



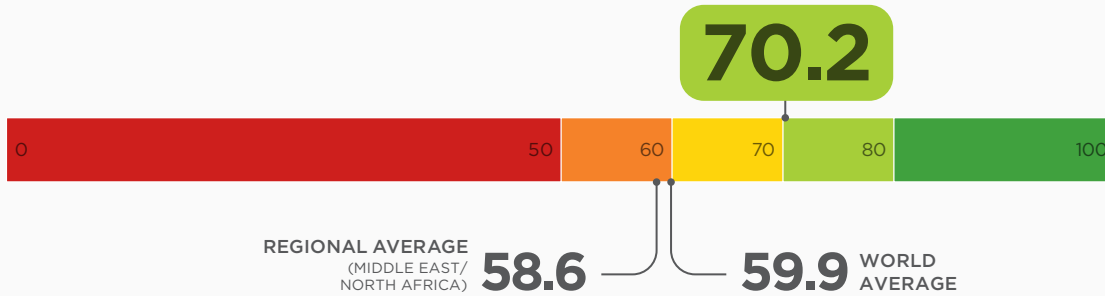
WORLD RANK:	REGIONAL RANK:
31	2
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: MOSTLY FREE	

QATAR

Qatar’s economic freedom score is 70.2, making its economy the 31st freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating is essentially unchanged from last year, and Qatar is ranked 2nd out of 14 countries in the Middle East/North Africa region. The country’s economic freedom score is higher than the world and regional averages. Qatar’s economy is considered “mostly free” according to the 2026 *Index*.

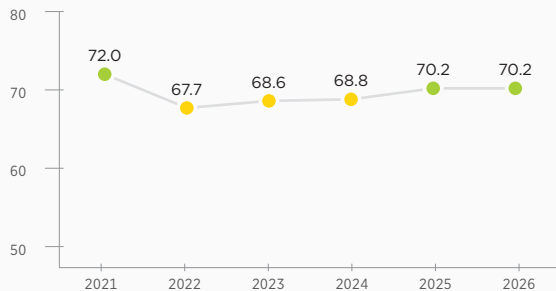
Qatar has improved its entrepreneurial environment and broadened its economic base. The foundations of economic freedom are relatively solid. The regulatory system is flexible. Qatar’s open trade regime and growing status as a regional financial hub encourage more diversified private-sector growth. Launching a business and completing licensing requirements are now easier, but the pace of reform has slowed. Sweeping reforms have further streamlined foreign investment laws and simplified procedures. The labor force consists primarily of expatriate workers, and immigration and employment rules are tightly managed.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1999): +8.2

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
3.1 million

GDP (PPP):
\$360.8 billion
2.9% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 2.3%
\$122,283 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
0.2%

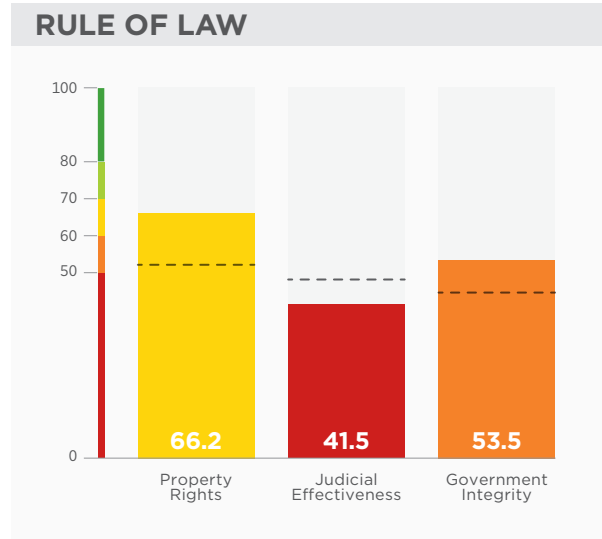
INFLATION (CPI):
1.2%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 100.2%

