

WORLD RANK: **68** | REGIONAL RANK: **12**

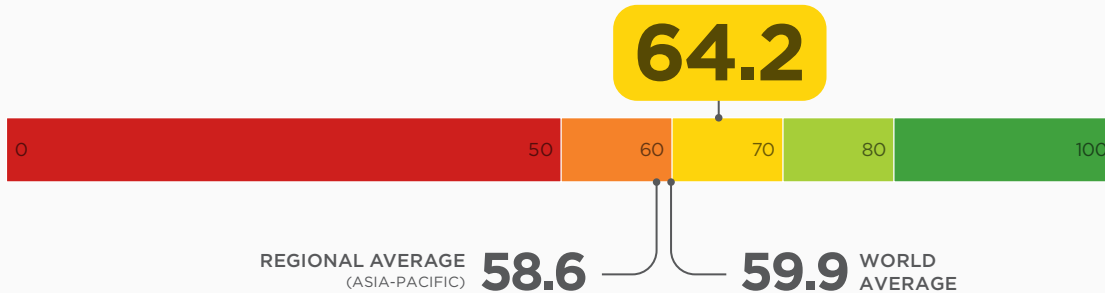
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MODERATELY FREE**

KAZAKHSTAN

Kazakhstan's economic freedom score is 64.2, making its economy the 68th freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has increased by 0.4 point from last year, and Kazakhstan is ranked 12th out of 39 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The country's economic freedom score is higher than the world and regional averages. Kazakhstan's economy is considered "moderately free" according to the 2026 *Index*.

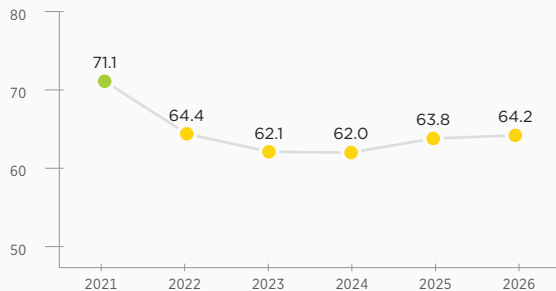
Kazakhstan has demonstrated a high degree of economic expansion and resilience, driven by ongoing regulatory reforms and favorable fiscal policies. However, the economy faces structural headwinds from high inflation and continued reliance on oil. As growth progresses, stronger foundations of economic freedom are even more critical to Kazakhstan's long-term economic prospects and overall competitiveness. Reform has progressed over the years, although institutional shortcomings continue to discourage greater economic diversification and modernization. The procedures for establishing a business, while streamlined, remain relatively costly.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1998): +22.5

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
19.9 million

GDP (PPP):
\$841.7 billion
5.9% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 5.3%
\$44,778 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
4.8%

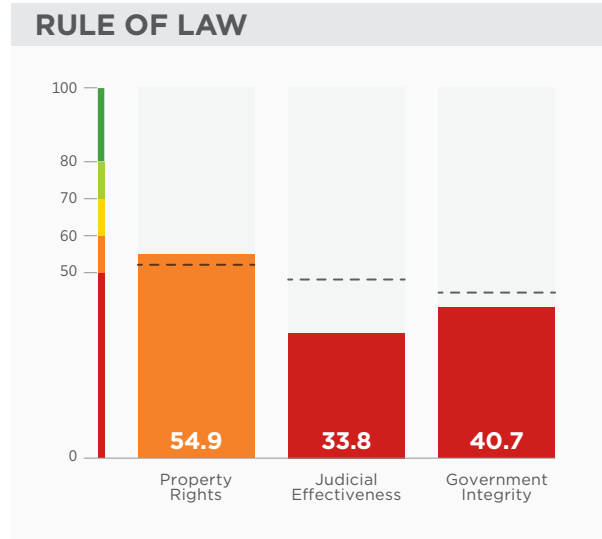
INFLATION (CPI):
8.7%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 62.0%

