



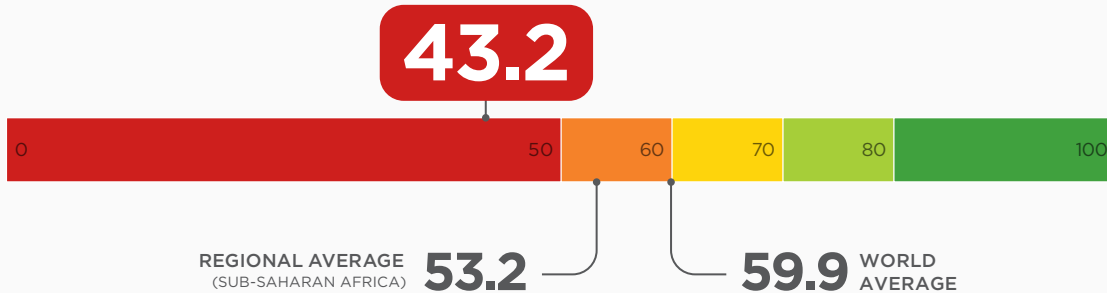
WORLD RANK: **165** | REGIONAL RANK: **42**  
 ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **REPRESSED**

# GUINEA-BISSAU

**G**uinea-Bissau's economic freedom score is 43.2, making its economy the 165th freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 0.4 point from last year, and Guinea-Bissau is ranked 42nd out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the global and regional averages. Guinea-Bissau's economy is considered "repressed" according to the 2026 *Index*.

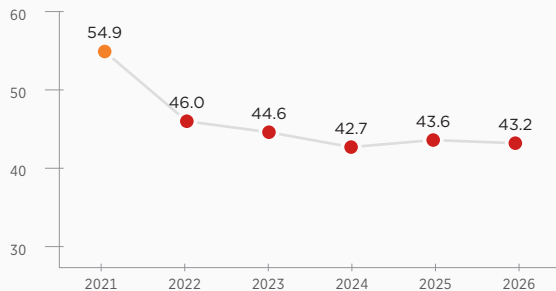
Guinea-Bissau's property rights and corruption scores are far below world averages, and its judicial system is inefficient and nontransparent. A lack of commitment to open-market policies discourages trade and investment growth and the emergence of a more dynamic private sector. Guinea-Bissau is highly dependent on subsistence agriculture, exports of cashew nuts, and foreign assistance, which normally accounts for about 80 percent of its budget. The incomes of approximately two-thirds of the population are below the extreme-poverty line.

## ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1999): +9.7

## RECENT FREEDOM TREND



## QUICK FACTS

**POPULATION:**  
1.9 million

**GDP (PPP):**  
\$6.2 billion  
5.1% growth in 2025  
3-year average growth rate: 5.0%  
\$3,279 per capita

**UNEMPLOYMENT:**  
2.7%

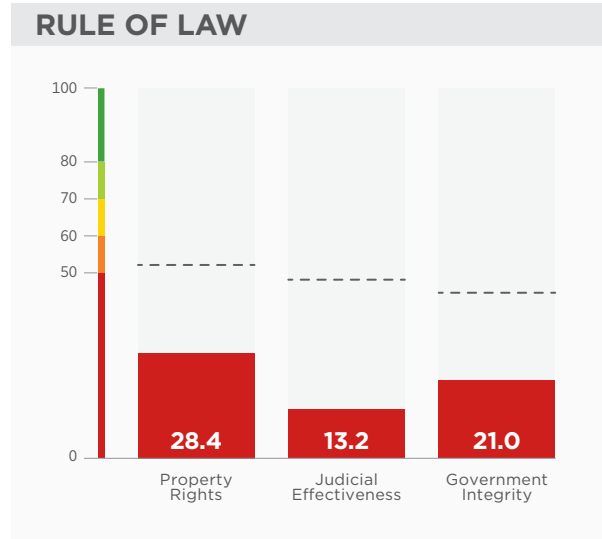
**INFLATION (CPI):**  
3.7%

**TRADE AS % OF GDP:** 40.7%

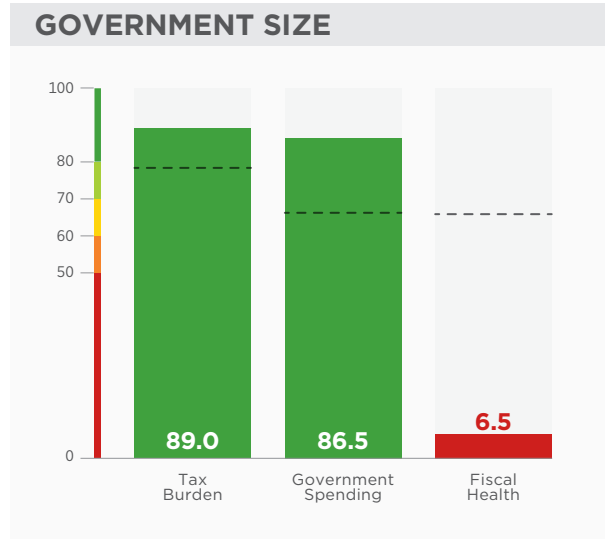
**PUBLIC DEBT:**  
82.2% of GDP

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

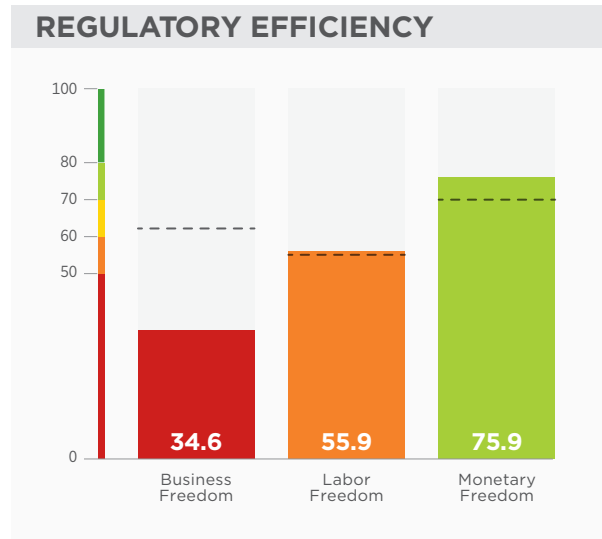
# 12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | GUINEA-BISSAU



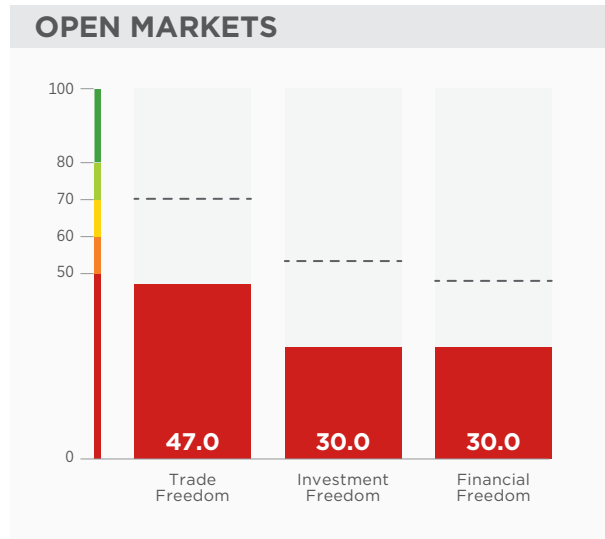
The overall rule of law is weak in Guinea-Bissau. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 20 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 25 percent. The tax burden equals 8.6 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 21.2 percent and -7.2 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 82.2 percent of GDP.



Guinea-Bissau'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 well above the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 16.5 percent, and nontariff barriers continue to impede trade. The law treats foreign and domestic investment equally, but government openness to foreign investment is below average. High credit costs and scarce access to financing impede entrepreneurial activity.