

Sustainable Trade Index **2026**

Singapore

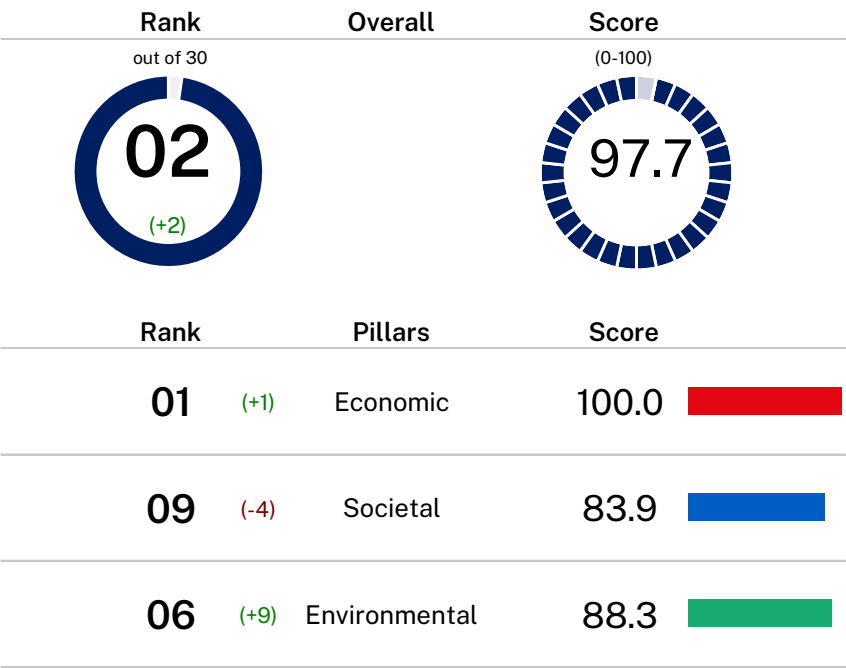


Sustainable Trade Index

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

Singapore



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

Background information

Population, millions (2025)	6.08	Small
Income level, GDP per Capita US\$ (2025)	99,365	High
Membership	APEC, CPTPP, 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

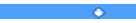
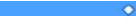
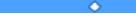
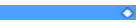
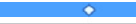
1 Economic Pillar		Rank	Rank +/-	Value	Year	Score and 30 country average
1.01	Consumer price inflation	05	(+9)	0.90	2025	93.19
1.02	Real GDP Growth per capita, % GDP	06	(+10)	4.32	2025	58.91
1.03	Growth in labor force, %	13	(-3)	1.27	2025	68.54
1.04	Foreign direct investment, net inflows, % GDP	02	(0)	26.34	2025	99.75
1.05	Gross fixed capital formation, % GDP	19	(0)	22.08	2025	35.13
1.06	Tariff & non-tariff barriers	16	(+4)	-	-	78.28
1.06.01	Tariff barriers	09	(+8)	-	-	98.64
1.06.01.a	Tariff barriers in force	10	(0)	123	2025	98.16
1.06.01.b	New tariff barriers 2025	01	(0)	0	2025	100.00
1.06.01.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new tariff barriers (2025)	02	(+22)	0.000	2025	94.27
1.06.02	Non-tariff barriers	20	(+3)	-	-	65.88
1.06.02.a	Non-tariff barriers in force	09	(+6)	227	2025	93.95
1.06.02.b	New non-tariff barriers 2025	07	(+3)	1	2025	98.90
1.06.02.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new non-tariff barriers (2025)	28	(+2)	0.58	2025	6.87
1.07	Trade liberalization	02	(0)	-	-	98.86
1.07.01	Regional Trade Agreements, number in force	03	(0)	28	2025	68.57
1.07.02	Capital account liberalization, Index	01	(0)	2.28	2023	100.00
1.07.03	Investment Freedom, Index	01	(0)	90.00	2026	100.00
1.08	Exchange rate stability, parity change from national currency to SDR, 2025/2023	05	(+3)	0.01	2025	98.50
1.09	Domestic credit to private sector, % of GDP	-	-	-	-	-
1.10	Foreign trade and payments risk	21	(-1)	-	-	37.01
1.10.01	Country credit rating	01	(0)	60.00	2025	100.00
1.10.02	Gross debt, % GDP	29	(0)	171.30	2025	17.17
1.11	Trade costs	01	(0)	-	-	100.00
1.11.01	Logistics performance indicators	01	(0)	-	-	100.00
1.11.01.a	Aviation import dwell time (days)	01	(NEW)	0.30	2024	100.00
1.11.01.b	Number of aviation partner economies	07	(NEW)	138.5	2024	85.43
1.11.01.c	Container import dwell time (days)	02	(NEW)	2.10	2024	98.64
1.11.01.d	Number of maritime partner economies	04	(NEW)	83.0	2024	96.19
1.11.01.e	Business-to-business postal delivery time (days)	01	(NEW)	1.50	2024	100.00
1.11.01.f	Number of business-to-business postal partner economies	06	(NEW)	127.5	2024	90.50
1.11.02	Corruption perceptions, index	01	(0)	84	2025	100.00
1.11.03	Rule of law, index	05	(-4)	81.60	2024	93.21
1.12	Monetary policy intervention	30	(-1)	-	-	0.00
1.12.01	Current account balance, % GDP	29	(+1)	16.70	2025	3.32
1.12.02	Change (1-year) in total reserves (includes gold), % GDP	26	(-22)	0.005	2025	12.24
1.13	Export concentration	11	(-3)	-	-	61.70
1.13.01	Export market concentration, Top 5 as % total	11	(-2)	55.51	2025	69.91
1.13.02	Export product concentration, Top 5 as % total	14	(-1)	60.93	2025	61.33
1.14	Exports of goods and services	04	(0)	-	-	44.34
1.14.01	Merchandise exports, US\$ millions	08	(+1)	566,872	2025	35.36
1.14.02	Commercial services exports, US\$ millions	04	(0)	421,978	2025	42.16
1.15	Technological innovation	03	(0)	-	-	79.33
1.15.01	R&D expenditure, % GDP	07	(0)	1.81	2022	36.38
1.15.02	Researchers in R&D, per 1,000 inhabitants	02	(+1)	8.78	2022	92.69
1.15.03	Patent applications, per million inhabitants	04	(0)	1,711.61	2024	39.64
1.15.04	High-technology exports, % of manufactured exports	04	(0)	59.43	2024	78.34
1.15.05	Scientific articles, per million people	03	(0)	2,009.05	2023	64.21
1.16	Technological infrastructure	03	(0)	-	-	87.54
1.16.01	Fixed internet speed, Mbps	01	(0)	320.80	2025	100.00
1.16.02	Internet users, % population	09	(0)	94.38	2024	95.40
1.16.03	Fixed broadband subscriptions (per 100 people)	11	(0)	27.81	2024	57.98
1.16.04	Mobile subscriptions (per 100 people)	05	(-1)	170.78	2024	57.83
1.17	Digital readiness (e-commerce legislations)	02	(NEW)	89.0	2025	94

