

IOA | 2019 | ACBR

AFRICA COUNTRY BENCHMARK REPORT



Mauritania Profile



The historical migration of primarily Indian populations to Southern Africa and Mauritius has resulted in this top-performing island nation being the only country in Africa that is considered predominantly Hindu.



Image courtesy of Mark Fischer



MAURITANIA

#35

MAURITANIA

OVERVIEW ANALYSIS

Stable, democratic and the African leader on economic and governance indicators, Mauritania is considered one of Africa's great success stories. The nation of idyllic tropical islands off Africa's east coast has achieved prosperity through population control, dedication to democratic institutions and progressive economic policies. An open economy is buttressed by a competent, business-friendly bureaucracy and regulations and good government. A longtime continental leader in economic diversification, avoiding economic shock of global price drops for single key commodities – sugar in Mauritania's case – the country has successfully broadened its economy by creating and growing tourism, information and communications technology (ICT) services and its financial sector. Considerable foreign investment has been directed toward resorts that

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

- New technologies continue economic diversification, like renewable energy, ICT and deep water exploration
- Growing tourism is attracted by tropical island environment, particularly high-end tourism

KEY CONCERNS

- Some remoteness from the African mainland and trade routes
- An island nation susceptible to rising sea levels from global warming
- All electricity must be locally generated, 97% of which is from polluting fossil fuel generation

COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PREDOMINANT
RELIGION

Islam

PREDOMINANT
LANGUAGE

Arabic

POPULATION
WITHOUT
ELECTRICITY58.3%
(#29) ▼¹LITERACY
RATE52.1%
(#41) ▼¹PRIMARY
ELECTRICITY
SOURCE

Oil

IMPORT/
EXPORTMachinery/Iron
OreEXTERNAL
DEBTUS\$ 4.117
billion
(#27) =ACTIVE
CONFLICT

No

LAND
SIZE1,030,700 km²
(#11)INTERNET
PENETRATION18%
(#29) ▲¹

22.5%



AGRICULTURE

37.8%



INDUSTRY

39.7%



SERVICES

38.6%



0-14

19.8%



15-24

33.2%



22-54

8.4%



55+



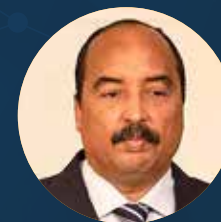
Term:
05/08/2009 - present
5 years (2 term limit)



Political Party:
Union for the Republic



Recent Electoral Information:
21/06/2014
409 100 Votes
52.58%
Voter turnout: 61.51%



