

Kenya



Introduction

Kenya is a country in Eastern Africa bordering the Indian Ocean and Lake Victoria. Neighboring countries include Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.



Unique Kenyan physiography, from highlands to glaciers, supports abundant and varied wildlife of scientific and economic value. The government system is a republic; the chief of state and head

of government is the president. Kenya has a mixed economic system, which includes a variety of private freedoms combined with centralized economic planning and

government regulation. Kenya is a member of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the East African Community (EAC).



Location: Eastern Africa
Capital City: Nairobi (+3 GMT)
Chief of State: President William Ruto
Head of Govt.: President William Ruto
Currency: Kenyan shilling (KES)

Major Languages: English (official), Kiswahili

(official), numerous indigenous

languages

Primary Religions: Christian 85.5% (Protestant

33.4%, Catholic 20.6%, Evangelical 20.4%, African Instituted Churches 7%, other Christian 4.1%), Muslim

10.9%, other 1.8%, none

1.6%, don't know/n o answer 0.2% (2019 est.)

Calling Code: 254 Voltage: 240

Key Websites

Investment Promotion invest.go.ke Agency:

Key Economic Facts

| Income Level (by per capita GNI): | Lower Middle Income | |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| Level of Development: | Developing | |
| GDP, PPP (current international \$): | \$311.41 billion (2022) | |
| GDP growth (annual %): | 4.85% (2022) | |
| GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$): | \$5,763.91 (2022) | |
| External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$): | \$41,201,479,489.30 (2021) | |
| Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP): | 7.83% (2022) | |
| Current account balance (BoP, current US\$): | -\$5.74 billion (2021) | |
| Inflation, consumer prices (annual %): | 7.66% (2022) | |
| Labor force, total: | 24,985,164 (2022) | |
| Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate): | 5.50% (2022) | |
| Imports of goods and services (current US\$): | \$24.40 billion (2022) | |
| Exports of goods and services (current US\$): | \$13.85 billion (2022) | |
| GDP Composition % | | |

Agriculture Services Industry Manufacturing 55 21 18 8

*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.

Rankings

| Corruption Perceptions Index Global Competitiveness Index Global Enabling Trade Index | 126 / 178 95 / 141 77 / 136 34 / 60 |
|---|--|
| Global Enabling Trade Index | 77 / 136 |
| Ŭ. | |
| | 34 / 60 |
| Global Services Location Index | |
| Index of Economic Freedom | 134 / 176 |
| International Logistics Performance Index (LPI) | 68 / 160 |
| Inward FDI Potential Index | 124 / 139 |
| KOF Index of Globalization | 131 / 185 |
| Networked Readiness Index (NRI) | 86 / 139 |
| Open Budget Index | 48 / 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: 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

- Sixth-largest African economy (2020), but the biggest in East Africa, playing a pivotal role in the East African Community, Africa's number-one common market
- Diversified agriculture (40% of GDP, third-largest tea producer in the world) and dynamic services sector (IT, telecommunications and financial services)
- Mombasa is the third-largest port in Africa
- Mineral sand deposits (comprising ilmenite, rutile and zircon)
- Hydrocarbon deposits discovered in the northwest region of Turkana
- · Fast-growing population and emerging middle class
- Continued execution of the president's Big Four Agenda (originally planned until the end of 2022, but probably will go on longer), which is focused on food security, manufacturing employment, universal and affordable access to health, and affordable housing

Weaknesses

- Reliant on hydropower and rain-fed agriculture: sensitive to drought and flooding
- Weak public resources (17% of GDP in 2020) and high public debt
- Persistent bottlenecks due to lack of infrastructure and skills shortages
- Terrorist risk in the north, near Somalia; political, social and ethnic divisions
- Persistent corruption and governance deficiencies, including in state-owned companies



Kenya



U.S. Embassy

U.S. Embassy Nairobi

United Nations Avenue Nairobi

P. O. Box 606 Village Market

00621 Nairobi, Kenya

Phone: 254 20 363-6000

Fax: 254 20 363-6157

https://ke.usembassy.gov