



Overall performance

Samoa has achieved high levels of foreign investment in infrastructure projects and this is supported by a stable financial market. To capitalise on these strengths, the introduction of a published project pipeline could help focus investment and deliver better quality outcomes. Low GDP growth, the current lack of legal protections for shareholders and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic may also inhibit Samoa's ability to deliver future infrastructure projects and close the infrastructure gap.

Drivers	Score(/100)	Score change (2017-20)	Emerging	Aspiring	Contender	Top performer	Global leader
Governance	51	-	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Regulatory frameworks	53	-	Green	Green	Green	Light Blue	Light Blue
Permits	73	-	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Light Blue
Planning	60	-	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Procurement	74	↑ 2	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green	Light Blue
Activity	63	↑ 7	Teal	Teal	Teal	Teal	Light Blue
Funding capacity	30	-	Orange	Orange	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Financial markets	42	-	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Light Blue	Light Blue

Samoa at a glance



\$4,501
GDP per capita
(USD, 2019)



0.2 million
Population
(2019)



—
Infrastructure investment
(2019 estimate)



—
Infrastructure gap
(2019 estimate)



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



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

Top performing metrics



100/100

Value of closed infrastructure deals with foreign equity sponsorship

Samoa has the highest value of closed infrastructure deals with foreign equity sponsorship out of all the InfraCompass 2020 countries at 6.9%. A high value may reflect favourable trade conditions and lower barriers to foreign investment. However, the COVID-19 pandemic may impact international capital flows.



88.6/100

Financial stability

Samoa's financial stability is satisfactory and equal to the Upper Middle Income Countries average. A stable financial system facilitates the smooth flow of funds between infrastructure assets and investors. The long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic is a concern.



86.6/100

Registering property

In Samoa it takes 15 days to register a property, which is less than the Upper Middle Income Countries' average of 21.7 days. As infrastructure projects often involve some transfer of property rights, an efficient registration process reduces project cost and risk.

Opportunities to grow



No

Published project pipeline

Samoa does not currently publish an infrastructure pipeline of projects. The addition of an infrastructure pipeline could help provide infrastructure participants with a clear indication of prospective and confirmed infrastructure activity.



0/100

Shareholder governance

Samoa is not considered to have strong legal protections for shareholders. A failure to adequately enforce disclosure and transparency standards lowers the confidence of investors, hurting entities that fund or deliver infrastructure.



9.1/100

Long term GDP growth trend

Samoa has the lowest long-term GDP growth trend at 0.96% among the Upper Middle Income Countries which average 3.1%. Combined with the uncertain impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, this low growth trend may hamper Samoa's ability to borrow and build more infrastructure.

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



ECONOMY OVERVIEW

GDP (\$US billion, 2019)	0.9	Population (million, 2019)	0.2	Unemployment rate (2019)	8.5%
GDP per capita (\$US, 2019)	4,501	Urbanisation ratio (2018)	18.0%	Inflation rate (2019)	2.9%
GDP growth rate (annual, 2019)	3.4%	Gross Government Debt (% of GDP, 2019)	49.0%	Digital Adoption Index (0-1 best, 2016)	0.36
GDP per capita growth rate (annual, 2019)	4.1%	Sovereign risk rating (2019)	NA	Gini coefficient (0-100 worst, 2013)	38.7

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	41.1 [^] ↓	Cost to start a business	86.1 ↑
Infrastructure or PPP unit/agency?	Yes -	Prevalence of foreign ownership	56.7 [^] ↓	Dealing with construction permits	81.9 -
Recovery rate	18.5 ↑	Product market regulation, network sectors	46.9 [^] -	Quality of land administration	41.7 -
Rule of law	66.5 ↑	Regulatory (including competition) quality	47.7 ↓	Registering property	86.6 -
Shareholder governance	0 -	Strength of insolvency framework	46.9 -	Time required to start a business	80.1 -
Political stability and absence of violence	69.8 ↓	Investment promotion agency?	Yes -		
PLANNING		PROCUREMENT		ACTIVITY	
Published project pipeline?	No -	Average procurement duration – transaction RFP	42.2 [^] ↓	Infrastructure investment	48.4 [^] ↑
Published infrastructure plan?	Yes -	Degree of transparency in public procurement	56.9 [^] ↑	Private infrastructure investment	38.6 [^] ↓
Preparation of PPPs	55 [^] ↓	Published procurement guidelines?	Yes -	Value of closed PPP infrastructure deals	64.1 [^] ↑
Economic analysis assessment?	Yes -	Procurement of PPPs	64.3 [^] -	Value of closed infrastructure deals with foreign equity sponsorship	100 -
Market sounding and/or assessment?	Yes -	PPP contract management	64.6 [^] -		
Environmental impact analysis?	Yes -				
FUNDING CAPACITY		FINANCIAL MARKETS		Drawing on data from: International Monetary Fund, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, World Bank, World Economic Forum, IJ Global, CEPPII, Oxford Economics, Trading Economics, and Deloitte.	
GDP per capita	5.7 ↑	Domestic credit to private sector	42 ↑		
Gross government debt	61.4 ↑	Financing through local equity market	44.7 [^] ↑		
Long term GDP growth trend	9.1 ↑	Stocks traded	28.5 [^] ↓		
Summary credit rating	50.3 [^] ↓	Financial depth	42.7 [^] ↑		
		Financial stability	88.6 [^] ↑		

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.