

WORLD RANK: **173** | REGIONAL RANK: **47**

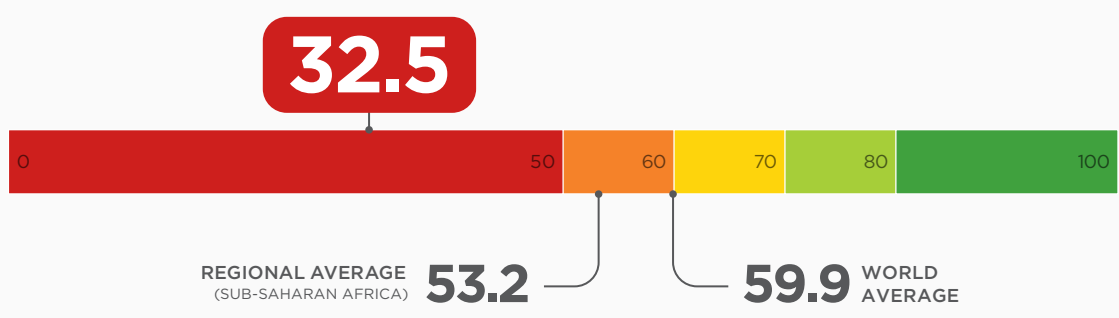
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **REPPRESSED**

SUDAN

Sudan's economic freedom score is 32.5, making its economy the 173rd freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has decreased by 2.8 points from last year, and Sudan is ranked 47th out of 47 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the global and regional averages. Sudan's economy is considered "repressed" according to the 2026 *Index*.

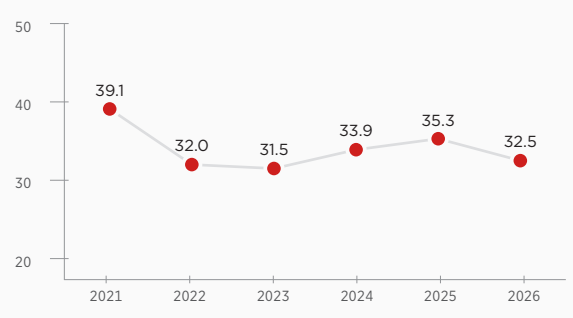
The large informal economy has been an important source of employment. Aside from the hydrocarbon sector, regional instability limits economic development. A lack of institutional capacity impedes development and diversification of the Sudanese economy. Inconsistent enforcement of regulations and other institutional shortcomings that include a dysfunctional court system often impede business activity and prevent sustained economic development. The labor market remains underdeveloped, and much of the labor force works in the informal sector. Monetary stability has been severely undermined.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1995): -6.9