President
Mohamed Ould
Abdel Aziz

CONTRIBUTIONS TO GDP BY SECTOR

POPULATION AGE BREAKDOWN

NATIONAL GOVERNANCE

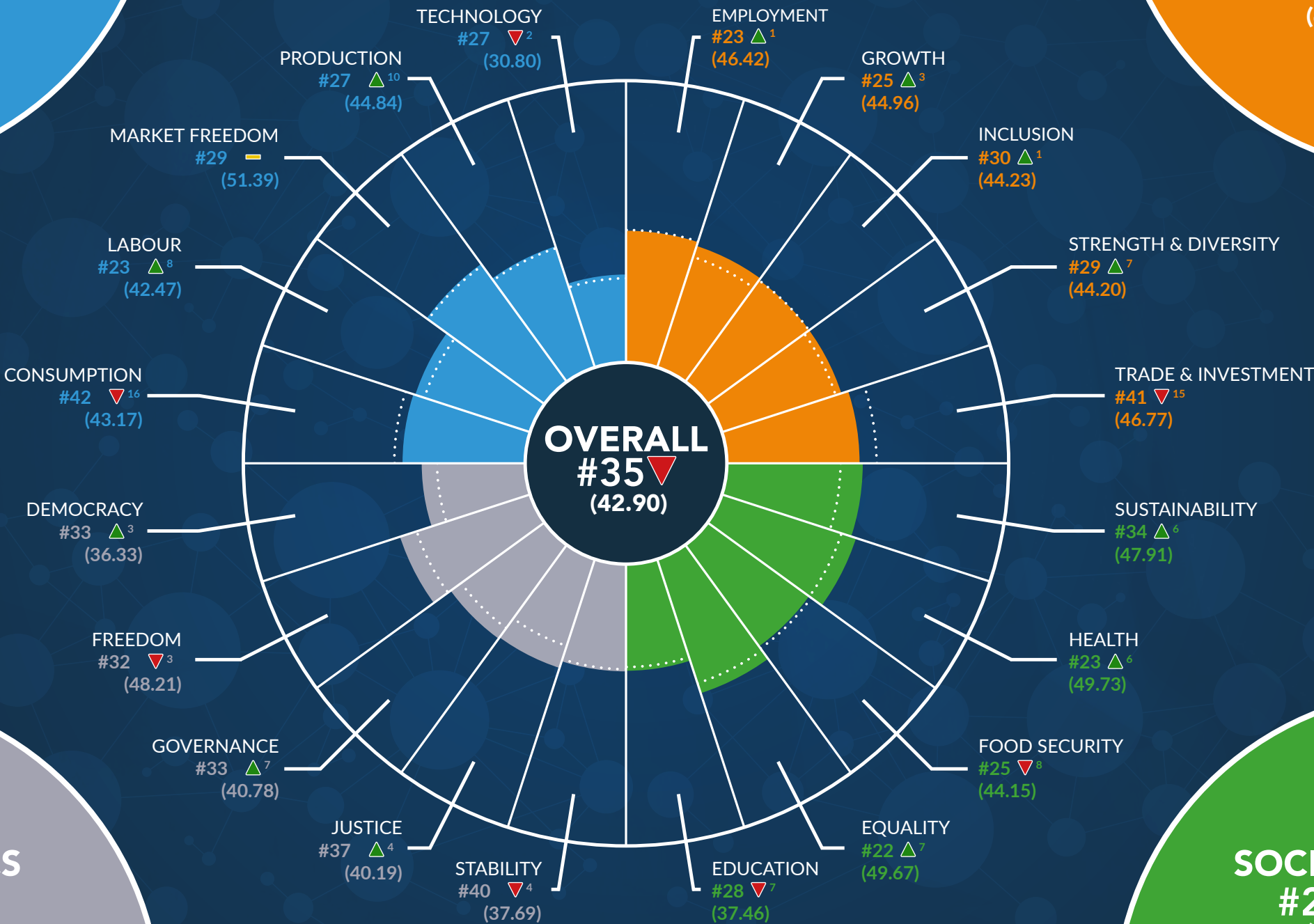
BUSINESS

#28
(42.53)

MAURITANIA PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

ECONOMICS

#30
(43.86)



POLITICS

#35
(40.64)

SOCIETY

#28
(44.57)

