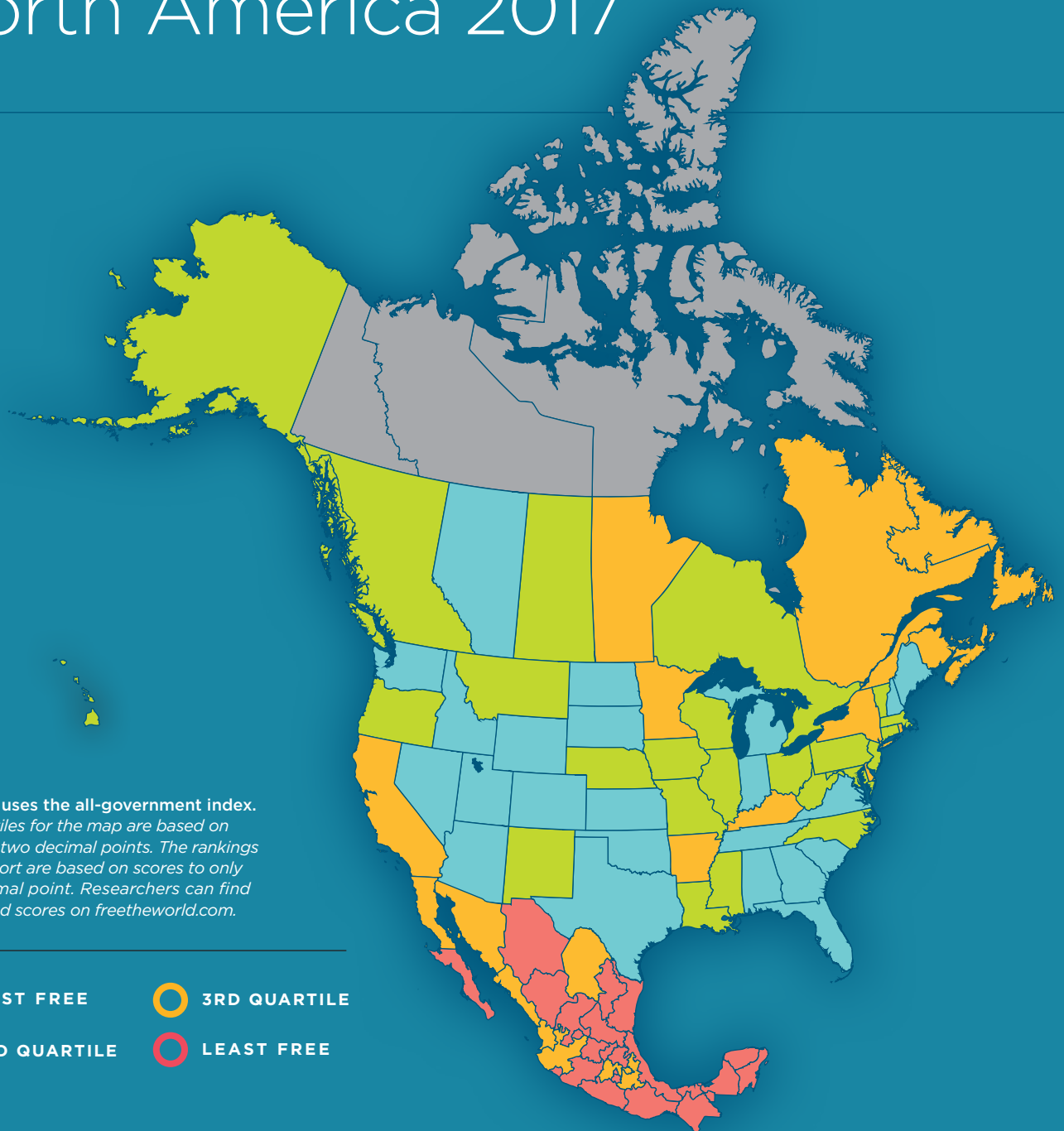


Dean Stansel, José Torra  
& Fred McMahon



# Economic Freedom of North America 2017



The map uses the all-government index. The quartiles for the map are based on scores to two decimal points. The rankings in the report are based on scores to only one decimal point. Researchers can find unrounded scores on [freetheworld.com](http://freetheworld.com).

-  MOST FREE
-  2ND QUARTILE
-  3RD QUARTILE
-  LEAST FREE



# **Economic Freedom of North America 2017**

Dean Stansel, José Torra,  
and Fred McMahon



Fraser Institute

2017

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# Executive Summary

## Economic Freedom of North America in 2015

*Economic Freedom of North America 2017* is the thirteenth edition of the Fraser Institute's annual report. This year it measures the extent to which the policies of individual provinces and states were, in 2015, supportive of economic freedom, the ability of individuals to act in the economic sphere free of undue restrictions. There are two indices: one that examines provincial/state and municipal/local governments only and another that includes federal governments as well. The former, our subnational index, is for comparison of individual jurisdictions within the same country. The latter, our all-government index, is for comparison of jurisdictions in different countries.

For the subnational index, *Economic Freedom of North America* employs 10 variables for the 92 provincial/state governments in Canada, the United States, and Mexico in three areas: 1. Government Spending; 2. Taxes; and 3. Labor Market Freedom. In the case of the all-government index, we incorporate three additional areas at the federal level from *Economic Freedom of the World* (EFW): 4. Legal Systems and Property Rights; 5. Sound Money; and 6. Freedom to Trade Internationally; and we expand Area 1 to include government enterprises and investment (variable IC in EFW), Area 2 to include top marginal income and payroll tax rate (variable 1Dii in EFW), and Area 3 to include credit market regulation and business regulations (also at the federal level). These additions help capture restrictions on economic freedom that are difficult to measure at the provincial/state and municipal/local level.

## Results for Canada, the United States, and Mexico

### The all-government index

In *Economic Freedom of the World* (Gwartney, Lawson, and Hall, 2017), for several years Canada has been ahead of the United States, which is in turn even further ahead of Mexico. This year, Canada and the United States are tied for 11<sup>th</sup>. The inclusion of variables from that report in our all-government index allows us to display more accurately the gap between Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Thus, in last year's report, in the all-government index for 2014 two of the top three jurisdictions were Canadian, with Alberta in first place with a score of 8.1 and British Columbia tied

for second with New Hampshire at 7.9. Starting in 2015, however, both Canada and Alberta elected new governments who have been making policy changes in taxation and spending that are likely to have a significant negative effect on their economic freedom. As a result, after five years alone in the top position, in this year's index Alberta is tied for first place with New Hampshire with a score of 8.0. Ten US states are tied for third at 7.9, including Florida, Texas, South Dakota, Nevada, and Georgia. The next highest Canadian province, British Columbia, is now down to 13<sup>th</sup> at 7.8 (tied with 19 US states); Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Newfoundland & Labrador are tied for 33<sup>rd</sup> (with 16 US states) at 7.7.

The highest-ranked Mexican states are Jalisco, Baja California, Mexico, and Coahuila de Zaragoza, all tied at 61<sup>st</sup> with 6.5, a full point behind those ranking lowest in Canada and the United States. The lowest-ranked state is Distrito Federal at 5.5, following Colima at 5.7, and Campeche at 5.9. The lowest-ranked Canadian provinces are New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Prince Edward Island at 7.5, tied for 56<sup>th</sup> with New York. The next lowest-ranked states in the United States are Delaware, Minnesota, and Rhode Island, tied with Manitoba at 7.6 in 52<sup>nd</sup> place.

Historically, economic freedom has been declining in all three countries. Since 2004, the average score for Canadian provinces on the all-government index has fallen from 7.76 to 7.66; the average score for US states fell from 8.20 to 7.78; and for Mexico, from 6.67 to 6.17. However, economic freedom has increased in the United States and Mexico since 2013 and is only slightly lower in Canada.

### **The subnational indices**

For the purpose of comparing jurisdictions within the same country, the subnational indices are the appropriate choice. There is a separate subnational index for each country. In Canada, the most economically free province in 2015 was Alberta with 7.8, followed by British Columbia with 6.6 and Ontario at 6.2. However, the gap between Alberta and British Columbia is shrinking. The least free by far was Quebec at 4.2, followed by Nova Scotia at 5.0 and New Brunswick at 5.2.

In the United States, the most economically free state was New Hampshire at 8.3, followed at 8.1 by Florida and Texas. South Dakota is fourth at 8.0. (Note that since the indexes were calculated separately for each country, the numeric scores on the subnational indices are not directly comparable across countries.) The least-free state was New York at 5.3, following California at 5.8. New Mexico and West Virginia were tied for 47<sup>th</sup> at 6.1.

In Mexico, the most economically free state was Baja California at 8.0. Jalisco was second at 7.7, followed by Coahuila at 7.5. The least free Mexican states were Campeche and Chiapas at 4.9; slightly better were Guerrero at 5.0 and Oaxaca at 5.1.

We have again produced for each province and state a one-page summary that contains all the latest scores and rankings for each of the components of the index as well as historical data on the overall and area scores. For brevity, these are not included in the report but are available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.



### Economic freedom and economic well-being at the subnational level

The jurisdictions in the least economically free quartile (one fourth) on the all-government index had, in 2015, an average per-capita income of just US\$2,199, compared to US\$46,080 for the most economically free quartile. On the subnational index, the same relationship holds, with the least-free quartile having an average per-capita income nearly 5% below the national average, while the most-free quartile was 7% above it.

In addition, economic freedom at the subnational level has generally been found to be positively associated with a variety of measures of the per-capita size of the economy and the growth of the economy as well as various measures of entrepreneurial activity. There are now more than 230 articles by independent researchers examining subnational economic freedom using the data from *Economic Freedom of North America*. (Appendix C lists some of these articles that either use or cite *Economic Freedom of North America*.) Much of that literature discusses economic growth or entrepreneurship but the list also includes studies of a variety of topics such as income inequality, eminent domain, and labor markets. The results of these studies tend to mirror those found for these same relationships at the country level using the index published in *Economic Freedom of the World*.

### Data available to researchers

The full data set, including all of the data published in this report as well as data omitted due to limited space, can be downloaded for free at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>. The data file available there contains the most up-to-date and accurate data for the index published in *Economic Freedom of North America*. All editions of the report are available in PDF and can be downloaded for free at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>. However, users are always strongly encouraged to use the data from the most recent data file as updates and corrections, even to earlier years' data, do occur.

If you have difficulty downloading the data, please contact Fred McMahon via e-mail to <[freetheworld@fraserinstitute.org](mailto:freetheworld@fraserinstitute.org)>. If you have technical questions about the data itself, please contact Dean Stansel via e-mail to <[dean.b.stansel@gmail.com](mailto:dean.b.stansel@gmail.com)>.

### Cite the dataset

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# Chapter 1

## Economic Freedom of Canada, the United States, and Mexico in 2015

### Economic freedom and the index

*Economic Freedom of North America* is an attempt to gauge the extent of the restrictions on economic freedom imposed by governments in North America. The index published here measures economic freedom at two levels, the subnational and the all-government. At the subnational level, it measures the impact on economic freedom of provincial and municipal governments in Canada and of state and local governments in the United States and Mexico. At the all-government level, it measures the impact of all levels of government—federal, provincial/state, and municipal/local—in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. All 10 provinces, 50 US states, and 32 Mexican states (including Distrito Federal) are included (figures 1.1, 1.2a, 1.2b and 1.2c).

### What is economic freedom and how is it measured in this index?

Writing in *Economic Freedom of the World, 1975–1995*, James Gwartney, Robert Lawson, and Walter Block defined economic freedom in the following way.

Individuals have economic freedom when (a) property they acquire without the use of force, fraud, or theft is protected from physical invasions by others and (b) they are free to use, exchange, or give their property as long as their actions do not violate the identical rights of others. Thus, an index of economic freedom should measure the extent to which rightly acquired property is protected and individuals are engaged in voluntary transactions. (Gwartney, Lawson, and Block, 1996: 12)

The freest economies operate with minimal government interference, relying upon personal choice and markets to answer basic economic questions such as what is to be produced, how it is to be produced, how much is produced, and for whom production is intended. As government imposes restrictions on these choices, there is less economic freedom.

The research flowing from the data generated by the annually published report, *Economic Freedom of the World* (EFW), a project Michael Walker, who was then executive director of the Fraser Institute, initiated 30 years ago, shows that economic freedom is important to the well-being of a nation's citizens. This research has found that economic freedom is positively correlated with per-capita income, economic growth, greater life expectancy, lower child mortality, the development of democratic institutions, civil and political freedoms, and other desirable social and economic outcomes.<sup>1</sup> Just as *Economic Freedom of the World* seeks to measure economic freedom of countries on an international basis, *Economic Freedom of North America* has the goal of measuring differences in economic freedom at both the subnational and all-governments level among the Canadian provinces, US states, and Mexican states.

In 1999, the Fraser Institute published *Provincial Economic Freedom in Canada: 1981–1998* (Arman, Samida, and Walker, 1999), a measure of economic freedom in 10 Canadian provinces. *Economic Freedom of North America* updates and, by including the 50 US states and the 32 Mexican states, expands this initial endeavor. It looks at the 10 Canadian provinces (Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and Yukon are not included) and the 50 US states from 1981 to 2015 and the 32 Mexican states back to 2003. Each province and state is ranked on economic freedom at both the subnational (state/provincial and local/municipal) and the all-government (federal, state, and local) levels. This helps isolate the impact of different levels of government on economic freedom in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. The subnational index provides a comparison of how individual jurisdictions within a country measure up against other jurisdictions in that country. The all-governments index provides a comparison of how individual jurisdictions in different countries compare to each other.

Because of data limitations and revisions, some time periods are either not directly comparable or are not available. When necessary, we have generally used the data closest to the missing time period as an estimate for the missing data (specific exceptions to this approach are discussed individually in Appendix B). If there have been changes in this component during this period, this procedure would introduce some degree of error in the estimate of economic freedom for the particular data point. However, omitting the component in the cases when it is missing and basing the index score on the remaining components may create more bias in the estimate of overall economic freedom.

We examine state- and province-level data in three areas of economic freedom: government spending, taxes, and labor-market freedom. To account for factors that vary primarily across countries but not subnational jurisdictions, our all-government index includes additional variables found in *Economic Freedom of the World*.

- 
1. A list of such articles and additional information can be found at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/economic-freedom/>>. See also Easton and Walker, 1997; and De Haan and Sturm, 2000. For the latest summary of literature on economic freedom at an international level, see Doucouliagos and Ulubasoglu, 2006; and Hall and Lawson, 2014.

Prior to the 2012 report, we had not included in the North American index data from several areas used in the index published in *Economic Freedom of the World*—in particular, data for the legal system and property rights, and for regulation of credit and business. There were two reasons for this. Firstly, data in these areas are typically not available at the state/provincial level. Secondly, these are primarily areas of national policy and would vary little from province to province or state to state. Since Canada and the United States had similar scores for these areas in the index of nations and territories covered by the broader world report, that also meant that these factors varied little from province to state and thus it was not essential to include these data in the index of economic freedom in North America.

Until this year, however, in the most recent indices published in *Economic Freedom of the World*, gaps had widened between the scores of Canada and the United States in these areas. Thus, starting with the 2012 edition of *Economic Freedom of North America* at the all-government level we began including data from the world index for the legal system and property rights and for regulation of credit and business. We later expanded on that approach by adding ten additional components: sound money, freedom to trade internationally, government enterprises and investment, top marginal income and payroll tax rate, and the six components of the labor market regulations area.

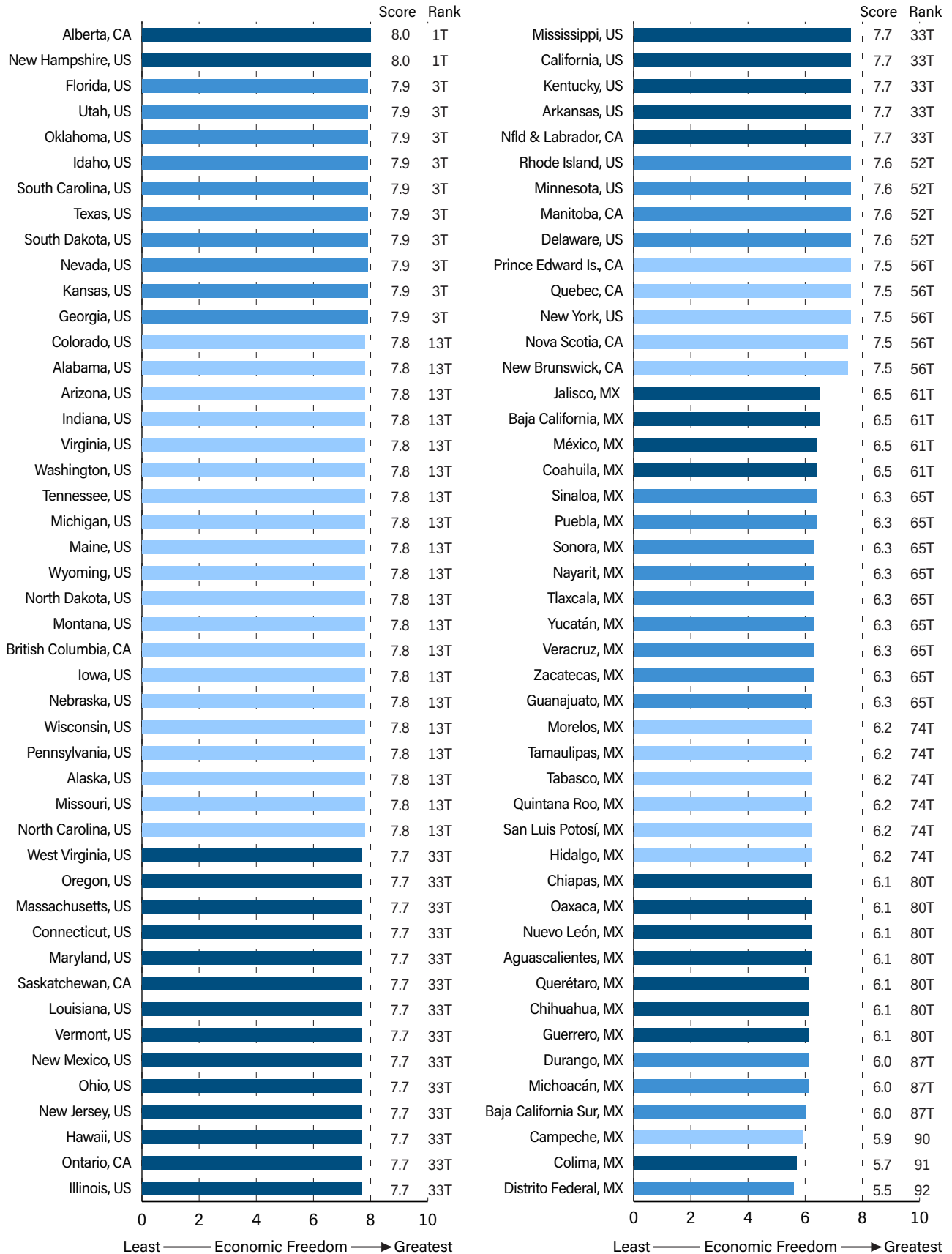
With the exception of sound money, freedom to trade, business regulation, and government enterprises, for which Canada and the United States have very similar scores (and labor market regulations, on which the United States has a slight advantage), the gap that had grown between Canada and the United States in these areas much favored Canada and thus the scores of the provinces significantly increased when these data were included—something that would not have occurred in earlier years when the scores from the world index in these areas were closer. The impact of changes in taxation and spending by the governments of Canada and Alberta has begun to reverse that trend (Clemens, Lau, Palacios, and Veldhuis, 2017).

### Results on the all-government index

As figure 1.1 indicates, on the all-government index, after five years alone in the top position, Alberta is now tied for first place with New Hampshire at a score of 8.0.<sup>2</sup> Ten US states are tied for third at 7.9, including Florida, Texas, South Dakota, Nevada, and Georgia. The next highest Canadian province, British Columbia, is now down to 13<sup>th</sup> at 7.8 (tied with 19 US states). Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Newfoundland & Labrador are tied for 33<sup>rd</sup> (with 16 US states) at 7.7.<sup>3</sup> The lowest-ranked Canadian provinces are New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Prince Edward Island at 7.5, tied for 56<sup>th</sup> with New York. The next lowest-ranked states in the United States are Delaware, Minnesota, and Rhode Island tied with Manitoba at 7.6 in 52<sup>nd</sup> place.

2. The data for this year's report is from 2015. Beginning in that year, Alberta's government began making changes in taxation, spending, and regulation that are likely to have a further significant negative effect on the province's economic freedom in the coming years. See research at: <[www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/provincial-prosperity](http://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/provincial-prosperity)>.
3. In the figures, ties are indicated by use of the same shade.

Figure 1.1: Summary of Ratings for Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level, 2015



The highest-rated Mexican states are Jalisco, Baja California, Mexico, and Coahuila de Zaragoza, (all tied for 61<sup>st</sup> at 6.5), though they rank behind all 50 US states and 10 Canadian provinces, behind 60<sup>th</sup> place by a full point. The lowest rated is Distrito Federal (92<sup>nd</sup> with 5.5) followed by Colima at 5.7 and Campeche at 5.9. (For a more detailed discussion of Mexican results, see Chapter 2: Economic Freedom of the Mexican States in 2015.)

As table 1.1 indicates, on average, US states now have a higher level of economic freedom on the all-government index than Canadian provinces, but only by about one tenth of a point (7.78 out of 10 compared to 7.66). Furthermore, historically, economic freedom has generally been declining in all three countries. Since 2004, the average score for Canadian provinces on the all-government index has fallen from 7.76 to 7.66; the average score for US states fell from 8.20 to 7.78; and for Mexican states, from 6.67 to 6.17. However, economic freedom has increased in the United States and Mexico since 2013 and is only slightly lower in Canada.

Table 3.1 (pp. 32–33) shows the individual scores for all six areas included in the all-government index. The calculations for the index and the data sources for the scores are found in appendices A and B. Because of a lack of available data for the Mexican states, the all-government index extends back only to 2003. The longer time series back to 1985 is available at our website <[www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom](http://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom)> in the full dataset. We cannot go all the way back to 1981 because the EFW data is currently only available at five-year intervals prior to 2000. Since these data are at the national level, they do not affect calculations of the subnational indices. The subnational indices for Canada and the United States continue to extend back to 1981.

**Table 1.1: Average Economic Freedom Scores at the All-Government Level, 2003–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Canada	7.73	7.76	7.69	7.72	7.73	7.73	7.67	7.68	7.62	7.68	7.68	7.85	7.66
United States	8.18	8.20	8.02	7.99	8.08	8.01	7.80	7.70	7.64	7.75	7.62	7.69	7.78
Mexico	6.55	6.67	6.55	6.62	6.43	6.25	6.11	6.09	6.07	6.13	6.05	6.20	6.17
Canada minus United States	-0.45	-0.44	-0.33	-0.26	-0.35	-0.28	-0.13	-0.02	-0.02	-0.07	0.06	0.16	-0.12
Canada minus Mexico	1.18	1.09	1.15	1.11	1.30	1.48	1.56	1.59	1.55	1.55	1.63	1.65	1.48

### Results on the subnational indices

For comparisons of jurisdictions within the same country, the subnational indices are most appropriate. Figures 1.2a to 1.2c show the subnational index for each North American country. Alberta, with a score of 7.8, was in 2015 far and away the most economically free province in Canada (figure 1.2a), although its lead is shrinking.<sup>4</sup> The next highest was British Columbia at 6.6 followed by Ontario at 6.2. Quebec was at the bottom with 4.2, followed by Nova Scotia at 5.0 and New Brunswick at 5.2.

