

Sustainable Trade Index **2026**

Vietnam

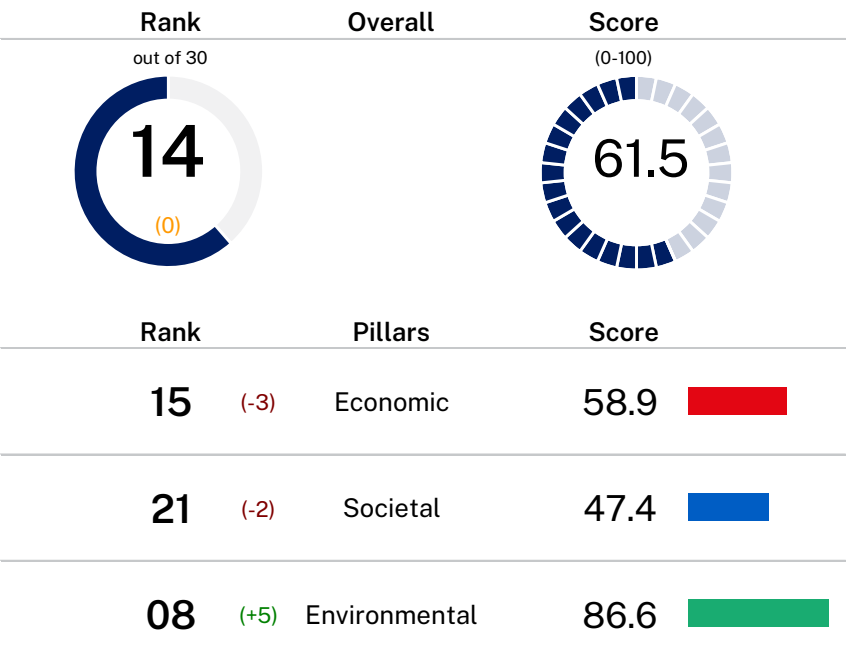


Sustainable Trade Index

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

Vietnam



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

Background information

Population, millions (2025)	102.30	Large
Income level, GDP per Capita US\$ (2025)	4,829	Medium
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	21	(+1)	3.30	2025	79.58
1.02	Real GDP Growth per capita, % GDP	02	(-1)	6.96	2025	81.39
1.03	Growth in labor force, %	21	(+2)	0.59	2025	51.15
1.04	Foreign direct investment, net inflows, % GDP	05	(0)	4.23	2025	25.50
1.05	Gross fixed capital formation, % GDP	04	(+1)	29.21	2025	61.42
1.06	Tariff & non-tariff barriers	17	(-15)	-	-	77.93
1.06.01	Tariff barriers	15	(0)	-	-	93.80
1.06.01.a	Tariff barriers in force	14	(+2)	308	2025	95.38
1.06.01.b	New tariff barriers 2025	17	(+4)	19	2025	90.54
1.06.01.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new tariff barriers (2025)	17	(-7)	0.004	2025	92.15
1.06.02	Non-tariff barriers	16	(-12)	-	-	70.14
1.06.02.a	Non-tariff barriers in force	16	(0)	989	2025	89.11
1.06.02.b	New non-tariff barriers 2025	16	(+2)	118	2025	88.01
1.06.02.c	Net percentage of imports affected by new non-tariff barriers (2025)	20	(-17)	0.41	2025	34.57
1.07	Trade liberalization	14	(+2)	-	-	46.18
1.07.01	Regional Trade Agreements, number in force	11	(+1)	17	2025	37.14
1.07.02	Capital account liberalization, Index	16	(0)	-0.17	2023	41.81
1.07.03	Investment Freedom, Index	10	(-1)	60.00	2026	57.14
1.08	Exchange rate stability, parity change from national currency to SDR, 2025/2023	08	(-2)	0.03	2024	95.37
1.09	Domestic credit to private sector, % of GDP	09	(+1)	124.96	2022	53.90
1.10	Foreign trade and payments risk	17	(+1)	-	-	47.96
1.10.01	Country credit rating	20	(0)	29.00	2025	45.61
1.10.02	Gross debt, % GDP	07	(0)	30.30	2025	85.95
1.11	Trade costs	16	(+1)	-	-	60.42
1.11.01	Logistics performance indicators	15	(+1)	-	-	68.35
1.11.01.a	Aviation import dwell time (days)	21	(NEW)	2.40	2024	87.59
1.11.01.b	Number of aviation partner economies	15	(NEW)	108.0	2024	68.06
1.11.01.c	Container import dwell time (days)	21	(NEW)	6.20	2024	57.99
1.11.01.d	Number of maritime partner economies	12	(NEW)	48.0	2024	82.01
1.11.01.e	Business-to-business postal delivery time (days)	19	(NEW)	6.40	2024	79.52
1.11.01.f	Number of business-to-business postal partner economies	17	(NEW)	83.0	2024	79.88
1.11.02	Corruption perceptions, index	15	(-1)	41	2025	36.76
1.11.03	Rule of law, index	18	(-1)	51.56	2024	43.05
1.12	Monetary policy intervention	21	(-14)	-	-	46.12
1.12.01	Current account balance, % GDP	24	(+1)	6.70	2025	50.71
1.12.02	Change (1-year) in total reserves (includes gold), % GDP	05	(-3)	-0.001	2025	38.33
1.13	Export concentration	15	(-2)	-	-	46.23
1.13.01	Export market concentration, Top 5 as % total	24	(-8)	72.58	2025	36.51
1.13.02	Export product concentration, Top 5 as % total	09	(+2)	55.58	2025	70.31
1.14	Exports of goods and services	13	(+3)	-	-	19.90
1.14.01	Merchandise exports, US\$ millions	11	(+2)	472,929	2025	31.81
1.14.02	Commercial services exports, US\$ millions	18	(0)	30,079	2025	3.00
1.15	Technological innovation	16	(+1)	-	-	19.21
1.15.01	R&D expenditure, % GDP	16	(0)	0.41	2023	7.93
1.15.02	Researchers in R&D, per 1,000 inhabitants	13	(-1)	0.84	2023	8.56
1.15.03	Patent applications, per million inhabitants	19	(0)	13.78	2024	0.31
1.15.04	High-technology exports, % of manufactured exports	06	(-1)	44.26	2023	57.97
1.15.05	Scientific articles, per million people	22	(+1)	106.07	2023	3.25
1.16	Technological infrastructure	15	(+2)	-	-	65.29
1.16.01	Fixed internet speed, Mbps	10	(+4)	202.77	2025	61.44
1.16.02	Internet users, % population	17	(+1)	84.15	2024	82.49
1.16.03	Fixed broadband subscriptions (per 100 people)	14	(0)	23.71	2024	49.36
1.16.04	Mobile subscriptions (per 100 people)	12	(-2)	127.61	2024	38.92
1.17	Digital readiness (e-commerce legislations)	24	(NEW)	61.0	2025	38