MAURITANIA BUSINESS ANALYSIS

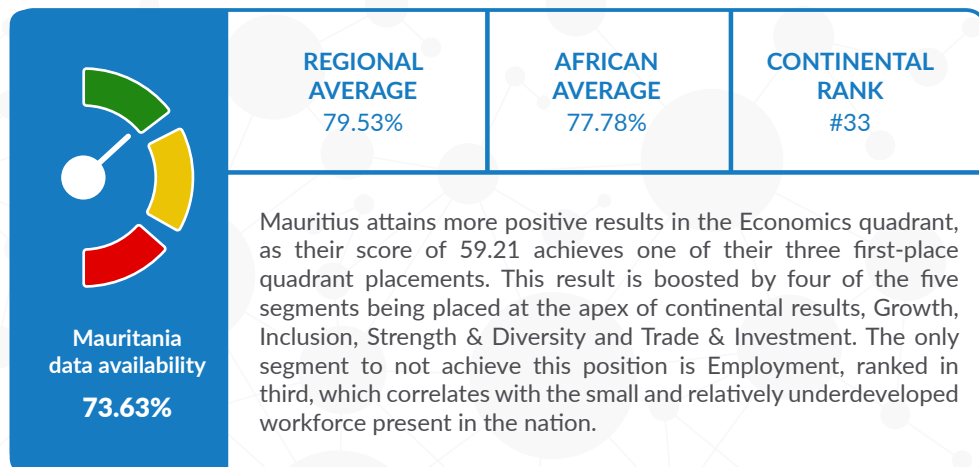
#28

BUSINESS OVERVIEW

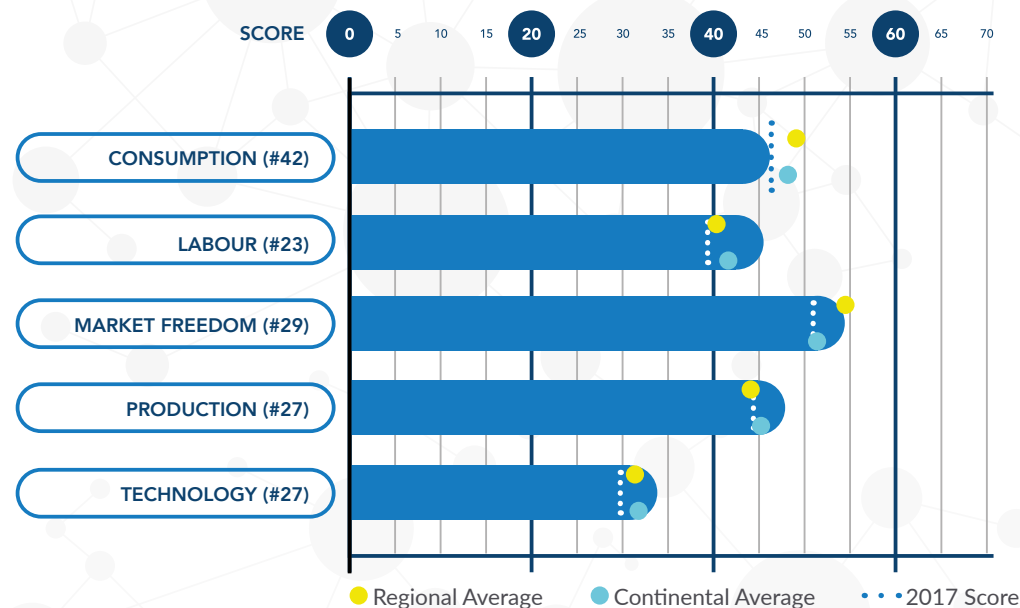
The financial sector is an important part of the economy and an expanding one to service the tourism sector. With local financial institutions well-regulated and trustworthy, government has positioned the country as a financial hub, servicing Chinese, Indian and South African investors in particular. Investment in the banking sector has surpassed US\$ 1 billion. Economic stability and government's sound fiscal policies provide the foundation of confidence that has drawn such investment. The consistency of GDP growth reflects government's steady economic management, running at 3.6% in 2014 and then at 3.5% in both 2015 and 2016. The financial institutions will have more domestic customers as wealthy individuals drawn to the islands' charms build second

homes in Mauritius. Construction is one of the country's thriving sectors and employs 30% of the workforce, compared to just 4% of Mauritians who work in agriculture. Led by the financial sector, services constitute an overwhelming 74% of GDP, affirming the wisdom of government's strategy to make Mauritius an offshore financial centre that is enabled by today's instantaneous electronic communications. A larger percentage of Mauritians use the internet (50.2%) than most other populations in Africa. Mauritius telephone system is described as good, which is a rarity for Africa, and landline ownership is also high for Africa, with 28 out of 100 people possessing landline phones. Mobile phone use finds 132 subscriptions per 100 people, meaning many people have

