



## 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](mailto:rcii@gsu.edu).*

Q: How many variables are in the RCII?

*A: The 2017 RCII consists of 379 variables (including 280 raw data variables), 98 sub-dimensions, and four macro-dimensions, for a total of 905,052 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](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](mailto: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 2017 RCII has the following changes from last year's version:*

- Added a new year's worth of data for 2016.
- Updated data in the Operations sub-dimension "Starting a Business" to include differentiation between men and women for procedures, time, and cost to "Start a Business", based on new data from the source.
- Added sub-dimensions on "Happiness" and "Globalization" within Society's "Middle Class Propensity," for a total of 20 new variables.
- Added data on "Alternative and Nuclear Energy" in the Environmental Sustainability sub-dimension of Society.
- Eliminated data on "Paved Roads", "Ease of Hiring Foreign Labor", "Availability of Financial Services", and "Openness to Multilateral Trade Rules" from the Operations Dimension, based on changes at the sources.
- Added new clusters based on IGOs and other groupings, including: Arab League, ASEAN, BRICS, ECOWAS, EU, Eurozone, G-7, G-20 (minus the EU), G-77, MERCOSUR, NATO, OAS, OPEC, SAARC, SADC, and SCO.
- Dropped the following countries from the 2016 default index due to less than 85% available data for the current year: Angola, Barbados, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Myanmar, and Swaziland (they are still available in the RCII with no missing data threshold).
- Added the following countries to the 2017 default index due to 85% or greater available data for the current year: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Benin, and Brunei Darussalam.



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.*