



Slovenia: Market Profile

Major Economic Indicators

	2015	2016	2017**
Population (000)	2,063	2,064 [#]	2,066
GDP (US\$ bn)	42.798	44.009 [#]	43.503
Real growth (%)	2.3	2.5 [#]	2.5
GDP per capita (US\$)	20,747	21,320 [#]	21,062
Inflation – CPI index	-0.5%	-0.1% [#]	1.5%
Unemployment rate	9.0%	7.9% [#]	7.0%
Exports (US\$ bn)	31.945	32.850	N.A.
YoY growth (%)	-11.2	2.8	N.A.
Imports (US\$ bn)	29.832	30.449	N.A.
YoY growth (%)	-12.1	2.1	N.A.
Average exchange rate (Euro per US\$)	0.902	0.904	0.916 ^{##}

Note: # estimate, ## Jan-Jul 2017, ** forecast
Source: IMF, WTO

- Slovenia is the economic front-runner of the Central and Eastern European countries that have joined the EU since 2004. It was the first in the pack to adopt the euro as its only currency in 2007. It was also the first of these new member states to hold the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the first half of 2008.
- Bordering Italy, Austria, Croatia and Hungary, and stretching across the Alps, the Dinaric Alps and the Pannonian Plain to the Mediterranean, Slovenia, has a superb geographical position at the heart of the region. Intersected by traditional trade and transport routes, Slovenia is the location of choice for international companies.
- The two Pan-European transport corridors (Corridor V linking Barcelona and Kiev, and Corridor X from Salzburg to Thessalonica) intersect at the Slovenian capital, Ljubljana. Shipping to Slovenia's only cargo port, Port of Koper, means gaining 7 to 10 days for ships arriving from Asia compared with sailing to Europe's northern ports.
- In line with the national development direction, other than logistics and distribution, Slovenia's key industries for investment include automotive, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, electrical engineering and electronics, ICT, machinery, metalworking and wood-processing.
- To attract foreign investment, Slovenia has developed an incentive system to give impetus to foreign direct investment (FDI) expected to create new jobs, transfer new technologies and know-how and establish new business partnership with local companies. Key incentives include tax reliefs, cost-sharing grants and co-financing



for hiring and training. More information can be found at the [Public Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Development, Investment and Tourism \(SPIRIT Slovenia\)](#).

- The inflows of foreign direct investment (FDI) to Slovenia amounted to US\$1.6 billion in 2015. As of the end of 2015, China's total stock of FDI to Slovenia totalled US\$5 million, up from US\$1.4 million in 2006. Investment from Hong Kong, though, is far from significant.

Hong Kong's Trade with Slovenia

(US\$ million)	2015		2016		Jan-Jun 2017	
	Value	Growth	Value	Growth	Value	Growth
Total Exports	74.368	+11.5	73.658	-1.0	46.262	+40.0
Domestic exports	2.981	-11.9	2.860	-4.1	0.815	+34.7
Re-exports	71.387	+12.8	70.798	-0.8	45.447	+40.1
Imports	59.467	-27.7	63.208	+6.3	34.240	+16.9
Total Trade	133.835	-10.1	136.866	+2.3	80.502	+29.2

Source: Hong Kong Trade Statistics, Census & Statistics Department

More Information

More information on the Belt and Road countries' economic and investment environment, tax and other subjects that are important in considering investment and doing business are available in [The Belt and Road Initiative: Country Business Guides](#).

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