

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: 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%

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

Calling Code: 230

Voltage: 230

Key Websites

Main Government Page: govmu.org

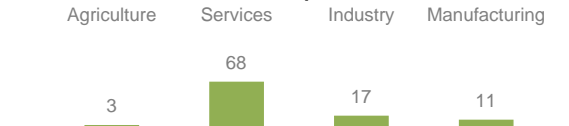
Commerce Ministry: commerce.govmu.org

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 \$):	\$30.23 billion (2019)
GDP growth (annual %):	3.01% (2019)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$23,882.35 (2019)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$11,207,476,258.70 (2018)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	10.95% (2019)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$0.76 billion (2019)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	0.41% (2019)
Labor force, total:	613,293 (2020)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	6.69% (2020)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$7.54 billion (2019)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$5.41 billion (2019)

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	56 / 180
Global Competitiveness Index	52 / 141
Global Enabling Trade Index	39 / 136
Global Services Location Index	34 / 55
Index of Economic Freedom	25 / 179
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: B - Political and economic uncertainties and an occasionally difficult business environment can affect corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is appreciable.

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

- Strong tourism sector (outside pandemic period)
- Bilingualism (English and French)
- Robust banking system
- Democratic institutions and effective governance

Weaknesses

- Commercially and economically dependent on Europe and Asia (tourism, construction)
- Island location and small domestic market
- Poor infrastructure, especially on Rodrigues Island
- Lack of skilled workers
- Blacklisted (October 2020) by the European Union due to shortcomings in the fight against money laundering

U.S. Embassy

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<https://mu.usembassy.gov>