

TUNISIA IN A NUTSHELL

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Currency
Tunisian Dinar (TND)



Population
11.55 million inhabitants



Average exchange rate 2018
1 TND=0.319 Euro=0.377 USD



Urban Population
68.6 %



Local time
GMT+1



Human Development Index
[HDI in the Arab States = 0.699] *
0.735



Climate
Mediterranean, 12° C in winter,
30° C in summer (average)

Sources: Central Bank of Tunisia, 2018
National Statistics Institute, 2018
*Source: United Nations Development Program, 2018



**ECONOMIC
AGGREGATES**

96 664.3 MTND
Gross Domestic Product (current prices)

18.86
GFCF (% of GDP)

Source: Central Bank of Tunisia, 2017



TRADE

40 986.2 MTND
Exports 2018 (current prices)

60 035.2 MTND
Imports 2018 (current prices)

68.8%
Coverage Rate

Sources: Central Bank of Tunisia, 2017
National Statistics Institute, 2018

Main Clients

France
Italy
Germany
Spain

Main suppliers

France
Italy
China
Germany



**SALARY
DATA**

343.892 TND
[40-hour scheme] = 109.70 €
Minimum Guaranteed
Inter-professional Wage (SMIS)

13,736 TND
[daily wage] = 5.78 €
Minimum Guaranteed Agricultural
Wage (SMAG)



TUNISIA,
LEADER IN NORTH
AFRICA IN TERMS OF

Tunisia is



2nd
world exporter of
dates



2nd
World exporter of olive
oil



2nd
exporter of organic
produce in Africa



3rd
African producer of
car components



TUNISIA, A STRATEGIC POSITION

Located at the northern tip of the African continent and only 140 km from Europe, Tunisia prides itself on being the access point to the African market.

At the heart of the Euro-Mediterranean logistics chain, Tunisia is the ideal export platform and *THE* ultimate access hub to several global growth markets.

TUNISIA RANKS AMONG THE
WORLD'S TOP 5 OF THE BEST
AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO DO
BUSINESS.

Source: Forbes, 2019

ADVANCED PARTNERSHIP WITH EUROPE



Tunisia is the first country in the Southern Mediterranean to have signed an Association and Free Trade Agreement with the European Union. Tunisia also has the status of **Advanced Partner** with the European Union. This status can only strengthen its trade liberalization and its economic integration.



TUNISIA,
A DEVELOPING
INFRASTRUCTURE

TUNISIA, A WEALTH OF SKILLS

The accessibility and quality of the **Education System** in Tunisia resulted in the following:



99%
schooling rate



6 654
educational institutions



275
Higher education institutions
including 72 private ones



More than 1 000
vocational training centres



Over 6.6% of GDP
devoted to education

IN 2017, OVER

9 000
NEW ENGINEERS
JOINED THE JOB
MARKET

Source: Ministry of Higher
Education, 2017-2018

Tunisia is among of the first countries in North Africa and Arab countries to engage in the field of **E-Learning**.

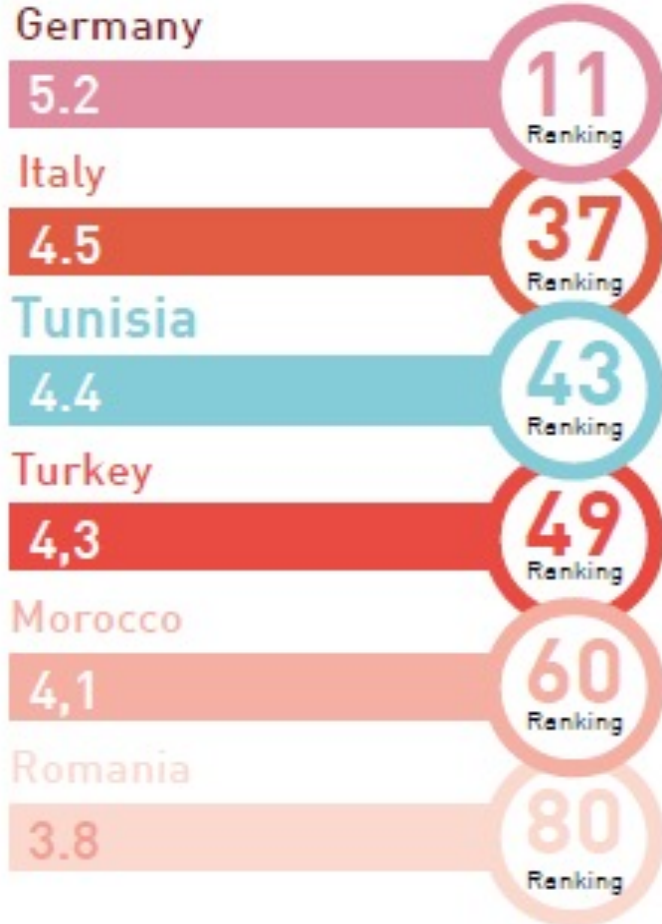
Tunisia has a huge **pool of talents** in the Mediterranean area with:

- **about 65 000** new graduates on a yearly basis,
- **over 30%** of new graduates studied of engineering, computer sciences, multimedia and technical background,
- **about 280 000 students** are actually enrolled in Tunisian universities.

