

Introduction

Ethiopia is a landlocked country located in Eastern Africa bordered by Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan. The geography of Ethiopia consists of high plateaus with the central mountain range divided by Great Rift Valley. The government system is a federal republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister.



Ethiopia has a traditional economic system in which the allocation of available resources is made on the basis of primitive methods, and many citizens engage in subsistence agriculture. Ethiopia is a member of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).



Location: Eastern Africa

Capital City: Addis Ababa (+3 GMT)

Chief of State: President Sahle-Work Zewde

Head of Govt.: Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali

Currency: Birr (ETB)

Major Languages: <p>Oromo (official working language in the State of Oromiya) 33.8%, Amharic (official national language) 29.3%, Somali (official working language of the State of Sumale) 6.2%, Tigrigna (Tigrinya) (official working language of the State of Tigray) 5.9%, Sidamo 4%, Wolaytta 2.2%, Gurage 2%, Afar (official working language of the State of Afar) 1.7%, Hadiyya 1.7%, Gamo 1.5%, Gedeo 1.3%, Opuuo 1.2%, Kafa 1.1%, other 8.1%, English (major foreign language taught in schools), Arabic</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Ethiopian Orthodox 43.5%, Muslim 33.9%, Protestant 18.5%, traditional 2.7%, Catholic 0.7%, other 0.6%</p>

Calling Code: 251

Voltage: 220

Key Websites

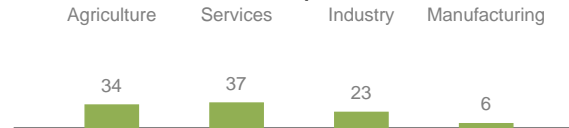
Main Government Page: ethiopia.gov.et

Commerce Ministry: mot.gov.et

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Low Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$199.76 billion (2017)
GDP growth (annual %):	10.25% (2017)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$1,903.24 (2017)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$26,562,058,551.40 (2017)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	5.59% (2017)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$5.57 billion (2017)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	9.85% (2017)
Labor force, total:	51,815,840 (2018)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	1.81% (2018)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$19.10 billion (2017)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$6.23 billion (2017)

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	107 / 178
Global Competitiveness Index	121 / 139
Global Enabling Trade Index	117 / 136
Index of Economic Freedom	136 / 179
Inward FDI Potential Index	132 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	165 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	120 / 139

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: C - A very uncertain political and economic outlook and a business environment with many troublesome weaknesses can have a significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is high.

Business Climate rating: D - The business environment is very difficult. Corporate financial information is rarely available and when available usually unreliable. The legal system makes debt collection very unpredictable. The institutional framework has very serious weaknesses. Intercompany transactions can thus be very difficult to manage in the highly risky environments rated D.

Strengths

- Remarkable track record of growth and poverty reduction
- Public investments in infrastructures
- Economy diversification effort
- Strong hydropower potential

Weaknesses

- Vulnerability to weather conditions and changes in world commodity prices
- Isolation of the country
- Insufficient level of foreign exchange reserves
- On-going difficulties in the business and governance environment
- Unstable regional context
- Exacerbated ethnic tensions

U.S. Embassy

U.S. Embassy Addis Ababa
Entoto Street
P.O. Box 1014
Addis Ababa

<https://et.usembassy.gov>