

Introduction

Cyprus is an island country in the Middle East in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. Nearby countries include Turkey, Syria, and Lebanon. Geographically, Cyprus is a central plain with mountains to the north and south. The government system is a republic; the chief of state and head of government is the president. Cyprus has a market economy system in which the prices of goods and services are determined in a free price system. Cyprus is a member of the European Union (EU).



Location: Western Asia

Capital City: Nicosia (+2 GMT)

Chief of State: President Nicos Anastasiades

Head of Govt.: President Nicos Anastasiades

Currency: Euro (EUR)

Major Languages: <p>Greek (official) 80.9%, Turkish (official) 0.2%, English 4.1%, Romanian 2.9%, Russian 2.5%, Bulgarian 2.2%, Arabic 1.2%, Filipino 1.1%, other 4.3%, unspecified 0.6%</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Greek (official) 80.9%, Turkish (official) 0.2%, English 4.1%, Romanian 2.9%, Russian 2.5%, Bulgarian 2.2%, Arabic 1.2%, Filipino 1.1%, other 4.3%, unspecified 0.6%</p>

Calling Code: 357

Voltage: 240

Key Websites

Main Government Page: cyprus.gov.cy

Commerce Ministry: mctit.gov.cy

Investment Promotion investcyprus.org.cy
Agency:

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	High Income
Level of Development:	Developed
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$30.95 billion (2017)
GDP growth (annual %):	4.23% (2017)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$36,012.37 (2017)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	4.74% (2017)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$1.85 billion (2017)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	0.53% (2017)
Labor force, total:	614,871 (2018)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	8.11% (2018)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$15.12 billion (2017)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$14.34 billion (2017)

GDP Composition %

Agriculture Services Industry Manufacturing

0 0 0 5

**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	42 / 178
Global Competitiveness Index	43 / 139
Global Enabling Trade Index	47 / 136
Index of Economic Freedom	44 / 179
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	45 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	47 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	14 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	40 / 139

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: A4 - A somewhat shaky political and economic outlook and a relatively volatile business environment can affect corporate payment behavior.

Corporate default probability is still 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

- At the crossroads of Europe, Africa and Asia; eurozone member
- Services sector: tourism, international business and financial hub, maritime transport and transshipment
- Skilled, English-speaking workforce
- High-quality transport and telecommunication infrastructure
- Offshore gas potential

Weaknesses

- Island divided (since 1974); strained relations with Turkey
- Small domestic market, isolated, remote and outside the center of Europe
- Poor economic diversification (tourism, real estate, finance) and limited foreign customer base (United Kingdom and Russia)
- High levels of debt among all economic actors; dependent on external financing
- Massive and highly concentrated banking sector burdened by non-performing loans
- Slow legal process, poor enforcement of contracts

U.S. Embassy

U.S. Embassy Nicosia
Metochiou & Ploutarchou Street
2407, Engomi
Nicosia, Cyprus
Phone: 357-22-393939

<https://cy.usembassy.gov>