**Figure 1.2a: Summary of Canadian Ratings for Economic Freedom at the Subnational Level, 2015**

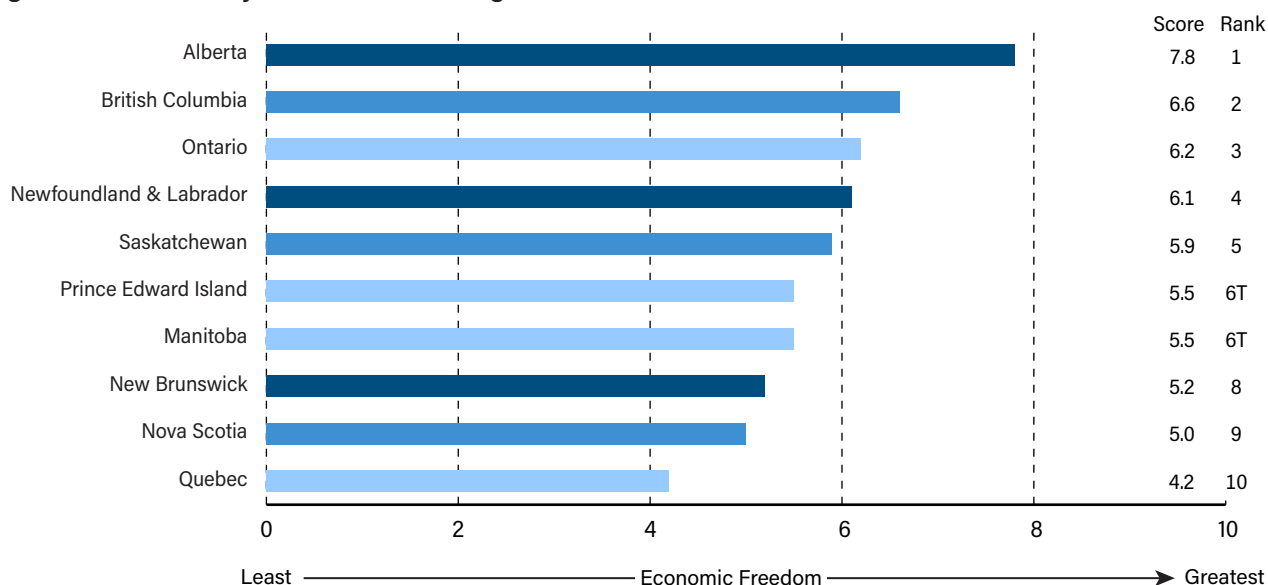


Figure 1.2b shows the subnational scores for the US states. New Hampshire was alone at the top with a score of 8.3, followed by Florida and Texas tied at 8.1. South Dakota was fourth with 8.0.<sup>5</sup> Tennessee was next with 7.8, and then Virginia with 7.6. The least-free state was New York with 5.3, then California with 5.8. New Mexico and West Virginia were tied for 47<sup>th</sup> with 6.0.

The subnational scores for the Mexican states can be found in figure 1.2c. (Chapter 2 contains a more detailed discussion of the Mexican index.) The most economically free state was Baja California at 8.0, followed by Jalisco at 7.7, and Coahuila with 7.5. Campeche and Chiapas were the least-free Mexican states at 4.9. The next lowest were Guerrero at 5.0 and Oaxaca at 5.1.

We have again produced for each province and state a one-page summary that contains all the 2015 scores and rankings for each of the components of the index as well as historical data on the overall and area scores. For brevity, these are not included in the report, but they are available at <[www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom](http://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom)>.

4. See footnote 2, above.

5. Note that since the indices were calculated separately for each country, the numeric scores on the subnational indices are not directly comparable across countries.



Figure 1.2b: Summary of US Ratings for Economic Freedom at the Subnational Level, 2015

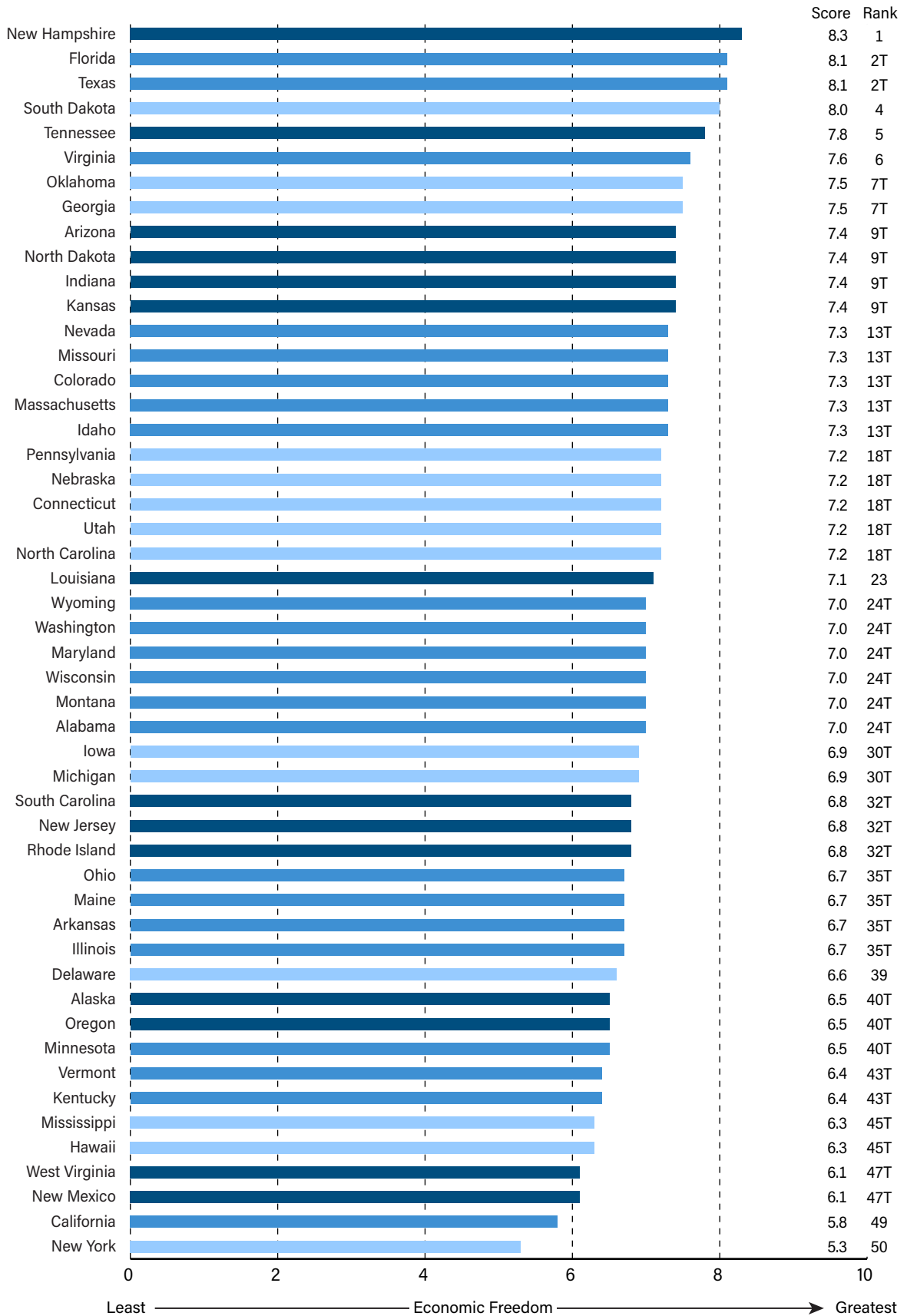
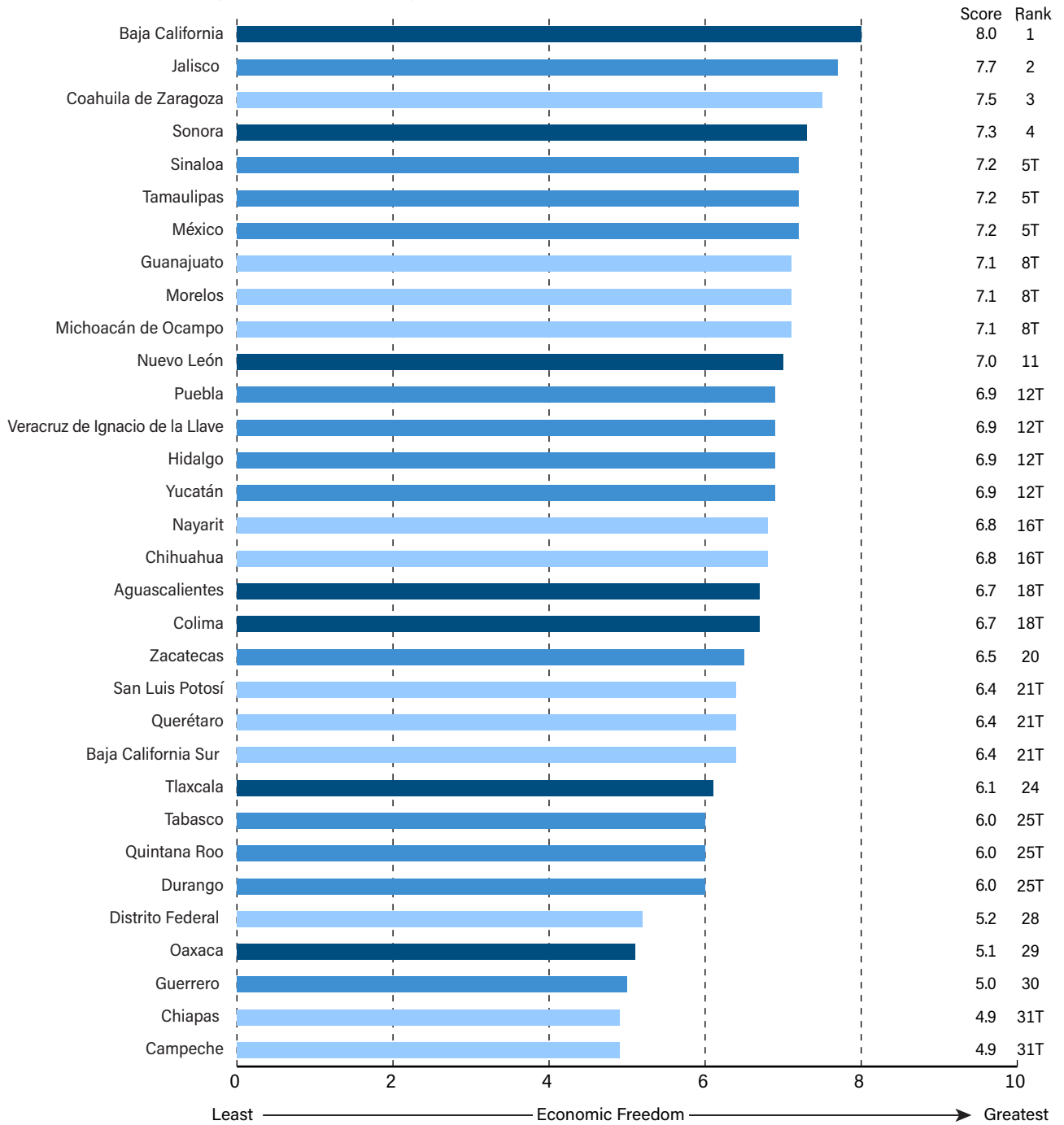


Figure 1.2c: Summary of Mexican Ratings for Economic Freedom at the Subnational Level, 2015



## Description of components

The theory of economic freedom is no different at the subnational level than it is at the global level, although different variables consistent with the theory of economic freedom must be found that suit subnational measures. The 10 components of the subnational index fall into three areas: Government Spending, Taxes, and Labor Market Freedom. Most of the components we use are calculated as a ratio of income in each jurisdiction and thus do not require the use of exchange rates or purchasing power parities (PPP). The exception is component 2B, Top Marginal Income Tax Rate and the Income Threshold at Which It Applies, where purchasing power parity is used to calculate equivalent top thresholds in Canada and Mexico in US dollars.

Using a simple mathematical formula to reduce subjective judgments, a scale from zero to 10 for each component was constructed to represent the underlying distribution of each of the 10 components in the index. The highest possible score on each component is 10, which indicates a high degree of economic freedom and the lowest possible score is 0, which indicates a low degree of economic freedom.<sup>6</sup> Thus, this index is a relative ranking. The rating formula is consistent across time to allow an examination of the evolution of economic freedom. To construct the overall index without imposing subjective judgments about the relative importance of the components, each area was equally weighted and each component within each area was equally weighted (see Appendix A: Methodology, p. 52, for more details).

In order to produce comparable tax and spending data for jurisdictions that are of widely different sizes and income levels, all such variables are standardized by dividing by income (as is the minimum-wage variable). In Canada and Mexico, we use “household income”; in the United States, the comparable concept is called “personal income”. We use income instead of GDP because there are some jurisdictions where there are large levels of economic activity (included in GDP) that do not directly benefit residents and GDP thus overstates the resources that residents have available to pay the burden of government. For example, due to peculiarities in its tax law, the US state of Delaware has an abnormally high number of corporate bank headquarters. Much of the revenue generated by those operations goes to shareholders outside of Delaware. Those dollars are included in GDP, making taxes and spending seem less burdensome as a percentage of the economy than they actually are. Those dollars are not included in personal income, so using income provides a more accurate measure of the level of economic freedom.

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6. Because of the way scores for economic freedom are calculated, a minimum-maximum procedure discussed in Appendix A: Methodology (p. 52), a score of 10 is not indicative of perfect economic freedom, but rather the most freedom among the existing jurisdictions.

## Area 1 Government Spending

### 1A General Consumption Expenditures by Government as a Percentage of Income

As the size of government expands, less room is available for private choice. While government can fulfill useful roles in society, there is a tendency for government to undertake superfluous activities as it expands: “there are two broad functions of government that are consistent with economic freedom: (1) protection of individuals against invasions by intruders, both domestic and foreign, and (2) provision of a few selected goods—what economists call public goods” (Gwartney, Lawson, and Block, 1996: 22). These two broad functions of government are often called the “protective” and “productive” functions of government. Once government moves beyond these two functions into the provision of private goods, goods that can be produced by private firms and individuals, it restricts consumer choice and, thus, economic freedom (Gwartney, Lawson, and Block, 1996). In other words, government spending, independent of taxation, by itself reduces economic freedom once this spending exceeds what is necessary to provide a minimal level of protective and productive functions. Thus, as the size of government consumption expenditure grows, a jurisdiction receives a lower score in this component.

### 1B Transfers and Subsidies as a Percentage of Income

When the government taxes one person in order to give money to another, it separates individuals from the full benefits of their labor and reduces the real returns of such activity (Gwartney, Lawson, and Block, 1996). These transfers represent the removal of property without providing a compensating benefit and are, thus, an infringement on economic freedom. Put another way, when governments take from one group in order to give to another, they are violating the same property rights they are supposed to protect. The greater the level of transfers and subsidies, the lower the score a jurisdiction receives.

### 1C Insurance and Retirement Payments as a Percentage of Income

When private, voluntary arrangements for retirement, disability insurance, and so on are replaced by mandatory government programs, economic freedom is diminished. As the amount of such spending increases, the score on this component declines.

### 1D Government enterprises and investment (*all-government index only*)

When government owns what would otherwise be private enterprises and engages in more of what would otherwise be private investment, economic freedom is reduced. This variable, used only in the all-government index, is the country score for variable 1C in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report*. A detailed description and data sources can be found in that report, available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

## Area 2 Taxes

As the tax burden grows, the restrictions on private choice increase and thus economic freedom declines. We examine the major forms of taxation separately.

## 2A Income and Payroll Tax Revenue as a Percentage of Income

This variable includes all personal and corporate income taxes as well as payroll taxes used to fund social insurance schemes (i.e., employment insurance, Workers Compensation, and various pension plans).

## 2Bi Top Marginal Income Tax Rate<sup>7</sup> and the Income Threshold at Which It Applies

Because marginal income tax rates represent the direct penalty on economic activity, in addition to the revenue variable, we include a variable that incorporates the top tax rate as well as the income level at which that rate applies. Top personal income-tax rates are rated by the income thresholds at which they apply. Higher thresholds result in a better score. More details can be found in Appendices A and B.

## 2Bii Top marginal income and payroll tax rate (all-government index only)

This variable, used only in the all-government index, is the country score for variable 1Dii in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report*. A detailed description and data sources can be found in that report, available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

## 2C Property Tax and Other Taxes as a Percentage of Income

This variable includes all forms of taxation other than income, payroll, and sales taxes (which are already captured in variables 2A and 2D), with one exception. Revenue from taxes on natural resources are excluded for three reasons: 1. most areas do not have them; 2. their burden is largely exported to taxpayers in other areas; 3. they can fluctuate widely along with the prices of natural resources (for example, oil), thereby creating outliers that distort the relative rankings.

## 2D Sales Tax Revenue as a Percentage of Income

This variable includes all sales and gross receipts taxes (including excise taxes). Such taxes are a major source of revenue for subnational governments.

### *Note about intergovernmental transfers and double counting*

In examining the two areas above, it may seem that Areas 1 and 2 create a double counting, in that they capture the two sides of the government ledger sheet, revenues and expenditures, which presumably should balance over time. However, in examining subnational jurisdictions, this situation does not hold. A number of intergovernmental transfers break the link between taxation and spending at the subnational level.<sup>8</sup> The break between revenues and spending is even more pronounced at the

7. See Appendix A: Methodology (p. 52) for further discussion of how the rating for the top marginal tax rate and its threshold was derived.

8. Most governments have revenue sources other than taxation and national governments also have international financial obligations so that the relation between taxation and spending will not be exactly one to one, even at the national level. Nevertheless, over time, the relationship will be close for most national governments, except those receiving large amounts of foreign aid.

all-government level, which includes the federal government. Obviously, what the federal government spends in a state or a province does not necessarily bear a strong relationship to the amount of money it raises in that jurisdiction. Thus, to take examples from both Canada and the United States, the respective federal governments spend more in the province of Newfoundland & Labrador and the state of West Virginia than they raise through taxation in these jurisdictions while the opposite pattern holds for Alberta and Connecticut. As discussed above, both taxation and spending can suppress economic freedom. Since the link between the two is broken when examining subnational jurisdictions, it is necessary to examine both sides of the government's balance sheet.

### **Area 3 Regulation**

#### **3A Labor Market Freedom**

##### **3Ai *Minimum Wage Legislation***

High minimum wages restrict the ability of employees and employers to negotiate contracts to their liking. In particular, minimum wage legislation restricts the ability of low-skilled workers and new entrants to the workforce to negotiate for employment they might otherwise accept and, thus, restricts the economic freedom of these workers and the employers who might have hired them.

This component measures the annual income earned by someone working full time at the minimum wage as a percentage of per-capita income. Since per-capita income is a proxy for the average productivity in a jurisdiction, this ratio takes into account differences in the ability to pay wages across jurisdictions. As the minimum wage grows relative to productivity, thus narrowing the range of employment contracts that can be freely negotiated, there are further reductions in economic freedom, resulting in a lower score for the jurisdiction. For example, minimum wage legislation set at 0.1% of average productivity is likely to have little impact on economic freedom; set at 50% of average productivity, the legislation would limit the freedom of workers and firms to negotiate employment to a much greater extent. For instance, a minimum wage requirement of \$2 an hour for New York will have little impact but, for a developing nation, it might remove most potential workers from the effective workforce. The same idea holds, though in a narrower range, for jurisdictions within Canada and the United States.

##### **3Aii *Government Employment as a Percentage of Total State/Provincial Employment***

Economic freedom decreases for several reasons as government employment increases beyond what is necessary for government's productive and protective functions. Government, in effect, is using expropriated money to take an amount of labor out of the labor market. This restricts the ability of individuals and organizations to contract freely for labor services since employers looking to hire have to bid against their own tax dollars to obtain labor. High levels of government employment may also indicate that government is attempting to supply goods and services that individuals contracting freely with each other could provide on their own; that the government is

attempting to provide goods and services that individuals would not care to obtain if able to contract freely; or that government is engaging in regulatory and other activities that restrict the freedom of citizens. Finally, high levels of government employment suggest government is directly undertaking work that could be contracted privately. When government, instead of funding private providers, decides to provide a good or service directly, it reduces economic freedom by limiting choice and by typically creating a governmental quasi-monopoly in provision of services. For instance, the creation of school vouchers may not decrease government expenditures but it will reduce government employment, eroding government's monopoly on the provision of publicly funded education services while creating more choice for parents and students and, thus, enhancing economic freedom.

### 3Aiii *Union Density*

Workers should have the right to form and join unions, or not to do so, as they choose. However, laws and regulations governing the labor market often force workers to join unions when they would rather not, permit unionization drives where coercion can be employed (particularly when there are undemocratic provisions such as union certification without a vote by secret ballot), and may make decertification difficult even when a majority of workers would favor it. On the other hand, with rare exceptions, a majority of workers can always unionize a workplace and workers are free to join an existing or newly formed union.

To this point in time, there is no reliable compilation of historical data about labor-market laws and regulations that would permit comparisons across jurisdictions for the United States, Canada, and Mexico. In this report, therefore, we attempt to provide a proxy for this component. We begin with union density, that is, the percentage of unionized workers in a state or province. However, a number of factors affect union density: laws and regulations, the level of government employment, and manufacturing density. In measuring economic freedom, our goal is to capture the impact of policy factors, laws and regulations, and so on, not other factors. We also wish to exclude government employment—although it is a policy factor that is highly correlated with levels of unionization—since government employment is captured in component 3Aii above.

Thus, we ran statistical tests to determine how significant an effect government employment had on unionization—a highly significant effect—and held this factor constant in calculating the component. We also ran tests to determine if the size of the manufacturing sector was significant. It was not and, therefore, we did not correct for this factor in calculating the component. It may also be that the size of the rural population has an impact on unionization. Unfortunately, consistent data from Canada, the United States, and Mexico are not available. Despite this limitation, the authors believe this proxy component is the best available at this time. Its results are consistent with the published information that is available (see, for example, Godin, Palacios, Clemens, Veldhius, and Karabegović, 2006).<sup>9</sup>

9. The National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation (2011) provides a reasonable measure of right-to-work laws and when they were established for US states (see <[www.nrtw.org/b/rtw\\_faqs.htm](http://www.nrtw.org/b/rtw_faqs.htm)>).

Most of the components of the three areas described above exist for both the subnational and the all-government levels. Total tax revenue from own sources, for example, is calculated first for local/municipal and provincial/state governments, and then again counting all levels of government that capture revenue from individuals living in a given province or state.

### **Components added for the all-government index**

To reflect the recent divergence in economic freedom between Canada and the United States more closely, and to incorporate more accurately the differences in economic freedom in the Mexican states relative to the rest of North America, we include a number of variables from the world index in our all-government index of North American states and provinces. The index expands the regulatory area to include data on these areas. Labour regulation becomes one of three components of Area 3: Regulation, which comprises 3A: Labour market regulation; 3B: Credit market regulation (Area 5A from *Economic Freedom of the World*); and 3C: Business regulations (Area 5C from EFW). (See Appendix A for a description of how Area 3 is now calculated.)

Why the regulation of credit and business affects economic freedom is easily understood. When government limits who can lend to and borrow from whom and puts other restrictions on credit markets, economic freedom is reduced; when government limits business people's ability to make their own decisions, freedom is reduced.

#### **3A Labor Market Regulation**

*3Aiv Hiring regulations and minimum wage*

*3Av Hiring and firing regulations*

*3Avi Centralized collective bargaining*

*3Avii Hours regulations*

*3Aviii Mandated cost of worker dismissal*

*3Aix Conscription*

#### **3B Credit Market Regulation**

*3Bi Ownership of banks*

*3Bii Private sector credit*

*3Biii Interest rate controls/negative real interest rates*

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We considered using this to replace or complement the measure of unionization rates used in the past. However, the benefit of using a measure of unionization rates is that it picks up some of the differences in enforcement and informal freedoms not picked up by the legislation. For instance, some states may have right-to-work laws with weak enforcement while other states that do not have such laws may actually protect labor freedom more in practice. Although we decided not to include a measure for right-to-work legislation, the analysis was fruitful in that it strongly validates the proxy as an appropriate measure of workers' freedom.



- 3C Business Regulations
  - 3Ci Administrative requirements
  - 3Cii Bureaucracy costs
  - 3Ciii Starting a business
  - 3Civ Extra payments/bribes/favoritism
  - 3Cv Licensing restrictions
  - 3Cvi Cost of tax compliance

We also include three other areas: Area 4: Legal System and Property Rights (Area 2 from *Economic Freedom of the World*), Area 5: Sound Money (Area 3 from EFW), and Area 6: Freedom to Trade Internationally (Area 4 from EFW). See Gwartney, Lawson, and Hall, 2016, for a complete description of these variables.

#### **Area 4 Legal System and Property Rights**

Protection of property rights and a sound legal system are vital for economic freedom, otherwise the government and other powerful economic actors for their own benefit can limit the economic freedom of the less powerful. The variables for Legal System and Property Rights from the world index are the following.

- 4A Judicial Independence
- 4B Impartial Courts
- 4C Protection of Property Rights
- 4D Military Interference in Rule of Law and Politics
- 4E Integrity of the Legal System
- 4F Legal Enforcement of Contracts
- 4G Regulatory Restrictions on the Sale of Real Property
- 4H Reliability of Police
- 4I Business Costs of Crime

#### **Area 5 Sound Money**

Provision of sound money is important for economic freedom because without it the resulting high rate of inflation serves as a hidden tax on consumers. The variables for Sound Money from the world index are the following.

