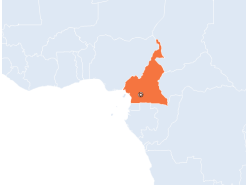


Introduction

Cameroon is a country in Western Africa that borders the Bight of Biafra. Neighboring countries include the Central African Republic, Chad, the Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Nigeria. The geography of Cameroon is diverse with coastal plains in the southwest, plateau in the center, mountains in the west, and plains in the north. The government system is a multiparty presidential regime republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. Cameroon has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Cameroon is a member of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).



Location: Middle Africa

Capital City: Yaounde (+1 GMT)

Chief of State: President Paul Biya

Head of Govt.: Prime Minister Philémon Yang

Currency: Communauté Financière Africaine franc (XAF)

Major Languages: <p>24 major African language groups, English (official), French (official)</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Catholic 38.4%, Protestant 26.3%, other Christian 4.5%, Muslim 20.9%, animist 5.6%, other 1%, non-believer 3.2% (2005 est.)</p>

Calling Code: 237

Voltage: 220

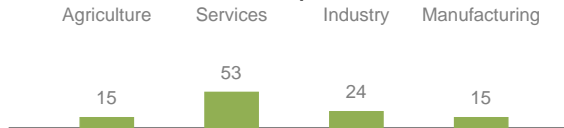
Key Websites

Main Government Page: spm.gov.cm

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Lower Middle Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$89.35 billion (2017)
GDP growth (annual %):	3.55% (2017)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$3,714.55 (2017)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$10,396,468,447.30 (2017)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	15.12% (2017)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$0.95 billion (2017)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	0.64% (2017)
Labor force, total:	10,815,707 (2018)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	4.23% (2018)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$7.89 billion (2017)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$6.49 billion (2017)

GDP Composition %



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

Rankings

Index	Rank
Corruption Perceptions Index	153 / 178
Global Competitiveness Index	120 / 139
Global Enabling Trade Index	130 / 136
Index of Economic Freedom	144 / 179
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	95 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	109 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	145 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	124 / 139
Open Budget Index	99 / 115

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: C - A very uncertain political and economic outlook and a business environment with many troublesome weaknesses can have a significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is high.

Business Climate rating: D - The business environment is very difficult. Corporate financial information is rarely available and when available usually unreliable. The legal system makes debt collection very unpredictable. The institutional framework has very serious weaknesses. Intercompany transactions can thus be very difficult to manage in the highly risky environments rated D.

Strengths

- Agricultural, oil, gas and mineral resources
- Diversified economy, compared to those of other oil exporting countries
- Ongoing modernization of infrastructures

Weaknesses

- External and public accounts dependent on oil and gas
- Growth not very "inclusive" and business climate remains difficult
- Heightened political risk: insecurity in the far north of the country, uncertainty surrounding the succession to Paul Biya (85 and in power since November 1982) and increasing tensions between the English-speaking minority and the regime (mostly French-speaking)

U.S. Embassy

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<https://cm.usembassy.gov>