



**COUNTY
COMPETITIVENESS
INDEX (CCI)
2024
REPORT**

**To Enhance the
Investment and Business
Environment in Kenya**



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The County Competitiveness Index (CCI) report serves not only as a diagnostic tool but also as a catalyst for dialogue, innovation, and reform. By identifying strengths, opportunities, and gaps at the county level, it empowers leaders, policymakers, and the private sector to design targeted interventions that foster an enabling business environment, promote job creation, and improve service delivery.

”

— Hon. Lee Kinyanjui, EGH - Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry,
Republic of Kenya

Executive summary

The Government of Kenya, recognizing the importance of a competitive business environment, has implemented various initiatives to enhance the country's economic landscape. Key among these initiatives are the Directorate of Business Reforms and Transformation (DBRT) and the Business Environment and Export Enhancement Programme (BEEEP).

DBRT focuses on streamlining regulations, reducing bureaucracy, and improving the overall business climate. BEEEP aims to strengthen Kenya's export sector and create a more favorable trade environment.

Purpose and Scope of the County Competitiveness Index (CCI)

To further enhance Kenya's competitiveness and foster balanced regional development, the government through DBRT, in collaboration with TMA, initiated the development of the CCI. The primary objectives of the CCI are to:



Assess and rank

Evaluate the competitiveness of Kenyan counties across various indicators.



Identify strengths and weaknesses

Pinpoint key factors contributing to high and low performance.



Inform policymakers

Provide recommendations and insights from the findings to guide decision-making and resource allocation.



Enhance transparency

Promote data-driven policy formulation and accountability.

Methodology

The CCI was developed using a rigorous methodology, including:

Indicator Selection

A comprehensive set of indicators was identified to measure key drivers of competitiveness, such as government and institutions, economic development, infrastructure, human capital, business environment, and climate and environment.

Data Collection and Analysis

Data were collected from various sources, including primary data from the field, and secondary data from government agencies, statistical bureaus, and international organizations.

Weighting

Equal weighting was assigned to each indicator to ensure a balanced assessment across all domains.

Index Calculation

The CCI score for each county was calculated based on the weighted average of the standardized indicator scores.

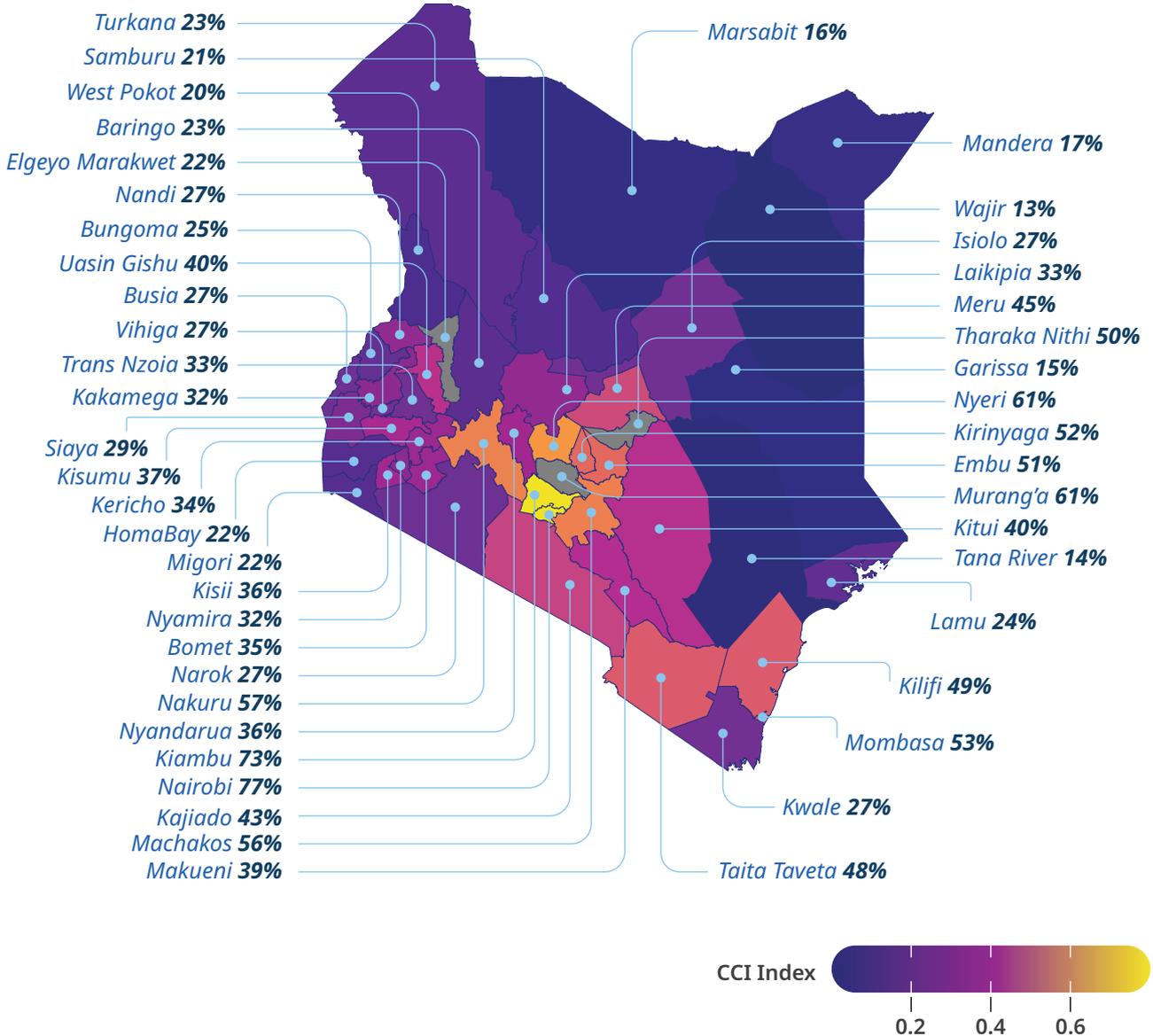
County Profiling and Benchmarking

Detailed county profiles were developed, highlighting their key strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for improvement.



Key Findings

The CCI analysis revealed significant regional disparities in competitiveness:



High-Performing Counties	Moderately Competitive Counties	Low-Performing Counties
Nairobi, Kiambu, Murang'a, and Nyeri exhibit strong performance across multiple domains, benefiting from robust infrastructure, skilled workforce, and favorable business environments.	Counties like Nakuru, Machakos, and Embu demonstrate balanced strengths but require further improvements to reach higher levels of competitiveness.	Counties such as Wajir, Tana River, and Garrisra face significant challenges in infrastructure, human capital, and governance, hindering their competitiveness and, potentially, economic development.

Recommendations

To enhance the competitiveness of all counties, the following recommendations are proposed:



Strengthen Governance and Institutional Capacity

Improve public service delivery, reduce bureaucracy, and enhance transparency and accountability.



Invest in Infrastructure

Expand and upgrade infrastructure, particularly in transportation, energy, and digital connectivity.



Develop Human Capital

Invest in education, skills training, and healthcare to create a skilled workforce.



Improve Business Environment

Simplify regulations, reduce bureaucratic hurdles, and promote entrepreneurship.



Address Climate Change

Implement climate-resilient strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change on economic activities and enhance adaptation.



Targeted Interventions

Develop tailored strategies for low-performing counties to address their specific challenges and accelerate development.

By implementing these recommendations, Kenya can foster a more competitive and inclusive economy, harnessing the strengths and aspirations of devolution, thereby driving sustainable growth and prosperity for all its citizens.





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Abbreviations and acronyms

BEEEP	Business Environment and Export Enhancement Programme
B-READY	World Bank's Business Ready initiative
CCI	County Competitiveness Index
CECs	County Executive Committees
CIDE	Centre for Economic Research and Education
CNC	National Competitiveness Council
DBRT	Directorate of Business Reforms and Transformation
ERC	Energy Regulatory Commission
EU	European Union
FSD	Financial Sector Deepening
GCI	Global Competitiveness Index
ICF	International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health
IMD	International Institute for Management Development
INEDPS	Integrated National Export Development and Promotion Strategy
KCHS	Kenya Continuous Household Survey
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
KPLC	Kenya Power and Lighting Company
LPI	Logistics Performance Index
IMCO	Mexican Institute of Competitiveness
SDIP	State Department for Investment Promotion
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
TMA	TradeMark Africa
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
WEF	World Economic Forum
WCY	World Competitiveness Yearbook
WSRB	Water Services Regulatory Board

Structure of the report

The CCI 2024 report is organised into six main sections. All other important but supplementary content is provided in the appendices.

1

Section 1: Introduces the concept of the regional competitiveness index and the underlying framework that informs the construction of the CCI for Kenya. This framework serves as the basis for selecting the six domains used in CCI construction.

2

Section 2: Outlines the detailed methodology employed to construct the CCI, including various data sets (both primary and secondary) used for data analysis.

3

Section 3: Presents the analysis results, showing the different CCI scores across the various domains and the overall CCI scores for all 47 counties in Kenya. This section also provides insights and interpretations of the scores for each county.

4

Section 4: Offers the main conclusions from the findings.

5

Section 5: Presents the key recommendations.

6

Section 6: Outlines some limitations of the study while calculating the CCI, and highlights potential opportunities for leveraging the index.



Introduction

Background

Globally, economies are increasingly prioritising private sector-led economic development strategies to stimulate growth, enhance productivity, foster job creation, and ensure equitable prosperity. Recent success stories in high-growth economies underscore the transformative power of a competitive private sector, capable of driving substantial productivity gains, efficiency improvements, and the creation of high-value employment opportunities (World Bank, 2019).¹ However, Africa's competitiveness remains low, primarily due to significant infrastructure deficiencies, skill imbalances, a sluggish uptake of emerging technologies, and fragile institutions (World Economic Forum, 2019).² These challenges, along with limited financial sector development and low levels of regional trade and integration, hinder African economies from creating an environment conducive to better employment prospects and entrepreneurial opportunities.

450m
Number of new jobs expected to materialize over the next two decades

The Africa Competitiveness Report (2017)³ stresses that immediate measures are essential to address the ongoing challenges in Africa's competitiveness, as these issues threaten the region's ability to provide adequate employment opportunities for its growing youth population. If existing policies continue without adaptation, less than a quarter of the required 450 million new jobs will materialize over the next two decades. Policy adjustments are crucial, focusing on improving the quality of institutions, infrastructure, skill development, and the adoption of innovative technology.

In Kenya, several institutions, both governmental and developmental, are actively working to enhance Kenya's competitiveness. These include:

The State Department for Investment Promotion (SDIP)

Established under Executive Order No. 1 of 2023 within the Ministry of Investments, Trade, and Industry, the SDIP spearheads strategic coordination to attract and retain domestic and foreign investments. Its core mandate is to implement investment policy, foster private investments, and position Kenya as a preferred investment hub in Africa. It also aims to create an enabling business and investment environment to enhance Kenya's competitiveness and elevate its global standing.

1 World Bank (2019). The Future of Work in the Age of Artificial Intelligence. Washington, D.C.: World Bank.

2 World Economic Forum (2019). The Global Competitiveness Report 2019. Geneva: World Economic Forum.

3 African Development Bank (2017). Africa Competitiveness Report 2017. Abidjan: African Development Bank.

Foreward



Message from the Cabinet Secretary

In an increasingly interconnected and competitive world, the prosperity of our nation depends on how effectively each county harnesses its unique potential. The County Competitiveness Index (CCI) report serves not only as a diagnostic tool but also as a catalyst for dialogue, innovation, and reform. By identifying strengths, opportunities, and gaps at the county level, it empowers leaders, policymakers, and the private sector to design targeted interventions that foster an enabling business environment, promote job creation, and improve service delivery.

This County Competitiveness Index (CCI) marks a significant milestone in our collective effort towards promotion of evidence-based policy making, equitable development, and sustainable economic growth across all counties. This report serves as both a mirror and a roadmap—reflecting the current state of competitiveness across Kenya's counties while providing guidance on how to enhance productivity, innovation, and inclusivity at the sub-national level thus realizing Kenya's socio-economic transformation agenda. This Index has been developed by the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry with intention of providing evidence-based framework for assessing and comparing the performance of our counties across key dimensions that drive investment, productivity, and inclusive growth.

The index has been developed to assess and compare the ability of counties to attract investment, create employment, and improve the quality of life for their residents. By examining key pillars such as infrastructure, governance, human capital, business environment, health, and resilience, the Index provides a comprehensive overview of the strengths and challenges that define county performance. It empowers National and County Governments, the private sector, and development partners to make informed decisions that foster competitiveness and shared prosperity.

This year's report comes at a pivotal time, as counties continue to navigate post-pandemic recovery, climate adaptation, and the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The findings highlight the critical importance of collaboration, innovation, and policy coherence in unlocking the full potential of devolved governance. More importantly, the Index underscores that competitiveness is not an end in itself, but a means to ensure inclusive growth, reduce inequality, and improve the wellbeing of all Kenyans.

Further, this initiative complements the Government's broader agenda under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA); Medium Term IV and the Vision 2030, which seek to unlock regional economic potential and ensure shared prosperity for all Kenyans. The Index underscores our commitment to data-driven governance, transparency, and accountability in promoting equitable development across all counties.

We extend our gratitude to all stakeholders including the European Union and TradeMark Africa for their financial and technical support as well as Ministries, Departments, Counties, agencies and private sector who contributed to the development of this report. It is our hope that this report will serve as a valuable tool for benchmarking progress, identifying opportunities, and inspiring county leaders to pursue transformative, evidence-driven development.

Together, let us build a more competitive, resilient, and inclusive Kenya where every county thrives as a hub of opportunity and innovation.

Hon. Lee Kinyanjui, EGH - Cabinet Secretary

Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry

Republic of Kenya

Preface

Message from the Principal Secretary for Investment



The global landscape is evolving rapidly, presenting both challenges and opportunities for competitiveness. This first edition of the County Competitiveness Index (CCI) is among the Government's initiative to improve the business environment across the entire nation within the context of the Kenya Vision 2030 and the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

It aims at fostering balanced regional development by evaluating the respective county competitiveness, pin points key strengths and weaknesses, provides insights for decision making and promotes data driven policy formulation and accountability.

The index analyzed various investment and business climate indicators based on six pillars through a methodology of engaging stakeholders and weighting of the indicators. Primary data comprising 5,850 firms across 47 counties in Kenya was gathered to understand the business and investment climate landscape. Secondary data was also collected for all indicators from authoritative publicly available data sources, verified and validated for accuracy and reliability.

The findings in the CCI reveal significant variation across the counties, clustered into three categories, reflecting differing levels of development and domain specific strengths. The first category comprising of Highly Competitive Counties, that includes Nairobi, Kiambu, Murang'a, and Nyeri which underscores that strong institutional framework, robust economic activities and well-developed infrastructure are central to high competitiveness.

The second category of Intermediate Competitive Counties, such as Nakuru, Machakos, Embu indicate that business efficiency, climate and environmental considerations are essential in driving intermediate competitiveness. The third category on Least Competitive Counties, that include Wajir, Tana River, Marsabit highlights limited economic activities and under developed infrastructure as major barriers to competitiveness.

This index concludes by stating that human capital significantly impacts the CCI, with counties like Kiambu, Kisumu and Machakos excelling in education, employment and labour productivity. Climate-related risks such as water scarcity, droughts, and land degradation that affects counties like Wajir, Mandera, Marsabit require climate resistance technologies and water management systems to mitigate effects of climate change for long-term sustainability.

Conversely, counties with low competitiveness need greater and more comprehensive set of interventions to tackle foundational challenges in education, health, infrastructure and governance.

