

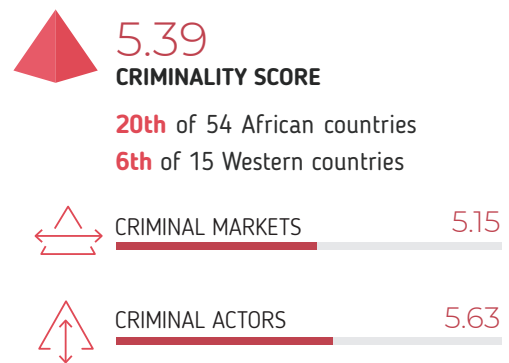
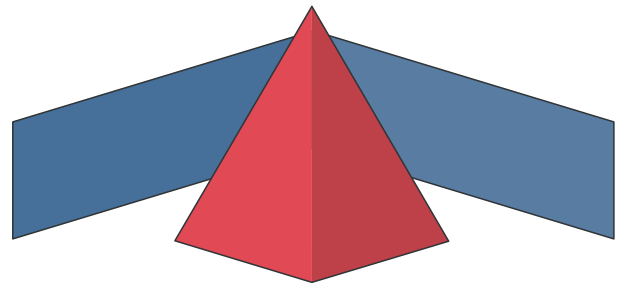
 GUINEA

Guinea is ranked 20th for **criminality** in the Index, as a result of several pervasive **criminal markets** and highly influential **criminal actors** embedded within the state and foreign criminal actors.

Despite a high continental ranking for its **criminal markets**, Guinea's score for **criminal actors** is actually higher. The country's most pervasive criminal markets are **non-renewable-resource crimes**, as a result of the prominence of the illicit gold and diamond industry that many Guineans rely on; and the **cocaine trade**, given the country's prominent role as a transit country for the drug, which arrives in West Africa from Latin America. Drug trafficking has penetrated state institutions, bringing together local businesspeople, politicians, police officers and military personnel to form a complex and profitable alliance. **Foreign actors** play a major role in cocaine trafficking, and also **human trafficking**, which pushes many Guineans into forced labour or sexual exploitation.

Guinea is ranked 40th in the Index for **resilience**. Despite having ratified the majority of international treaties and conventions on organised crime, with the notable exceptions of two key protocols of the Palermo Convention on the smuggling of migrants and the trafficking of arms, Guinea faces severe deficiencies in a number of crucial areas. In fact, Guinea's scores for all other **resilience** indicators suggest either non-existent, or at the very most, extremely ineffective regulatory frameworks and institutions.

Of particular concern is the lack of political will to tackle organised crime, with heavy state involvement in a number of criminal markets – in particular, the drug trade – a significant impediment to defeating organised crime. A complete lack of organised crime **prevention** measures or any institutional **support for witnesses and victims** of organised crime is a direct consequence of the lack of **political leadership** on the issue.



