



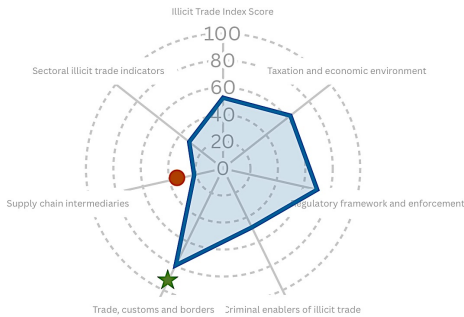
COUNTRY SNAPSHOT SOUTH AFRICA



2025 ILLICIT TRADE INDEX

Illicit trade remains one of the biggest threats to South Africa's economic stability and growth. Despite some governmental efforts, the scope and depth of the problem require sustained political will and comprehensive strategies to address the underlying issues. By addressing these issues head-on, South Africa can reclaim significant tax revenue, boost investor confidence, and support its broader economic and social development goals

SOUTH AFRICA'S PERFORMANCE



ILLICIT TRADE INDEX SCORES

	South Africa	Global (average)	Africa (average)
Overall Score	52.4	49.9	40.8
<i>Category scores</i>			
Taxation and economic environment	62.8	60.5	52.6
Regulatory framework and enforcement	70.4	53.2	42.4
Criminal enablers of illicit trade	48.4	53.6	46.5
Trade customs and borders	79.6	56.5	38.3
Supply chain intermediaries	21.6	30.9	21.7
Sectoral illicit trade indicators	31.6	44.6	43.2



KEY INSIGHTS



GLOBAL RANKING
60th out of 158 countries



REGIONAL RANKING (AFRICA)
4th out of 47 countries



OVERALL SCORE
52.4 / 100



TOP PERFORMING CATEGORY
Trade, customs and borders (79.6)



LOWEST-PERFORMING CATEGORY
Supply chain intermediaries (21.6)



PRIORITY ACTIONS

- **Strengthen inter-agency coordination** by appointing a national Anti-Illicit Trade Coordinator and aligning efforts across SARS, SAPS, NPA, and regulators.
- **Tighten controls on money laundering** and enhance financial intelligence to dismantle the funding of illicit trade networks.
- **Develop a coherent and predictable tax policy framework** that avoids market distortions and reduces incentives for illicit activity.
- **Modernize regulatory frameworks** to address vulnerabilities in e-commerce, digital trade, and high-risk product categories.
- **Combat corruption** within customs, law enforcement, and judicial systems to restore institutional integrity and enforcement credibility.
- **Raise public awareness and build public-private partnerships** to boost education, brand protection, and joint enforcement initiatives.



RESILIENCE METER



The Resilience to Illicit Trade Meter illustrates a country's risk level from illicit trade—ranging from low to very high—based on its Illicit Trade Index scores

TRACIT's **2025 Illicit Trade Index**, covering 158 countries, is a policy tool that provides governments and enforcement agencies with actionable insights by highlighting national vulnerabilities, strengths, and trends in combating illicit trade.



For more information, visit:
www.tracit.org/illicit-trade-index

