

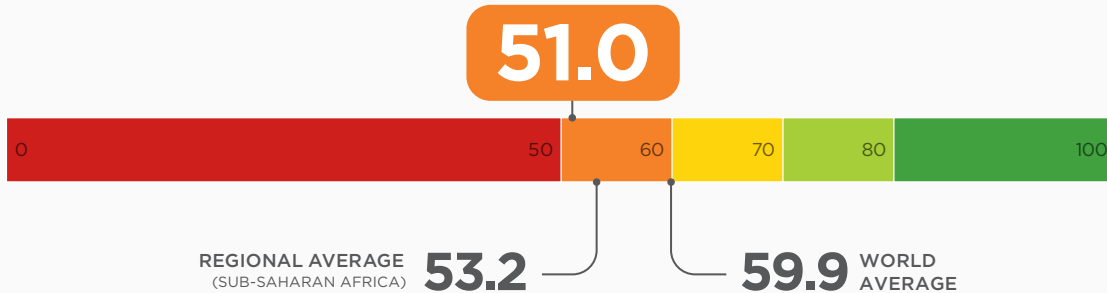
NIGER

WORLD RANK: **140** | REGIONAL RANK: **32**
 ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MOSTLY UNFREE**

Niger's economic freedom score is 51, making its economy the 140th freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 0.5 point from last year, and Niger is ranked 32nd out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the global and regional averages. Niger's economy is considered "mostly unfree" according to the 2026 *Index*.

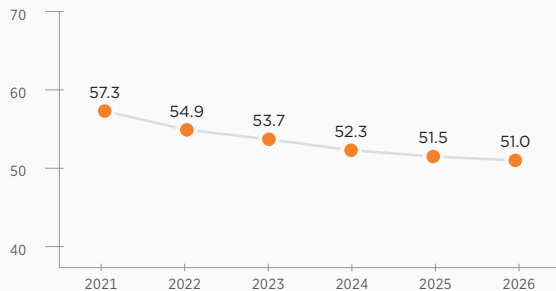
Progress toward greater economic freedom in Niger has been uneven and sluggish. Institutional weaknesses continue to discourage macroeconomic stability and poverty reduction. In particular, the rule of law remains fragile because of corruption and a judicial system that is both inept and subject to political interference. The inadequate regulatory framework impedes private-sector development. Onerous and inconsistent regulations impose substantial costs on business operations. The labor market is poorly developed, and much of the labor force works in the informal sector.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1996): +5.2

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
27.1 million

GDP (PPP):
\$55.9 billion
6.6% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 6.4%
\$2,095 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
0.4%

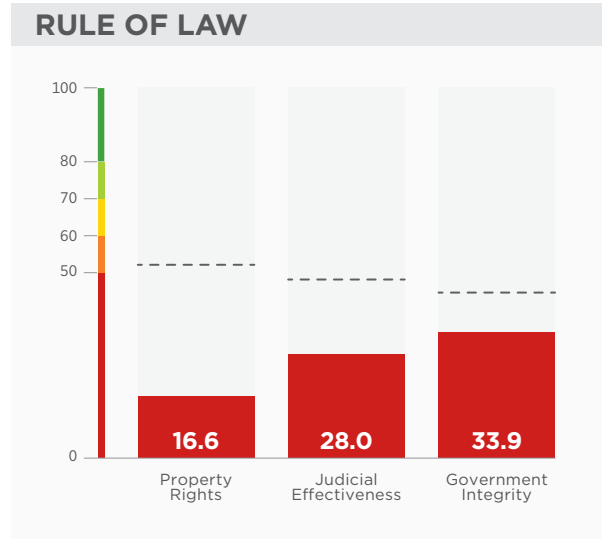
INFLATION (CPI):
9.1%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 52.0%

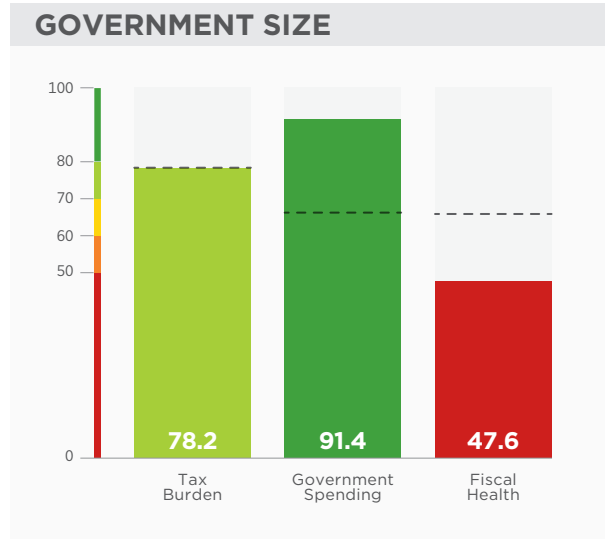
PUBLIC DEBT:
47.2% of GDP

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

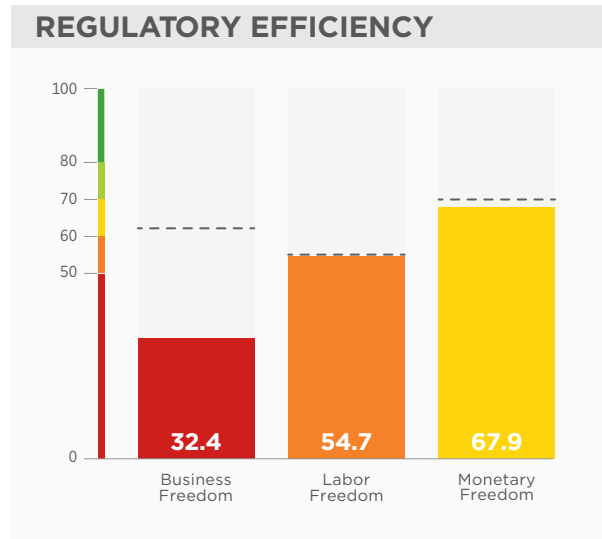
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | NIGER



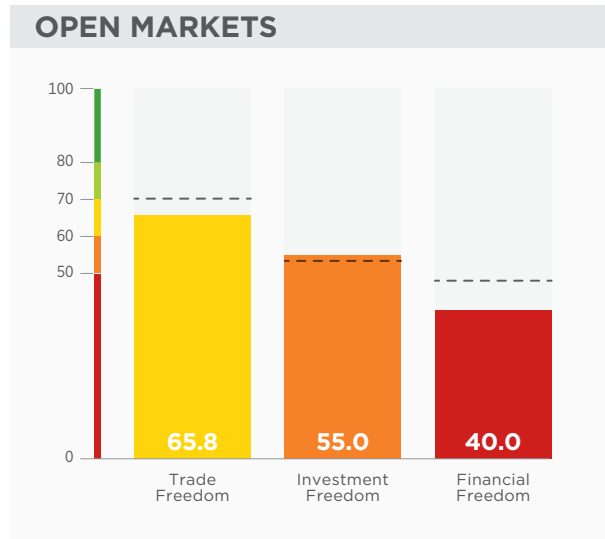
The overall rule of law is weak in Niger. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 35 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 30 percent. The tax burden equals 7.2 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 16.9 percent and -5.5 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 47.2 percent of GDP.



Niger'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 above the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 9.6 percent. The inefficient regulatory and legal environment constrains trade and investment. The underdeveloped, weak, and fragmented financial system reflects the small size of the formal economy. Financial inclusion is low.