

## GOVERNANCE, JAMAICA 2007 – 2020

The set of indicators sought to provide an objective measurement as it relates to how well a country is governed. Indeed there are other measures that could be included but for the purpose of this presentation only the set covered by Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan will be considered.

### DEFINITIONS

The Voice and Accountability (VA) Index captures perceptions of the extent to which a country's citizens are able to participate in selecting their government, as well as freedom of expression, freedom of association, and a free media.

The Rule of Law (RL) Index captures perceptions of the extent to which agents have confidence in and abide by the rules of society, and in particular, the quality of contract enforcement, property rights, the police, and the courts, and the likelihood of crime and violence.

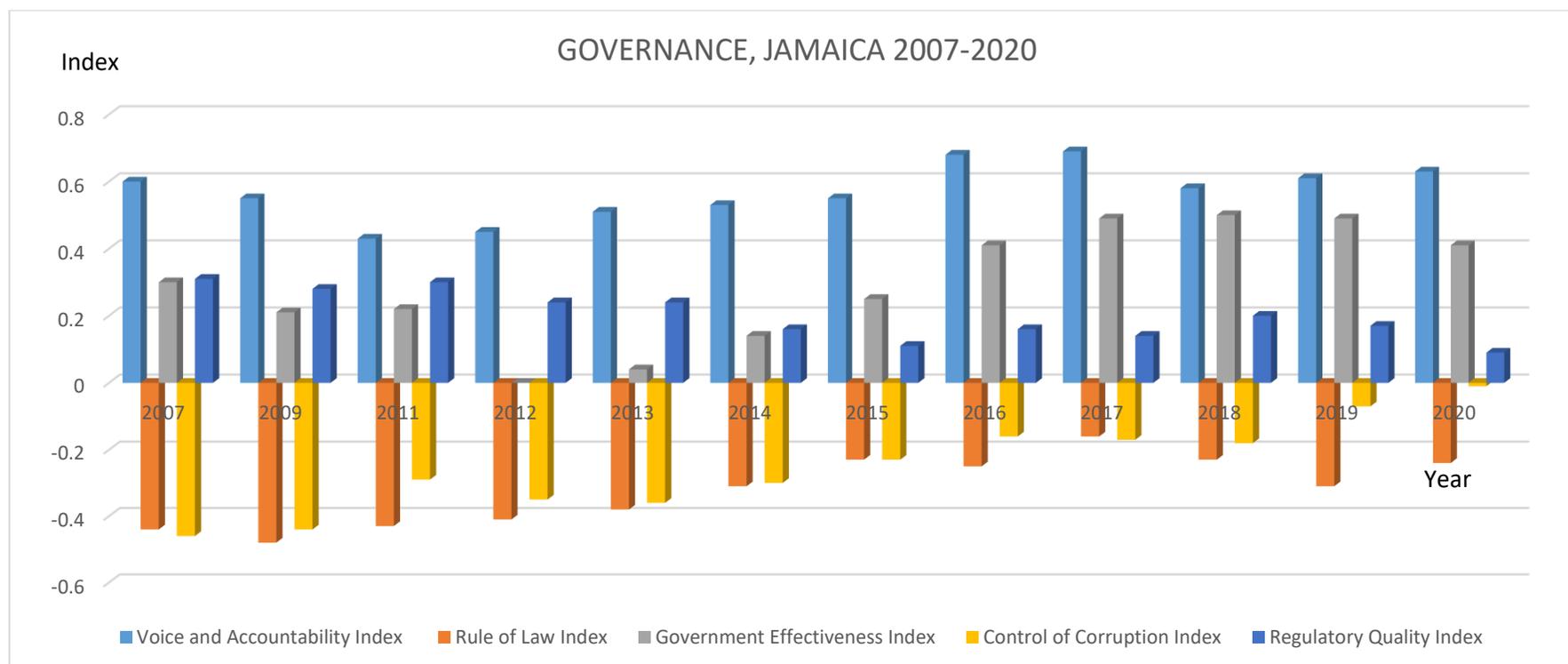
The Government Effectiveness (GE) Index is used to capture perceptions of the quality of public services, the quality of the civil service and the degree of its independence from political pressures, the quality of policy formulation and implementation, and the credibility of the government's commitment to such policies.

The Control of Corruption (CC) Index is used to capture perceptions of the extent to which public power is exercised for private gain, including both petty and grand forms of corruption, as well as "capture" of the state by elites and private interests.

Regulatory Quality (RQ) Index that captures perceptions of the ability of the government to formulate and implement sound policies and regulations that permit and promote private-sector development.

For these indexes scores can range from -2.5 to 2.5, where a low score indicates a generally poor perception of government effectiveness. These indexes are five of six composite indicators in the Worldwide Governance Indicator (WGI) Report. The excluded indicator from the set is Political Stability and Absence of Violence.

**FIGURE 1.0**



**TABLE 1.0**

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Voice and Accountability Index	0.6	0.55	0.43	0.45	0.51	0.53	0.55	0.68	0.69	0.58	0.61	0.63
Rule of Law Index	-0.44	-0.48	-0.43	-0.41	-0.38	-0.31	-0.23	-0.25	-0.16	-0.23	-0.31	-0.24
Government Effectiveness Index	0.3	0.21	0.22	0	0.04	0.14	0.25	0.41	0.49	0.5	0.49	0.41
Control of Corruption Index	-0.46	-0.44	-0.29	-0.35	-0.36	-0.3	-0.23	-0.16	-0.17	-0.18	-0.07	-0.01
Regulatory Quality Index	0.31	0.28	0.3	0.24	0.24	0.16	0.11	0.16	0.14	0.2	0.17	0.09
<b>Year</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>

The figure 1.0 and table 1.0 above show that voice and accountability, government effectiveness and regulatory indexes for Jamaica scores are generally above zero, meaning that they are positioned slightly above the fifty percent mark on the scale. It is also noted that the trend for voice and regulatory indexes are flat while that of the government effectiveness is upward. The trends are all cyclic in nature. Mean scores for the indexes are as follows: voice and accountability, government effectiveness and regulatory quality indexes are 0.568, 0.288 and 0.200 respectively.

Rule of law and corruption control indexes are all below the fifty percent mark on their scales i.e. they being negative. The trend for both indexes are upward and hence can be described as encouraging. For the corruption and control index the lowest score occurred in 2007 and the highest in 2020 with values of -0.46 and -0.01 respectively. The rule of law index recorded its lowest score in 2008 and its highest score in 2015 or 2018 with the scores being -0.48 and -0.23 respectively. Mean scores for Rule of law and corruption control indexes are -0.323 and -0.252 respectively.