- 5A Money Growth
- 5B Standard Deviation of Inflation
- 5C Inflation: Most Recent Year
- 5D Freedom to Own Foreign Currency Bank Accounts

## Area 6 Freedom to Trade Internationally

Freedom to trade internationally is crucial to economic freedom because it increases the ability of individuals to engage in voluntary exchange, which creates wealth for both buyer and seller. The variables for Area 6 from the world index are the following.

### 6A Tariffs

6Ai *Revenue from trade taxes (% of trade sector)*

6Aii *Mean tariff rate*

6Aiii *Standard deviation of tariff rates*

### 6B Regulatory trade barriers

6Bi *Non-tariff trade barriers*

6Bii *Compliance costs of importing and exporting*

### 6C Black-market exchange rates

### 6D Controls of the movement of capital and people

6Di *Foreign ownership/investment restrictions*

6Dii *Capital controls*

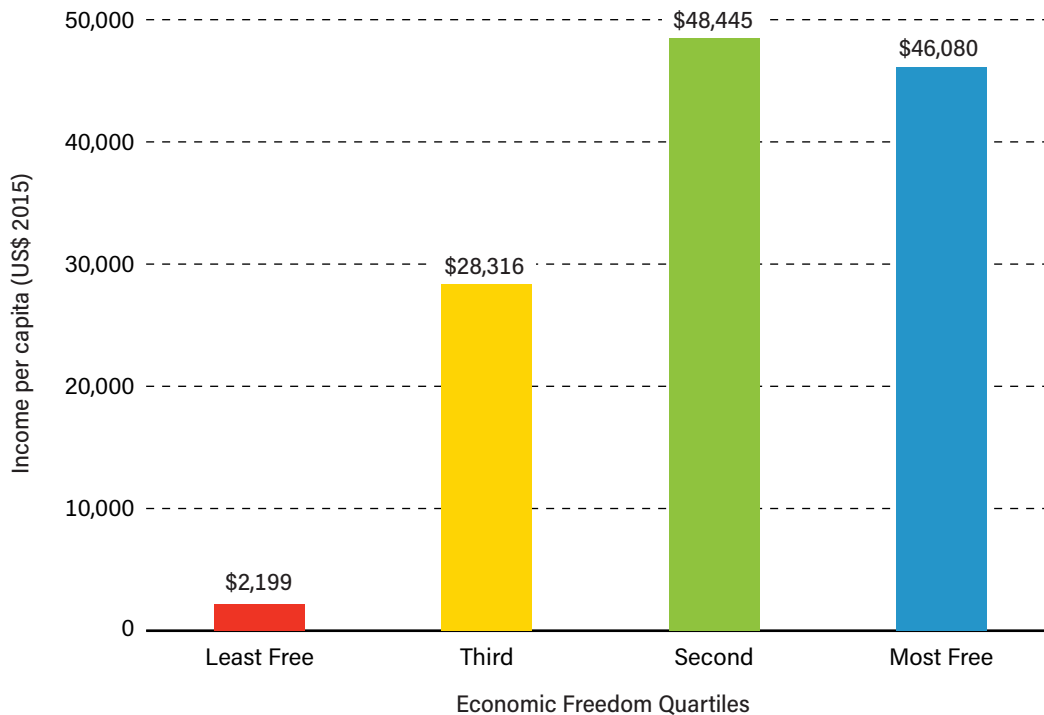
6Diii *Freedom of foreigners to visit*

More information on the variables and the calculations can be found in Appendices A and B. (For detailed descriptions of the world-adjusted variables, readers can refer to *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report* (<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>). The inclusion of these data from the world index raise the scores for both the Canadian provinces and US states since both Canada and the United States do well in these areas when compared to other nations, as is done in the world index. The effect on the Mexican states tends to be the opposite.

## Overview of the results

Following are some graphs that demonstrate dramatically the important links between prosperity and economic freedom. Figure 1.3 breaks the states and provinces into quartiles (or fourths) by economic freedom at the all-government level. For example, the category on the far left of the chart, “Least Free”, represents the jurisdictions that score in the lowest fourth of the economic freedom ratings, the 23 lowest of the 92 Canadian, Mexican, and American jurisdictions. The jurisdictions in this least-free quartile have an average per-capita income of just US\$2,199. This compares to an average per-capita income of US\$46,080 for the 23 top-ranked jurisdictions. At the subnational level, jurisdictions in the most-free quartile had per-capita incomes 7% above the national average, while those in the least-free quartile were nearly 5% below it. In each index, average per-capita income in the most-free jurisdictions is substantially higher than in those that are the least free.

**Figure 1.3: Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level and Income per Capita in Canada, the United States, and Mexico, 2015**

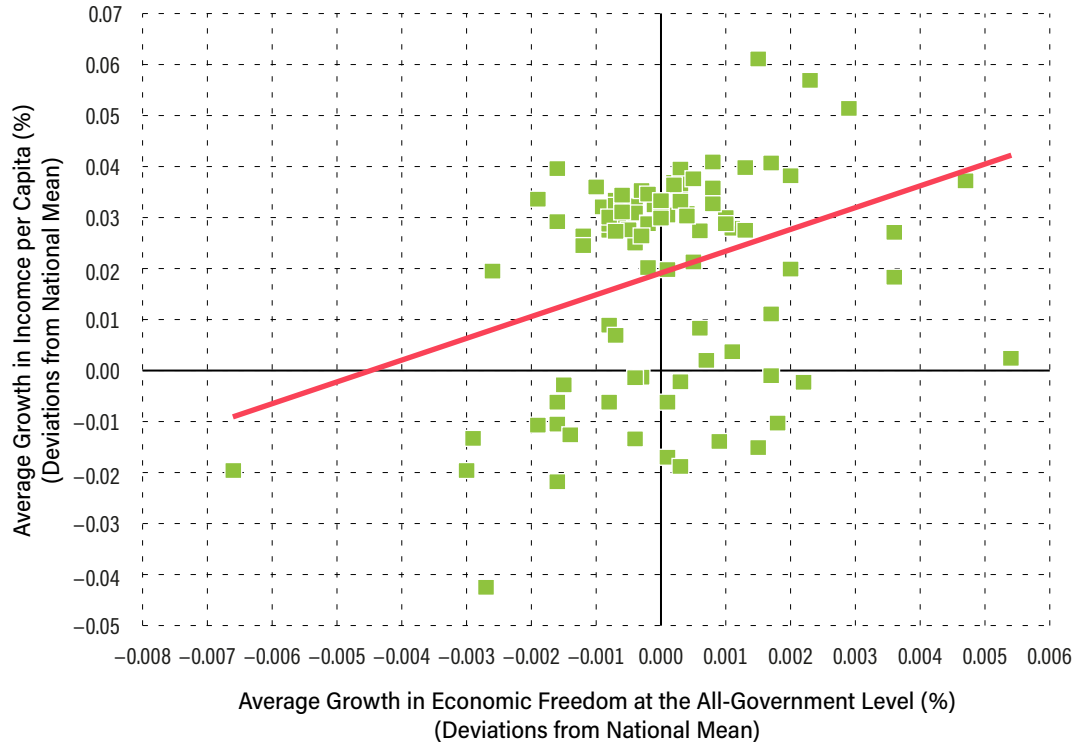


Finally, in this illustrative section, we look at the relationship between the growth of economic freedom and the growth of a jurisdiction's economy. In figure 1.4 and figure 1.5, growth in economic freedom is plotted along the horizontal axis while growth in income per capita is plotted along the vertical axis. Again, the expected relationships are found, with economic growth positively correlated with growth in economic freedom whether the latter is measured at the all-government level or the subnational level.

### Comparing the all-government level and the subnational level

The distribution of government responsibilities between the federal government and subnational governments varies widely across the three nations in North America. For example, in 2012, provinces and local governments accounted for about 80% of government consumption expenditures (variable 1A) in Canada. In the United States, state and local governments were responsible for 57%, and in Mexico, for only 40%. Thus, government spending and taxation patterns cannot be directly compared. In previous years, we had used an adjustment factor to create comparable numbers for the subnational scores for the United States and Canada. Adding the Mexican states has exacerbated the disparity in this area, so we now take a different approach for the subnational index. Rather than scoring US states, Canadian provinces, and Mexican states together, we produce subnational indices for each country. This provides a more useful comparison of how individual jurisdictions within each country measure up against other jurisdictions in that same country. As a result of this change, the previous adjustment is no longer needed. For those who wish to

**Figure 1.4: Average Growth in Income per Capita and in Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level, 2006-2015**



**Figure 1.5: Average Growth in Income per Capita and in Economic Freedom at the Subnational Level, 2006-2015**



compare jurisdictions in different countries, the all-government index continues to be the more appropriate measure. No adjustment factor is necessary at the all-government level because every level of government is counted.

## Economic freedom and economic well-being

A number of studies have linked levels of economic freedom, as measured by the index published annually in *Economic Freedom of the World*, with higher levels of economic growth and income. For example, Easton and Walker (1997) found that changes in economic freedom have a significant impact on the steady-state level of income even after the level of technology, the level of education of the workforce, and the level of investment are taken into account. The results of this study imply that economic freedom is a separate determinant of the level of income. The Fraser Institute's series, *Economic Freedom of the World*, also shows a positive relationship between economic freedom and both the level of per-capita GDP and its growth rate.

Similarly, De Haan and Sturm (2000) show that positive and negative changes in economic freedom lead to positive and negative changes in rates of economic growth. Using the index of economic freedom from Gwartney, Lawson, and Block, 1996 and per-capita GDP data for 80 countries, their results indicate that, after accounting for education level, investment, and population growth, changes in economic freedom have a significant impact on economic growth.<sup>10</sup>

The calculation of the index of the economic freedom of Canadian provinces and Mexican and US states allows for the investigation, via econometric testing, of the relationship between economic freedom and prosperity within North America. Since the publication of the first edition of *Economic Freedom of North America* in 2002, more than 230 academic and policy articles exploring the relationship between our measure of economic freedom and other indicators such as economic growth and entrepreneurial activity have appeared.<sup>11</sup>

## The importance of economic freedom

In this publication, we have focused on the measurement of economic freedom. In Chapter 3 of the 2013 report, we discussed some of the empirical testing of the impact of economic freedom that has been done by other independent researchers.<sup>12</sup>

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10. For a sample of empirical papers investigating the impact of economic freedom, as measured by the index published annually in *Economic Freedom of the World*, and economic prosperity, see <[www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom](http://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom)>. For the latest summary of literature on the impact of economic freedom at an international level, see Doucouliagos and Ulubasoglu, 2006, and Hall and Lawson, 2014.
  11. For a selected list of those studies, see Appendix C (p. 67).
  12. More recent surveys can be found in Stansel and Tuszynski, 2017, and Hall, Stansel, and Tarabar, 2015.

However, the reader may wonder why economic freedom is so clearly related to growth and prosperity—as much of that literature has found. Throughout the twentieth century there was vigorous debate about whether planned or free economies produce the best outcomes. In many ways, this debate goes back to the beginnings of modern economics when Adam Smith famously argued that each of us, freely pursuing our own ends, create the wealth of nations and of the individual citizens.

The results of the experiments of the twentieth century should now be clear: free economies produce the greatest prosperity in human history for their citizens. Even poverty in these economically free nations would have been considered luxury in unfree economies. This lesson was reinforced by the collapse of centrally planned states and, following this, the consistent refusal of their citizens to return to central planning, regardless of the hardships on the road to freedom. Among developing nations, those that adopted the centrally planned model have only produced lives of misery for their citizens. Those that adopted the economics of competitive markets have begun to share with their citizens the prosperity of advanced market economies.

While these comparisons are extreme examples, from opposite ends of the spectrum of economic freedom, a considerable body of research shows that the relationship between prosperity and economic freedom holds in narrower ranges of the spectrum. While sophisticated econometric testing backs up this relationship, examples are also interesting. In the United States, the relatively free Georgia does much better than the relatively unfree West Virginia. While this is hardly the place to review several centuries of economic debate, the mechanics of economic freedom are easy to understand. Any transaction freely entered into must benefit both parties; any transaction that does not benefit both parties would be rejected by the party that would come up short. This has consequences throughout the economy. Consumers who are free to choose will only be attracted by superior quality and price. Producers must constantly improve the price and quality of their products to meet customers' demands or customers will not freely enter into transactions with them. Many billions of mutually beneficial transactions occur every day, powering the dynamic that spurs increased productivity and wealth throughout the economy.

Restrictions on freedom prevent people from making mutually beneficial transactions. Such free transactions are replaced by government action. This is marked by coercion in collecting taxes and lack of choice in accepting services: instead of gains for both parties arising from each transaction, citizens must pay whatever bill is demanded in taxes and accept whatever service is offered in return. Moreover, while the incentives of producers in a competitive market revolve around providing superior goods and services in order to attract consumers, the public sector faces no such incentives. Instead, as public-choice theory reveals, incentives in the public sector often focus on rewarding interest groups, seeking political advantage, or even penalizing unpopular groups. This is far different from mutually beneficial exchange although, as noted earlier, government does have essential protective and productive functions.

In some ways, it is surprising the debate still rages because the evidence and theory favoring economic freedom match intuition: it makes sense that the drive and

ingenuity of individuals will produce better outcomes through the mechanism of mutually beneficial exchange than the designs of a small coterie of government planners, who can hardly have knowledge of everyone's values and who, being human, are likely to consider first their own well-being and that of the constituencies they must please when making decisions for all of us.

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# Chapter 2

## Economic Freedom of the Mexican States in 2015

### Introduction

There have been previous efforts to include Mexico in *Economic Freedom of North America* and, even though they were successful in measuring the relative positions for economic freedom that Mexican states hold against each other, these data were not fully comparable with that of the Canadian provinces or the US states. The advancement of those efforts and the adjustments introduced to the methodology in the 2012 and 2013 reports laid the groundwork that made it possible to build an integrated index for North America for the first time in the 2014 report. We have continued to make improvements to that index in this year's report.

Before proceeding to the analysis of the data we need to address the problems that had been faced earlier while constructing the index of economic freedom for the Mexican States. There were two main reasons that the data collected for the Mexican economy was not comparable with that of the US states and Canada. First, most of the data for Mexico is incomplete and does not date as far back as the US and Canadian data do. The length of the Mexican time series should not cause too much trouble when the three countries are compared as most data are available for Mexico in a standardized way from 2003. Data from previous years is unreliable since the methods used for measuring aggregates were different than those currently used. These changes made it very difficult to work with long series because the data tend to vary widely from one methodology to another. The only feasible solution was to include only the standardized and trustworthy data for Mexico from 2003 to 2015.

As for the incompleteness of the data, while most of the figures required for the components are available publicly to researchers from the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), there is a portion that is scattered around in websites and yearbooks published by different departments of state and states and municipal governments. Access to these data, while it is not restricted, requires that researchers have previous knowledge of its existence and on how and where to locate it. There are also some data, such as the social security payments required for

component IC, that is not available to the public and in order to get access to it the researcher has to go through a series of bureaucratic procedures that may take months to be cleared and that require the researcher to visit government offices personally, making access impossible for most institutions outside the country. We have been able to acquire all the data that had been missing from the previous reports and, while some of the variables used are not identical to those used for the Canadian provinces and US states because of the differences in the methodologies, the differences among them is not significant and allow for comparison.

The second reason that the comparison among the three countries was not possible was that “the index of *Economic Freedom of North America* did not contain components on the rule of law or property rights” (Karabegović and McMahon, 2008: 69). This was because there had been little difference between Canada and the United States on scores for Legal System and Property Rights. However, after 2010 Canadian and US scores had begun to drift apart, making it necessary to modify the methodology in order to measure these changes properly. This issue was solved in 2012 by including variables for the rule of law from *Economic Freedom of the World* in the North American index.

The absence of variables measuring the legal system had been a huge concern in previous efforts to integrate Mexico into the North American index since Mexico does not enjoy the same degree of protection of property rights and rule of law. In previous measurements, additional components taken from publications and polls by other institutions were used to reflect the issues with the legal system in Mexico. Because these components were not available for the US states and Canadian provinces, the Mexican data, while more accurate in itself, could not be compared to the data from the other two countries. The inclusion of the rule-of-law components from *Economic Freedom of the World* opened the door to including Mexico fully in the North American report by reflecting the large gap between the rule of law in Mexico and that in its two northern neighbors.

Another factor that made it difficult to make a comparison among the three countries was the differences that exist in labor regulations. Mexican law, for example, makes the hiring and firing of workers by the private enterprise a very difficult task. The number of regulations applied to the labor market and its lack of flexibility are a huge impediment for free enterprise. Canada and the United States have much more flexible labor markets but these differences could not be reflected using the earlier methodology. Past reports included components that measured Credit Market Regulations and Business Regulations, both from Area 5 of *Economic Freedom of the World*, but, since the results for the labor market were similar for the United States and Canada, the components measuring labor market regulation were left out. Starting with the *Economic Freedom of North America 2015*, however, given the difference in policies on labor regulation between these two countries and Mexico, it was resolved to add as well the components of area 5B from *Economic Freedom of the World* to help reflect the effect of the differences in labor policies on the index and help make a better comparison.

## The data

As previously stated, this year's report includes the complete data for the 10 components of *Economic Freedom of North America* from 2003 to 2015; the data cover the 31 Mexican states and the Federal District (*Distrito Federal*). Though *Distrito Federal* was not a state but a federal district until 2016, it is home to the second largest population among Mexican states and has the highest state GSP, and thus not including it in the analysis would leave out a very important portion of the Mexican economy.

There are certain adjustments that have to be made in how the data were measured for Mexico. In Mexico, the *Comisión Nacional de Salarios Mínimos* (National Commission for the Minimum Wage) is the institution in charge of dividing the country into geographic zones and defining, annually, the minimum wage that is going to be applied on each zone. Until November 26, 2012, the 2,440 municipalities from the 31 states and the 16 boroughs of the Federal District were classified in three geographic zones, A, B, and C. After that date, zone C was eliminated leaving only two zones for the classification. Since the majority of the states are formed by municipalities classified in different geographic zones, there is no homogenous minimum wage for each state. In order to get a better estimate of the impact of the minimum wage on each state, this figure was estimated with a weighted average.

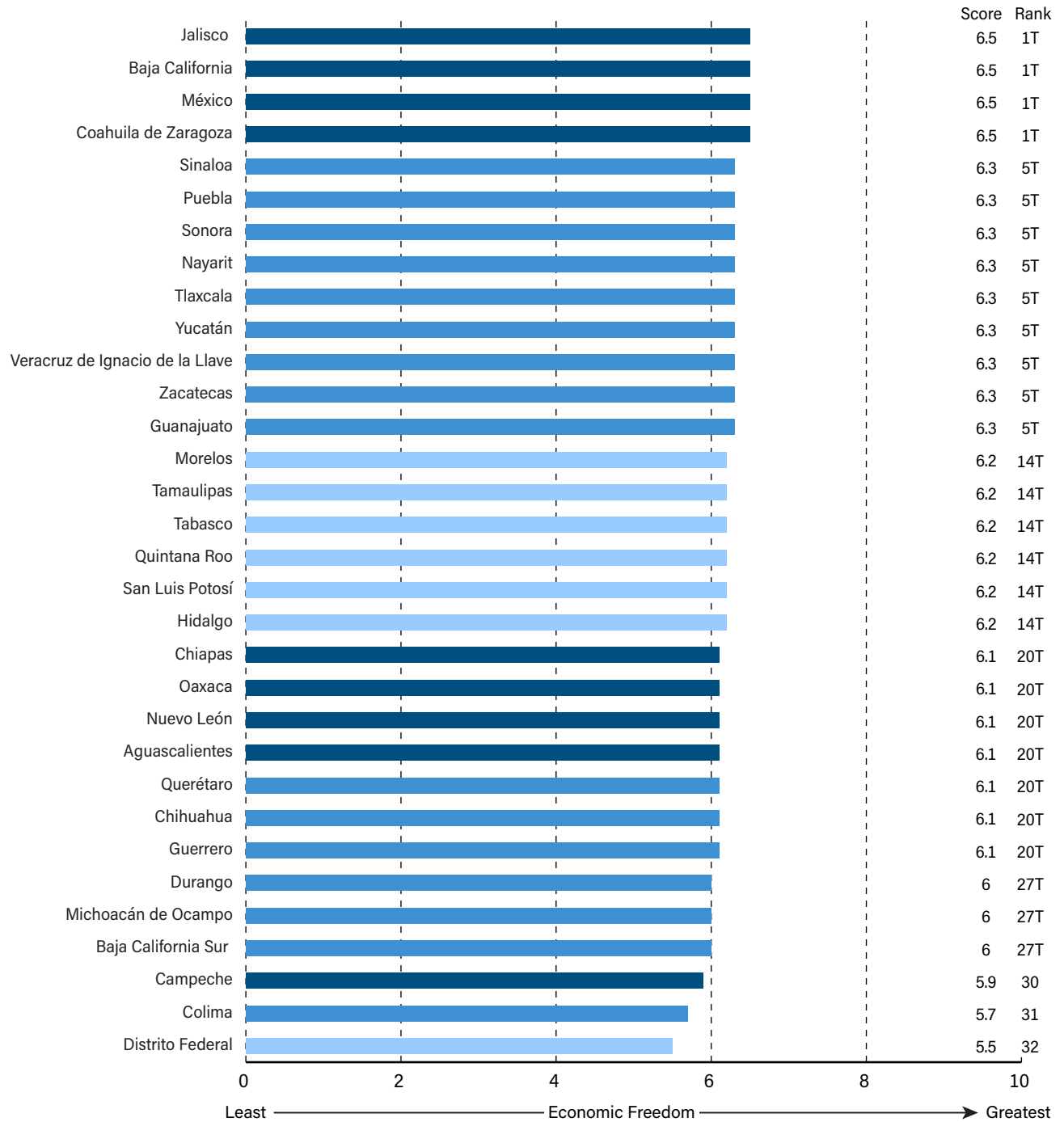
Personal income was estimated from the *Encuesta nacional de ingresos y gastos de los hogares* (National household income and spending poll), using the same formula that the US Bureau of Economic Analysis uses for their calculations. It is important to mention that due to the nature of this poll, household income tends to be underestimated since the respondents usually choose not to disclose their real income levels out of fear that they could get in trouble for any income they are not declaring to the *Servicio de Administración Tributaria* (Taxation administration service).

## Results

The economic freedom ranking for the Mexican states in the all-government index for 2015 (figure 2.1) has *Jalisco, Baja California, Mexico, and Coahuila de Zaragoza* tied for first place among the Mexican states and for 61<sup>st</sup> place among all the states and provinces of North America. They are followed by *Sinaloa, Puebla, Sonora, Nayarit, Tlaxcala, Yucatán, Veracruz, Zacatecas, and Guanajuato*, which ranked 65<sup>th</sup> in North America. The lowest ranking was that of *Distrito Federal*; *Colima* and *Campeche* had slightly higher rankings.

Even though *Coahuila de Zaragoza* ranks high among Mexican states, as it has for the past two years, its high ranking is explained by the forced austerity policies that have been applied by its government since the beginning of 2012 after the state's bankruptcy. With these policies, government expenditures were largely reduced. This factor, along with the state's already relatively low level of taxation, are what caused *Coahuila* to be ranked as high as it has in recent reports. *Colima* and *Campeche*, two

Figure 2.1: Summary of Economic Freedom Ratings at the All-Government Level for Mexico, 2015



of the lowest ranked states, score poorly on both Government Spending and Taxes areas. Their high tax revenue and high government spending makes them two of the three least economically free states of North America. The reasons for the low ranking of the *Distrito Federal* are mainly its government consumption and tax revenue, which are the largest in the country; these could be explained in part because of *Distrito Federal's* size and its importance in the economy and by the fact that all the federal government departments have their quarters there.

*Nuevo León* ranked in the 80<sup>th</sup> position out of 92 among all the states and provinces of North America (figure 1.1). This could seem a bit odd since historically *Nuevo León*, which has the third-largest economy of the country, is one of the most highly industrialized states and one of the richest. While it ranked 11<sup>th</sup> on the subnational index (figure 1.2c), the heavy burden of federal taxation places it near the bottom on the all-government ranking. Being a large and mostly formal economy, *Nuevo León* is one of the most heavily taxed in Mexico, ranking in the top three for most revenue from value-added taxes, excise taxes, and income taxes. The heavy taxation and spending have drastically reduced its scores for Areas 1 and 2 and accounts for the dramatic difference between *Nuevo León's* ranking on the subnational index and the all-government index; and explains why a state so important for the Mexican economy ranks as low as it does in the current report.

