

Call for input: reimagining policing

The Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI) produces data tools that measure how well governments are respecting human rights.

HRMI measures how well countries around the world respect five physical integrity ([Safety from the State](#)) rights:

- right to freedom from **arbitrary arrest**,
- right to freedom from **forced disappearance**,
- right to freedom from the **death penalty**,
- right to freedom from **extrajudicial execution**, and
- right to freedom from **torture and ill-treatment**.

These data give insight into racial injustice and discrimination and are useful for your report on systemic racism in law enforcement and criminal justice systems.

HRMI currently has Safety from the State data for more than 40 countries, you can see them on our [Rights Tracker](#).

United States

Our Safety from the State data are based on information collected directly from human rights practitioners monitoring the situation in each country. Based on these responses, HRMI produces scores on a scale of 0 to 10 .

HRMI also collects data from respondents about which groups of people are particularly vulnerable to abuses of each right. For many countries, human rights experts identified people of particular races or ethnicities as being especially at risk of having their rights violated.

The United States receives an **overall score of 4.3 /10**, which suggests that **many people are not enjoying their physical integrity rights**. Here’s how the US scores for each right:

Right to freedom from

- Arbitrary arrest: 5.8
- Forced disappearance: 6.8
- Death penalty: 5.6
- Extrajudicial execution: 4.1
- Torture and ill-treatment: 3.8

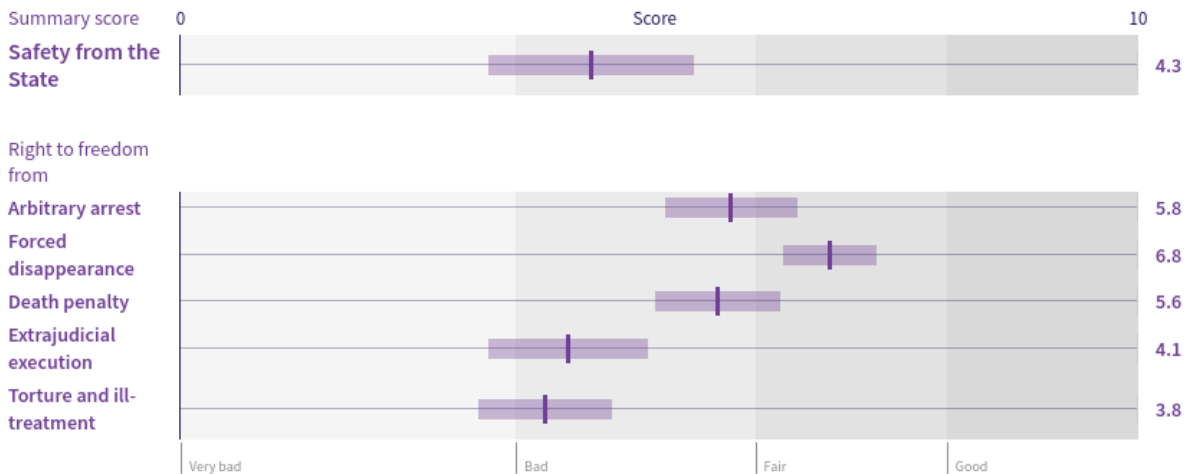
For all but one of these rights, the United States’ scores fall in the “bad” range, as seen in the graph below, suggesting that **the US is not respecting and protecting the physical safety of its citizens**.

Safety from the State - overview

[How to read](#) 

(2021)

How well is the United States' government respecting each right?



Source: HRMI 2022 rightstracker.org

The United States’ performance on Safety from the State rights, [RightsTracker.org](https://rightstracker.org)

However, there are notable inequalities when it comes to rights outcomes in the United States. We measure this by asking human rights experts which groups of people are particularly at risk of not enjoying their human rights.

For the right to freedom from arbitrary arrest, extrajudicial execution, and torture and ill-treatment, **75% of US experts identified people of particular races as being especially at risk.**

Specifically, experts note that Black, Indigenous and People of Colour, especially Black men, are vulnerable to having these rights violated.

Safety from the State

People at risk for

Right to freedom from arbitrary arrest

Interpretation: Larger text = more human rights experts identified this group as being at risk.

75% of our human rights experts identified **People of particular races** as being at risk of having this right violated.



Source: HRMI 2022 rightstracker.org

Word cloud showing people especially likely to be arbitrarily arrested in the United States, [RightsTracker.org](https://rightstracker.org)

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom receives an **overall score of 7.6 /10**, which suggests that **a significant number of people are not enjoying their physical integrity rights**. Here’s how the UK scores for each right:

Right to freedom from

- Arbitrary arrest: 6.5
- Forced disappearance: 8.7
- Death penalty: 10.0
- Extrajudicial execution: 8.2
- Torture and ill-treatment: 5.7

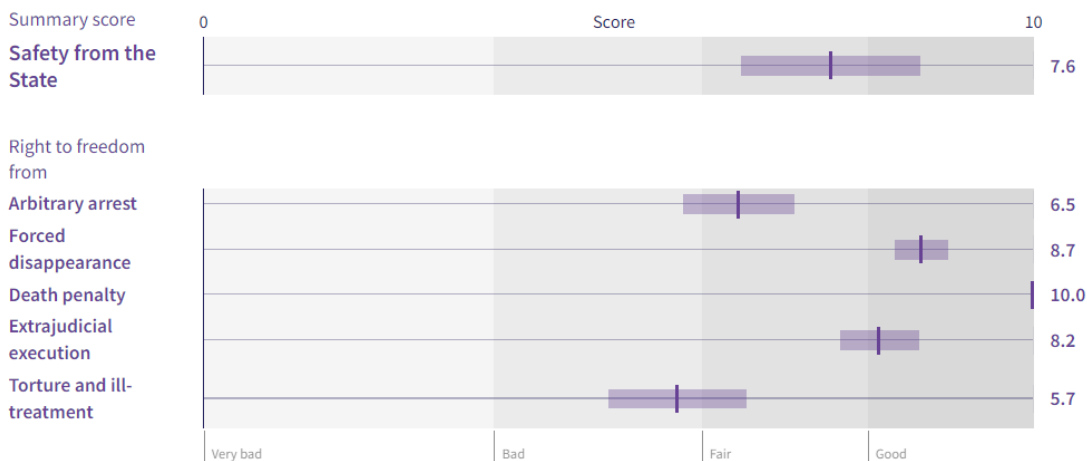
Overall, the United Kingdom’s scores fall in the “fair” range. This shows us that **the UK is not fully respecting and protecting the physical safety of its citizens**, as seen in the below graph.