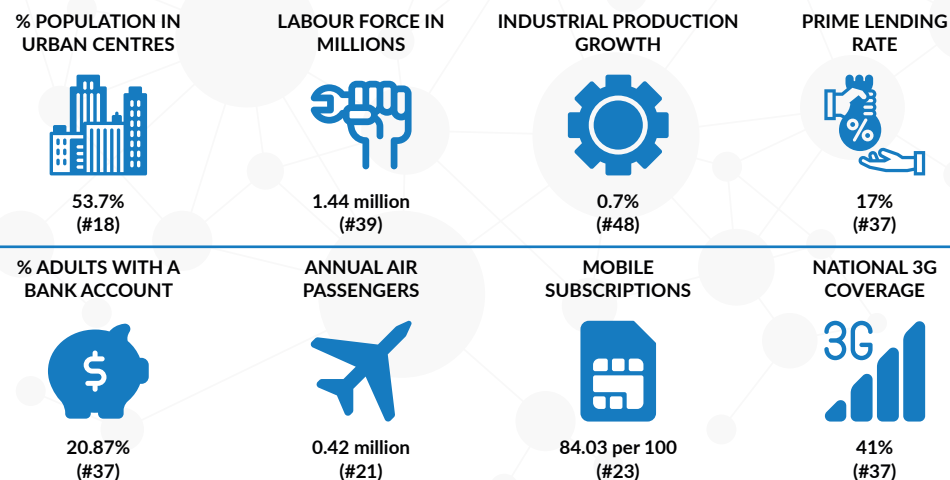
BUSINESS DATA COMMENTARY



BUSINESS SCORES & RANKINGS



BUSINESS STATISTICS



MAURITANIA ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

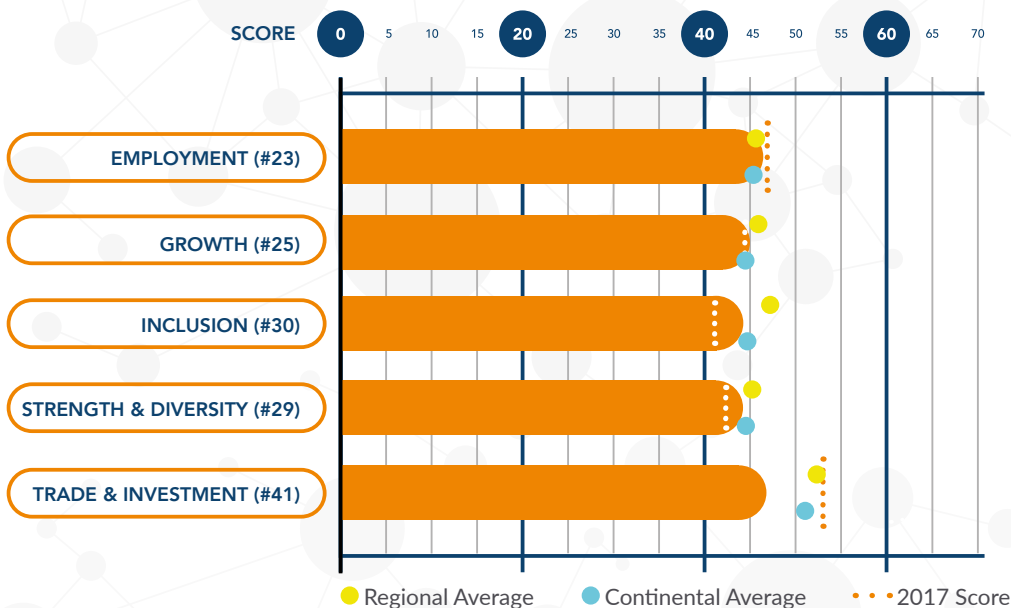
#30

ECONOMICS OVERVIEW

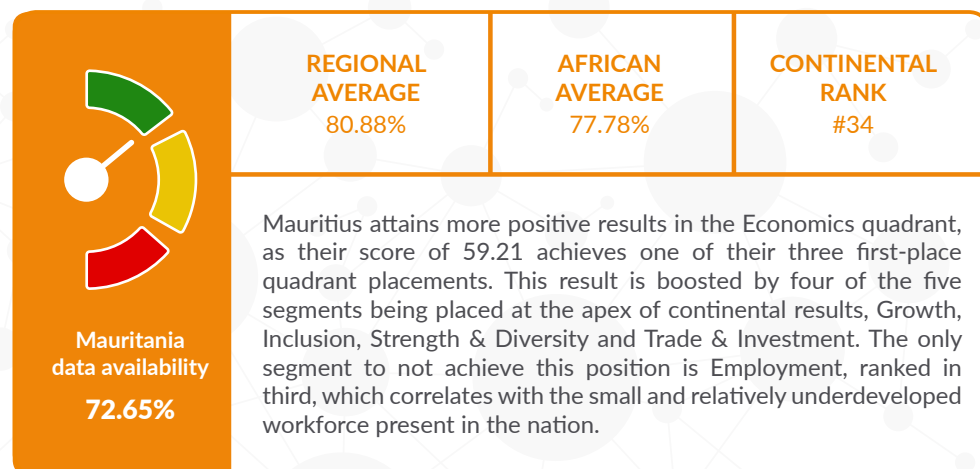
The financial sector is an important part of the economy and an expanding one to service the tourism sector. With local financial institutions well-regulated and trustworthy, government has positioned the country as a financial hub, servicing Chinese, Indian and South African investors in particular. Investment in the banking sector has surpassed US\$ 1 billion. Economic stability and government's sound fiscal policies provide the foundation of confidence that has drawn such investment. The consistency of GDP growth reflects government's steady economic management, running at 3.6% in 2014 and then at 3.5% in both 2015 and 2016. The financial institutions will have more domestic customers as wealthy individuals drawn to the islands' charms build second