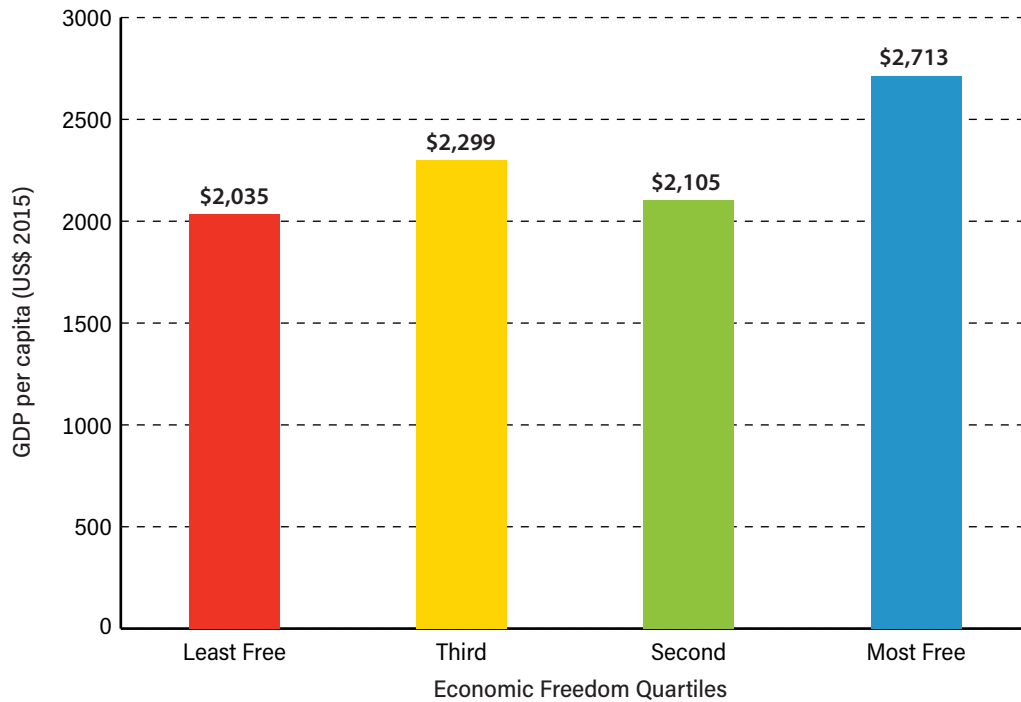
It is important to note that, for all the components of Area 2, there were difficulties when dealing with revenue: certain states such as *Oaxaca* and *Chiapas* reported very low tax revenue because of the large size of their informal sectors. However, most of this income is reported on the income and spending surveys conducted by INEGI, which ends up driving the scores of these states up but does not necessarily mean this reflects the status of economic freedom there. This same problem would apply to the states like *Guerrero*, *Sinaloa*, *Michoacán*, and *Nayarit*, where drug cartels are very active. This problem was, however, partially solved by the changes in the variables regarding sales and excise taxes and income taxes at the all-government level. These issues also show the need of improvements in the measurement of the Rule of Law for the Mexican states.

## Economic freedom and well-being in the Mexican States.

In past reports, there has been exhaustive analysis of the correlation between well-being and economic freedom. The relationship between these variables has always been positive and it has been concluded that economic freedom has a direct relationship to a state's well-being. That conclusion has been supported by a large and growing literature produced by independent scholars, now over 230 published articles. (See Appendix C for a list of some of those.) The positive relationship between economic freedom and personal income holds true for the Mexican states' data.

As can be seen in figure 2.2, there is indeed a positive relationship between the scores for economic freedom and the average personal income per capita: the states in

**Figure 2.2: Economic Freedom at the Subnational Level and Income per Capita in Mexico, 2015**



the highest quartile of economic freedom have higher average personal income than those in the lowest quartile. The states belonging to the freest quartile have an average income of US\$2,713 per capita, about 35% higher than the average income of the least free quartile, US\$2,035. This statistical relationship, while by itself not conclusive of the connection between well-being and economic freedom, seems consistent with past years' econometric analysis on this relationship.

### Results at the subnational level

Mexico is a highly centralized country where the federal government is in charge of most of the spending and the taxation. For example, federal tax revenue for 2012 exceeded 90% of the total taxation, compared to 60% in the United States and 50% in Canada. This degree of centralization has an impact on the components we can use for measuring an accurate ranking at the subnational level; there are a number of components that can only be measured at the federal level. Since there are no state or local income taxes in Mexico, in the subnational index component 2A (income and payroll taxes) contains only payroll taxes and there is no component 2B (the top marginal income-tax rate).

Component 1C poses a similar conflict. Social security in Mexico is almost totally centralized. Less than 10 out of the 31 states have their own Social Security institutions and these local institutions serve only a minority of their population because the rest are already covered by either of the federal social security institutions (*Instituto*

*Mexicano del Seguro Social* for the private sector and *Instituto de Seguridad Social y Servicio de los Trabajadores del Estado* for the public sector); the armed forces and the PEMEX workers also have their own social security institution. The inclusion of component IC would worsen the ranks of the states that have their own social security institutes and raise the average ranks of the state that do not, making them appear to be much better off than those that do. We decided then not to include component IC on the grounds that, while its inclusion would make a more accurate measurement of the states with local social security, it would give an unfair advantage to the rest since the amount paid to the local social security agencies is not really significant given the centralization of the social security.

At the subnational level, for 2015 *Baja California* and *Jalisco* were the two states with the highest rankings. Both were also at the top of the all-government level so their ranking comes as no surprise as these states have low government spending and low local taxes. *Coahuila* is ranked third: it scores poorly in Area 3 due to its high government employment and, as a result, high syndicalism. This gives both *Baja California* and *Jalisco* an edge since they have lower degrees of government employment. As already mentioned, *Nuevo León* is an interesting case of a highly developed state with some of the largest industrial complexes of the country and the third largest economy. Although it has low regulation and one of the lowest levels of government consumption, it is held down by taxes, ranking 28<sup>th</sup> on the Area-2 average. This situation worsens at the all-government level, where *Nuevo León* sinks from 11<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> place among the Mexican states.

For Area 1 at the subnational level, *Distrito Federal* ranked sixth among the Mexican states. *Distrito Federal* has a significant advantage on this particular area over the states because it has only one level of subnational government. *Coahuila*'s ranking, first for Area 1, is again explained by the forced austerity policies that moved the state from 28<sup>th</sup> rank in 2011 to first in 2015. The poorest scores for this area belonged to *Chiapas*, *Oaxaca*, and *Guerrero*. These states are some of the least developed in the country, which makes them receivers of large subsidies and transfers, which also account for a high level of government spending.

*Zacatecas*, *Michoacán de Ocampo*, and *Tlaxcala* held the top three ranks for Area 2. The high rankings of these three states are mostly because a large part of their populations works in the informal sector and thus is not registered in the *Registro Federal de Contribuyentes* (Federal Registry of Taxpayers) and does not pay any direct taxes. *Distrito Federal*, *Campeche*, and *Quintana Roo* are the three states with the lowest scores.

*Baja California*, *Distrito Federal*, and *Mexico* ranked at the top of Area 3. *Distrito Federal*, while having the largest ratio of government employment to total employment, also has the lowest weighted minimum wage and ranks at the top in component 3Aiii. *Chihuahua* and *Baja California* obtained above-average scores for two of the three components that account for their high rankings. *Guerrero*, *Tabasco*, *Chiapas*, and *Oaxaca*, four of the most underdeveloped states, had the lowest scores; their respective weighted minimum wages were among the highest of the country, which by itself accounts for their low ranking.

## Conclusion

This is the fourth year that Mexico has been included in the index published in *Economic Freedom of North America*. Since the conception of the index many changes in the methodology were needed to make it possible to reflect not only the circumstantial but the structural differences between legislation and policies in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. Mexico's highly centralized government, excessive regulation, and lack of an effective legal system that protects property rights is still a drag on economic freedom and it is certainly what causes the country's states to rank so low when compared to the Canadian provinces and US states.

*Jalisco, Baja California, Mexico, and Coahuila de Zaragoza* were the highest-ranked Mexican states at the all-government level, ranking 61<sup>st</sup> among their North American peers. *Coahuila*, however, owes its ranking to the forced policy of austerity adopted to repair years of reckless spending and irresponsible debt contracting. The lowest rankings were held by *Distrito Federal* (92<sup>nd</sup>), *Colima* (91<sup>st</sup>), and *Campeche* (90<sup>th</sup>).

In the subnational rankings, *Baja California, Jalisco, and Coahuila de Zaragoza* were the top-ranked states as they were in the all-government rankings; however, due to the high levels of centralization, states like *Nuevo León* suffered a dramatic drop in its ranking from the subnational to the all-government level. Having the second largest per-capita income of the 32 states, *Nuevo León's* case is an example of the great degree of centralization in Mexican government, showing how, even with bearable local and municipal policies, the burden of federal taxes and policies is aggravating the condition of some of the most productive states.

## Reference

Karabegović, Amela, and Fred McMahon (2008). *Economic Freedom of North America 2008*. Fraser Institute.



# Chapter 3

## Detailed Tables of Economic Freedom in Canada, the United States, and Mexico

The following tables provide more information on economic freedom in the provinces and states as measured by the index of economic freedom in North America at the all-government and the subnational levels. At the all-government level, the index measures the impact of all levels of government—federal, provincial/state, and municipal/local—in Canada, the United States, and Mexico. At the subnational level, it measures the impact of provincial and municipal governments on economic freedom in Canada and state and local governments in the United States and Mexico.

For the first time this year, we have produced for each province and state a one-page summary that contains all the 2015 scores and rankings for each of the components of the index as well as historical data on the overall and area scores. For brevity, these are not included in the report, but they are available at <[www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom](http://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom)>.

### **Economic Freedom in Canada, the United States, and Mexico**

Tables 3.1 (a, b, c) and 3.2 (a, b, c) provide a detailed summary of the scores for 2014. Tables 3.3 (a, b, c) to 3.10 (a, b, c) provide historical information both for the overall index and for each of Area 1: Government Spending; Area 2: Taxes; and Area 3: Labor Market Freedom. Economic freedom is measured on a scale from zero to 10, where a higher value indicates a higher level of economic freedom.

Detailed data for the world-adjusted scores, taken from the *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report* (Gwartney, Lawson, and Hall, 2017), are not included; they can be found in that publication. Tables 3.3 (a, b, c) to 3.10 (a, b, c) show data for a selection of years. The full set of data from 1981 to 2015 and all other data included in this report are available at <[www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom](http://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom)>.

**Table 3.1a: Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level in Canada, 2015**

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Overall Index	Rank out of 92
<i>Average</i>	<i>7.1</i>	<i>5.4</i>	<i>8.2</i>	<i>7.9</i>	<i>9.6</i>	<i>7.9</i>	<i>7.7</i>	
Alberta	8.4	6.1	8.3	7.9	9.6	7.9	8.0	1
British Columbia	7.8	5.6	8.2	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.8	13
Manitoba	7.2	5.1	8.1	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.6	52
New Brunswick	6.4	5.1	8.2	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.5	56
Newfoundland & Labrador	6.7	5.8	8.1	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.7	33
Nova Scotia	6.4	5.2	8.1	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.5	56
Ontario	7.7	5.0	8.2	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.7	33
Prince Edward Island	6.2	5.6	8.1	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.5	56
Quebec	7.1	4.6	8.1	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.5	56
Saskatchewan	7.5	5.4	8.2	7.9	9.6	7.9	7.7	33

**Table 3.1b: Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level in Mexico, 2015**

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Overall Index	Rank out of 92
<i>Average</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>4.2</i>	<i>8.1</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>6.2</i>	
Aguascalientes	4.1	5.2	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.1	80
Baja California	6.4	5.2	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.5	61
Baja California Sur	3.5	5.2	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.0	87
Campeche	3.0	5.0	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	5.9	90
Coahuila de Zaragoza	6.3	5.3	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.5	61
Colima	3.7	3.4	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	5.7	91
Chiapas	4.2	5.8	7.0	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.1	80
Chihuahua	4.2	5.0	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.1	80
Distrito Federal	3.6	2.4	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	5.5	92
Durango	3.6	5.5	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.0	87
Guanajuato	5.2	5.2	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65
Guerrero	4.0	5.5	7.0	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.1	80
Hidalgo	4.0	5.8	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.2	74
Jalisco	6.5	5.4	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.5	61
México	6.1	5.5	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.5	61
Michoacán de Ocampo	5.1	4.0	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.0	87
Morelos	4.7	5.7	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.2	74
Nayarit	4.9	5.8	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65
Nuevo León	5.6	3.9	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.1	80
Oaxaca	3.9	5.9	7.1	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.1	80
Puebla	5.5	5.4	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65
Querétaro	4.9	4.4	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.1	80
Quintana Roo	5.3	4.9	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.2	74
San Luis Potosí	4.6	5.5	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.2	74
Sinaloa	5.3	5.6	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65
Sonora	5.1	5.5	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65
Tabasco	4.6	5.7	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.2	74
Tamaulipas	5.5	4.8	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.2	74
Tlaxcala	4.8	6.0	7.1	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65
Veracruz de Ignacio de la Llave	5.1	5.5	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65
Yucatán	4.9	5.6	7.3	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65
Zacatecas	4.7	5.8	7.2	4.2	8.1	7.5	6.3	65

**Table 3.1c: Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level in the United States, 2015**

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Area 6	Overall Index	Rank out of 92
<i>Average</i>	<i>7.0</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>8.5</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>7.8</i>	
Alabama	6.7	7.3	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Alaska	5.7	7.8	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Arizona	7.0	7.0	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Arkansas	6.6	6.2	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
California	6.8	6.2	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Colorado	7.2	6.7	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Connecticut	7.2	6.2	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Delaware	6.7	5.6	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.6	52
Florida	7.6	6.8	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
Georgia	7.3	6.6	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
Hawaii	6.7	6.5	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Idaho	7.3	6.8	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
Illinois	7.0	6.1	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Indiana	7.3	6.6	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Iowa	7.2	6.5	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Kansas	7.5	6.5	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
Kentucky	6.3	6.7	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Louisiana	6.6	6.6	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Maine	7.3	6.5	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Maryland	6.8	6.5	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Massachusetts	7.1	6.2	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Michigan	7.2	6.7	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Minnesota	7.4	5.4	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.6	52
Mississippi	6.0	7.1	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Missouri	6.9	6.5	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Montana	6.7	7.1	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Nebraska	7.4	6.3	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Nevada	7.3	6.9	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
New Hampshire	7.9	6.9	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	8.0	1
New Jersey	7.5	5.7	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
New Mexico	6.1	7.2	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
New York	6.4	5.6	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.5	56
North Carolina	6.6	6.7	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
North Dakota	7.0	6.7	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Ohio	7.2	6.1	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Oklahoma	7.3	6.8	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
Oregon	6.9	6.6	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Pennsylvania	7.1	6.5	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Rhode Island	6.7	6.0	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.6	52
South Carolina	7.1	7.0	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
South Dakota	7.2	6.9	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
Tennessee	7.1	6.8	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Texas	7.5	6.6	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
Utah	7.3	6.9	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.9	3
Vermont	7.0	6.3	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Virginia	7.0	6.9	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Washington	7.4	6.6	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
West Virginia	6.4	7.1	8.5	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.7	33
Wisconsin	7.2	6.5	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13
Wyoming	6.9	6.8	8.6	7.2	9.8	7.5	7.8	13

Table 3.2a: Economic Freedom at the Subnational Level in Canada, 2015

	1A	1B	1C	2A	2B	2C	2D	3Ai	3Aii	3Aiii	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Overall Index	Rank out of 10
<b>Average</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>5.8</b>	
Alberta	6.4	9.1	8.5	5.5	7.5	5.6	8.8	9.0	8.2	8.4	8.0	6.9	8.5	7.8	1
British Columbia	5.5	8.9	6.2	5.8	5.5	6.7	4.1	7.4	8.2	6.4	6.9	5.5	7.3	6.6	2
Manitoba	2.5	8.8	8.2	4.8	5.0	4.4	3.1	5.9	2.8	8.4	6.5	4.3	5.7	5.5	6
New Brunswick	2.9	6.2	4.5	5.7	2.5	6.1	3.6	6.2	4.5	9.2	4.5	4.5	6.7	5.2	8
Newfoundland & Labrador	2.2	9.5	6.3	6.1	6.5	8.1	3.8	7.5	3.6	7.5	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	4
Nova Scotia	2.8	7.1	3.7	3.4	3.5	6.8	2.9	6.2	3.7	9.3	4.6	4.1	6.4	5.0	9
Ontario	5.6	7.0	7.6	4.3	4.5	3.9	4.4	7.0	8.1	7.5	6.7	4.3	7.5	6.2	3
Prince Edward Island	2.8	7.6	6.5	4.6	4.0	7.3	3.6	5.7	5.6	7.1	5.6	4.9	6.1	5.5	6
Quebec	5.4	1.7	5.3	0.3	4.5	3.2	3.4	6.2	4.8	6.0	4.1	2.8	5.7	4.2	10
Saskatchewan	4.1	4.7	10.0	5.6	5.5	3.7	4.8	7.7	1.7	10.0	6.3	4.9	6.5	5.9	5

Table 3.2b: Economic Freedom at the Subnational Level in Mexico, 2015

	1A	1B	1C	2A	2B	2C	2D	3Ai	3Aii	3Aiii	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Overall Index	Rank out of 32
<b>Average</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>5.8</b>		<b>6.9</b>		<b>6.7</b>		<b>6.2</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	
Aguascalientes	7.4	5.9		6.6		7.7		7.0	6.1	6.1	6.6	7.2	6.4	6.7	18
Baja California	8.8	8.4		7.5		6.9		8.4	8.9	7.3	8.6	7.2	8.2	8.0	1
Baja California Sur	7.5	5.3		7.2		4.6		8.2	7.4	4.6	6.4	5.9	6.7	6.4	21
Campeche	4.7	5.3		0.7		6.2		7.3	4.9	6.1	5.0	3.4	6.1	4.9	31
Coahuila de Zaragoza	8.3	9.0		7.3		7.6		8.7	8.0	2.5	8.6	7.5	6.4	7.5	3
Colima	7.1	5.1		8.2		6.2		7.9	6.5	5.6	6.1	7.2	6.7	6.7	18
Chiapas	3.3	1.0		7.1		8.3		0.0	6.8	8.0	2.1	7.7	4.9	4.9	31
Chihuahua	8.1	5.5		6.0		5.8		7.2	9.2	6.7	6.8	5.9	7.7	6.8	16
Distrito Federal	6.7	8.5		0.0		0.0		8.7	8.9	6.2	7.6	0.0	7.9	5.2	28
Durango	4.8	5.5		8.7		5.1		5.1	6.3	6.4	5.2	6.9	5.9	6.0	25
Guanajuato	6.4	7.4		6.7		8.0		5.3	9.1	7.0	6.9	7.4	7.1	7.1	8
Guerrero	6.2	0.7	No state or local spending in this category.	8.4		6.3		0.9	4.9	7.0	3.5	7.3	4.3	5.0	30
Hidalgo	7.6	4.2		8.4	No state or local income taxes.	7.8		5.2	7.4	7.1	5.9	8.1	6.6	6.9	12
Jalisco	8.3	8.2		7.7		7.0		7.7	8.5	6.6	8.3	7.4	7.6	7.7	2
México	7.9	6.5		6.2		6.5		7.1	9.9	6.8	7.2	6.3	7.9	7.2	5
Michoacán de Ocampo	5.5	7.3		8.4		8.9		4.1	7.6	6.7	6.4	8.6	6.1	7.1	8
Morelos	8.3	5.3		8.3		7.2		6.4	7.8	6.1	6.8	7.7	6.8	7.1	8
Nayarit	7.3	5.4		8.8		6.8		6.9	6.2	5.7	6.4	7.8	6.3	6.8	16
Nuevo León	8.8	7.4		4.8		6.0		8.8	9.2	4.7	8.1	5.4	7.6	7.0	11
Oaxaca	3.8	0.6		7.4		8.6		1.2	6.7	7.0	2.2	8.0	4.9	5.1	29
Puebla	6.7	6.6		6.6		7.2		4.4	9.6	7.4	6.6	6.9	7.1	6.9	12
Querétaro	7.9	6.7		6.1		2.8		7.6	8.1	6.4	7.3	4.4	7.4	6.4	21
Quintana Roo	7.2	6.2		6.3		2.0		8.2	8.6	4.5	6.7	4.2	7.1	6.0	25
San Luis Potosí	7.9	4.1		7.1		7.8		5.6	6.5	5.2	6.0	7.4	5.8	6.4	21
Sinaloa	8.8	5.8		8.8		6.0		7.7	7.1	6.3	7.3	7.4	7.0	7.2	5
Sonora	7.9	6.2		8.3		6.9		8.4	8.3	4.7	7.0	7.6	7.1	7.3	4
Tabasco	5.4	6.4		5.9		8.9		6.5	2.1	5.6	5.9	7.4	4.7	6.0	25
Tamaulipas	7.4	8.4		7.4		8.6		7.7	7.8	1.8	7.9	8.0	5.8	7.2	5
Tlaxcala	6.0	2.8		7.5		9.5		3.4	7.3	5.5	4.4	8.5	5.4	6.1	24
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	5.2	7.9		7.5		8.3		4.4	7.8	6.1	6.6	7.9	6.1	6.9	12
Yucatán	6.8	6.9		6.8		6.9		6.6	6.7	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	12
Zacatecas	4.7	6.6		9.0		8.5		5.0	5.0	5.8	5.7	8.7	5.3	6.5	20