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

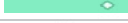
2 Societal Pillar		Rank	Rank +/-	Value	Year	Score and 30 country average
2.01	Inequality (Gini coefficient)	17	(-4)	36.10	2022	48.04
2.02	Educational attainment	22	(-1)	-	-	25.90
2.02.01	Mean years of schooling	20	(0)	8.98	2023	48.61
2.02.02	University education Index	17	(+1)	4.03	2026	2.43
2.02.03	Tertiary enrollment	20	(-1)	37.59	2024	24.48
2.03	Labor standards	21	(0)	-	-	55.85
2.03.01	Gender non-discrimination in hiring	01	(0)	100	2024	100.00
2.03.02	Freedom of association and assembly	24	(0)	0.23	2025	11.70
2.04	Political stability and absence of violence	15	(+1)	65.99	2024	63.09
2.05	Goods produced by forced labor or child labor	24	(0)	-	-	48.08
2.05.01	Goods produced by forced labor	21	(0)	-	-	57.69
2.05.01.a	Goods produced by forced labor, number of goods categories	16	(0)	1	2024	95.23
2.05.01.b	% population in forced labor	13	(0)	0.41	2023	75.33
2.05.02	Goods produced by child labor, number of goods categories	28	(0)	16	2024	38.46
2.06	Government response to human trafficking	16	(+2)	-	-	62.16
2.06.01	Government response to human trafficking, Criminalization	15	(0)	6	2025	60.00
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	10	(0)	2	2025	66.67
2.07	Trade in goods at risk of modern slavery	26	(0)	-	-	49.26
2.07.01	Imports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US\$ millions	20	(-4)	10,327	2025	87.58
2.07.02	Exports of goods at risk of modern slavery, US\$ millions	28	(-1)	30078.5	2024	52.47
2.08	Legatum prosperity index	18	(NEW)	58.86	2023	41.29
2.09	Life expectancy at birth	21	(-1)	74.59	2023	43.63
2.10	Uneven economic development	06	(0)	3.60	2024	79.63
2.11	Universal Health Coverage Index	18	(0)	71	2023	65.00
2.12	Equal distribution of resources index	12	(NEW)	0.74	2025	72.77

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	22	(-3)	24.80	2025	70.76 
3.02	Deforestation, Index	04	(-1)	0.0100	2024	53.13 
3.03	% of wastewater treated	17	(0)	40.76	2024	36.09 
3.04	Energy intensity (Energy use (kg of oil equivalent) per \$1,000 GDP)	14	(+8)	75.16	2023	53.91 
3.05	Ecological footprint	10	(+5)	2.30	2025	75.11 
3.06	Renewable energy, %	12	(+1)	24.20	2021	38.47 
3.07	Environmental standards in trade, count	01	(+9)	-	-	100.00 
3.07.01	Convention: Hazardous Wastes	01	(0)	2	2025	100.00 
3.07.02	Convention: Prevention of Marine Pollution	01	(+14)	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	25	(0)	27.19	2023	40.31 
3.09	Share of natural resources in trade, %	07	(-4)	9.59	2025	88.99 
3.10	Carbon	05	(+9)	-	-	94.59 
3.10.1	Carbon pricing	01	(+12)	2	2025	100.00 
3.10.2	CO2 emissions per capita	16	(-2)	4.23	2024	81.30 

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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