

# Governance Assessment Profile

## The Heritage Foundation's *Index of Economic Freedom*

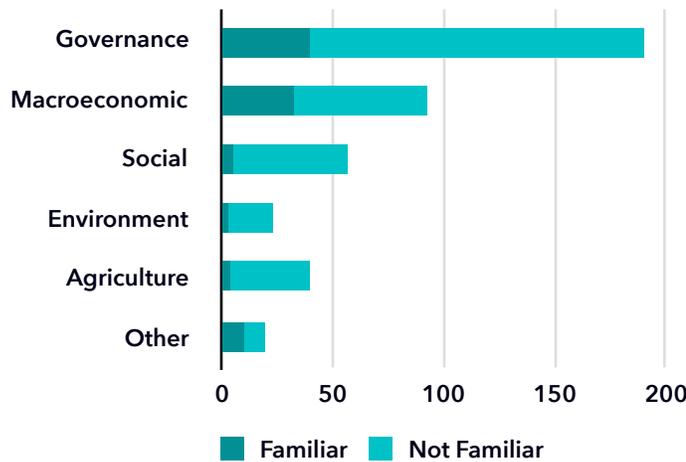
### Summary

The Heritage Foundation's *Index of Economic Freedom* scores and ranks 186 countries based on trade freedom, business freedom, investment freedom, and property rights. The Index is computed with 10 qualitative and quantitative factors categorized into four pillars of economic freedom: rule of law, limited government, regulatory efficiency, and market openness. The information below was compiled from responses to AidData's 2016 GDA Snap Poll, which asked public, private and civil society leaders to answer 11 questions about whether, when, and why they use governance data in their work. A total of 96 participants to the snap poll indicated familiarity with the Index.

# 96

survey respondents were familiar with the Index.

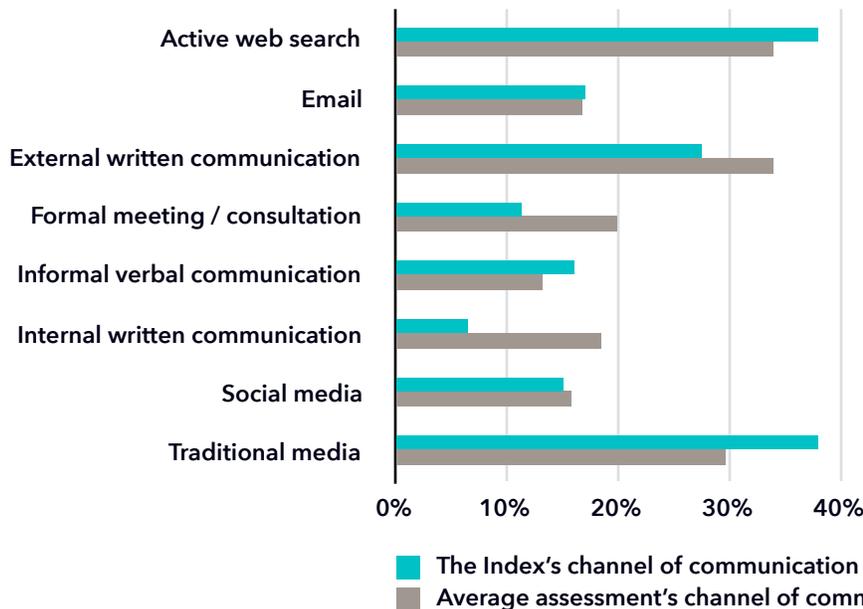
### Who is familiar with the Index (by policy domain)?



# 35%

33 (35%) out of 93 data users working within the macroeconomic domain were familiar with the Index.