Table 3.2c: Economic Freedom at the Subnational Level in the United States, 2015

	1A	1B	1C	2A	2B	2C	2D	3Ai	3Aii	3Aiii	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Overall Index	Rank out of 50
<b>Average</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.0</b>	
Alabama	6.2	7.6	6.0	6.9	8.0	9.6	4.9	7.6	5.3	7.8	6.6	7.3	6.9	7.0	24
Alaska	1.3	6.8	3.6	8.7	10.0	9.7	9.0	8.7	3.7	5.9	3.9	9.3	6.1	6.5	40
Arizona	7.3	8.3	6.6	7.6	8.0	8.7	4.5	7.1	7.7	8.1	7.4	7.2	7.6	7.4	9
Arkansas	5.9	7.3	6.9	5.8	6.0	9.5	3.2	7.4	5.6	8.8	6.7	6.1	7.3	6.7	35
California	5.5	6.1	3.2	3.4	3.0	8.1	5.9	8.4	7.9	5.5	4.9	5.1	7.2	5.8	49
Colorado	7.1	9.0	5.9	5.9	7.0	8.4	6.1	8.5	7.3	7.5	7.3	6.8	7.8	7.3	13
Connecticut	8.1	8.8	5.6	4.6	7.0	7.2	7.0	9.5	7.8	5.5	7.5	6.4	7.6	7.2	18
Delaware	5.6	5.0	6.8	4.7	6.0	6.2	9.4	8.2	7.1	7.3	5.8	6.6	7.5	6.6	39
Florida	7.9	8.7	7.7	9.6	10.0	8.2	4.8	7.9	9.7	6.9	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	2
Georgia	7.7	8.5	6.5	6.2	6.0	8.6	6.3	7.9	8.0	8.2	7.6	6.8	8.0	7.5	7
Hawaii	6.9	8.5	6.5	5.5	4.0	8.7	0.6	8.6	7.3	4.7	7.3	4.7	6.8	6.3	45
Idaho	7.4	8.9	7.0	5.6	6.0	8.5	6.2	7.7	6.3	8.3	7.7	6.6	7.4	7.3	13
Illinois	7.3	8.9	2.1	5.3	8.0	7.0	5.7	8.5	8.1	5.7	6.1	6.5	7.4	6.7	35
Indiana	7.3	7.2	8.1	6.1	8.0	9.0	4.8	8.2	7.6	6.9	7.6	7.0	7.6	7.4	9
Iowa	6.1	7.4	6.9	5.7	7.5	7.3	5.7	8.7	6.1	7.3	6.8	6.6	7.3	6.9	30
Kansas	7.3	9.7	7.3	6.9	7.0	7.6	5.2	8.8	5.2	7.9	8.1	6.7	7.3	7.4	9
Kentucky	5.6	6.3	5.1	4.3	6.5	9.4	5.5	7.7	6.6	7.1	5.7	6.4	7.1	6.4	43
Louisiana	6.8	7.2	5.4	7.5	8.0	9.6	3.4	8.3	6.7	8.3	6.4	7.1	7.8	7.1	23
Maine	6.5	8.6	6.6	5.5	5.0	6.3	5.5	8.1	7.4	6.5	7.2	5.6	7.3	6.7	35
Maryland	7.2	6.2	6.0	3.7	8.0	8.3	6.8	9.0	8.3	6.5	6.4	6.7	7.9	7.0	24
Massachusetts	7.4	9.1	5.4	4.0	7.0	7.4	8.0	9.1	9.2	5.7	7.3	6.6	8.0	7.3	13
Michigan	6.2	8.3	5.2	6.2	8.0	7.9	6.2	7.6	8.1	5.5	6.6	7.0	7.1	6.9	30
Minnesota	6.8	6.8	6.2	3.6	5.0	8.1	5.2	8.0	7.7	6.1	6.6	5.5	7.3	6.5	40
Mississippi	4.5	7.9	5.3	6.8	7.0	8.3	3.5	7.0	3.2	9.6	5.9	6.4	6.6	6.3	45
Missouri	7.2	8.7	5.6	6.1	8.0	8.8	6.2	7.9	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.6	7.3	13
Montana	6.3	8.3	5.8	4.8	8.0	7.1	9.0	7.5	6.3	6.8	6.8	7.2	6.9	7.0	24
Nebraska	7.0	9.0	7.1	6.0	6.0	7.2	6.3	8.4	6.5	7.8	7.7	6.4	7.6	7.2	18
Nevada	7.4	8.1	6.3	9.5	10.0	8.1	1.7	7.4	10.0	4.9	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.3	13
New Hampshire	8.2	8.8	8.3	8.7	10.0	5.4	9.2	9.6	8.3	6.7	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.3	1
New Jersey	7.4	7.9	5.4	5.1	6.0	5.6	7.3	9.3	7.6	5.7	6.9	6.0	7.5	6.8	32
New Mexico	3.6	8.0	4.6	6.7	7.0	9.3	2.8	7.4	2.4	9.6	5.4	6.5	6.4	6.1	47
New York	5.0	7.1	1.1	1.4	6.0	6.4	5.5	9.0	7.1	3.7	4.4	4.8	6.6	5.3	50
North Carolina	6.8	6.6	7.5	5.4	7.0	8.7	5.9	8.0	6.2	9.1	7.0	6.7	7.8	7.2	18
North Dakota	7.0	7.4	6.8	6.6	9.0	9.3	3.0	9.6	6.6	8.3	7.1	7.0	8.2	7.4	9
Ohio	7.1	8.1	3.3	5.7	8.0	8.3	5.0	7.7	7.9	6.3	6.1	6.7	7.3	6.7	35
Oklahoma	7.9	8.4	7.2	6.8	7.0	9.7	5.6	8.6	4.7	8.9	7.8	7.3	7.4	7.5	7
Oregon	5.3	8.0	3.9	2.6	8.0	7.3	9.5	6.9	7.6	5.8	5.7	6.8	6.8	6.5	40
Pennsylvania	7.2	7.8	5.6	5.1	8.0	7.9	6.2	9.1	9.4	5.5	6.9	6.8	8.0	7.2	18
Rhode Island	6.6	8.2	4.4	5.2	8.0	6.3	6.2	7.9	9.3	5.5	6.4	6.4	7.6	6.8	32
South Carolina	6.0	5.9	6.7	6.7	6.0	7.9	6.4	7.6	5.4	9.6	6.2	6.8	7.6	6.8	32
South Dakota	8.3	8.9	7.5	10.0	10.0	8.1	4.2	8.0	6.7	8.3	8.2	8.1	7.7	8.0	4
Tennessee	7.6	7.2	7.4	9.1	10.0	8.8	4.3	8.2	8.2	7.8	7.4	8.1	8.1	7.8	5
Texas	8.0	8.9	7.2	9.8	10.0	8.0	4.1	8.8	7.7	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.1	2
Utah	7.1	6.0	7.4	5.3	7.0	8.7	6.0	7.8	7.3	8.4	6.8	6.8	7.9	7.2	18
Vermont	4.9	6.6	7.8	5.7	6.0	6.1	5.7	7.7	6.8	6.4	6.4	5.9	7.0	6.4	43
Virginia	7.7	7.4	7.2	5.8	7.0	8.1	7.8	9.3	7.1	8.1	7.4	7.2	8.2	7.6	6
Washington	7.9	7.1	6.3	8.8	10.0	8.1	2.2	7.9	6.1	5.9	7.1	7.3	6.6	7.0	24
West Virginia	4.9	7.7	5.9	5.2	6.0	8.7	4.7	6.7	3.8	7.8	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	47
Wisconsin	6.7	8.6	5.5	5.3	6.0	7.4	6.3	8.7	7.0	7.6	6.9	6.3	7.7	7.0	24
Wyoming	4.7	8.8	5.5	8.7	10.0	7.1	5.2	9.6	1.8	9.7	6.3	7.8	7.0	7.0	24

**Table 3.3a: Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level in Canada, 2003–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<i>Average</i>	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	
Alberta	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.0	1
British Columbia	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	8.0	7.8	13
Manitoba	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.6	52
New Brunswick	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.8	7.5	56
Newfoundland & Labrador	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.7	33
Nova Scotia	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.5	56
Ontario	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.7	33
Prince Edward Island	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.5	56
Quebec	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.5	56
Saskatchewan	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.7	33

**Table 3.3b: Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level in Mexico, 2003–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<i>Average</i>	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	
Aguaascalientes	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.1	80
Baja California	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.5	61
Baja California Sur	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.1	5.9	6.0	6.0	87
Campeche	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.8	5.9	90
Coahuila de Zaragoza	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.5	6.5	61
Colima	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.7	91
Chiapas	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.1	80
Chihuahua	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.1	80
Distrito Federal	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.7	5.5	92
Durango	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.2	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.0	87
Guanajuato	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	65
Guerrero	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.2	5.8	5.8	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	80
Hidalgo	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.2	74
Jalisco	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.5	61
México	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.5	61
Michoacán de Ocampo	6.8	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.1	6.0	87
Morelos	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.0	6.2	6.2	74
Nayarit	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.6	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.3	65
Nuevo León	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.1	5.7	6.1	6.1	80
Oaxaca	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.1	80
Puebla	6.7	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.3	65
Querétaro	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.1	80
Quintana Roo	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.2	74
San Luis Potosí	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.2	74
Sinaloa	6.7	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	65
Sonora	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.3	65
Tabasco	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.2	74
Tamaulipas	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.2	74
Tlaxcala	7.0	7.1	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.3	65
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.3	65
Yucatán	6.6	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.3	65
Zacatecas	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.3	6.3	65

**Table 3.3c: Economic Freedom at the All-Government Level in the United States, 2003-2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>	
Alabama	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	13
Alaska	8.0	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.8	13
Arizona	8.2	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	13
Arkansas	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	33
California	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.7	33
Colorado	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	13
Connecticut	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	33
Delaware	8.2	8.2	8.0	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.6	52
Florida	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.9	3
Georgia	8.2	8.3	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
Hawaii	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	33
Idaho	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
Illinois	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	33
Indiana	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	13
Iowa	8.2	8.3	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.8	13
Kansas	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
Kentucky	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.7	33
Louisiana	8.2	8.2	7.9	7.7	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	33
Maine	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.8	13
Maryland	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.7	33
Massachusetts	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	33
Michigan	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	13
Minnesota	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.6	52
Mississippi	8.1	8.2	8.0	7.7	8.0	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	33
Missouri	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.8	13
Montana	8.1	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	13
Nebraska	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	13
Nevada	8.4	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
New Hampshire	8.4	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.0	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.9	8.0	1
New Jersey	8.2	8.2	8.0	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.7	33
New Mexico	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	33
New York	8.0	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.5	7.5	56
North Carolina	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.8	13
North Dakota	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.9	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	13
Ohio	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	33
Oklahoma	8.1	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
Oregon	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	33
Pennsylvania	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.8	13
Rhode Island	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.6	52
South Carolina	8.2	8.2	8.0	7.9	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
South Dakota	8.2	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.2	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
Tennessee	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	13
Texas	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
Utah	8.2	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.9	3
Vermont	8.2	8.2	8.0	7.9	8.0	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	33
Virginia	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.8	13
Washington	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	13
West Virginia	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	33
Wisconsin	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.8	13
Wyoming	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.8	13

**Table 3.4a: Overall Scores at the Subnational Level in Canada, 1981-2015**

	1981	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 10
<b>Average</b>	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.8	
Alberta	6.3	5.6	6.3	7.2	7.3	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.8	1
British Columbia	5.5	5.8	6.4	5.7	5.7	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.6	2
Manitoba	6.2	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.5	6
New Brunswick	5.5	5.5	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.2	8
Newfoundland & Lab.	4.2	4.2	4.6	4.7	5.6	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.5	5.8	6.1	4
Nova Scotia	5.8	5.9	6.4	6.5	6.8	6.3	6.1	5.8	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.2	5.1	5.0	9
Ontario	6.8	6.6	5.9	5.5	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.5	5.4	5.3	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	3
Prince Edward Island	6.0	6.6	6.1	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.2	5.9	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.5	6
Quebec	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.1	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.2	10
Saskatchewan	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7	5.2	5.2	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.9	5

**Table 3.4b: Overall Scores at the Subnational Level in Mexico, 2003-2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 32
<b>Average for Mexico</b>	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.6	
Aguascalientes	8.0	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.7	18
Baja California	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.1	8.0	8.0	1
Baja California Sur	7.4	7.1	7.2	7.1	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.6	6.5	6.4	21
Campeche	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.7	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.6	4.9	4.9	31
Coahuila de Zaragoza	7.9	7.9	7.8	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.2	6.6	7.0	7.4	7.5	7.5	3
Colima	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.3	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.7	18
Chiapas	7.0	6.7	7.2	7.4	6.8	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.8	5.0	4.5	4.9	31
Chihuahua	7.8	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.1	7.5	7.3	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.8	16
Distrito Federal	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.2	6.8	6.7	6.3	5.2	28
Durango	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.1	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.0	25
Guanajuato	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.8	8.0	7.5	7.2	7.1	8
Guerrero	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.6	6.4	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.0	30
Hidalgo	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.2	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.9	6.9	12
Jalisco	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.7	2
México	8.5	8.5	8.3	8.4	8.1	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.4	7.0	7.2	5
Michoacán de Ocampo	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.1	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.1	8
Morelos	8.5	8.5	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.6	7.9	7.3	7.1	7.1	8
Nayarit	7.7	7.5	7.9	8.0	7.5	6.6	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.5	6.2	6.6	6.8	16
Nuevo León	7.9	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.7	7.8	7.3	7.0	7.0	11
Oaxaca	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.1	6.7	6.2	5.8	5.1	5.1	29
Puebla	8.2	8.3	8.5	8.6	8.2	7.7	7.8	8.0	7.6	7.5	7.3	6.9	6.9	12
Querétaro	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.1	7.5	7.7	7.1	6.5	6.4	21
Quintana Roo	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.2	6.9	6.9	6.5	6.2	6.0	25
San Luis Potosí	7.8	7.6	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.4	21
Sinaloa	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2	5
Sonora	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.6	7.2	7.2	7.6	7.1	7.3	7.3	4
Tabasco	6.2	6.0	6.3	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.2	5.9	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	25
Tamaulipas	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.0	7.2	7.2	5
Tlaxcala	8.4	8.3	8.0	7.4	7.4	7.1	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.1	24
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	7.8	7.7	7.9	8.0	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.9	12
Yucatán	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	12
Zacatecas	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.2	6.7	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.4	6.7	6.5	20

Data for Mexico are not available for years 1981-2002.



Table 3.4c: Overall Scores at the Subnational Level in the United States, 1981-2015

	1981	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 50
<b>Average</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	
Alabama	6.1	6.7	7.0	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.0	24
Alaska	4.6	5.1	5.3	4.9	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.5	40
Arizona	6.8	7.1	6.8	6.8	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.4	9
Arkansas	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.7	35
California	5.5	5.8	5.9	5.6	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.1	5.8	6.0	5.8	49
Colorado	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.9	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.1	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.3	13
Connecticut	7.0	7.4	7.3	6.6	7.3	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.2	7.2	18
Delaware	5.7	6.6	7.1	6.9	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	39
Florida	7.6	8.0	7.8	7.7	8.1	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.1	8.1	2
Georgia	6.3	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.5	7
Hawaii	5.3	5.6	6.3	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.3	45
Idaho	6.2	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	6.9	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.3	13
Illinois	6.0	6.6	7.0	6.8	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.0	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	35
Indiana	6.5	6.8	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.1	6.8	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.4	9
Iowa	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.5	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.9	30
Kansas	6.3	6.7	6.9	6.6	7.2	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.2	6.9	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.4	9
Kentucky	5.8	6.6	6.8	6.5	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.4	43
Louisiana	6.3	6.0	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	23
Maine	5.5	5.8	6.1	6.0	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7	35
Maryland	6.4	7.0	7.3	7.1	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.0	24
Massachusetts	5.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	13
Michigan	4.5	5.5	5.7	6.3	7.0	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.4	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.9	30
Minnesota	5.1	5.7	6.0	5.8	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.1	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.5	40
Mississippi	5.8	6.1	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	45
Missouri	6.8	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.3	13
Montana	6.1	5.7	5.7	6.0	6.6	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	24
Nebraska	6.5	6.8	7.2	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.2	18
Nevada	6.8	6.9	7.3	7.1	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.2	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	13
New Hampshire	7.5	8.3	8.1	7.9	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.2	8.0	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.3	1
New Jersey	6.1	6.7	7.0	6.4	7.3	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.8	32
New Mexico	5.7	6.1	6.1	5.7	5.8	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.1	47
New York	4.0	4.4	5.3	4.8	5.9	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.3	50
North Carolina	6.4	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.9	6.6	6.7	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.2	18
North Dakota	6.7	6.2	6.2	6.6	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.6	7.4	7.6	7.4	9
Ohio	5.7	5.8	6.1	5.9	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.7	35
Oklahoma	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.6	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.5	7.5	7
Oregon	5.2	5.7	6.1	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.0	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	40
Pennsylvania	5.6	6.4	6.9	6.7	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.2	18
Rhode Island	5.2	6.0	6.4	5.7	6.3	6.1	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.8	32
South Carolina	6.3	6.8	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.8	32
South Dakota	6.5	7.2	7.6	7.5	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.2	7.9	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0	4
Tennessee	6.8	7.3	7.6	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.8	7.8	5
Texas	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.6	7.5	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.0	8.1	2
Utah	6.1	6.4	6.6	6.9	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.1	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.2	18
Vermont	5.3	6.0	6.5	6.3	6.7	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	43
Virginia	7.0	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.6	6
Washington	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.0	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	24
West Virginia	4.6	4.7	5.6	5.5	5.9	6.0	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.1	47
Wisconsin	5.7	5.5	6.1	6.2	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.8	7.0	24
Wyoming	6.7	5.5	6.2	6.5	7.1	6.9	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.0	24

**Table 3.5a: Scores for Area 1 (Government Spending) at the All-Government Level in Canada, 1985–2015**

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.1</b>	
Alberta	7.9	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.0	7.9	8.3	8.4	8.5	9.0	8.4	1
British Columbia	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.4	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.4	7.4	7.7	7.7	7.7	8.3	7.8	3
Manitoba	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.7	7.2	20
New Brunswick	6.8	7.1	7.1	7.4	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.2	6.2	6.5	6.5	6.5	7.0	6.4	53
Newfoundland & Labrador	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.7	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.3	5.8	5.9	6.3	6.5	6.7	7.2	6.7	43
Nova Scotia	7.2	7.5	7.2	7.5	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.9	6.4	53
Ontario	8.8	8.7	8.4	8.7	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.3	7.2	7.5	7.7	7.6	8.2	7.7	4
Prince Edward Island	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.6	5.7	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.7	6.2	60
Quebec	7.7	7.9	7.7	8.0	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.7	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.6	7.1	28
Saskatchewan	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.4	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.3	6.9	6.8	7.2	7.3	7.5	8.0	7.5	6

**Table 3.5b: Scores for Area 1 (Government Spending) at the All-Government Level in Mexico, 2003–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	
Aguascalientes	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.2	5.5	4.7	4.0	5.1	4.7	4.7	4.1	84
Baja California	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.5	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.8	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.4	53
Baja California Sur	6.2	5.9	6.4	6.3	5.7	5.0	3.8	3.7	4.4	4.6	4.1	3.8	3.5	91
Campeche	3.4	3.6	3.6	4.1	5.1	3.7	4.2	3.6	3.6	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.0	92
Coahuila de Zaragoza	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.3	5.8	4.5	4.2	5.1	5.8	6.5	6.3	58
Colima	4.1	4.4	4.8	5.2	5.5	4.4	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	88
Chiapas	5.1	4.8	5.6	5.9	5.3	4.1	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.2	82
Chihuahua	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.4	7.0	6.8	5.8	4.7	4.4	3.8	3.8	4.2	4.2	82
Distrito Federal	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.4	4.9	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.4	4.6	3.6	89
Durango	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.4	5.5	4.4	3.5	3.3	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.6	89
Guanajuato	7.2	7.0	7.4	7.3	7.5	6.4	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.2	5.7	5.3	5.2	70
Guerrero	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.2	4.5	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.0	85
Hidalgo	5.4	5.5	5.1	4.9	4.8	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.2	4.0	85
Jalisco	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.5	6.6	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.5	52
México	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.3	5.2	6.1	61
Michoacán de Ocampo	7.4	7.5	7.8	7.9	7.6	6.7	6.0	5.8	5.7	6.0	5.4	5.3	5.1	71
Morelos	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.8	6.2	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.4	4.5	4.7	4.7	78
Nayarit	6.7	6.5	7.3	7.5	6.7	4.5	4.4	3.8	3.8	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.9	74
Nuevo León	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.2	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.0	5.2	5.5	5.6	65
Oaxaca	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.0	5.3	4.7	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.9	87
Puebla	6.9	7.1	7.7	7.9	7.5	6.1	5.9	6.2	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.3	5.5	66
Querétaro	5.9	6.0	6.4	6.6	6.8	6.1	5.6	5.3	5.8	6.4	5.5	4.6	4.9	74
Quintana Roo	7.0	6.6	6.8	6.6	6.4	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.8	5.2	5.4	5.3	68
San Luis Potosí	6.2	5.9	6.6	6.8	6.8	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.3	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.6	80
Sinaloa	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.5	6.9	6.3	5.0	4.6	4.9	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.3	68
Sonora	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.0	5.1	4.3	4.7	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.1	71
Tabasco	4.6	4.6	5.0	5.1	4.9	4.2	3.6	3.5	4.7	4.8	4.9	5.0	4.6	80
Tamaulipas	5.9	5.3	5.6	5.8	5.3	4.6	4.4	4.0	4.2	5.0	4.6	5.2	5.5	66
Tlaxcala	8.2	8.0	7.5	6.1	6.1	5.0	4.8	4.3	4.6	5.0	4.7	4.9	4.8	77
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.1	5.5	5.1	4.7	5.2	5.2	5.0	5.3	5.1	71
Yucatán	6.6	6.7	6.3	6.2	6.7	5.5	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.2	4.6	4.9	74
Zacatecas	6.3	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.5	4.2	3.3	3.5	4.0	4.2	4.8	4.7	78

Data for Mexico are not available for years 1985–2002.

**Table 3.5c: Scores for Area 1 (Government Spending) at the All-Government Level in the United States, 1985–2015**

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	
Alabama	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.7	43
Alaska	6.6	6.5	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.7	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.0	5.3	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.7	64
Arizona	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.5	6.7	6.5	6.6	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	33
Arkansas	7.6	7.8	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	6.7	6.5	6.0	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	49
California	7.5	7.7	7.3	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.3	6.6	6.7	6.6	7.0	6.9	7.1	6.8	41
Colorado	7.8	7.7	7.7	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	6.9	6.7	6.8	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.2	20
Connecticut	7.8	7.9	7.7	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.2	6.9	6.9	7.2	7.1	7.2	7.2	20
Delaware	7.9	8.1	7.7	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.7	43
Florida	8.1	8.2	7.9	8.1	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	5
Georgia	7.8	8.0	7.7	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.5	6.9	6.7	6.8	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	13
Hawaii	7.1	7.8	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.3	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.7	43
Idaho	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	13
Illinois	7.9	8.0	7.7	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.6	6.7	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	33
Indiana	7.9	8.1	7.9	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.6	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.3	13
Iowa	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	6.6	6.7	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	20
Kansas	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.7	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	6
Kentucky	7.6	7.7	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.2	6.8	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	58
Louisiana	7.3	7.5	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.1	6.8	5.6	6.9	6.9	6.2	6.1	6.4	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.6	49
Maine	7.4	7.6	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.5	6.5	6.4	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.3	13
Maryland	7.6	7.8	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.6	7.5	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.8	41
Massachusetts	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.4	6.7	6.6	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	28
Michigan	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.3	6.5	6.4	6.6	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2	20
Minnesota	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	6.8	6.8	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	10
Mississippi	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.7	5.2	6.6	6.8	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.0	63
Missouri	7.5	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.4	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.9	38
Montana	6.7	7.0	6.8	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.2	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	43
Nebraska	7.7	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.4	10
Nevada	7.6	7.9	7.8	8.3	8.2	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.2	7.0	7.0	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.3	13
New Hampshire	8.1	8.2	8.0	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.1	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	2
New Jersey	7.9	8.0	7.7	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.1	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.5	6
New Mexico	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.6	6.6	5.7	5.6	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	61
New York	7.4	7.6	7.1	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.4	53
North Carolina	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	6.9	6.6	6.7	7.1	6.9	7.1	6.6	49
North Dakota	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.1	6.4	6.6	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	33
Ohio	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.2	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.2	20
Oklahoma	7.8	7.7	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.7	6.8	6.7	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	13
Oregon	7.5	7.8	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.3	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	38
Pennsylvania	7.7	7.9	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.1	28
Rhode Island	7.5	7.5	7.0	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.1	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	43
South Carolina	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.5	6.4	6.5	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	28
South Dakota	7.3	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.1	6.9	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.4	6.6	6.8	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	20
Tennessee	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.4	6.7	6.7	6.7	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	28
Texas	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.7	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	6
Utah	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	6.9	6.7	6.7	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.3	13
Vermont	7.6	7.8	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.2	6.5	6.3	6.6	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	33
Virginia	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	6.5	6.7	6.9	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.0	33
Washington	7.4	7.7	7.3	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	6.8	6.6	6.8	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	10
West Virginia	7.3	7.4	6.8	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.9	7.3	7.1	7.2	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.4	53
Wisconsin	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6	6.3	6.5	6.6	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.2	20
Wyoming	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.0	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.9	6.9	7.0	6.9	38

**Table 3.6a: Scores for Area 1 (Government Spending) at the Subnational Level in Canada, 1981–2015**

	1981	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 10
<b>Average</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.9</b>	
Alberta	6.4	3.9	6.3	8.0	7.8	8.4	8.4	8.1	7.5	7.5	6.9	7.5	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.0	1
British Columbia	7.1	6.9	7.4	6.5	6.2	7.1	7.3	7.3	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.0	6.4	6.5	6.9	2
Manitoba	8.7	7.6	6.8	7.0	6.8	6.5	6.4	6.6	6.1	6.1	6.2	5.6	5.9	5.6	6.1	6.5	4
New Brunswick	7.0	6.5	6.5	7.3	6.9	6.3	5.6	5.2	4.7	5.2	5.5	5.9	6.1	5.7	5.6	4.5	9
Newfoundland & Lab.	5.4	4.6	4.2	4.9	6.3	5.9	5.3	4.9	5.1	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.8	5.5	5.7	6.0	6
Nova Scotia	6.9	7.1	7.6	7.5	8.1	7.0	6.3	5.6	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.3	3.9	4.4	4.5	4.6	8
Ontario	8.5	7.9	6.5	6.2	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.7	5.9	4.9	4.6	4.3	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.7	3
Prince Edward Island	7.1	7.3	6.3	7.0	6.6	7.3	6.7	6.2	5.5	4.6	5.0	5.5	5.4	5.7	5.6	5.6	7
Quebec	6.2	5.0	5.4	4.8	5.7	4.9	4.6	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	4.1	10
Saskatchewan	5.7	4.5	4.8	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.7	5.8	4.8	4.0	4.3	4.7	5.3	5.7	6.3	5

**Table 3.6b: Scores for Area 1 (Government Spending) at the Subnational Level in Mexico, 2003–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 32
<b>Average</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	
Aguascalientes	8.7	8.6	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.2	7.8	7.5	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.6	16
Baja California	9.5	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.3	9.1	9.1	8.8	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.6	1
Baja California Sur	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.5	7.9	7.8	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.6	7.1	6.9	6.4	19
Campeche	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.7	5.7	6.6	6.0	5.9	5.5	5.3	4.9	5.0	28
Coahuila de Zaragoza	9.2	9.1	8.9	8.8	8.7	8.3	8.1	6.8	5.4	7.8	8.4	8.6	8.6	1
Colima	7.6	7.7	7.9	8.1	8.1	7.5	7.7	7.4	6.2	6.1	6.6	6.3	6.1	22
Chiapas	6.4	6.0	6.7	7.0	5.6	4.5	4.0	3.9	3.2	3.4	1.7	0.8	2.1	32
Chihuahua	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.9	8.8	8.1	7.6	7.1	6.5	6.3	6.7	6.8	12
Distrito Federal	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.4	9.2	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.4	8.3	7.6	6
Durango	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.6	7.1	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.4	5.9	5.7	5.2	27
Guanajuato	9.0	8.9	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.9	7.2	6.9	6.9	11
Guerrero	6.4	6.3	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.0	5.5	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.0	3.5	30
Hidalgo	7.7	7.8	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.4	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.7	6.2	5.9	24
Jalisco	9.3	9.2	9.1	8.9	9.0	8.5	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	3
México	9.3	9.2	9.0	8.8	8.6	7.9	8.0	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.2	6.8	7.2	9
Michoacán de Ocampo	8.4	8.4	8.7	8.8	8.3	7.8	7.5	7.0	6.7	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.4	19
Morelos	8.6	8.5	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.0	7.4	6.7	6.9	6.8	12
Nayarit	8.1	7.9	8.6	8.7	8.0	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.1	5.5	5.7	5.9	6.4	19
Nuevo León	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.0	9.1	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.2	8.2	7.8	7.8	8.1	4
Oaxaca	7.4	7.1	7.2	6.7	6.3	6.2	5.6	5.6	4.7	4.2	3.7	2.4	2.2	31
Puebla	8.2	8.3	8.8	8.9	8.3	7.6	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.4	6.8	6.5	6.6	16
Querétaro	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.2	7.9	7.8	8.0	8.4	7.8	7.1	7.3	7
Quintana Roo	8.7	8.4	8.4	8.3	7.9	7.4	7.5	7.3	6.7	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.7	15
San Luis Potosí	7.9	7.7	8.2	8.4	8.3	7.8	7.4	7.2	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.2	6.0	23
Sinaloa	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.4	8.5	8.3	7.6	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.4	7.2	7.3	7
Sonora	9.1	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.4	7.6	7.0	7.0	7.6	6.9	6.9	7.0	10
Tabasco	5.4	5.1	5.7	6.3	6.0	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.5	5.8	6.2	6.1	5.9	24
Tamaulipas	8.7	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.0	8.0	7.3	7.4	7.7	8.1	7.3	8.0	7.9	5
Tlaxcala	9.3	9.1	8.6	7.5	7.4	6.5	6.3	5.8	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.4	29
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	8.4	8.1	8.5	8.4	8.1	7.6	7.1	6.5	6.9	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	16
Yucatán	8.7	8.8	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.0	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.7	6.9	6.8	12
Zacatecas	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.8	5.8	4.2	4.4	4.9	5.7	5.9	5.7	26

Data for Mexico are not available for years 1981–2002.