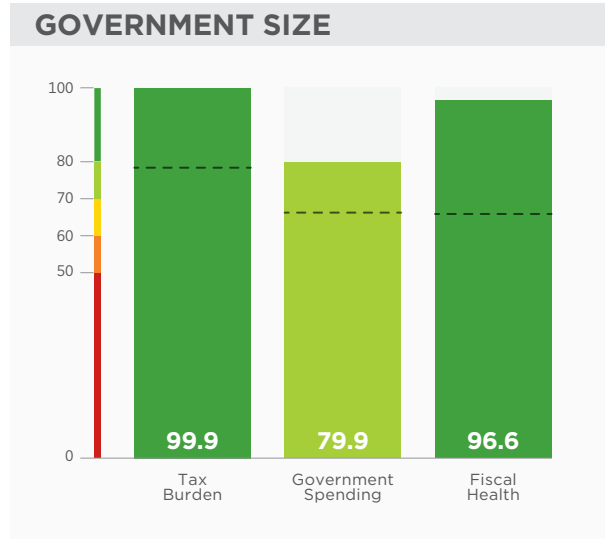
PUBLIC DEBT:
41.2% of GDP

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

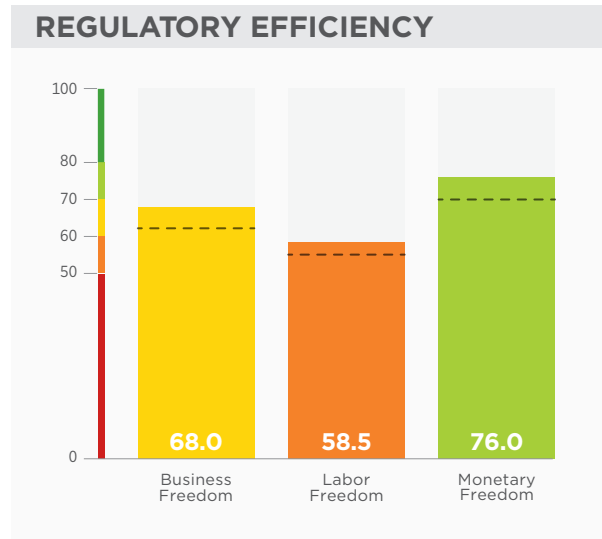
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | QATAR



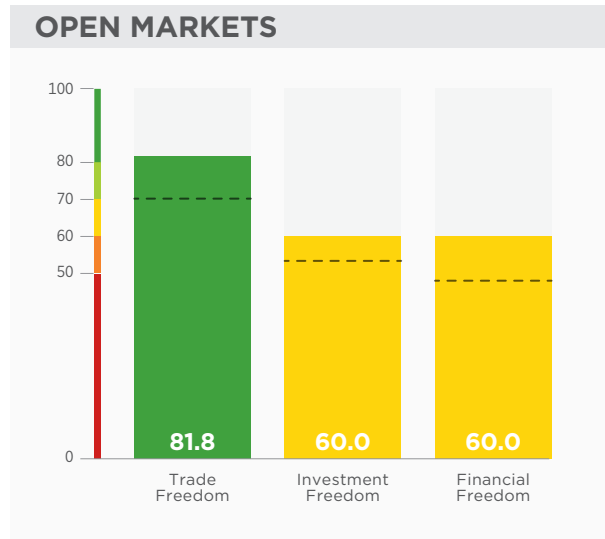
The overall rule of law is relatively well respected in Qatar. The country's property rights score is above the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is above the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 0 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 0 percent. The tax burden equals 3.1 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 25.9 percent and 5.5 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 41.2 percent of GDP.



Qatar'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 well above the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 4.1 percent. Openness to global commerce through trade and investment underpins Qatar's competitiveness. Most economic sectors now allow 100 percent foreign ownership without a local sponsor. Banking remains stable and competitive. Growth in financial services has contributed to economic diversification.