

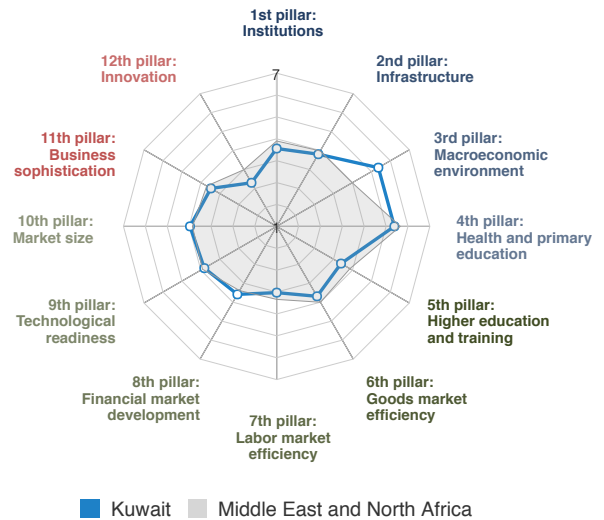
Key indicators, 2016

Source: International Monetary Fund; World Economic Outlook Database (April 2017)

Population millions	4.2	GDP per capita US\$	26,004.7
GDP US\$ billions	109.9	GDP (PPP) % world GDP	0.25

Performance overview

Index Component	Rank/137	Score (1-7)	Trend	Distance from best	Edition	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Global Competitiveness Index	52	4.4			Rank	37 / 144	36 / 148	40 / 144	34 / 140	38 / 138	52 / 137
Subindex A: Basic requirements	50	4.9			Score	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4
1st pillar: Institutions	57	4.0									
2nd pillar: Infrastructure	64	4.3									
3rd pillar: Macroeconomic environment	30	5.6									
4th pillar: Health and primary education	83	5.6									
Subindex B: Efficiency enhancers	73	4.1									
5th pillar: Higher education and training	95	3.9									
6th pillar: Goods market efficiency	89	4.2									
7th pillar: Labor market efficiency	119	3.6									
8th pillar: Financial market development	62	4.1									
9th pillar: Technological readiness	68	4.3									
10th pillar: Market size	50	4.4									
Subindex C: Innovation and sophistication factors	86	3.5									
11th pillar: Business sophistication	70	4.0									
12th pillar: Innovation	103	3.0									

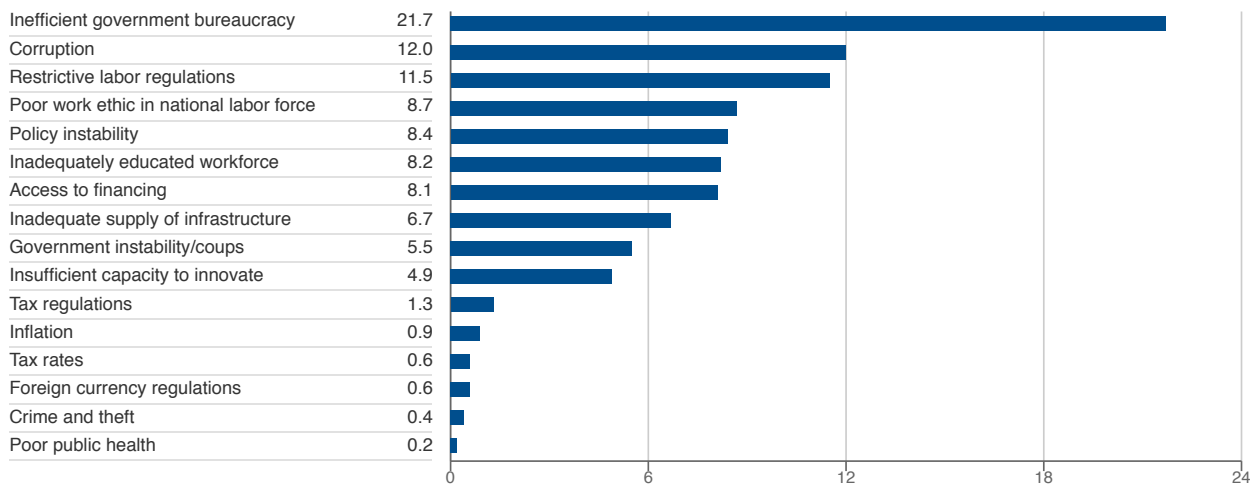


Kuwait drops to 52nd, mostly on the back of a deterioration in the macroeconomic environment and, following a revision of ICT indicators previously published by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in technological readiness. As oil and gas prices remain low, the fiscal balance went into deficit last year (from a surplus of 1.2 percent of GDP to a deficit of 3.6 percent of GDP) with an increase in debt. In