The development of the Kenya County Competitiveness Index (CCI) -2024 report was ably supported by the European Union. I specifically acknowledge contributions by members of the Department of Business Reforms and Transformation (DBRT) team, headed by Mr. Reuben K. Ng'eno. Members of the team include: -

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Winnie Nyambok | 11. Picoty Rono |
| 2. Bernard Amimo | 12. Leonard Mambo |
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| 6. Cyrus Kamaru | 16. James Ng'ang'a |
| 7. Esther Karuri | 17. Ingrid Nyakerario |
| 8. Kevin Muriuki | 18. Hesbon Mwangi |
| 9. Edwin Aiyebai | 19. Joan Naitore |
| 10. Marine Kiyeng | |

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to the European Union and TradeMark Africa, who provided funding through the Business Environment and Export Enhancement Programme (BEEEP) for the preparation of this report. I further acknowledge the valuable support extended by TMA's consultant and technical assistant to DBRT, Ms. Agatha Nderitu, the SDIP and DBRT teams, and TMA's consultants, all of whom contributed insightful input, comments, and feedback.

I extend my special gratitude to the team of consultants drawn from Perigee Consulting Ltd, for the production of this report and those who dedicated their time and effort to ensure that this report meets Government's expectations.

The technical team included;

1. Anthony Mveyange, PhD (Economic Researcher and Team Leader)
2. Gideon Chikamai (Data Scientist)
3. Victoria Nyamunga (Communication and Engagement Specialist)
4. Jacinta Mbilo (Regional Urban Planner)
5. Chris Karumba (CCI Project Coordinator) and
6. Kevin Chesa Kweyu (Quantitative Data Analyst).

By understanding our competitive advantages and challenges at National and County levels, we can work collaboratively to foster innovation, improve productivity and build a resilient economy that benefits all.

**Abubakar Hassan Abubakar, CBS - Principal Secretary for Investment Promotion
Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry**



The Directorate of Business Reforms and Transformation (DBRT)

Under the State Department for Investment Promotion, the aim is to enhance the business, trade, and investment environment in Kenya by instigating meaningful reforms within government policy, legal, regulatory, and administrative frameworks. Collaborating closely with the private sector, development partners, and key stakeholders, DBRT has successfully implemented reforms across various government entities, significantly improving the country's business climate.

Its engagements shape the Business Climate Reforms Action Plan for the 2022/23 - 2025/26 period, which is supported by the Business Environment and Export Enhancement Programme (BEEEP), with annual reviews ensuring ongoing refinement and prioritisation of reforms.

The Business Environment and Export Enhancement Programme (BEEEP)

With funding from the European Union (EU), TMA is implementing a five-year initiative called the Business Environment and Export Enhancement Programme (BEEEP) to strengthen Kenya's exports and foster a favourable trade environment. BEEEP aligns with the Integrated National Export Development and Promotion Strategy (INEDPS) to promote agricultural exports and address Kenya's trade deficit.

The programme's three primary objectives are to increase and diversify trade in selected value chains, reduce trading times and costs, and enhance the overall business climate. A critical focus of BEEEP is supporting DBRT in building the capacity of public sector entities to develop, coordinate, and implement business reforms at national and sub-national levels. These reforms aim to streamline processes, reduce service delivery times, and cut costs across various business-related services, fostering greater efficiency and transparency in the public-private sector interface.

Given Kenya's diverse economic landscape, with varying degrees of development across its counties, it has become evidently imperative to assess the competitiveness of each county in creating an enabling business environment to foster balanced economic growth and attract investments at the regional level. Thus, the Government of Kenya, in collaboration with SDIP, initiated the development of a CCI⁴.

At the national level, this can be viewed as a critical step towards driving bespoke investment opportunities to different counties and promoting sustainable economic development in Kenya. Through this initiative, Kenya aims to strengthen its competitiveness as an investment destination, foster regional economic growth, and achieve balanced developmental results across its diverse counties.

⁴ See Appendix 1 for a comprehensive literature on the concept of competitiveness, as well as existing competitiveness indices.

Purpose and scope

In line with the Government of Kenya’s objectives to strengthen competitiveness, foster regional economic growth, and achieve balanced development, TMA, through the BEEP programme, undertook an initiative to develop a CCI.

The overall objectives of developing the CCI are to:



Assess and rank

The competitiveness of Kenyan counties based on various investment and business climate indicators.



Identify factors

Contributing to the competitiveness of top-performing counties and opportunities for improvement in others.



Provide policymakers, investors & businesses

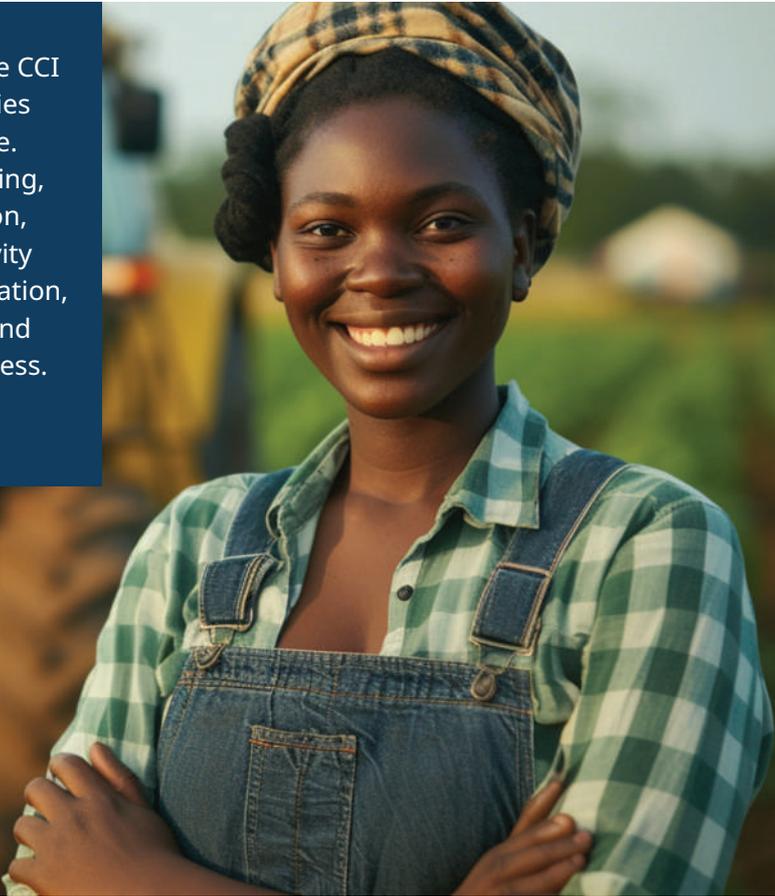
With region- or county-specific insights for informed decision-making and resource allocation.



Enhance transparency and accountability

In county-level governance through data-driven policy formulation.

This report outlines the methodology for the CCI development process and associated activities undertaken to achieve the intended purpose. This includes indicator selection and weighting, data collection and analysis, index calculation, county profiling and benchmarking, sensitivity analysis, stakeholder consultation and validation, knowledge transfer and capacity building, and communication, dissemination, and awareness.



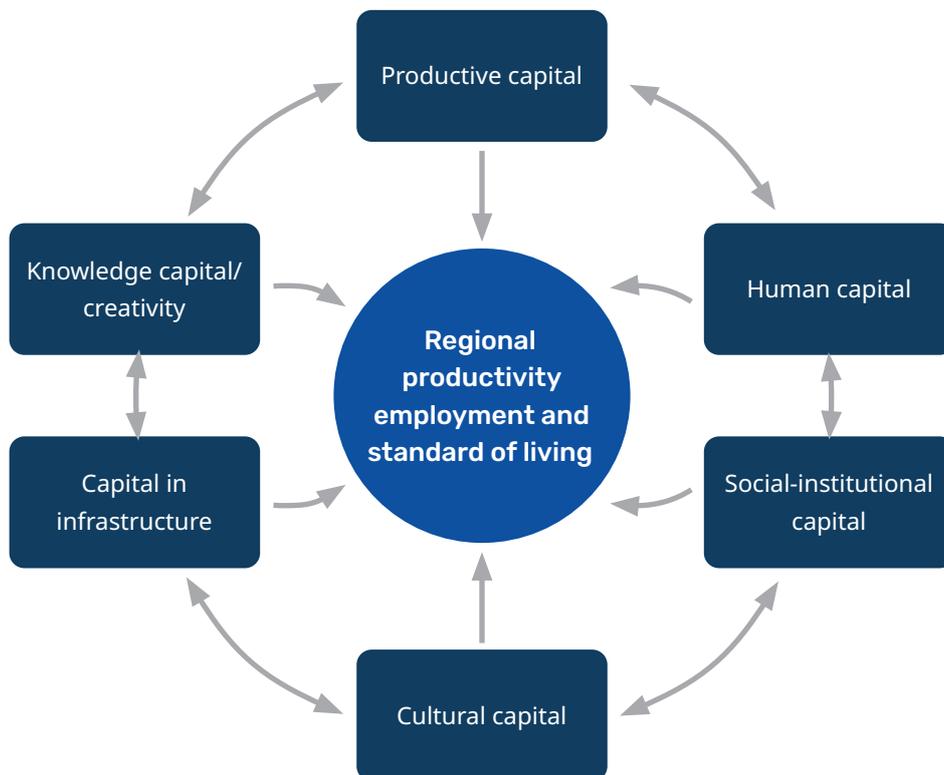
Methodology

Theoretical framework for constructing the CCI

In constructing the regional competitiveness index, the first step was to identify the key drivers of competitiveness for the area under study. This involved understanding the factors that contribute to the competitiveness of regions within a country. Given that the factors influencing regional competitiveness are not universally agreed upon, the process entailed selecting from a range of potential criteria based on the context and objectives of the index. To guide this process, the framework developed by Kitson, Martin, and Tyler (2004) was employed as a conceptual foundation.⁵ This framework provides a well-established theoretical basis for understanding the drivers of regional competitive advantage and served as a starting point for identifying relevant factors in the regional context.

From this framework, several drivers (or pillars) of competitiveness were identified and documented in the literature. For instance, Benzaquen et al. (2010) applied this framework to outline the following five key pillars/domains of competitiveness (see Figure 1):⁶

Figure 1: Bases of regional competitiveness advantages (Kiston et al. 2004)



5 Kitson, M., Martin, R., & Tyler, P. (2004). Regional competitiveness: an elusive yet key concept? *Regional studies*, 38(9), 991-999.

6 Benzaquen, J., Carpio, L. A. D., Zegarra, L. A., & Valdivia, C. A. (2010). A competitiveness index for the regions of a country.

1 Government and Institutions

This driver includes factors such as the presence of the state, public security, investment expenditure, resource mobilization, and transfer income.

2 Economic Development

This focuses on the size and growth of the regional economy, internationalization, economic diversification, and employment levels.

3 Productive Infrastructure

This includes key infrastructure elements such as energy supply, road networks, transport systems, tourism, and connectivity.

4 Human Capital

This pillar covers education (from lower to higher levels), job training, and health services.

5 Business Efficiency

This refers to factors such as productivity, business climate, entrepreneurial skills, innovation, and job creation.

6 Climate and Environment

This pillar refers to factors such as Environmental Quality and Environmental Policy and Management which at a granular level includes indicators such as Forest Coverage, Population in County Served by formalized WSPs, Water Coverage, Percentage of County Population within Service Areas of Utilities, Population Served, Sewerage Coverage.

These six pillars/domains were incorporated into the competitiveness index computation for Kenya, with each factor operationalised into measurable indicators. This design aimed to capture a comprehensive view of Kenya's counties competitiveness and provide a structured framework for comparing them based on these drivers.

This approach ensured that the index was grounded in a solid theoretical foundation while remaining adaptable to the unique characteristics of the counties/regions being assessed.



The CCI development process

The development of the CCI followed a structured and systematic process. Below is a detailed description of the steps undertaken to construct the index:

Identification of key indicators

A comprehensive set of indicators was identified to measure the critical aspects influencing the investment, trade and business climate at the county level. The identification of indicators related to the six pillars above, namely, government and institutions (including the regulatory environment), productive infrastructure, human capital, the business environment (e.g., access to finance, ease of doing business), and climate and environment (see Table 1).

These indicators were selected to provide a holistic view of the factors impacting county competitiveness, ensuring that each critical element influencing trade, business and investment was adequately captured and reflected in the resulting Index.

Literature review and stakeholder engagement

A thorough literature review was conducted to ensure that the selected indicators aligned with global best practices in assessing the competitiveness of regions and sub-national areas. This review involved analysing existing frameworks and methodologies used in various countries to evaluate county or regional competitiveness (see Appendix 1).

To assess the relevance and applicability of the identified indicators to the local context, engagement with relevant stakeholders was undertaken. This provided invaluable insights into the factors most important for county-level competitiveness and helped to validate the indicators while incorporating local knowledge into the selection.



26

Number of stakeholders in the engagement process from diverse groups.

Weighting of indicators

Following the identification of the indicators, the next step was to assign appropriate weights to each pillar/domain based on its relative importance in determining the overall competitiveness of a county. A stakeholder engagement process was held in July 2024, bringing together 26 stakeholders from a diverse group, including representatives from the Council of Governors, county governments, DBRT, TMA, KIPPRA, KNBS, other private sector entities, academia, civil society organisations, and development partners. This broad spectrum of participants ensured a rich exchange of ideas and perspectives, essential for developing a robust CCI.

After comprehensive stakeholder engagement, it was agreed to use equal weighting in the CCI, primarily due to the lack of clear theoretical underpinning for differential weighting of the factors. Equal weighting also simplified the construction of the index, making it easier to understand and communicate, while ensuring that no single factor is given disproportionate importance over another without clear reason. This approach allowed for a broad, generalised assessment of competitiveness, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement across various domains.

Moreover, most established indices, such as the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI), also adopt a simplified structure with equal weighting, reinforcing the validity of this approach. By using equal weights, the index becomes more universally applicable, enabling stakeholders across different counties to compare their performance in a straightforward and consistent manner. Consequently, the number of indicators used in the index directly determined the weighting, ensuring a balanced approach to evaluating competitiveness.



Table 2. List of domains and indicators identified for the CCI construction

Domain	Factor	Indicator
Government and Institutions	Financial Resources (Revenue Collection)	Annual Own Source Revenue 2023/24; Total Revenue 2023/24
	Investment Expenditure (Normalized)	Expenditure Dev
	Public Security	Crime rate per capita
	Presence of county/public establishments	Pre-primary institutions per 1000 population; Primary institutions per 1000 population; Secondary institutions per 1000 population; Health facilities per 1000 population; TVETs per 1000 population; Universities per 1000 population
Economic Development	Size of Economy	Gross County Product at Constant 2016 Prices (Kshs Million), 2022
		Gross County Product Per Capita (Kshs), 2022
	Internationalization / Diversification (GCP by economic activity)	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing; Mining and Quarrying; Manufacturing; Electricity Supply; Water Supply & Waste Collection; Wholesale & Retail Trade; Transport & Storage; Accommodation & Food Services
Productive infrastructure	Energy	Electricity consumption by businesses
		Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating, and lighting
	Road Network	County Road Length (Surface condition - Good); County Road Length (Surface condition - Fair); County Road Length (Surface condition - Fair)
	Transport	Land transport (Rural Access Index); Air Transport (Distance from County to Nearest International Airport) Km; Reciprocal Air Transport (Distance from County to Nearest International Airport) Km; Distance to nearest Port - Mombasa (Km); Reciprocal Distance to nearest Port - Mombasa (Km).
	Tourism	Number of hotel establishments; Hotel establishments per 100
Connectivity	Access to Internet (%)	
Human capital	Basic Education	Percent literate (Women); Percent literate (Men); Gross Enrolment Ratios at Secondary Education Level; Gross Enrolment Ratios at Primary Education Level; Net Enrolment Ratio (Primary); Net Enrolment Ratio (Secondary)
	Health	Neonatal mortality (NN); Post-neonatal mortality (PNN); Infant mortality (1q0); Child mortality (4q1); Under-5 mortality (5q0); Female Life Expectancy at Birth; Male Life Expectancy at Birth; Age Dependency Ratio; Old Age Dependency Ratio; Child Dependency Ratio
Business efficiency	Productivity	Labour productivity (Kshs/labour hour)
	Business Environment	Financial Inclusion: Formal inclusion (%); Firm has credit; Firm access overdraft facility; Operational days; Reciprocal operational days; New firm; Business Development Services firms
	Innovation	Use of internet; Firms implementing new processes
	Job creation	Employment ratio; New hires per firm
Climate and environment	Environmental Quality	Forest Cover Percentage (%); Population in County Served by formalized WSPs (%); Water Coverage (%)
	Environmental Policy and Management	Percentage of County Population within Service Areas of Utilities (%); Population Served (%); Sewerage Coverage (%)

5,850
 Number of firms
 from which data was
 collected from across
 the 47 counties in
 Kenya

Data collection and analysis

Primary and secondary data were collected to operationalise the CCI construction. Primary data was gathered to understand the business and investment landscape across counties. To achieve this, a comprehensive firm questionnaire was developed, with modules focusing on firm characteristics and the business and investment landscape (including infrastructure, market size, and regulatory environment), among others. In total, data were collected from 5,850 firms across the 47 counties in Kenya. The survey covered all 47 counties (see Appendix 4 for detailed sampling information).

