



MAP OF PRESS FREEDOM 2005



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- FREE
- PARTLY FREE
- NOT FREE

The Map of Press Freedom reflects the flow of news and information within and between 194 countries and territories. Universal criteria determine the judgments, starting with Article 19 of the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights.

Criteria include: the legal environment in which the media operate; the degree of independence of the news media from governmental ownership and influence; economic pressures on news content; and diverse violations of press freedom from the murder of journalists to other physical abuse and harassment.

In 2004, there were 1.11 billion people living in countries with free media, representing 17 percent of the world's population. There were 2.44 billion people living in countries with partly free media, representing 38 percent of the world's population. There were 2.84 billion people living in countries with not free media, representing 45 percent of the world's population.

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. Article 19, Universal Declaration of Human Rights – UN General Assembly, 1948

Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press...
The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

Since 1979, Freedom House has regularly assessed press freedom worldwide. For a full report on freedom of the press, please contact Freedom House/New York.

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Global Trends in Press Freedom

Year Under Review	1994	1999	2004
Free	63	69	75
Partly Free	63	51	50
Not Free	61	66	69
Total	187	186	194