

WORLD RANK: **101** | REGIONAL RANK: **41**

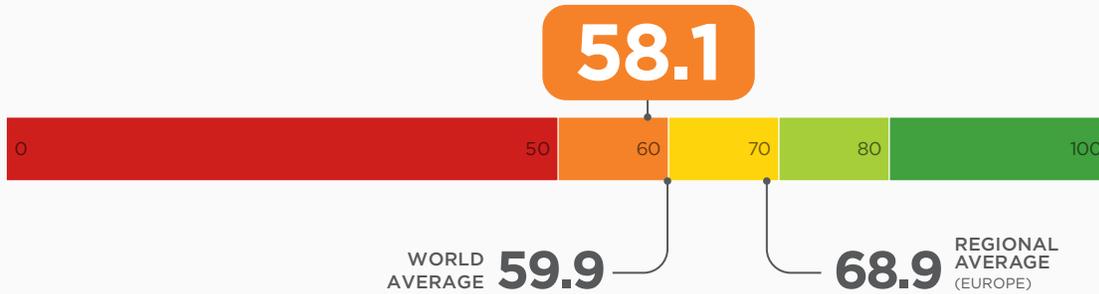
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MOSTLY UNFREE**

MOLDOVA

Moldova's economic freedom score is 58.1, making its economy the 101st freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 0.2 point from last year, and Moldova is ranked 41st out of 44 countries in the Europe region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the global and regional averages. Moldova's economy is considered "mostly unfree" according to the 2026 *Index*.

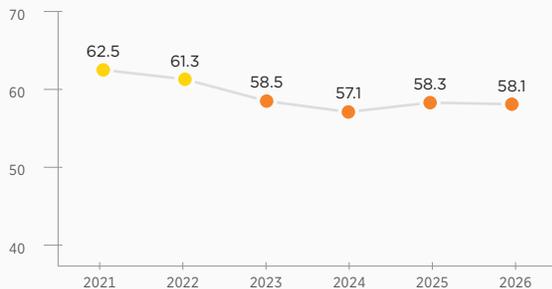
The foundations of economic freedom are neither well-established nor strongly protected in Moldova. Overall progress in achieving sound macro-economic management and enhancing the entrepreneurial climate has been uneven. The country's economic performance is below potential, and the weak rule of law undermines prospects for more significant and dynamic long-term economic development. Moldova has adopted some regulatory reforms, but bureaucracy and a lack of transparency continue to make the formation and operation of private enterprises burdensome.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1995): +25.1

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
2.5 million

GDP (PPP):
\$44.8 billion
1.7% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 1.0%
\$19,591 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
1.5%

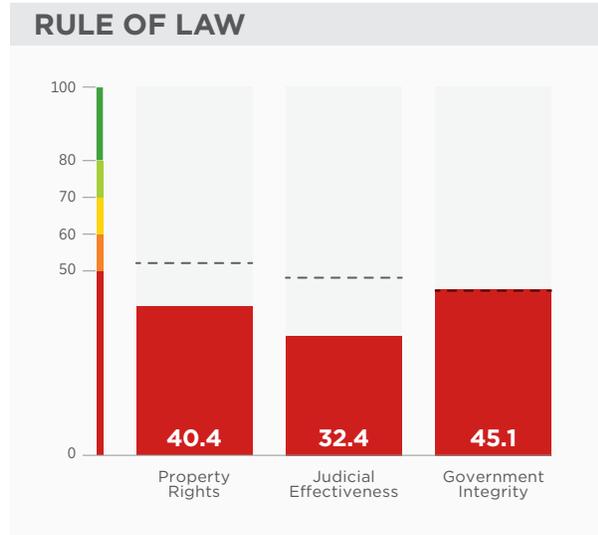
INFLATION (CPI):
4.7%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 88.7%

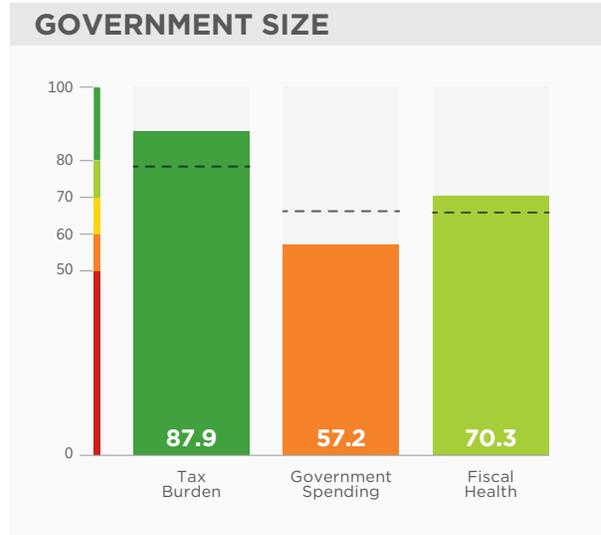
PUBLIC DEBT:
38.8% of GDP

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

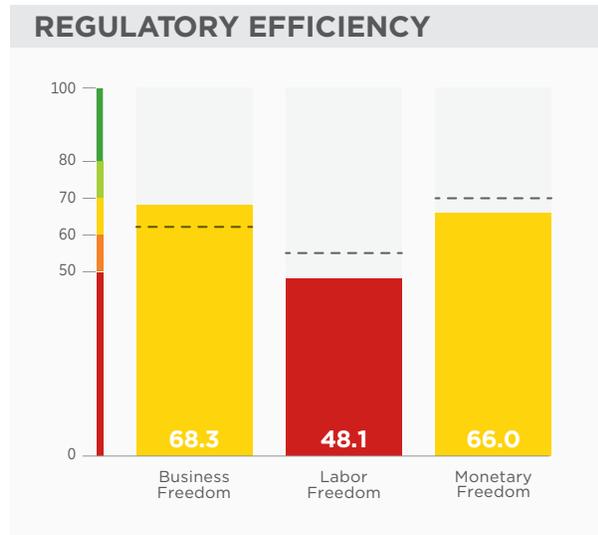
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | MOLDOVA



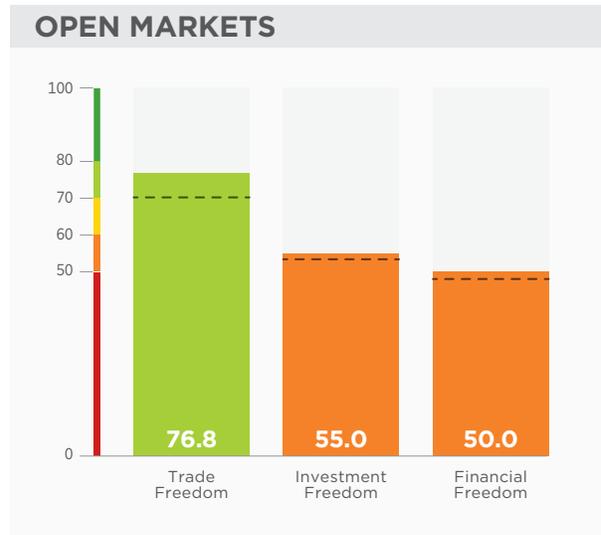
The overall rule of law is weak in Moldova. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is above the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 12 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 12 percent. The tax burden equals 30.3 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 37.8 percent and -4.1 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 38.8 percent of GDP.



Moldova'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 below the world average; and its monetary freedom score is below the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 4.1 percent, and eight nontariff measures are in force. The investment framework lacks transparency and efficiency. Long-term financing remains difficult. Approximately 45 percent of adult Moldovans have access to an account with a formal banking institution.