

Sustainable Trade Index **2025**

Thailand

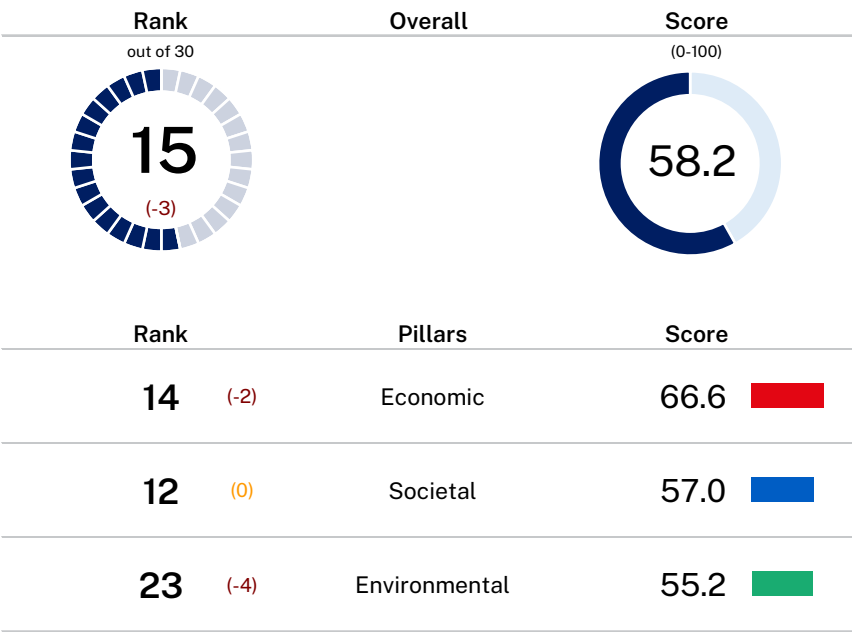


Sustainable Trade Index

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

Thailand



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

Background information

Population, millions (2024)	70.27	Large
Income level, GDP per Capita US\$ (2024)	7,492	Medium
Membership	APEC, RCEP	

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


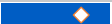

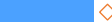





















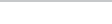
1 Economic Pillar		Rank	Rank +/-	Value	Year	Score (and 30-country average ^o)
1.01	Consumer price inflation	03	(0)	0.40	2024	95.31
1.02	Real GDP Growth per capita, % GDP	15	(+4)	2.41	2025	58.32
1.03	Growth in labor force, %	28	(-1)	-0.26	2024	21.28
1.04	Foreign direct investment, net inflows, % GDP	12	(+2)	1.94	2024	11.50
1.05	Gross fixed capital formation, % GDP	17	(-1)	22.25	2024	37.71
1.06	Tariff & non-tariff barriers	15	(0)	-	-	84.15
1.06.01	Tariff barriers	04	(+2)	-	-	87.65
1.06.01.a	Tariff barriers in force	15	(0)	124	2024	97.87
1.06.01.b	New tariff barriers 2024	01	(0)	0	2024	100.00
1.06.01.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new tariff barriers (2023)	09	(0)	-0.09	2023	49.35
1.06.02	Non-tariff barriers	20	(0)	-	-	70.41
1.06.02.a	Non-tariff barriers in force	17	(0)	1,016	2024	96.93
1.06.02.b	New non-tariff barriers 2024	20	(-3)	168	2024	95.51
1.06.02.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new non-tariff barriers (2023)	28	(0)	0.15	2023	27.89
1.07	Trade liberalization	17	(0)	-	-	36.57
1.07.01	Regional Trade Agreements, number in force	14	(0)	15	2025	31.43
1.07.02	Capital account liberalization, index	16	(0)	-0.17	2022	30.51
1.07.03	Investment Freedom, index	18	(-1)	55	2025	50.00
1.08	Exchange rate stability, parity change from national currency to SDR, 2024/2022	01	(+2)	0.00	2024	100.00
1.09	Domestic credit to private sector, % of GDP	06	(+1)	148.01	2024	62.23
1.10	Foreign trade and payments risk	16	(0)	-	-	53.78
1.10.01	Country credit rating	14	(0)	39.0	2024	64.70
1.10.02	Gross debt, % GDP	19	(0)	63.20	2024	74.01
1.11	Trade costs	15	(+1)	-	-	46.76
1.11.01	Logistics performance, index	13	(0)	3.50	2023	57.89
1.11.02	Corruption perceptions, index	17	(0)	34	2024	26.47
1.11.03	Rule of law, index	14	(+1)	57.55	2023	55.90
1.12	Monetary policy intervention	23	(-4)	-	-	44.84
1.12.01	Current account balance, % GDP	17	(+2)	2.11	2024	65.48
1.12.02	Change (1-year) in total reserves (includes gold), % GDP	27	(-14)	1.50	2024	29.13
1.13	Export concentration	03	(0)	-	-	90.17
1.13.01	Export market concentration, Top 5 as % total	05	(0)	46.02	2024	81.30
1.13.02	Export product concentration, Top 5 as % total	03	(-1)	41.87	2024	94.85
1.14	Exports of goods and services	14	(0)	-	-	10.04
1.14.01	Merchandise exports, US\$ millions	16	(0)	300,529	2024	8.28
1.14.02	Commercial services exports, US\$ millions	11	(0)	71,356	2024	7.71
1.15	Technological innovation	15	(-1)	-	-	22.16
1.15.01	R&D expenditure, % GDP	11	(-1)	1.16	2022	21.97
1.15.02	Researchers in R&D, per 1,000 inhabitants	10	(0)	1.86	2022	14.23
1.15.03	Patent applications, per million inhabitants	16	(0)	18.49	2023	0.41
1.15.04	High-technology exports, % of manufactured exports	09	(+1)	28.31	2024	38.27
1.15.05	Scientific articles, per million people	16	(0)	263.86	2022	10.58
1.16	Technological infrastructure	11	(-2)	-	-	69.45
1.16.01	Fixed internet speed, Mbps	06	(-2)	221.05	2025	74.53
1.16.02	Internet users, % population	13	(+1)	89.50	2023	87.32
1.16.03	Fixed broadband subscriptions (per 100 people)	18	(-1)	15.75	2023	33.52
1.16.04	Mobile subscriptions (per 100 people)	05	(-3)	168.64	2023	46.54