Secondary data were collected for all indicators with publicly available data from authoritative sources, including the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK), the Kenya Demographic Household Survey (KDHS), and the Kenya Continuous Household Survey (KCHS), among others (see Appendix 4 for the sources of different indicators). All collected data were then verified and validated for accuracy and reliability. This was essential to ensure that the data would provide a true reflection of each county's competitiveness.

Index calculation

The CCI was constructed through a multi-step methodology that involved Principal Component Analysis (PCA), normalization, weighting, and sensitivity analysis. The goal was to develop a balanced and comparable scoring system that accurately reflected the competitiveness of each county. The following steps outline the process used to calculate the CCI.

Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

PCA was applied to reduce the dimensionality of the dataset while preserving the most critical information. By transforming the original set of indicators into a new set of uncorrelated variables, known as principal components (PCs), PCA grouped highly correlated indicators and simplified the dataset. This process allowed for a more manageable analysis while maintaining the underlying structure of the data.

- Each principal component captured a portion of the total variance in the data, with the first component accounting for the greatest variance, and each subsequent component explaining progressively less.
- The principal components were calculated as linear combinations of the original indicators. For a standardized data matrix \mathbf{x} , the score for the i -th principal component was expressed as:

Equation 1. PCA formula

$$PC_i = a_{i1} X_1 + a_{i2} X_2 + \dots + a_{ip} X_p$$

where a_{ij} were the loadings indicating the contribution of each original variable X_j to the i -th principal component.

Data standardisation

Indicators were standardized using z-scores to ensure uniform scaling.

Equation 2. Data Standardisation

$$Z_{ij} = \frac{(X_{ij} - \mu_j)}{\sigma_j}$$

where:

X_{ij} - Original value of indicator j for county

μ_j - Mean of indicator

σ_j : Standard deviation of indicator j.

PCA decomposition

PCA was conducted on the covariance matrix Σ , generating principal components as linear combinations of the original variables.

Equation 3. PCA decomposition

$$PC_k = \sum_{j=1}^p a_{k,j} Z_j$$

where:

PC_k - k^{th} principal component

Z_j - Standardized value of the j^{th} variable

$a_{k,j}$ - Loading of variable j on k^{th} component.

Eigenvalue and explained variance

The eigenvalues of the covariance matrix represent the variance explained by each principal component.

Equation 4. Eigenvalue and variance

Variance explained by

$$PC_k = \frac{\lambda_k}{\sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k} \times 100$$

where:

λ_k : The eigenvalue corresponding to the k^{th} principal component. It measures the variance captured by the k^{th} component.

p: The total number of principal components.

PC_k : The percentage of variance explained by the k^{th} principal component, calculated as a proportion of the total variance.

Scree plot and cumulative variance

A scree plot visualized the eigenvalues to identify the “elbow point,” while cumulative variance was calculated as:

Equation 5. Scree plot and cumulative variance

$$C_k = \sum_{j=1}^k \left(\frac{\lambda_j}{\sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k} \right) \times 100$$

where:

C_k : The cumulative percentage of variance explained up to the k^{th} principal component.

λ_j : The eigenvalue of the j^{th} principal component (where j ranges from 1 to k).

Varimax rotation

To enhance interpretability, the retained components were rotated using the Varimax method. The rotated loadings maximize the variance of squared loadings:

Equation 6. Varimax rotation

$$Max \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^p b_{k,j}^4$$

where:

$b_{k,j}$: The rotated loading of the j^{th} variable on the k^{th} principal component after applying the Varimax rotation method. This represents the weight of the variable on the component.

m: The total number of variables in the dataset.

Domain scores calculation

The CCI consists of six domains:

- Government and Institutions
- Economic Development
- Productive Infrastructure
- Human Capital
- Business Efficiency
- Climate and Environment

For each domain, the principal components were weighted based on the variance they explained.

Component scores

Scores for the rotated principal components were computed as:

Equation 7. Component scores

$$S_{i,k} = \sum_{j=1}^p b_{k,j} Z_{i,j}$$

where:

- $S_{i,k}$: Score of county on k^{th} rotated component

- $b_{k,j}$: Rotated loading of indicator j on k^{th} component.

Domain score aggregation

The domain score was calculated as the sum of weighted component scores:

Equation 8. Domain scores aggregation

$$F_i = \sum_{k=1}^m S_{i,k} W_k$$

where:

$$- W_k = \frac{\lambda_k}{\sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j}$$

Weight of k^{th} component based on explained variance.

Normalisation

The domain scores were normalized to a range using min-max scaling.

Equation 9. Domain scores normalisation

$$X_i = \frac{(F_i - \min(F))}{(\max(F) - \min(F))}$$

where:

X_i is a normalized indicator for domain i

F_i is the CCI for domain i

Overall CCI calculation

Domain weighting

Equal weighting was applied to the six domains:

$$CCI_i = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{d=1}^N D_{i,d}$$

where:

- N is the total number of domains

- $D_{i,d}$: Normalized score for domain of county .

Final normalisation

The overall CCI score was normalized to ensure comparability:

Equation 10. Normalized CCI

$$CCI_i^{normalized} = \frac{(CCI_i - \min(CCI))}{(\max(CCI) - \min(CCI))}$$

Normalisation and sensitivity analysis

Normalization was applied at multiple stages, including min-max normalisation of indicators and final CCI scores. A sensitivity analysis was conducted to assess the robustness of the index under various weighting and data scenarios. The final CCI provides a standardized measure for comparing competitiveness across counties.

Results

Descriptive statistics

Table 6 in Appendix 3a presents summary statistics for key indicators across all six domains considered in constructing the CCI. It also details the methods of data measurement, and the specific years involved. Except for the business survey, which gathered primary data in 2024, all secondary data were sourced from various channels, with the majority collected between 2023 and 2024.

Due to limited data in certain periods, the analysis utilized data from previous years, with 2020-2022 being the earliest included periods. Although this earlier data may not fully or accurately reflect the situation in 2024, it serves as the best available proxy for the current year and we believe still provides a close reflection of the present status of the indicator, factor or domain in the county.

Despite the challenges posed by data scarcity, given the cross-sectional nature of the analysis, the estimated CCI scores, provide a solid foundation for reliably and consistently assessing county competitiveness performance today.



Main results

Table 3 below shows the scores of various counties across six key domains: Government and Institutions, Economic Development, Productive Infrastructure, Human Capital, Business Efficiency, and Climate and Environment are assessed, culminating in a final score that summarises overall performance. Each domain evaluates various aspects of county performance, from governance to infrastructure and human development in these regions.

Table 3. Domain scores by county

County	Government & Institutions	Economic Development	Productive Infrastructure	Human Capital	Business Efficiency	Climate & Environment	Overall CCI Score
Nairobi	100%	100%	100%	51%	26%	83%	77%
Kiambu	73%	37%	77%	63%	100%	89%	73%
Nyeri	43%	19%	53%	100%	50%	99%	61%
Muranga	57%	18%	42%	91%	81%	74%	61%
Nakuru	55%	42%	79%	46%	57%	64%	57%
Machakos	82%	29%	41%	62%	69%	55%	56%
Mombasa	35%	30%	93%	47%	53%	57%	53%
Kirinyaga	33%	14%	23%	96%	83%	65%	52%
Embu	48%	12%	20%	82%	63%	80%	51%
Tharaka Nithi	74%	5%	10%	91%	57%	64%	50%
Kilifi	40%	17%	52%	46%	38%	100%	49%
Taita Taveta	61%	5%	22%	80%	46%	74%	48%
Meru	43%	27%	37%	67%	56%	43%	45%
Kajiado	41%	11%	50%	44%	76%	38%	43%
Uasin Gishu	39%	15%	45%	53%	38%	50%	40%
Kitui	76%	7%	37%	56%	25%	37%	40%
Makueni	53%	6%	58%	58%	17%	40%	39%
Kisumu	39%	20%	30%	53%	31%	46%	37%
Nyandarua	33%	22%	35%	60%	17%	50%	36%
Kisii	39%	14%	22%	57%	37%	47%	36%
Bomet	43%	13%	18%	53%	41%	42%	35%
Kericho	40%	12%	16%	61%	37%	41%	34%
Trans Nzoia	27%	9%	11%	52%	62%	39%	33%
Laikipia	36%	7%	27%	45%	28%	55%	33%
Kakamega	27%	14%	33%	50%	43%	26%	32%
Nyamira	37%	11%	6%	56%	64%	19%	32%
Siaya	33%	7%	31%	39%	26%	40%	29%

County	Government & Institutions	Economic Development	Productive Infrastructure	Human Capital	Business Efficiency	Climate & Environment	Overall CCI Score
Kwale	26%	19%	33%	39%	27%	21%	27%
Vihiga	33%	6%	21%	58%	21%	24%	27%
Isiolo	13%	0%	23%	36%	52%	39%	27%
Nandi	40%	13%	16%	57%	16%	21%	27%
Narok	36%	12%	22%	42%	22%	26%	27%
Busia	24%	4%	17%	42%	64%	9%	27%
Bungoma	38%	12%	21%	35%	15%	26%	25%
Lamu	31%	4%	15%	36%	20%	40%	24%
Turkana	22%	6%	13%	24%	58%	14%	23%
Baringo	41%	3%	14%	38%	21%	18%	23%
Elgeyo Marakwet	28%	9%	0%	61%	0%	36%	22%
Homa Bay	45%	8%	7%	40%	11%	19%	22%
Migori	30%	14%	10%	37%	24%	15%	22%
Samburu	20%	1%	9%	23%	28%	46%	21%
West Pokot	25%	8%	2%	33%	19%	33%	20%
Mandera	2%	1%	3%	14%	63%	18%	17%
Marsabit	5%	2%	14%	26%	47%	0%	16%
Garissa	1%	2%	9%	9%	57%	13%	15%
Tana River	15%	0%	5%	18%	13%	30%	14%
Wajir	0%	1%	31%	0%	41%	3%	13%



Overall counties' performance

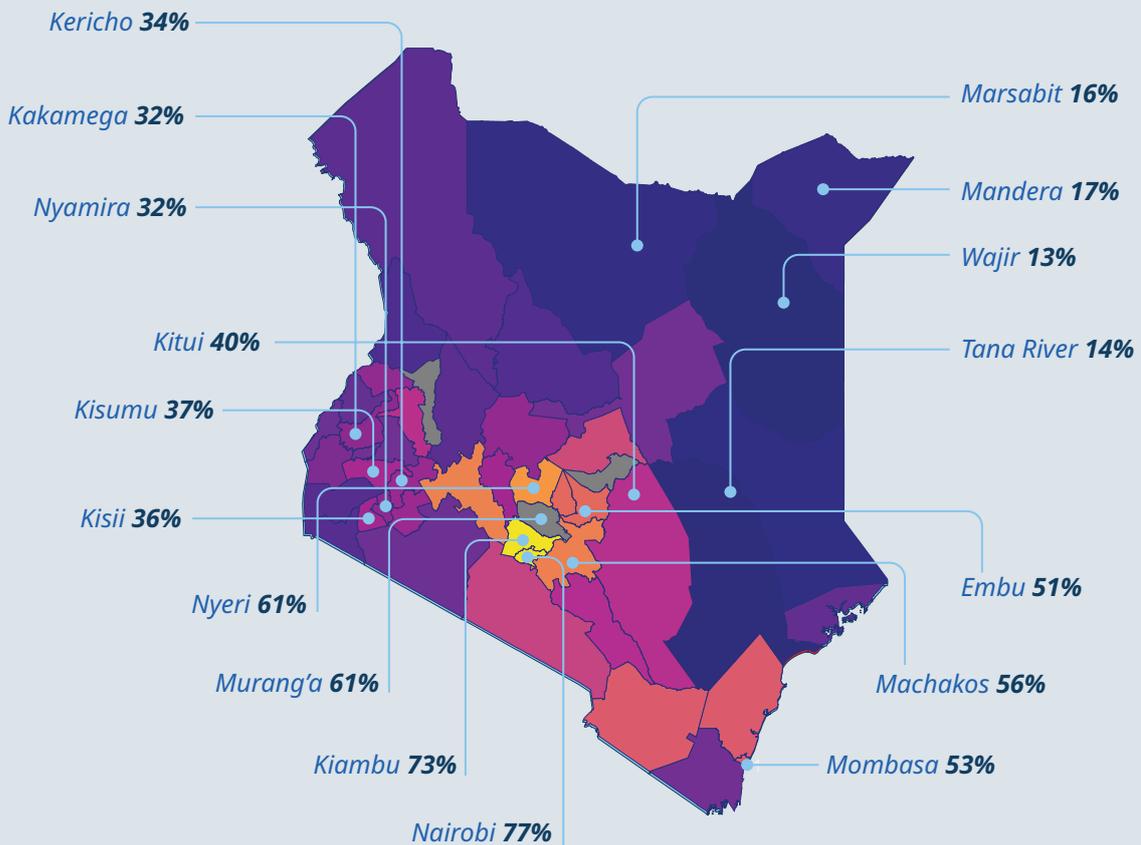
Figures 2 and 3 summarize the overall competitiveness of the 47 counties in Kenya. Figure 2 illustrates the counties' performance based on their overall CCI scores, while Figure 3 provides a spatial representation of this dataset.

