

WORLD RANK: **110** | REGIONAL RANK: **17**

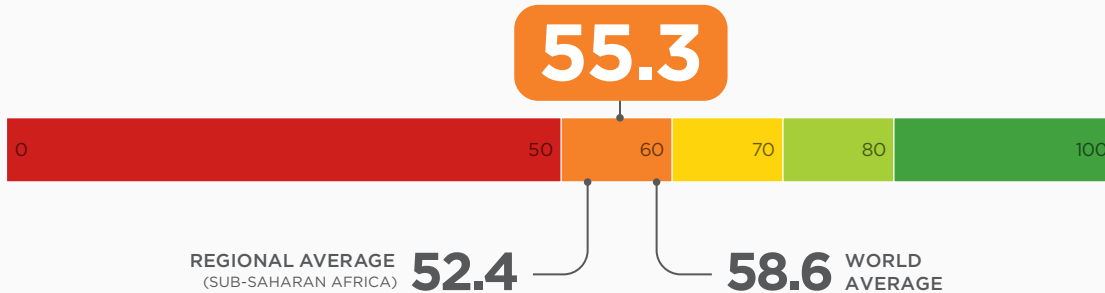
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MOSTLY UNFREE**

MAURITANIA

Mauritania’s economic freedom score is 55.3, making its economy the 110th freest in the 2024 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating is unchanged from last year, and Mauritania is ranked 17th out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country’s economic freedom score is lower than the world average and higher than the regional average. Mauritania’s economy is considered “mostly unfree” according to the 2024 *Index*.

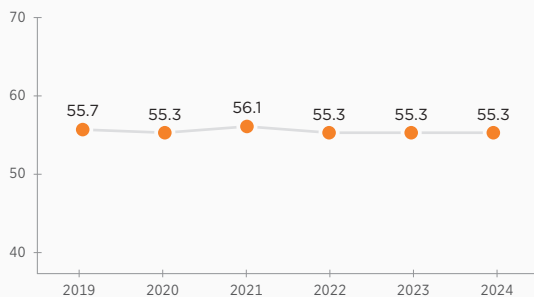
Serious institutional weaknesses continue to perpetuate a poor entrepreneurial environment and undercut prospects for long-term development. The protection of property rights is weak, and enforcement of the fragile rule of law remains limited and subject to political influence. Financial-sector shallowness and burdensome barriers to trade continue to undermine overall economic efficiency. The overall regulatory environment places significant burdens on potential entrepreneurs. Outmoded labor regulations hinder job creation, and the absence of a well-functioning labor market has led to chronically high unemployment.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1996): +9.8

