Introduction
Costa Rica is a country in Central America bordered by the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea. Neighboring countries include Nicaragua and Panama. Costa Rica has coastal plains separated by rugged mountains including over 100 volcanic cones, of which several are major volcanoes. The government is a democratic republic; the president of Costa Rica is the chief of state and head of government. Costa Rica has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation.

Key Economic Facts

- **Income Level (by per capita GNI):** Upper Middle Income
- **Level of Development:** Developing
- **GDP, PPP (current international $):** $83.76 billion (2017)
- **GDP growth (annual %):** 3.28% (2017)
- **GDP per capita, PPP (current international $):** $17,073.52 (2017)
- **External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US$):** $25,614,749,360.80 (2017)
- **Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):** 11.80% (2017)
- **Current account balance (BoP, current US$):** -$1.68 billion (2017)
- **Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):** 1.63% (2017)
- **Labor force, total:** 2,322,097 (2018)
- **Unemployment, total (% of total labor force):** 8.03% (2018)
- **Imports of goods and services (current US$):** $18.86 billion (2017)
- **Exports of goods and services (current US$):** $19.10 billion (2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GDP Composition %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
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*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.*

Rankings

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<td>Open Budget Index</td>
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Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: B - Political and economic uncertainties and an occasionally difficult business environment can affect corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is appreciable.

Business Climate rating: A4 - The business environment is acceptable. Corporate financial information is sometimes neither readily available nor sufficiently reliable. Debt collection is not always efficient and the institutional framework has shortcomings. Intercompany transactions may thus run into appreciable difficulties in the acceptable but occasionally unstable environments rated A4.

Strengths

- Democratic institutions (since 1949)
- Best social indicators in the region: education and health
- Cutting-edge services and industries (pharmaceuticals, microprocessors) – attractive for FDIs
- Diversified trade, thanks to multiple trade agreements
- Tourism resources: hotels, national parks

Weaknesses

- Weak public accounts
- Exposed to natural disasters
- Inadequate transport infrastructure
- Economically (FDIs, exports) and financially (banks) dependent on the United States
- Lack of skilled workforce / undeclared work
- High income inequalities

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