



WORLD RANK: **173** | REGIONAL RANK: **47**

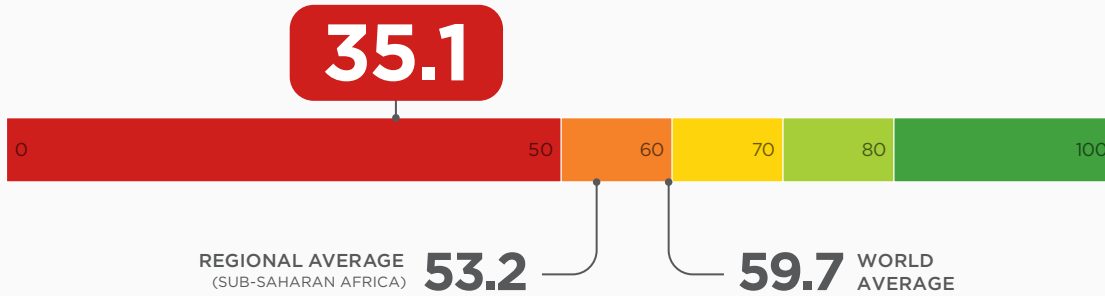
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **REPRESSED**

ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe's economic freedom score is 35.1, making its economy the 173rd freest in the 2025 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 3.1 points from last year, and Zimbabwe is ranked 47th out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the world and regional averages. Zimbabwe's economy is considered "repressed" according to the 2025 *Index*.

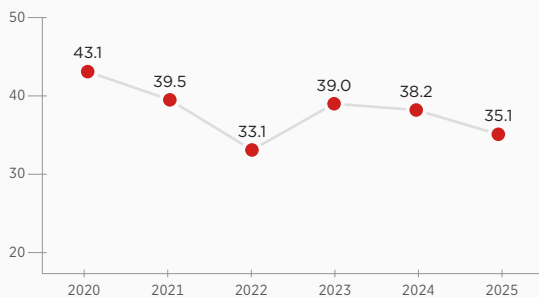
The Zimbabwean economy is characterized by instability and policy volatility, both hallmarks of the excessive government interference and mismanagement that have undermined the country's economic potential. The fragile economic infrastructure has crumbled after years of neglect. The impacts of years of hyperinflation continue to impede entrepreneurial activity, and the overall regulatory environment remains opaque. Licensing requirements remain costly and burdensome. A corrupt and inefficient judicial system severely exacerbates entrepreneurial risk. Monetary stability continues to be very weak, and inflation is persistently high.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1995): -13.4

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
16.6 million

GDP (PPP):
\$82.5 billion
5.3% growth in 2023
3-year average growth rate: 6.6%
\$4,965 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
8.8%

