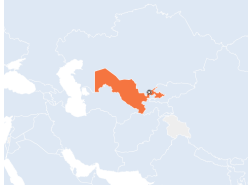


Introduction

Uzbekistan is a doubly landlocked country located in Central Asia that borders the countries of Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. Uzbekistan has a varied landscape that includes a rolling sandy desert, mountains along the border with Tajikistan, and the Aral Sea in the west. The government system is a republic under authoritarian presidential rule, with little power outside the executive branch; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. Uzbekistan has a mixed economy in which there is limited private freedom, but the economy remains highly controlled by the government.



Location: Central Asia

Capital City: Tashkent (+5 GMT)

Chief of State: Interim President Shavkat Mirziyoyev

Head of Govt.: Prime Minister Abdulla Aripov

Currency: Uzbekistan Som (UZS)

Major Languages: <p>Uzbek (official) 74.3%, Russian 14.2%, Tajik 4.4%, other 7.1%</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Muslim 88% (mostly Sunni), Eastern Orthodox 9%, other 3%</p>

Calling Code: 998

Voltage: 220

Key Websites

Main Government Page: gov.uz

Commerce Ministry: mineconomy.uz

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Lower Middle Income
Level of Development:	In Transition
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$227.36 billion (2018)
GDP growth (annual %):	5.12% (2018)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$6,898.90 (2018)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$17,629,836,366.50 (2018)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	16.34% (2018)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$3.59 billion (2018)
Labor force, total:	15,453,701 (2019)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	5.92% (2019)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$19.56 billion (2018)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$14.70 billion (2018)

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	158 / 180
Index of Economic Freedom	139 / 179
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	99 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	95 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	164 / 185

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: 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

- Plentiful and diversified natural resources (gas, gold, cotton, copper, fruits, and vegetables, plus hydroelectric potential)
- Low public and external debt, comfortable official and private foreign exchange reserves
- Ambitious economic reform and public investment program
- Population of 34 million inhabitants, half of whom are under 30 years of age
- Strategically positioned on the New Silk Road between China and Europe

Weaknesses

- Limited manufacturing activity
- Dependent on commodity prices, rainfall and expatriate remittances
- High unemployment, lack of jobs/high labor force growth, low standard of living and widespread informal sector (41% of jobs in 2018)
- Low competitiveness due to lack of competition
- Low productivity at many state-owned companies
- State interventionism (credit, prices, administrative and customs harassment)
- Slow institutional progress: weak parliament and lack of real opposition

U.S. Embassy

U.S. Embassy Tashkent
 3 Moyqorqon Street
 5th Block, Yunusobod District, 100093 Tashkent
 Phone: (+99871) 120-5450

<https://uz.usembassy.gov>