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)	07	(+2)	33.50	2023	58.12 
2.02	Educational attainment	20	(-1)	-	-	29.77 
2.02.01	Mean years of schooling	19	(+1)	9.04	2023	49.22 
2.02.02	University education index	19	(-2)	2.18	2024	1.91 
2.02.03	Tertiary enrollment, % age group	16	(-1)	46.18	2024	36.79 
2.03	Labor standards	18	(0)	-	-	65.87 
2.03.01	Gender non-discrimination in hiring, index	01	(0)	100	2024	100.00 
2.03.02	Freedom of association and assembly, index	21	(+1)	0.39	2024	31.75 
2.04	Political stability and absence of violence	17	(+1)	36.02	2023	33.85 
2.05	Goods produced by forced labor or child labor	16	(+2)	-	-	79.20 
2.05.01	Goods produced by forced labor	14	(+2)	-	-	69.95 
2.05.01.a	Goods produced by forced labor, number of goods categories	21	(+3)	3	2024	85.70 
2.05.01.b	% population in forced labor	16	(0)	0.57	2023	61.21 
2.05.02	Goods produced by child labor, number of goods categories	17	(+2)	3	2024	88.46 
2.06	Government response to human trafficking	10	(-1)	-	-	76.35 
2.06.01	Government response to human trafficking, Criminalization	04	(0)	7	2024	80.00 
2.06.02	Government response to human trafficking, Strategy	06	(0)	55.13	2023	70.59 
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	16	(-1)	-	-	86.69 
2.07.01	Imports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US\$ millions	15	(0)	5,045	2023	91.83 
2.07.02	Exports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US\$ millions	23	(-22)	3,233	2023	92.79 
2.08	Social mobility, index	14	(0)	55.4	2020	47.46 
2.09	Life expectancy at birth	16	(-7)	76.41	2023	53.04 
2.10	Uneven economic development	11	(0)	4.0	2024	72.22 
2.11	Universal Health Coverage Index	09	(+1)	82.00	2021	85.25 

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 ^o)
3.01	Air pollution, PM2.5 micrograms per cubic metre	25	(0)	30.46	2020	41.30 
3.02	Deforestation, index	12	(+1)	0.01	2022	25.84 
3.03	% of wastewater treated	19	(+2)	33.69	2024	28.48 
3.04	Energy intensity, energy consumed for each 1,000 US\$ of GDP in MTOE	24	(0)	0.198	2022	37.38 
3.05	Ecological footprint	13	(0)	2.46	2024	81.09 
3.06	Renewable energy, %	14	(0)	18.2	2022	22.83 
3.07	Environmental standards in trade, count	10	(0)	-	-	75.00 
3.07.01	Convention: Hazardous Wastes	01	(0)	2	2024	100.00 
3.07.02	Convention: Prevention of Marine Pollution	15	(0)	0	-	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	2024	100.00 
3.07.05	The International Timber Agreement	01	(0)	2	2024	100.00 
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)	01	(0)	2	2024	100.00 
3.08	Transfer emissions, million tonnes carbon	13	(0)	-2.88	2021	43.68 
3.09	Share of natural resources in trade, %	10	(+2)	10.99	2024	87.11 
3.10	Carbon	15	(-1)	-	-	63.79 
3.10.1	Carbon pricing	13	(-1)	1	2025	50.00 
3.10.2	CO2 emissions per capita, tonnes per person	15	(0)	3.94	2023	83.68 

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.

hinrichfoundation.com | STI 2025

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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