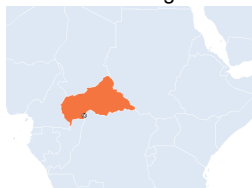


Introduction

The Central African Republic is a landlocked country in Central Africa that borders the countries of Cameroon, Chad, Sudan, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Republic of the Congo. The geography of the Central African Republic is vast and flat with scattered hills in the northeast and southwest. The government system is a republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. The Central African Republic has a traditional economic system in which subsistence agriculture and forestry remain the backbone of the economy. The Central African Republic is a member of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).



Location: Middle Africa

Capital City: Bangui (+1 GMT)

Chief of State: President Faustin-Archange Touadera

Head of Govt.: Prime Minister Felix Moloua

Currency: Communauté Financière Africaine franc (XAF)

Major Languages: <p>French (official), Sangho (lingua franca and national language), tribal languages</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Christian 89%, Muslim 9%, folk religion 1%, unaffiliated 1%</p>

Calling Code: 236

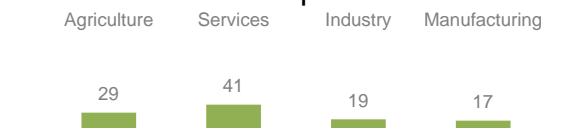
Voltage: 220

Key Websites

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Low Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$5.40 billion (2022)
GDP growth (annual %):	0.00% (2022)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$967.27 (2022)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$1,115,463,251.70 (2021)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	16.51% (2022)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$0.02 billion (1994)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	5.58% (2022)
Labor force, total:	2,042,438 (2022)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	6.36% (2022)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$0.78 billion (2022)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$0.32 billion (2022)

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	151 / 178
Index of Economic Freedom	166 / 176
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	151 / 160
KOF Index of Globalization	175 / 185

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: D - A high-risk political and economic situation and an often very difficult business environment can have a very significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is very high.

Business Climate rating: E - The highest possible risk in terms of business climate. Due to a lack of available financial information and an unpredictable legal system, doing business in this country is extremely difficult.

Strengths

- Agricultural (cotton, coffee), forestry and mining (diamonds, gold) potential
- Importance of international financial support
- Member of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC) and the Economic Community of Central African States (CEEAC)
- CFA franc backed by the euro, but limited common reserves of the Bank of Central African States (BEAC)

Weaknesses

- Political and institutional fragility in an extremely unstable post-civil war security environment, with much of the country still outside government control
- Poor economic diversification and dependence on few raw materials (wood, gold and diamonds)
- Illegal mining damaging public revenues
- Inadequate transport, ICT and energy infrastructures
- Landlocked
- Dependence on food and oil imports
- Majority of the population living in extreme poverty (65.7% in 2023)

U.S. Embassy

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<https://cf.usembassy.gov>