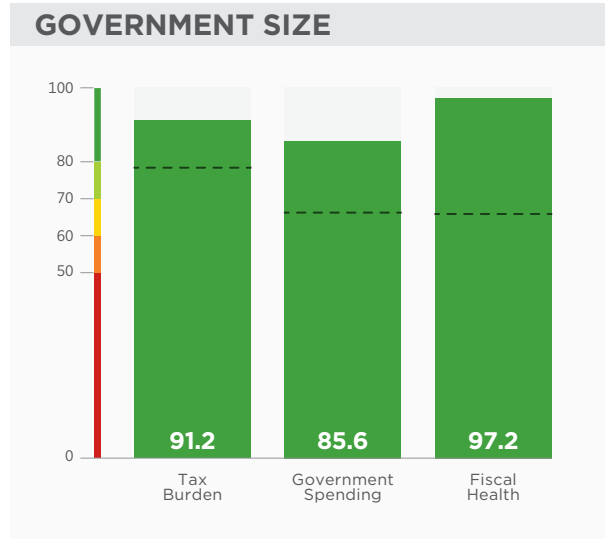
PUBLIC DEBT:
24.4% of GDP

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

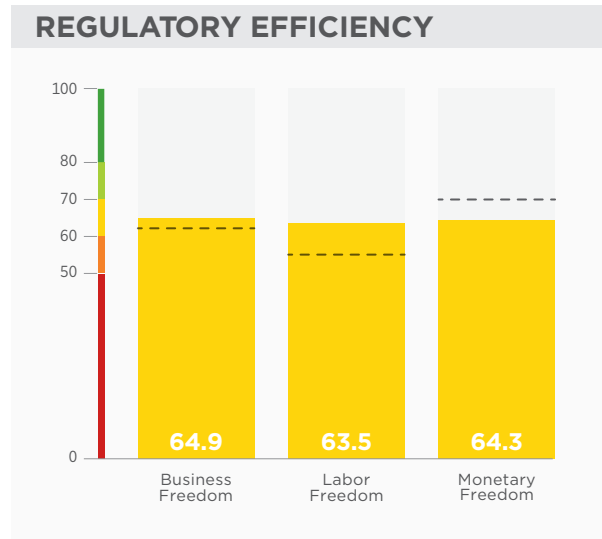
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | KAZAKHSTAN



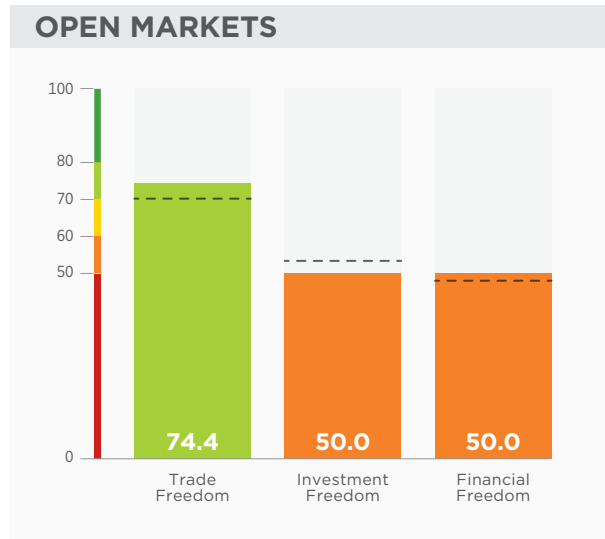
The overall rule of law is weak in Kazakhstan. The country's property rights score is above the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 10 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 20 percent. The tax burden equals 19.5 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 21.9 percent and -1.0 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 24.4 percent of GDP.



Kazakhstan's overall regulatory environment is relatively well institutionalized but lacks efficiency. The country's business freedom score is above the world average; its labor freedom score is above the world average; and its monetary freedom score is below the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 5.3 percent, and layers of nontariff measures are in force. Foreign investment in some sectors is restricted, and state-owned enterprises distort the economy. The financial sector is relatively stable but subject to state influence.