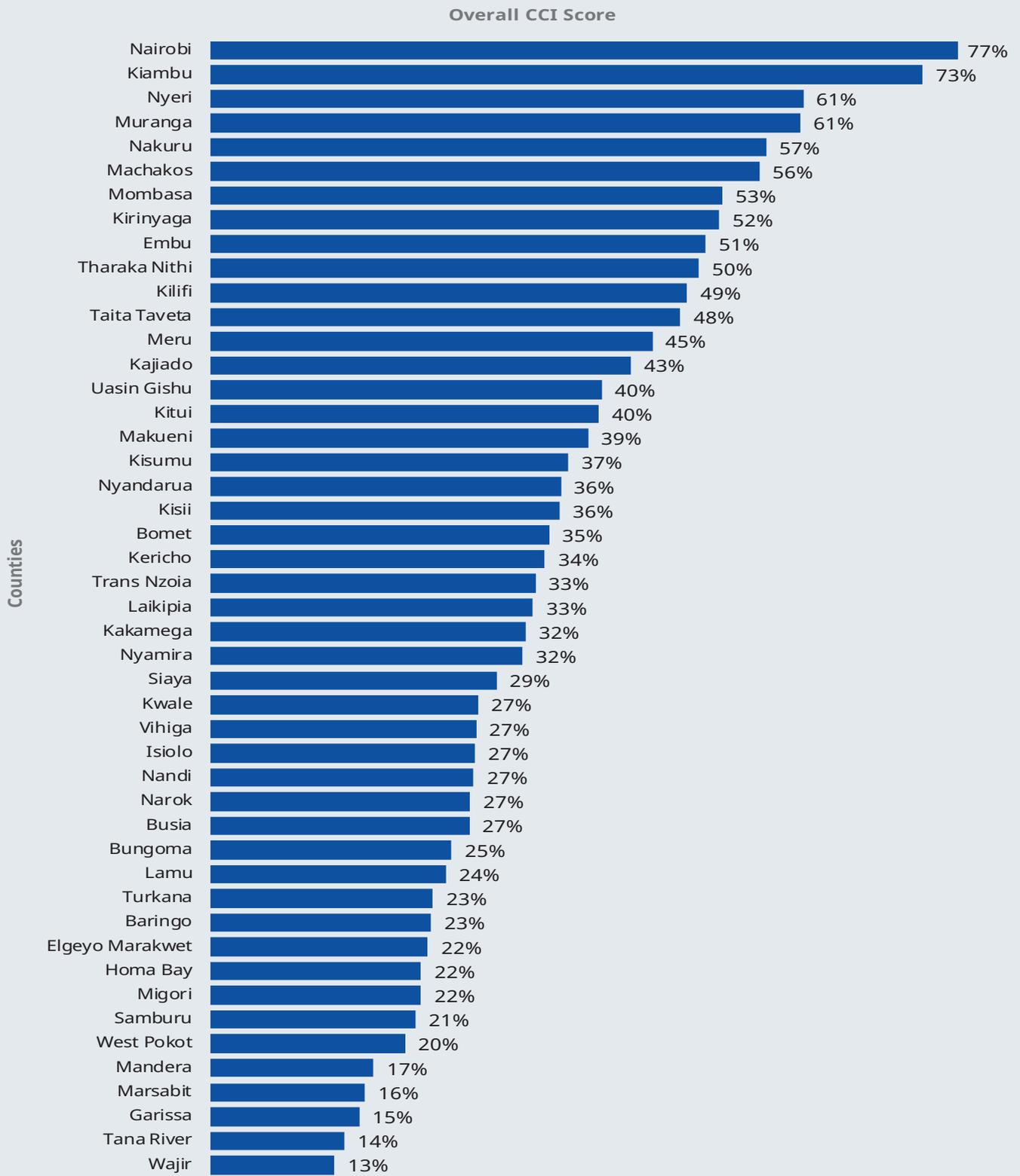
77%
 Highest final CCI
 (Nairobi County)

The overall county competitiveness scores revealed significant variation across the counties, reflecting differing levels of development and domain-specific strengths. Nairobi led with the highest final CCI score of 77%, followed by Kiambu (73%), Nyeri (61%), and Murang'a (61%), showcasing strong performance in key areas such as economic development, infrastructure, and governance. Counties such as Embu (51%), Machakos (56%), and Mombasa (53%) also exhibit high scores, indicating intermediate competitiveness. In contrast, counties like Wajir (13%), Tana River (14%), Marsabit (16%), and Mandera (17%) lag significantly, emphasising persistent challenges in infrastructure, human capital, and economic activity.

Intermediately competitive counties, including Kisumu (37%), Kisii (36%), and Kitui (40%), demonstrate potential for growth, with steady improvements needed across domains to enhance competitiveness. Counties such as Kericho (34%), Kakamega (32%), and Nyamira (32%) show average performance, suggesting room for targeted interventions to boost specific domains. This spectrum of performance underscores the diverse socio-economic conditions across Kenya, with the highly competitive counties benefiting from robust investments and institutional efficiencies, while the less competitive counties require comprehensive strategies to address foundational gaps.

Figure 2: Counties CCI performance





Grouped county performance

As would be expected from equal weighting, the final Index scores indicate that strong performance in certain domains significantly impacts overall competitiveness. These results on the competitive standings of various counties enabled counties to be classified into three categories based on their performance across all six domains: high, intermediate, and low levels of competitiveness..

Highly Competitive Counties

Counties like Nairobi, Kiambu, Murang'a, and Nyeri ranked as highly competitive, achieving top final scores largely due to consistent high performance across multiple domains. For example, Nairobi led with perfect scores in Government and Institutions, Economic Development, and Productive Infrastructure, complemented by strong scores in Climate and Environment. This indicates that a strong institutional framework, robust economic activities, and well-developed infrastructure are central to high competitiveness. Kiambu followed closely, driven by high scores in Government and Institutions, Business Efficiency, and Climate and Environment, all of which contribute to its top-tier status. Murang'a and Nyeri also exhibited high competitiveness due to substantial investments in Human Capital and Productive Infrastructure, with Nyeri reaching a full score in Human Capital, indicating that a well-developed workforce and educational foundation are key drivers in these counties.



Intermediately Competitive Counties

Intermediately competitive counties, such as Nakuru, Machakos, and Embu, displayed balanced strengths across multiple domains, without consistently attaining the topmost values seen in the top-performing counties. Nakuru, for example, returned strong performances in Productive Infrastructure and Economic Development, highlighting the importance of physical infrastructure and economic activities. Similarly, Machakos had competitive scores in Government and Institutions and Productive Infrastructure, suggesting that robust governance structures and infrastructure play a critical role in its competitiveness. Embu's performance across Business Efficiency and Climate and Environment helped it maintain a competitive edge, indicating that environmental considerations and business dynamics are essential in driving intermediate competitiveness.

Least Competitive Counties

Counties such as Wajir, Tana River, and Marsabit were among the lowest-scoring in terms of competitiveness, largely due to their weak performance across most domains. Wajir, for instance, had very low scores in Government and Institutions, Human Capital, and Climate and Environment, underscoring challenges in institutional strength and workforce development. Similarly, Tana River and Marsabit exhibited low scores in Economic Development and Productive Infrastructure, highlighting limited economic activities and underdeveloped infrastructure as major barriers to competitiveness. These counties typically lack robust institutions and infrastructure to support growth and development and attract investments.

Domains correlations

Table 4 presents the correlation matrix of the domains' scores, illustrating the strength of the relationships between the six CCI domains. Government and Institutions exhibited a strong correlation with all domains (greater than 50%) except for the business efficiency domain (12%). Similarly, Economic Development correlated strongly with Productive Infrastructure (75%) and moderately with Climate and Environment (49%), highlighting the influence of these domains on counties' economic development. Conversely, Human Capital and Business Efficiency have weak correlations with the Economic Development domain, at 25% and 12%, respectively.

Additionally, Productive Infrastructure and Human Capital show strong correlations with Climate and Environment, with coefficients of 58% and 67%.

Overall, these correlations indicate a strong positive relationship among the six CCI domains, suggesting that they mutually reinforce one another in explaining the overall CCI score for each county.

50%

Strong domain score correlation exhibited by government and institutions

Table 4. Domains' scores correlation matrix

	Government & Institutions	Economic Development	Productive Infrastructure	Human Capital	Business Efficiency	Climate & Environment
Government & Institutions	100%					
Economic Development	64%	100%				
Productive Infrastructure	54%	75%	100%			
Human Capital	62%	25%	23%	100%		
Business Efficiency	12%	12%	26%	30%	100%	
Climate & Environment	62%	49%	58%	67%	31%	100%



Conclusions



A number of conclusions can be drawn from the presented CCI results:

There are significant regional disparities in competitiveness within Kenya, with clear differences in county performance.

A notable divide exists between regions that exhibit high levels of competitiveness and those that underperform. Urban and economically advanced counties, such as Nairobi, Kiambu, and Mombasa, consistently achieve high scores across multiple domains, including governance, infrastructure, human capital, and business efficiency. These counties benefit from better access to services, investment, and skilled labor, fostering vibrant economies. In contrast, counties in the North-eastern and some coastal regions, including Wajir, Mandera, Marsabit, and Tana River, rank at the bottom due to challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, limited human capital, and weaker governance structures. These regions struggle with basic service delivery and face economic isolation, which hinders their competitiveness.

Governance and infrastructure are key drivers of competitiveness

A crucial factor influencing competitiveness is governance. Counties with high competitiveness exhibit stronger institutional frameworks, better service delivery, and efficient governance systems. This is evident in counties like Nairobi and Kiambu, which have well-established public institutions that promote development. In contrast, counties with low competitiveness often suffer from weak governance, limited capacity at the county level, and inefficiencies in service delivery. Inadequate infrastructure exacerbates these challenges, hindering businesses' ability to thrive, residents' access to basic services, and industries' ability to attract investment.



Human capital and business efficiency are critical factors influencing the competitiveness of counties.

Human capital significantly impacts county competitiveness, with counties like Kiambu, Kisumu, and Machakos excelling in education, employment, and labor productivity. The high educational attainment in these areas, combined with well-trained workforces, provides a solid foundation for economic growth. These counties are better able to attract investment and generate job opportunities, further enhancing their competitiveness. Furthermore, business efficiency in counties such as Kiambu, Mombasa, and Kisumu is supported by favorable business environments, characterized by easier access to credit, a higher number of new firms, and greater financial inclusion. In contrast, counties with low competitiveness face challenges such as high unemployment, poor business infrastructure, and low levels of financial inclusion, which hinder entrepreneurship and growth.

Environmental and climate factors significantly impact the competitiveness of counties, especially in arid and semi-arid regions.

Counties like Wajir, Mandera, and Marsabit are vulnerable to climate-related risks such as water scarcity, droughts, and land degradation. These challenges restrict their economic development, as agricultural productivity and other climate-sensitive sectors are severely affected. There is an urgent need for climate-resilient technologies and water management systems to mitigate the effects of climate change and support long-term sustainability.

There is a crucial need for targeted interventions

Counties with intermediate competitiveness, such as Kilifi, Kisii, and Bungoma, show potential for growth but require additional support in governance, infrastructure development, and human capital to advance into the high competitiveness category. Conversely, counties with low competitiveness need greater and perhaps a more comprehensive set of interventions to tackle foundational challenges in education, health, infrastructure, and governance.

Recommendations



From the CCI scores and the foregoing discussion, several recommendations can be drawn. To enhance the competitiveness of counties, it is imperative for the government (at both national and county levels) and other stakeholders to:

Strengthen governance and institutional capacity

to enhance their competitiveness, low-performing counties, such as Wajir and Tana River, could focus on governance reforms to improve public service provision and institutional transparency. Capacity-building initiatives for local administrations, including targeted training and development programmes, may enable these counties to deliver services more effectively and foster a more business-friendly environment. Enhanced transparency and accountability will, in turn, attract investments and stimulate local economic activities.

Expand infrastructure and regional connectivity

Infrastructural developments and investments in the lower-scoring counties, particularly in transportation, energy, and digital infrastructure, are essential to boost connectivity and support economic growth. Counties like Nakuru and Machakos, which demonstrate moderate competitiveness, can benefit from expanded road networks, energy infrastructure, and improved digital access. These developments will reduce logistical costs, attract businesses, and support market access, enabling growth in trade, business innovation, and employment.



Invest in human capital development

Counties with high to moderate human capital scores, like Nyeri and Murang'a, should continue to invest in education, vocational training, and technical skills development to create a skilled workforce. For counties with lower human capital, expanding access to quality education and job training programmes is critical to building a resilient and productive workforce. Public-private partnerships in workforce development can help align education with industry needs, ultimately driving economic growth and competitiveness.

Enhance business efficiency through reforms

Improving business efficiency is key for counties at intermediate competitiveness. Simplifying regulatory processes, reducing barriers to business registration, and providing support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can encourage entrepreneurship and attract investments. By establishing business incubators and innovation hubs, counties can support startups and emerging sectors, boosting economic dynamism and job creation.

Implement climate resilience and sustainability strategies

Given the growing impact of climate change, it is crucial for counties, particularly those in arid and semi-arid areas, to invest in climate-resilient infrastructure. Developing sustainable water management systems and promoting climate-smart agriculture will support agricultural productivity and economic resilience. Counties with high environmental vulnerability, such as Garissa and Marsabit, would benefit from renewable energy projects, including solar and wind power, which improve energy access and environmental sustainability.

Foster targeted development for low-performing counties

the least competitive counties should prioritize basic infrastructure investments in water, education, and healthcare to close foundational development gaps. Tailored economic zones that leverage regional strengths - such as agriculture in rural areas or eco-tourism in coastal counties - can attract targeted investments and create employment opportunities. Collaboration between counties, especially low-performing ones like Wajir, Mandera, and Marsabit, can optimize resource use through shared infrastructure and service delivery initiatives.

Limitations and opportunities of CCI

The current CCI suffers the following key limitations:

- The lack of consistent data within a singular period of analysis limits the meaningful and time-sensitive inferences that policymakers can rely on. Some indicators used in the current CCI are from the 2020-2022 period, characterised by the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath, potentially masking the true picture of county competitiveness.
- The current CCI scores provide a cross-sectional view across counties and reveal little about the dynamics of competitiveness over the years. The results presented show only the level of competitiveness as of 2024 and how that competitiveness has changed over time, which is useful for targeting policy interventions.

Despite these limitations, several actions can be undertaken and opportunities harnessed to improve on the CCI computation and application:



Updated datasets

Mainstreaming data collection across counties in line with the indicators in the domains of the CCI.



Monitoring

The need to construct another CCI one or two years down the line to assess the extent to which changes are occurring across counties, especially as the proposed recommendations are implemented.



Building synergies

Encourage cooperation and coordination between and within counties through consultations, collaboration, and cross-pollination of ideas via the CoG to learn from each other based on counties' CCI-identified comparative and competitive advantages.



Appendices

Appendix 1: CCI stakeholders engagement process

A communications strategy was designed to support stakeholder engagement for the CCI project

The strategy took a deep dive into different important aspects of communication to effectively support the objectives of the project. Stakeholder engagement approach was therefore based on interconnected and systematic steps:

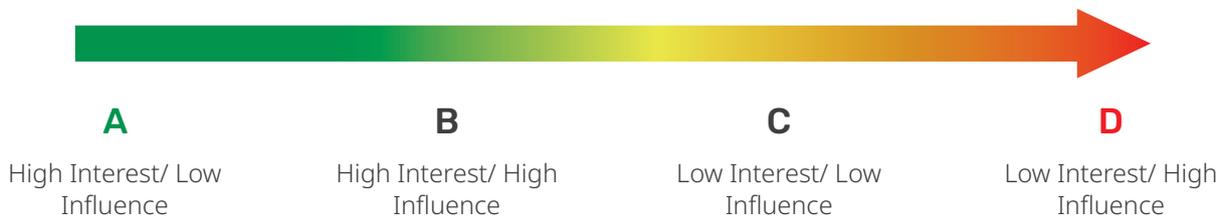
Stakeholder Analysis

An overview of the various stakeholders to engage with before, during and after CCI development was carried out and the stakeholders categorized as internal and external stakeholders on the project.

Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder mapping to help in identifying and understanding the individuals that would be involved in the CCI, and to determine the level of engagement, communication, or consideration required from them.

They were further prioritized to enable project teams to effectively allocate their attention, i.e.,



Stakeholder engagement objectives and the strategies for achieving the objectives/ stakeholder engagement tactics

The main objective was to consult and validate with stakeholders. This involved engaging with relevant stakeholders such as county governments, industry representatives, investors, and experts, and seeking their feedback on the CCI methodology and findings. We developed key messages that were aligned to the project objectives as well as communications objectives, and these were also anchored on all levels of engagement with various stakeholders.

Summary of the strategies that were employed to achieve the stated objectives:

1) To obtain buy in of the CCI, methodology / indicators.

Strategy

- Letters
- Consultative meetings
- Presentations

2) To promote awareness of the project, distribute the CCI findings through public presentations and workshops. This will ensure that the findings are readily available and widely utilized.

Strategy

- Letters
- Workshops/online and meetings
- Infographics/ presentations

3) To ensure accuracy and clear communication, promptly communicate any inaccurately presented information regarding the project to the stakeholders through their preferred channels.

Strategy

- Letters
- Consultative meetings

4) To promote active participation and open communication throughout the assignment.

Strategy

- Clear, straightforward and easy-to-comprehend messages.
- Timely dissemination of information.
- Visible key messages.
- Access to information and messages (emails, letters, and even project leads who may be required to offer input/create clarity occasionally).
- Feedback mechanisms to encourage two-way engagement, e.g., steering committee engagements, meetings, and County entities forum.

5) To engage and motivate the support of crucial institutional and internal stakeholders who will aid in the process.

Strategy

- Letters of Introduction of the Perigee Consulting Limited to critical stakeholders in the assignment.
- Letter/ Memo issued to all Counties through the CoG.
- Letters issued to all relevant stakeholders through DBRT.

6) To ensure transparency of the process.

