hinrich foundation
advancing sustainable global trade

IMD / World Competitiveness Center

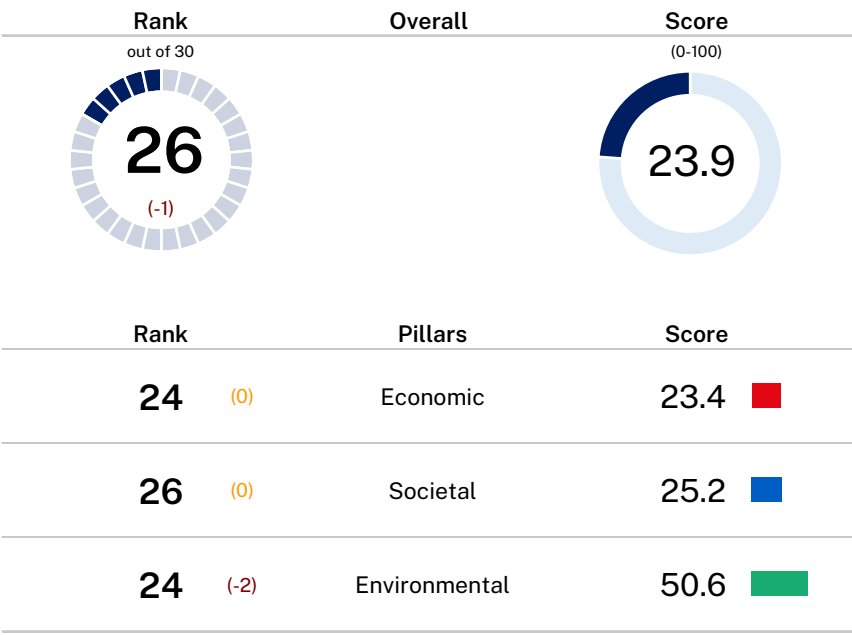Sustainable Trade Index **2025**

Bangladesh

Sustainable Trade Index

The Hinrich-IMD Sustainable Trade Index measures 30 economies' readiness and capacity to participate in the global trading system in a manner that supports the long-term goals of economic growth, environmental protection, and societal development.

Overall and pillars

Bangladesh

Rank	Overall	Score
out of 30		(0-100)
26 (-1)		**23.9**

Rank		Pillars	Score	
24	(0)	Economic	**23.4**	🟥
26	(0)	Societal	**25.2**	🟦
24	(-2)	Environmental	**50.6**	🟩

The values in (parentheses) indicate the one year ranking change

Background information

Population, millions (2024)	172.02	Large
Income level, GDP per Capita US$ (2024)	2,622	Low
Membership	-	

Economic pillar

The Economic pillar measures an economy's ability to ensure and promote economic growth through international trade. In this category, economies receive scores for indicators that demonstrate a link between the trading system and economic growth.

Some indicators capture the quality of trade infrastructure, while others measure the ease of conducting international trade. We measure export diversification by evaluating an economy's bilateral trade destinations and how heavily its exports are concentrated by sector. Furthermore, we consider the technological infrastructure and innovation capabilities of an economy by assessing its emphasis on research and development investments and digital technologies.