Safety from the State - overview

[How to read](#) 

(2021)

How well is the United Kingdom's government respecting each right?



Source: HRMI 2022 rightstracker.org

The United Kingdom’s performance on Safety from the State rights, [RightsTracker.org](https://www.rightstracker.org)

42% of UK human rights experts identified **people of particular races** as being especially vulnerable to **arbitrary arrest**. Furthermore, 50% of experts identified this group when it comes to torture and ill-treatment.

When asked to provide context, UK experts noted that minority ethnic groups, Black people, especially Black men, are vulnerable to rights violations.

Safety from the State

People at risk for

Right to freedom from arbitrary arrest

Interpretation: Larger text = more human rights experts identified this group as being at risk.

42% of our human rights experts identified **People of particular races** as being at risk of having this right violated.



Source: HRMI 2022 rightstracker.org

Word cloud showing people especially likely to be arbitrarily arrested in the United Kingdom, Rightstracker.org

Brazil


Brazil receives an **overall score of 3.5 /10**, which suggests that **many people are not enjoying their physical integrity rights**. Here's how Brazil scores for each right:

Right to freedom from

- Arbitrary arrest: 4.6
- Forced disappearance: 4.8
- Death penalty: 10.0
- Extrajudicial execution: 3.2
- Torture and ill-treatment: 2.9

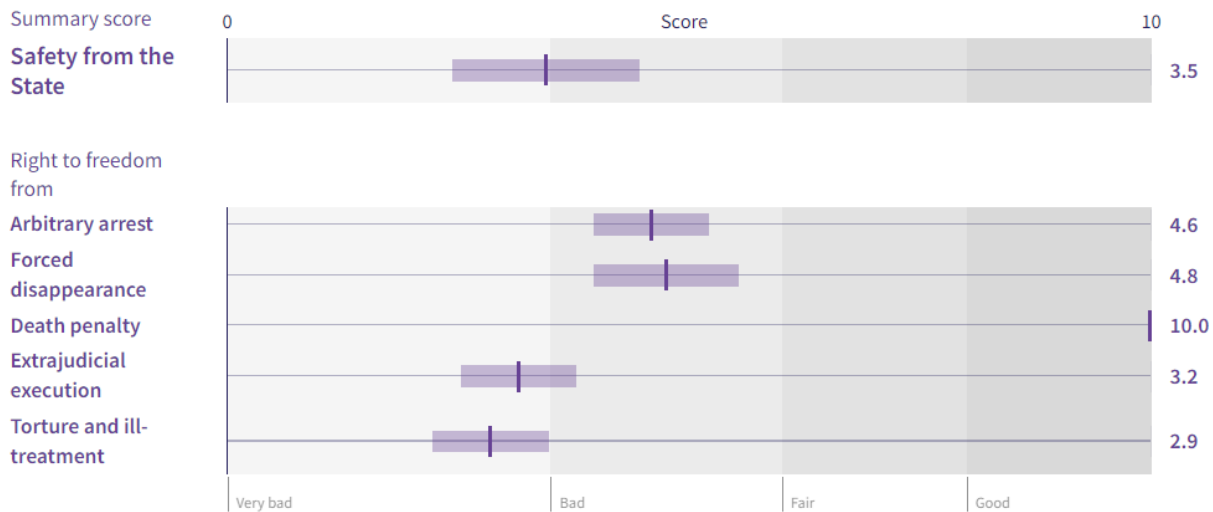
Overall, Brazil's scores fall in the "very bad" or "bad" range. This shows us that **Brazil is not respecting and protecting the physical safety of its citizens**, as seen in the below graph.

Safety from the State - overview

[How to read](#) 

(2021)

How well is Brazil's government respecting each right?



Source: HRMI 2022 [rightstracker.org](https://www.rightstracker.org)

Brazil's performance on Safety from the State rights, [RightsTracker.org](https://www.rightstracker.org)

80% of Brazil human rights experts identified people of particular races as especially vulnerable to extrajudicial execution.

For the rights to freedom from arbitrary arrest, forced disappearance, and torture and ill-treatment, **over 50% of respondents identified people of particular races.**

Specifically, experts noted that **Black people, particularly young Black men, are especially vulnerable to rights violations.**

Safety from the State

People at risk for

Right to freedom from arbitrary arrest

Interpretation: Larger text = more human rights experts identified this group as being at risk.

50% of our human rights experts identified **People of particular races** as being at risk of having this right violated.



Source: HRMI 2022 rightstracker.org

Word cloud showing people especially likely to be arbitrarily arrested in Brazil, [Rightstracker.org](https://www.rightstracker.org)

These data give a glimpse into the institutionalised and systematic racial injustice and discrimination prevalent in countries around the world.

If you would like to explore data for these countries and others, you can find them on our [Rights Tracker](#).

For more information or further inquiries, please feel free to visit our [website](#) or contact us directly:

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