



IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2020, Talent & Digital 2019: summaries

COUNTRY PROFILE

SOUTH AFRICA



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OVERALL PERFORMANCE (63 countries)



CHALLENGES IN 2020

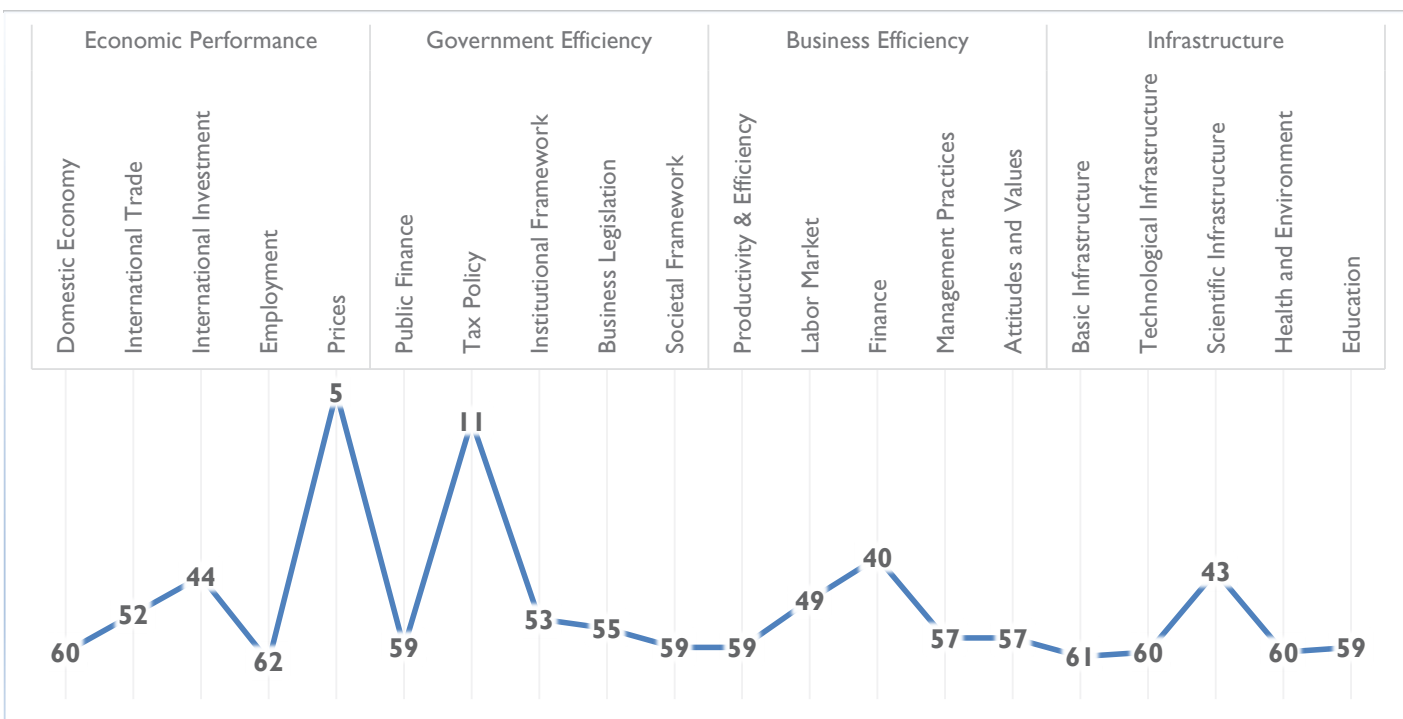
- Deteriorating headline and youth unemployment.
- Rising public debt levels amid a shrinking fiscal space.
- Lack of decisive plans to revive the struggling economy.
- Ongoing electricity supply problems and rolling blackouts.
- Sluggish legal process to address corruption in state owned enterprises.

Provided by:
Productivity SA

BASIC FACTS

		Rank
Capital	Pretoria	
Land area (square km '000)	1,219 ²⁰¹⁹	
Exchange Rate (per \$)	14.448 ²⁰¹⁹	
Population - market size (millions)	58.78 ²⁰¹⁹	16
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (US\$ billions)	351.4 ²⁰¹⁹	36
GDP (PPP) per capita (US\$)	13,691 ²⁰¹⁹	58
Real GDP growth (%)	0.2 ²⁰¹⁹	58
Consumer price inflation (%)	4.13 ²⁰¹⁹	55
Unemployment rate (%)	29.10 ²⁰¹⁹	63
Labor force (millions)	23.15 ²⁰¹⁹	18
Current account balance (% of GDP)	-3.20 ²⁰¹⁹	56
Direct investment stocks inward (\$bn)	128.8 ²⁰¹⁸	39
Direct investment flows inward (% of GDP)	1.32 ²⁰¹⁹	48

COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE



PEER GROUPS RANKINGS

EUROPE - MIDDLE EAST - AFRICA (40 countries)



POPULATIONS > 20 MILLION (29 countries)



