



KIDSRIGHTS
Index

The KidsRights Index 2024

France scores 17th
on global ranking for Children's Rights.



FRANCE

OVERALL SCORE
RANK: 17
SCORE: 0,826

LIFE
RANK: 16
SCORE: 0,956

HEALTH
RANK: 34
SCORE: 0,978

EDUCATION
RANK: 40
SCORE: 0,835

PROTECTION
RANK: 20
SCORE: 0,985

CHILD RIGHTS ENVIRONMENT
RANK: 68
SCORE: 0,500

THE KIDSRIGHTS INDEX AND INFORMATION ABOUT ITS DOMAINS, INDICATORS AND METHODOLOGY
ARE ACCESSIBLE ON WWW.KIDSRIGHTSINDEX.ORG

THE KIDSRIGHTS INDEX

The KidsRights Index is the only annual global ranking on how countries worldwide are adhering to children’s rights. Based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Index synthesizes the performance records of states on the most crucial aspects of children’s lives for which comparable data is available. In addition, the Index charts how states are faring in mobilizing the enabling environment for children’s rights that the CRC requires them to have. The five domains that jointly make up the Index are:

1. **Right to Life**
2. **Right to Health**
3. **Right to Education**
4. **Right to Protection**
5. **Enabling Environment for Child Rights**

The KidsRights Index ranks countries on each of these five domains which in turn generate a comprehensive overall ranking. The content of the Index is a sound basis for making concrete recommendations on how the children’s rights record of specific countries could be improved.

SOURCES OF THE KIDSRIGHTS INDEX

The KidsRights Index pools data from three reputable sources: quantitative data published and regularly updated by **UNICEF** (<https://data.unicef.org>) and **UNDP** (www.hdr.undp.org/data)¹, and qualitative data published by the **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child** (www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/crc/pages/crcindex.aspx) in the detailed individual country reports (the so-called Concluding Observations) that it adopts for all states that are parties to the CRC. The KidsRights Index aims to make the data more accessible to a broader audience, in an effort to stimulate dialogue about children’s rights. Since the United States of America is the only state in the world that is not yet a party to the CRC, there is no material for scoring the country on domain 5 and thus it cannot be included in the KidsRights Index.

DOMAIN 5: ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILD RIGHTS

Domain 5, the ‘Enabling Environment for Child Rights’, is an important and unique domain of the KidsRights Index. It reveals the extent to which countries have operationalized the general principles of the CRC (*non-discrimination; best interests of the child; respect for the views of the child/participation*) and the extent to which there is a basic ‘infrastructure’ for making and implementing child rights policy (in the form of *enabling national legislation; mobilization of the ‘best available’ budget; collection and analysis of disaggregated data; and state-civil society cooperation for child rights*). The scores on domain 5 are derived from the Concluding Observations adopted by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. These Concluding Observations (COs) finish off the state reporting procedure under the CRC and represent the Committee’s views on the level of realization of children’s rights in a particular country.

¹ The data for the KidsRights Index 2023 was downloaded from the listed UNICEF and UNDP sources in January 2023. In addition, the latest available Concluding Observations for each country were used.

Domain 5 - 'Child Rights Environment' - is based on the Concluding Observations adopted by the CRC Committee. The Committee's assessment of the country performance on the earlier mentioned 7 indicators that make up domain 5 is used to generate scores on a scale between 1 and 3. The actual score assigned to each sub-indicator is exclusively based on the language used by the Committee in the document. The resulting final scores are standardized.

KidsRights Index Scoring System:

Score 1 'bad'	= only negative remarks
Score 2 'average'	= negative and positive remarks
Score 3 'good'	= only positive remarks
NA	= not addressed

Color	Meaning
Red	Negative change
Orange	Stayed the same
Green	Positive change

DOMAIN 5: FRANCE

	Non-discrimination	Best interests of the child	Respect for the views of the child	Enabling legislation	Best available budget / Resources	Collection and analysis of disaggregated data	State-civil society cooperation for child rights
France 2016	2	2	2	2	2	1	NA
France 2023	1	2	2	2	2	2	NA

France's overall rank in the KidsRights Index (KRI12) has declined to 17 with a score of 0.826, compared to its previous rank of 12 with a score of 0.873, marking a drop of 5 positions. In the Enabling Environment domain, France's rank has significantly dropped by 34 positions to 68, with a score of 0.500. Among the seven indicators, there has been a decline in non-discrimination, while the collection and analysis of disaggregated data have shown improvement. The remaining indicators have remained unchanged.

COUNTRY RECOMMENDATIONS 2023 - FRANCE

ON NON-DISCRIMINATION (SCORE 1):

KidsRights recommends France fostering a culture of equality, tolerance and mutual respect to prevent and combat persistent discrimination.

Recommendations

- Ensure all cases of discrimination against children are effectively addressed.
- Implement measures to combat discrimination against children in marginalised and disadvantaged situations, including those living in informal accommodations, Roma children, children with disabilities (CWDs), LGBTI children, asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children, and children from racial, ethnic, and religious minorities.

ON BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD (SCORE 2):

Recommendations

- Strengthen efforts to ensure the right to the best interest of the child is integrated, consistently interpreted, and applied in all legislative, administrative, and judicial proceedings, as well as in all relevant policies, programs, and projects.
- Develop procedures and criteria to guide relevant authorities on determining the best interests of the child in every area and giving those interests due weight as a primary consideration.

ON RESPECT FOR THE VIEWS OF THE CHILD (SCORE 2):

Recommendations

- Ensure the effective implementation of legislation and policies on the child's right to be heard in legal proceedings and procedures, ensuring social workers and courts respect this right.
- Continue expanding the network of pediatric reception units for children at risk and increase public funding for these initiatives.
- Provide education for professionals working with children on the child's right to be heard and conduct awareness-raising programs for the general public.

ON ENABLING LEGISLATION (SCORE 2):

KidsRights welcomes the decision of France to assess the impact of draft laws and regulations on young people.

Recommendations

- Systematically carry out youth impact assessments and evaluate the impact of draft legislation on children.
- Support the legislative proposal to establish a committee on the rights of the child in the Senate.

ON BEST AVAILABLE BUDGET (SCORE 2):

Recommendations:

- Increase funding for social sectors, especially for prevention and support for disadvantaged children, including Roma, migrant, asylum-seeking, and refugee children, and those in French Guiana, Mayotte, and other overseas territories.

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- Consider creating a national fund to equalise child welfare expenditure and align needs with resources.
 - Establish a budgeting process that adequately addresses the needs of children.

ON COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF DISAGGREGATED DATA (SCORE 2):

KidsRights underscores the importance of comprehensive data collection for effective implementation Of CRC.

Recommendations:

- Ensure data covers all areas of the CRC and OPs, disaggregated by age, sex, disability, location, ethnic or national origin, and socioeconomic background.
- Ensure data and indicators are systematically collected, shared among relevant ministries and authorities, and used effectively.

ON STATE-CIVIL SOCIETY COOPERATION (NA)



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