- Tunisia ranks 2nd on a global level in terms of postgraduate degree rates in science, engineering, industry and construction.

Source: The Global Innovation Index, 2018

Availability of scientists
and engineers in the labor market



Source: Global Competitiveness Report 2017-2018, WEF

Availability of scientists and engineers in the labor market

Acknowledging that the success of a knowledge-based strategy depends on the creation of an environment conducive to **innovation** and **creativity**, Tunisia has adapted its academic training offer to the needs of scientific research and skills development.

Many international companies have expertise centres in Tunisia employing hundreds of engineers and Tunisian executives: **GRUPE ACTIA, ALCATEL-LUCENT, KROMBERG & SCHUBERT, LEONI, SAFRAN ELECTRONICS, SIEMENS, ST MICROELECTRONICS, SAFRAN...**

Foreign investment: Regulatory overview

The legislation and the specific procedures govern the right to intellectual property. They are consolidated by the law on the protection of personal data.

Tunisia is a member of **ICSID** (the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes).

TUNISIA, A NEW LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The new investment law passed in April 1st 2017, offers the following advantages:

- **Total freedom** of foreign participation in the capital of offshore companies,
- **Reduction** in the number of **authorisations** and **revision of specifications**,
- Free access to **land ownership for the realisation of investment**,
- **Guarantees** to the investor in accordance with international standards on **fair and equitable treatment** and **industrial and intellectual property**,
- **Freedom** to transfer funds (profits, dividends and assets) abroad,
- Possibility to **recruit 30% of foreign executives** during the first 3 years upon simple declaration and 10% of executives guaranteed thereafter in all cases,
- Strengthening of the incentives to support regional development and the projects of national significance,
- improvements to the process of resolving trade disputes.



International
conventions
and
agreements

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

As part of its policy to promote and diversify its trade, Tunisia has signed several preferential **bilateral and multilateral agreements**:

- A bilateral agreement establishing a free trade area with Turkey,
- A Free Trade Area Agreement with EFTA countries,
- The Agadir Free Trade Agreement between Jordan, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia,
- Bilateral agreements establishing a free trade area with Libya, Egypt, Morocco, Jordan and Iraq,
- An agreement establishing the Pan-Arab Free Trade Zone with 18 countries of the League of Arab States.

Tunisia joined the **OECD** (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) Declaration on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises in 2012.

Tunisia has been officially the **20th** member of the comesa market since July 2018.

TUNISIA is a signatory to
**52 DOUBLE TAXATION
AGREEMENTS**
&
**54 BILATERAL
AGREEMENTS** for the
promotion and protection of
investments.

Investment incentives

General corporate tax rate is 15%,

- total exemption from VAT and customs duties on inputs of products to be re-exported,
 - total exemption of profits up to 10 years for companies established in regional development zones and which drops to a reduced rate of 10% after the exemption period
 - premium of up to 30% of the investment cost capped at 3 MTND for companies located in regional development zones,
 - premiums for intangible investment and research and development expenses of up to 50% of costs and capped at 500,000 TND and 300,000 TND respectively,
 - investment bonus of 15% of costs capped at 1 MTND granted for priority sectors and economic sectors.
-
- payment of the employer's contribution during the first 3 years of effective activity for employees of Tunisian nationality recruited for a first permanent job,
 - bearing the cost of training with certification representing up to 70% of the cost of initial training and capped at 20,000 TND

Legal forms of companies

Critères	Individual Compagny	Single member compagny with Limited iability SUARL	Limited Liability Compagny	Public Compagny
Number of associates	1	1	Min 2	Min 7
Minimum capital TND	NA	1000	1000	- 5000 - 50 000 pour les sociétés faisant appel public à l'épargne
Gouvernance	The entrepreneur	The single member with possibility of delegation	One or many managers from or not the associates	- Bord of directors + CEO - Supervisory board + Directory
Statutory Audit	NA	Mandatory from certains threshold	Mandatory from certains threshold	- Mandatory