

Introduction

Mauritius is an island nation off the southeast coast of the African continent in the southwest Indian Ocean. It is located east of Madagascar. The main island is of volcanic origin and is almost entirely surrounded by a coral reef that poses maritime hazards. The government is a parliamentary democracy; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. Although state monopolies exist, Mauritius has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Mauritius is a member of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Location: Eastern Africa

Capital City: Port Louis (+4 GMT)

Chief of State: President Prithvirajsing Roopun

Head of Govt.: Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth

Currency: Mauritian rupee (MUR)

Major Languages: <p>Creole 86.5%, Bhojpur 5.3%, French 4.1%, two languages 1.4%, other 2.6% (includes English, the official language of the National Assembly, which is spoken by less than 1% of the population), unspecified 0.1%</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Hindu 48.5%, Roman Catholic 26.3%, Muslim 17.3%, other Christian 6.4%, other 0.6%, none 0.7%, unspecified 0.1%</p>

Calling Code: 230

Voltage: 230

Key Websites

Main Government Page: govmu.org

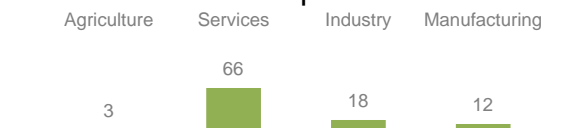
Commerce Ministry: commerce.govmu.org

Investment Promotion Agency: edbmauritius.org

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Upper Middle Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$33.97 billion (2022)
GDP growth (annual %):	8.69% (2022)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$26,905.92 (2022)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$13,916,293,964.60 (2021)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	12.09% (2022)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$1.58 billion (2022)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	10.77% (2022)
Labor force, total:	618,531 (2022)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	7.23% (2022)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$8.14 billion (2022)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$7.24 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	48 / 178
Global Competitiveness Index	52 / 141
Global Enabling Trade Index	39 / 136
Global Services Location Index	27 / 60
Index of Economic Freedom	25 / 176
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	78 / 160
KOF Index of Globalization	56 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	49 / 139

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: C - The business environment is difficult. Corporate financial information is often unavailable and when available often unreliable. Debt collection is unpredictable. The institutional framework has many troublesome weaknesses. Intercompany transactions run major risks in the difficult environments rated C.

Strengths

- Stable democratic institutions and excellent business climate
- Strategic location between Africa and Asia, on the Suez Canal bypass route
- Thriving offshore financial sector
- Free trade agreements with China and India
- Bilingualism (English and French)
- Efforts to modernise infrastructure (water, electricity, roads, ports)
- Flat tax rate (15%)

Weaknesses

- Commercial, economic and political dependence on Europe and Asia, especially China and India
- Extreme dependence on food and energy imports
- Insularity and small domestic market
- Lack of skilled workers and declining export competitiveness
- High youth unemployment (18.9% in early 2024 for the 16-24 age group)
- High vulnerability to climate change due to increasing number of hurricanes

U.S. Embassy

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<https://mu.usembassy.gov>