

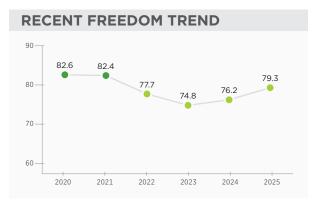
# AUSTRALIA

A ustralia's economic freedom score is 79.3, making its economy the 6th freest in the 2025 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has increased by 3.1 points from last year, and Australia is ranked 3rd out of 39 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The country's economic freedom score is higher than the world and regional averages. Australia's economy is considered "mostly free" according to the 2025 *Index*.

The competitive economy benefits from Australia's strong commitment to open-market policies that facilitate global trade and investment. The foundations of economic freedom in Australia are strong and supported by the widely respected rule of law. Transparent and efficient regulations are generally applied evenly, encouraging dynamic private-sector entrepreneurial activity. Australia is internationally competitive in financial and insurance services, technologies, and high-value-added manufactured goods and has free-trade agreements with the U.S., China, Japan, South Korea, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the United Kingdom.



#### HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1995): +5.2



### **QUICK FACTS**

**POPULATION:** 27.0 million

GDP (PPP): \$1.8 trillion 2.0% growth in 2023 3-year average growth rate: 3.8% \$67,901 per capita

## **UNEMPLOYMENT:** 3.7%

**INFLATION (CPI):** 5.6%

**FDI INFLOW:** \$61.6 billion

**PUBLIC DEBT:** 49.0% of GDP

2023 data unless otherwise noted. Data compiled as of November 2024.

## 12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | AUSTRALIA

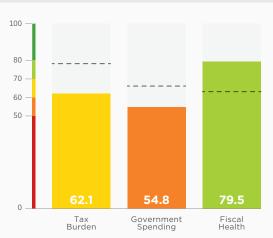


The overall rule of law is very well respected in Australia. The country's property rights score is above the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is above the world average; and its government integrity score is above the world average.

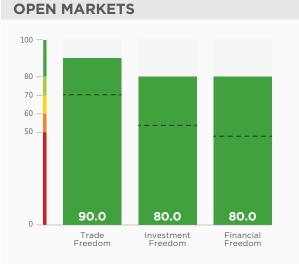


Australia's overall regulatory environment is well institutionalized and relatively efficient. The country's business freedom score is far above the world average; its labor freedom score is above the world average; and its monetary freedom score is well above the world average.

## **GOVERNMENT SIZE**



The top individual income tax rate is 45 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 30 percent. The tax burden equals 29.4 percent of GDP. Threeyear government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 38.8 percent and –3.1 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 49.0 percent of GDP.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 2.5 percent, and more than 300 nontariff measures are in effect. Government policies do not significantly interfere with foreign investment. The competitive financial sector is well developed, and all banks are privately owned.

**REGULATORY EFFICIENCY**