

2015 Index of Economic Freedom

Promoting Economic Opportunity and Prosperity



In partnership with THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. Terry Miller Anthony B. Kim

RANKING THE WORLD BY ECONOMIC FREEDOM

Rank	Country	Overall Score
1	Hong Kong	89.6
2	Singapore	89.0 89.4
3	New Zealand	82.1
4	Australia	81.4
5	Switzerland	80.5
6	Canada	79.1
7	Chile	78.5
8	Estonia	76.8
9	Ireland	76.6
10	Mauritius	76.4
11	Denmark	76.3
12	United States	76.2
13	United Kingdom	75.8
14	Taiwan	75.1
15	Lithuania	74.7
16	Germany	73.8
17	The Netherlands	73.7
18	Bahrain	73.4
19	Finland	73.4
20 21	Japan	73.3
21 22	Luxembourg	73.2 73.0
22 23	Georgia Sweden	73.0
23 24	Czech Republic	72.7
24 25	United Arab Emirates	
26	Iceland	72.0
27	Norway	71.8
28	Colombia	71.7
29	South Korea	71.5
30	Austria	71.2
31	Malaysia	70.8
32	Qatar	70.8
33	Israel	70.5
34	Macau	70.3
35	Saint Lucia	70.2
36	Botswana	69.8
37	Latvia	69.7
38	Jordan	69.3
39	Brunei	68.9
40	Belgium	68.8
41	The Bahamas	68.7
42	Poland	68.6
43	Uruguay	68.6
44	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	68.0
45		67.0
45 46	Cyprus Barbados	67.9 67.9
40 47	Peru	67.7
48	Jamaica	67.7
49	Spain	67.6
50	Slovak Republic	67.2
51	Costa Rica	67.2
52	Armenia	67.1
53	Macedonia	67.1
54	Hungary	66.8
55	Bulgaria	66.8
56	Oman	66.7
57	Romania	66.6
58	Malta	66.5
59	Mexico	66.4
60	Cabo Verde	66.4
61	Dominica	66.1
62	El Salvador	65.7
63	Albania	65.7 (F.2
64 65	Portugal	65.3
63	Rwanda	64.8

Rank	Country C	Overall Scor	e
66	Montenegro	64.7	l
67	Trinidad and Tobago	64.1	
68	Panama	64.1	
69	Kazakhstan	63.3	
70	Turkey	63.2	
71	Ghana	63.0	
72	South Africa	62.6	
73	France	62.5	
74	Kuwait	62.5	
75	Thailand	62.4	
76	The Philippines	62.2	
77	Saudi Arabia	62.1	
78	Samoa	61.9	
79	Madagascar	61.7	
80	Italy	61.7	
81	Croatia	61.5	
82	Kyrgyz Republic	61.3	
83	Paraguay	61.1	
84	Vanuatu	61.1	
85 86	Azerbaijan	61.0	
87	Dominican Republic Guatemala	61.0	
88	Slovenia	60.4 60.3	
89	Morocco	60.3	
90	Serbia	60.0	
91	Swaziland	59.9	1
92	Uganda	59.7	
93	Namibia	59.6	
94	Lebanon	59.3	
95	Tonga	59.3	
96	Mongolia	59.2	
97	Bosnia and Herzegovi		
98	Fiji	59.0	
99	Benin	58.8	
100	Zambia	58.7	
101	Sri Lanka	58.6	
102	Burkina Faso	58.6	
103	Côte d'Ivoire	58.5	
104	Gabon	58.3	
105	Indonesia	58.1	
106	Senegal	57.8	
107	Tunisia	57.7	
108	Nicaragua	57.6	
109	Tanzania	57.5	
110	Cambodia	57.5	
111	Moldova	57.5	
112	Djibouti	57.5	
113	The Gambia	57.5	
114	Seychelles	57.5	
115	Bhutan	57.4	
116	Honduras	57.4	
117	Belize	56.8	
118	Brazil	56.6	
119	Mali	56.4	
120	Nigeria	55.6	
121	Pakistan	55.6	
122 123	Kenya	55.6 55.5	
	Guyana		
124 125	Egypt	55.2 54.8	
125	Mozambique Malawi	54.8	
126 127	Niger	54.8 54.6	
127	India	54.6 54.6	
120	Suriname	54.0 54.2	
129	Greece	54.2 54.0	
131	Bangladesh	53.9	
	0		

Rank	Country	Overall Score
132	Burundi	53.7
133	Yemen	53.7
134	Maldives	53.4
135	Mauritania	53.3
136	São Tomé and Prínci	pe 53.3
137		53.1
138	Togo	53.0
139	China	52.7
140	Tajikistan	52.7
141	Liberia	52.7
142	Comoros	52.1
143	Russia	52.1
144	Guinea	52.1
145	Guinea-Bissau	52.0
146	Cameroon	51.9
147	Sierra Leone	51.7
148	Vietnam	51.7
149	Ethiopia	51.5
150	Laos	51.4
151	Haiti	51.3
		51.3
153	Nepal Belarus	49.8
154	Micronesia	49.6
155	Lesotho	49.6
156		49.2
157	Algeria	48.9
158	Angola	47.9
159	Solomon Islands	47.0
160	Uzbekistan	47.0
161		46.9
162	Ukraine	46.9
163	Bolivia	46.8
164	Viribati	46.4
165	Chad	45.9
	Central African Repu	
167	Timor-Leste	45.5
168	Congo, Dem. Rep.	45.0
169	Argentina	44.1
170	Congo, Republic of	42.7
171	Iran	41.8
172	Turkmenistan	41.4
173	Equatorial Guinea	40.4
174	Eritrea	38.9
175	Zimbabwe	37.6
176	Venezuela	34.3
177	Cuba	29.6
178	North Korea	1.3
	Afghanistan	N/A
N/A	-	N/A
	Kosovo	N/A
	Libya	N/A
	Liechtenstein	N/A
	Somalia	N/A
	Sudan	N/A
	Syria	N/A
/	- ,	/

ECONOMIC FREEDOM SCORE				
	80-100	FREE		
	70-79.9	MOSTLY FREE		
	60-69.9	MODERATELY FREE		
	50-59.9	MOSTLY UNFREE		
	0-49.9	REPRESSED		



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For more than two decades, the *Index of Economic Freedom*, an annual data-driven, cross-country analysis by The Heritage Foundation in collaboration with *The Wall Street Journal*, has measured the impact of liberty and the free markets around the globe.

Through analysis of diverse economies ranging from North Korea to Hong Kong, using metrics examining government size, market openness, regulatory efficiency, and the rule of law, the 2015 *Index* confirms the strong relationship between economic freedom and progress. There is no single formula for overcoming challenges to economic development, but one thing is clear: Around the world, governments that respect and promote economic freedom provide greater opportunities for innovation, progress, and human flourishing.

The 2015 *Index*—the 21st edition—includes:

- Updated economic freedom and macroeconomic data for 186 economies.
- Easy-to-read **cross-country comparisons that highlight why economic freedom matters**.
- Three informative chapters that explore topics of particular relevance to today's policy debates, including the importance of commitment to sound polices that promote greater prosperity, the perils of cronyism, and the critical linkages between economic freedom and energy availability.
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