homes in Mauritius. Construction is one of the country's thriving sectors and employs 30% of the workforce, compared to just 4% of Mauritians who work in agriculture. Led by the financial sector, services constitute an overwhelming 74% of GDP, affirming the wisdom of government's strategy to make Mauritius an offshore financial centre that is enabled by today's instantaneous electronic communications. A larger percentage of Mauritians use the internet (50.2%) than most other populations in Africa. Mauritius telephone system is described as good, which is a rarity for Africa, and landline ownership is also high for Africa, with 28 out of 100 people possessing landline phones. Mobile phone use finds 132 subscriptions per 100 people, meaning many people have

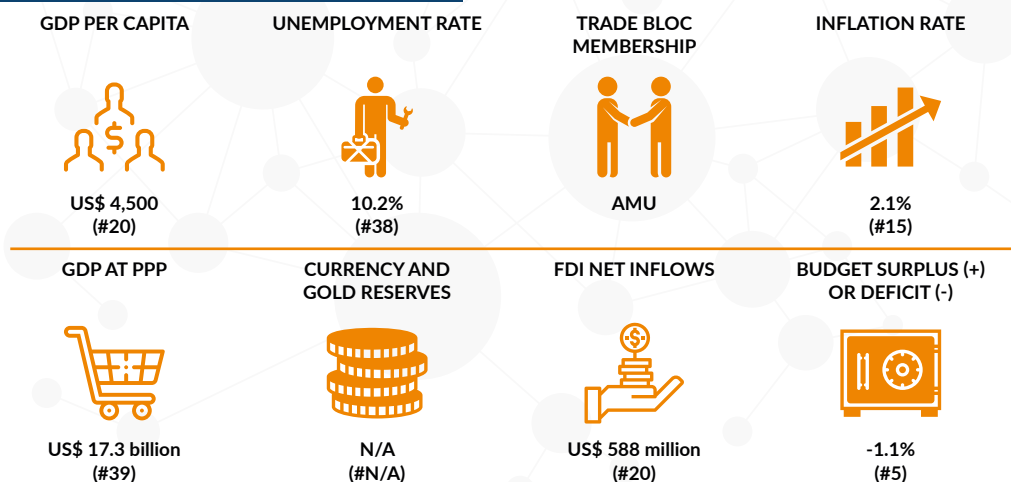
ECONOMIC SCORES & RANKINGS



ECONOMIC DATA COMMENTARY



ECONOMICS STATISTICS



MAURITANIA POLITICAL ANALYSIS

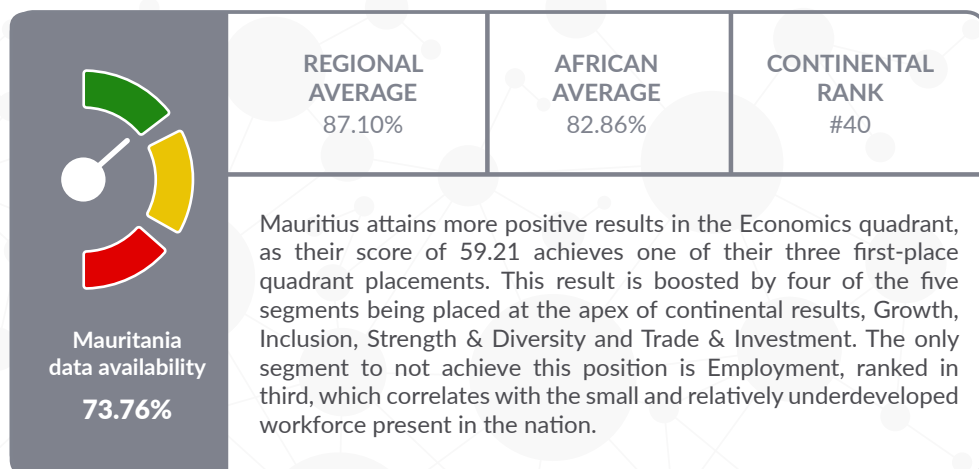
#35

POLITICAL OVERVIEW

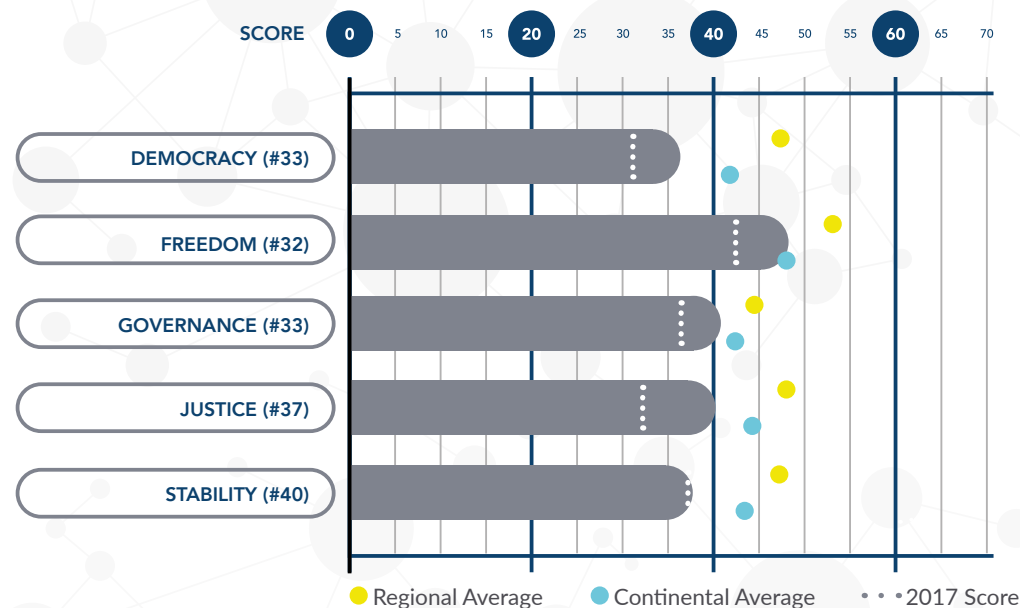
The financial sector is an important part of the economy and an expanding one to service the tourism sector. With local financial institutions well-regulated and trustworthy, government has positioned the country as a financial hub, servicing Chinese, Indian and South African investors in particular. Investment in the banking sector has surpassed US\$ 1 billion. Economic stability and government's sound fiscal policies provide the foundation of confidence that has drawn such investment. The consistency of GDP growth reflects government's steady economic management, running at 3.6% in 2014 and then at 3.5% in both 2015 and 2016. The financial institutions will have more domestic customers as wealthy individuals drawn to the islands' charms build second

homes in Mauritius. Construction is one of the country's thriving sectors and employs 30% of the workforce, compared to just 4% of Mauritians who work in agriculture. Led by the financial sector, services constitute an overwhelming 74% of GDP, affirming the wisdom of government's strategy to make Mauritius an offshore financial centre that is enabled by today's instantaneous electronic communications. A larger percentage of Mauritians use the internet (50.2%) than most other populations in Africa. Mauritius telephone system is described as good, which is a rarity for Africa, and landline ownership is also high for Africa, with 28 out of 100 people possessing landline phones. Mobile phone use finds 132 subscriptions per 100 people, meaning many people have