**Table 3.6c: Scores for Area 1 (Government Spending) at the Subnational Level in the United States, 1981–2015**

	1981	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 50
<b>Average</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.8</b>	
Alabama	7.8	8.1	8.1	7.6	6.5	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.2	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.6	31
Alaska	4.7	4.8	4.0	2.4	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.9	4.1	3.4	3.5	3.8	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.9	50
Arizona	8.8	8.8	7.9	7.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.0	7.7	7.2	6.8	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.4	12
Arkansas	8.2	8.5	8.3	7.9	7.9	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.0	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.7	30
California	6.2	6.3	5.9	5.0	6.8	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.1	5.5	5.3	5.1	5.5	5.4	5.7	4.9	48
Colorado	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.6	8.8	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.3	6.5	6.8	7.2	7.3	7.6	7.3	15
Connecticut	7.9	8.3	7.7	6.7	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.2	7.8	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.5	11
Delaware	7.3	8.2	8.1	7.4	8.2	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.2	6.8	6.2	6.1	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.8	44
Florida	9.4	9.4	8.8	8.3	8.9	7.8	8.0	8.2	7.9	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.1	3
Georgia	8.4	8.6	8.3	7.8	8.4	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.5	7.3	6.7	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.6	7.6	9
Hawaii	6.5	6.3	7.8	5.9	6.8	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.2	6.8	6.5	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.0	7.3	15
Idaho	8.1	8.2	8.4	7.4	7.9	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.5	6.7	6.5	6.6	7.2	7.4	7.7	7.7	7
Illinois	6.6	7.2	7.7	7.2	7.9	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.4	6.7	6.1	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.1	41
Indiana	8.2	8.5	8.6	8.2	8.7	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.1	6.6	7.0	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.6	9
Iowa	7.6	7.5	7.8	7.4	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.2	7.2	6.6	6.2	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8	27
Kansas	8.0	8.5	8.1	7.8	8.4	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.2	7.7	7.2	7.6	7.9	8.2	8.1	8.1	3
Kentucky	7.1	8.1	7.9	7.2	7.6	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.3	5.7	5.1	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.7	45
Louisiana	7.5	7.1	7.3	6.9	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.2	5.9	5.7	6.1	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.4	34
Maine	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.1	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.6	6.9	6.9	7.2	19
Maryland	7.7	8.1	8.0	7.7	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.1	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.4	34
Massachusetts	6.3	7.5	6.8	6.8	8.3	7.8	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.1	6.6	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.3	15
Michigan	4.9	5.7	5.6	6.6	7.8	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.6	5.8	5.1	5.8	6.3	6.5	6.7	6.6	31
Minnesota	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.1	7.0	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.1	5.6	6.3	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.6	31
Mississippi	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.3	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.1	5.9	43
Missouri	8.3	8.9	8.7	8.2	8.2	7.4	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.3	6.9	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.2	19
Montana	7.5	6.7	6.4	6.1	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.1	6.6	6.1	6.5	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.8	27
Nebraska	8.8	8.7	8.8	8.6	8.7	8.3	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.0	7.8	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.2	7.7	7
Nevada	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.1	9.1	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.2	7.3	6.5	6.8	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.3	15
New Hampshire	8.8	9.5	9.0	8.3	9.2	8.7	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.2	7.9	8.1	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.4	1
New Jersey	7.1	7.9	8.0	7.0	8.2	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.4	6.7	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.9	24
New Mexico	7.7	7.7	7.5	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.2	5.6	5.0	5.1	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.4	47
New York	5.2	5.3	6.0	4.5	6.3	5.6	5.9	6.1	5.9	5.4	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.4	5.8	4.4	49
North Carolina	8.0	8.6	8.2	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.3	6.5	6.7	7.1	6.9	7.4	7.0	23
North Dakota	7.9	7.6	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.6	7.6	7.3	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.6	7.4	7.4	7.1	21
Ohio	6.4	6.5	6.4	5.8	6.6	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.5	4.9	4.3	4.8	5.4	5.5	5.5	6.1	41
Oklahoma	8.2	8.3	7.7	7.2	8.1	7.8	8.0	7.8	8.0	7.3	7.0	7.3	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.8	6
Oregon	6.6	7.0	7.6	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.5	6.5	5.5	4.6	5.0	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.7	45
Pennsylvania	5.8	6.6	7.2	6.6	7.6	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.0	6.4	5.9	6.0	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.9	24
Rhode Island	5.9	6.7	6.6	5.3	6.4	5.8	6.5	6.4	6.2	5.8	5.4	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.3	6.4	34
South Carolina	8.1	8.4	8.2	7.4	7.6	5.9	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.3	4.9	5.3	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	39
South Dakota	7.7	8.8	8.7	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.1	8.0	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.2	2
Tennessee	8.4	8.8	8.6	8.1	8.4	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.4	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.4	12
Texas	9.3	9.0	8.5	7.9	8.3	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.3	7.8	7.4	7.7	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.0	5
Utah	7.6	8.1	7.7	7.8	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.2	6.4	5.7	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.6	6.8	27
Vermont	6.3	6.8	6.8	6.4	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.0	5.5	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.4	34
Virginia	8.6	8.9	8.8	8.1	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.6	7.3	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.4	12
Washington	7.1	6.8	6.9	5.9	6.7	7.2	7.4	7.2	7.1	6.3	5.6	6.1	6.6	6.8	7.0	7.1	21
West Virginia	6.7	6.4	6.4	5.7	6.5	6.8	7.3	6.9	7.1	6.6	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.2	39
Wisconsin	7.6	6.4	7.0	6.9	7.2	6.9	7.0	7.1	6.9	5.7	5.8	6.2	6.5	6.1	6.8	6.9	24
Wyoming	8.1	6.6	6.5	6.2	7.2	6.7	7.1	6.9	6.9	5.8	5.4	5.8	6.3	6.2	6.6	6.3	38

**Table 3.7a: Scores for Area 2 (Taxes) at the All-Government Level in Canada, 1985–2015**

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	3.3	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.9	3.8	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.4	
Alberta	4.0	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.8	4.7	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1	44
British Columbia	3.4	4.2	3.5	3.5	4.1	4.2	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.6	58
Manitoba	2.8	3.6	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.6	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.1	80
New Brunswick	3.2	3.9	3.6	3.7	4.0	3.9	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.1	80
Newfoundland & Lab.	3.3	4.0	3.5	3.7	4.0	3.9	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.7	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.8	50
Nova Scotia	3.3	4.1	3.9	3.8	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.2	75
Ontario	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.7	3.6	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.0	82
Prince Edward Island	3.8	4.3	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.6	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.6	58
Quebec	2.6	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.3	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.6	87
Saskatchewan	3.1	3.6	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.3	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.4	70

**Table 3.7b: Scores for Area 2 (Taxes) at the All-Government Level in Mexico, 1985–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	6.4	6.7	5.7	6.0	5.6	5.4	5.2	5.2	4.7	4.9	4.4	5.4	5.2	
Aguascalientes	6.5	6.9	5.9	6.1	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.3	5.0	5.0	4.6	5.5	5.2	75
Baja California	6.3	6.6	5.6	5.9	5.5	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.0	5.1	4.7	5.4	5.2	75
Baja California Sur	6.6	6.7	5.6	5.8	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.2	4.9	5.0	4.4	5.4	5.2	75
Campeche	6.6	6.8	5.8	6.1	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.0	3.5	4.9	5.0	82
Coahuila de Zaragoza	6.5	6.8	5.7	6.0	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.0	4.3	4.2	4.2	5.5	5.3	74
Colima	4.5	4.7	3.8	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.4	91
Chiapas	7.0	7.2	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.5	5.5	5.2	5.9	5.8	50
Chihuahua	6.3	6.7	5.5	5.8	5.4	5.6	5.4	5.1	4.9	4.5	4.4	5.3	5.0	82
Distrito Federal	3.3	3.6	2.5	2.7	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	2.4	92
Durango	6.9	7.2	6.3	6.5	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.7	5.5	64
Guanajuato	6.8	7.1	6.0	6.3	5.9	5.8	3.5	3.1	2.7	5.4	4.9	5.7	5.2	75
Guerrero	6.9	7.2	6.2	6.5	6.1	6.0	4.4	4.0	3.4	5.4	5.0	6.0	5.5	64
Hidalgo	6.8	7.1	6.2	6.4	5.9	5.8	6.0	5.9	5.1	5.4	5.2	6.0	5.8	50
Jalisco	6.5	6.8	5.8	6.0	5.6	5.4	5.8	5.7	5.2	5.0	4.7	5.6	5.4	70
México	6.7	7.0	6.0	6.3	5.9	5.7	5.9	6.0	5.5	5.2	4.9	5.6	5.5	64
Michoacán de Ocampo	6.9	7.1	5.9	6.4	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.2	4.6	4.2	3.7	4.5	4.0	89
Morelos	6.8	7.0	6.0	6.2	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.2	5.4	4.7	5.7	5.7	55
Nayarit	6.8	7.1	6.2	6.5	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.4	5.3	5.0	6.0	5.8	50
Nuevo León	5.7	5.9	4.8	5.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	3.9	3.5	2.1	4.2	3.9	90
Oaxaca	7.1	7.4	6.4	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.2	5.7	5.7	5.5	6.1	5.9	49
Puebla	6.7	7.1	6.2	6.4	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.2	5.2	4.7	5.6	5.4	70
Querétaro	6.1	6.2	5.3	5.7	5.3	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.7	3.9	4.7	4.4	88
Quintana Roo	6.3	6.4	5.4	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	4.6	4.6	4.0	5.2	4.9	85
San Luis Potosí	6.8	7.1	6.2	6.5	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.2	5.0	4.8	5.7	5.5	64
Sinaloa	6.8	7.1	6.0	6.3	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.7	5.6	58
Sonora	6.7	6.8	5.9	6.2	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.0	5.2	4.8	5.7	5.5	64
Tabasco	6.8	7.1	6.1	6.5	6.1	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.2	5.3	4.6	5.5	5.7	55
Tamaulipas	5.3	5.6	4.8	5.0	4.7	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.4	5.1	4.8	86
Tlaxcala	7.1	7.4	6.4	6.6	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	5.7	5.6	5.4	6.2	6.0	47
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	6.3	6.6	5.7	6.0	5.9	5.6	5.7	5.7	4.7	5.1	4.8	5.7	5.5	64
Yucatán	6.7	7.1	6.1	6.3	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.7	5.6	58
Zacatecas	7.0	7.3	6.1	6.5	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.9	5.8	50

Data for Mexico are not available for years 1985–2002.

Table 3.7c: Scores for Area 2 (Taxes) at the All-Government Level in the United States, 1985–2015

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	
Alabama	6.3	7.8	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.5	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.2	7.3	7.3	2
Alaska	6.4	7.9	7.4	7.2	7.4	7.7	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.5	7.2	7.8	1
Arizona	5.7	7.3	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.4	6.9	7.0	7.0	7
Arkansas	5.3	7.1	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.8	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.6	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.3	6.3	6.2	40
California	5.2	7.0	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.7	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.1	6.2	6.3	6.2	40
Colorado	5.3	7.0	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.6	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.3	6.8	6.9	6.7	19
Connecticut	5.4	6.8	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.6	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.6	7.0	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.1	6.2	6.2	40
Delaware	4.6	6.6	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.9	6.8	6.4	5.7	6.0	5.8	6.2	6.4	5.9	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.6	58
Florida	6.0	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.2	7.4	7.6	7.6	6.8	7.0	6.8	14
Georgia	5.4	7.1	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.8	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.3	6.6	6.7	6.6	24
Hawaii	5.4	7.2	6.6	6.6	6.7	7.0	7.3	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.7	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.1	6.5	6.6	6.5	30
Idaho	5.4	7.1	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.8	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.0	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.4	6.9	6.9	6.8	14
Illinois	5.3	6.8	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.2	6.2	6.1	44
Indiana	5.8	7.4	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.3	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.2	6.6	6.7	6.6	24
Iowa	5.7	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	6.6	6.7	6.5	30
Kansas	5.2	7.0	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.2	6.7	6.6	6.5	30
Kentucky	5.7	7.3	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	6.8	6.7	6.7	19
Louisiana	6.0	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.8	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.3	6.6	6.5	6.6	24
Maine	5.2	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.7	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.1	6.6	6.6	6.5	30
Maryland	5.6	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.4	6.6	6.6	6.5	30
Massachusetts	5.3	6.9	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.7	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.8	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.3	6.3	6.2	40
Michigan	5.2	7.0	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	6.7	6.8	6.7	19
Minnesota	4.3	6.0	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.8	6.2	6.2	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.3	5.6	5.4	5.4	70
Mississippi	5.8	7.4	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.1	7.1	7.1	4
Missouri	5.5	6.9	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.6	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	6.7	6.6	6.5	30
Montana	5.7	7.2	6.9	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.1	7.1	7.1	4
Nebraska	5.0	6.9	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.6	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.2	6.4	6.4	6.3	38
Nevada	6.0	7.5	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.9	6.9	9
New Hampshire	6.2	7.7	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.3	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.0	7.0	6.9	9
New Jersey	5.2	6.7	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.0	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.5	5.7	5.8	5.7	55
New Mexico	5.7	7.2	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.1	7.2	7.2	3
New York	4.5	6.4	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.4	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	5.7	5.7	5.6	58
North Carolina	5.7	7.4	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.7	19
North Dakota	5.4	7.0	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.5	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.5	7.5	7.6	6.8	6.8	6.7	19
Ohio	5.0	6.8	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.7	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.0	6.1	6.1	44
Oklahoma	5.0	6.7	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.0	6.9	6.8	14
Oregon	5.4	7.2	6.8	6.7	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.2	7.4	6.7	6.7	6.6	24
Pennsylvania	5.5	7.0	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.9	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.2	6.5	6.6	6.5	30
Rhode Island	5.0	6.8	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.1	6.1	6.0	47
South Carolina	5.6	7.4	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.2	6.5	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.0	7.1	7.0	7
South Dakota	6.3	7.6	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.1	7.0	6.9	9
Tennessee	6.0	7.4	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.8	6.8	14
Texas	5.6	7.0	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	7.0	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.3	7.2	6.5	6.6	6.6	24
Utah	5.8	7.2	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.4	6.8	6.9	6.9	9
Vermont	5.2	7.1	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.4	6.3	6.3	38
Virginia	5.8	7.3	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.6	6.9	6.9	6.9	9
Washington	5.6	7.0	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.9	7.1	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.4	6.7	6.7	6.6	24
West Virginia	5.6	7.5	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.1	7.1	7.1	4
Wisconsin	5.0	6.9	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.6	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.5	6.5	30
Wyoming	5.9	7.2	6.9	7.0	6.7	6.8	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	7.1	7.5	7.4	6.8	7.0	6.8	14

**Table 3.8a: Scores for Area 2 (Taxes) at the Subnational Level in Canada, 1981–2015**

	1981	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 10
<b>Average</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	
Alberta	6.9	6.8	6.2	6.1	5.9	6.7	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.9	1
British Columbia	5.1	5.3	5.9	4.7	4.9	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.4	5.5	3
Manitoba	5.5	5.1	4.8	4.4	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.3	7
New Brunswick	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.4	5.3	4.5	6
Newfoundland & Lab.	5.4	5.2	5.4	4.7	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.8	6.1	2
Nova Scotia	6.5	6.0	5.7	5.5	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.1	9
Ontario	5.8	5.6	4.4	3.8	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3	7
Prince Edward Island	6.5	7.0	6.4	5.7	5.4	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.1	4.7	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.9	4
Quebec	3.8	3.2	3.6	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	10
Saskatchewan	5.3	5.6	4.6	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.4	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.9	4

**Table 3.8b: Scores for Area 2 (Taxes) at the Subnational Level in Mexico, 2003–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 32
<b>Average</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.8</b>	
Aguascalientes	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.2	8.7	8.8	8.4	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.3	7.3	7.2	19
Baja California	8.6	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.1	7.9	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.2	7.2	19
Baja California Sur	8.5	8.0	7.4	7.0	5.9	6.1	6.6	6.7	6.9	6.7	6.1	6.1	5.9	26
Campeche	7.9	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	6.5	5.8	5.8	5.0	3.7	3.4	31
Coahuila de Zaragoza	9.1	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.4	8.1	6.9	7.4	7.3	7.5	12
Colima	9.5	9.4	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.7	8.6	7.5	7.1	6.8	6.8	6.7	7.2	19
Chiapas	9.2	9.0	9.2	9.2	9.0	8.6	8.4	8.1	8.0	8.4	7.8	7.5	7.7	9
Chihuahua	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	8.0	7.8	7.3	7.4	6.4	6.9	6.3	5.9	26
Distrito Federal	6.3	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.0	5.6	5.7	5.0	4.6	3.4	3.4	2.4	0.0	32
Durango	9.2	9.2	9.2	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.4	8.3	7.6	7.0	7.3	7.3	6.9	22
Guanajuato	9.6	9.5	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.3	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.3	7.7	7.5	7.4	13
Guerrero	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.7	8.5	8.4	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.3	18
Hidalgo	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.3	8.2	7.8	8.1	7.9	8.0	7.9	8.1	4
Jalisco	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.0	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.4	13
México	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.3	7.2	6.4	6.3	25
Michoacán de Ocampo	9.4	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.1	9.1	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.3	7.9	8.0	8.6	2
Morelos	9.3	9.2	9.1	9.0	8.7	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.0	8.8	7.8	7.4	7.7	9
Nayarit	9.2	8.8	9.1	9.1	8.4	7.9	8.3	8.1	8.0	8.0	7.1	7.8	7.8	8
Nuevo León	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.1	7.1	6.0	5.6	5.4	28
Oaxaca	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.2	8.8	8.4	7.8	8.0	5
Puebla	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.0	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.1	7.7	7.8	7.1	6.9	22
Querétaro	8.7	8.5	7.7	7.4	7.2	7.1	6.9	6.0	6.6	6.7	5.7	4.8	4.4	29
Quintana Roo	7.7	7.3	7.2	6.9	6.1	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	5.9	5.5	4.7	4.2	30
San Luis Potosí	9.5	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.2	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.7	8.2	7.6	7.4	7.4	13
Sinaloa	9.1	9.1	9.0	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.2	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.4	13
Sonora	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.0	7.7	7.8	7.3	7.6	7.6	11
Tabasco	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.1	8.2	7.1	7.2	6.9	6.9	7.4	13
Tamaulipas	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.3	8.1	7.7	7.8	8.0	5
Tlaxcala	9.7	9.7	9.5	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.0	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.5	3
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	9.0	8.8	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.6	8.3	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.9	7
Yucatán	9.1	9.1	9.1	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.2	7.6	7.2	7.4	7.0	6.8	24
Zacatecas	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.0	8.7	8.6	8.3	8.3	8.9	8.7	1

Data for Mexico are not available for years 1981–2002.



