

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 2020 RCII consists of 440 variables (including 321 raw data variables), 114 sub-dimensions, and four macro-dimensions, for a total of 1,313,400 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. The "Golden Rule" for pulling RCII data is that the data used for each year's index is the best available data released or available during the year covered by that index. In other words, the data for the 2020 RCII is the best data that was released or available during 2019. 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 2020 RCII has the following changes from last year's version:

- The RCII has continued to develop 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 2019.*
- Due to an increase in data availability, the following countries returned to the pre-calculated 2020 RCII (meaning these countries now have more than 85% data availability for the current year): Barbados and Madagascar. However, due to a decrease in data availability, Liberia dropped out.*
- We've simplified the Doing Businesses sub-dimensions to focus on Procedures, time, and cost.*



•Due to a change in source data availability, Laws on Rape and Laws on Sexual Harassment have been dropped from the Female Physical Integrity sub-dimension.

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.*