Strategy

- Encourage access to crucial information through identified and agreed mediums and on time to all stakeholders.
- Listen to all stakeholders and affirm the value they bring to the table.
- Reassure all stakeholders that their feedback is valued and appreciated.

Stakeholder engagement process

Stakeholder engagement process took the following **IAPAR** approach:



Sample stakeholder engagement process

Following the completion of the comprehensive literature review, and the development of draft indicators for the CCI, the Consultant team engaged stakeholders to validate these indicators to ensure they are robust and contextually relevant. In this, a stakeholder workshop was held at Mercure Hotel, Upper hill, Nairobi-Kenya, on 17-18th July 2024 and undertook the following:



Workshop objectives

Introduced the workshop objectives, set the context for the CCI, and presented the dimensions of competitiveness relevant to the county.



Brainstorming sessions

Conducted brainstorming sessions where stakeholders identified, validated, and prioritized key dimensions of competitiveness. Breakout sessions allowed detailed discussions on specific dimensions, and stakeholders shared insights on factors driving competitiveness.



Consensus-building

Facilitated consensus-building sessions where groups presented findings and aligned on critical dimensions for the CCI. Introduced the concept of indicators and their role in measuring competitiveness.



Stakeholders engagement

Engaged stakeholders in identifying and validating specific indicators for each dimension, discussed criteria for indicator selection, agreed on weighting scheme for the competitiveness pillars and indicators⁷, and validated the indicators with stakeholders, making refinements based on feedback.



⁷ It was agreed that weighting will be conducted at both the dimension/pillar level and the indicator level. Through the consultative process, it was tentatively agreed that each pillar would have equal importance/weight at each County level.

Possible risks and mitigation strategies

In engaging stakeholders, we envisioned potential unforeseen risks.

Table 5. Possible risks on the CCI that we identified and the mitigation strategies

Risks	Mitigation Strategies
Misrepresentation of project information and key facts	<p>We did not experience this challenge, even though we had the mitigation strategies below just in case the same occurred:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue holding statements to all project stakeholders. • Develop a fact sheet on the project, phases, processes, timelines and expected outcomes and have this available to all team leads/ departmental heads within the county and the agencies. • Establish feedback mechanisms.
Lack of cooperation from counties.	<p>We did not experience this challenge, even though we had the mitigation strategies below just in case the same occurred:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold stakeholder engagement forums (meetings, town halls, workshops, focus group discussions). • Sensitisation of stakeholders by the Consultant and the CCI steering committee on the organization review and their role in facilitating the process. • Open communication on the CCI objectives, various stakeholder input/ support and when they would be needed. • Communicate key dates and inputs from different stakeholders in good time. • Establish feedback mechanisms. <p>The partnership with DBRT to help access various stakeholders of interest to the CCI was very helpful, and largely a bigger mitigator.</p>
Lack of buy-in from stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We held stakeholder engagement forums to help mitigate this. • We also fully implemented the project communications plan to help ensure all stakeholders know the project from onset and progress at all stages. <p>The partnership with DBRT to help access various stakeholders of interest to the CCI was very helpful, and largely a bigger mitigator.</p>
Political risk/ resistance from the counties	<p>We experienced project delays characterized by the nationwide political unrest/ protests. We however mitigated this through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear communication strategy. • Effective management of key stakeholders. • Lobbying, with the support of the DBRT team.
Extension of the project beyond the allocated timelines	<p>The project delays experienced necessitated an extension of the project delivery timelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We however maintained: • Timely feedback on deliverables. • Regular communication to enable updates on project progress.

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Monitoring processes

- We worked with the DBRT team, and the project implementation teams to record/ capture stakeholder engagement activity.
- Where necessary, we used stakeholder relationship management, fully and actively supported by the DBRT team.
- We consistently monitored and reviewed project activity.

Table 6. Evaluation

Objective	Evaluation
To promote awareness of the project, distribute the CCI findings through public presentations, workshops, and online platforms. This was to ensure that the findings are readily available and widely utilized.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We engaged frequent contact and feedback from implementation teams to establish smooth implementation/ vice versa.
To ensure accuracy and clear communication, promptly communicate any inaccurately presented information regarding the project to the stakeholders through their preferred channels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We maintained open engagement and transparency throughout the project.
To promote active participation and open communication throughout the assignment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We employed various feedback mechanisms (team leads, department heads, project leads etc.), fully supported by the DBRT team. • We consistently gathered stakeholder input while encouraging upward feedback to the consultant team through the project team leader.
To engage and motivate the support of crucial institutional and internal stakeholders who were to aid in the process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We employed various feedback mechanisms (team leads, department heads, project leads etc.), fully supported by the DBRT team.
To ensure transparency of the process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We enjoyed ease of operation throughout the project, responsiveness and support from all stakeholders involved in the project.

Reporting

- We prepared and submitted a strategic communications strategy for the CCI at inception.
- We maintained stakeholder engagement at different stages/phases of the project and developed communications tools/ materials to support the same.



Appendix 2: Literature review and rationale for measuring competitiveness

Competitiveness: The concept and origins

Competitiveness has become a key focus for governments and industries worldwide. Theories of competitiveness trace their origins to two major frameworks: traditional economic theory, exemplified by Adam Smith's (1776)⁸ concept of comparative advantage, and modern economic theory, particularly Porter's (1991)⁹ "diamond of national advantage."¹⁰ Porter's model identifies the critical factors that enable nations to achieve and sustain competitive advantages, forming the basis for contemporary thinking on national competitiveness.

Porter (1990) argued that national competitiveness is driven by the ability of industries within a country to innovate and improve. He emphasized the importance of dynamic, rather than static, models of competitiveness, acknowledging that competitive advantage evolves over time. According to Porter, national competitiveness depends on firms' ability to innovate continuously, which sustains long-term economic growth.

In contrast, Krugman (1994)¹¹ criticized this perspective, asserting that national competitiveness is largely irrelevant because countries do not directly compete with one another. Instead, Krugman argued

that economic success is shaped by domestic policies. Nevertheless, Porter maintained that a nation's competitiveness ultimately stems from the innovation capacity of its firms, which is essential for long-term economic prosperity.

Theories of competitiveness thus fall into two broad schools of thought. Traditional economic theory, such as Smith's concept of comparative advantage, argues that nations should specialize in producing goods in which they have an inherent advantage. Modern economic theory, as outlined by Porter, emphasizes dynamic factors - such as innovation, industry clusters, and institutional support - that contribute to sustained competitive advantage. Porter's framework suggests that competitiveness is not fixed but evolves through the ongoing innovation efforts of firms, a process that drives a nation's economic growth.

While Krugman disagrees, seeing national competitiveness as less relevant, Porter's view persists in emphasizing the crucial role of firm-level innovation in determining a country's competitive standing.

8 Smith, A. (1776). *The Wealth of Nations*.

9 Porter, M. E. (1990). *The Competitive Advantage of Nations*.

10 Porter, M. E. (1990). *The Competitive Advantage of Nations*.

11 Krugman, P. (1994). *Competitiveness: A Dangerous Obsession*.

Competitiveness of regions of a county

At the regional level, Jorge Benzaquen (2010)¹² defines a region, district, or county as a geographic division of a country characterized by various factors, including demography, history, culture, economics, and climate, among others. Regional competitiveness refers to a region's ability to generate high and rising incomes while improving the quality of life for its residents.

This concept has gained prominence due to the increasing role regions play in driving national economic performance. Meyer-Stamer (2008)¹³ defines regional competitiveness as a region's capacity to create an attractive and sustainable environment for businesses and citizens, thereby promoting growth and prosperity. Kitson, Martin, and Tyler (2004)¹⁴ identified key drivers of regional competitiveness, including government institutions, economic development, infrastructure, human capital, and business efficiency.¹⁵

Regions within a country often have distinct economic, social, and institutional characteristics that influence their competitiveness. Indices designed to measure regional competitiveness typically focus on governance, economic diversification, infrastructure, and education. These indices help policymakers identify the specific drivers of success and create strategies to enhance regional economic performance. By highlighting areas of strength and weakness, regional competitiveness indices guide policymakers in fostering sustainable economic growth and development.



12 Benzaquen, M. (2010). Regional Economic Development and Competitiveness.

13 Meyer-Stamer, J. (2008). Regional Competitiveness and Development.

14 Kitson, M., Martin, R., & Tyler, P. (2004). Regional Competitiveness: An Overview.

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Competitiveness indices

Two key global indices are commonly used to measure national competitiveness: the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) and the World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY) (see Table A1a for a summary of the indices and sub-indices, outlining their domains and methodological approaches). The GCI, developed by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in 1979, evaluates national competitiveness based on factors such as institutions, infrastructure, health, education, technological readiness, market efficiency, and innovation. The GCI has evolved to include aspects of market efficiency and innovation, providing a comprehensive measure of both short-term and long-term economic growth potential. In 2010, the GCI expanded to include 12 key pillars, grouped into three broad categories: factors (macro-level institutions and infrastructure), efficiency (labour, goods, and financial markets), and innovation (a country's capacity for innovation).

The WCY, published by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), offers a different approach to assessing competitiveness. This index combines statistical data with business perceptions, placing a strong emphasis on the opinions of business leaders within each country. While the GCI is based on a model of dynamic competitiveness, the WCY evaluates nations through four fundamental forces that shape the competitive environment.

The World Bank provides additional measures of competitiveness, including the Ease of Doing Business Index, which evaluates the regulatory environment for businesses in various countries. This index assesses factors such as the ease of starting a business, access to credit, and the enforceability of contracts. In 2021, the World Bank launched the Business Ready initiative,¹⁶ offering more detailed data to guide policy reforms and foster private sector development.

Additionally, the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI)¹⁷ measures the efficiency of logistics and supply chains, which are critical for global trade competitiveness.

The LPI evaluates infrastructure, customs efficiency, logistics services, and shipment tracking, providing insights into the competitiveness of a country's logistics sector.

Drawing from the experiences of other countries, Table 5 below presents a summary of the determinants of regional/sub-national competitiveness. A set of common factors is observed in these indices, irrespective of the theoretical framework used.

In conclusion, the study of competitiveness, both at the national and sub-national (regional or county) levels, is critical for understanding how economies can foster sustainable growth and improve citizens' quality of life. Global indices like the GCI, WCY, and the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index¹⁸ offer valuable insights into national competitiveness, while regional indices provide a more granular understanding of the factors driving local economic success. These indices, grounded in both traditional and modern economic theory, provide frameworks for assessing and enhancing competitiveness. Policymakers can use these frameworks to create environments that support innovation, business development, and long-term economic prosperity.

16 World Bank Group. (2023). Business Ready Initiative.

17 World Bank Group. (2023). Logistics Performance Index.

18 World Bank Group. (2020). Ease of Doing Business Report

Table 7. A comparison of various global competitive indices

Index	Domains of the Index (Proxies for Each)
<p>The World Bank Ease of Doing Business Index</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting a Business: [Procedures (number); Time (days); Cost (% of income per capita); Minimum capital (% of income per capita)] • Dealing with Construction Permits: [Procedures (number); Time (days); Cost (% of warehouse value)); Building quality control index (0–15)] • Getting Electricity: [Procedures (number); Time (days); Cost (% of income per capita); Reliability of supply and transparency of tariffs index (0–8)] • Registering Property: [Procedures (number); Time (days) Cost (% of property value); Quality of land administration index (0–30)] • Obtaining Credit: [Strength of legal rights index (0-12); Depth of credit information index (0-8)] • Protecting Minority Investors: [Extent of disclosure index (0–10) - Extent of director liability index (0–10); Ease of shareholder suits index (0–10); Extent of shareholder rights index (0–6); Extent of ownership and control index (0–7); Extent of corporate transparency index (0–7)] • Paying Taxes: [Number of tax payments (per year); Time required to prepare and pay taxes (hours per year); Total tax and contribution rate (% of profit); Post filing index (0–100); Time to comply with VAT refund (hours); Time to obtain VAT refund (weeks) - Time to comply with corporate income tax correction (hours); Time to complete a corporate income tax correction(weeks)] • Trading Across Borders: [Time required for import and export (Documentary and border compliance (hours)); Cost of import and export (Documentary and border compliance (US\$))] • Enforcing Contracts: [Time (days); Cost (% of claim); Quality of judicial processes index (0–18)] • Resolving Insolvency: [Recovery rate (cents on the dollar); Strength of insolvency framework index (0–16)].
<p>The World Bank Logistics Performance Index (interactive benchmarking tool created to help countries identify the challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on trade logistics and what they can do to improve their performance.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs - The efficiency of customs and border management clearance. • Infrastructure - The quality of trade- and transport-related infrastructure. • International Shipment - The ease of arranging competitively priced international shipments. • Logistics competence and Quality - The competence and quality of logistics services • Tracking and Tracing - The ability to track and trace consignments. • Timeliness - The frequency with which shipments reach consignees within the scheduled or expected delivery time.

Methodological Approaches

- The World Bank's **Ease of Doing Business Index** evaluates the regulatory environment across economies by examining the efficiency, cost, and quality of business regulations in key areas such as starting a business, dealing with construction permits, obtaining electricity, registering property, and securing credit. The methodology relies on detailed surveys completed by local experts, including lawyers, accountants, and business professionals, who provide data on legal procedures, time, and costs associated with standard business operations. This data is rigorously verified, ensuring it reflects both the de jure (legal frameworks) and de facto (actual implementation) realities of business regulations.
 - By scoring and ranking economies based on these indicators, the index provides a composite score that highlights regulatory efficiency and identifies barriers to business activity. Higher rankings signal more business-friendly environments, which can attract investment and stimulate economic growth. The methodology's focus on transparent, efficient regulations helps policymakers recognize best practices and pinpoint areas needing reform. This comprehensive approach offers insights into the broader economic landscape, guiding efforts to enhance the business climate and competitiveness globally.
-
- The LPI uses standard statistical techniques to aggregate the data into a single indicator, converting qualitative information into quantitative information, before aggregating and weighting. It relies on an online survey of logistics professionals from multinational freight forwarders and the main express carriers.
 - The overall LPI score is constructed from these six indicators using principal component analysis, a standard statistical technique used to reduce the dimensionality of a dataset. The inputs for PCA are country scores, averaged across all respondents providing data on a given overseas market. Scores are normalized by subtracting the sample mean and dividing by the standard deviation before conducting the principal component analysis. The output from the analysis is a single indicator - the LPI score - which is a weighted average of those scores. The weights are chosen to maximize the percentage of variation in the LPI's original six indicators that is accounted for by the summary indicator.

Index	Domains of the Index (Proxies for Each)
<p>IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY) - WCY defines a nation's competitiveness as, "a measurement of each nation's ability to create and maintain an environment that sustains more value creation for its enterprises and more prosperity for its people."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WCY divides national competitiveness into four main pillars: • Economic Performance [Domestic Economy, International Trade, International Investment, Employment, Prices] • Government Efficiency [Public Finance, Fiscal Policy, Institutional Framework, Business Legislation, Societal Framework, • Business Efficiency [Productivity, Labor Market, Finance, Management Practice, Attitudes and Values] • Infrastructure [Basic Infrastructure, Technological Infrastructure, Scientific Infrastructure, Health and Environment, and Education.]
<p>World Economic Forum – Global Competitive Index (2008 – 2009)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macroeconomic stability • Financial Market Sophistication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Market Size – Labor market efficiency • Institutions • Infrastructure • Health and primary education • Higher Education and Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Technological Readiness – Goods market efficiency – Business Sophistications – Innovation



Methodological Approaches

- The WCY methodological to assessing national competitiveness combines both classical economic measures and modern, qualitative factors to evaluate a country's ability to foster economic prosperity. This holistic approach acknowledges that beyond quantifiable inputs (e.g., labor, capital), softer qualitative factors such as political stability, government policies, institutional frameworks, and education quality play a crucial role in shaping a nation's competitiveness, especially in the context of globalization.
- The methodology involves integrating 132 quantitative variables and 116 qualitative criteria from the WCY Executive Opinion Survey, assigning higher weights to objective, data-driven indicators. Standardized scores are derived for each criterion, and countries are ranked based on their overall scores across 248 variables. To address the complexity of interconnected factors, Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is employed, transforming original variables into a set of uncorrelated principal components, which capture the maximum variance and provide a streamlined analysis. This data-driven approach not only simplifies the WCY's extensive data collection process but also enhances the robustness of the rankings, accommodating the diverse economic, social, and institutional factors that influence national competitiveness in today's globalized landscape.
- The Global Competitiveness Index (GCI), developed by the World Economic Forum, is a comprehensive framework designed to assess the productivity and economic potential of countries worldwide. The methodology of the GCI is anchored on 12 key pillars: institutions, infrastructure, macroeconomic stability, health, education, and skills, among others. These pillars represent fundamental aspects of economic productivity and serve as a robust basis for evaluating how effectively countries utilize their available resources. The data for GCI is drawn from a combination of hard statistical data sourced from reputable organisations (e.g., World Bank, OECD) and extensive surveys capturing the opinions of business leaders, providing a holistic view of national competitiveness.
- This dual approach - integrating hard data with business perception surveys - allows the GCI to capture not only quantitative measures of economic performance but also qualitative aspects such as innovation capacity and business sophistication. Unlike other indices, the GCI's methodology is rooted in the theories of economic development and competitiveness, notably building on Michael Porter's diamond model, which emphasizes the dynamic interplay between factor conditions, firm strategy, and the broader economic environment. As a result, the GCI offers policymakers and stakeholders a nuanced, data-driven guide for identifying strengths, pinpointing weaknesses, and prioritizing reforms to foster long-term economic growth.



