Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I access the Index?

*A: Go to http://rcii.gsu.edu/ and click on [Subscription and Contact Info](#) at the top of the page. Follow the instructions for both establishing an account in the RCII system AND subscribing. **You must use the same email for both steps**. Once you have subscribed you can access the RCII by signing in on the [Subscriber Access](#) page using your email and the password you created in the RCII system. If you are accessing the RCII through a Realizeit subscription, access the tool through your college's online learning management system.*

Q: How much is a subscription to the RCII? How long are the account subscriptions valid?

A: Students and faculty have two subscription options: a full year at $50.00 or a semester (5-month) at $25.00. A standard non-academic one-year subscription is $100.00. If you have other questions concerning subscriptions please contact us at rcii@gsu.edu.

Q: How many variables are in the RCII?

A: The 2019 RCII consists of 461 variables (including 348 raw data variables), 114 sub-dimensions, and four macro-dimensions, for a total of 1,284,346 data points. The number of raw data variables and sub-dimensions fluctuates from one year to the next depending on data availability, but any structural changes to the RCII are always harmonized across all years of the RCII with each new release.

Q: What can I do with the RCII? How can I customize the RCII? What do each of the tabs on the RCII do? How do I access data on all 199 countries in the RCII?

A: For information on the functionality of the RCII, including how to visualize data, see the [tutorials](#) on the RCII web page.

Q: How can I access RCII at my school/work?

A: The RCII is available at http://rcii.gsu.edu, or through your college's online learning management system if you have a Realizeit subscription. It is recommended that users access the RCII through an up-to-date browser. It is not recommended that users access the RCII through smartphones at this time.

Q: How can I report data issues, bugs, or other concerns with the RCII?

A: *Email us at rcii@gsu.edu. Please include a detailed description. If possible, please also provide screen captures to help document the issue.*

Q: How often does the RCII update its data? Where does the data in the RCII come from?

A: *Data for the RCII is collected each year. Many of our sources release their information in the late fall, which means that the RCII releases an updated version the following spring. A list of sources used in the RCII, as well as links to their websites, can be found on the [RCII homepage](#).*

Q: What's changed since last year's RCII?

A: *The 2019 RCII has the following changes from last year's version:*
- *The RCII has added a "Build Your Own Index" functionality which greatly increases the degree to which the user can customize the RCII. In addition to changing weights, which could always be done, users can now alter the structure of the RCII, change directionality of variables, as well as add or eliminate data or clusters from the RCII. For more information on how to use this advanced functionality, see the [tutorials](#) on the RCII web page.*
- *The RCII added a new year's worth of data for 2018.*
- *Due to a decrease in data availability, the following countries dropped out of the pre-calculated 2019 RCII (meaning these countries now have less than 85% data availability for the current year): Bhutan; Gabon; Guyana; Madagascar; Myanmar; and Suriname.*
- *Added a new sub-dimension to Business Transactions called Labor Regulation. New variables in this sub-dimension include: Minimum Wage for a Full-Time Worker; Ratio of Minimum Wage to Value Added per Worker; Standard Workday; Maximum Working Days per Week; Premium for Night Work; Premium for Overtime Work; Premium for Work on Weekly Rest Day; Paid Annual Leave; and Minimum Length of Maternity Leave.*
- *We've restructured the Operational Landscape sub-dimension and the Education sub-dimension to accommodate changes in source-data availability. Variables lost include: Physical Property Protection; Diversion of Public Funds; Public Trust in Politicians; Irregular Payments and Bribes; Favoritism in Decisions of Government Officials; Wastefulness of Government Spending; Transparency of Government Policymaking; Business Cost of Terrorism; Business Cost of Crime and Violence; Corporate Ethics; Efficacy of Corporate Boards; (continued...)*