RECENT FREEDOM TREND

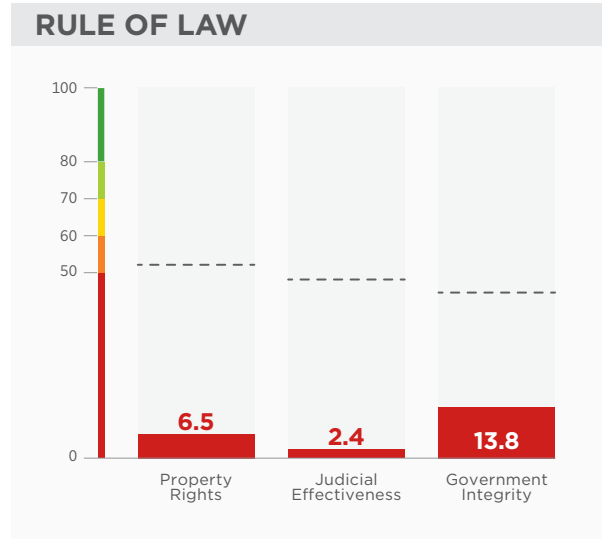


QUICK FACTS

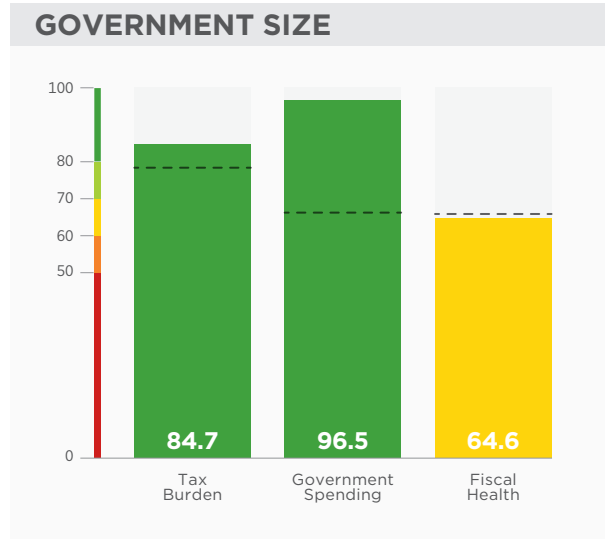
- POPULATION:** 47.9 million
- UNEMPLOYMENT:** 11.4%
- GDP (PPP):** \$115.3 billion
- INFLATION (CPI):** 185.7%
- TRADE AS % OF GDP:** 2.5%
- PUBLIC DEBT:** 261.4% of GDP

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

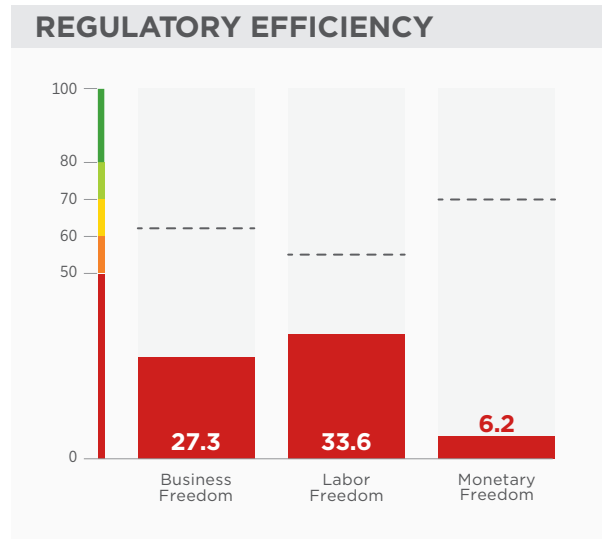
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | SUDAN



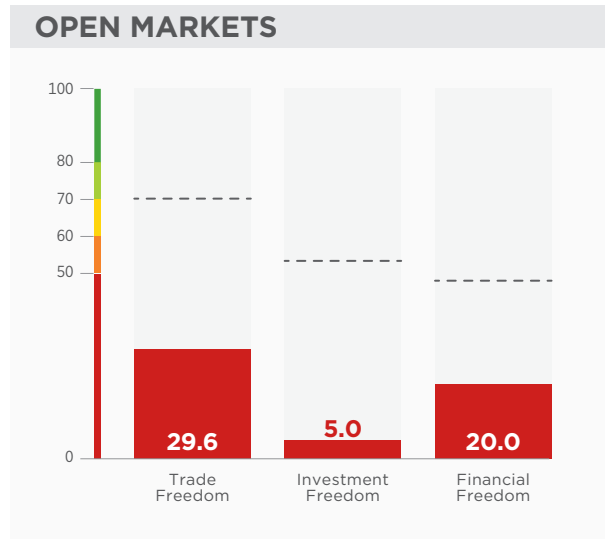
The overall rule of law is weak in Sudan. The country’s property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 15 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 35 percent. The tax burden equals 8.7 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 10.8 percent and -3.1 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 261.4 percent of GDP.



Sudan’s overall regulatory environment is very inefficient and not conducive to entrepreneurial activity. 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 well below the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 25.2 percent, and extensive nontariff barriers severely limit trade freedom. Political instability and an outmoded regulatory environment are major deterrents to private investment. Access to credit remains limited.