Table 8. A comparison of various regional competitiveness indices across various countries

Country	Peru	Chile	Colombia
Index	National Competitiveness Council (CNC) - <i>Regional Competitiveness Index 2008</i>	Office of the Under- Secretary for Regional and Administrative Development (SUBDERE) - <i>Regional Competitiveness Index 2003</i>	National University of Colombia - <i>Structural Departmental Competitiveness Index 2002</i>
Factors/ Drivers of competitiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional framework • Infrastructure • Macroeconomy • Health • Education • Labour market • Financial market • Technological readiness • Market • Business sophistication • Innovation • Natural resource 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic results factor • Enterprises factor • Person's factor • Innovation factor • Science and technology • Infrastructure factor • Government factor • Natural resources factor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure and location • Natural resources • Human capital and employment • Firms Innovation and technology • Institutions • Government administration • Integration into the global economy • Economic growth • External competitiveness



Philippines	Mexico	Kenya
<p>National Competitiveness Council through the Regional Competitiveness Committees (RCCs) - <i>Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) 2024</i></p>	<p>Mexican Institute of Competitiveness (IMCO) - <i>State Competitiveness 2008</i></p>	<p>State Department for Investment Promotion (SDIP)/ Directorate of Business Reforms and Transformation (DBRT)/TMA – <i>County Competitiveness Index 2024</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Dynamism • Governance Efficiency • Infrastructure • Resiliency • Innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reliable and impartial legal system • Sustainable management of the environment • Inclusive, skilled and healthy society • Stable and dynamic economy • Stable and functional political system • Efficient factors markets • World-class leading sectors • Efficient and effective governments • Exploitation of international relations • Vigorously competing economic sectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government and institutions • Economic • Productive infrastructure • Human capital • Business efficiency



Appendix 3: List of documents and reports reviewed

- Ease of Doing Business Report Final 2023
- EU Regional Competitiveness Index 2.0 2023
- High Level Policy Dialogue - UNACTAD Speech
- Is global competitive index a good standard to measure economic growth? A suggestion for improvement (International Journal of Services and Standards)
- The Economic Competitiveness of Countries: A Principal Factors Approach
- The International Competitiveness of Countries: Economic-Mathematical Approach
- UNCTAD Productive Capacities Index 2021
- The Competitiveness Index of the Regions
- The Logistics Performance Index 2023 Report
- UNCTAD National Training Workshop 2022
- The WEF Global Competitiveness Report 2019
- The WEF Global Competitiveness Report 2020
- Kenya's County Budget Transparency Survey 2023



Appendix 4a: Descriptive statistics

Table 9. Summary statistics of all indicators

Variable	N	Year	Unit	Min	Mean	Median	SD	Max
Annual Own Source Revenue 2023/24	47	2023/24	Ksh Million	97	1711.574	731	3117.495	19690
Total Revenue 2023/24	47	2023/24	Ksh Million	3929.33	10736.081	9623.06	5772.184	40291.15
Expenditure - Development	47	2023/24	Ksh Million	805.04	2324.115	2046.32	1036.561	4714.27
Preprimary institutions per 1000 population	47	2022	No	0.225	1.086	1.074	0.467	2.411
Primary institutions per 1000 population	47	2020	No	0.193	0.739	0.711	25%8	1.386
Secondary institutions per 1000 population	47	2020	No	0.066	0.232	25%6	0.095	0.412
Health facilities per 1000 population	47	2020	No	0.021	12%	0.104	0.065	0.361
TVETS per 1000 population	47	2022	No	0.01	0.051	0.049	0.024	12%3
Universities per 1000 population	47	2024	No	0	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.005
Crime rate per capita	47	2022	No	0.038	0.214	0.205	0.088	0.441
Gross County Product at Constant 2016 Prices (Kshs Million, 2022)	47	2022	Ksh Million	24244	191420.574	110636	383461.715	2659197
GCP Per Capita (Kshs, 2022)	47	2022	Ksh Million	67518	198064.489	181492	107037.666	723335
GCP - Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	47	2022	Ksh Million	4070	60840.511	50858	44920.226	214119
GCP - Mining and Quarrying	47	2022	Ksh Million	72	2559.617	1147	3763.455	17349
GCP - Manufacturing	47	2022	Ksh Million	579	22261.489	5918	59445.33	390607
GCP - Electricity Supply	47	2022	Ksh Million	45	2939.255	407	8551.524	52372
GCP - Water Supply & Waste Collection	47	2022	Ksh Million	100	1397.383	706	2771.17	18697
GCP - Wholesale & Retail Trade	47	2022	Ksh Million	217	18783.532	6675	56698.77	387745
GCP - Transport & Storage	47	2022	Ksh Million	1197	26938.617	11821	73010.4	498203
GCP - Accommodation & Food Services	47	2022	Ksh Million	49	3404.106	1811	5273.293	32024

Variable	N	Year	Unit	Min	Mean	Median	SD	Max
Primary reliance on clean fuels for cooking, heating, and lighting	47	2023	%	1.3	12.949	7.1	15.51	76.4
County Road Length (Surface condition: Good)	47	2024	Km	28.45	618.674	502.9	460.831	2022.53
County Road Length (Surface condition: Fair)	47	2024	Km	237.32	1818.968	1547.8	1140.653	6328.76
County Road Length (Surface condition: Good and Fair)	47	2022	Km	425.51	2437.641	1994.38	1466.703	7782.11
Density County Road Length (Surface condition: Good and Fair)	47	2024	Km/m2	0.032	0.692	0.543	0.62	2.853
Land transport (Rural Access Index)	47	2024		4	60.426	66	29.301	98
Air Transport Distance from County to Nearest International Airport (km)	47	2024	Km	2.018	114.214	91.346	111.121	619.246
Distance to nearest Port (Mombasa, Km)	47	2022	Km	1.909	551.623	600	212.096	918.098
Hotel establishments per 100 population	47	2023	No	0	0.17	0.041	0.284	1.032
Access to Internet	47	2020	%	3.1	13.991	10.5	9.564	45.3
Percent literate (Women)	47	2020	%	26.9	84.27	93.8	20.534	99.1
Percent literate (Men)	47	2020	%	56.4	90.394	94.3	10.476	99.7
Gross Enrollment Ratio (Secondary education level)	47	2022		18.7	107.057	116.7	39.599	172.2
Gross Enrollment Ratio (Primary education level)	47	2022		34.6	100.996	106.2	349%9	173.5
Net Enrollment Ratio (Primary)	47	2022		24.6	77.723	85.7	20.354	101.6
Net Enrollment Ratio (Secondary)	47	2022		9.9	54.179	59.5	24.477	101.9
Neonatal Mortality (NN)	47	2022	%	-27	20.511	22	12.582	37
Post-Neonatal Mortality (PNN)	47	2022	%	-21	8.234	9	9.258	23
Infant Mortality (1q0)	47	2021	%	-55	24.596	33	25.776	53
Child Mortality (4q1)	47	2021	%	-8	7.17	7	7.891	27
Under-5 Mortality (5q0)	47	2024		-56	30.277	40	32.383	73
Female Life Expectancy at Birth	47	2024	years	54.7	62.726	62.1	3.956	71.2

Variable	N	Year	Unit	Min	Mean	Median	SD	Max
Male Life Expectancy at Birth	47	2024	years	50.1	58.938	58.5	4.076	69.9
Age Dependency Ratio	47	2024	%	43.2	89.62	87.8	21.115	139.8
Old Age Dependency Ratio	47	2024	%	4.1	7.964	7.3	2.69	15.3
Child Dependency Ratio	47	2024	%	42.6	81.555	79.9	20.351	131.7
Labour Productivity (Kshs per Labour Hour)	47	2024	%	34.501	103.715	82.621	79.697	378.141
Financial Inclusion (Formal Inclusion Percent)	47	2024	%	57.7	81.015	81.8	8.861	95
Firm has access to credit	47	2024	%	0.009	0.201	0.177	12%4	0.604
Firm has access to overdraft	47	2024	%	0.008	0.236	0.211	0.16	0.626
Days from license application to operation	47	2024	Days	1.192	6.775	4.392	7.135	31.765
Number of new firms	47	2024	No.	0	6.191	3	8.769	38
BDS firms to Total Firms	47	2024	%	0	0.031	0.017	0.036	0.171
Use Internet	47	2024	%	12%4	0.412	0.392	17%	0.821
Firm - New Process	47	2024	No.	0	0.111	0.072	0.135	0.626
Employment Ratio	47	2024		0.012	0.154	0.154	0.081	0.342
New Hires per Firm	47	2024		0.021	1.952	0.831	3.96	24.514
Forest Cover Percentage	47	2023	%	0.23	11.204	9.03	9.297	40.89
Population in County Served by Formalized WSPs	47	2023	%	2	26.489	19	21.468	86
Water Coverage	47	2023	%	30	59.362	59	13.805	90
Percentage of County Population Within Service Areas of Utilities	47	2023	%	8	48.723	45	28.332	100
Population Served	46	2023	%	4	28.083	19.5	20.344	86
Sewerage Coverage	46	2023	%	0	9.522	6.5	11.83	50

Appendix 4b: Secondary data sources and year

Table 10. CCI Domain, Factors, Indicators Secondary Data Sources

Domain	Factor	Indicator	Data Source & Year
Government and Institutions	Financial Resources (Revenue Collection)	(Normalized) Annual Own Source Revenue 2023/24	2022/2023 (Source: 2024 Economic Survey, Table 5.13)
		(Normalized) Total Revenue 2023/24	
	Investment Expenditure (Normalized)	Expenditure Dev	2023/2024, (Source: Office of the Controller of Budget, County Government Budget Implementation Reports, Review Report, Table 2.3)
	Public Security	Crime rate per capita	2022 (Source: 2024 Economic Survey, Table 17.4)
	Presence of county/ public establishments	Pre-primary institutions per 1000 population	2020 (Source: Basic Education Statistical Booklet)
		Primary institutions per 1000 population	
		Secondary institutions per 1000 population	
		Health facilities per 1000 population	2022, (Source: Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council)
		TVETs per 1000 population	2024 (Source: Technical and Vocational Education Training Authority, Kenya)
		Universities per 1000 population	2022, Commission for Universities, Accredited Universities.
Economic Development	Size of Economy	Gross County Product at Constant 2016 Prices (Kshs Million), 2022	2022 (Source: KNBS 2023 Gross County product, Table 3, page 24 & 25)
		GCP Per Capita (Kshs), 2022	2022 (Source: KNBS 2023 Gross County product, Annex IV, page 38 & 39)
	Internationalization / Diversification (GCP by economic activity, at current prices, 2022)	Gross County Product at Constant 2016 Prices (Kshs Million), 2022	
		GCP Per Capita (Kshs), 2022	
		Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	
		Mining and Quarrying	
		Manufacturing	
		Electricity Supply	
		Water Supply & Waste Collection	
		Wholesale & Retail Trade	
		Transport & Storage	
		Accommodation & Food Services	

Domain	Factor	Indicator	Data Source & Year
Productive infrastructure	Energy	Electricity consumption by businesses	Secondary Data from Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC), Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS)
		Primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating, and lighting	2023 (Source: KNBS and ICF. 2023. Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022: Volume 1. Nairobi, Kenya, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: KNBS and ICF.)
	Road Network	County Road Length (Surface condition - Good)	2024 (Source: Compiled from Kenya Roads Board, various reports)
		Density County Road Length (Surface condition - Good)	
		County Road Length (Surface condition - Fair)	
		Density County Road Length (Surface condition - Fair)	
	Transport	Land transport (Rural Access Index)	2022 (Source: Kenya County Fact Sheets, Commission on Revenue Allocation)
		Air Transport (Distance from County to Nearest International Airport) Km.	2024 (Source: Own compilation, constructed using GPS locations of airports)
		Reciprocal Air Transport (Distance from County to Nearest International Airport) Km.	2024 (Source: Own compilation, constructed using GPS locations of airports)
		Distance to nearest Port - Mombasa (Km)	2024 (Source: Own compilation, constructed using GPS locations of airports)
Reciprocal Distance to nearest Port - Mombasa (Km)			
Tourism	Number of hotel establishments	2024 (Source: Tourism Regulatory Authority)	
	Hotel establishments per 100		
Connectivity	Access to Internet (%)	2022 (Source: Kenya County Fact Sheets, Commission on Revenue Allocation)	

Domain	Factor	Indicator	Data Source & Year				
Human capital	Basic Education	Percent literate (Women)	2023 (Source: KNBS and ICF. 2023. Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022: Volume 1. Nairobi, Kenya, and Rockville, Maryland, USA: KNBS and ICF.)				
		Percent literate (Men)					
		Gross Enrolment Ratios at Secondary Education Level		2020 (Source: Basic Education Statistical Booklet)			
		Gross Enrolment Ratios at Primary Education Level					
		Net Enrolment Ratio (Primary)					
		Net Enrolment Ratio (Secondary)					
	Health		Neonatal mortality (NN)	2022 (Source: Kenya County Fact Sheets, Commission on Revenue Allocation)			
			Post-neonatal mortality (PNN)				
			Infant mortality (1q0)				
			Child mortality (4q1)				
			Under-5 mortality (5q0)				
			Female Life Expectancy at Birth				
			Male Life Expectancy at Birth				
			Age Dependency Ratio	2022 (Source: Kenya County Fact Sheets, Commission on Revenue Allocation)			
			Old Age Dependency Ratio				
			Child Dependency Ratio				
			Business efficiency		Productivity	Labour productivity (Kshs/labour hour)	2021 (Source: Kenya Continuous Household Survey)
						Business Environment	
					Have credit	Primary Data	
Have overdraft	Primary Data						
Operational days	Primary Data						
Reciprocal operational days	Primary Data						
New firm	Primary Data						
BDS to firms	Primary Data						
Innovation	Use of internet	Primary Data					
	New process (new_proc)	Primary Data					
Job creation	Employment ratio	2021 (Source: Kenya Continuous Household Survey)					
	New hires per firm	Primary Data					

Domain	Factor	Indicator	Data Source & Year
Climate and environment	Environmental Quality	Forest Cover Percentage (%)	2021 (Source: National Forest Resources Assessment Report)
		Population in County Served by formalized WSPs (%)	2023 (Source: Water Services Regulatory Board)
		Water Coverage (%)	
	Environmental Policy and Management	Percentage of County Population within Service Areas of Utilities (%)	
		Population Served (%)	
		Sewerage Coverage (%) +C3C1:E70	



Appendix 4c: Indicator Methodological notes

1) Government and Institutions

County own source revenue

This indicator captures county's annual own source revenue in Kshs. Million, for the year 2023/24 - 2022/2023. Own source revenue includes all funds raised locally by the county through taxes, fees, licenses, and other non-grant income sources. This metric is crucial for assessing a county's fiscal autonomy and financial management capabilities, reflecting its capacity to generate resources independently to fund local programs, services, and development projects. To enable comparison across counties, revenue data is normalized using min-max scaling, rescaling values between 0 (lowest revenue) and 1 (highest revenue).

