

## 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 freedom, 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 Uhuru Kenyatta

**Head of Govt.:** President Uhuru Kenyatta

**Currency:** Kenyan shilling (KES)

**Major Languages:** <p>English (official), Kiswahili (official), numerous indigenous languages</p>

**Primary Religions:** <p>Kikuyu 17.2%, Luhya 13.8%, Kalejin 12.9%, Luo 10.5%, Kamba 10.1%, Somali 6.2%, Kisii 5.7%, Mijikenda 5.1%, Meru 4.3%, Turkana 2.6%, Masai 2.2%, other 9.4%</p>

**Calling Code:** 254

**Voltage:** 240

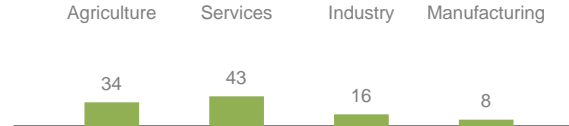
## Key Websites

Investment Promotion Agency: [invest.go.ke](http://invest.go.ke)

## Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Lower Middle Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$220.73 billion (2018)
GDP growth (annual %):	6.32% (2018)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$4,294.94 (2018)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$31,511,131,293.40 (2018)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	7.74% (2018)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$5.02 billion (2017)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	4.69% (2018)
Labor force, total:	23,878,817 (2019)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	2.64% (2019)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$20.22 billion (2018)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$11.58 billion (2018)

## 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	144 / 180
Global Competitiveness Index	95 / 141
Global Enabling Trade Index	77 / 136
Global Services Location Index	39 / 55
Index of Economic Freedom	130 / 179
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	54 / 115

## 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: 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

- East Africa's leading economy, playing a pivotal role in the East African Community, the number-one African common market
- Diversified agriculture and expanding services sector (telecommunications and financial services)
- Improving business and governance climate
- Fast-growing population and emerging middle class

### Weaknesses

- Dependent on hydropower and rain-fed agriculture
- Persistent bottlenecks and skills shortages
- Instability related to terrorist risk and political, social and ethnic divisions
- Persistent corruption

## U.S. Embassy

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