

WORLD RANK: **74** | REGIONAL RANK: **36**

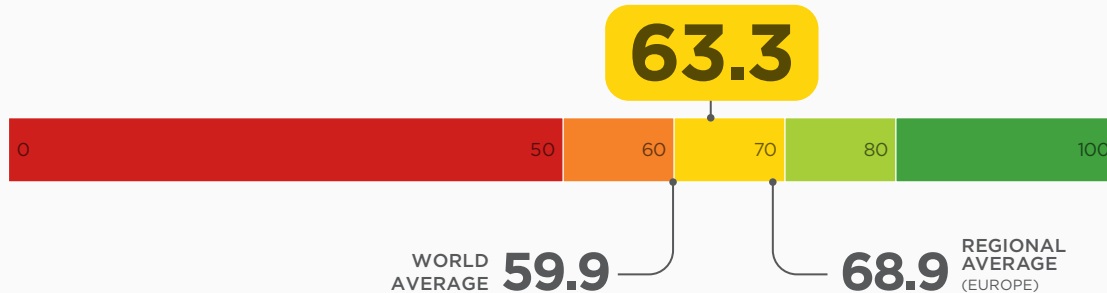
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MODERATELY FREE**

NORTH MACEDONIA

North Macedonia's economic freedom score is 63.3, making its economy the 74th freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating is essentially unchanged from last year, and North Macedonia is ranked 36th out of 44 countries in the Europe region. The country's economic freedom score is higher than the world average but lower than the regional average. North Macedonia's economy is considered "moderately free" according to the 2026 *Index*.

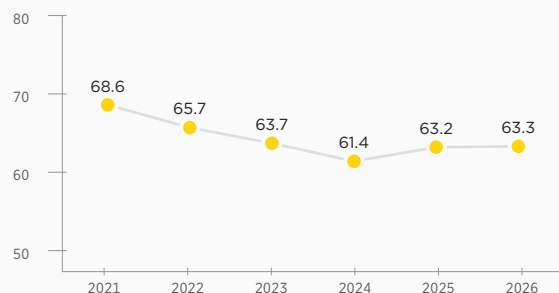
Relative openness to global commerce has encouraged private-sector dynamism in North Macedonia. Despite some progress, the development of a more vibrant private sector is still facing difficulties. Corruption continues to be a concern. The inefficient legal framework does not provide effective protection of property rights. Streamlined processes for business formation and operation provide an environment that is fairly conducive to entrepreneurial growth. Progress in reforming the labor market has been limited.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 2002): +5.3

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
1.8 million

GDP (PPP):
\$50.4 billion
3.4% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 2.7%
\$29,510 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
13.5%

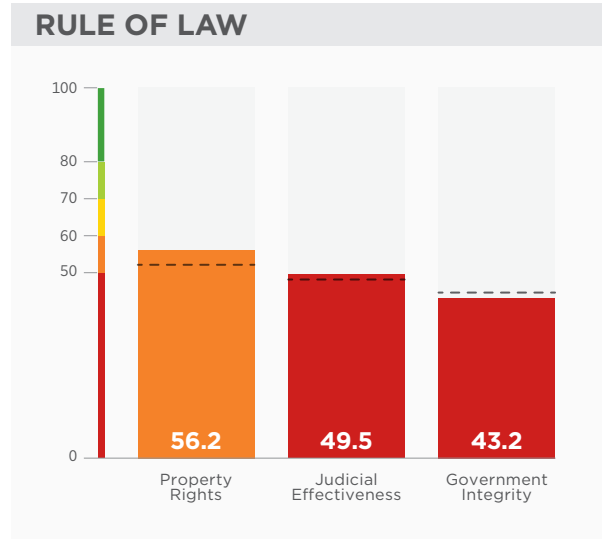
INFLATION (CPI):
3.5%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 138.5%

