

Avenir Suisse Freedom Index 2025

Aargau wins – and expands its lead

The Avenir Suisse Freedom Index measures economic and social freedoms in the Swiss cantons on an annual basis. This year's evaluation, based on 29 indicators, paints a clear picture: the canton of Aargau once again pulls well ahead of its competitors. Marked differences also exist between the Latin and German-speaking cantons. All data is available in an interactive Excel file.

Aargau is by far the freest canton in this year's ranking. The canton wins almost across the board, claiming first place in the social sub-index and second place in the economic sub-index. Well behind Aargau, but ahead of all other cantons, Appenzell Ausserrhoden reaches the podium for the seventh consecutive time. Completing the top three, the canton of Schwyz takes third place.

Zug continues to excel as the canton offering the greatest economic freedoms yet ranks only 21st in social freedoms. The two largest cantons, Zurich and Bern, take 15th and 25th place, with Bern dropping four positions compared to last year. Jura and Vaud face the same situation as Zug: they occupy top positions in social freedoms (2 and 4) but rank at the bottom for economic freedoms. In the overall ranking, Valais hands over the last place to Uri: no canton in Switzerland offers fewer freedoms overall than Uri. The biggest declines compared to last year are seen in St. Gallen (from 15 to 21), Vaud (from 11 to 17), and Appenzell Innerrhoden (from 19 to 24). Lucerne (from 25 to 16) and Basel-Landschaft (from 22 to 14) make considerable jumps forward.

Short commentaries for each canton can be found [here in German](#) and [here in French](#).

A wide divide between German-speaking and French-speaking cantons

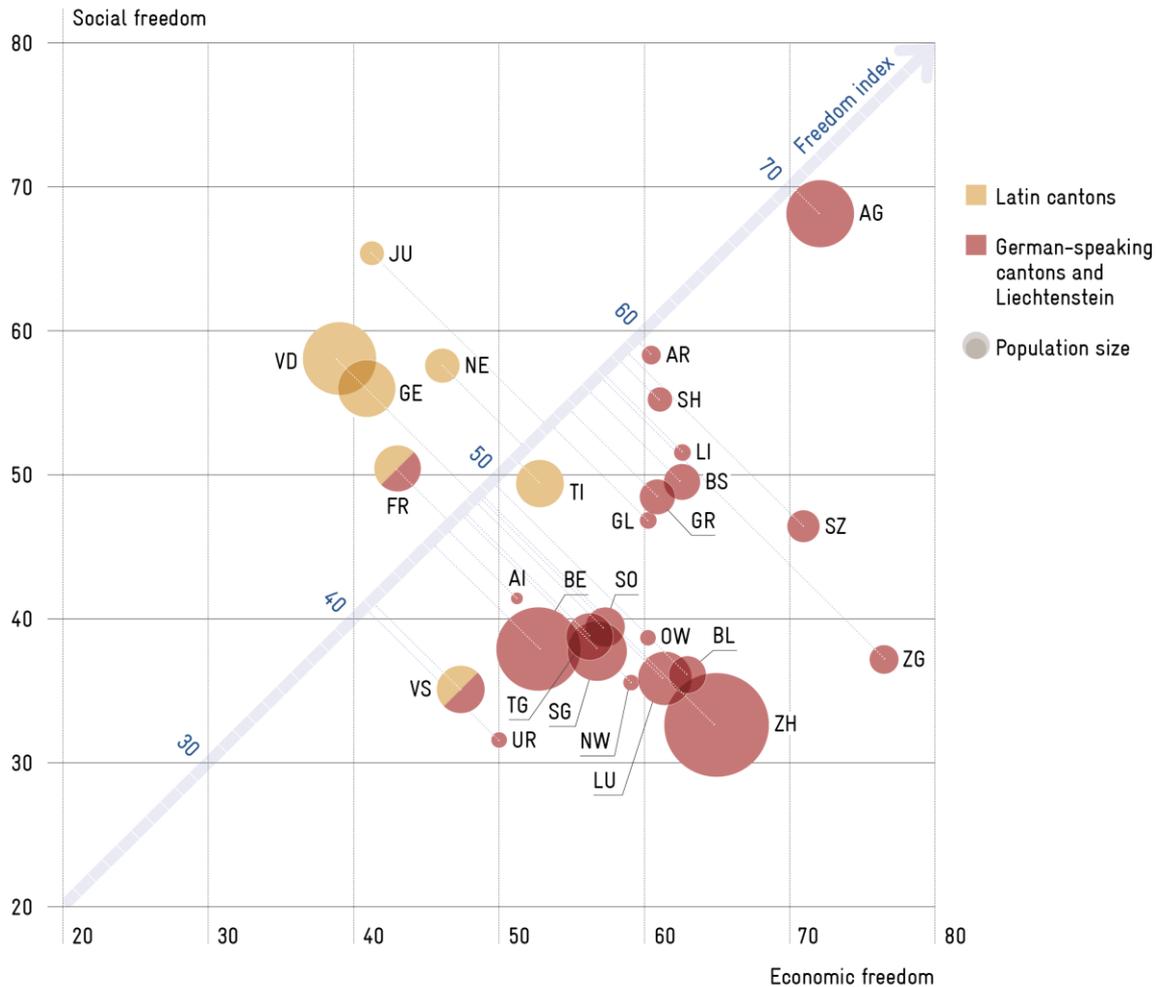
Overall, the German-speaking cantons score primarily in economic freedoms. In this sub-index, Aargau and Schwyz join Zug on the podium. In contrast, the French-speaking cantons occupy the bottom seven places. The picture is reversed in the social-freedom sub-index: all exclusively French-speaking cantons rank within the top, while many German-speaking cantons appear in the lower half of the table.

Full transparency and data download

As in the previous year, all data is available in a publicly accessible Excel file in [German](#) and [French](#). In addition to the index scores and rankings, the document also includes all values for the individual indicators. The Freedom Index is also fully interactive: each indicator can be individually activated or deactivated to create a personalized index.

Economic and social freedom at a glance

The infographic depicts the economic-freedom sub-index on the horizontal and the social-freedom sub-index on the vertical axis. The higher up in the right upper corner a canton is located, the higher is its ranking in the freedom index.



Source: Own representation

Figure: Avenir Suisse

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