

Economic Freedom – by Robert Buckner

Our founding Fathers understood the importance of the fundamental right of every human to be able to control his or her own “Labor” and “Property.” This truly is the essence and needed foundation of: “Economic Freedom.”

Perceived, “Political Freedom,” absent of true “Economic Freedom,” is no freedom at all. Our Founding Fathers knew that the greatest threat to economic freedom was an abusive government.

Our Founding Fathers contribution to an “Economically-free America, was the Constitution - with its unique “Balance of Powers” and well-defined “Limitations of Government’s Authority!”

The Founders believed that a predominantly Christian populace (whose faith did require individual responsible self-control and self-governance) might be able to successfully govern under a “Representative Republican” form of government according to the restraints of their Constitution.

The “***Heritage Foundation***” has listed some obvious attributes of living under a true, “Economic Freedom:”

1. Economic freedom leads to ***higher per capita incomes***.
2. Economic freedom is correlated with ***increased overall well-being*** – which takes into account such factors as health, education, security, and personal freedom.
3. Countries that are more economically free ***reduce poverty*** at nearly twice the rate as less free societies.

These truths quite necessarily should cause Americans today to question the sensibility (forgetting for a moment the legality) of tolerating an every-increasing and unconstitutional, intrusion of government into private lives and the private sector economy. As government continues to coerce more and more “Private Wealth” from citizens, in order to fund more and more government-driven and government-controlled entitlement programs – individual economic freedom in America continues to decline!

By reducing “Economic Freedom” in America, these *liberal-left Statist*, which are stealing individual citizen’s money and using it to underwrite and subsidize “*their*” social objectives, are actually lowering the

economic standard-of-living of everyone – including those whom they profess they desire to help!

No one knows better what to do with money – than the one who works to earn it!

From the Heritage Foundation's Frequently Asked Questions 1 thru 6:

Q1. What is Economic Freedom?

Economic freedom is the fundamental right of every human to control his or her own labor and property. In an economically free society, individuals are free to work, produce, consume, and invest in any way they please, with that freedom both protected by the state and unconstrained by the state. In economically free societies, governments allow labor, capital and goods to move freely, and refrain from coercion or constraint of liberty beyond the extent necessary to protect and maintain liberty itself.

The "**Heritage Foundation**" also has an, "**Index of Economic Freedom**" and listed below is their 2011 edition.

In addition to other information, the *Index of Economic Freedom* also illustrates how America compares to 183 other countries.



Land of the Mostly Free?

According to the [2011 Index of Economic Freedom](#), released by The Heritage Foundation and *The Wall Street Journal*, the United States is ranked 9th worldwide, slipping one spot since last year.

The U.S. score of 77.8—which qualifies for the "mostly free" category—is down 0.2 points from the 2010 *Index*, largely due to reckless government spending and increased regulatory burdens.

How did other countries perform?

This year's data indicates that economic freedom advanced last year, despite the continuing fiscal challenges many countries faced. **More than half of the 183 countries now listed in the *Index* improved their scores.** This is following a two-year period of decline. Data suggests that the boost in scores for many countries—mainly developing and emerging market economies—is the result of many governments rededicating themselves to "fiscal soundness, openness, and reform." [Read More](#)

To learn more about economic freedom and to create [country comparison charts](#), visit us online at heritage.org/Index.

What is Economic Freedom?

Economic freedom is the fundamental right of every human to control his or her own labor and property. [Read More](#)

Why Does It Matter?

The [data](#) in the *Index of Economic Freedom* confirms:

- Economic freedom leads to **higher per capita incomes**.
- Economic freedom is correlated with **increased overall well-being**—which takes into account such factors as health, education, security, and personal freedom.
- Countries that are more economically free **reduce poverty** at nearly twice the rate as less free societies.

Who's Number 1?

Click [here](#) for the complete list of country rankings.



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