



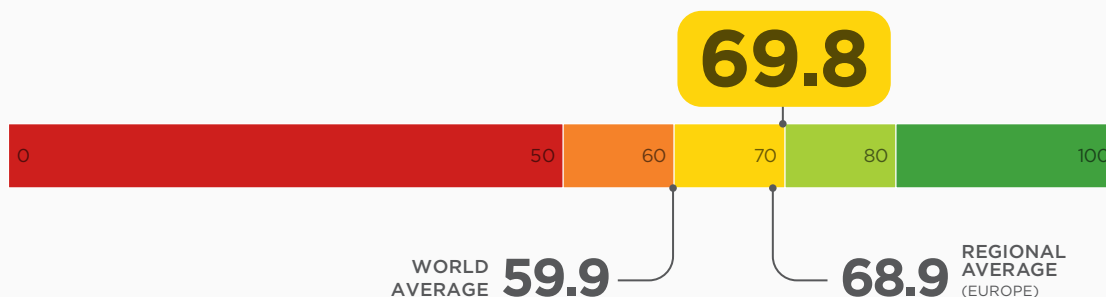
WORLD RANK: 33	REGIONAL RANK: 18
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: MODERATELY FREE	

AUSTRIA

Austria's economic freedom score is 69.8, making its economy the 33rd freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has increased by 0.1 point from last year, and Austria is ranked 18th out of 44 countries in the Europe region. The country's economic freedom score is higher than the world and regional averages. Austria's economy is considered "moderately free" according to the 2026 *Index*.

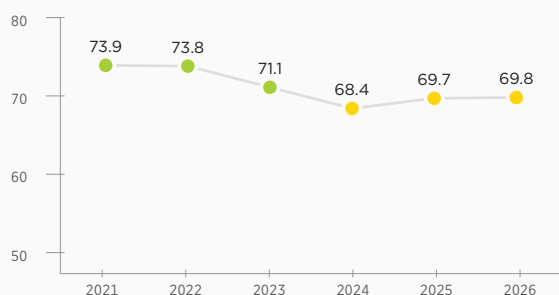
The overall business environment is transparent and competitive. Austria has large services and industrial sectors and a small, highly developed agricultural sector. Austria's high property rights and judicial effectiveness scores reflect its strong rule of law and maintenance of economic freedom, but institutional strength is not matched by a commitment to limited government. Expansionary public spending has generated budgetary pressure. Ongoing challenges include the assimilation of migrants and strains on labor markets and public finances caused by an aging population.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1995): -0.2

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
9.1 million

GDP (PPP):
\$669.1 billion
0.3% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: -0.6%
\$74,852 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
5.5%

