

Sustainable Trade Index **2026**

Mexico

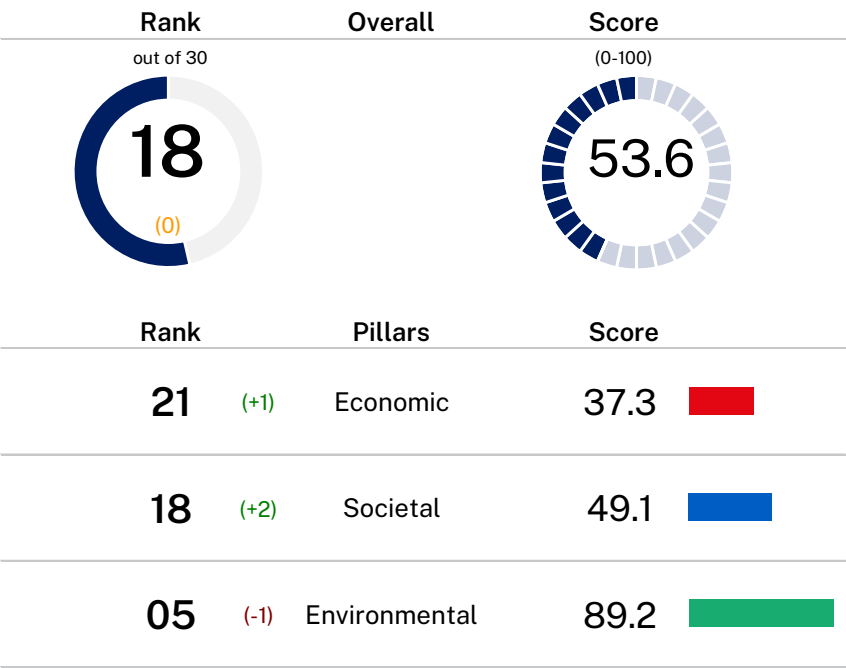


Sustainable Trade Index

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

Mexico



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

Background information

Population, millions (2025)	133.37	Large
Income level, GDP per Capita US\$ (2025)	13,741	Medium
Membership	APEC, CPTPP	

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	23	(+2)	3.80	2025	76.74
1.02	Real GDP Growth per capita, % GDP	27	(-5)	-0.26	2025	19.83
1.03	Growth in labor force, %	11	(0)	1.35	2025	70.52
1.04	Foreign direct investment, net inflows, % GDP	11	(-1)	2.35	2025	15.65
1.05	Gross fixed capital formation, % GDP	18	(-5)	22.41	2025	36.31
1.06	Tariff & non-tariff barriers	20	(+3)	-	-	66.70
1.06.01	Tariff barriers	19	(+9)	-	-	84.83
1.06.01.a	Tariff barriers in force	23	(-1)	1,051	2025	84.25
1.06.01.b	New tariff barriers 2025	25	(+3)	136	2025	74.68
1.06.01.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new tariff barriers (2025)	16	(-11)	0.003	2025	92.55
1.06.02	Non-tariff barriers	21	(-13)	-	-	60.76
1.06.02.a	Non-tariff barriers in force	20	(-2)	3,034	2025	82.95
1.06.02.b	New non-tariff barriers 2025	21	(-5)	362	2025	78.99
1.06.02.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new non-tariff barriers (2025)	24	(-16)	0.48	2025	23.42
1.07	Trade liberalization	08	(+1)	-	-	72.80
1.07.01	Regional Trade Agreements, number in force	04	(0)	23	2025	54.29
1.07.02	Capital account liberalization, Index	12	(0)	1.02	2023	70.17
1.07.03	Investment Freedom, Index	04	(-1)	75.00	2026	78.57
1.08	Exchange rate stability, parity change from national currency to SDR, 2025/2023	21	(0)	0.10	2025	82.20
1.09	Domestic credit to private sector, % of GDP	21	(+2)	35.50	2025	11.69
1.10	Foreign trade and payments risk	19	(0)	-	-	44.27
1.10.01	Country credit rating	19	(-1)	35.00	2025	56.14
1.10.02	Gross debt, % GDP	18	(-1)	61.80	2025	70.59
1.11	Trade costs	20	(+3)	-	-	49.78
1.11.01	Logistics performance indicators	20	(+1)	-	-	62.90
1.11.01.a	Aviation import dwell time (days)	17	(NEW)	2.00	2024	90.61
1.11.01.b	Number of aviation partner economies	10	(NEW)	122.5	2024	76.59
1.11.01.c	Container import dwell time (days)	26	(NEW)	9.30	2024	36.14
1.11.01.d	Number of maritime partner economies	11	(NEW)	52.0	2024	84.19
1.11.01.e	Business-to-business postal delivery time (days)	26	(NEW)	10.90	2024	67.40
1.11.01.f	Number of business-to-business postal partner economies	16	(NEW)	84.0	2024	80.18
1.11.02	Corruption perceptions, index	25	(0)	27	2025	16.18
1.11.03	Rule of law, index	28	(-4)	37.11	2024	18.91
1.12	Monetary policy intervention	13	(+1)	-	-	60.86
1.12.01	Current account balance, % GDP	10	(+4)	-0.40	2025	84.36
1.12.02	Change (1-year) in total reserves (includes gold), % GDP	17	(+3)	0.001	2025	28.17
1.13	Export concentration	28	(-1)	-	-	14.27
1.13.01	Export market concentration, Top 5 as % total	30	(0)	91.23	2025	0.00
1.13.02	Export product concentration, Top 5 as % total	15	(0)	63.88	2025	56.38
1.14	Exports of goods and services	10	(0)	-	-	25.90
1.14.01	Merchandise exports, US\$ millions	06	(0)	664,837	2025	38.75
1.14.02	Commercial services exports, US\$ millions	12	(0)	65,629	2025	6.55
1.15	Technological innovation	20	(+1)	-	-	9.00
1.15.01	R&D expenditure, % GDP	20	(-1)	0.25	2024	4.67
1.15.02	Researchers in R&D, per 1,000 inhabitants	18	(0)	0.44	2024	4.34
1.15.03	Patent applications, per million inhabitants	17	(0)	14.75	2024	0.33
1.15.04	High-technology exports, % of manufactured exports	13	(0)	19.30	2024	24.48
1.15.05	Scientific articles, per million people	20	(-2)	147.36	2023	4.57
1.16	Technological infrastructure	19	(-1)	-	-	50.81
1.16.01	Fixed internet speed, Mbps	21	(0)	76.83	2025	20.30
1.16.02	Internet users, % population	18	(-2)	83.12	2024	81.19
1.16.03	Fixed broadband subscriptions (per 100 people)	15	(+1)	21.74	2024	45.21
1.16.04	Mobile subscriptions (per 100 people)	18	(+6)	116.49	2024	34.05
1.17	Digital readiness (e-commerce legislations)	17	(NEW)	70.0	2025	56