Indicators

1 Economic Pillar		Rank	Rank +/-	Value	Year	Score (and 30-country average ◇)
1.01	Consumer price inflation	27	(-1)	9.73	2024	39.71
1.02	Real GDP Growth per capita, % GDP	11	(-9)	3.17	2025	67.04
1.03	Growth in labor force, %	05	(+11)	2.00	2024	73.00
1.04	Foreign direct investment, net inflows, % GDP	24	(+4)	0.33	2024	3.52
1.05	Gross fixed capital formation, % GDP	04	(0)	30.70	2024	66.63
1.06	Tariff & non-tariff barriers	19	(-6)	-	-	83.36
1.06.01	Tariff barriers	21	(-1)	-	-	74.82
1.06.01.a	Tariff barriers in force	11	(-1)	97	2024	98.33
1.06.01.b	New tariff barriers 2024	22	(-21)	15	2024	88.06
1.06.01.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new tariff barriers (2023)	26	(0)	0.09	2023	30.70
1.06.02	Non-tariff barriers	16	(-12)	-	-	81.77
1.06.02.a	Non-tariff barriers in force	11	(0)	239	2024	99.28
1.06.02.b	New non-tariff barriers 2024	13	(+2)	10	2024	99.73
1.06.02.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new non-tariff barriers (2023)	19	(0)	0.02	2023	44.61
1.07	Trade liberalization	25	(-1)	-	-	10.23
1.07.01	Regional Trade Agreements, number in force	29	(0)	5	2025	2.86
1.07.02	Capital account liberalization, index	21	(0)	-1.25	2022	0.00
1.07.03	Investment Freedom, index	19	(-1)	50	2025	42.86
1.08	Exchange rate stability, parity change from national currency to SDR, 2024/2022	23	(+3)	0.25	2024	2.78
1.09	Domestic credit to private sector, % of GDP	22	(-1)	35.81	2024	11.11
1.10	Foreign trade and payments risk	22	(-1)	-	-	39.24
1.10.01	Country credit rating	21	(0)	21.7	2024	35.57
1.10.02	Gross debt, % GDP	08	(+1)	40.13	2024	83.86
1.11	Trade costs	25	(+1)	-	-	16.86
1.11.01	Logistics performance, index	24	(+2)	2.60	2023	10.53
1.11.02	Corruption perceptions, index	26	(+2)	23	2024	10.29
1.11.03	Rule of law, index	21	(+1)	33.49	2023	29.75
1.12	Monetary policy intervention	08	(-2)	-	-	81.07
1.12.01	Current account balance, % GDP	08	(+1)	-1.44	2024	80.54
1.12.02	Change (1-year) in total reserves (includes gold), % GDP	15	(-8)	-0.10	2024	45.72
1.13	Export concentration	24	(-2)	-	-	35.24
1.13.01	Export market concentration, Top 5 as % total	08	(+4)	48.76	2024	76.37
1.13.02	Export product concentration, Top 5 as % total	29	(0)	93.03	2024	7.40
1.14	Exports of goods and services	22	(0)	-	-	0.96
1.14.01	Merchandise exports, US$ millions	21	(0)	47,245	2024	1.07
1.14.02	Commercial services exports, US$ millions	24	(+1)	4,994	2024	0.53
1.15	Technological innovation	29	(0)	-	-	0.15
1.15.01	R&D expenditure, % GDP	-	-	-	-	-
1.15.02	Researchers in R&D, per 1,000 inhabitants	-	-	-	-	-
1.15.03	Patent applications, per million inhabitants	28	(-1)	0.52	2023	0.00
1.15.04	High-technology exports, % of manufactured exports	-	-	-	-	-
1.15.05	Scientific articles, per million people	25	(0)	41.87	2022	1.58
1.16	Technological infrastructure	27	(-1)	-	-	23.30
1.16.01	Fixed internet speed, Mbps	23	(0)	46.12	2025	11.66
1.16.02	Internet users, % population	27	(+1)	44.50	2023	27.24
1.16.03	Fixed broadband subscriptions (per 100 people)	22	(+1)	7.89	2023	16.57
1.16.04	Mobile subscriptions (per 100 people)	21	(+2)	114.36	2023	27.77

Societal pillar

Social factors matter in an economy's capacity to trade internationally over the long term. Economies are measured on the environment that encourages and supports the development of human capital, such as the extent of education and labor standards.

This pillar also captures factors that influence public support for trade expansion. These include income inequality, political stability, goods produced by forced and child labor, and the government response to human trafficking.

Indicators
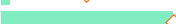
2 Societal Pillar		Rank	Rank +/-	Value	Year	Score (and 30-country average ◇)
2.01	Inequality (Gini coefficient)	06	(+1)	33.40	2022	58.64
2.02	Educational attainment	25	(0)	-	-	12.12
2.02.01	Mean years of schooling	25	(-1)	6.79	2023	25.76
2.02.02	University education index	17	(+1)	3.15	2024	2.76
2.02.03	Tertiary enrollment, % age group	23	(+1)	23.77	2024	13.21
2.03	Labor standards	26	(0)	-	-	35.58
2.03.01	Gender non-discrimination in hiring, index	24	(0)	50	2024	33.33
2.03.02	Freedom of association and assembly, index	20	(0)	0.43	2024	37.82
2.04	Political stability and absence of violence	27	(+1)	15.64	2023	11.79
2.05	Goods produced by forced labor or child labor	26	(+2)	-	-	43.94
2.05.01	Goods produced by forced labor	24	(+2)	-	-	45.57
2.05.01.a	Goods produced by forced labor, number of goods categories	19	(+2)	2	2024	90.47
2.05.01.b	% population in forced labor	21	(0)	0.71	2023	50.17
2.05.02	Goods produced by child labor, number of goods categories	26	(+1)	15	2024	42.31
2.06	Government response to human trafficking	13	(+2)	-	-	70.81
2.06.01	Government response to human trafficking, Criminalization	04	(+11)	7	2024	80.00
2.06.02	Government response to human trafficking, Strategy	13	(0)	48.72	2023	55.88
2.06.03	Government response to human trafficking, Action	10	(-1)	2	2024	66.67
2.07	Trade in goods at risk of modern slavery	10	(-1)	-	-	95.97
2.07.01	Imports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US$ millions	11	(0)	1,490	2023	97.67
2.07.02	Exports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US$ millions	-	-	-	-	-
2.08	Social mobility, index	23	(0)	40.2	2020	8.88
2.09	Life expectancy at birth	19	(0)	74.67	2023	44.06
2.10	Uneven economic development	19	(+1)	5.8	2024	38.89
2.11	Universal Health Coverage Index	24	(+2)	52.00	2021	36.07

