

What are the ranking trends?

- **Mauritius**, in 25th place in the *Doing Business* rankings, is the highest ranked economy in Sub-Saharan Africa. Other economies in the region that perform well on the ease of doing business rankings are **Rwanda** (at 41), **Kenya** (80), **Botswana** (81) and **South Africa** (82).
- The region's lowest ranked economies are **Somalia** (190), **Eritrea** (189), **South Sudan** (187), and the **Central African Republic** (184).
- Other large economies in the region and their rankings are **Democratic Republic of Congo** (182), **Ethiopia** (161), **Nigeria** (145), **Tanzania** (137), **Sudan** (170), and **Uganda** (122).
- **Rwanda** ranks among the best globally in the *Doing Business* areas of Registering Property (with a rank of 2) and Getting Credit (6). In registering property, Rwanda has an efficient land registry where it takes 7 days to transfer property and costs only 0.1% of the property value, the same as in New Zealand.
- **Mauritius** has among the least cumbersome business regulations in two *Doing Business* areas: Dealing with Construction Permits (with a rank of 9) and Paying Taxes (10).
- Four economies in Sub-Saharan Africa rank in the top 10 in Getting Credit (with an average rank of 115). **Zambia** ranks 2, just after New Zealand, and **Rwanda**, **Malawi** and **Nigeria** all rank 6.
- The region underperforms in the areas of Getting Electricity (with an average rank of 148), Trading Across Borders (137), and Registering Property (131). It takes an average of 115 days to obtain a permanent electricity connection to the grid in Sub-Saharan Africa, compared to the global average of 92 days.

What are the reform trends?

- A record number of 83 reforms, making it easier to do business, were implemented in 36 of 48 economies in Sub-Saharan Africa in the past year. This is the largest number of reforms ever recorded by the *Doing Business* report in any region, and represents 31 percent of all reforms implemented globally in the past year.
- With **Malawi**, **Nigeria** and **Zambia**, Sub-Saharan Africa is the most represented region among the global top 10 improvers in the *Doing Business 2018* report.
- Multiple economies in the region implemented three or more reforms in the past year, including **Kenya** (6 reforms), **Mauritania**, **Nigeria**, **Rwanda**, and **Senegal** (5 reforms each), **Malawi**, **Mauritius** and **Niger** (4 reforms each), and **Angola**, **Benin**, **Cabo Verde** and **Zambia** (3 reforms each).
- Sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 14 of the 22 reforms globally in Dealing with Construction Permits. Many economies, including **Benin**, **Cabo Verde**, **Democratic Republic of Congo**, **Gabon**, **Ghana**, **Guinea**, **Niger**, **Nigeria** and the **Seychelles** made dealing with construction permits easier by publishing regulations related to construction online.

What are the highlights of the past 15 years?

- Since the start of *Doing Business*, the region carried out a total of 798 reforms.
- Rwanda has implemented the most reforms in the past 15 years, totaling 52, followed by Kenya (32) and Mauritius (31).
- Starting a Business, with 163 reforms, was the leading indicator for regional reforms, followed by Getting Credit and Trading across Borders with 112 and 108 reforms respectively.
 - the average number of days to start a business in the region has dropped to 22.5 days from 61 days in 2003.

Rankings Data for Sub-Saharan Africa

Economy	Rank (1–190)	Distance to frontier score (0–100)		# of Reforms	
	DB2018	DB2017	DB2018	DB2017	DB2018
Angola	175	40.11	41.49	2	3
Benin	151	48.62	50.47	2	3
Botswana	81	64.87	64.94	1	2
Burkina Faso	148	51.34	51.54	3	1
Burundi	164	46.86	46.92	1	0
Cabo Verde	127	55.82	56.24	0	3
Cameroon	163	45.05	47.23	2	2
Central African Republic	184	34.08	34.86	1	0
Chad	180	38.58	38.30	2	0
Comoros	158	48.05	48.52	2	1
Congo, Dem. Rep.	182	37.43	37.65	2	1
Congo, Rep.	179	40.09	39.57	1	1
Côte d'Ivoire	139	51.67	53.71	4	1
Equatorial Guinea	173	39.89	41.66	2	1
Eritrea	189	22.45	22.87	0	0
Ethiopia	161	45.69	47.77	0	2
Gabon	167	44.86	46.19	1	2
Gambia, The	146	51.93	51.92	1	0
Ghana	120	56.90	57.24	1	1
Guinea	153	49.48	49.80	1	0
Guinea-Bissau	176	41.22	41.45	1	1
Kenya	80	62.56	65.15	5	6
Lesotho	104	59.88	60.42	1	0
Liberia	172	40.45	43.55	0	1
Madagascar	162	44.62	47.67	3	2
Malawi	110	52.61	58.94	3	4
Mali	143	52.62	52.92	3	0
Mauritania	150	49.32	50.88	4	5
Mauritius	25	75.45	77.54	1	4
Mozambique	138	53.03	54.00	1	2
Namibia	106	59.40	59.94	0	1
Niger	144	50.08	52.34	6	4
Nigeria	145	48.18	52.03	2	5
Rwanda	41	70.19	73.40	4	5
São Tomé and Príncipe	169	44.45	44.84	0	1
Senegal	140	49.31	53.06	4	5
Seychelles	95	60.40	61.41	0	2
Sierra Leone	160	48.24	48.18	1	2
Somalia	190	20.29	19.98	0	0
South Africa	82	64.97	64.89	1	0
South Sudan	187	33.19	32.86	0	0
Sudan	170	44.29	44.46	0	0
Swaziland	112	58.57	58.82	0	2
Tanzania	137	53.93	54.04	1	1
Togo	156	48.24	48.88	4	1
Uganda	122	56.52	56.94	3	1
Zambia	82	60.58	64.50	1	3
Zimbabwe	159	47.67	48.47	3	1

Source: Doing Business database.

Note: The rankings are based on the average of each economy's distance to frontier scores for the 10 topics included in this year's aggregate ranking. This measure shows how close each economy is to global best practices in business regulation. A higher score indicates a more efficient business environment and stronger legal institutions.