



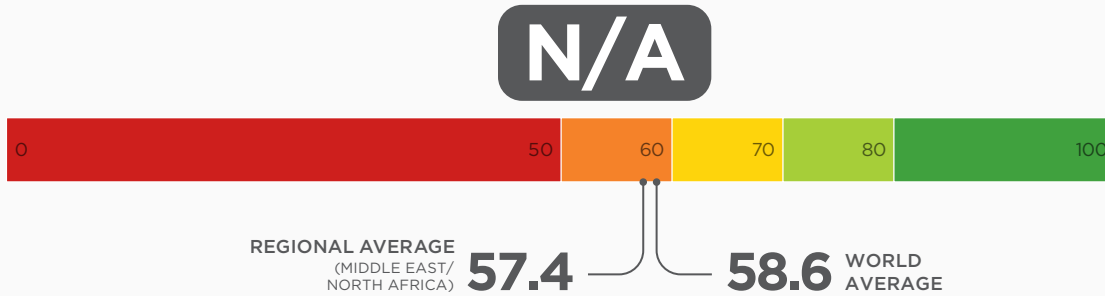
WORLD RANK:	REGIONAL RANK:
<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS:	
<b>NOT GRADED</b>	

# SYRIA

Ongoing instability and the devastation caused by more than a decade of conflict again preclude any ranking of Syria in the 2024 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Syria's civil war has resulted in a horrific death toll and caused the collapse of the economy.

Even before the ongoing conflict, very low scores for property rights and corruption reflected the fragility of the foundations of economic freedom. Politically motivated enforcement undermines the rule of law, and state intervention in many aspects of the economy persists. The Assad family has ruled since Hafez al-Assad's coup in 1970. Bashar al-Assad succeeded his father in 2000 but failed to fulfill promises to open the socialist economy and ease repression. A sectarian civil war has killed countless Syrians and driven about 5.7 million refugees out of the country. Assad's regime, supported by Iran, Russia, and the terrorist Hezbollah, has largely defeated its fractured armed opposition.

## ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1996): N/A

## RECENT FREEDOM TREND

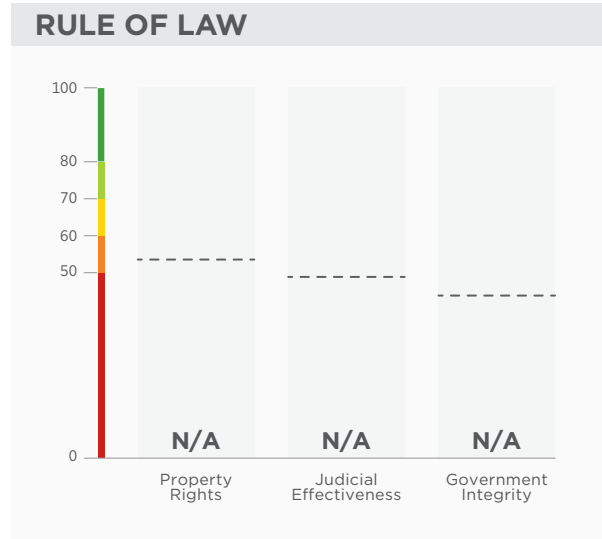


## QUICK FACTS

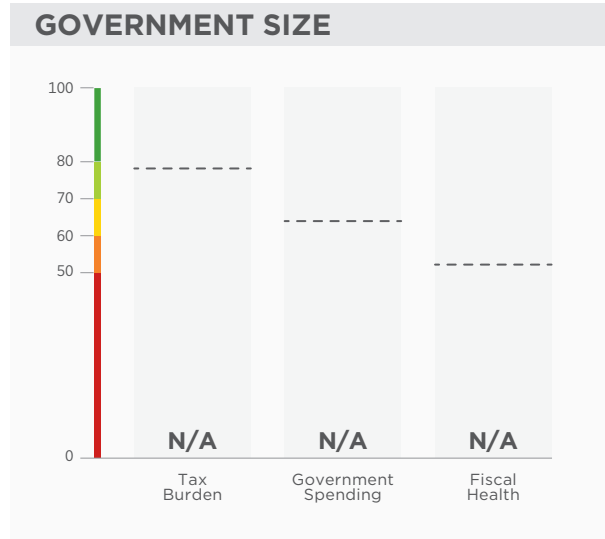
<b>POPULATION:</b> 18.3 million	<b>UNEMPLOYMENT:</b> n/a
<b>GDP (PPP):</b> n/a n/a growth in 2022 5-year average growth rate: n/a n/a per capita	<b>INFLATION (CPI):</b> n/a
	<b>FDI INFLOW:</b> n/a
	<b>PUBLIC DEBT:</b> n/a

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

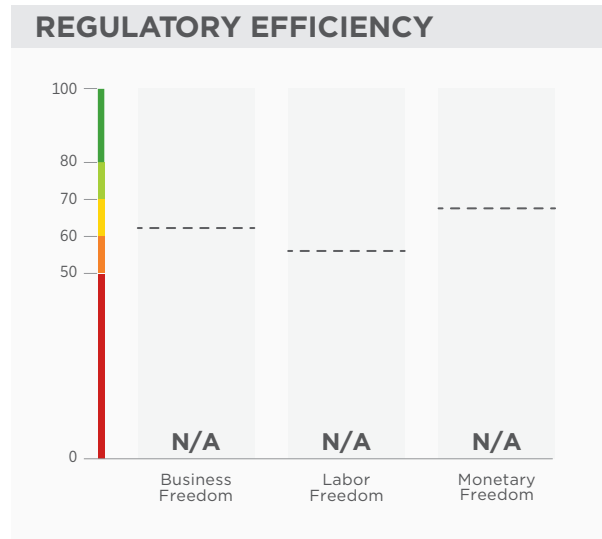
# 12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | SYRIA



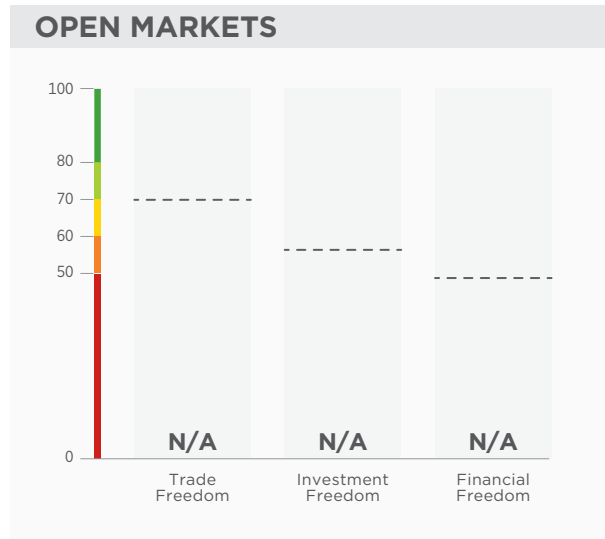
Syria's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The civil conflict has caused mounting damage to the economy. Economic policy has focused on protecting the regime and maintaining the military's fighting capacity. Government spending is driven by political concerns. Economic mismanagement has brought the economy to the brink of collapse.



The repressive and fragile business environment, already burdened by heavy state intervention and gravely exacerbated by the civil war and severely damaged infrastructure, continues to affect entrepreneurial activity. Functioning labor markets do not exist in many war-torn locations. Monetary stability has long been eroded.



Political instability, exacerbated by significant security threats, is a significant impediment to trade and investment. The investment environment lacks transparency and efficiency. The financial infrastructure has been significantly degraded. Severely limited access to financing impedes any meaningful private business development.