Environmental pillar

The Environmental pillar measures the extent to which an economy's trade supports sustainable resources. The factors include measurements of non-renewable natural resources in trade and the management of externalities that arise from economic growth and participation in the global trading system.

While an economy's capacity to participate in the global trading system is dependent on economic development, achieving sustainable trade requires prudent stewardship of natural resources and limiting externalities in an economy's economic calculus to promote its overall environmental capital. The indicators chosen in this section measure an economy's environmental capital and include indicators for air and water pollution. In terms of future impact, we measure national environmental standards, carbon emissions, and share of natural resources in exports.

Indicators

3 Environmental Pillar		Rank	Rank +/-	Value	Year	Score (and 30-country average ◊)
3.01	Air pollution, PM2.5 micrograms per cubic metre	28	(0)	41.65	2020	14.04
3.02	Deforestation, index	06	(+1)	0.01	2022	42.49
3.03	% of wastewater treated	22	(+3)	16.34	2024	9.76
3.04	Energy intensity, energy consumed for each 1,000 US$ of GDP in MTOE	08	(+3)	0.072	2022	81.37
3.05	Ecological footprint	01	(+1)	0.68	2024	100.00
3.06	Renewable energy, %	17	(-1)	15.5	2022	19.51
3.07	Environmental standards in trade, count	27	(0)	-	-	25.00
3.07.01	Convention: Hazardous Wastes	01	(0)	2	2024	100.00
3.07.02	Convention: Prevention of Marine Pollution	15	(0)	0	2024	0.00
3.07.03	Convention: Protection of the Ozone Layer (Vienna)	01	(0)	2	2024	100.00
3.07.04	Convention on Climate Change (Kyoto)	01	(0)	2	2023	100.00
3.07.05	The International Timber Agreement	23	(0)	0	2024	0.00
3.07.06	Convention: International Trade in Endangered Species	01	(0)	2	2024	100.00
3.07.07	Convention: Prior Informed Consent - Hazardous Chemicals (Rotterdam)	27	(0)	0	2024	0.00
3.08	Transfer emissions, million tonnes carbon	07	(0)	-13.97	2021	49.45
3.09	Share of natural resources in trade, %	01	(0)	0.83	2024	100.00
3.10	Carbon	21	(-2)	-	-	42.19
3.10.1	Carbon pricing	20	(-1)	0	2025	0.00
3.10.2	CO2 emissions per capita, tonnes per person	03	(-1)	0.71	2023	99.42

About us

Global trade has helped lift hundreds of millions of people around the world out of poverty. It is a powerful driver of economic growth and a key source of job opportunities. However, downsides may include labor disruptions, negative environmental impacts, and income inequalities. Therefore, sound public policy and responsible business leadership are essential for properly harnessing the full benefits of global trade.

The Hinrich Foundation and the IMD World Competitiveness Center have combined their expertise to build the Hinrich-IMD Sustainable Trade Index, a framework for policy makers, business executives, and civil society leaders to understand and advance sustainable global trade.

hinrich foundation
advancing sustainable global trade

The Hinrich Foundation is an Asia-based philanthropic organization dedicated to advancing mutually beneficial and sustainable global trade.

We believe that global trade – when mutually beneficial and sustainable – is a powerful force for shared prosperity, technological progress, sustainability and peaceful international cooperation. Our work is grounded in independent, fact-based research and the development of innovative trade education programs.

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IMD / World Competitiveness Center

IMD is an independent academic institution with close ties to business and a strong focus on impact. Challenging what is and inspiring what could be, it develops leaders who transform organizations for a more prosperous, sustainable, and inclusive world. Through its Executive Education, MBA, Executive MBA, and advisory work IMD helps leaders and policymakers navigate complexity and change.

The IMD World Competitiveness Center is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge on world competitiveness and offers benchmarking services for countries and companies using the latest data. The Center has pioneered research on how nations and enterprises compete to lay the foundations for future prosperity.

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