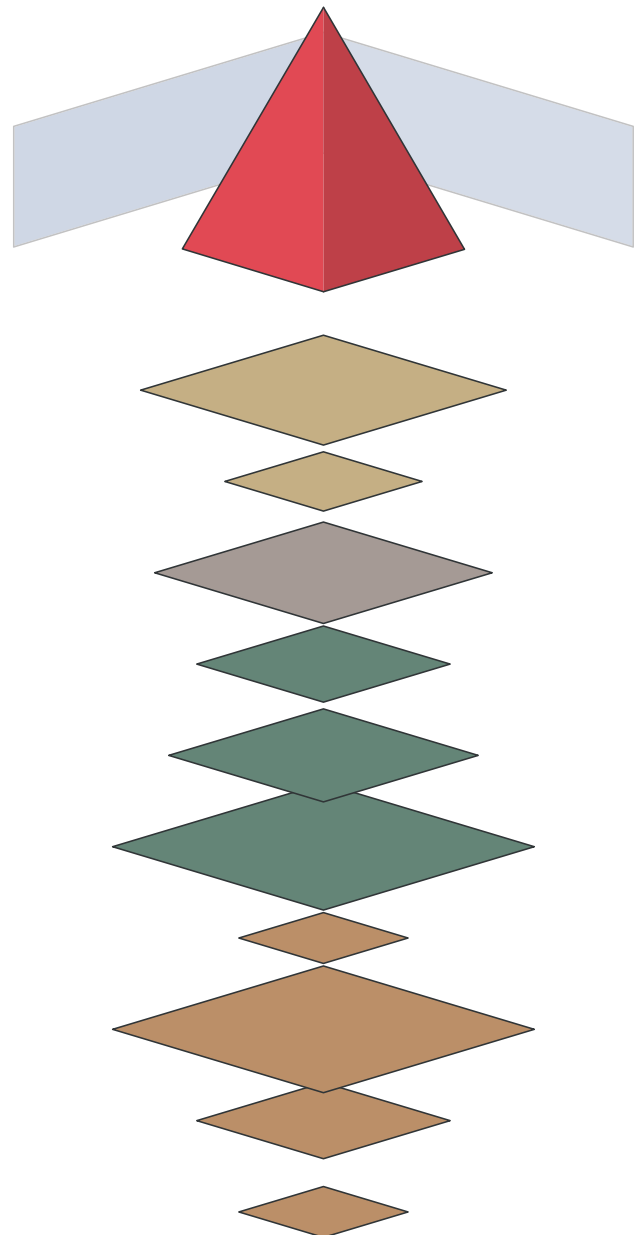
CRIMINALITY SCORE



CRIMINAL ACTORS	5.63
MAFIA STYLE GROUPS	1.5
CRIMINAL NETWORKS	5.5
STATE-EMBEDDED ACTORS	8.5
FOREIGN ACTORS	7.0



CRIMINAL MARKETS	5.15
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	6.5
HUMAN SMUGGLING	3.5
ARMS TRAFFICKING	6.0
FLORA CRIMES	4.5
FAUNA CRIMES	5.5
NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES CRIMES	7.5
HEROIN TRADE	3.0
COCAINE TRADE	7.5
CANNABIS TRADE	4.5
SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRADE	3.0



Criminal Markets

With a score of 7.5 for **non-renewable-resource crimes**, Guinea scores markedly above the continental average of 5.28. Guinea is endowed with mineral resources, including gold and diamonds, and is a source and destination country for trafficked gold. Guinea participates in the Kimberley Process, but only a fraction of the diamonds mined in Guinea pass through the process. Problems in the gold and diamond sector relate entirely to porous borders, lack of formalisation of the

artisanal and small gold mining sector, and corruption. The market provides a livelihood to many actors. Local elites are reportedly involved, but it appears that violence is not a defining feature.

Also scoring 7.5, the **cocaine trade** is a major concern in Guinea. As in neighbouring Guinea-Bissau, the country has long been involved in cocaine trafficking as it sits on a major trafficking route between Latin America to Europe.



Evidence from studies of Guinea-Bissau and regional flows suggest that Guinea is equally involved in the trade, if not more so. Traffickers displaced from Guinea-Bissau after a 2013 crackdown reportedly moved to Guinea, where they operate with high-level protection from the state. Cocaine flows through this region have been increasing over the past two years.

Human trafficking is pervasive in Guinea, which serves as a source, transit and, to some extent, destination country. Parents send their daughters to intermediaries, some knowingly, some unwittingly, who subject them to domestic servitude and sex trafficking, sometimes in motels and restaurants in the capital, Conakry. Traffickers exploit boys for begging and forced labour; for example, for street vending, shoe shining, gold and diamond mining, and agriculture. Some traffickers take children with their parents' consent, under the false pretence of providing the children with an education, but exploit them in forced begging in Koranic schools in Senegal – via Koundara in Mauritania – and Guinea-Bissau. Guinean women and girls are trafficked to different parts of the world for sexual exploitation, including Europe, the Middle East, the US and other parts of Africa.

