

Introduction

Maldives is an island nation in the Indian Ocean formed by a chain of 1,900 coral islands grouped into 26 atolls southwest of Sri Lanka and India. The archipelago has a strategic location astride and along major sea lanes in Indian Ocean. The government system is a republic; the chief of state and head of government is the president. Maldives has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of business and fiscal freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Maldives is a member of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).



Location: Southern Asia

Capital City: Male (+5 GMT)

Chief of State: President Mohamed Muizzu

Head of Govt.: President Mohamed Muizzu

Currency: Maldivian Rufiyaa (MVR)

Major Languages: <p>Dhivehi (official, closely related to Sinhala, script derived from Arabic), English (spoken by most government officials)</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Sunni Muslim (official)</p>

Calling Code: 960

Voltage: 230

Key Websites

Main Government Page: presidency.gov.mv

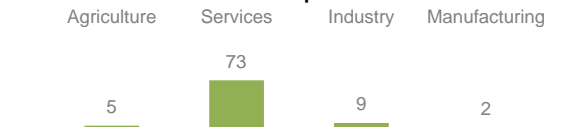
Commerce Ministry: trade.gov.mv

Investment Promotion Agency: investmaldives.gov.mv

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Upper Middle Income
Level of Development:	Data Unavailable
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$12.98 billion (2022)
GDP growth (annual %):	12.30% (2022)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$24,771.72 (2022)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$3,846,840,165.20 (2021)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	1.94% (2021)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$1.03 billion (2022)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	2.33% (2022)
Labor force, total:	260,527 (2022)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	4.88% (2022)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$3.66 billion (2021)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$4.07 billion (2021)

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	84 / 178
Index of Economic Freedom	160 / 176
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	86 / 160
KOF Index of Globalization	155 / 185

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: D - A high-risk political and economic situation and an often very difficult business environment can have a very significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is very high.

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

- Good relations with the two regional powers, China and India
- Development of tourism potential on uninhabited islands
- Improved transport infrastructure
- Enhanced relations with the West, reliable support from multilateral institutions
- Strategic location in the Indian Ocean

Weaknesses

- Overly dependent on tourism
- Geographical isolation and archipelago (over 180 islands)
- Precarious public finances
- Political volatility
- Very high exposure to climate risk (rising sea levels)
- Weak human capital limits diversification potential
- Widespread corruption

U.S. Embassy

U.S. Mission in Maldives
210 Galle Road
Colombo 03
Sri Lanka
Phone: +94 (11) 249-8500

<https://mv.usmission.gov>