order to face the challenges posed by persistently-low oil prices, Kuwait will have to increase its innovation capacity through investments in higher education and training and a more inclusive and efficient labor market that allows it to make the best use of its human capital.

Most problematic factors for doing business

Source: World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey 2017



Note: From the list of factors, respondents to the World Economic Forum's Executive Opinion Survey were asked to select the five most problematic factors for doing business in their country and to rank them between 1 (most problematic) and 5. The score corresponds to the responses weighted according to their rankings.

The Global Competitiveness Index in detail

Kuwait

Index Component	Rank/137	Value	Trend	Index Component	Rank/137	Value	Trend
1st pillar: Institutions	57	4.0		6th pillar: Goods market efficiency	89	4.2	
1.01 Property rights	49	4.6		6.01 Intensity of local competition	89	4.8	
1.02 Intellectual property protection	80	3.9		6.02 Extent of market dominance	96	3.4	
1.03 Diversion of public funds	54	4.0		6.03 Effectiveness of anti-monopoly policy	108	3.2	
1.04 Public trust in politicians	68	3.0		6.04 Effect of taxation on incentives to invest	10	5.2	
1.05 Irregular payments and bribes	70	3.9		6.05 Total tax rate % profits	3	13.0	
1.06 Judicial independence	44	4.6		6.06 No. of procedures to start a business	125	12	
1.07 Favoritism in decisions of government officials	78	2.9		6.07 Time to start a business days	129	61.4	
1.08 Efficiency of government spending	59	3.4		6.08 Agricultural policy costs	105	3.3	
1.09 Burden of government regulation	90	3.2		6.09 Prevalence of non-tariff barriers	86	4.2	
1.10 Efficiency of legal framework in settling disputes	47	4.1		6.10 Trade tariffs % duty	55	4.0	
1.11 Efficiency of legal framework in challenging regulations	43	3.8		6.11 Prevalence of foreign ownership	136	2.7	
1.12 Transparency of government policymaking	104	3.5		6.12 Business impact of rules on FDI	132	3.1	
1.13 Business costs of terrorism	84	4.9		6.13 Burden of customs procedures	103	3.6	
1.14 Business costs of crime and violence	46	5.0		6.14 Imports % GDP	50	51.8	
1.15 Organized crime	52	5.1		6.15 Degree of customer orientation	94	4.3	
1.16 Reliability of police services	46	5.0		6.16 Buyer sophistication	42	3.8	
1.17 Ethical behavior of firms	67	3.8		7th pillar: Labor market efficiency	119	3.6	
1.18 Strength of auditing and reporting standards	80	4.4		7.01 Cooperation in labor-employer relations	54	4.5	
1.19 Efficacy of corporate boards	128	4.0		7.02 Flexibility of wage determination	72	4.8	
1.20 Protection of minority shareholders' interests	76	3.9		7.03 Hiring and firing practices	62	3.8	
1.21 Strength of investor protection 0-10 (best)	74	5.5		7.04 Redundancy costs weeks of salary	118	28.1	
2nd pillar: Infrastructure	64	4.3		7.05 Effect of taxation on incentives to work	40	4.3	
2.01 Quality of overall infrastructure	69	4.1		7.06 Pay and productivity	113	3.3	
2.02 Quality of roads	63	4.1		7.07 Reliance on professional management	122	3.4	
2.03 Quality of railroad infrastructure	n/a	not assessed		7.08 Country capacity to retain talent	86	3.2	
2.04 Quality of port infrastructure	78	3.8		7.09 Country capacity to attract talent	89	3.0	
2.05 Quality of air transport infrastructure	117	3.2		7.10 Female participation in the labor force ratio to men	115	0.58	
2.06 Available airline seat kilometers millions/week	56	339.4		8th pillar: Financial market development	62	4.1	
