Mauritius is an island nation off the southeast coast of the African continent in the southwest Indian Ocean. It is located east of Madagascar. The main island is of volcanic origin and is almost entirely surrounded by a coral reef that poses maritime hazards. The government is a parliamentary democracy. The chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. Although state monopolies exist, Mauritius has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Mauritius is a member of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

**Location:** Eastern Africa  
**Capital City:** Port Louis (+4 GMT)  
**Chief of State:** President Ameenah Gurib-Fakim  
**Head of Govt.:** Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth  
**Currency:** Mauritian rupee (MUR)  
**Major Languages:** Creole 86.5%, Bhojpuri 5.3%, French 4.1%, two languages 1.4%, other 2.6% (includes English, the official language, which is spoken by less than 1% of the population), unspecified 0.1%  
**Primary Religions:** Hindu 48.5%, Roman Catholic 26.3%, Muslim 17.3%, other Christian 6.4%, other 0.6%, none 0.7%, unspecified 0.1%  
**Calling Code:** 230  
**Voltage:** 230

### Key Economic Facts

- **Income Level (by per capita GNI):** Upper Middle Income
- **Level of Development:** Developing
- **GDP, PPP (current international $):** $23.43 billion (2014)
- **GDP growth (annual %):** 3.60% (2014)
- **GDP per capita, PPP (current international $):** $18,585.41 (2014)
- **External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US$):** $10,919,487,000.00 (2013)
- **Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):** 16.49% (2014)
- **Current account balance (BoP, current US$):** -$1.29 billion (2014)
- **Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):** 3.22% (2014)
- **Labor force, total:** 587,691 (2013)
- **Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):** 8.30% (2013)
- **Imports of goods and services (current US$):** $7.96 billion (2014)
- **Exports of goods and services (current US$):** $6.77 billion (2014)

### GDP Composition %

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Agriculture</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Manufacturing</th>
<th>Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>%</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.*

### Rankings

- **Corruption Perceptions Index:** 45 / 168
- **Global Competitiveness Report:** 46 / 140
- **Global Enabling Trade Report:** 29 / 138
- **Global Services Location Index:** 30 / 55
- **Index of Economic Freedom:** 10 / 178
- **International Logistics Performance Index (LPI):** 115 / 160
- **KOF Index of Globalization:** 52 / 186
- **Networked Readiness Index (NRI):** 40 / 142

### Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

- **Country rating:** A3 - Changes in generally good but somewhat volatile political and economic environment can affect corporate payment behavior. A basically secure business environment can nonetheless give rise to occasional difficulties for companies. Corporate default probability is quite acceptable on average.

### Business Climate rating: A3 - The business environment is relatively good. Although not always available, corporate financial information is usually reliable. Debt collection and the institutional framework may have some shortcomings. Intercompany transactions may run into occasional difficulties in the otherwise secure environments rated A3.

#### Strengths
- English/French bilingualism
- Robust banking system
- Effective democratic institutions and governance
- Favorable business climate
- High tourism potential

#### Weaknesses
- Infrastructure shortcomings in some regions
- Shortage of qualified labour
- Public monopolies and subsidised prices in several sectors
- Commercial and economic dependence on Europe (tourism, construction)

### U.S. Embassy

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