

WORLD RANK: **171** | REGIONAL RANK: **45**

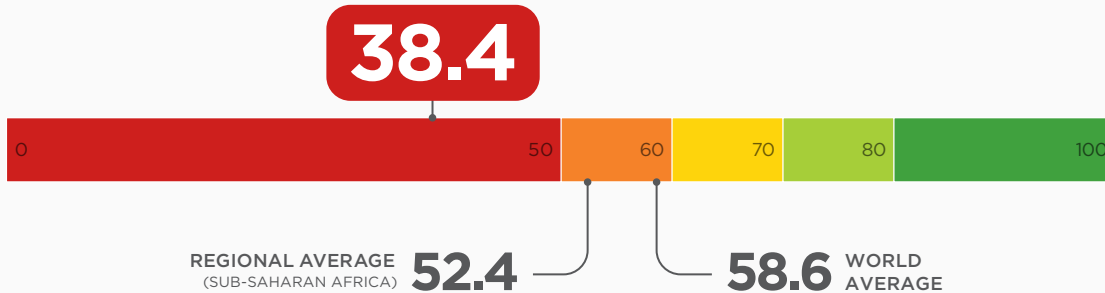
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **REPRESSED**

BURUNDI

Burundi's economic freedom score is 38.4, making its economy the 171st freest in the 2024 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 3.5 points from last year, and Burundi is ranked 45th out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the world and regional averages. Burundi's economy is considered "repressed" according to the 2024 *Index*.

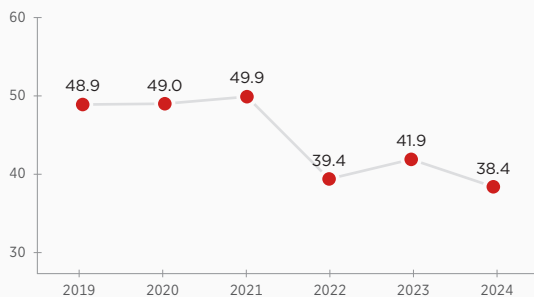
Burundi performs below world averages in many of the 10 economic freedoms. Very low scores for property rights and for corruption that undermines the rule of law reflect the fragile foundations of economic freedom. Many aspects of the entrepreneurial framework are subject to state interference. Burundi faces an uphill fight to improve the business environment while battling institutional challenges. Skilled labor is scarce, and formal employment is not widespread. The most recent available inflation rate is 18.9 percent. Subsistence agriculture dominates the economy.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1997): -7.0

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
12.3 million

GDP (PPP):
\$10.8 billion
1.8% growth in 2022
5-year average growth rate: 1.7%
\$856 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
1.8%