RECENT FREEDOM TREND

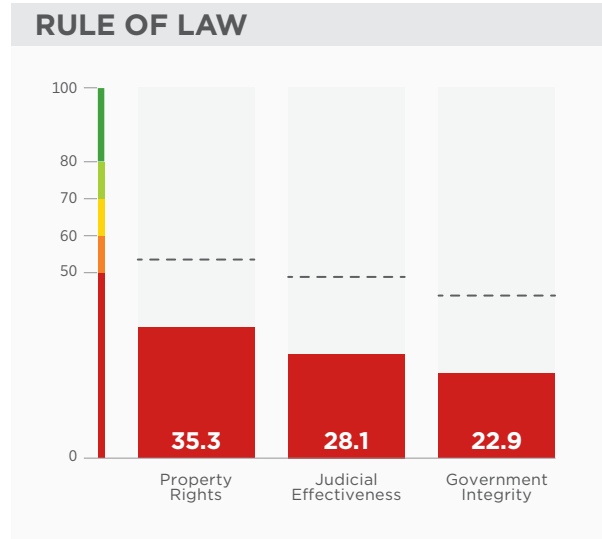


QUICK FACTS

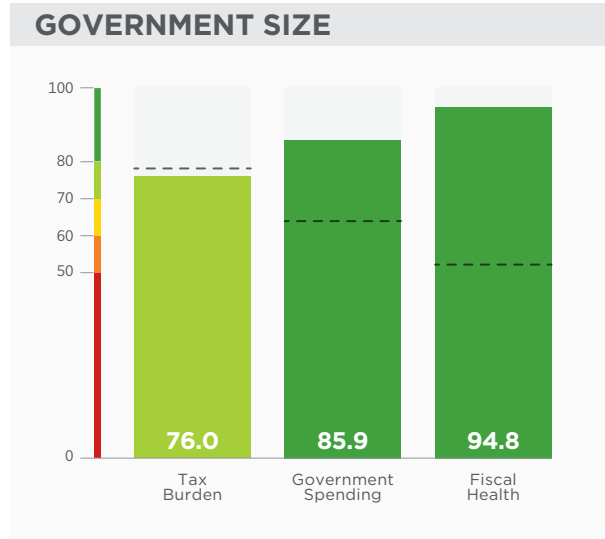
- POPULATION:** 4.8 million
- GDP (PPP):** \$30.8 billion
6.5% growth in 2022
5-year average growth rate: 3.6%
\$7,113 per capita
- UNEMPLOYMENT:** 11.5%
- INFLATION (CPI):** 9.6%
- FDI INFLOW:** \$1.1 billion
- PUBLIC DEBT:** 50.8% of GDP

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

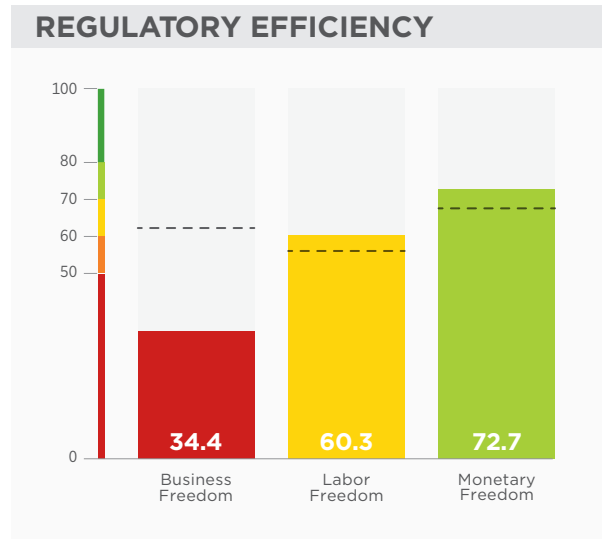
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | MAURITANIA



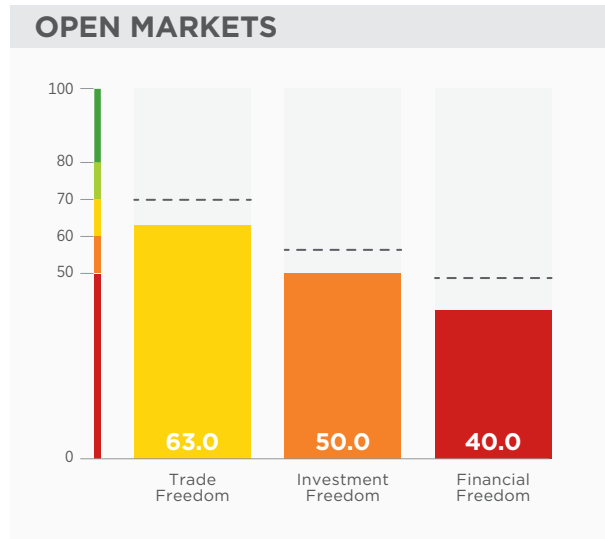
The overall rule of law is weak in Mauritania. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 40 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 25 percent. The tax burden equals 13.3 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 21.7 percent and 0.7 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 50.8 percent of GDP.



Mauritania's overall regulatory environment is poorly institutionalized and inefficient. The country's business freedom score is far below the world average; its labor freedom score is above the world average; and its monetary freedom score is above the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 9.0 percent. Nontariff barriers and other restrictions prevent entrepreneurs from participating in the global economy, and open-market policies to promote investment are not fully institutionalized. The financial sector, dominated by banking, lacks transparency and efficiency.