

## Introduction

Tunisia is a country in Northern Africa bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Neighboring countries include Algeria and Libya. The geography of Tunisia is varied and consists of mountains in the north and a semiarid south that merges into the Sahara. The government system is a republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. Tunisia has a mixed economic system in which there is a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Tunisia is a member of the League of Arab States (Arab League).



**Location:** Northern Africa

**Capital City:** Tunis (+1 GMT)

**Chief of State:** President Kais Saied

**Head of Govt.:** Prime Minister Najla Bouden Ramadhane

**Currency:** Tunisian Dinar (TND)

**Major Languages:** Arabic (official, one of the languages of commerce), French (commerce), Berber (Tamazight)

**Note:** Despite having no official status, French plays a major role in the country and is spoken by about two thirds of the population

**Primary Religions:** Muslim (official; Sunni) 99%, other (includes Christian, Jewish, Shia Muslim, and Baha'i)

**Calling Code:** 216

**Voltage:** 230

## Key Websites

Main Government Page: [tunisie.gov.tn](http://tunisie.gov.tn)

Commerce Ministry: [commerce.gov.tn](http://commerce.gov.tn)

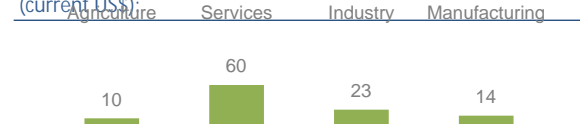
Export Promotion Agency: [cepex.nat.tn](http://cepex.nat.tn)

Investment Promotion Agency: [investintunisia.tn](http://investintunisia.tn)

## Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Upper Middle Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$138.36 billion (2021)
GDP growth (annual %):	4.32% (2021)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$11,282.48 (2021)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$41,607,768,860.30 (2021)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	14.42% (2021)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$2.78 billion (2021)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	5.71% (2021)
Labor force, total:	4,226,277 (2021)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	16.82% (2021)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$24.38 billion (2021)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$11.67 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	69 / 178
Global Competitiveness Index	87 / 141
Global Enabling Trade Index	91 / 136
Index of Economic Freedom	123 / 179
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	105 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	66 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	81 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	81 / 139
Open Budget Index	81 / 117

## 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

- Fully democratic system with freedom of expression
- Increasing integration of women in political and economic
- Governance positions
- Support from international, multilateral, European and Arab donors
- Economy in the process of diversification
- Proximity to the European market and association agreement with the EU
- Tourism potential
- Natural resources (phosphates and hydrocarbons in particular)

### Weaknesses

- High social and geographical inequalities, high unemployment, especially among young people, leading to increased social unrest and demonstrations.
- Structural imbalance in the public accounts (public enterprises in deficit, wages = 60% of primary expenditure, high weight of subsidies) and yet deficient public services
- Economy strongly impacted by the COVID-19 crisis
- Fragmentation of political representation reflecting that of society and learning about democracy
- Tourism confronted with security problems, increased foreign competition, lack of investment, and little diversified in both range and themes.
- Porous border with Libya, source of insecurity

## U.S. Embassy

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