Given the country's political conflict, instability and adverse socio-economic conditions, as well as poor governance, **arms trafficking** within and into Guinea is a challenge. As in many countries in West Africa, including Nigeria and Ghana, the availability of arms in the country is boosted by local artisanal production of arms. Homemade weapons are typically rudimentary and are often copies of existing firearms. Manufacture is mainly demand driven, with hunters being the main clients. However, there is a lack of transparency and control of weapons sales in the region, and some arms end up in the hands of criminals. The main likely sources of the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in Guinea are recent conflicts in the neighbouring Mano River Union countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire.

Criminal Actors

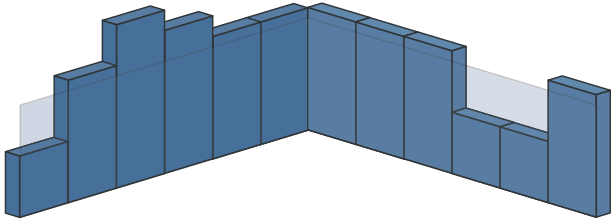
State-embedded actors are the most influential criminal actor type in Guinea, scoring 8.5 in the Index. Drug trafficking has been known to penetrate state institutions, bringing together local businesspeople, politicians, police and military officers in a complex and profitable alliance. While the direct involvement of public officials in illicit markets has been reported, the corruption involved in the protection of criminal actors appears to be more widespread. Corruption and complicity by government agents in supporting the illicit drug trade are major impediments to international and local counter-narcotics efforts.

While less influential than **state-embedded actors**, **foreign actors** are nonetheless considered to have a significant influence on Guinean society, with a score of 7. Actors from neighbouring countries and North Africa are active in the human trafficking market. Latin American drug trafficking organisations have developed close ties with politically connected facilitators in Guinea, allowing the country to assume a key role in the West African drug trade, though they are rarely visibly present in the country.

Criminal networks, on the other hand, rank much lower, with a score of 5.5, just below the continental average of 5.75. The Guinea Police Special Service has reported extensive human trafficking networks between Guinea and neighbouring countries. In 2017, several airline companies with services to North and East Africa and the Middle East began to serve Conakry. Authorities identified an increased number of trafficking networks fraudulently recruiting Guinean, Liberian, and Sierra Leonean women for work abroad, especially for Gulf and Middle Eastern countries.



RESILIENCE SCORE



POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE	1.5
GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY	3.0
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	4.0
NATIONAL POLICIES AND LAWS	3.5
JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND DETENTION	3.0
LAW ENFORCEMENT	3.0
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY	3.0
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING	3.0
ECONOMIC REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT	3.0
VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT	1.5
PREVENTION	1.5
NON-STATE ACTORS	3.0

With a score of 2.75 in the Index, Guinea fares poorly on **resilience** to organised crime, ranking 40th. The country does not score above 4 on any **resilience** indicators and **political leadership and governance**, **prevention** and **victim and witness support** are particularly weak, all scoring 1.5. This suggests regulatory frameworks in those areas are either non-existent or extremely fragmented. The country's lack of political will and resources to combat organised crime make it extremely vulnerable.

Guinea's score of 1.5 for **political leadership and governance** puts it far below the continental average of 4.05. Across the continent, only Eritrea, Libya, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo score lower. The government shows a significant lack of interest in enacting or implementing sound counter-narcotics policies. The associated corruption of state institutions means there is very little reliable data on the scale of the problem.

Guinea also scores extremely low on **prevention** of organised crime, with the same score of 1.5. The country collaborates with international and foreign organisations to reduce trafficking, but its domestic policy environment is inhibitive. Attempts to make improvements in this area have been made, such as three anti-trafficking awareness-raising campaigns targeting local communities along the borders with Sierra Leone and Senegal. However, lack of local-level coordination on anti-trafficking efforts and training for officials outside the capital continue to hinder progress.

Victim and witness support is another major area of concern, scoring just as low as **prevention** and **political leadership**. There is no witness protection programme in place in Guinea and although the government has increased its efforts to protect victims of trafficking, major deficiencies remain.