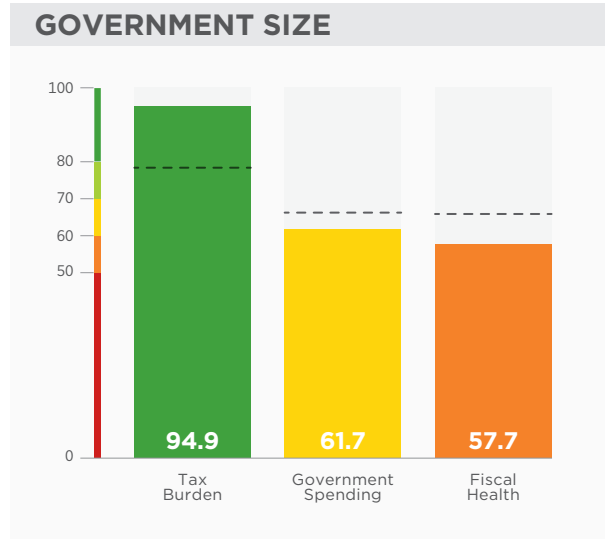
PUBLIC DEBT:
54.8% of GDP

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

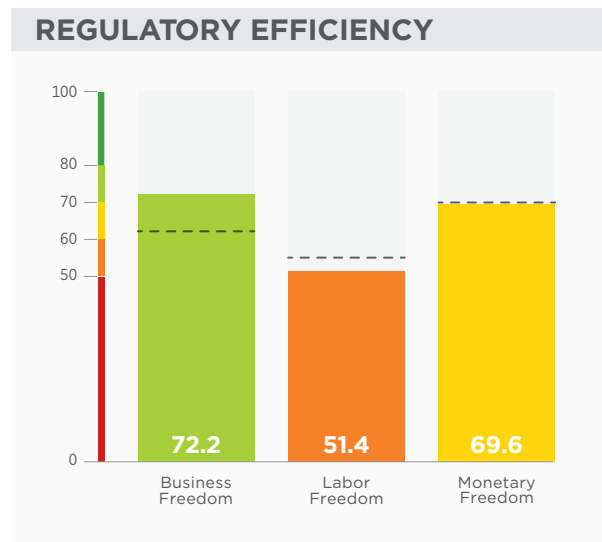
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | NORTH MACEDONIA



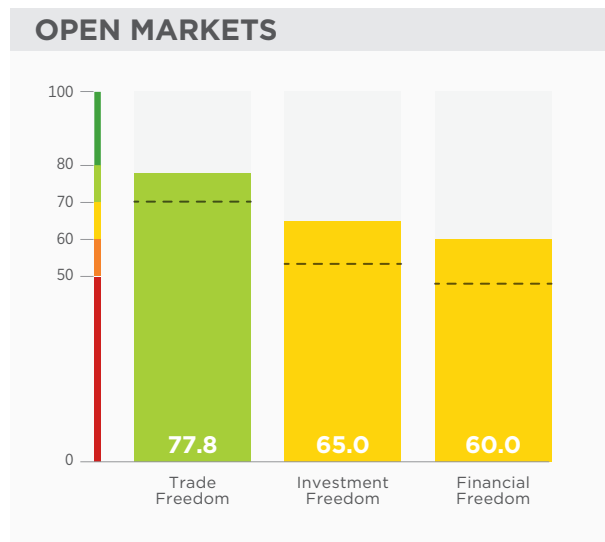
The overall rule of law is weak in North Macedonia. The country's property rights score is above the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is above the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 10 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 10 percent. The tax burden equals 17.8 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 35.7 percent and -4.8 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 54.8 percent of GDP.



North Macedonia's overall regulatory environment is relatively well institutionalized but lacks efficiency. The country's business freedom score is far 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 6.1 percent, and nontariff barriers are still in force. A streamlined regulatory framework facilitates investment, but political instability undercuts more vibrant investment inflows. The financial system continues to evolve, and the banking sector is relatively stable.