Protection of Minority Shareholders; Strength of Investor Protection; Quality of Overall Infrastructure; Quality of Railroad Infrastructure; Quality of Port Infrastructure; Quality of Air Transport Infrastructure; Available Airline Seat Kilometers; Quality of Electricity Supply; Telephone Lines (hard data); Intensity of Local Competition; Extent of Market Dominance; Effectiveness of Anti-Monopoly Policy; Effect of Taxation on Incentives to Invest; Agricultural Policy Costs; Prevalence of Foreign Ownership; Business Impact of Rules on FDI; Degree of Customer Orientation; Effect of Taxation on Incentives to Work; Capacity to Retain Talent; Capacity to Attract Talent; Affordability of Financial Services; Financing through Local Equity Markets; Ease of Access to Loans; Regulation of Securities Exchange; Legal Rights Index; Availability of Latest Technologies; Firm-Level Technology Absorption; FDI and Technology Transfer; Internet Bandwidth Kb/s per User; ICT Use for Business-to-Business Transactions; Internet Use for Business-to-Customer Transactions; Government Online Service Index; Local Supplier Quantity; Local Supplier Quality; Nature of Competitive Advantage; Value Chain Breadth; Control of International Distribution; Production Process Sophistication; Extent of Marketing; Capacity for Innovation; Company Spending on R&D; Government Procurement of Advanced Technology Products; and Availability of Scientists and Engineers; Quality of Primary Education; Quality of the Educational System; Quality of Math and Science Education; Internet Access in Schools; Quality of Management Schools; and Local Availability of Research and Training Services.

Variables gained include: Terrorism Incidence; Budget Transparency; Freedom of the Press; E-Participation Index; Government Ensuring Policy Stability; Government's Responsiveness to Change; Government Long Term Vision; Legal Framework's Adaptability to Digital Business Models; Property Rights; Quality of Land Administration; Conflict of Interest Regulation; Shareholder Governance; Social Capital; Incidence of Corruption; Road Connectivity Index; Railroad Density; Efficiency of Train Services; Airport Connectivity; Efficiency of Air Transport Services; Liner Shipping Connectivity Index; Efficiency of Seaport Services; Electrification Rate; Electric Power Transmission and Distribution Losses; Reliability of Water Supply; Exposure to Unsafe Drinking Water; Fibre Internet Subscriptions; Competition in Network Services; Competition in Professional Services; Competition in Retail Services; Distortive Effect of Taxes and Subsidies on Competition; Active Labour Policies; Workers' Rights; Ease of Hiring Foreign Labour; Internal Labour Mobility; Female Participation in Labour Force; Labour Tax Rate; Financing of SMEs; (continued...)

Domestic Credit to Private Sector; Market Capitalization; Life Insurance Premiums; Non-life Insurance Premiums; Non-performing Loans; Credit Gap; Bank Regulatory Capital Ratio; Attitudes Toward Entrepreneurial Risk; Growth of Innovative Companies; Companies Embracing Disruptive Ideas; Diversity of Workforce; International Co-Inventions; Collaboration Inside Company; Collaboration Between Companies; H-Index; R&D Expenditures; Trademark Applications; Expenditure on Primary Education; Expenditure on Secondary Education; Expenditure on Tertiary Education; PISA Reading Average; PISA Math Average; PISA Science Average; Bachelor's or Equivalent; Labor Force with Advanced Education; Ease of Finding Skilled Employees; Quality of Vocational Training; Digital Skills Among Population; Skillset of Secondary-Education Graduates; Skillset of University Graduates; School Life Expectancy; Critical Thinking in Teaching; and Pupil-to-Teacher Ratio in Primary Education.

Q: What does the RCII score/rank mean? How are they calculated?

A: Think baseball! You want to be ranked #1 in the league and batting 1000. For more detailed information on the mathematical calculations behind the RCII, please see the academic paper, which is archived on our website here.

Q: Can I use the RCII for academic research? Can I publish my research using the RCII?

A: We welcome and encourage you to use the RCII for your research. Data and/or visualizations from the RCII may be used for academic purposes, including publication of any academic research. Data and/or visualizations from the RCII must be cited as follows: **Robinson Country Intelligence Index, Georgia State University**. *Data and/or visualizations from the RCII must accurately represent the information contained in the RCII.*