



WORLD RANK: **86** | REGIONAL RANK: **18**

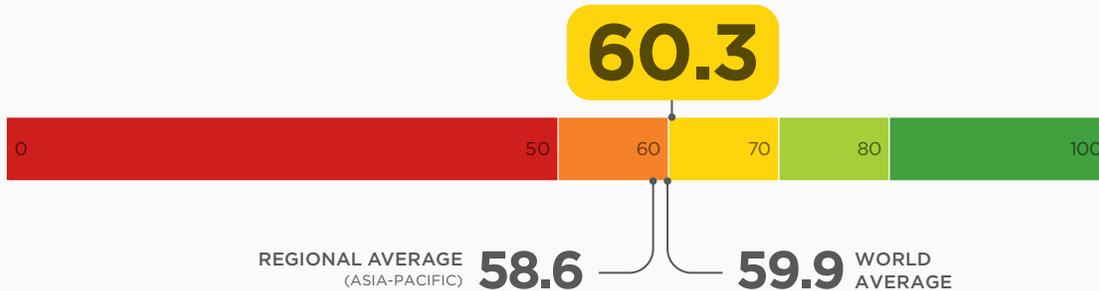
ECONOMIC FREEDOM STATUS: **MODERATELY FREE**

UZBEKISTAN

Uzbekistan’s economic freedom score is 60.3, making its economy the 86th freest in the 2026 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating has increased by 2.3 points from last year, and Uzbekistan is ranked 18th out of 39 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The country’s economic freedom score is higher than the world and regional averages. Uzbekistan’s economy is considered “moderately free” according to the 2026 *Index*.

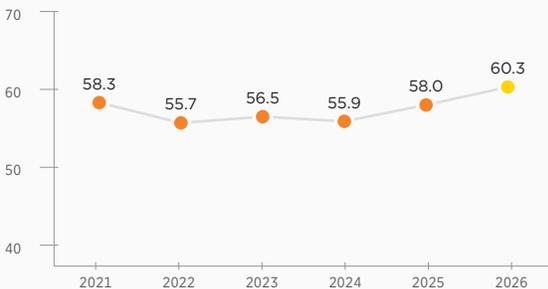
Uzbekistan has pursued critical reforms to build a competitive market economy, adopting policies that advance economic freedom and transitioning to greater openness and modernization. The government remains committed to reducing the state’s footprint, particularly in the banking sector and state-owned enterprises. The business start-up process has been streamlined. A modern labor market continues to evolve, but informal-sector employment remains substantial. Monetary stability has been relatively well maintained despite ongoing inflationary pressure. Uzbekistan is in the final stages of its bid to join the World Trade Organization.

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE



HISTORICAL INDEX SCORE CHANGE (SINCE 1998): +28.8

RECENT FREEDOM TREND



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION:
36.0 million

GDP (PPP):
\$432.8 billion
6.8% growth in 2025
3-year average growth rate: 6.6%
\$12,559 per capita

