

WORLD RANK: **166** | REGIONAL RANK: **38**

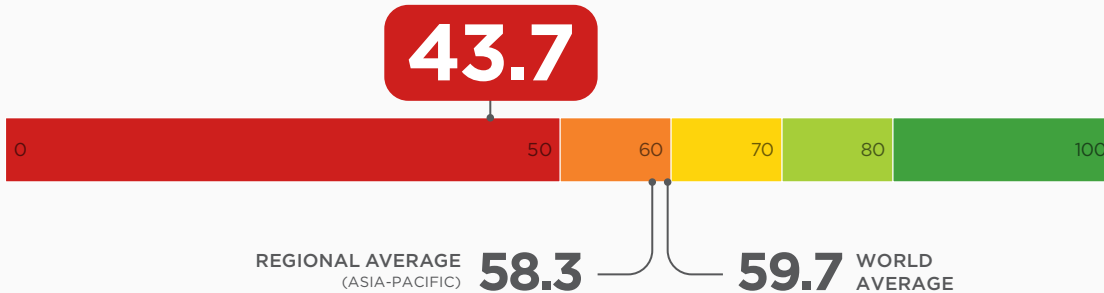
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **REPRESSED**

BURMA

Burma's economic freedom score is 43.7, making its economy the 166th freest in the 2025 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has increased by 1.5 points from last year, and Burma is ranked 38th out of 39 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the world and regional averages. Burma's economy is considered "repressed" according to the 2025 *Index*.

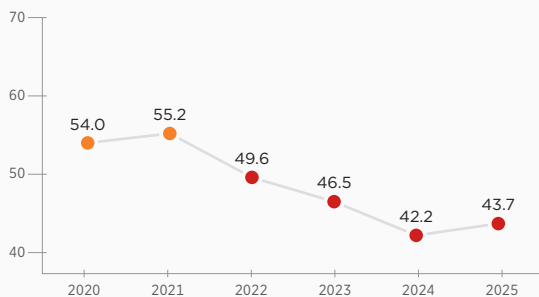
The foundations of economic freedom in Burma, which historically has scored far below the world average in the *Index*, are fragile. Productivity growth and dynamic economic expansion are impeded by extensive state controls and structural problems that undermine private-sector development. The military's brutal crackdown on Burma's people has gutted business freedom. Mass detentions, extrajudicial killings, and violence that deliberately target civilians are a potentially lethal threat to labor freedom. The most recent available inflation rate is 27.1 percent. Burma also faces food and fuel shortages.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1996): -1.4

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
54.2 million

GDP (PPP):
\$274.3 billion
2.5% growth in 2023
3-year average growth rate: -4.0%
\$5,061 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
2.8%

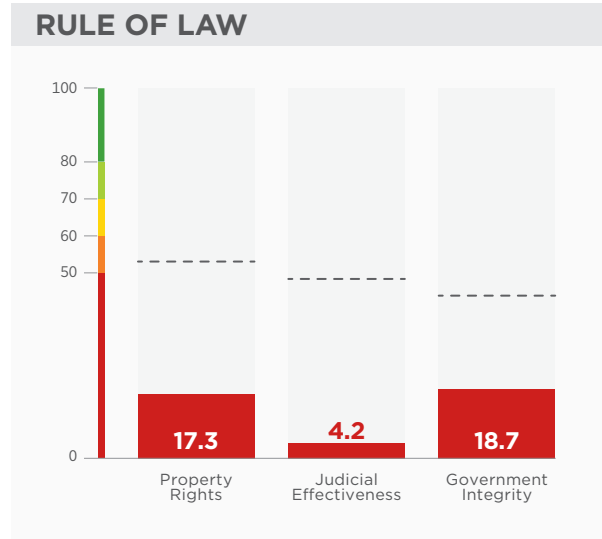
INFLATION (CPI):
27.1%

FDI INFLOW:
\$1.2 billion

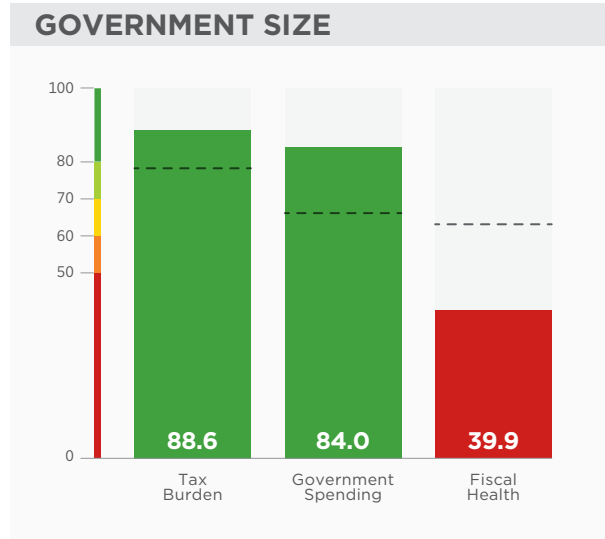
PUBLIC DEBT:
59.7% of GDP

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

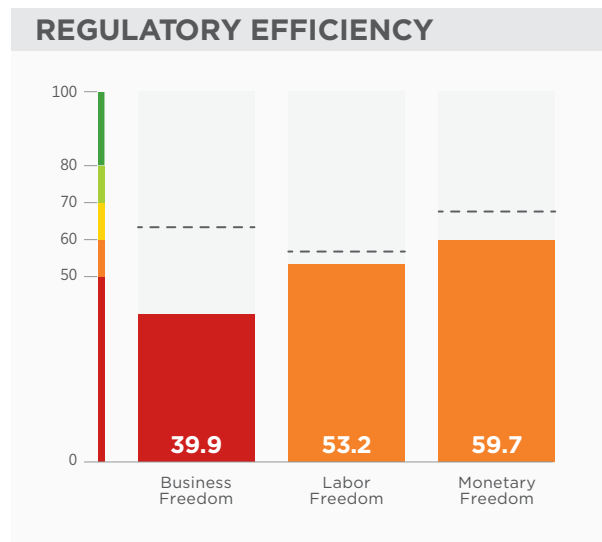
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | BURMA



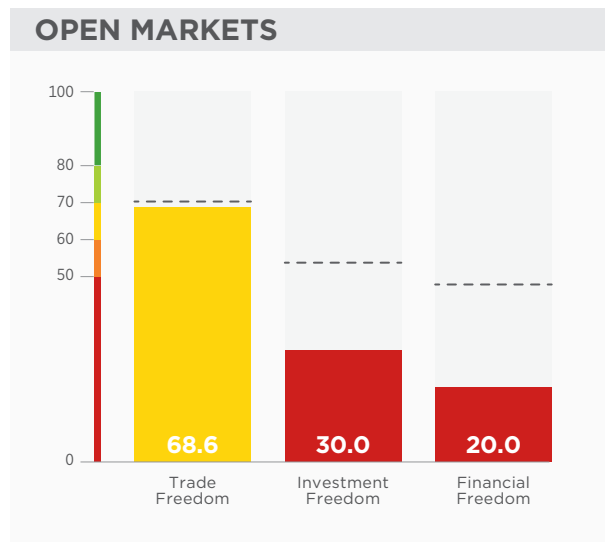
The overall rule of law is weak in Burma. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 25 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 22 percent. The tax burden equals 5.5 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 23.1 percent and -5.8 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 59.7 percent of GDP.



Burma'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 below the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 5.7 percent, and other barriers to trade persist. State-owned enterprises undermine investment in the private sector. Approximately 30 percent of adult Burmese have access to an account with a formal banking institution.