Source: *2024 Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics*

Total Revenue

This indicator captures county's total revenue in Kshs. Million, and consists of equitable share grants, conditional grants and annual own source revenue. Conditional Grants are monetary transfers from one level of government to another, either through competitive project grants or through more general block grants, which place conditions on the use of the transferred funds by the recipient government. To enable comparison across counties, revenue data is normalized using min-max scaling, rescaling values between 0 (lowest revenue) and 1 (highest revenue).

Source: *2024 Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics*

Development expenditure

This indicator captures expenditure on development for 2023/2024, the portion of the government budget for implementation of projects or investment activities. It is measured in Kshs. Millions.

Source: *Office of the Controller of Budget, County Government Budget Implementation Reports Review Reports.*

Number of crimes reported

This indicator captures the number of crimes reported to police by command station. It is measured as crime rate per capita.

Source: *2024 Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics.*

Number of pre-primary educational institutions

This indicator captures presence of public institutions. it is measured as the number of pre-primary schools per 1000 population.

Source: *Basic Education Statistical Booklet, 2020.*

Number of primary educational institutions

This indicator captures presence of public educational institutions. it is measured as the number of primary schools per 1000 population.

Source: *Basic Education Statistical Booklet, 2020.*

Number of secondary educational institutions

This indicator captures presence of public educational institutions. it is measured as the number of secondary schools per 1000 population.

Source: *Basic Education Statistical Booklet, 2020.*

Number of health facilities

This indicator captures presence of public institutions, specifically health facilities. It is measured as the number of health facilities per 1000 population.

Source: *Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council, 2022.*

Number of Technical and Vocational Education and Training Institutions

This indicator captures presence of public education and training institutions at technical and vocational level. It is measured by the number of TVETs per 1000 population

Source: *Technical and Vocational Education Training Authority, Kenya, 2024*

Number of universities

This indicator captures the number of higher learning institutions (Universities). It is measured as the number of universities per 1000 population.

Source: *Commission for Universities, Accredited Universities, 2022.*

2) Economic Development

Gross County Product (GCP)

This indicator captures the monetary value of the final goods and services produced in a county. It is measured in Kshs. Million, as the Gross County Product at Constant 2016 Prices (Kshs Million).

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

Gross County Product (GCP) per Capita

This indicator captures the per capita monetary value of the final goods and services produced in a county. It is obtained by dividing the value of the GCP by the county population. It is measured in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

County Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing GCP

This indicator captures the county GCP arising from agriculture, forestry and fishing. It is measured at constant 2016 prices, in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

County Mining and Quarrying GCP

This indicator captures the county Gross County Product (GCP) arising from mining and quarrying activities. It is measured at constant 2016 prices, in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

County Manufacturing GCP

This indicator captures the county GCP arising from manufacturing activities. It is measured at constant 2016 prices, in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

County Electricity Supply GCP

This indicator captures the county GCP arising from electricity supply activities. It is measured at constant 2016 prices, in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

County Water Supply & Waste Collection GCP

This indicator captures the county GCP arising from water supply and waste collection activities. It is measured at constant 2016 prices, in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

County Wholesale & Retail Trade GCP

This indicator captures the county GCP arising from wholesale and retail trade activities. It is measured at constant 2016 prices, in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

County Transport & Storage GCP

This indicator captures the county GCP arising from transport and storage activities. It is measured at constant 2016 prices, in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

County accommodation & food services GCP

This indicator captures the county GCP arising from accommodation and food services activities. It is measured at constant 2016 prices, in Kshs. Million.

Source: *Economic Survey, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2023.*

3) Productive infrastructure

Access to energy (household)

This indicator captures the percentage of de jure population relying/accessing primary clean fuels and technologies for cooking, space heating, and lighting. This includes cooking fuels (stoves/cookers using electricity, LPG/natural gas/biogas, solar, and alcohol/ethanol), solid fuels (coal/lignite, charcoal, wood, straw/shrubs/grass, agricultural crops, animal dung/waste, processed biomass (pellets), woodchips, garbage/plastic, and sawdust), heating sources (electricity, LPG/natural gas/biogas, solar air heater, and alcohol/ethanol) and lighting sources (electricity, solar lantern, rechargeable flashlight/torch/lantern, battery-powered flashlight/torch/lantern, and biogas lamp).

Source: *Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022: Volume 1, 2023.*

County Road Length (Surface condition - Good)

This indicator captures the total length of county roads maintained in good condition and assesses the quality and accessibility of road infrastructure within the county. It is captured as road density by measuring the length of these roads in good condition relative to the county's total surface area.

Source: *Kenya Roads Board, 2024*

County Road Length (Surface condition - fair)

This indicator captures the total length of county roads maintained in fair condition and assesses the quality and accessibility of road infrastructure within the county. It is captured as road density by measuring the length of these roads in good condition relative to the county's total surface area.

Source: *Kenya Roads Board, 2024*

Rural access index

This index measures the proportion of the rural population that can access an all-weather road within a two-kilometre radius. It ranges from 0 to 100. A higher index value indicates better rural connectivity and accessibility, facilitating the movement of people, goods, and services, and ultimately contributing to economic development.

Source: *Kenya County Fact Sheets, 2022.*

Distance to nearest airport

This indicator measures the accessibility of a county to international air transport. It is calculated by taking the inverse of the distance to the nearest international airport. A higher value indicates better air transport accessibility, suggesting greater connectivity to global markets and potential for economic growth.

Source: *Constructed from collected GPS locations.*

Distance to nearest port

This indicator measures the accessibility of a county to the nearest port, in this case, Mombasa. It is calculated by taking the inverse of the distance (in Km) to the port. A higher value indicates better port accessibility, suggesting greater potential for trade and economic activity.

Source: *Constructed from collected GPS locations.*

Hotel establishments

This indicator measures the density of hotel establishments within a county, calculated as the number of hotel establishments per 1,000 population. A higher density suggests a more developed tourism infrastructure and greater potential for tourism-related economic activity.

Source: *Tourism Regulatory Authority, 2024*

Access to internet

This indicator measures the proportion of the population with access to the internet. A higher penetration rate indicates greater digital connectivity, enabling access to information, e-commerce, and digital services, which can contribute to economic growth and social development.

Source: *Kenya County Fact Sheets, 2022*

4) Human capital

Literacy rate (Women)

This indicator measures the percentage of the population, women, who are literate. Literacy is defined as the ability to read and write a simple sentence. This includes individuals who have completed secondary education or higher, as well as those with less formal education who can read and write basic text. A higher literacy rate is associated with improved economic and social outcomes.

Source: *Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022: Volume 1*

Literacy rate (Men)

This indicator measures the percentage of the population, men, who are literate. Literacy is defined as the ability to read and write a simple sentence. This includes individuals who have completed secondary education or higher, as well as those with less formal education who can read and write basic text. A higher literacy rate is associated with improved economic and social outcomes.

Source: *Kenya Demographic and Health Survey 2022: Volume 1*

Enrolment in primary education

This indicator measures the proportion of children of official primary school age who are enrolled in primary education. A higher net enrolment ratio indicates greater access to primary education and can contribute to improved educational outcomes and human capital development.

Source: *Basic Education Statistical Booklet, 2020.*

Enrolment in secondary education

This indicator measures the proportion of children of official secondary school age who are enrolled in secondary education. A higher net enrolment ratio indicates greater access to primary education and can contribute to improved educational outcomes and human capital development.

Source: *Basic Education Statistical Booklet, 2020.*

Infant mortality

This indicator measures the probability that a newborn child will die before reaching the age of five. A lower value indicates better child survival rates and improved health outcomes. To facilitate comparison with other indicators, this indicator's scale is reversed the scale by multiplying the values by -1. A higher (less negative) value will then indicate better performance.

Source: *Kenya County Fact Sheets, 2022.*

Female life expectancy

This indicator measures the average number of years a newborn female is expected to live. A higher value indicates improved health conditions and increased life expectancy for women.

Source: *Kenya County Fact Sheets, 2022.*

Male life expectancy

This indicator measures the average number of years a newborn male is expected to live. A higher value indicates improved health conditions and increased life expectancy for men.

Source: *Kenya County Fact Sheets, 2022.*

Age dependency ratio

This indicator measures the proportion of the population that is either too young or too old to work, relative to the working-age population. To facilitate comparison with other indicators, this indicator is transformed by taking its inverse. A higher value will then indicate a lower dependency ratio, which is more favorable.

Source: *Kenya County Fact Sheets, 2022.*

Old age dependency ratio

This indicator measures the proportion of the population that is aged 65 and over, relative to the working-age population. To facilitate comparison with other indicators, this indicator is transformed by taking its inverse. A higher value will then indicate a lower old-age dependency ratio, which is more favorable.

Source: *Kenya County Fact Sheets, 2022.*

Child dependency ratio

This indicator measures the proportion of the population that is aged 0-14, relative to the working-age population. To facilitate comparison with other indicators, this indicator is transformed by taking its inverse. A higher value will then indicate a lower child dependency ratio, which is more favorable.

Source: *Kenya County Fact Sheets, 2022.*

5) Business efficiency

Labor productivity

This indicator measures the average output per worker in a county. It is calculated as total revenue divided by the number of workers in the firm, and then aggregated to the county level by taking the average over all firms.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Formal financial inclusion

Access captures individuals with an active account in their own name in the last twelve (12) months with at least one financial service provider in either the formal and informal category. Those individuals who have access to financial services but do not have their own account, such as those using another family member's account, are not included. A consumer who does not access any financial services or products from any formal or informal category is classified as excluded.

Source: *2021 Finaccess Household Survey, Kenya, the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK), the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSD), Kenya. 2021*

Access to credit

This indicator measures the share of firms within a county that have access to a line of credit or loan, indicating the level of financial access and support available to businesses.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Use of overdraft facilities

This indicator measures the share of firms that use an overdraft facility, reflecting the accessibility of flexible financial resources for short-term needs.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Average number of days until operating permit received

This indicator measures the average number of days between when a firm applies for an operating permit and when it receives permit. Quick processing of operating permits enables businesses to start or expand operations faster, minimizing idle time.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Total number of firms established in 2023/2024

This indicator measures the number of new firms in the county. New firm entries may increase competition, driving existing firms to operate more efficiently to maintain competitiveness. Additionally, this captures the success of start-ups in the county.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Ratio of firms in business development services to other firms

This indicator measures the ratio of firms in the finance sector, insurance sector, and professional, scientific, and technical services sector to the total number of firms in all other sectors. Beyond capturing sector diversity, business development services are instrumental in driving innovation and overall efficiency in the business landscape.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Share of firms that use internet

This indicator measures the share of firms that use the internet in their operations. Internet usage improves communication, marketing, and data management, enhancing overall operational efficiency.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Share of firms introducing a new process in the last year

This indicator measures the percentage of firms in a respective county which introduced a new process in the last fiscal year. Process innovation indicates improvements in operational workflows, contributing to efficiency gains.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Employment ratio

This indicator captures the level of employment. It is calculated as a ratio of the number of employed people to the total working-age population (ages 18 and above). It is expressed as a percentage.

Source: *Kenya Continuous Household Survey, 2022*

Average number of new hires needed per firm

This indicator measures the average number of new hires per firm in the county. It captures job creation in the county. Higher hiring needs can indicate growth, which, if managed well, can lead to improved productivity and economies of scale, and subsequently contribute to overall county business environment and economic growth.

Source: *Primary data, Firm survey, 2024*

Climate and environment

- Forest Cover Percentage (%) - 2021 (Source: National Forest Resources Assessment Report)
- Population in County Served by formalized WSPs (%) - 2023 (Source: Water Services Regulatory Board)
- Water Coverage (%)
- Percentage of County Population within Service Areas of Utilities (%)
- Population Served (%)
- Sewerage Coverage (%)

Forest cover

This indicator measures the proportion of a county's land area that is covered by forest. It is measured in percentage terms. Higher forest cover contributes to environmental sustainability, biodiversity conservation, and climate change mitigation.

Source: *National Forest Resources Assessment Report, 2021*

Population served by formalized water service providers

This indicator measures the proportion of a county's population that has access to water services provided by formalized water service providers. It is expressed in percentage terms. Higher coverage indicates improved access to clean and safe water, which is essential for public health and sanitation.

Source: *Water Services Regulatory Board, 2023*

Water coverage

This indicator measures the proportion of a county's population that has access to assured water supply from water service providers. Higher coverage indicates a more reliable and sustainable water supply.

Source: *Water Services Regulatory Board, 2023*

Population within service areas of utilities

This indicator measures the proportion of a county's population that resides within the service areas of water utilities. Higher coverage indicates potential for increased access to water services.

Source: *Water Services Regulatory Board, 2023*

Population served by water utilities

This indicator measures the proportion of a county's population that is actually served by water utilities. Measured in percentage terms, a higher coverage indicates effective delivery of water services.

Source: *Water Services Regulatory Board, 2023*

Sewerage Coverage

This indicator measures the proportion of a county's population that has access to sewerage services. Higher coverage indicates improved sanitation and public health.

Source: *Water Services Regulatory Board, 2023*

Appendix 4d: CCI business sufficiency survey call sheet

Table 11. CCI Business Sufficiency Survey Call Sheet

County name	Sample	Businesses contacted	Successful interviews	Refusals
Baringo	127	157	127	15
Bomet	129	161	122	13
Bungoma	131	166	132	17
Busia	124	147	124	11
Elgeyo Marakwet	123	151	122	13
Embu	128	162	131	19
Garissa	123	147	118	9
Homa Bay	130	164	131	16
Isiolo	107	148	102	22
Kajiado	131	157	128	14
Kakamega	132	155	130	11
Kericho	129	155	121	16
Kiambu	134	154	134	16
Kilifi	131	160	132	17
Kirinyaga	125	151	125	13
Kisii	130	155	135	9
Kisumu	133	157	130	12
Kitui	132	145	132	8
Kwale	126	159	123	21
Laikipia	126	151	121	13
Lamu	109	124	110	7
Machakos	133	164	133	15
Makueni	130	153	131	11
Mandera	119	129	125	5
Marsabit	116	137	131	8
Meru	133	166	140	16
Migori	129	147	130	11
Mombasa	134	169	138	16
Murang'a	130	148	137	10
Nairobi City	138	183	143	22
Nakuru	134	155	134	8
Nandi	130	159	130	14
Narok	128	144	120	8

Contact person not available	No. successful interview after 3 call backs	Language barrier	Did not finish the interview because of time	Business closed permanently
5	3	0	3	4
4	4	0	5	6
3	5	0	5	5
1	3	0	2	6
3	5	0	2	5
4	3	0	3	5
5	5	2	2	1
4	4	0	4	6
3	6	6	2	2
5	2	3	0	2
3	2	0	3	4
4	2	0	2	2
1	1	0	0	2
4	3	0	2	3
4	2	0	2	5
3	3	0	2	8
2	4	0	1	5
1	1	0	1	2
2	3	0	3	4
3	2	0	3	4
1	2	0	2	3
4	3	0	3	6
3	2	0	3	4
1	0	0	2	2
2	2	0	4	5
4	4	0	4	5
3	0	0	2	2
4	3	0	1	11
2	0	0	1	5
7	6	0	6	4
3	3	0	1	6
3	1	0	4	7
0	0	0	2	6

County name	Sample	Businesses contacted	Successful interviews	Refusals
Nyamira	125	146	123	11
Nyandarua	125	152	123	13
Nyeri	130	149	130	11
Samburu	114	131	114	14
Siaya	128	148	129	15
Taita Taveta	123	136	120	7
Tana River	109	128	109	14
Tharaka Nithi	124	149	125	13
Trans Nzoia	128	155	132	16
Turkana	123	151	128	11
Uasin Gishu	133	150	133	8
Vihiga	125	146	127	12
Wajir	115	137	119	9
West Pokot	126	141	126	7
TOTALS	5,942	7099	5960	597



Contact person not available	No. successful interview after 3 call backs	Language barrier	Did not finish the interview because of time	Business closed permanently
1	1	0	1	7
4	4	0	0	6
0	0	0	2	6
1	1	0	1	0
0	0	0	0	5
2	0	0	0	4
0	0	0	0	5
3	4	0	2	3
2	3	0	2	4
2	4	0	4	7
1	0	0	4	4
3	3	0	0	3
2	2	0	3	6
1	2	0	1	4
123	113		102	211



Annex: CCI County Profiles



• Nairobi.....	63	• Kakamega	195
• Kiambu	69	• Nyamira	201
• Nyeri	74	• Siaya	207
• Murang'a	79	• Kwale	213
• Nakuru	84	• Vihiga	219
• Machakos	89	• Isiolo	225
• Mombasa	94	• Nandi	231
• Kirinyaga	99	• Narok	237
• Embu	104	• Busia	243
• Tharaka Nithi.....	109	• Bungoma	249
• Kilifi	114	• Lamu	255
• Taita Taveta	120	• Turkana	261
• Meru.....	126	• Baringo	267
• Kajiado	131	• Elgeyo Marakwet	273
• Uasin Gishu	136	• Homa Bay	279
• Kitui	142	• Migori	285
• Makueni	147	• Samburu	291
• Kisumu	153	• West Pokot	297
• Nyandarua	159	• Mandera	303
• Kisii	165	• Marsabit	309
• Bomet	171	• Garissa	315
• Kericho	177	• Tana River	321
• Trans Nzoia	183	• Wajir	327
• Laikipia	189		

NAIROBI
County 047



Introduction

77%
County's competitive index average score.

