

WORLD RANK: **58** | REGIONAL RANK: **30**

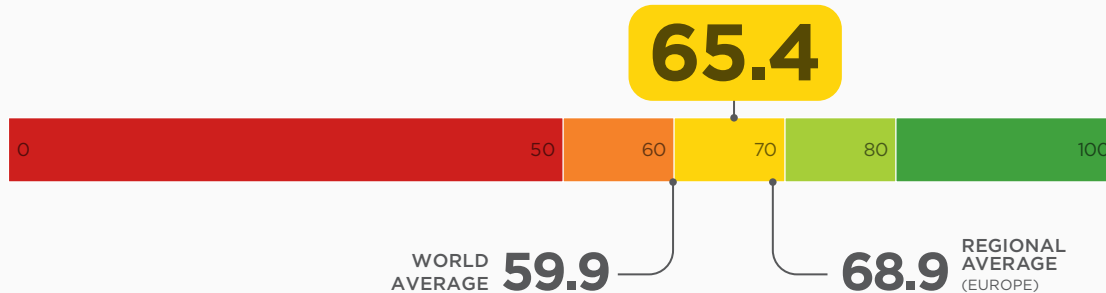
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MODERATELY FREE**

ROMANIA

Romania's economic freedom score is 65.4, making its economy the 58th freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 1.1 points from last year, and Romania is ranked 30th out of 44 countries in the Europe region. The country's economic freedom score is higher than the world average and lower than the regional average. Romania's economy is considered "moderately free" according to the 2026 *Index*.

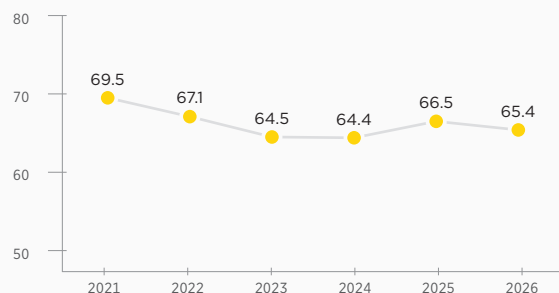
The Romanian economy has benefited substantially from a decade of openness and flexibility, but deeper institutional and structural reforms in such areas as the labor market and management of public finance are still needed. The judiciary remains inefficient and vulnerable to political interference, and corruption continues to undermine long-term economic development. The process for business registration and operation has been streamlined, but efficient bankruptcy procedures have not been fully implemented. Relatively high inflation has weakened overall monetary stability.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1995): +22.5

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
19.1 million

GDP (PPP):
\$889.5 billion
1.0% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 1.4%
\$48,847 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
5.4%

INFLATION (CPI):
5.6%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 77.3%

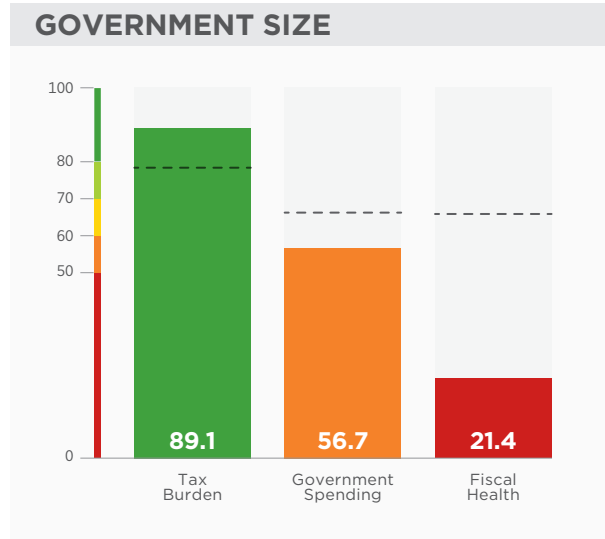
PUBLIC DEBT:
57.4% of GDP

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

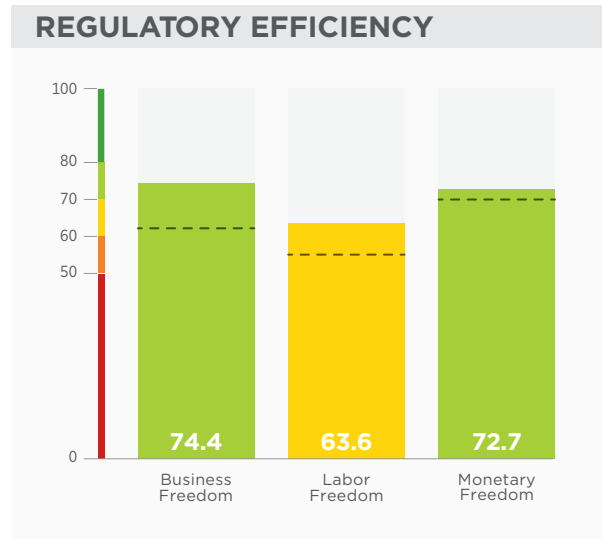
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | ROMANIA



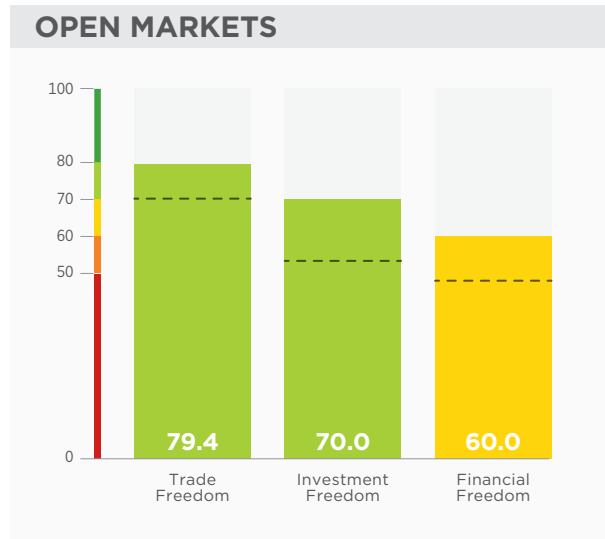
The overall rule of law is relatively well respected in Romania. The country's property rights score is above the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is above the world average; and its government integrity score is above the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 10 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 16 percent. The tax burden equals 27.1 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 38.0 percent and -6.7 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 57.4 percent of GDP.



Romania's overall regulatory environment is well institutionalized and relatively efficient. The country's business freedom score is far above the world average; its labor freedom score is above the world average; and its monetary freedom score is above the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate (common among EU members) is 2.8 percent, and a number of EU-mandated nontariff measures are in force. Despite progress, the regulatory system tends to discourage more dynamic foreign investment. The financial sector's continued growth is driven primarily by banking.