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)	15	-	35.90	2025	49.02 
2.02	Educational attainment	09	(-1)	-	-	60.00 
2.02.01	Mean years of schooling	11	(0)	11.99	2023	79.99 
2.02.02	University education Index	16	(0)	4.26	2026	2.56 
2.02.03	Tertiary enrollment	05	(0)	97.29	2023	79.13 
2.03	Labor standards	24	(0)	-	-	48.53 
2.03.01	Gender non-discrimination in hiring	20	(0)	75	2024	66.67 
2.03.02	Freedom of association and assembly	22	(0)	0.36	2025	30.39 
2.04	Political stability and absence of violence	01	(0)	86.94	2024	100.00 
2.05	Goods produced by forced labor or child labor	07	(0)	-	-	98.21 
2.05.01	Goods produced by forced labor	07	(0)	-	-	96.43 
2.05.01.a	Goods produced by forced labor, number of goods categories	01	(0)	0	2024	100.00 
2.05.01.b	% population in forced labor	07	(0)	0.21	2023	92.31 
2.05.02	Goods produced by child labor, number of goods categories	01	(0)	0	2024	100.00 
2.06	Government response to human trafficking	20	(-4)	-	-	59.65 
2.06.01	Government response to human trafficking, Criminalization	27	(-5)	4	2025	20.00 
2.06.02	Government response to human trafficking, Strategy	15	(0)	47.44	2023	52.94 
2.06.03	Government response to human trafficking, Action	01	(0)	1	2025	100.00 
2.07	Trade in goods at risk of modern slavery	12	(+6)	-	-	90.39 
2.07.01	Imports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US\$ millions	18	(+3)	9,449	2025	88.65 
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	06	(NEW)	78.21	2023	93.86 
2.09	Life expectancy at birth	05	(0)	83.74	2023	90.84 
2.10	Uneven economic development	09	(0)	3.90	2024	74.07 
2.11	Universal Health Coverage Index	04	(-2)	88	2023	93.33 
2.12	Equal distribution of resources index	03	(NEW)	0.96	2025	98.49 

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	10	(-1)	15.10	2025	86.18
3.02	Deforestation, Index	08	(-4)	0.0077	2024	40.45
3.03	% of wastewater treated	01	(0)	100.00	2024	100.00
3.04	Energy intensity (Energy use (kg of oil equivalent) per \$1,000 GDP)	05	(-2)	40.78	2023	84.62
3.05	Ecological footprint	-	-	-	-	-
3.06	Renewable energy, %	28	(+1)	1.10	2021	1.75
3.07	Environmental standards in trade, count	20	(+7)	-	-	60.00
3.07.01	Convention: Hazardous Wastes	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.07.02	Convention: Prevention of Marine Pollution	01	(+14)	2	-	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	23	(0)	0	2025	0.00
3.07.06	Convention: International Trade in Endangered Species	01	(+27)	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	04	(0)	-37.08	2023	63.24
3.09	Share of natural resources in trade, %	15	(0)	18.93	2025	77.10
3.10	Carbon	10	(-2)	-	-	80.26
3.10.1	Carbon pricing	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00
3.10.2	CO2 emissions per capita	23	(0)	9.62	2024	53.82

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.

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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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