



# Ethiopia

		Indicators											
		Social				Economic		Political/Military					
Year	Total Score	Demographic Pressures	Refugees & Displaced Persons	Group Grievance	Human Flight	Uneven Development	Economy	Legitimacy of the State	Public Services	Human Rights	Security Apparatus	Factionalized Elites	External Influence
2005	91.1	8.7	8.0	6.0	7.3	9.0	8.5	7.9	5.5	6.3	9.0	8.9	6.0
2006	91.9	9.0	7.6	7.0	7.5	8.5	8.0	7.6	6.2	8.0	7.5	8.7	6.3
Point Change	+0.8	+0.3	-0.4	+1	+0.2	-0.5	-0.5	-0.3	+0.7	+1.7	-1.5	-0.2	+0.3
Percent Change	+0.7%	+3%	-4%	+10%	+2%	-5%	-5%	-3%	+7%	+17%	-15%	-2%	+3%

## Overview

Ethiopia is located in eastern Africa and borders Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia and Sudan. It has a population of 74 million and a GDP per capita of \$800. The economy revolves around agriculture, particularly coffee production. The population is 40% Oromo, 32% Amhara and Tigre, 9% Sidamo, 6% Shankella, 6% Somali, 4% Afar, 2% Gurage, and 1% other ethnicities. The religious composition is 45%-50% Muslim, 35%-40% Ethiopian Orthodox, 12% animist, and 3%-8% other religions.

## Social Indicators

Ethiopia received high ratings for all of the social indicators. Demographic pressures were rated 8.7 in the Failed States Index 2005 (FSI 2005) and worsened to 9.0 in the FSI 2006. Demographic pressures were high due to a population growth rate of 2.3%, a young population (43% under the age of 15), an infant mortality rate of 93 per 1,000 live births, and an HIV prevalence of 4%. Demographic pressures continue to worsen as the growing agricultural population puts pressure on drought-prone farmland.

As of 2005, there were about 126,000 refugees in Ethiopia from Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea. There were also 132,000 internally displaced persons remaining from the border war with Eritrea in 1998-2000. Although some of the refugees returned home in 2005, causing the rating to drop from an 8.0 in the FSI 2005 to a 7.6 in the FSI 2006, the large number of refugees and IDPs continues to put a strain on an already struggling society. Group grievance is also high in Ethiopia due to ethnic tensions and the legacy of the war with Eritrea. Ethnic clashes resulted in hundreds of deaths in 2005. The government has also become increasingly repressive, and group grievance rose from a rating of 6.0 in the FSI 2005 to 7.0 in the FSI 2006 due to the government's crackdown on the opposition following a series of riots and protests in June-November 2005. Human flight also rose slightly in the FSI 2006 as more people left Ethiopia in search of better opportunities.

## Economic Indicators

Uneven development is high in Ethiopia due to the extreme inequality and the poverty of much of the population. The lowest 10% of the population earns only 3% of the income, while the highest 10% controls 33.7%. Uneven development fell from a rating of 9.0 in the FSI 2005 to 8.5 in the FSI 2006 as a result of several years of good weather, which increased agricultural output and raised incomes among Ethiopia's poor. The rating for the economy also improved from an 8.5 in the FSI 2005 to an 8.0 in the FSI 2006 due to the increased economic growth.

## Political/Military Indicators

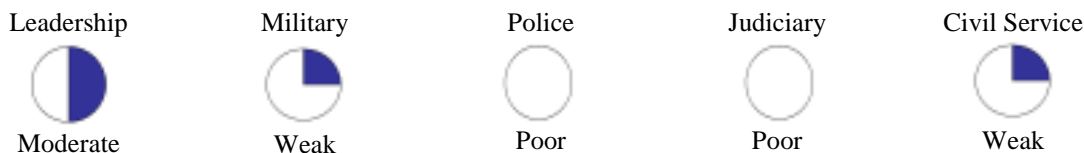
Legitimacy of the state increased slightly from a rating of 7.9 in the FSI 2005 to 7.6 in the FSI 2006. Parliamentary elections were held in May 2005 and, although there were instances of fraud, there was significant improvement compared to the 2000 elections. However, while holding elections were in some ways a step forward for Ethiopia, allegations of fraud resulted in riots and protests that elicited a clampdown by security forces. The violent aftermath of the elections prevented a greater improvement in the rating for state legitimacy.

Public services worsened from a rating of 5.5 in the FSI 2005 to 6.2 in the FSI 2006. Although access to education has been improving slowly over the past two decades, only 64% of children attend primary school and secondary school enrollment is only 18%. Healthcare is also poor, as indicated by the high infant mortality rate and a life expectancy of only 42 years. The decline in public services from the FSI 2005 to the FSI 2006 reflects an increase in HIV infections in the rural areas following the demobilization of soldiers after the war with Eritrea from 1998-2000 as well as an increase in malaria caused by the rains of 2003-2005. These health crises, which primarily affected the rural areas, overwhelmed the already inadequate rural healthcare services.

Human rights worsened from a rating of 6.3 in the FSI 2005 to 8.0 in the FSI 2006 as a result of the human rights abuses that occurred following the 2005 elections. These abuses included arbitrary detention, beating and killing of opposition members, ethnic minorities, NGO employees and journalists. Despite the overall decline in human rights in the FSI 2006, the rating for the security apparatus improved from 9.0 in the FSI 2005 to 7.5 in the FSI 2006. The rating of 9.0 was caused by a number of extrajudicial killings by police in late 2004. There were also incidents of violence against the members of various political parties by militias, which contributed to the high rating in the FSI 2005.

The rating for factionalized elites improved slightly from 8.9 in the FSI 2005 to 8.7 in the FSI 2006 due to the increased influence of the opposition parties following the May 2005 elections. The ruling EPRDF party maintained its strong control over the government, however, preventing a more significant improvement in the rating. External influence increased as international donors reacted to the ruling party's crackdown on the opposition in late 2005 by reducing direct aid to the government while increasing project-oriented aid that the government does not control.

### Core Five State Institutions



Parliamentary elections were held in May 2005 and, although there were incidents of fraud, they were an incremental improvement over the 2000 elections and may have been the most democratic elections Ethiopia has ever held. Although the government continues to use repressive tactics against the opposition, the elections were a step forward.

The army has been scaled back following the end of the war with Eritrea. As of 2005, it consisted of 180,000 troops, down from 250,000 during the war. Although the military was involved in human rights abuses, it appears to have a better human rights record than the police.

The police were involved in numerous human rights violations, including unlawful killings and beating and abuse of detainees. Corruption was also a problem and the overall professionalism of the police force was lacking.

Although the constitution provides for an independent judiciary, in practice the judiciary is weak and heavily influenced by the executive branch.

The civil service suffered from a lack of resources and was prone to corruption.

### Prognosis

Although the 2005 elections were more democratic than those in the past, electoral malpractices and the violence that followed did much to discredit them. Ethiopia continues to face serious challenges, including extreme poverty and continued border tensions with Eritrea, both of which threaten the government's stability.



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