

## Introduction

Moldova is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe, located between Romania and Ukraine. The government system is a republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. Moldova has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Moldova is a member of the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA).



**Location:** Eastern Europe

**Capital City:** Chisinau (Kishinev) (+2 GMT)

**Chief of State:** President Igor Dodon

**Head of Govt.:** Prime Minister Pavel Filip

**Currency:** Moldovan leu (MDL)

**Major Languages:** <p>Moldovan/Romanian 80.2% (official) (56.7% identify their mother tongue as Moldovan, which is virtually the same as Romanian; 23.5% identify Romanian as their mother tongue), Russian 9.7%, Gagauz 4.2% (a Turkish language), Ukrainian 3.9%, Bulgarian 1.5%, Romani 0.3%, other 0.2% (2014 est.)</p>

**Primary Religions:** <p>Orthodox 90.1%, other Christian 2.6%, other 0.1%, agnostic &lt;i>1%</i>, atheist 0.2%, unspecified 6.9% (2014 est.)</p>

**Calling Code:** 373

**Voltage:** 220-240

## Key Websites

Main Government Page: [moldova.md](http://moldova.md)

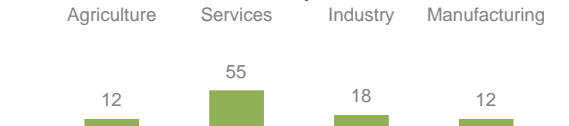
Export Promotion Agency: [miepo.md](http://miepo.md)

Investment Promotion Agency: [miepo.md](http://miepo.md)

## Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Lower Middle Income
Level of Development:	In Transition
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$20.23 billion (2017)
GDP growth (annual %):	4.50% (2017)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$5,697.83 (2017)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$6,973,701,209.90 (2017)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	11.51% (2017)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$0.62 billion (2017)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	6.57% (2017)
Labor force, total:	1,269,659 (2017)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	4.45% (2017)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$5.74 billion (2017)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$3.46 billion (2017)

## 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	122 / 178
Global Competitiveness Index	88 / 139
Global Enabling Trade Index	79 / 136
Index of Economic Freedom	97 / 179
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	116 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	78 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	74 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	71 / 139
Open Budget Index	32 / 115

## Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

**Country rating: C** - A very uncertain political and economic outlook and a business environment with many troublesome weaknesses can have a significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is high.

**Business Climate rating: B** - The business environment is mediocre. The availability and the reliability of corporate financial information vary widely. Debt collection can sometimes be difficult. The institutional framework has a few troublesome weaknesses. Intercompany transactions run appreciable risks in the unstable, largely inefficient environments rated B.

### Strengths

- Agricultural potential (wine, fruit, vegetables, sunflowers, wheat)
- Association and free trade agreements with the EU
- Small open economy is attracting foreign investment
- Relatively inexpensive labor force
- Managed float currency regime

### Weaknesses

- Poorest country in Europe
- Large informal sector, low productivity
- Corruption, weak governance, oligarchy and clientelism
- Underdeveloped credit
- Dependent on remittances from expatriate workers
- Separatist tendencies in Transnistria

## U.S. Embassy

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