



WORLD RANK: **128** | REGIONAL RANK: **27**

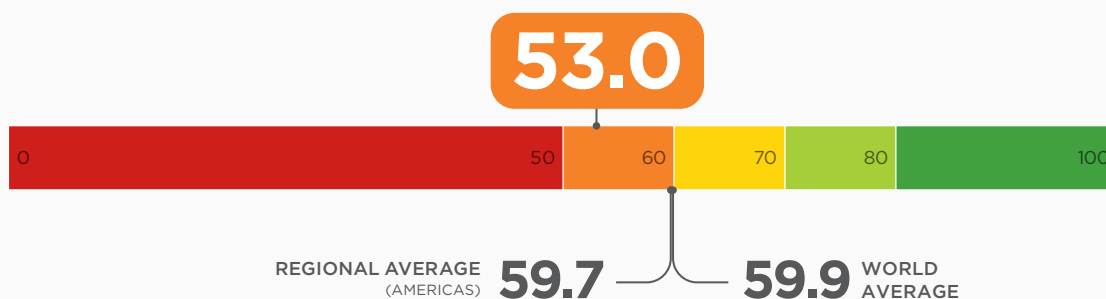
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MOSTLY UNFREE**

SURINAME

Suriname's economic freedom score is 53, making its economy the 128th freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has increased by 2.1 points from last year, and Suriname is ranked 27th out of 32 countries in the Americas region. The country's economic freedom score is lower than the global and regional averages. Suriname's economy is considered "mostly unfree" according to the 2026 *Index*.

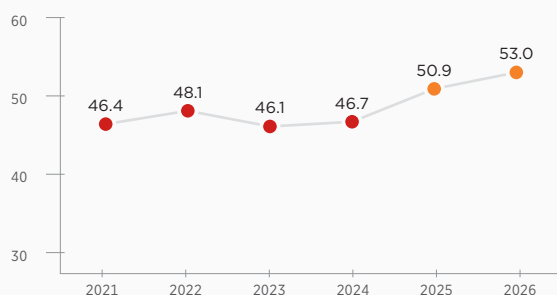
Poor policy choices and uncertainty generated by the weak rule of law severely weaken prospects for long-term economic development. Pervasive judicial corruption makes it harder to establish a foundation for economic freedom. Little has been done to develop a more dynamic private sector. Suriname's regulatory code limits the freedom to launch and run a business. The formal labor market is not fully developed, and the public sector remains a major source of employment. Regulations and state-owned enterprises influence prices.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1996): +16.3

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
0.6 million

GDP (PPP):
\$13.9 billion
2.7% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 2.7%
\$22,303 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
7.4%

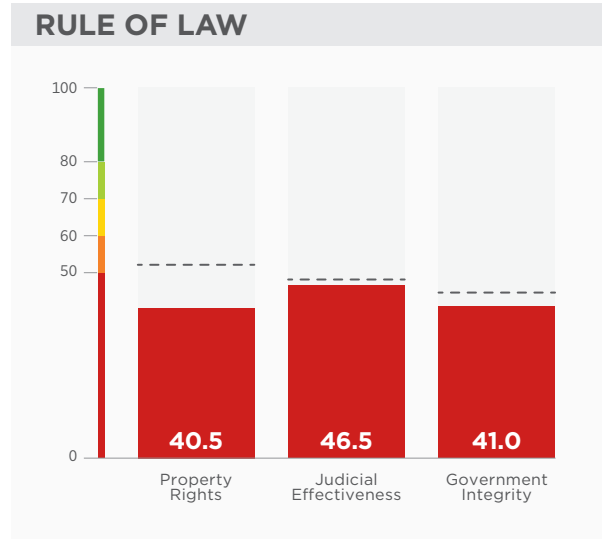
INFLATION (CPI):
16.2%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: n/a

