

Introduction

Oman is a country in Southwest Asia on the coast of the Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman, and the Persian Gulf. Neighboring countries include Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. Oman has a strategic location on the Arabian Peninsula adjacent to the Strait of Hormuz, a vital transit point for crude oil. The geography of Oman is mountainous and arid. The government system is a monarchy; the chief of state and head of government is the sultan and prime minister. Oman is a member of the League of Arab States (Arab League) and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).



Location: Western Asia

Capital City: Muscat (+4 GMT)

Chief of State: Sultan and Prime Minister Haitham Bin Tark Al Said

Head of Govt.: Sultan and Prime Minister Haitham Bin Tark Al Said

Currency: Omani rial (OMR)

Major Languages: <p>Arabic (official), English, Baluchi, Swahili, Urdu, Indian dialects</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Muslim (official; majority are Ibadhi, lesser numbers of Sunni and Shia) 85.9%, Christian 6.5%, Hindu 5.5%, Buddhist 0.8%, Jewish <.1, other 1%, unaffiliated 0.2%</p>

Calling Code: 968

Voltage: 240

Key Websites

Main Government Page: oman.om

Commerce Ministry: tejarah.gov.om

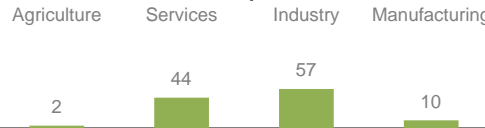
Export Promotion Agency: oman.om

Investment Promotion Agency: oman.om

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	High Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$190.94 billion (2022)
GDP growth (annual %):	4.31% (2022)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$41,724.34 (2022)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	10.50% (2022)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$4.29 billion (2021)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	2.81% (2022)
Labor force, total:	2,243,287 (2022)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	2.33% (2022)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$36.50 billion (2021)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$46.32 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	55 / 178
Global Competitiveness Index	53 / 141
Global Enabling Trade Index	46 / 136
Index of Economic Freedom	95 / 176
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	43 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	51 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	69 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	52 / 139

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: 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

- Budget consolidation in progress
- Strong tourism potential
- Balanced relations with regional neighbors and global powers (the U.S., China, the UK), independence of foreign policy
- Small oil producer, but gas production offers a good potential
- Strategic location with focus on becoming a logistic hub

Weaknesses

- Dependence on oil & gas and services sectors , vulnerability to global energy prices
- High level of debt, large external financial needs due to low financial buffers
- Lack of capacity in the economy to create enough jobs and absorb unemployment

U.S. Embassy

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