South Africa

South Africa is scored against 188 of 193 other countries. At the UN it votes most alike with Namibia, Somalia, Turkmenistan; least alike with United States, Hungary, Poland.

Groups: AFR, African Union, BRICS, G20

WHERE SOUTH AFRICA STANDS IN UN VOTES, 2025

Voting position -0.37 (90% range -0.58 to -0.17), among 191 countries. Distance from China 0.0, Russia 0.45, United States 3.26.



Nearest voting positions: China (0.0, ranges overlap), Jamaica (0.0, ranges overlap), Kazakhstan (0.0, ranges overlap), United Arab Emirates (0.01, ranges overlap), Honduras (0.01, ranges overlap), Seychelles (0.01, ranges overlap).

WHO IT VOTES WITH

Votes most alike at the UN		Votes least alike at the UN	
Namibia	96% vote agreement	United States	42% vote agreement
Somalia	96% vote agreement	Hungary	57% vote agreement
Turkmenistan	97% vote agreement	Poland	59% vote agreement
Jordan	93% vote agreement	Czechia	58% vote agreement
Equatorial Guinea	95% vote agreement	Micronesia	60% vote agreement
Gambia	95% vote agreement	United Kingdom	55% vote agreement

VOTES CAST WITH 15 COUNTRIES OR FEWER (SINCE 2010)

Steps to building a common roadmap towards a world without nuclear weapons
2023 · A/RES/78/40 · South Africa: No · overall 148 yes, 7 no, 29 abstain

Steps to building a common road map towards a world without nuclear weapons
2022 · A/RES/77/76 · South Africa: No · overall 147 yes, 6 no, 27 abstain

Effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights
2017 · A/RES/72/246 · South Africa: No · overall 95 yes, 1 no, 58 abstain

Sustainable Development
2011 · R/66/195 · South Africa: No · overall 141 yes, 2 no, 33 abstain

THE BIG THREE

United States: index -8 (Distant), votes -79, trade $15 billion a year
China: index +24 (Neutral), votes -5, trade $35 billion a year
Russia: index +7 (Neutral), votes -13, trade $615 million a year

SOUTH AFRICA IN NUMBERS (CONTEXT, NOT SCORED)

Population	64.7 m (2025)	Government debt	79% (2025)
Economy (GDP)	$427.2 bn (2025)	Inflation	3.2% (2025)
Income per person	$5,713 (2025)	Electoral democracy	0.74 (2025)
Military spending	0.7% (2024)		

TRADE, SECURITY AND CLUBS

Biggest trade ties

China	$35 billion
Germany	$19 billion
United States	$15 billion
India	$12 billion
Netherlands	$7.8 billion
Japan	$7.7 billion

Opposite sides in armed conflict (latest year)

Angola	1988
North Korea	1953

SOURCES AND LIMITS

Votes: UN General Assembly roll calls (Voeten et al.; UN Digital Library) via Nations on Record. Trade: IMF via Nations on Record. Conflict: Uppsala Conflict Data Program 26.1. Context numbers: World Bank, IMF, SIPRI, V-Dem. Voting positions: Bailey, Strezhnev and Voeten. A vote shows how a government voted on a text, not why. Scores are not predictions and not advice. Rules and checks: https://nationsrelations.org/method

https://nationsrelations.org/delegate/zaf

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