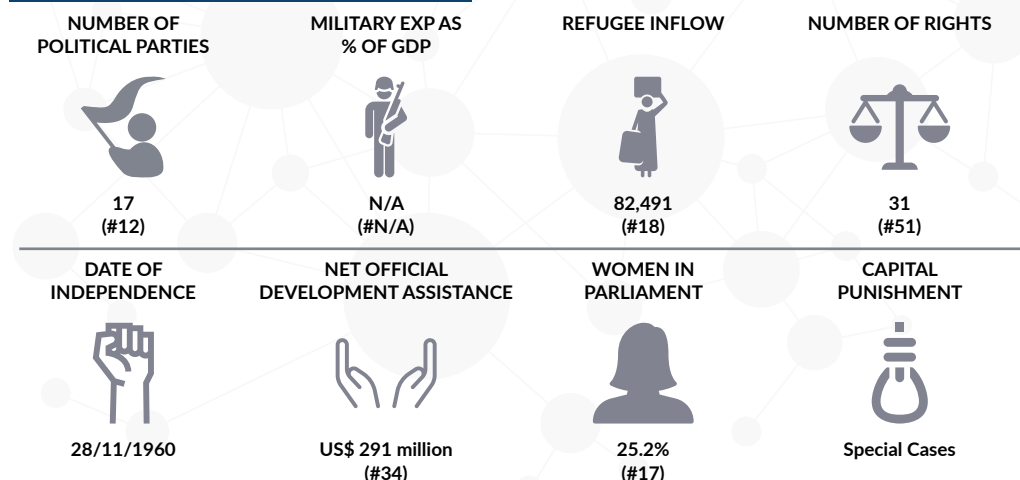
POLITICAL DATA COMMENTARY



POLITICAL SCORES & RANKINGS



POLITICAL STATISTICS



MAURITANIA SOCIETAL ANALYSIS

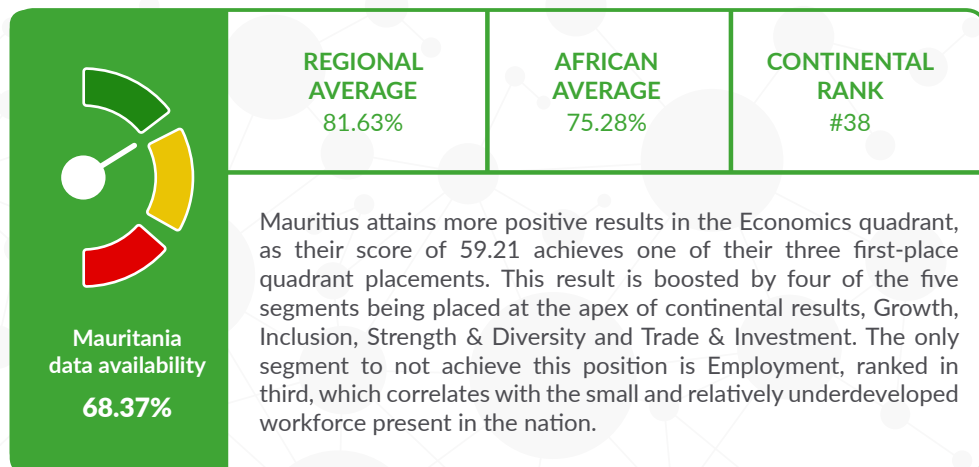


SOCIETAL OVERVIEW

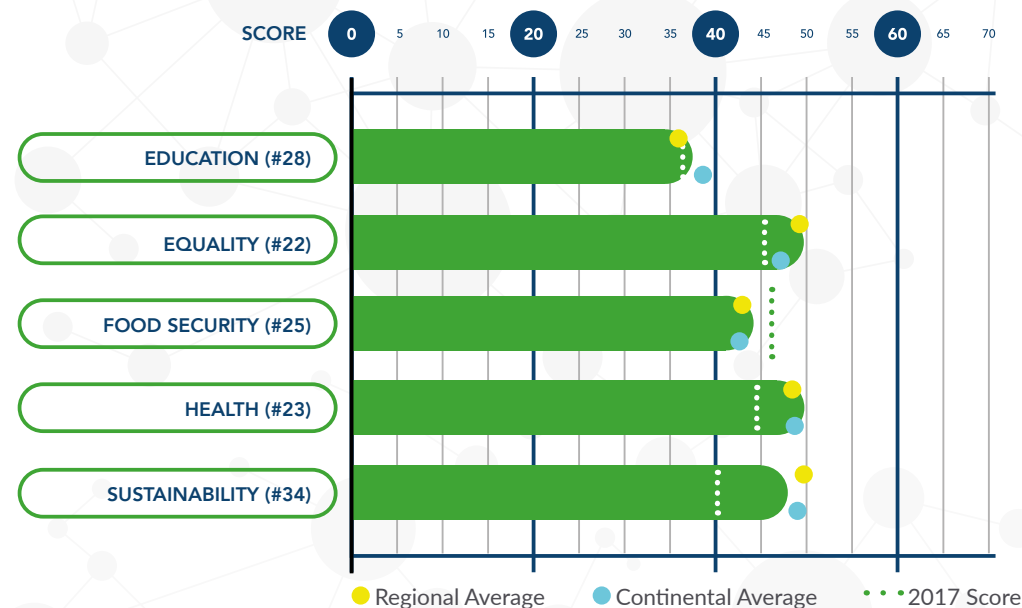
The financial sector is an important part of the economy and an expanding one to service the tourism sector. With local financial institutions well-regulated and trustworthy, government has positioned the country as a financial hub, servicing Chinese, Indian and South African investors in particular. Investment in the banking sector has surpassed US\$ 1 billion. Economic stability and government's sound fiscal policies provide the foundation of confidence that has drawn such investment. The consistency of GDP growth reflects government's steady economic management, running at 3.6% in 2014 and then at 3.5% in both 2015 and 2016. The financial institutions will have more domestic customers as wealthy individuals drawn to the islands' charms build second

