

INDIA

VOICELESS ANIMAL CRUELTY INDEX 2017

Overall Rank 2

India was one of the *best* performers under the Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI) 2017, ranking second highest of the countries surveyed.

Producing Cruelty

Rank 5

India slaughters around 1.6 land-based animals per person / year, which is less than a fifth of the global average of 9.7. The country's dependency on farmed animals is the lowest amongst the VACI Index countries, with less than 1 farmed animal per person (compared with a global average of around 4). Concern has been raised [<http://www.worldwatch.org/node/534>] that major producers will begin outsourcing production to developing countries like India as environmental regulations tighten in developed countries.

Consuming Cruelty

Rank 5

The Indian diet contains a relatively low proportion of animal products, with around 17.8% of the average Indian's diet being made up of land-based animal protein (compared with a global average of 35.2%). This equates to each Indian consuming around 10.5g of land-based animal protein per day (compared with a global average of 26.7g). As vegetarianism is part of traditional Hindu, Jain and Buddhist culture, it was estimated [<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/At-99-Telangana-has-maximum-non-vegetarians-in-the-country/articleshow/52697572.cms>] in 2014 that around 29% of Indians identified as vegetarian.

Sanctioning Cruelty

Rank 18

India was given a "C" under the Animal Protection Index (API) 2014, and was also a moderate performer under the Sanctioning Cruelty category. The country has adequate animal protection laws, with a particular focus on protecting cows for religious purposes. India's legislation falls short of international standards in many areas, such as the killing of healthy stray dogs, the legalisation of husbandry practices (such as dehorning and nose roping) and exemptions for religious slaughter. Learn more about the quality of India's legislative protections on the API here [http://api.worldanimalprotection.org/sites/default/files/api_india_report_0.pdf].



Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index

This country profile is from the 2017 Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI). The VACI tracks the animal welfare performance of 50 countries selected among the largest producers of farmed animal products in the world. The VACI was first published in 2017, and updated in 2020. Please read the VACI Terms of Use (<https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/terms-of-use/>) and Voiceless Website Terms of Use ([Website Terms and Conditions | Voiceless](#)) for further information. Voiceless does not guarantee the accuracy, reliability or currency of the information. Questions about the VACI can be directed to: info@voiceless.org.au

The 2020 VACI can be accessed here: <https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/>