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)	22	(-3)	42.60	2024	16.18	
2.02	Educational attainment	18	(+1)	-	-	30.78	
2.02.01	Mean years of schooling	17	(0)	9.35	2023	52.46	
2.02.02	University education Index	19	(+1)	1.97	2026	1.19	
2.02.03	Tertiary enrollment	16	(-1)	48.20	2024	34.19	
2.03	Labor standards	09	(+1)	-	-	80.29	
2.03.01	Gender non-discrimination in hiring	01	(0)	100	2024	100.00	
2.03.02	Freedom of association and assembly	12	(0)	0.57	2025	60.58	
2.04	Political stability and absence of violence	23	(+2)	53.67	2024	41.39	
2.05	Goods produced by forced labor or child labor	25	(0)	-	-	44.84	
2.05.01	Goods produced by forced labor	23	(0)	-	-	47.38	
2.05.01.a	Goods produced by forced labor, number of goods categories	19	(0)	2	2024	90.47	
2.05.01.b	% population in forced labor	19	(0)	0.66	2023	54.07	
2.05.02	Goods produced by child labor, number of goods categories	26	(0)	15	2024	42.31	
2.06	Government response to human trafficking	06	(0)	-	-	83.89	
2.06.01	Government response to human trafficking, Criminalization	01	(0)	8	2025	100.00	
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	(0)	2	2025	66.67	
2.07	Trade in goods at risk of modern slavery	11	(+4)	-	-	91.74	
2.07.01	Imports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US\$ millions	17	(+2)	8,134	2025	90.24	
2.07.02	Exports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US\$ millions	01	(0)	0.0	2025	100.00	
2.08	Legatum prosperity index	17	(NEW)	59.30	2023	42.49	
2.09	Life expectancy at birth	19	(-1)	75.07	2023	46.11	
2.10	Uneven economic development	19	(0)	5.80	2024	38.89	
2.11	Universal Health Coverage Index	15	(+1)	79	2023	78.33	
2.12	Equal distribution of resources index	23	(NEW)	0.30	2025	21.78	

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	13	(-3)	16.60	2025	83.80
3.02	Deforestation, Index	16	(0)	0.0046	2024	24.04
3.03	% of wastewater treated	13	(0)	64.11	2024	61.29
3.04	Energy intensity (Energy use (kg of oil equivalent) per \$1,000 GDP)	11	(-2)	70.73	2024	57.87
3.05	Ecological footprint	13	(+1)	2.65	2025	69.61
3.06	Renewable energy, %	19	(+2)	13.00	2021	20.67
3.07	Environmental standards in trade, count	01	(0)	-	-	100.00
3.07.01	Convention: Hazardous Wastes	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.07.02	Convention: Prevention of Marine Pollution	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.07.03	Convention: Protection of the Ozone Layer (Vienna)	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.07.04	Convention on Climate Change (Kyoto)	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.07.05	The International Timber Agreement	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.07.06	Convention: International Trade in Endangered Species	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.07.07	Convention: Prior Informed Consent - Hazardous Chemicals (Rotterdam)	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.08	Transfer emissions, million tonnes carbon	07	(+2)	-29.13	2023	60.41
3.09	Share of natural resources in trade, %	06	(+3)	9.37	2025	89.28
3.10	Carbon	03	(-1)	-	-	96.77
3.10.1	Carbon pricing	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.10.2	CO2 emissions per capita	12	(+1)	3.41	2024	85.47

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 job creation. Yet its benefits are not self-sustaining. Without responsible stewardship, trade can widen income inequalities, disrupt labor markets, and impose significant environmental costs. Sustainable trade means striking a durable balance by expanding the economic opportunities that open markets generate while ensuring those gains are broadly shared and maintained. This requires sound public policy, responsible business leadership, and evidence-based frameworks to guide decision-making.

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 independent Asia-based philanthropic organization dedicated to advancing mutually beneficial and sustainable global trade.

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

hinrichfoundation.com | STI 2026

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.

imd.org/wcc | STI 2026