UNEMPLOYMENT:
4.5%

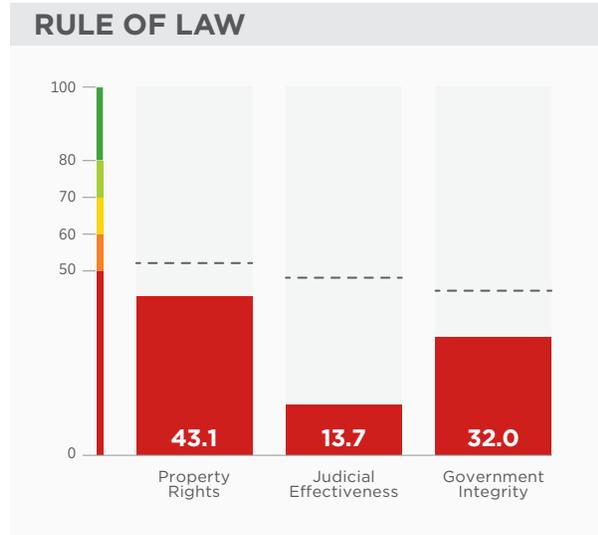
INFLATION (CPI):
9.6%

TRADE AS % OF GDP: 60.7%

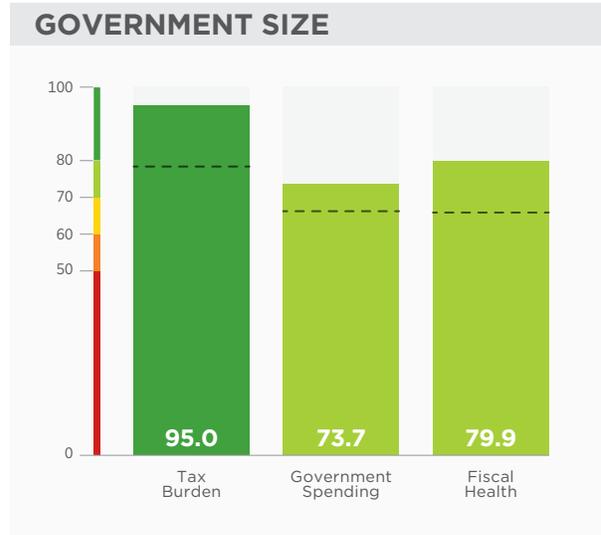
PUBLIC DEBT:
32.7% of GDP

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

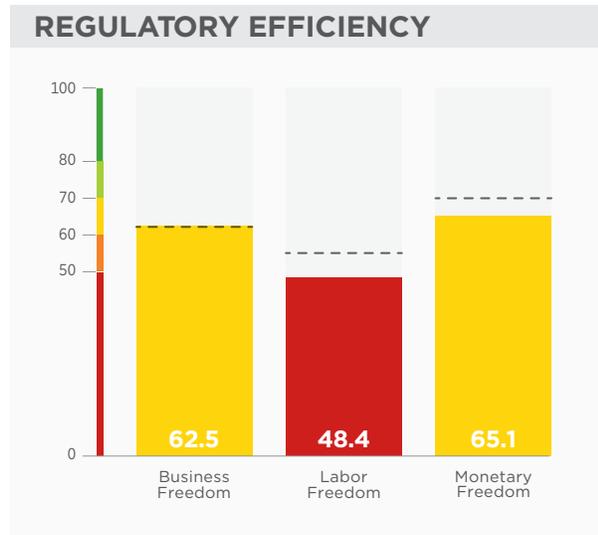
12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | UZBEKISTAN



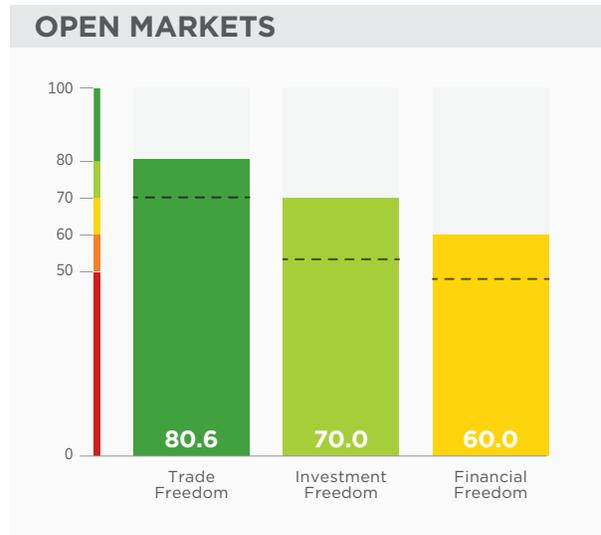
The overall rule of law is weak in Uzbekistan. The country's property rights score is below the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is below the world average; and its government integrity score is below the world average.



The top individual income tax rate is 12 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 15 percent. The tax burden equals 11.5 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 29.6 percent and -3.4 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 32.7 percent of GDP.



Uzbekistan's overall regulatory environment is poorly institutionalized and inefficient. The country's business freedom score is 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 4.7 percent, and nontariff barriers further increase the cost of trade. Reforms to enhance the overall investment framework have been implemented. The financial sector has undergone modernization, but state-owned banks remain dominant.