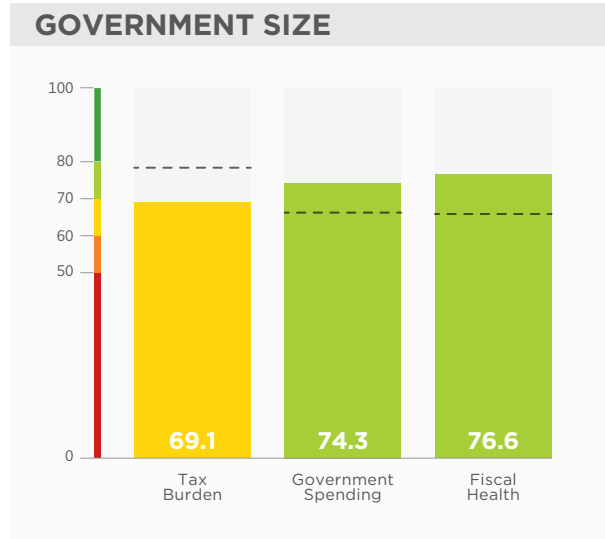
PUBLIC DEBT:
87.3% of GDP

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

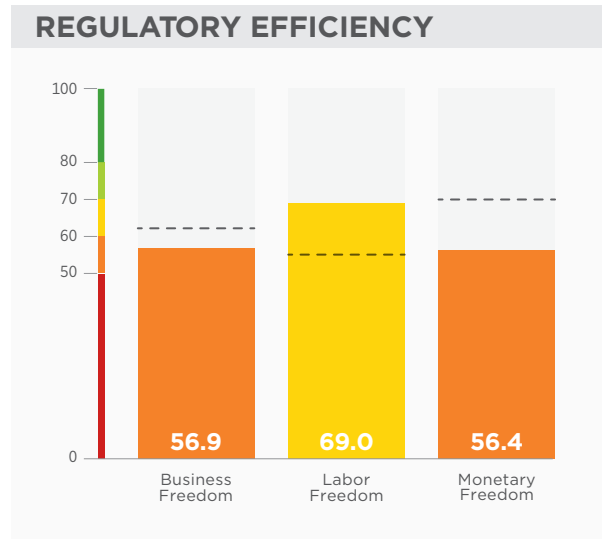
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | SURINAME



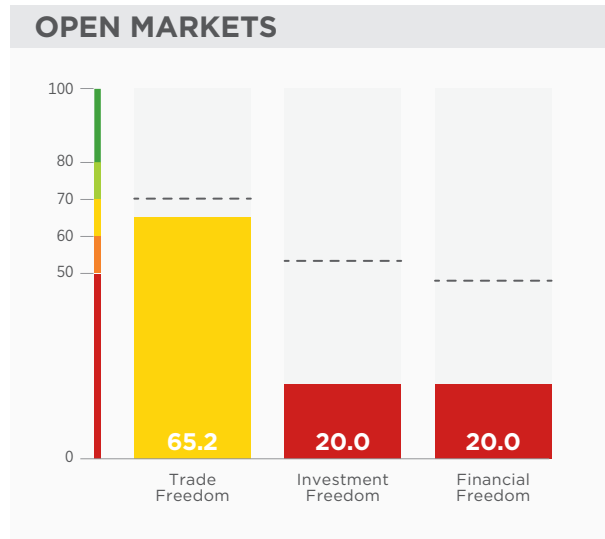
The overall rule of law is weak in Suriname. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 38 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 36 percent. The tax burden equals 18.8 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 29.3 percent and -2.3 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 87.3 percent of GDP.



Suriname's overall regulatory environment is relatively well institutionalized but lacks efficiency. The country's business freedom score is below the world average; its labor freedom score is above the world average; and its monetary freedom score is well below the world average.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate is 9.9 percent, and pervasive nontariff barriers further limit trade freedom. The onerous and nontransparent investment regime continues to deter long-term foreign investment. The financial sector is underdeveloped, and credit decisions are subject to state influence.