2.07 Quality of electricity supply	49	5.5		8.01 Availability of financial services	40	4.6	
2.08 Mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions /100 pop.	24	146.6		8.02 Affordability of financial services	40	4.3	
2.09 Fixed-telephone lines /100 pop.	80	11.0		8.03 Financing through local equity market	49	4.0	
3rd pillar: Macroeconomic environment	30	5.6		8.04 Ease of access to loans	38	4.4	
3.01 Government budget balance % GDP	83	-3.6		8.05 Venture capital availability	30	3.6	
3.02 Gross national savings % GDP	28	28.8		8.06 Soundness of banks	36	5.5	
3.03 Inflation annual % change	52	3.2		8.07 Regulation of securities exchanges	62	4.5	
3.04 Government debt % GDP	7	18.6		8.08 Legal rights index 0-10 (best)	106	2	
3.05 Country credit rating 0-100 (best)	27	74.0		9th pillar: Technological readiness	68	4.3	
4th pillar: Health and primary education	83	5.6		9.01 Availability of latest technologies	55	4.9	
4.01 Malaria incidence cases/100,000 pop.	n/a	s.l.		9.02 Firm-level technology absorption	70	4.4	
4.02 Business impact of malaria	n/a	5.9		9.03 FDI and technology transfer	121	3.5	
4.03 Tuberculosis incidence cases/100,000 pop.	51	22.0		9.04 Internet users % pop.	33	78.4	
4.04 Business impact of tuberculosis	49	6.0		9.05 Fixed-broadband Internet subscriptions /100 pop.	100	2.8	
4.05 HIV prevalence % adult pop.	1	<0.1		9.06 Internet bandwidth kb/s/user	57	69.5	
4.06 Business impact of HIV/AIDS	43	5.9		9.07 Mobile-broadband subscriptions /100 pop.	58	66.8	
4.07 Infant mortality deaths/1,000 live births	49	7.3		10th pillar: Market size	50	4.4	
4.08 Life expectancy years	70	74.7		10.01 Domestic market size index	49	4.2	
4.09 Quality of primary education	104	3.1		10.02 Foreign market size index	43	5.1	
4.10 Primary education enrollment rate net %	92	92.9		10.03 GDP (PPP) PPP \$ billions	52	303.7	
5th pillar: Higher education and training	95	3.9		10.04 Exports % GDP	39	46.4	
5.01 Secondary education enrollment rate gross %	64	95.0		11th pillar: Business sophistication	70	4.0	
5.02 Tertiary education enrollment rate gross %	87	27.0		11.01 Local supplier quantity	65	4.6	
5.03 Quality of the education system	89	3.3		11.02 Local supplier quality	85	4.1	
5.04 Quality of math and science education	106	3.2		11.03 State of cluster development	47	4.1	
5.05 Quality of management schools	111	3.6		11.04 Nature of competitive advantage	52	3.9	
5.06 Internet access in schools	88	3.8		11.05 Value chain breadth	66	3.8	
5.07 Local availability of specialized training services	121	3.6		11.06 Control of international distribution	56	3.8	
5.08 Extent of staff training	86	3.7		11.07 Production process sophistication	68	3.8	
				11.08 Extent of marketing	88	4.2	
				11.09 Willingness to delegate authority	107	3.8	
				12th pillar: Innovation	103	3.0	
				12.01 Capacity for innovation	102	3.7	
				12.02 Quality of scientific research institutions	97	3.3	
				12.03 Company spending on R&D	116	2.8	
				12.04 University-industry collaboration in R&D	108	2.9	
				12.05 Gov't procurement of advanced technology products	84	3.1	
				12.06 Availability of scientists and engineers	98	3.5	
				12.07 PCT patents applications/million pop.	85	0.3	

Note: Values are on a 1-to-7 scale unless indicated otherwise. Trend lines depict evolution in values since the 2012-2013 edition (or earliest edition available). For detailed definitions, sources, and periods, consult the interactive Economy Profiles and Rankings at <http://gcr.weforum.org/>