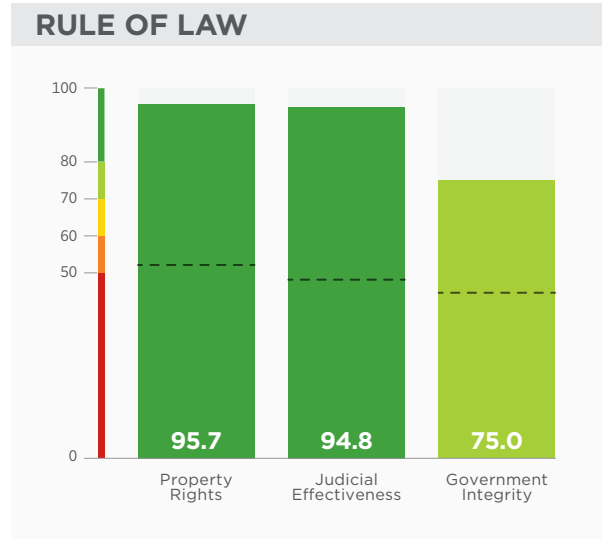
INFLATION (CPI):
2.9%

TRADE AS % OF GDP:
110.5%

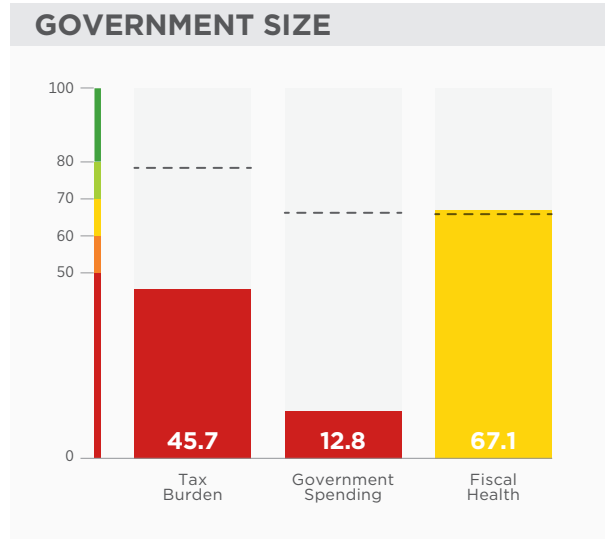
PUBLIC DEBT:
80.8% of GDP

2025 data unless otherwise noted. Data compiled as of January 2026.

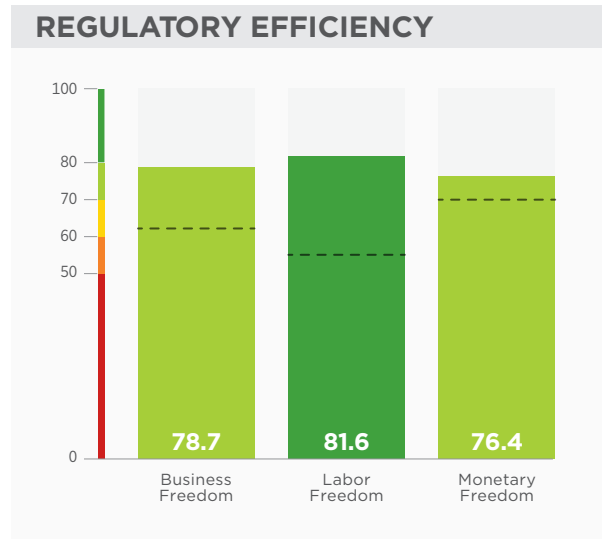
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | AUSTRIA



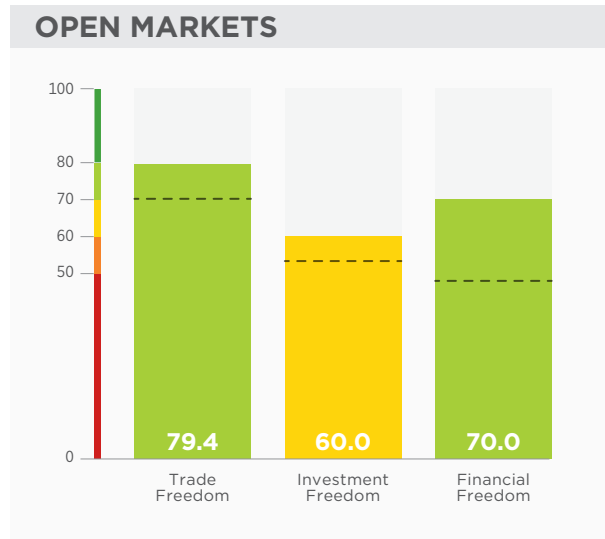
The overall rule of law is well respected in Austria. The country's property rights score is above the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is above the world average; and its government integrity score is above the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 55 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 23 percent. The tax burden equals 43.4 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 53.9 percent and -3.5 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 80.8 percent of GDP.



Austria'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.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate (common among EU members) is 2.8 percent, and more than 600 EU-mandated nontariff measures are in force. In general, government policies do not interfere significantly with foreign investment. The relatively well-capitalized banking sector offers a wide range of financial services.