

WORLD RANK: **140** | REGIONAL RANK: **33**

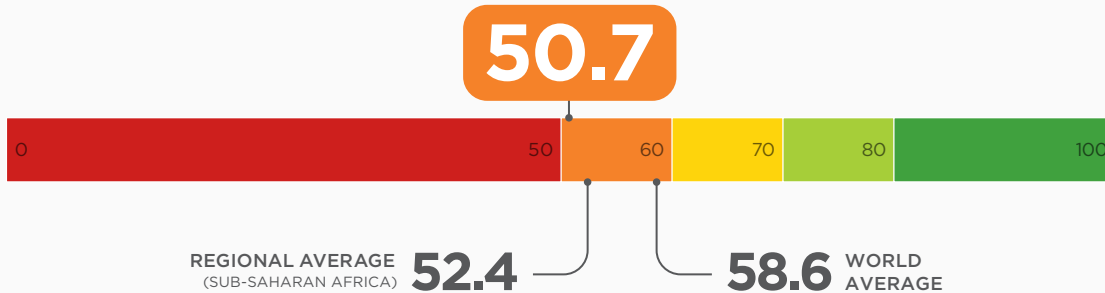
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MOSTLY UNFREE**

# UGANDA

Uganda's economic freedom score is 50.7, making its economy the 140th freest in the 2024 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 0.7 point from last year, and Uganda is ranked 33rd out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the world and regional averages. Uganda's economy is considered "mostly unfree" according to the 2024 *Index*.

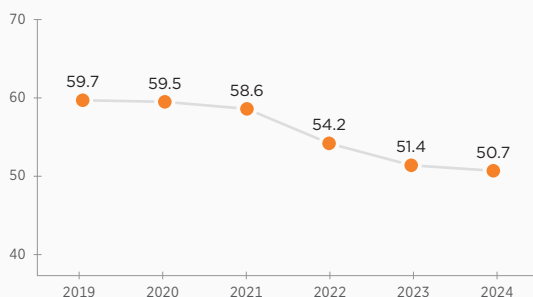
Uganda has attempted to update various commercial laws to reduce administrative delays and the cost of conducting business, but the overall regulatory framework remains poor, and institutional shortcomings still undermine prospects for dynamic long-term economic expansion. A well-functioning labor market is not fully developed. Monetary stability is weak. An inefficient judicial system and pervasive corruption continue to erode the effectiveness of government. Uganda's significant natural wealth includes gold, oil, and rich agricultural lands from which more than two-thirds of the workforce derive employment.

## ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1995): -12.2

## RECENT FREEDOM TREND



## QUICK FACTS

**POPULATION:**  
47.1 million

**GDP (PPP):**  
\$133.9 billion  
6.4% growth in 2022  
5-year average growth rate: 4.8%  
\$3,062 per capita

**UNEMPLOYMENT:**  
2.9%

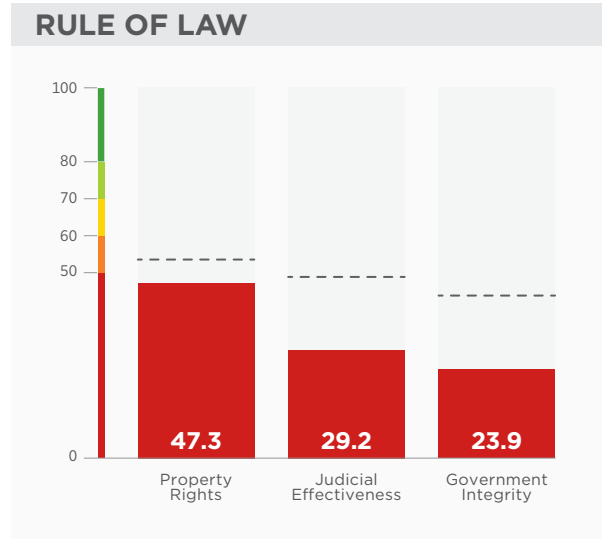
**INFLATION (CPI):**  
7.2%

**FDI INFLOW:**  
\$1.5 billion

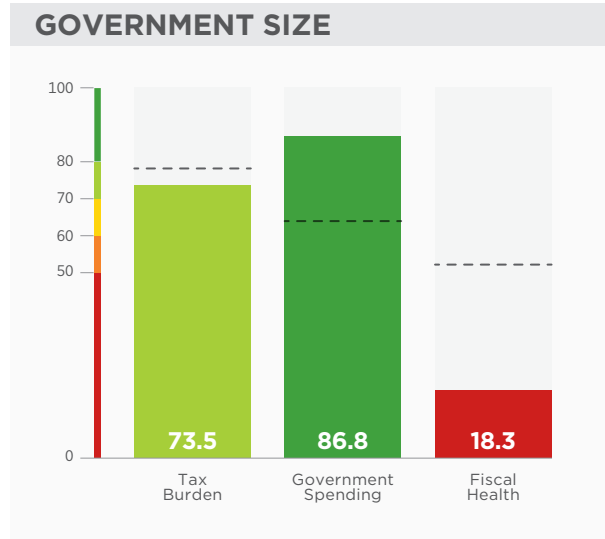
**PUBLIC DEBT:**  
48.4% of GDP

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

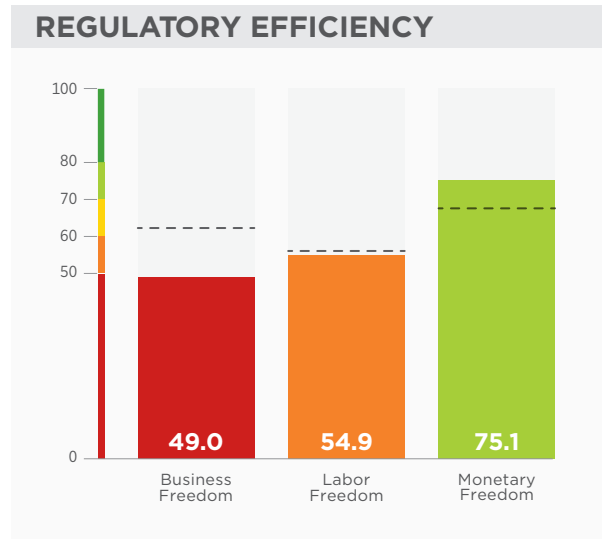
# 12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | UGANDA



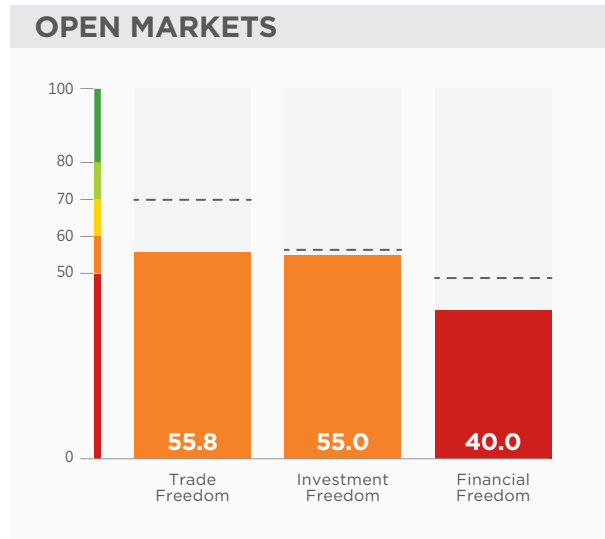
The overall rule of law is weak in Uganda. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 40 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 30 percent. The tax burden equals 12.2 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 20.9 percent and -6.9 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 48.4 percent of GDP.



Uganda'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 below the world average; and its monetary freedom score is well above the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 14.6 percent, and nontariff barriers further limit trade freedom. The investment regime is complex and nontransparent, but foreign investment is allowed in most sectors. The financial system is dominated by banking and not fully developed.