

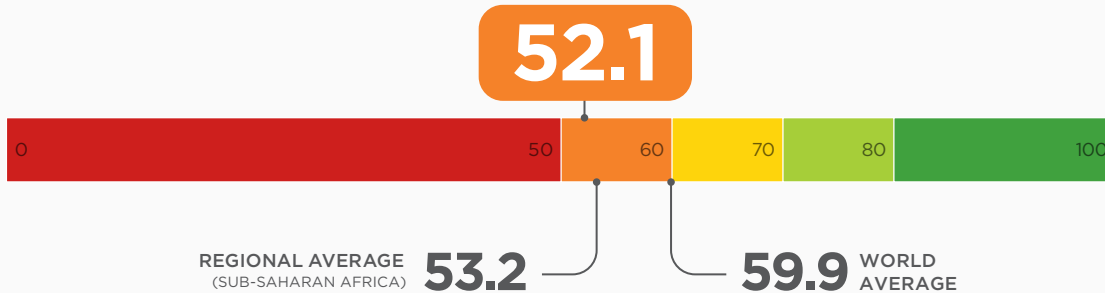
MALI

WORLD RANK: **135** | REGIONAL RANK: **27**
 ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MOSTLY UNFREE**

Mali's economic freedom score is 52.1, making its economy the 135th freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 0.5 point from last year, and Mali is ranked 27th out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the global and regional averages. Mali's economy is considered "mostly unfree" according to the 2026 *Index*.

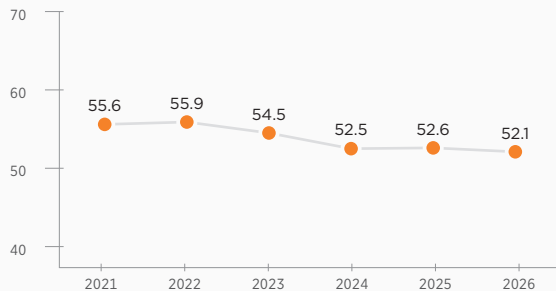
Mali has made little progress in expanding economic freedom and remains mired in the "mostly unfree" category. A lack of dynamism leaves the domestic economy highly vulnerable to external economic conditions. Institutional weaknesses broadly restrict economic freedom and prevent the dynamic growth of economic activity. The inefficient regulatory framework for business does not encourage economic diversification or private-sector development. Much private-sector activity takes place outside of the formal economy. Labor regulations are relatively rigid but not fully enforced.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1995): -0.3

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
23.3 million

GDP (PPP):
\$67.8 billion
5.0% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 4.8%
\$2,890 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
3.1%

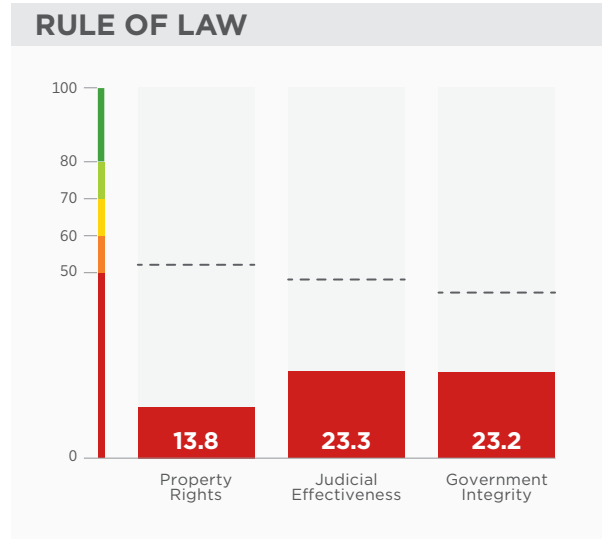
INFLATION (CPI):
3.2%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 50.9%

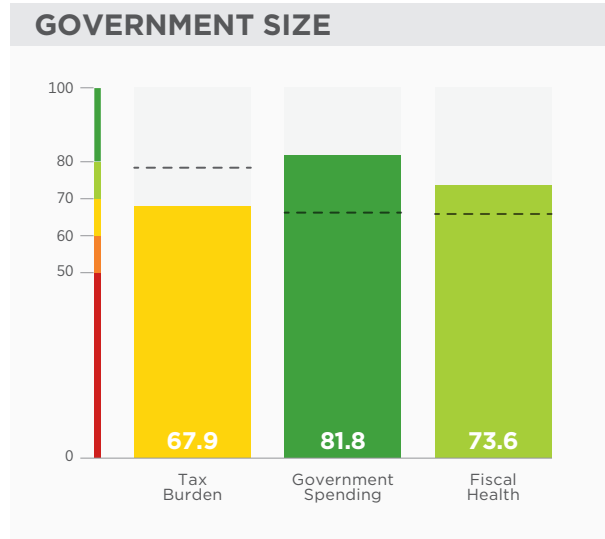
PUBLIC DEBT:
51.7% of GDP

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

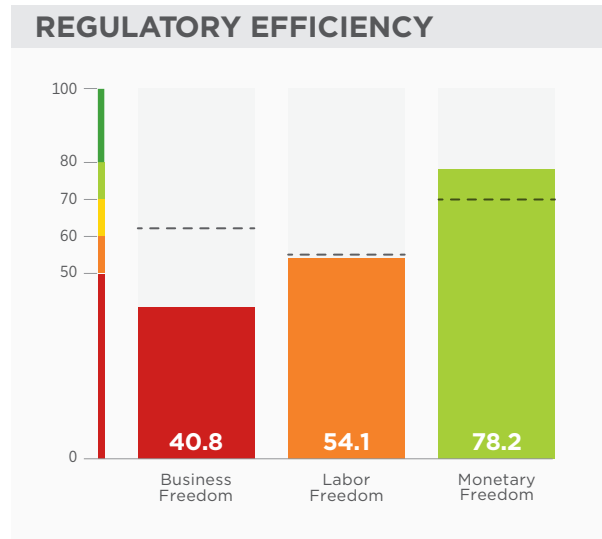
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | MALI



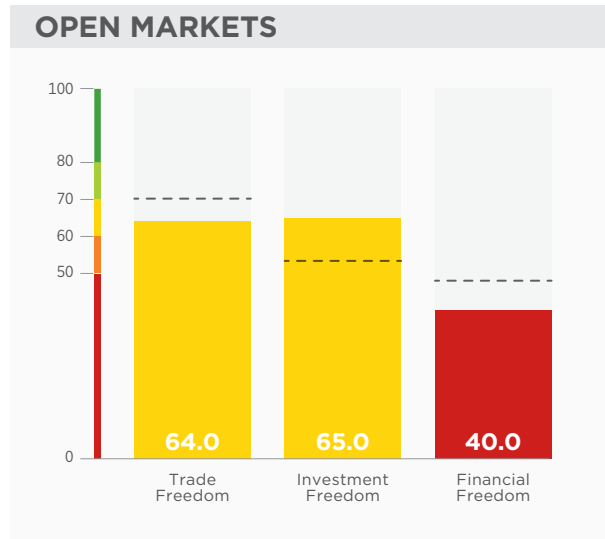
The overall rule of law is weak in Mali. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 40 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 35 percent. The tax burden equals 19.5 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 24.6 percent and -3.6 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 51.7 percent of GDP.



Mali'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 below the world average; and its monetary freedom score is well above the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 10.5 percent, and 20 nontariff measures are in force. The government is trying to encourage economic diversification and broader economic development, but Mali's inadequate financial infrastructure and fragile security situation are impediments to progress.