**Table 3.8c: Scores for Area 2 (Taxes) at the Subnational Level in the United States, 1981–2015**

	1981	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 50
<b>Average</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	
Alabama	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.3	8
Alaska	5.5	6.2	7.0	7.1	7.8	7.9	7.6	7.7	7.7	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.5	8.3	9.3	1
Arizona	7.1	6.6	6.1	6.2	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.2	13
Arkansas	6.9	6.5	6.6	6.2	6.2	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.1	5.9	5.8	6.1	6.1	43
California	5.4	5.3	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.4	5.5	5.7	6.0	5.0	5.2	5.1	48
Colorado	7.6	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.8	20
Connecticut	7.8	7.5	7.4	6.1	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.4	36
Delaware	5.5	5.9	6.5	6.1	7.1	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.6	30
Florida	8.2	7.9	7.6	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.8	7.9	8.0	7.8	8.1	8.1	3
Georgia	6.6	6.5	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.8	20
Hawaii	5.0	5.2	5.1	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.2	5.1	5.2	4.8	4.4	4.7	4.7	50
Idaho	6.4	6.1	5.8	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.6	30
Illinois	7.0	7.2	7.0	6.7	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.5	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.5	34
Indiana	7.6	7.0	7.1	6.8	7.0	6.4	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.6	7.0	7.0	17
Iowa	7.2	6.6	6.2	6.0	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.4	6.8	6.6	30
Kansas	6.4	6.0	6.6	6.0	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.7	6.8	6.7	26
Kentucky	6.5	6.5	6.3	5.8	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.4	36
Louisiana	7.5	6.4	6.3	7.1	6.8	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.1	16
Maine	5.9	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.7	6.2	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.7	5.6	46
Maryland	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.4	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.7	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.7	26
Massachusetts	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.3	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	30
Michigan	5.6	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.0	17
Minnesota	4.5	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.5	47
Mississippi	7.0	6.5	6.6	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.4	36
Missouri	7.7	7.4	7.2	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	8
Montana	7.1	6.3	5.9	6.2	6.6	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.2	13
Nebraska	6.3	6.6	6.9	6.2	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.4	36
Nevada	7.2	6.8	6.7	6.5	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.9	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.3	8
New Hampshire	8.6	8.6	8.4	8.1	8.6	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.3	2
New Jersey	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.1	6.6	6.0	6.1	5.9	5.6	5.4	6.0	6.0	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.0	44
New Mexico	6.3	6.2	5.8	5.6	5.7	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.7	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.5	34
New York	3.7	3.5	4.8	4.5	5.4	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.8	49
North Carolina	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.8	6.7	26
North Dakota	7.6	5.9	5.7	6.3	6.6	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.4	7.1	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.0	17
Ohio	6.9	5.8	6.2	5.5	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.7	26
Oklahoma	6.9	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.8	7.1	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.3	8
Oregon	5.5	5.4	5.6	6.6	6.4	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.8	20
Pennsylvania	6.9	7.0	7.1	6.7	7.1	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.6	6.9	6.8	20
Rhode Island	5.3	5.7	6.4	5.2	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.8	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.4	36
South Carolina	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.8	20
South Dakota	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.9	8.0	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	3
Tennessee	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	8.1	8.1	3
Texas	8.2	7.9	7.6	7.5	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.8	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.9	8.0	6
Utah	6.8	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.8	20
Vermont	5.1	5.3	6.3	5.8	6.1	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.7	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.9	45
Virginia	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.3	7.2	13
Washington	7.4	6.8	6.6	6.4	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	8
West Virginia	5.0	4.6	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.1	5.7	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	42
Wisconsin	5.6	5.2	5.7	5.4	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.3	41
Wyoming	7.2	5.9	7.4	7.8	7.9	7.3	7.3	7.0	6.8	6.5	7.0	7.4	7.3	7.9	7.9	7.8	7

**Table 3.9a: Scores for Area 3 (Labor Market Freedom) at the All-Government Level in Canada, 1985–2015**

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.2</b>	
Alberta	8.3	8.3	8.0	8.3	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	51
British Columbia	7.9	7.9	7.8	8.1	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.2	8.2	52
Manitoba	7.9	8.0	7.8	8.1	7.8	7.9	7.9	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	56
New Brunswick	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.2	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.2	52
Newfoundland & Lab.	7.7	7.8	7.8	8.1	7.8	7.9	7.9	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	56
Nova Scotia	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.2	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.1	56
Ontario	8.0	8.1	7.9	8.2	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.2	8.2	52
Prince Edward Island	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.2	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	56
Quebec	7.7	7.8	7.8	8.1	7.8	7.9	7.9	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	56
Saskatchewan	7.9	7.9	7.8	8.1	7.8	7.9	7.9	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	52

**Table 3.9b: Scores for Area 3 (Labor Market Freedom) at the All-Government Level in Mexico, 2003–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.2</b>	
Aguascalientes	7.1	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.2	75
Baja California	7.2	7.2	7.0	7.1	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.5	7.2	7.3	61
Baja California Sur	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.3	61
Campeche	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	61
Coahuila de Zaragoza	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.2	7.2	75
Colima	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	61
Chiapas	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.0	7.0	91
Chihuahua	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	61
Distrito Federal	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	61
Durango	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.1	7.2	75
Guanajuato	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.1	7.2	75
Guerrero	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.0	91
Hidalgo	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.2	75
Jalisco	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.3	61
México	7.1	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	61
Michoacán de Ocampo	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.2	75
Morelos	7.1	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.2	75
Nayarit	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.1	7.2	75
Nuevo León	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.5	7.2	7.3	61
Oaxaca	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.1	89
Puebla	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.1	7.2	75
Querétaro	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.5	7.5	7.2	7.3	61
Quintana Roo	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.3	61
San Luis Potosí	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.2	75
Sinaloa	7.1	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	61
Sonora	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.3	61
Tabasco	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.1	7.2	75
Tamaulipas	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.1	7.2	75
Tlaxcala	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.1	89
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.2	75
Yucatán	7.0	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	61
Zacatecas	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.2	75

Data for Mexico are not available for years 1985–2002.

**Table 3.9c: Scores for Area 3 (Labor Market Freedom) at the All-Government Level in the United States, 1985-2015**

	1985	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 92
<b>Average</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.5</b>	
Alabama	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	29
Alaska	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.4	8.1	8.3	8.1	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.5	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
Arizona	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.6	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Arkansas	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
California	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.1	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	29
Colorado	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Connecticut	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
Delaware	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Florida	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Georgia	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Hawaii	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
Idaho	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Illinois	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
Indiana	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Iowa	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Kansas	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Kentucky	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5	29
Louisiana	8.5	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Maine	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
Maryland	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Massachusetts	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Michigan	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.1	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.6	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
Minnesota	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
Mississippi	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
Missouri	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Montana	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.5	8.1	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
Nebraska	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.6	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Nevada	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
New Hampshire	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
New Jersey	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
New Mexico	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
New York	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.4	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
North Carolina	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
North Dakota	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.6	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.5	8.5	8.6	1
Ohio	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.1	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
Oklahoma	8.4	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Oregon	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.6	8.5	7.9	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
Pennsylvania	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Rhode Island	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.1	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
South Carolina	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
South Dakota	8.5	8.6	8.4	8.6	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.6	1
Tennessee	8.5	8.6	8.4	8.6	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Texas	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.5	8.5	8.6	1
Utah	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Vermont	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	29
Virginia	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.5	8.5	8.6	1
Washington	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.6	8.5	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
West Virginia	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.4	8.1	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.6	8.6	8.5	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.5	29
Wisconsin	8.4	8.5	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.6	1
Wyoming	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.6	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.5	8.4	8.6	1

**Table 3.10a: Scores for Area 3 (Labor Market Freedom) at the Subnational Level in Canada, 1981–2015**

	1981	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 10
<b>Average</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	
Alberta	5.8	6.0	6.5	7.4	8.3	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.5	8.0	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.6	8.6	8.5	1
British Columbia	4.3	5.1	5.9	5.7	6.1	6.8	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.1	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.3	3
Manitoba	4.3	4.3	4.8	5.4	5.9	5.6	5.7	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	9
New Brunswick	3.7	4.5	5.5	6.3	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.2	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.7	6.7	6.7	4
Newfoundland & Lab.	1.9	2.7	4.0	4.6	5.4	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.4	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.5	5.4	5.8	6.2	7
Nova Scotia	4.2	4.6	5.9	6.4	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.4	6
Ontario	6.1	6.4	6.8	6.5	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.4	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.5	2
Prince Edward Island	4.3	5.3	5.8	6.8	7.3	7.0	7.3	7.4	7.1	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.6	6.1	8
Quebec	3.0	3.9	4.4	4.5	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.7	9
Saskatchewan	3.2	4.0	4.6	5.2	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.8	5.8	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.7	6.0	6.0	6.5	5

**Table 3.10b: Scores for Area 3 (Labor Market Freedom) at the Subnational Level in Mexico, 2003–2015**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 32
<b>Average</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.5</b>	
Aguascalientes	5.7	5.7	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.7	6.4	6.4	18
Baja California	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.1	8.2	8.2	1
Baja California Sur	5.2	5.1	5.8	5.9	6.3	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	15
Campeche	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.7	5.7	5.9	6.2	6.1	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.1	6.1	21
Coahuila de Zaragoza	5.5	5.6	5.6	6.3	6.5	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.4	18
Colima	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.8	6.7	15
Chiapas	5.3	5.0	5.7	6.1	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.4	5.1	4.9	29
Chihuahua	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.8	8.0	8.4	8.2	7.6	7.4	7.5	7.9	7.7	7.7	4
Distrito Federal	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.9	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.2	7.9	2
Durango	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.7	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.9	24
Guanajuato	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.8	7.6	7.2	7.1	8
Guerrero	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.1	5.4	5.5	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.3	4.9	5.3	4.3	32
Hidalgo	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.8	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.6	6.6	17
Jalisco	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.7	7.8	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.6	5
México	7.5	7.6	7.3	7.6	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.9	8.0	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.9	2
Michoacán de Ocampo	6.6	6.5	6.9	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.3	6.5	6.1	21
Morelos	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.6	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.6	7.3	7.1	6.8	14
Nayarit	5.7	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.0	5.6	5.8	6.3	6.2	6.1	5.8	6.0	6.3	20
Nuevo León	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.7	8.0	7.9	7.6	7.6	5
Oaxaca	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.1	5.7	5.2	5.1	4.9	29
Puebla	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.8	7.4	6.9	7.2	7.5	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.1	8
Querétaro	6.2	6.2	6.7	6.8	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.8	8.1	7.6	7.4	7.4	7
Quintana Roo	5.7	6.2	6.4	6.7	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.1	8
San Luis Potosí	5.9	5.7	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.3	5.9	5.8	5.8	25
Sinaloa	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.0	12
Sonora	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.9	7.2	6.9	6.6	7.0	7.4	7.1	7.3	7.1	8
Tabasco	3.8	3.7	3.8	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.8	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.7	31
Tamaulipas	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.5	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.1	5.6	5.8	25
Tlaxcala	6.3	6.1	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.4	27
Veracruz de Ignacio ...	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.8	8.1	6.7	6.3	6.1	21
Yucatán	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.5	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.9	6.9	13
Zacatecas	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.7	5.7	5.4	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.3	28

Data for Mexico are not available for years 1981–2002.

**Table 3.10c: Scores for Area 3 (Labor Market Freedom) at the Subnational Level, United States, 1981-2015**

	1981	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Rank (2015) out of 50
<b>Average</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.4</b>	
Alabama	3.3	4.7	5.7	6.1	6.6	6.9	7.2	7.1	6.8	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.9	41
Alaska	3.7	4.2	4.8	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.9	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.1	49
Arizona	4.6	5.9	6.4	6.6	7.4	7.8	7.9	7.4	7.2	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.6	17
Arkansas	4.0	5.3	6.0	6.6	7.0	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.3	30
California	4.7	5.8	6.2	6.6	6.8	6.8	7.1	6.9	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.0	7.2	36
Colorado	5.3	6.4	6.8	7.3	8.0	8.0	8.2	7.8	7.7	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.8	12
Connecticut	5.3	6.4	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.6	17
Delaware	4.3	5.8	6.8	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.5	24
Florida	5.3	6.5	7.0	7.3	7.8	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.1	5
Georgia	4.1	5.9	6.7	7.2	7.7	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.7	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.9	8.0	7
Hawaii	4.5	5.4	6.0	6.0	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.8	43
Idaho	4.0	4.9	5.9	6.4	6.8	7.4	7.6	7.7	7.2	6.8	6.6	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.4	26
Illinois	4.4	5.4	6.3	6.6	7.1	6.9	7.1	7.3	6.9	6.5	6.7	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.4	26
Indiana	3.8	5.0	5.9	6.6	6.9	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.6	17
Iowa	4.1	4.8	5.4	6.1	6.5	7.0	7.1	7.1	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.3	30
Kansas	4.5	5.5	5.9	6.2	6.8	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.2	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	30
Kentucky	3.9	5.1	6.1	6.4	6.7	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	37
Louisiana	3.7	4.6	5.4	5.8	6.2	6.8	7.3	7.4	7.2	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.4	7.6	7.8	12
Maine	3.7	5.1	5.8	6.3	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.3	30
Maryland	4.7	6.2	7.2	7.3	7.8	8.3	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.2	7.9	10
Massachusetts	4.5	6.3	6.9	7.3	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.3	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.0	7
Michigan	3.0	4.4	5.3	5.9	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.2	6.2	5.9	6.3	6.4	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.1	37
Minnesota	4.1	5.1	5.9	6.2	6.9	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	30
Mississippi	3.1	4.2	5.0	5.9	5.9	6.2	6.6	6.5	6.3	5.9	6.0	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.6	45
Missouri	4.5	5.8	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.4	7.6	7.3	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.6	17
Montana	3.7	4.0	4.9	5.7	6.2	7.1	7.2	6.9	6.8	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.9	41
Nebraska	4.2	5.1	6.0	6.6	7.1	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.3	6.9	6.9	7.2	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	17
Nevada	5.0	5.8	7.0	6.8	7.5	8.1	8.0	7.7	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.4	26
New Hampshire	5.2	6.8	7.0	7.3	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.1	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.2	1
New Jersey	4.0	5.3	6.0	6.1	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.7	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.2	7.5	24
New Mexico	3.1	4.3	4.9	5.5	5.6	6.0	6.3	6.4	6.0	5.6	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.4	48
New York	3.2	4.3	5.0	5.5	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	45
North Carolina	4.5	6.0	6.8	7.2	7.5	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.8	12
North Dakota	4.6	5.2	5.6	6.2	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.5	7.5	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.2	1
Ohio	3.9	5.0	5.9	6.4	6.8	7.0	7.2	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.3	30
Oklahoma	4.9	5.6	5.8	6.3	6.9	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.6	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.0	7.3	7.4	26
Oregon	3.7	4.5	5.2	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.6	6.5	6.3	5.8	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.8	43
Pennsylvania	4.2	5.5	6.5	6.8	7.3	7.7	7.7	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.0	7
Rhode Island	4.4	5.7	6.3	6.6	6.9	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.6	17
South Carolina	4.3	5.6	6.3	6.6	6.9	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.0	6.6	6.5	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.6	17
South Dakota	4.1	5.1	6.2	6.6	7.4	7.7	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.9	7.7	15
Tennessee	4.1	5.5	6.5	7.1	7.5	8.0	8.0	8.1	7.7	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.9	8.1	5
Texas	5.6	6.4	6.7	6.8	7.4	7.7	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.4	7.3	7.5	7.7	7.9	8.0	8.2	1
Utah	3.8	5.0	5.9	6.6	7.0	7.7	7.9	8.0	7.7	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.3	7.5	7.7	7.9	10
Vermont	4.5	5.7	6.3	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.0	39
Virginia	5.3	6.7	7.3	7.6	8.1	8.4	8.6	8.7	8.4	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	1
Washington	3.8	4.7	5.3	5.7	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.6	45
West Virginia	2.2	3.1	4.4	5.2	5.7	6.2	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.6	5.6	5.7	6.0	6.1	6.3	6.1	49
Wisconsin	3.8	4.8	5.7	6.3	6.7	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.7	15
Wyoming	4.9	4.1	4.6	5.4	6.1	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.1	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.9	6.9	7.0	39

# Appendix A

## Methodology

### Calculating the scores

To avoid subjective judgments, objective methods were used to calculate and weight the components. For all components, each observation was transformed into a number from zero to 10 using the following formula:  $(V_{\max} - V_i) / (V_{\max} - V_{\min}) \times 10$ , where (unless otherwise stated)  $V_{\max}$  is the largest value found within a component,<sup>1</sup>  $V_{\min}$  is the smallest, and  $V_i$  is the observation to be transformed. For each component, the calculation included all data for all years to allow comparisons over time.

To transform the individual components into specific areas and the overall summary index, multiple categories were created. In the subnational index, Areas 1, 2, and 3 were equally weighted, and each of the components within each area was equally weighted. For example, the weight for Area 1 was 33.3%. Area 1 has three components, each of which received equal weight in calculating Area 1, or 11.1% in calculating the overall index. The all-government index adds the following:

- one additional component to Area 1—1D: Government enterprises and investment (the country score for variable 1C in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report* [EFW]);
- one additional component to Area 2B—2Bii: Top marginal income and payroll tax rate (the country score for variable 1Dii in EFW);
- eight additional components to Area 3—
  - 3Aiv–ix: the six components of Labor market regulation (variable 5B in EFW),
  - 3B: Credit Market Regulations (variable 5A in EFW), and
  - 3C: Business Regulations (variable 5C in EFW);

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[1] For three variables in the all-government index (1A, 2A, and 2C) and one in the US subnational index (2A), there were several states that were large outliers that skewed the standardized scores. To account for this, for two of those variables we used a lower maximum value of the mean plus three standard deviations. (For the other variable, we used a maximum of the mean plus 1.5 standard deviations.) A similar approach is used in *Economic Freedom of the World*.

- Area 4: Legal System and Property Rights (Area 2 in the EFW);
- Area 5: Sound Money (Area 3 in the EFW); and
- Area 6: Freedom to Trade Internationally (Area 4 in the EFW).

Thus, it has six areas. Each area was equally weighted and each of the components within each area was equally weighted. More details on the calculations and data sources for the adjusted index can be found in Appendix B.

### **Fiscal variables**

In order to produce comparable tax and spending data for jurisdictions that are of widely different sizes and income levels, all such variables are measured as a percentage of income, as is the minimum wage variable. In Canada and Mexico, we use “household income”. In the United States, the comparable concept is called “personal income”.

### **Income tax**

Calculating the income-tax component was more complicated. The component examining the top marginal income-tax rate and the income threshold at which it applies was transformed into a score from zero to 10 using Matrix 1, Matrix 2a, and Matrix 2b. Canadian nominal thresholds were first converted into constant 2015 Canadian dollars by using the Consumer Price Index and then converted into US dollars using the Purchasing Power Parity between Canada and the United States for each year. US nominal thresholds were converted into real 2015 US dollars using the Consumer Price Index. Mexican nominal thresholds were first converted into constant 2015 Mexican Pesos by using the *Indice Nacional de Precios al Consumidor* (National Consumer Price Index) and then converted into US dollars using the Purchasing Power Parity between Mexico and the United States for each year. This procedure is based on the transformation system found in *Economic Freedom of the World: 1975–1995* (Gwartney et al., 1996), modified for this study to take into account a different range of top marginal tax rates and income thresholds. Matrix 1 was used in calculating the score for Component 2Bi, Top Marginal Income Tax Rate and the Income Threshold at Which It Applies, at the all-government level; Matrix 2a was used to calculate the score for Component 2B at the subnational level for Canada, and Matrix 2b was used for the United States. Since there are no subnational income taxes in Mexico, this variable was not included in the Mexican subnational index.

In setting the threshold levels for income taxes at the subnational level, we faced an interesting quandary. In the United States, most state thresholds were below US federal thresholds in the 1980s and 1990s. In Canada, provincial thresholds were frequently higher than federal thresholds. Whenever the provincial or state threshold was higher than the federal threshold, the federal threshold was used at the sub-national level since, when a provincial threshold is above the national level, the cause is typically the imposition of a relatively small surcharge on those earning high incomes. Because of the structure of these matrixes, this can produce perverse scoring results. For example, in Matrix 2b a jurisdiction gets a score of 2.5 if it has a top marginal income-tax rate of, say, 12.5% for incomes over \$60,680. Let us say the

**Matrix 1: Income Tax Matrix for Component 2B at the All-Government Level**

Top Marginal Tax Rate	Income Threshold Level (US\$2015)		
	Less than \$60,680	\$60,680 to \$121,360	More than \$121,360
27% or less	10.0	10.0	10.0
27% to 30%	9.0	9.5	10.0
30% to 33%	8.0	8.5	9.0
33% to 36%	7.0	7.5	8.0
36% to 39%	6.0	6.5	7.0
39% to 42%	5.0	5.5	6.0
42% to 45%	4.0	4.5	5.0
45% to 48%	3.0	3.5	4.0
48% to 51%	2.0	2.5	3.0
51% to 54%	1.0	1.5	2.0
54% to 57%	0.0	0.5	1.0
57% to 60%	0.0	0.0	0.5
60% or more	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Matrix 2a: Income Tax Matrix for Component 2B at the Subnational Level in Canada**

Top Marginal Tax Rate	Income Threshold Level (US\$2015)		
	Less than \$60,680	\$60,680 to \$121,360	More than \$121,360
3.0% or less	10.0	10.0	10.0
3.0% to 6.0%	9.0	9.5	10.0
6.0% to 9.0%	8.0	8.5	9.0
9.0% to 12.0%	7.0	7.5	8.0
12.0% to 15.0%	6.0	6.5	7.0
15.0% to 18.0%	5.0	5.5	6.0
18.0% to 21.0%	4.0	4.5	5.0
21.0% to 24.0%	3.0	3.5	4.0
24.0% to 27.0%	2.0	2.5	3.0
27.0% to 30.0%	1.0	1.5	2.0
30.0% to 33.0%	0.0	0.5	1.0
33.0% to 36.0%	0.0	0.0	0.5
36.0% or more	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Matrix 2b: Income Tax Matrix for Component 2B at the Subnational Level in the United States**

Top Marginal Tax Rate	Income Threshold Level (US\$2015)		
	Less than \$60,680	\$60,680 to \$121,360	More than \$121,360
1.5% or less	10.0	10.0	10.0
1.5% to 3.0%	9.0	9.5	10.0
3.0% to 4.5%	8.0	8.5	9.0
4.5% to 6.0%	7.0	7.5	8.0
6.0% to 7.5%	6.0	6.5	7.0
7.5% to 9.0%	5.0	5.5	6.0
9.0% to 10.5%	4.0	4.5	5.0
10.5% to 12.0%	3.0	3.5	4.0
12.0% to 13.5%	2.0	2.5	3.0
13.5% to 15.0%	1.0	1.5	2.0
15.0% to 16.5%	0.0	0.5	1.0
16.5% to 18.0%	0.0	0.0	0.5
18.0% or more	0.0	0.0	0.0



jurisdiction imposes a surcharge for income earners above \$121,360, increasing the top marginal income-tax rate to 13%. In Matrix 2b, even though additional taxes in the form of a surcharge have been imposed, the state's score perversely increases to 3.0 because of the increase in the threshold level.

Our decision to use the federal threshold as the default threshold when the provincial threshold was higher is, frankly, a matter of judgment. Thus, it was important to understand whether this would affect the results significantly. To see whether this was so, we calculated the overall index both ways and found that changes were small and that the overall results were not significantly affected.

## Adjustment factors

We faced a common problem in comparing statistics across time, changes in the structure of some series over time. Similarly, some Canadian spending categories were not strictly comparable to those in the United States. This required the use of judgment in some cases. Spending on medical care, for example, is structured as government consumption in Canada and as a set of transfer programs in the United States. Given that the index captures the impact of both government consumption and of transfer programs, we decided the most accurate method of accounting was to reflect the actual nature of the spending, a transfer program in the United States and government consumption in Canada, rather than artificially include one or other in an inappropriate component. The same phenomenon occurs on the revenue side where the entire US Social Security program is funded by a dedicated payroll tax, whereas in Canada part of the similar program, Old Age Security, is funded by general tax revenues. Those revenues are included in variable 2A for US states and in variable 2C for Canadian provinces.

### Other adjustments

Our earlier source of government finance data in Canada was discontinued in 2010, with the last year of data being 2009. As a result, in recent years we had used the change in overall aggregates in spending and revenue to produce estimates for the government finance variables in Area 1 and Area 2. The new data series became available in 2015, after the 2015 edition had gone to print. That new data was first incorporated into the 2016 edition. It goes back to 2007. To smooth the transition between the two series, for 2006 we used the average of that new 2007 data and the 2005 data from the previous data series. The two data series are not identical. There were changes in the way that spending and revenue categories were defined. However, this did not create any major changes in the relative rankings of the provinces.

The data for the US states comes from the US Census Bureau. The local government data for 2015 was not scheduled to be released until after this report went to press. As a result, the state and local tax and spending totals for 2015 were not available. However, the state government data was available. The change in those state numbers from 2014 to 2015 was applied to the 2014 state and local data to produce a state and local estimate for 2015.

The Tax Foundation calculated the federal tax burden by US state up to the year 2005 using sophisticated techniques but has not issued updates in recent years. As several years of data are now missing, we now use data on federal tax collections within each state directly from the US Internal Revenue Service. Due to data availability issues, we only include data back to 2003 in this printed report.

The data for federal spending in the US states comes from the Consolidated Federal Funds Report, which has now been discontinued. The last year available is 2010. We used the percentage increase in the subnational amounts for 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015 to calculate an estimate for the federal amounts for both 1A and 1B.

Variable 1C measures insurance and retirement payments as a percentage of income. Because there are several US states where retirees form an abnormally large percentage of the population, using federal spending in each state skews the scores on this variable in a way that does not reflect differences in economic freedom (but rather reflects differences in demographics). In the US states, the US total for this variable, as a percentage of total US income, was used as the federal component for this variable (and simply added to the subnational spending for each state as a percentage of their state income). Since that same phenomenon does not exist in Canada, this adjustment was not made for the Canadian provinces.

There is a similar issue in the all-government index with regard to Variable 2A, which measures income and payroll taxes. Because states with low corporate income-tax (CIT) burdens tend to attract corporate relocations, those states may tend to have inordinately large revenue from corporate income tax. At the state level, when a corporation has operations in multiple states, taxable corporate income is apportioned based on activity within each state. At the federal level, there are wide disparities in federal CIT revenue collected in the various states (measured as a percentage of personal income) that cannot be driven by differences in state policy. For that reason, we have used the national average in each country for the federal CIT portion of 2A in each state.

Variable 2D measures sales and gross receipts taxes. Several Mexican states with large ports have abnormally high values for this variable, in some cases exceeding 100% of personal income. Because that revenue goes to the federal government, we have instead used the same national total for this variable, as a percentage of personal income, for the federal component of this variable for each Mexican state. This adjustment was not necessary for Canada or the United States.