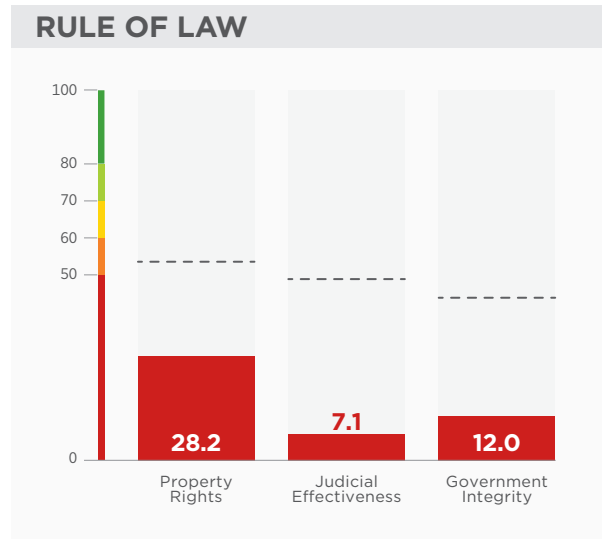
INFLATION (CPI):
18.9%

FDI INFLOW:
\$13.0 million

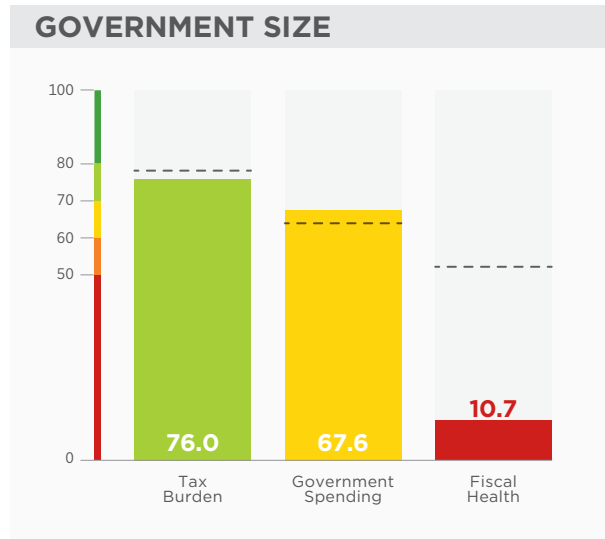
PUBLIC DEBT:
68.4% of GDP

2022 data unless otherwise noted. Data compiled as of October 2023.

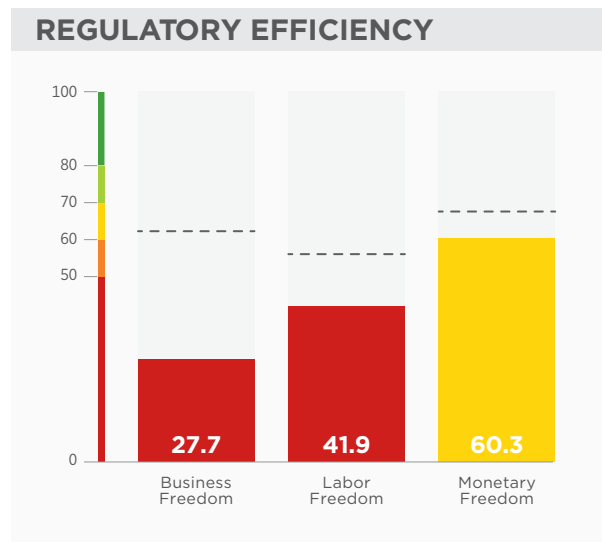
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | BURUNDI



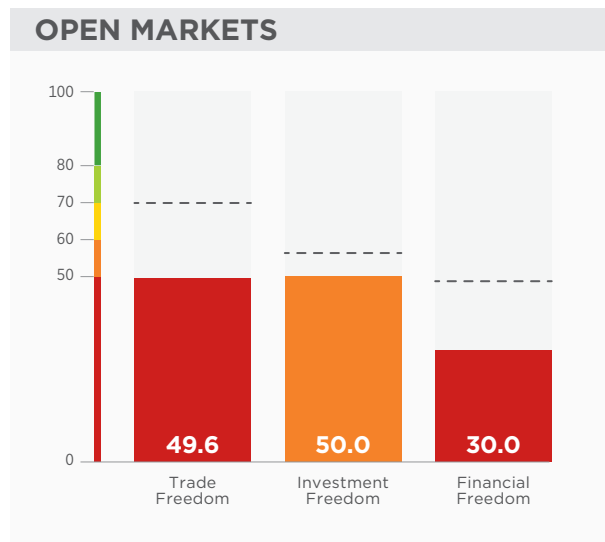
The overall rule of law is weak in Burundi. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 35 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 30 percent. The tax burden equals 16.7 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 32.9 percent and -7.9 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 68.4 percent of GDP.



Burundi's overall regulatory environment is very inefficient and not conducive to entrepreneurial activity. The country's business freedom score is far below the world average; its labor freedom score is below the world average; and its monetary freedom score is below the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 15.2 percent, and nontariff measures are in effect. Bureaucratic barriers interfere with foreign and domestic investment. The financial system remains underdeveloped. Banks have increased their domestic assets, but access to credit remains limited.