

## Introduction

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is a country located in Central Africa with a short Atlantic Ocean coastline. Neighboring countries include Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. The geography includes active volcanoes near the city of Goma, mountains in the east, and lowlands around the Congo River that experience seasonal flooding. The government system is a republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. DRC has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. The Democratic Republic of the Congo is a member of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).



**Location:** Middle Africa

**Capital City:** Kinshasa (+1 GMT)

**Chief of State:** President Felix Tshisekedi

**Head of Govt.:** Prime Minister Judith Suminwa Tuluka

**Currency:** Congolese Franc (CDF)

**Major Languages:** <p>French (official), Lingala (a lingua franca trade language), Kingwana (a dialect of Kiswahili or Swahili), Kikongo, Tshiluba</p>

**Primary Religions:** <p>Roman Catholic 29.9%, Protestant 26.7%, Kimbanguist 2.8%, other Christian 36.5%, Muslim 1.3%, other (includes syncretic sects and indigenous beliefs) 1.2%, none 1.3%, unspecified .2%&nbsp;(2014 est.)</p>

**Calling Code:** 243

**Voltage:** 220

## Key Websites

Investment Promotion [investindrc.cd](http://investindrc.cd)  
Agency:

## Key Economic Facts

|  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Income Level (by per capita GNI):                                    | Low Income                 |
| Level of Development:  | Developing                 |
| GDP, PPP (current international \$):                                 | \$132.42 billion (2022)    |
| GDP growth (annual %):   | 8.92% (2022)               |
| GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):                      | \$1,337.39 (2022)          |
| External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):                     | \$10,288,150,918.80 (2021) |
| Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):                               | 16.73% (2022)              |
| Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):                         | -\$0.59 billion (2021)     |
| Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):                               | 2.89% (2016)               |
| Labor force, total:  | 35,059,361 (2022)          |
| Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate): | 4.99% (2022)               |
| Imports of goods and services (current US\$):                        | \$29.56 billion (2022)     |
| Exports of goods and services (current US\$):                        | \$27.88 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                    | 166 / 178 |
| Global Competitiveness Index                    | 139 / 141 |
| Global Enabling Trade Index                     | 133 / 136 |
| Index of Economic Freedom                       | 157 / 176 |
| International Logistics Performance Index (LPI) | 120 / 160 |
| Inward FDI Potential Index                      | 137 / 139 |
| KOF Index of Globalization                      | 161 / 185 |
| Open Budget Index                               | 66 / 114  |

## 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: B** - The business environment is mediocre. The availability and the reliability of corporate financial information vary widely. Debt collection can sometimes be difficult. The institutional framework has a few troublesome weaknesses. Intercompany transactions run appreciable risks in the unstable, largely inefficient environments rated B.

### Strengths

- Abundant mineral resources (copper, cobalt, diamond, gold, tin, etc.)
- Significant hydroelectric potential
- Second-largest tropical forest in the world and vast biodiversity
- International involvement and regional cooperation in resolving conflicts in the Great Lakes region

### Weaknesses

- Weak infrastructure (transport, energy, telecommunications)
- Precarious security and humanitarian situation, with numerous armed militias in the east of the country
- Risk of a new Ebola outbreak
- Extremely dependent on commodity prices
- Poor governance

## U.S. Embassy

American Embassy, Kinshasa  
310, Avenue des Aviateurs  
Kinshasa, Gombe  
République Démocratique du Congo  
Tel: 081 556-0151

<https://cd.usembassy.gov>