



Overall performance

Benin has seen healthy progress over the past 20 years. With average long-term growth rates above 4% and relatively low government debt to GDP at 30%, it is not surprising that their current infrastructure investment is high at 6% of GDP. Benin is a strong performer in permits and financial market drivers, underpinned by low costs and short set up times to start businesses. To increase efficiency, Benin should seek to lower the time to register property and increase the transparency in the procurement process.

Drivers	Rank (/16)	Rank change (2017-20)	Score (/100)	Emerging	Aspiring	Contender	Top performer	Global leader
Governance	53	—	48	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Grey	Grey
Regulatory frameworks	65	—	48	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey
Permits	59	↓ 4	56	Blue	Blue	Blue	Grey	Grey
Planning	24	↓ 2	90	Dark Blue	Dark Blue	Dark Blue	Dark Blue	Dark Blue
Procurement	70	↓ 9	51	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green	Grey	Grey
Activity	23	↓ 3	44	Teal	Teal	Teal	Grey	Grey
Funding capacity	63	—	22	Orange	Orange	Grey	Grey	Grey
Financial markets	67	↓ 7	22	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey

Benin at a glance



\$1,217
GDP per capita
(USD, 2019)



11.8 million
Population
(2019)



6.3% of GDP
Infrastructure investment
(2019 estimate)



3.9% of GDP
Infrastructure gap
(2019 estimate)



40.2
Infrastructure quality
(0-100, 100 is best, 2019)



—
Private infrastructure investment
(5-year average, USD, 2019)

Top performing metrics



93.1/100

Cost to start a business

According to the World Bank, the cost of starting a business in Benin is equal to 3.5% of income per capita, the second lowest of Low Income Countries, easing the entry of new firms.



81.2/100

Time required to start a business

According to the World Bank, the time required to start a business in Benin is 8.5 days, below the Low Income Countries' average of 18 days. Shorter times to set up businesses can persuade businesses to set up in a country, including new infrastructure entities.



77/100

Financial stability

According to the World Bank, the stability of Benin's financial sector remains strong, however the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic may negatively affect this figure. The stability of the financial system facilitates the smooth flow of funds between parties, improving the supply of capital for projects.

Opportunities to grow



0/100

Transparency in public procurement

Benin does not make public procurement notices available online that detail both procurement procedures and shortlisting criteria. A more transparent process could encourage more participation and competition, which drive value for money.



0/100

Registering property

It takes 120 days to register a property in Benin, the longest duration of the Low Income Countries. As infrastructure projects often involve property rights, the longer the time to register properties, the more costly and risky the project.



1.6/100

GDP per capita

Despite more than doubling over the past 20 years, Benin's GDP per capita is still relatively low at USD 1,217. Yet, this still represents the highest value of the Low Income Countries, and Benin can expect to graduate to Lower Middle Income in the foreseeable future.

For guidance on how to improve these metrics, please see the [Benin Country Page](#) on the InfraCompass website.



ECONOMY OVERVIEW

GDP (\$US billion, 2019)	14.4	Population (million, 2019)	11.8	Unemployment rate (2019)	2.0%
GDP per capita (\$US, 2019)	1,217	Urbanisation ratio (2018)	47.0%	Inflation rate (2019)	-0.3%
GDP growth rate (annual, 2019)	6.6%	Gross Government Debt (% of GDP, 2019)	41.0%	Digital Adoption Index (0-1 best, 2016)	0.22
GDP per capita growth rate (annual, 2019)	-2%	Sovereign risk rating (2019)	32	Gini coefficient (0-100 worst, 2015)	47.8

METRIC SCORES

The below metrics are normalised so that they all range from 0 to 100. For original metrics and data sources, please see <https://infracompass.github.org/>

GOVERNANCE		REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS		PERMITS	
Post-completion reviews?	Yes -	Effect of taxation on incentives to invest	25.9 ↑	Cost to start a business	93.1 ↑
Infrastructure or PPP unit/agency?	Yes -	Prevalence of foreign ownership	46.2 ↓	Dealing with construction permits	72.1 -
Recovery rate	23.9 ↑	Product market regulation, network sectors	35.2 [^] -	Quality of land administration	30 ↑
Rule of law	36.5 ↓	Regulatory (including competition) quality	43.2 ↑	Registering property	0 -
Shareholder governance	26.7 -	Strength of insolvency framework	56.2 -	Time required to start a business	81.2 -
Political stability and absence of violence	47.8 ↓	Investment promotion agency?	Yes -		

PLANNING		PROCUREMENT		ACTIVITY	
Published project pipeline?	Yes -	Average procurement duration – transaction RFP	63.6 [^] ↑	Infrastructure investment	70.6 ↑
Published infrastructure plan?	Yes -	Degree of transparency in public procurement	0 ↓	Private infrastructure investment	34.7 [^] ↓
Preparation of PPPs	36 -	Published procurement guidelines?	Yes -	Value of closed PPP infrastructure deals	42.5 [^] ↓
Economic analysis assessment?	Yes -	Procurement of PPPs	53 -	Value of closed infrastructure deals with foreign equity sponsorship	28.9 ↓
Market sounding and/or assessment?	Yes -	PPP contract management	45 -		
Environmental impact analysis?	Yes -				

FUNDING CAPACITY		FINANCIAL MARKETS	
GDP per capita	1.6 ↑	Domestic credit to private sector	11.1 ↓
Gross government debt	67.9 ↓	Financing through local equity market	37.3 ↓
Long term GDP growth trend	41 ↑	Stocks traded	15 [^] ↓
Summary credit rating	32 ↑	Financial depth	17.2 ↓
		Financial stability	77 ↓

Drawing on data from: International Monetary Fund, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, World Bank, World Economic Forum, IJ Global, CEPII, Oxford Economics, Trading Economics, and Deloitte.

Metric key:

↑ Increase from InfraCompass 2017 ↓ Decrease from InfraCompass 2017 - No change from InfraCompass 2017

Note:

'Top performing metrics' are the metrics with the highest score out of 100.

'Opportunities to grow' are the metrics with the lowest weighted score out of 100. These metrics would have the greatest impact on the overall score.

[^]Denotes interpolated metric data. See Technical Appendix for further explanation on the interpolation techniques.