### How did data users become familiar with the Index?\*



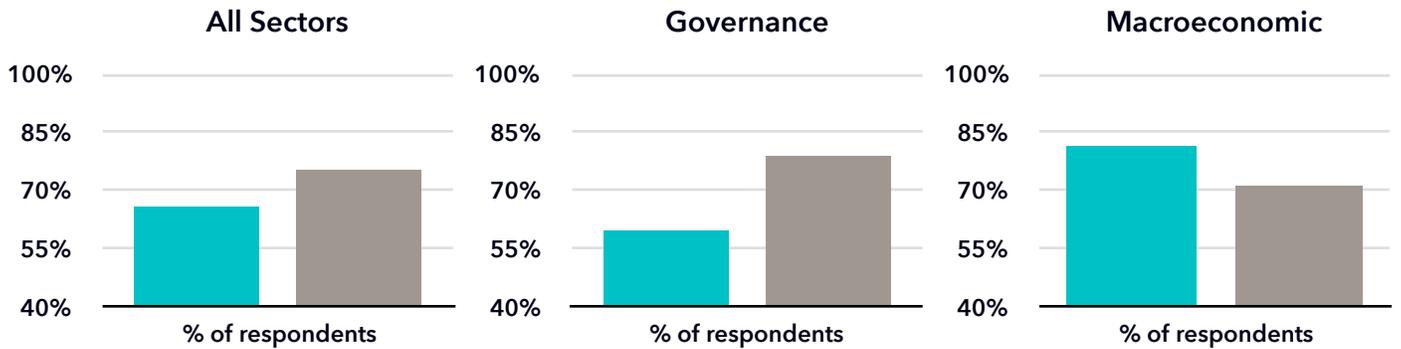
# 38%

of data users became familiar with the Index through traditional media (e.g., newspapers, magazines).

\*Snap poll participants could select multiple channels of communications for how they became familiar with a particular assessment.

## How many data users found the Index to be *important* or *essential* to their work?

■ The Index ■ Avg. Assessment



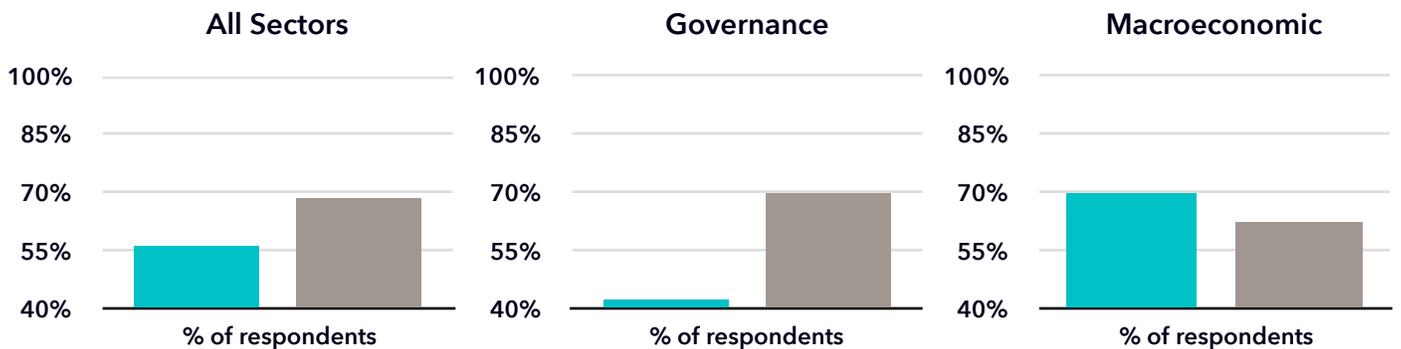
**66%**  
of all data users considered the Index to be important or essential to their work, 9% below the average assessment.

**60%**  
of data users in the governance domain considered the Index to be important or essential to their work.

**81%**  
of data users in the macroeconomic domain considered the Index to be important or essential to their work.

## How many data users found the Index to be *helpful* or *very helpful* to their work?

■ The Index ■ Avg. Assessment



**56%**  
of all data users evaluated the Index to be helpful or very helpful to their work, 12% below the average assessment.

**43%**  
of data users in the governance domain evaluated the Index to be helpful or very helpful to their work.

**70%**  
of data users in the macroeconomic domain evaluated the Index to be helpful or very helpful to their work.

### Background

Designed and fielded by AidData at the College of William & Mary, the 2016 Governance Data Alliance Snap Poll offers a unique window into the experiences of public, private, and civil society leaders in advancing reforms in their countries and the role of a broad range of governance data in that process. Respondents answered 11 questions about whether, when, how, and why they use governance data in their work. 3000+ policy-makers and practitioners in low- and middle-income countries received an invitation to participate in the online snap poll. 515 individuals in 111 countries participated, yielding a response rate of 17.7%.

### Citation

Takaaki Masaki, Tanya Sethi, and Samantha Custer. 2016. *In the Eye of the Beholder: When is governance data "good enough"?* Williamsburg, VA. AidData at the College of William & Mary and the Governance Data Alliance.