

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 semi-arid 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 Ahmed Hachani

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) 1%

Calling Code: 216

Voltage: 230

Key Websites

Main Government Page: pm.gov.tn

Commerce Ministry: commerce.gov.tn

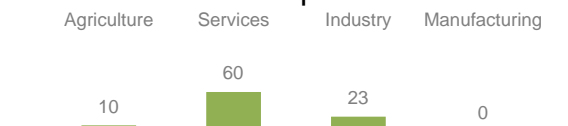
Export Promotion Agency: cepex.nat.tn

Investment Promotion Agency: investintunisia.tn

Key Economic Facts

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| Income Level (by per capita GNI): | Upper Middle Income |
| Level of Development: | Developing |
| GDP, PPP (current international \$): | \$154.32 billion (2022) |
| GDP growth (annual %): | 2.52% (2022) |
| GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$): | \$12,489.72 (2022) |
| 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 %): | 8.31% (2022) |
| Labor force, total: | 4,247,339 (2022) |
| Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate): | 16.12% (2022) |
| Imports of goods and services (current US\$): | \$27.63 billion (2022) |
| Exports of goods and services (current US\$): | \$22.49 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 | 69 / 178 |
| Global Competitiveness Index | 87 / 141 |
| Global Enabling Trade Index | 91 / 136 |
| Index of Economic Freedom | 131 / 176 |
| 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 | 66 / 114 |

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

- Relatively well diversified economy: manufacturing, petrochemicals, transport, agriculture, tourism
- Proximity to the European market
- Natural resources (olives, phosphates and hydrocarbons), but dependent on weather conditions and subject to strikes
- Tourism potential
- Competitiveness of automotive, aeronautical and medical equipment produced in free trade zones

Weaknesses

- Society under stress: youth unemployment (~39%), regional gap between seashore and interior, brain drain and illegal emigration, strikes and demonstrations
- Concentration of power in the Presidency, weak popular support for the new institutions resulting from the Constitution introduced in 2022
- Public sector resistant to reform and a wage bill that weighs heavily on the state budget
- Tourism sector weakened by successive shocks and dependent on the European economy
- Decline in competitive advantages (textiles, tourism)
- Energy dependence
- Prevalent informal economy that is harmful to public finances

U.S. Embassy

U.S. Embassy Tunis
Les Berges du Lac
1053 TUNIS

Tunisia
Phone: +216 71 107 000
<https://tn.usembassy.gov>