



Overall performance

Belgium's regulatory framework and permits support the creation of businesses and provides tax incentives for investors. Combined with strong financial and legal systems, this environment encourages new infrastructure investment and promotes competition between suppliers. To increase the efficiency of infrastructure investment, Belgium could look to develop a national infrastructure plan and establish a pipeline of projects.

Drivers	Rank (1/16)	Rank change (2017-20)	Score (1/100)	Emerging	Aspiring	Contender	Top performer	Global leader
Governance	29	—	60	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Regulatory frameworks	17	—	72	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Permits	33	↓ 5	75	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Planning	66	↓ 1	36	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Procurement	17	↓ 13	89	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green	Light Green
Activity	48	↓ 2	28	Teal	Teal	Grey	Grey	Grey
Funding capacity	17	↓ 1	68	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Financial markets	22	—	49	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Grey

Belgium at a glance



\$45,176
GDP per capita
(USD, 2019)



11.5 million
Population
(2019)



—
Infrastructure investment
(2019 estimate)



—
Infrastructure gap
(2019 estimate)



87.3
Infrastructure quality
(0-100, 100 is best, 2019)



\$1,327 million
Private infrastructure investment
(5-year average, USD, 2019)

Top performing metrics



100/100

Transparency in public procurement

Belgium's public procurement notices are made available online and tender documents detail both procurement procedures and shortlisting criteria. Transparent processes encourage more participants and competition, which drives value for money and improves infrastructure quality.



89.4/100

Recovery rate

World Bank data estimates the recovery rate for investors in Belgium to be 89.4 cents on the dollar, well above the 70.2 cent average in High Income Countries. The recovery rate reflects the strength of creditor protections.



89.4/100

Cost to start a business

According to the World Bank, the cost of starting a business in Belgium is equal to 5.3% of income per capita. This is slightly above the 4.7% average for High Income Countries. Lowering costs to start a business could ease the entry of new firms.

Opportunities to grow

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



0/100

Published infrastructure plan

Belgium does not have a national or sub-national infrastructure plan. The addition of an infrastructure plan could highlight infrastructure challenges and opportunities for investment, as well as detail the government's planned responses.



No

Published project pipeline

Belgium does not currently have 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.



No

Post-completion reviews

Belgium does not undertake post-completion reviews for infrastructure projects. The implementation of post-completion reviews could help determine whether projects have achieved their objectives efficiently and identify areas for improvement.



ECONOMY OVERVIEW

GDP (\$US billion, 2019)	517.6	Population (million, 2019)	11.5	Unemployment rate (2019)	6.4%
GDP per capita (\$US, 2019)	45,176	Urbanisation ratio (2018)	98.0%	Inflation rate (2019)	1.5%
GDP growth rate (annual, 2019)	1.2%	Gross Government Debt (% of GDP, 2019)	101.0%	Digital Adoption Index (0-1 best, 2016)	0.78
GDP per capita growth rate (annual, 2019)	-3.3%	Sovereign risk rating (2019)	88	Gini coefficient (0-100 worst, 2015)	27.7

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?	No -	Effect of taxation on incentives to invest	36.9 ↑	Cost to start a business	89.4 ↓
Infrastructure or PPP unit/agency?	Yes -	Prevalence of foreign ownership	80.4 ↑	Dealing with construction permits	32.8 -
Recovery rate	89.4 ↓	Product market regulation, network sectors	63.6 -	Quality of land administration	73.3 ↓
Rule of law	77.4 ↓	Regulatory (including competition) quality	74.7 ↓	Registering property	56.2 ↑
Shareholder governance	43.3 -	Strength of insolvency framework	71.9 -	Time required to start a business	89 ↓
Political stability and absence of violence	56.9 ↓	Investment promotion agency?	Yes -		

PLANNING		PROCUREMENT		ACTIVITY	
Published project pipeline?	No -	Average procurement duration – transaction RFP	0 ↓	Infrastructure investment	40 [^] ↑
Published infrastructure plan?	No -	Degree of transparency in public procurement	100 -	Private infrastructure investment	24.6 ↑
Preparation of PPPs	39 ↑	Published procurement guidelines?	Yes -	Value of closed PPP infrastructure deals	15.8 ↓
Economic analysis assessment?	Yes -	Procurement of PPPs	79 -	Value of closed infrastructure deals with foreign equity sponsorship	32.3 ↓
Market sounding and/or assessment?	Yes -	PPP contract management	50 -		
Environmental impact analysis?	Yes -				

FUNDING CAPACITY		FINANCIAL MARKETS	
GDP per capita	57.6 ↑	Domestic credit to private sector	32.8 ↑
Gross government debt	20.9 ↑	Financing through local equity market	67.3 ↑
Long term GDP growth trend	9.8 ↓	Stocks traded	18.7 [^] ↑
Summary credit rating	88 -	Financial depth	70.2 ↓
		Financial stability	88.6 ↓

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 generally the metrics with the lowest weighted score out of 100.

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