

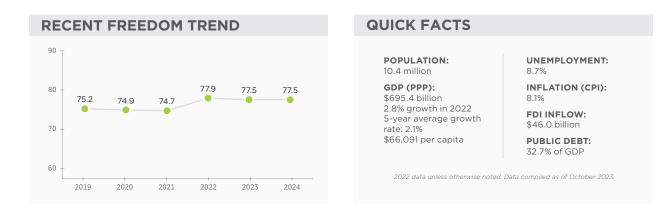
SWEDEN

S weden's economic freedom score is 77.5, making its economy the 9th freest in the 2024 *Index of Economic Freedom*. Its rating is unchanged from last year, and Sweden is ranked 6th out of 44 countries in the Europe region. The country's economic freedom score is higher than the world and regional averages. Sweden's economy is considered "mostly free" according to the 2024 *Index*.

The Swedish economy performs well in the key economic freedom pillars of rule of law and regulatory efficiency, facilitated by open-market policies that sustain dynamic trade and investment flows. The well-institutionalized regulatory and legal environment encourages entrepreneurial activity, but labor regulations are among Europe's most rigid. Monetary stability has been well maintained, but inflationary pressure continues. Banking regulations are sensible, and lending practices have been prudent. The influx of large numbers of migrants since 2015 and rising gang violence have made immigration a central issue.



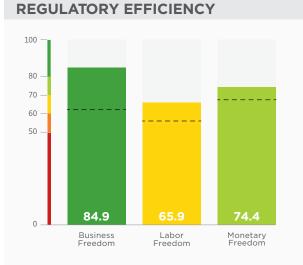




12 ECONOMIC FREEDOMS | SWEDEN

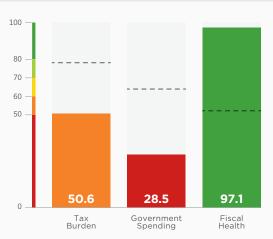


The overall rule of law is very well respected in Sweden. The country's property rights score is above the world average; its judicial effectiveness score is above the world average; and its government integrity score is above the world average.

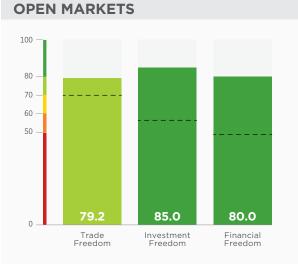


Sweden's overall regulatory environment is well institutionalized and relatively efficient. The country's business freedom score is far above the world average; its labor freedom score is above the world average; and its monetary freedom score is above the world average.

GOVERNMENT SIZE



The top individual income tax rate is 52 percent, and the top corporate tax rate is 20.6 percent. The tax burden equals 42.6 percent of GDP. Three-year government spending and budget balance averages are, respectively, 48.8 percent and -0.7 percent of GDP. Public debt amounts to 32.7 percent of GDP.



The trade-weighted average tariff rate (common among EU members) is 2.9 percent, and more than 600 EU-mandated nontariff measures are in force. The modern investment regime is open and generally transparent, and regulations are applied consistently. The financial sector is competitive and stable.