

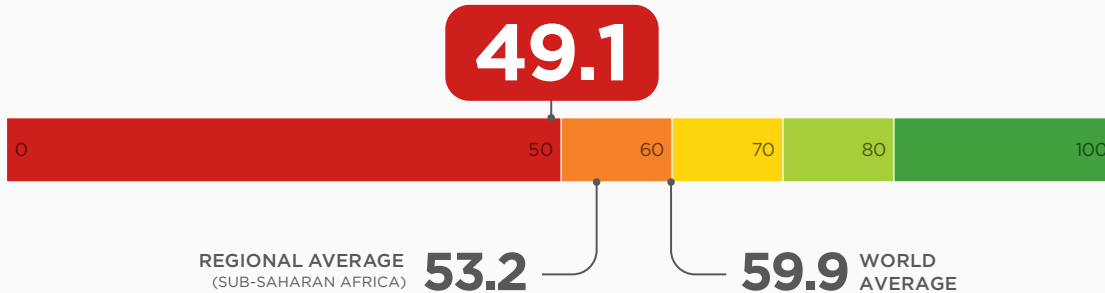
BURKINA FASO

WORLD RANK: **151** | REGIONAL RANK: **37**
 ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **REPPRESSED**

Burkina Faso's economic freedom score is 49.1, making its economy the 151st freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 1.9 points from last year, and Burkina Faso is ranked 37th out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the global and regional averages. Burkina Faso's economy is considered "repressed" according to the 2026 *Index*.

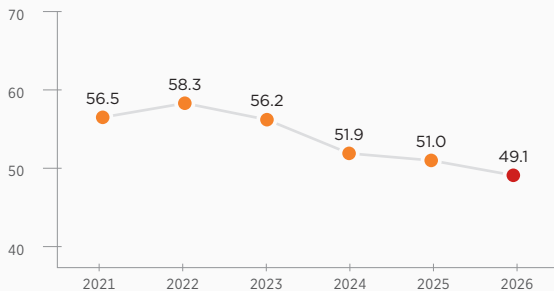
Sustained efforts and pro-growth investments have led to reduced poverty and some positive human development trends despite systemic economic challenges. The foundations of economic freedom remain fragile. The regulatory burden and a lack of transparency continue to prevent the emergence of a more dynamic private sector. Other challenges include persistent political instability, unreliable energy supplies, and poor transportation links. More than 80 percent of the population is engaged in subsistence farming, and cotton is the principal cash crop.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1996): -0.3

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
23.4 million

GDP (PPP):
\$68.3 billion
4.0% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 3.9%
\$3,019 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
5.2%

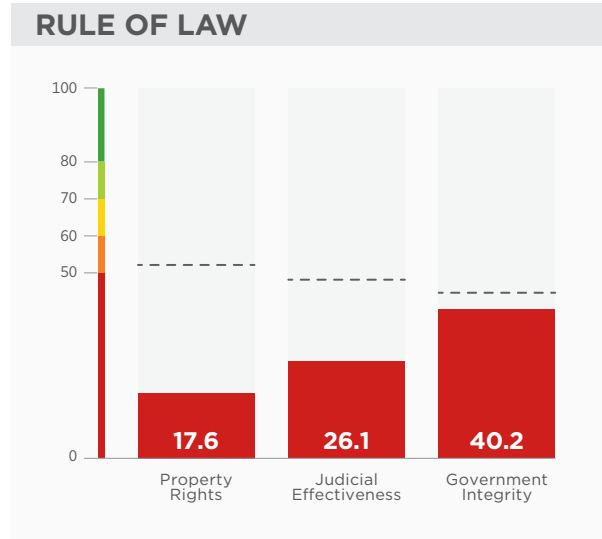
INFLATION (CPI):
4.2%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 63.4%

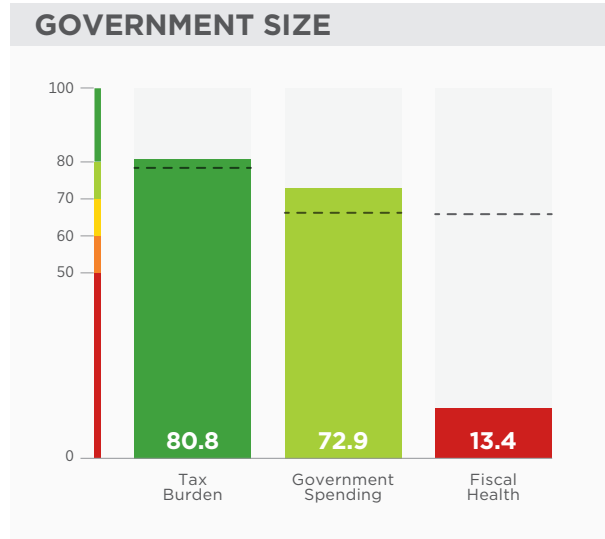
PUBLIC DEBT:
57.2% of GDP

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

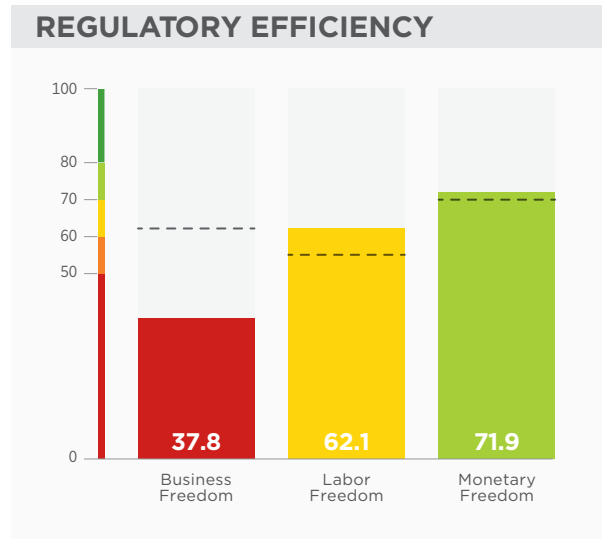
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | BURKINA FASO



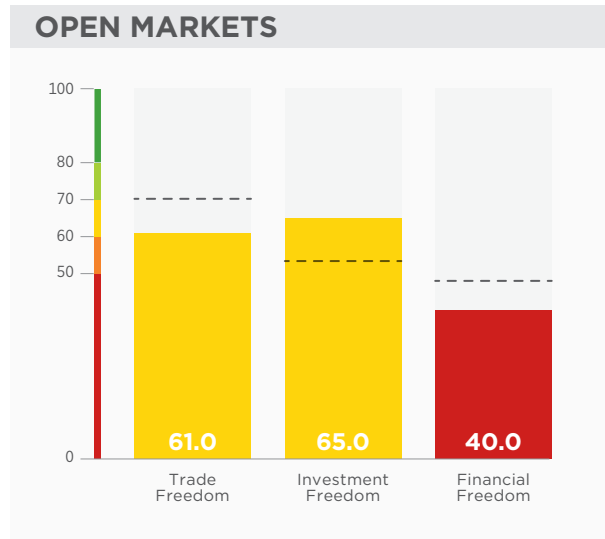
The overall rule of law is weak in Burkina Faso. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 27.5 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 28 percent. The tax burden equals 19.5 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 30.0 percent and -7.9 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 57.2 percent of GDP.



Burkina Faso'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 above the world average; and its monetary freedom score is above the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 9.5 percent. Nontariff barriers are considerable, and bureaucracy continues to impede foreign investment. Despite an effort to modernize the financial system, the sector still lacks the capacity to provide a full range of modern services.