homes in Mauritius. Construction is one of the country's thriving sectors and employs 30% of the workforce, compared to just 4% of Mauritians who work in agriculture. Led by the financial sector, services constitute an overwhelming 74% of GDP, affirming the wisdom of government's strategy to make Mauritius an offshore financial centre that is enabled by today's instantaneous electronic communications. A larger percentage of Mauritians use the internet (50.2%) than most other populations in Africa. Mauritius telephone system is described as good, which is a rarity for Africa, and landline ownership is also high for Africa, with 28 out of 100 people possessing landline phones. Mobile phone use finds 132 subscriptions per 100 people, meaning many people have

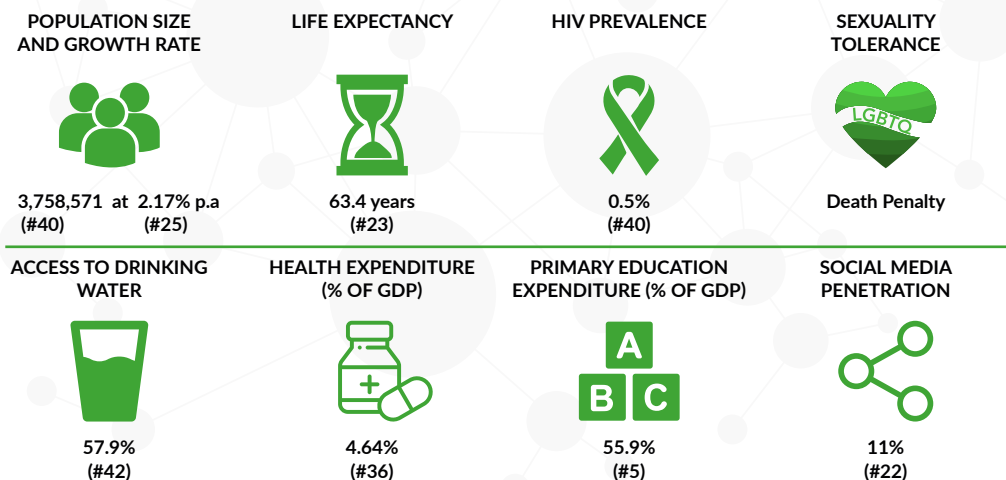
SOCIETAL DATA COMMENTARY



SOCIETAL SCORES & RANKINGS



SOCIETAL STATISTICS



CONTACT

IN ON AFRICA

PHONE: + (27) 11 027 4027

EMAIL: info@inonafrica.com

WEB: www.inonafrica.com

ADDRESS: 6 The Vines Place,
Fairland, 2030
Johannesburg, South Africa



@inonafrica



In On Africa



In On Africa

This IOA publication is released to the public with the understanding that it is not intended to provide implicit legal, accounting, investment or other professional advice. The information, research and opinions provided are collated and formulated by In On Africa (IOA) from its associates' understanding and knowledge of issues dealt with, as well as from a variety of open sources. Whilst IOA believes that the information and opinions contained herein are reliable, it does not make any warranties, express or implied, and assumes no liability for reliance on or use of the information or opinions contained herein. Furthermore, IOA indemnifies itself from unforeseen errors due to certain sources being gathered from third parties.

© IN ON AFRICA (PTY) LTD 2017