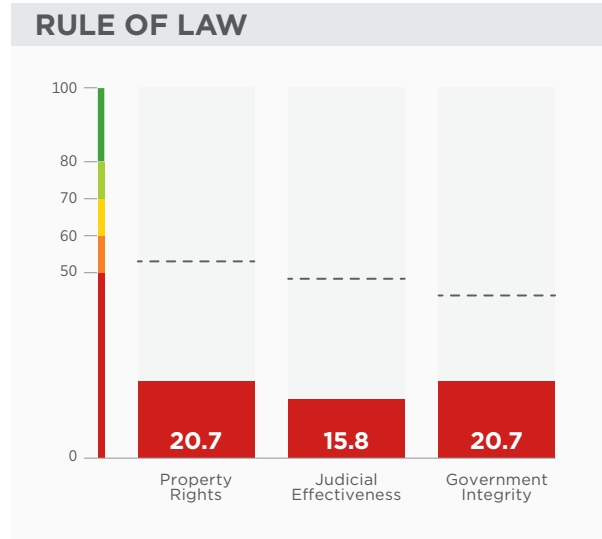
INFLATION (CPI):
667.4%

FDI INFLOW:
\$342.0 million

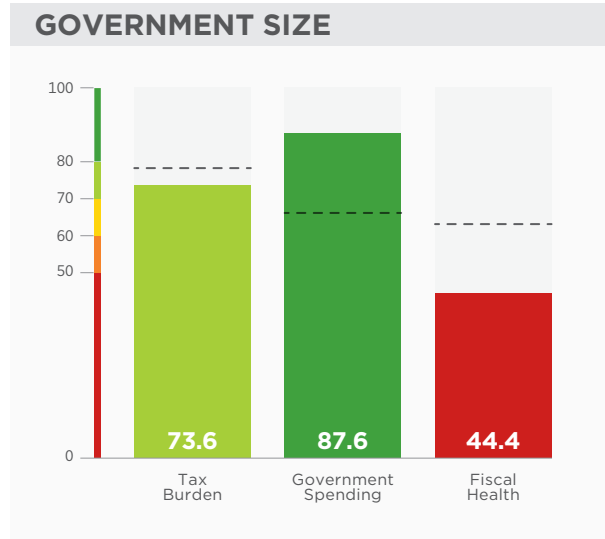
PUBLIC DEBT:
96.7% of GDP

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

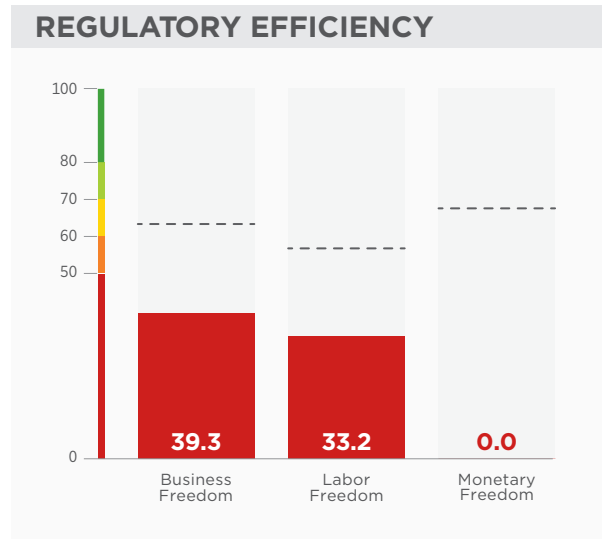
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | ZIMBABWE



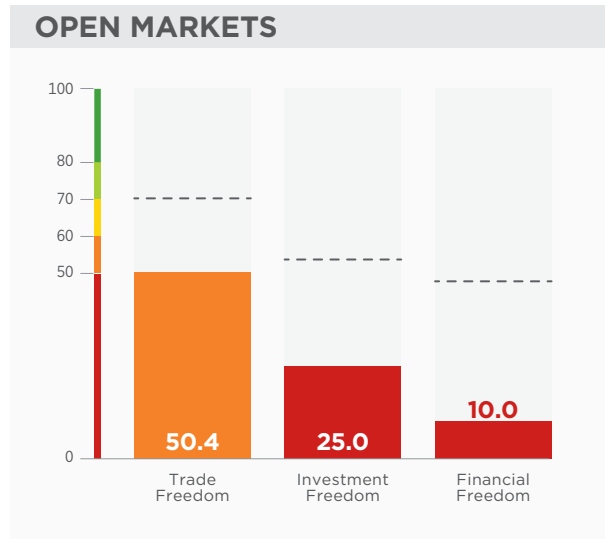
The overall rule of law is weak in Zimbabwe. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 41.2 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 25.6 percent. The tax burden equals 16.8 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 20.3 percent and -4.8 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 96.7 percent of GDP.



Zimbabwe's overall regulatory environment is very inefficient and not conducive to entrepreneurial activity. 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 below the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 14.8 percent, and pervasive nontariff barriers further limit trade freedom. Heavy government interference cripples investment opportunities. The financial sector remains underdeveloped because of extensive state involvement and ongoing political instability.