# Appendix B

## Explanation of Components and Data Sources

### Area 1 Government Spending

**Component 1A** General Consumption Expenditures by Government as a Percentage of Income  
General consumption expenditure is defined as total expenditures minus transfers to persons, transfers to businesses, transfers to other governments, and interest on public debt. Data for Quebec is adjusted for Quebec abatement at the subnational level. On the all-government index, there were several Mexican states that were far outliers for this variable and therefore skewed the standardized scores. To account for this, in calculating those scores, we used a lower maximum value of the mean plus 1.5 standard deviations. (A similar approach is used in the annual reports of *Economic Freedom of the World*.)

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#### Component 1B Transfers and Subsidies as a Percentage of Income

Transfers and subsidies include transfers to persons and businesses like welfare payments, grants, agricultural assistance, food-stamp payments (US), housing assistance. Foreign aid is excluded. Data for Quebec is adjusted for the Quebec abatement at the subnational level. On the all-government index, there were several Mexican states that were far outliers for this variable and therefore skewed the standardized scores. To account for this, in calculating those scores, we used a lower maximum value of the mean + 3 standard deviations. A similar approach is used in *Economic Freedom of the World*.

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#### Component 1C Insurance and Retirement Payments as a Percentage of Income

Payments by Employment Insurance, Workers Compensation, and various pension plans are included in this component.

### Sources

- Canada** Statistics Canada, *Provincial and Territorial Economic Accounts, 1981–2008* <[www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/13-018-x/13-018-x2011001-eng.htm](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/13-018-x/13-018-x2011001-eng.htm)> • Statistics Canada, *Provincial and Territorial Economic Accounts, 2007–2015*. <<http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a26?lang=eng&retrLang=eng&id=3840047>>.
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#### Component 1D Government Enterprises and Investment (*all-government index only*)

When government owns what would otherwise be private enterprises and engages in more of what would otherwise be private investment, economic freedom is reduced. This variable, used only in the all-government index, is the country score for variable 1C in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Report*. A detailed description and the data sources can be found in that report, available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

## Area 2 Taxes

#### Component 2A Income and Payroll Tax Revenue as a Percentage of Income

Income and Payroll Tax Revenue is defined as the sum of personal income taxes, corporate income taxes, and payroll taxes used to fund social-insurance schemes (i.e., employment insurance, Workers Compensation, and various pension plans). As explained in Appendix A, the federal component of corporate income tax revenue that we use is the same for every state within the same country. Data for Quebec is adjusted for the Quebec abatement at the subnational level. On the all-government index, there were several Mexican states that were far outliers for this variable and skewed the standardized scores. To account for this, in calculating those scores, we used a lower maximum value of the mean plus 3 standard deviations. The same thing was done for the US subnational index on account of several outliers for Alaska. A similar approach is used in *Economic Freedom of the World*.

## Sources

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- Mexico** Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI), *Estadísticas de Finanzas Municipales y Estatales* (various years). <[www.inegi.org.mx/est/contenidos/proyectos/registros/economicas/finanzas/default.aspx](http://www.inegi.org.mx/est/contenidos/proyectos/registros/economicas/finanzas/default.aspx)> (August, 2016) • Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía, *El ingreso y el gasto público en México*, <[www.inegi.org.mx/prod\\_serv/contenidos/espanol/bvinegi/productos/integracion/sociodemografico/igpm/2012/IGPM-2012.pdf](http://www.inegi.org.mx/prod_serv/contenidos/espanol/bvinegi/productos/integracion/sociodemografico/igpm/2012/IGPM-2012.pdf)> • Special Request from Servicio de Administración Tributaria: Recaudación bruta federal por entidad federativa (various years) (June, 2017).
- Component 2Bi** Top Marginal Income Tax Rate and the Income Threshold at Which It Applies  
See Matrix 1, Matrix 2, and Matrix 3 in Appendix A (pp. 52–56) for information on how the final scores were calculated. Data for Quebec is adjusted for Quebec abatement at the subnational level.

## Sources

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**Component 2Bii** Top Marginal Income and Payroll Tax Rate (*all-government index only*)

This variable, used only in the all-government index, is the country score for variable IDii in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report*. A detailed description and data sources can be found in that report, available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

**Component 2C** Property Tax and Other Taxes as a Percentage of Income

Property and Other Tax revenue consists of total tax revenue minus income and sales tax revenues (which are already included in 2A and 2D). Natural resource royalties and severance taxes are not included in this component. Data for Quebec is adjusted for the Quebec abatement at the subnational level. On the all-government index, there were several Mexican states that were far outliers for this variable that skewed the standardized scores. To account for this, in calculating those scores, we used a lower maximum value of the mean plus 3 standard deviations. (A similar approach is used in *Economic Freedom of the World*.)

*Sources*

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## Component 2D Sales Tax Revenue as a Percentage of Income

Sales tax revenue includes revenue from all sales and gross receipts taxes (including excise taxes and value-added taxes). As explained in Appendix A, we use the same national average percentage for every state in Mexico. Data for Quebec is adjusted for the Quebec abatement at the subnational level. On the all-government index, there were several Mexican states that were far outliers for this variable and skewed the standardized scores. To account for this, in calculating those scores, we used a lower maximum value of the mean + 1.5 standard deviations. A similar approach is used in *Economic Freedom of the World*.

### Sources

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- Mexico** Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía, *El ingreso y el gasto público en México*, <[www.inegi.org.mx/prod\\_serv/contenidos/espanol/bvinegi/productos/integracion/sociodemografico/igpm/2012/IGPM-2012.pdf](http://www.inegi.org.mx/prod_serv/contenidos/espanol/bvinegi/productos/integracion/sociodemografico/igpm/2012/IGPM-2012.pdf)> • Special Request from Servicio de Administración Tributaria: Recaudación bruta federal por entidad federativa (various years) (June, 2017).

## Area 3 Regulation

### Component 3A Labor Market Freedom

#### 3Ai Minimum Wage Legislation

This component was calculated as minimum wage multiplied by 2,080, which is the full-time equivalent measure of work hours per year (52 weeks multiplied by 40 hours per week) as a percentage of per-capita income. For the Canadian provinces, provincial minimum wage was used to compute both of the indices (subnational and all-government). For US states, the federal minimum wage was used for both indexes because the federal minimum wage supersedes state minimum wages when it is higher.



## Sources

- Canada* Human Resources Development Canada, <srv116.services.gc.ca/dimt-wid/sm-mw/menu.aspx?lang=eng> (August 3, 2016).
- United States* Division of External Affairs, Wage and Hour Division, Employment Standards Administration, US Department of Labor, <www.dol.gov/whd/state/state.htm> (May 24, 2011) • Division of External Affairs, Wage and Hour Division, US Department of Labor, *Changes in Basic Minimum Wages in Non-Farm Employment under State Law: Selected Years 1968 to 2016*, <www.dol.gov/whd/state/stateMinWageHis.htm> (June, 2017) • Wage and Hour Division, US Department of Labor, *Minimum Wage Laws in the States - September 30, 2017*, <www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/america.htm>.
- Mexico* Comisión Nacional de los Salarios Mínimos, *Tabla de salarios mínimos generales y profesionales por áreas geográficas*, <www.conasami.gob.mx/t\_sal\_mini\_prof.html> (July, 2017).

3Aii *Government Employment as a Percentage of Total State/Provincial Employment*

Government employment includes public servants as well as those employed by government business enterprises. Military employment is excluded.

## Sources

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- Mexico* Instituto Nacional de Geografía y Estadística, Banco de información económica, *Indicadores macroeconómicos del sector público*, <www.inegi.org.mx/sistemas/bie/> • ISSSTE (Instituto de Seguridad y Servicios Sociales de los Trabajadores del Estado) *Statistical Yearbooks* (various years), <www2.issste.gob.mx:8080/index.php/nder-int-finanzas-anuarios> • Instituto Mexicano de Seguridad Social, *Memoria Estadística 2014 and 2015*, <www.imss.gob.mx/conoce-al-imss/memoria-estadistica-2013> • Special request to Comisión Federal de Electricidad: “Number of employees by state 2003–2013 and 2014–2015 (July, 2015; July, 2017).

3Aiii *Union Density*

For this component, our goal was to determine the relationship between unionization and public policy, other than the level of government employment, which is captured in 3Aii. We regressed union density on the size of the government sector. Data were not available to allow a regression on rural compared to urban populations. The

government sector proved highly significant. Thus, the scores were determined holding public-sector employment constant: we calculated the union score by regressing the unionization rate on government employment for each given year using the following equation:  $Unionization_i = \alpha + \beta Government_i + residual_i$ . Then, we took the estimated intercept,  $\alpha$ , and we added it to the residual. We found that this accounts for the decline in unionization rates through time and that the average union scores increase through time to reflect that decline.

#### Sources

- Canada** Statistics Canada, *CANSIM, 2011* • Statistics Canada, *Labour Force Historical Review 2010* (CD-ROM) • Statistics Canada, *Provincial and Territorial Economic Accounts, 2011* • Statistics Canada, Public Institutions Division, Financial Management System (various years) • Statistics Canada, table 282-0078: Labour Force Survey Estimates, <[www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a05?lang=eng&id=2820078&pattern=2820078&searchTypeByValue=1&p2=35](http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/a05?lang=eng&id=2820078&pattern=2820078&searchTypeByValue=1&p2=35)>.
- United States** Barry T. Hirsch and David A. Macpherson, *Union Membership and Coverage Database from the Current Population Survey*, <[www.unionstats.com/](http://www.unionstats.com/)> • Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, US Department of Commerce, <[www.bea.gov/](http://www.bea.gov/)>.
- Mexico** Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía, *Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo*, <[www.inegi.org.mx/est/contenidos/proyectos/encuestas/hogares/regulares/enoe/default.aspx](http://www.inegi.org.mx/est/contenidos/proyectos/encuestas/hogares/regulares/enoe/default.aspx)> • Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía, *Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares*, <[www.inegi.org.mx/est/contenidos/proyectos/encuestas/hogares/regulares/enigh/default.aspx](http://www.inegi.org.mx/est/contenidos/proyectos/encuestas/hogares/regulares/enigh/default.aspx)>.

Note Data in Area 3 added for the all-government index

The additional data used for the all-government index is from *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report* (Gwartney, Lawson, and Hall, 2017), which is also published by the Fraser Institute. Minimum-maximum calculations are based on the 157 nations and territories covered by the world report. This is not ideal, since the minimum-maximum calculations for other components are based on data from the states and provinces. However, since the data were not typically available at the sub-national level, this does provide an appropriate measure of the difference in economic freedom among Canada, the United States, and Mexico. The world data are available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

### Area 3 Regulation (components used in all-government index only)

Since, as discussed above, Canada and the United States have been diverging on scores for business and credit regulation, the all-government index expands the regulatory area to include data on these areas. Labour regulation becomes one of three equally weighted components of Area 3: Regulation, which comprises 3A: Labour market regulation; 3B: Regulation of credit markets; and 3C: Business regulations. (See Appendix A for how Area 3 is now calculated.)

The individual descriptions and sources can be found in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report*, which is available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

Component 3A Labor Market Freedom (component 5B in *Economic Freedom of the World*)

- 3Aiv *Hiring regulations and minimum wage*
- 3Av *Hiring and firing regulations*
- 3Avi *Centralized collective bargaining*
- 3Avii *Hours regulations*
- 3Aiii *Mandated cost of worker dismissal*
- 3Aix *Conscription*

Component 3B Regulation of credit markets (component 5A in *Economic Freedom of the World*)

- 3Bi *Ownership of banks*
- 3Bii *Private sector credit*
- 3Biii *Interest rate controls / negative real interest rates*

Component 3C Business regulations (component 5C in *Economic Freedom of the World*)

- 3Ci *Administrative requirements*
- 3Cii *Bureaucracy costs*
- 3Ciii *Starting a business*
- 3Civ *Extra payments / bribes / favoritism*
- 3Cv *Licensing restrictions*
- 3Cvi *Cost of tax compliance*

**Area 4 Legal System and Property Rights** (Area 2 in *Economic Freedom of the World*)

The individual descriptions and sources can be found in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report*, available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

- 4A Judicial independence
- 4B Impartial courts
- 4C Protection of property rights
- 4D Military interference in rule of law and politics
- 4E Integrity of the legal system
- 4F Legal enforcement of contracts
- 4G Regulatory restrictions on the sale of real property
- 4H Reliability of police
- 4I Business costs of crime

## **Area 5 Sound Money** (Area 3 in *Economic Freedom of the World*)

The individual descriptions and sources can be found in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report*, which is available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

- 5A Money growth
- 5B Standard deviation of inflation
- 5C Inflation: most recent year
- 5D Freedom to own foreign currency bank accounts

## **Area 6 Freedom to Trade Internationally** (Area 4 in *Economic Freedom of the World*)

The individual descriptions and sources can be found in *Economic Freedom of the World: 2017 Annual Report*, which is available at <<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2017-annual-report>>.

- 6A Tariffs
  - 6Ai *Revenue from trade taxes (% of trade sector)*
  - 6Aii *Mean tariff rate*
  - 6Aiii *Standard deviation of tariff rates*
  
- 6B Regulatory trade barriers
  - 6Bi *Non-tariff trade barriers*
  - 6Bii *Compliance costs of importing and exporting*
  
- 6C Black-market exchange rates
  
- 6D Controls of the movement of capital and people
  - 6Di *Foreign ownership / investment restrictions*
  - 6Dii *Capital controls*
  - 6Diii *Freedom of foreigners to visit*

# Appendix C

## Selected Publications Using *Economic Freedom of North America*

Agarwal, Sumit, David Lucca, Amit Seru, and Francesco Trebbi (2014). Inconsistent Regulators: Evidence from Banking. *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 129, 2: 889–938.

Anderson, John E. (2012). State Tax Rankings: What Do They and Don't They Tell Us? *National Tax Journal* 65, 4: 985-1010.

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Apergis, Nicholas, Oguzhan Dincer, and James Payne (2012). Live Free or Bribe: On the Causal Dynamics between Economic Freedom and Corruption in the U.S. States. *European Journal of Political Economy* 28, 2: 215–226.

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Ashby, Nathan J. (2007). Economic Freedom and Migration Flows between U.S. States. *Southern Economic Journal* 73, 3: 677–697.

Ashby, Nathan J., Avilia Bueno, and Deborah Martinez (2013a). Economic Freedom and Economic Development in the Mexican States. *Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy* 43, 1: 21–33.

Ashby, Nathan J., Avilia Bueno, and Deborah Martinez (2013b). The Determinants of Immigration from Mexico to the United States: A State-to-State Analysis. *Applied Economics Letters* 20: 638–641.

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Belasen, Ariel R., and R.W. Hafer (2013). Do Changes in Economic Freedom Affect Well-Being? *Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy* 43, 1: 56–64.

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Bennett, Daniel L., Richard J. Cebula, and Robert Boylan (2015). An Exploratory Study Regarding Whether Greater Labor Freedom Reduces New Home Prices. In Richard J. Cebula, Joshua C. Hall, Franklin G. Mixon, Jr., and James E. Payne, eds., *Economic Behavior, Economic Freedom, and Entrepreneurship* (Edward Elgar): 115–123.

Bennett, Daniel L., and Richard K. Vedder (2013). A Dynamic Analysis of Economic Freedom and Income Inequality in the 50 U.S. States: Empirical Evidence of a Parabolic Relationship. *Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy* 43, 1: 42–55.

Berger, Thomas (2012). An Overview and Analysis on Indices of Regional Competitiveness. *Review of Economics & Finance* 2: 17–33.

Berggren, Niclas, and Therese Nilsson (2016). Tolerance in the United States: Does Economic Freedom Transform Racial, Religious, Political and Sexual Attitudes? *European Journal of Political Economy* 45: 53-70.

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## About the Authors



### Dean Stansel

Dean Stansel is a Research Associate Professor at the O’Neil Center for Global Markets and Freedom in the Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University. He earned his B.A. in economics (with honors) and politics from Wake Forest University and his M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from George Mason University. Before entering academia, Prof. Stansel worked for seven years at the Cato Institute, a public-policy research organization in Washington, D.C., where he produced over 60 publications on fiscal policy issues. In addition to his work on *Economic Freedom of North America*, he is sole author of an index of economic freedom for US metropolitan areas, as well as the author of numerous academic journal articles on a variety of issues in public finance and urban economics. Prof. Stansel’s research has been discussed in many publications including the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*; and his commentaries have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Investor’s Business Daily*, and *Chicago Tribune*, among others. He was selected in 2011 by the Economic Freedom Project to help publicize the findings of the various economic freedom reports, and the virtues of economic freedom in general, through a variety of media interviews (about 75 a year).



### José Torra

José Torra is the head of research at *Caminos de la Libertad*, a member of the Economic Freedom Network; its mission is to promote discussion about, and reflection upon, the different aspects of freedom. He holds a degree in economics from the *Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México*, Mexico City. He is also the author of the book, *Jonestown: Religión y Socialismo*, published by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation.



### Fred McMahon

Fred McMahon is the Dr. Michael A. Walker Chair of Economic Freedom Research at the Fraser Institute. He manages the Economic Freedom of the World Project and examines global issues, such as development, trade, governance, and economic structure; and coordinates the Economic Freedom Network, an international alliance of independent think tanks in nearly 90 nations and territories. He holds an M.A. in Economics from McGill University, Montreal. Mr McMahon is the author of numerous research articles and several books, including *Looking the Gift Horse in the Mouth: The Impact of Federal Transfers on Atlantic Canada*, which won the

Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Award for advancing public-policy debate, *Road to Growth: How Lagging Economies Become Prosperous*, and *Retreat from Growth: Atlantic Canada and the Negative Sum Economy*. He has written for numerous publications, including the *European Journal of Political Economy*, the *SAIS Journal* (School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University), the *Wall Street Journal*, *Policy Options*, *National Post*, *Time* (Canada), *Globe & Mail*, *Ottawa Citizen*, and most other major Canadian newspapers.

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**Arizona**    *Center for the Philosophy of Freedom at the University of Arizona*

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Tucson, Arizona • [freedomcenter.arizona.edu](http://freedomcenter.arizona.edu)

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Tempe, Arizona • [research.wpcarey.asu.edu/economic-liberty/](http://research.wpcarey.asu.edu/economic-liberty/)

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Conway, Arkansas • [uca.edu/acre](http://uca.edu/acre)

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Oakland, California • [www.independent.org](http://www.independent.org)

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Tallahassee, Florida • [www.jamesmadison.org](http://www.jamesmadison.org)

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Atlanta, Georgia • [georgiapolicy.org](http://georgiapolicy.org)

**Hawaii** *Grassroot Institute of Hawaii*

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Honolulu, Hawaii • [grassrootinstitute.org](http://grassrootinstitute.org)

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Boise, Idaho • [idahofreedom.org](http://idahofreedom.org)

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Springfield/Chicago, Illinois • [illinoispolicy.org](http://illinoispolicy.org)

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Indianapolis, Indiana • [www.sagamoreinstitute.org](http://www.sagamoreinstitute.org)

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Wichita, Kansas • [kansaspolicy.org](http://kansaspolicy.org)

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Our mission is to provide public-policy research and solutions that help improve the lives of all Kentuckians. Pegasus Institute operates as an independent, non-partisan, privately funded research organization focused on state and local policies. We believe that Kentucky has the potential to emerge as a national leader and a beacon of the New South. That potential can be unlocked with data-driven public-policy solutions based in free-market principles, individual liberty and responsibility, and effective, limited, and accountable government.

Louisville, Kentucky • [pegasuskentucky.org](http://pegasuskentucky.org)

*Schnatter Center for Free Enterprise at the University of Louisville*

The mission of the John H. Schnatter Center for Free Enterprise is to engage in research and teaching that explores the role of enterprise and entrepreneurship in advancing the well-being of society.

Louisville, Kentucky • [business.louisville.edu/schnattercenter](http://business.louisville.edu/schnattercenter)

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New Orleans, Louisiana • [www.pelicaninstitute.org](http://www.pelicaninstitute.org)

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Boston, Massachusetts • [pioneerinstitute.org](http://pioneerinstitute.org)

**Michigan** *Mackinac Center for Public Policy*

The Mackinac Center for Public Policy is a non-partisan research and educational institute dedicated to improving the quality of life for all Michigan residents by promoting sound solutions to state and local policy questions.

Midland, Michigan • [www.mackinac.org](http://www.mackinac.org)

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Golden Valley, Minnesota • [www.americanexperiment.org](http://www.americanexperiment.org)

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Mississippi State, Mississippi • <http://www.ims.msstate.edu>

*Mississippi Center for Public Policy*

The Mississippi Center for Public Policy (MCPPE) is an independent, non-profit, public-policy organization based in Jackson, Mississippi. MCPPE works to promote and protect the concepts of free markets, limited government, and strong traditional families.

Jackson, Mississippi • [mspolicy.org](http://mspolicy.org)

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Omaha, Nebraska • [www.creighton.edu/instituteforeconomicinquiry](http://www.creighton.edu/instituteforeconomicinquiry)

*Platte Institute for Economic Research*

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Omaha, Nebraska • [platteinstitute.org](http://platteinstitute.org)

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Concord, New Hampshire • [www.graniteinstitute.org](http://www.graniteinstitute.org)

**New Mexico** *Rio Grande Foundation*

The Rio Grande Foundation is a research institute dedicated to increasing liberty and prosperity for all of New Mexico's citizens. We do this by informing New Mexicans of the importance of individual freedom, limited government, and economic opportunity.

Albuquerque, New Mexico • [www.riograndefoundation.org](http://www.riograndefoundation.org)

**North Carolina** *John Locke Foundation*

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Raleigh, North Carolina • [www.johnlocke.org](http://www.johnlocke.org)

**Ohio** *Buckeye Institute*

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Columbus, Ohio • [www.buckeyeinstitute.org](http://www.buckeyeinstitute.org)

**Pennsylvania** *Commonwealth Foundation*

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Harrisburg, Pennsylvania • [www.commonwealthfoundation.org](http://www.commonwealthfoundation.org)

**South Carolina** *Palmetto Promise Institute*

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Columbia, South Carolina • [palmettopromise.org](http://palmettopromise.org)

**South Dakota** *Great Plains Public Policy Institute*

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Sioux Falls, South Dakota • [www.greatplainsppi.org](http://www.greatplainsppi.org)

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Nashville, Tennessee • [www.beacontn.org](http://www.beacontn.org)

**Texas** *O'Neil Center for Global Markets and Freedom at Southern Methodist University*

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Dallas, Texas • [oneil.cox.smu.edu](http://oneil.cox.smu.edu)

*Texas Public Policy Foundation*

The Texas Public Policy Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan research institute. The Foundation's mission is to promote and defend liberty, personal responsibility, and free enterprise in Texas and the nation by educating and affecting policy makers and the Texas public-policy debate with academically sound research and outreach.

Austin, Texas • [www.texaspolicy.com](http://www.texaspolicy.com)

**Utah** *Libertas Institute*

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Lehi, Utah • [libertasutah.org](http://libertasutah.org)

**Virginia** *Virginia Institute for Public Policy*

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Abingdon, Virginia • [virginiainstitute.org](http://virginiainstitute.org)

**Washington**    *Washington Policy Center*

The Washington Policy Center is an independent, non-profit think tank that promotes sound public policy based on free-market solutions.

Seattle, Washington • [www.washingtonpolicy.org](http://www.washingtonpolicy.org)

**West Virginia**    *Public Policy Foundation of West Virginia*

The Public Policy Foundation of West Virginia is a non-profit research and education organization that conducts scholarly research and analysis of state and local issues. The Foundation's mission is to advance sound policies in West Virginia based on the principles of free enterprise, individual liberty, limited government, and traditional American values.

Wheeling, West Virginia • [www.ppfwv.org](http://www.ppfwv.org)

*Cardinal Institute*

The Cardinal Institute for West Virginia Policy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit founded in 2014 dedicated to research, develop, and communicate effective conservative economic public policies for West Virginia.

Charleston, West Virginia • [www.cardinalinstitute.com](http://www.cardinalinstitute.com)

**Wisconsin**    *MacIver Institute*

The John K. MacIver Institute for Public Policy is a Wisconsin-based think tank that fights for free markets, individual freedom, personal responsibility, and limited government. Our namesake believed that ideas are the most powerful force in politics and our democracy. In John's honor, the MacIver Institute works every day to produce the next generation of ideas that will move Wisconsin and our country forward.

Madison, Wisconsin • [www.maciverinstitute.com](http://www.maciverinstitute.com)

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Founded in 2008 with the purpose of inviting citizens to prepare for informed, active and confident involvement in local and state government, Wyoming Liberty Group provides a venue for understanding public issues in light of constitutional principles and governmental accountability. We believe in the values of individual dignity and personal liberty, and we encourage appreciation of our state constitution and the historical/cultural values that are the very source of our liberty.

Cheyenne, Wyoming • [wyliberty.org](http://wyliberty.org)

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