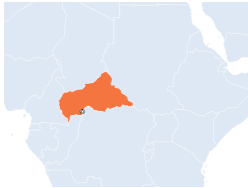


## Introduction

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 Touadéra

**Head of Govt.:** Prime Minister Firmin Ngrébada

**Currency:** Communauté Financière Africaine franc (XAF)

**Major Languages:** French (official), Sangho (lingua franca and national language), tribal languages

**Primary Religions:** Indigenous beliefs 35%, Protestant 25%, Roman Catholic 25%, Muslim 15%

**Calling Code:** 236

**Voltage:** 220

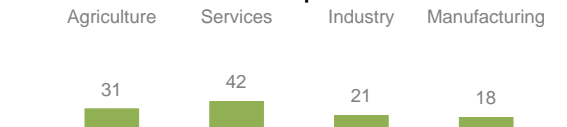
## Key Websites

Main Government Page: [rca-gouv.net](http://rca-gouv.net)

## Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Low Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$4.01 billion (2018)
GDP growth (annual %):	3.79% (2018)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$859.94 (2018)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$778,900,286.70 (2018)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	18.13% (2018)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$0.02 billion (1994)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	37.14% (2015)
Labor force, total:	1,919,063 (2019)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	6.52% (2019)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$1.04 billion (2018)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$0.42 billion (2018)

## 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	149 / 180
Index of Economic Freedom	160 / 179
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 (diamond, gold, uranium) potential
- Substantial international financial support

### Weaknesses

- Extreme poverty (two thirds of the population lives below the poverty line)
- Vulnerability of the economy to external shocks
- Weak transport infrastructure and energy production capacity
- Geographically isolated
- Unstable political and security situation (a large part of the territory is controlled by armed rebel groups)

## U.S. Embassy

The United States Embassy in the Central African Republic  
 Avenue David Dacko  
 P.O. Box 924  
 Bangui  
 Central African Republic  
 Tel:(236) 2161-0200

<https://cf.usembassy.gov>