SOUTH AFRICA

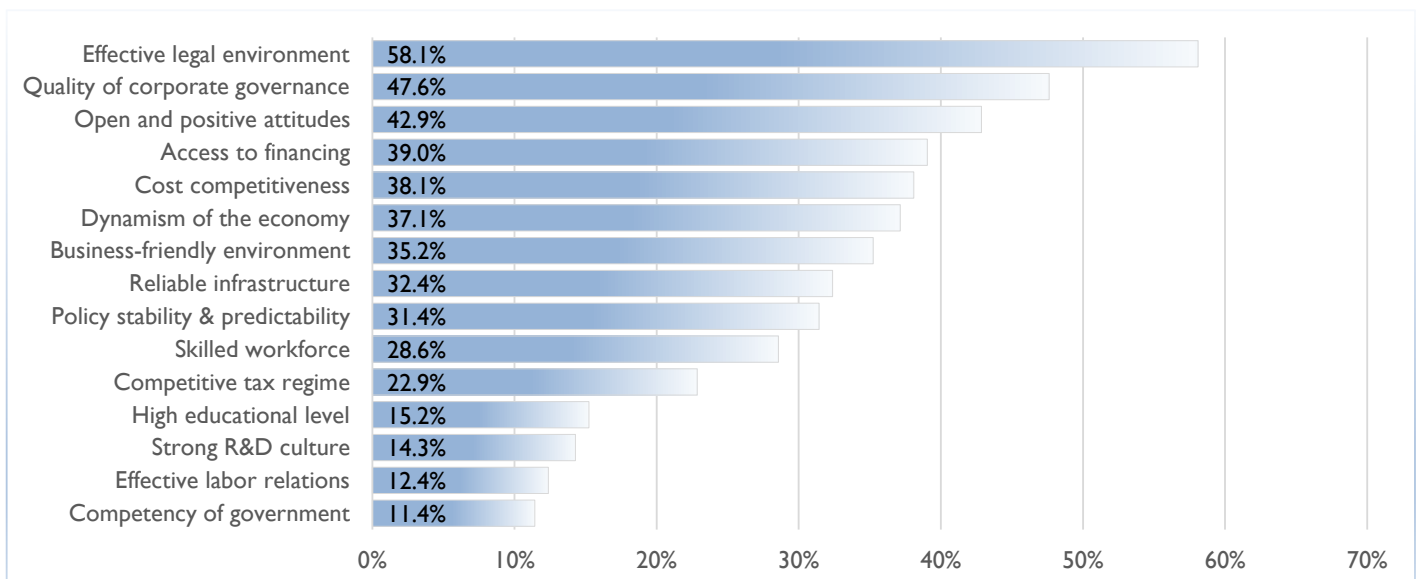
COMPETITIVENESS EVOLUTION

The criteria below highlight the 15 biggest Improvements and the 15 biggest Declines in the overall performance of the economy. They are determined by the largest percentage changes in the value of each criterion from one yearbook to the next.

IMPROVEMENTS	WCY	WCY	DECLINES	WCY	WCY
	2019	2020		2019	2020
1.1.18 Gross fixed capital formation - real growth	-1.44	-0.93	1.4.04 Employment - long-term growth	0.93	-4.14
4.4.12 Energy intensity	236	194	1.1.14 Real GDP growth	0.8	0.2
4.5.01 Total public expenditure on education	7.0	8.3	3.2.14 Labor force long-term growth	4.83	2.04
3.2.06 Working hours	1,889	2,197	4.4.23 Environment-related technologies	0.19	0.09
2.3.13 Bribery and corruption	1.00	1.15	2.1.02 Government budget surplus/deficit (%)	-4.44	-6.26
4.3.18 Number of patents in force	23.0	26.4	1.1.15 Real GDP growth per capita	-1.31	-1.64
2.5.10 Equal opportunity	4.20	4.81	3.3.17 Venture capital	4.42	3.34
4.2.16 High-tech exports (%)	4.64	5.32	2.1.10 Tax evasion	3.77	2.90
1.4.09 Youth unemployment	67.90	58.10	3.2.10 Employee training	6.16	4.90
1.5.01 Consumer price inflation	4.62	4.13	3.3.16 Credit	5.26	4.20
3.1.01 Overall productivity (PPP)	42,743	47,053	4.1.15 Energy infrastructure	2.81	2.26
3.2.18 Skilled labor	3.77	4.11	3.4.09 Entrepreneurship	5.23	4.21
3.3.10 Stock market capitalization (%)	268.83	291.18	2.3.10 Adaptability of government policy	3.29	2.74
2.1.09 Public finances	2.35	2.55	3.4.05 Corporate boards	6.13	5.11
2.2.12 Real personal taxes	4.90	5.29	3.5.05 Need for economic and social reforms	5.63	4.71

KEY ATTRACTIVENESS INDICATORS

From a list of 15 indicators, respondents of the Executive Opinion Survey were asked to select 5 that they perceived as the key attractiveness factors of their economy. The chart shows the percentage of responses per indicator from the highest number of responses to the lowest.



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