Nairobi City County had the highest score in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 77%. The other best performing counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, Nairobi City County scored had high scores in government and institutions, economic development, productive infrastructure and environment and climate domains with scores of 100%, 100%, 100%, and 83% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in areas of human capital and business efficiency with scores of 51% and 26% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly performing domains in Nairobi are in government and institutions, economic development, productive infrastructure and environment and climate. These domains are discussed below:

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Nairobi County scored 100%, ranking 1st place overall. Other well performing counties were Machakos at 81%, Tharaka Nithi at 74% and Kiambu at 72%. This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

19,690m
County's annual own
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 19,690 million ranking 1th position, other best performers were Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Nairobi County used 3,268 million in the same year, ranking 8th position. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Nairobi County reported the highest crimes overall. In 2023, it reported a total of 11,108 crimes, ranking 1th overall. Other counties following closely were Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 2,145 schools. Out of which 46% are pre-primary school, 40% are primary schools and 14% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 455 TVET institutions and 21 public university in the county ranking the highest in the country.

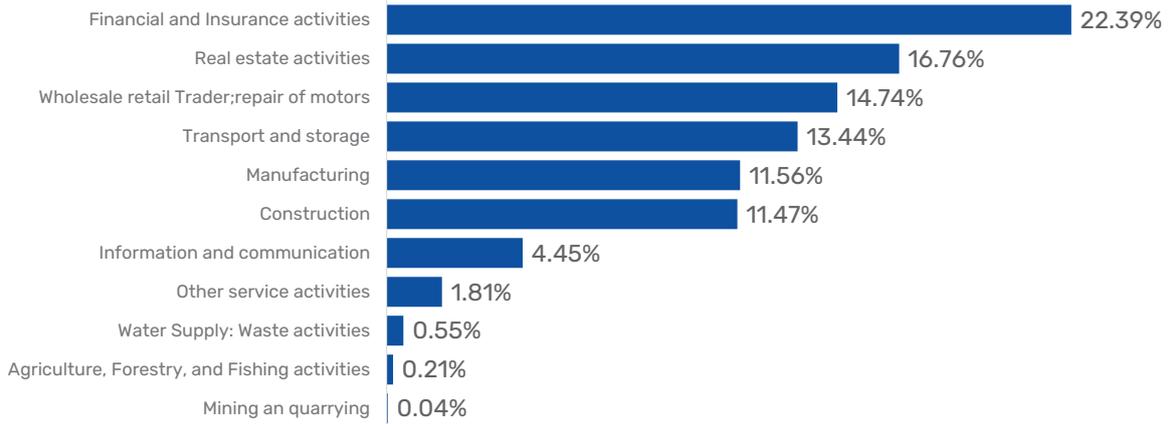
131
Number of public
health facilities offering
different healthcare
services

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 131 public health facilities: 5 level 6B, 4 level 6A, 25 level 5, 29 level 4B, 95 level 4, 192 level 3B, 512 level 3A, and 726 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked high in Nairobi with a perfect score of 100% ranking 1st overall. Other higher performers were Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 2,659,197 million coming 1st place. The second, third and fourth highest GCP were in Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Nairobi was Kshs. 723,335 ranking 1st overall. Nairobi was followed by Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Nairobi top performing sectors in 2022



Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 1st overall with a score of 100%. Nairobi was followed by Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

76.4%
Reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 1st overall

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Nairobi County had a 76.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 1st overall. Other best performing counties were Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: The transport systems in Nairobi is composed of road, air and rail transport. In terms of rural access index (RAI) the County had a score of 95 ranking 2nd highest after Kisi's RAI of 98 overall. Nairobi RAI is higher than the national average of 70%, indicating that rural areas in the county have better access to transportation compared to the national average.

Nairobi County is home to three airports: Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Wilson Airport, and Eastleigh Airport. JKIA is the largest airport in East and Central Africa, serving as a major aviation hub in the region. It has direct flight connections to various destinations globally and can handle 200,000 tonnes of cargo annually. The County has a 75km railway network with 15 functional railway stations, including Embakasi, Makadara, Nairobi main terminal, Dandora, Githurai, Kahawa, Kibera, Dagoretti, JKIA, and Syokimau.

Road network: Nairobi County has a well-established transport system that is vital for enabling movement and economic activities in the area. The county has a total of 4,730.68 kilometres of classified road network. Out of this 20% are in good condition and 22% are in fair condition.

Tourism: The County has a vibrant hospitality industry with 4,101 hotel establishments and a ratio of 93% hotel per 100, ranking 3rd place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 45% ranking 1st place. Other Counties with high internet access include Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Climate and Environment

3.7%
County's total forest cover

The county scored 83%3 in the Climate and environment domain ranking 4th overall. The best performing counties were Kilifi 100%, Nyeri 99%, and Kiambu 89%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Nairobi had a low forest cover of 3.7% ranking 36th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Nairobi County had high coverage. 86% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 1st overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 54%, ranking 30th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

50.6%
County's sewerage coverage

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 100% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 86% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 50.6% of the county has sewerage. Other Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Nairobi the least performing domains in human capital and business efficiency with scores of 51% and 26% respectively.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the second last score of 51%, coming 23rd overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

98.8%

County's Percentage of literate men

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels were higher in men compared to women. The percent of literate men was 98.8% compared to 96.9% for women. The county ranked high overall at 9th place for men literacy and 13th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.1% for female and 99.7% for male.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were higher compared to the secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 75.6 ranking 38th while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 38.6 ranking 45th place. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 61.8 ranking 39th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 28.8 ranking 39th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality, Nairobi had a neonatal mortality of 20, post-neonatal mortality of 20, infant mortality 40, child mortality of 4, under-5 mortality of 44.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 68.5 and 62.9 years respectively, ranking 17th for female and 7th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 47.1, with old-age dependency 4.5 while child dependency was 42.6 ranking 47th overall. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Nairobi scored 26% ranking 32nd place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Nairobi County had a score of 378, ranking 1st place overall. Other higher scores were recorded in Elgeyo Marakwet with a labour productivity of 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 34.1, meaning that about 34.1% of the working age population in Nairobi County is employed, ranking 1st overall. Other counties with high employment ratio were Kiambu at 31.2 or 31.2% and Kajiado at 29.0 or 29%.

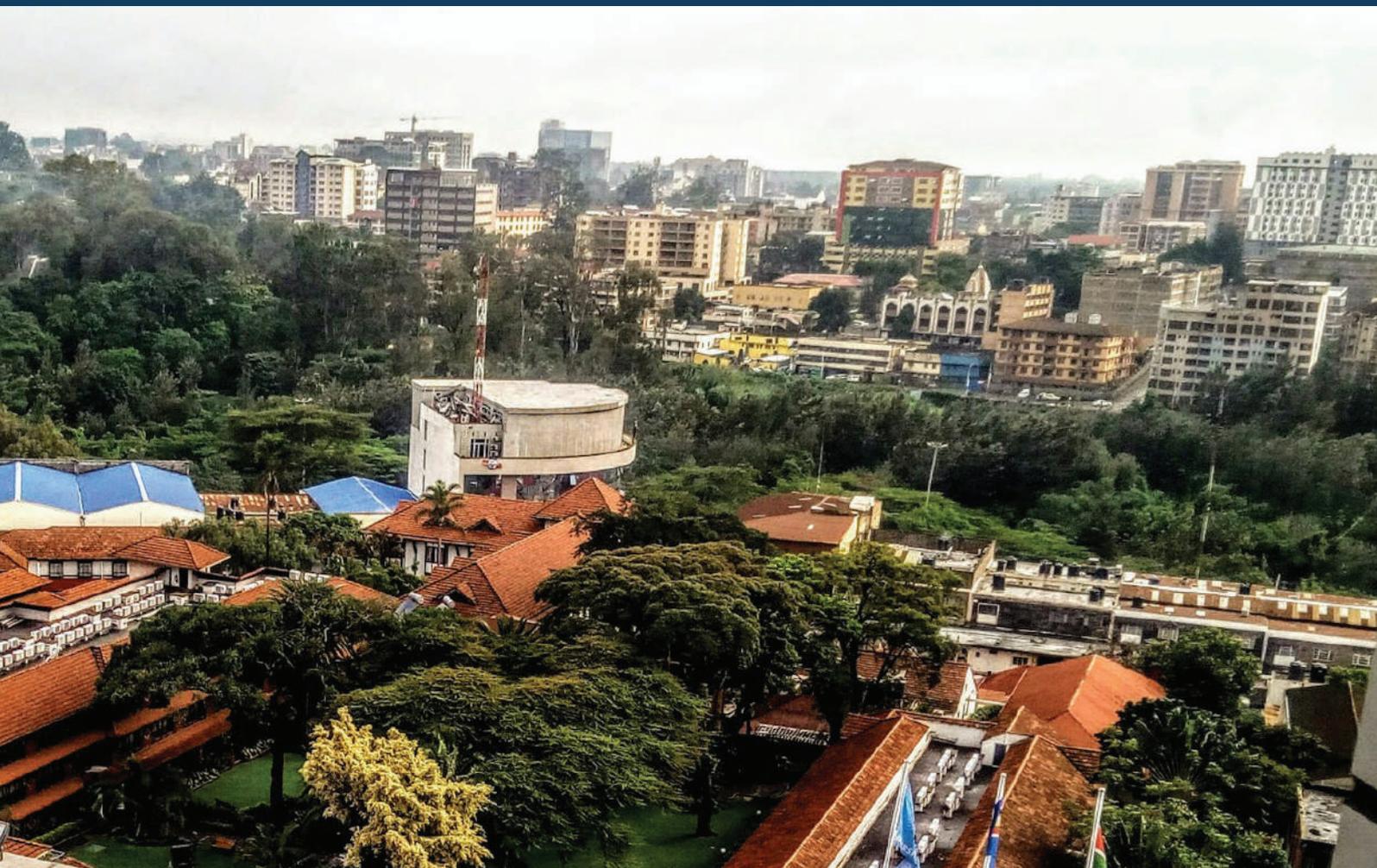
20

County's neonatal mortality

Recommendations

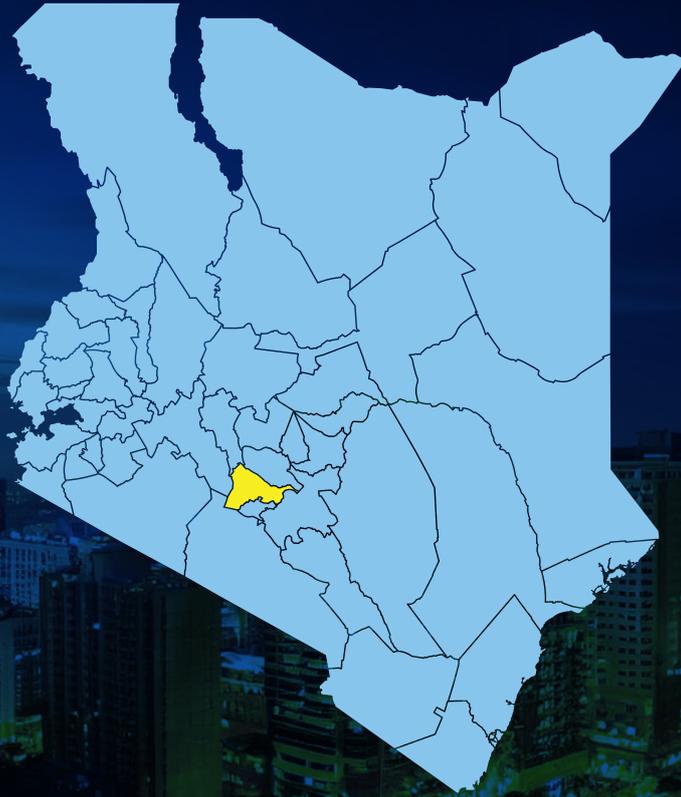
To make Nairobi more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Promote development of the agriculture sector** by establishing value addition processing and promote an enabling environment for industrial development within the region.
- **Enhance infrastructure for innovation** through establishment of technology hubs and incubators to support start-ups, attract tech talent, and position Nairobi as a leading innovation and digital economy hub in Africa.
- **Improve urban mobility and liveability** by investing in sustainable transportation systems, such as efficient public transit and green mobility initiatives, to reduce congestion and improve the city's quality of life.
- **Strengthen urban resilience** by Implementing climate adaptation strategies and urban planning policies to mitigate the impact of rapid urbanization and environmental risks, ensuring sustainable development in Nairobi.



KIAMBU

County 022



Introduction

73%

County's competitive
index average score.

Kiambu County had the **second** highest score in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 73%, coming second after Nairobi City County.

Of the six domains assessed, Kiambu scored had high scores in business efficiency, climate and environment, productive infrastructure and government and institutions with scores of 100%, 89%, 77% and 72% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in human capital and economic development with scores of 63% and 37% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, climate and environment, productive infrastructure and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

Business Efficiency

Kiambu county scored the highest under business efficiency domain, with a score of 100%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. Kiambu's location in central region and its proximity to Nairobi has given it advantage both on business and industrial activities that continue to offer job opportunities for its residents. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kiambu County was at 93, ranking 17th compared to other counties, the highest with a labour productivity of 378. The employment ratio is at 0.31, meaning that about 31% of the working age population in Kiambu is employed.

Climate and Environment

In Kiambu County, the climate and environment domain scored 89% (ranking the 3rd of all counties). The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. The County's Forest cover was at 18.22% ranking 10th of all the counties, Nyeri County had the highest forest cover at 41%.

In relation to the water resources, Kiambu County had a relatively high-water coverage. 70% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 4th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 72%, ranking 8th overall in terms of coverage.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 90% of the county population lived within service areas of utilities and 71% of the population was served.

In relation to sewerage coverage, only 18% of the county is covered with sewerage, most of the residents rely on pit latrines 45.9% of households use covered pit latrines as a sanitation facility. Other options include septic tanks (24.9%), VIP latrines (15.3%).

Productive Infrastructures

The County ranked fourth overall on the productive infrastructure with a score of 77% after Nairobi, Mombasa and Nakuru City Counties owing to its road network, transport, energy, tourism attraction and connectivity.

Energy: measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kiambu County had 56.6% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking second after Nairobi City. In 2019, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) was the most used cooking fuel, reported by 58.1% of households, followed by firewood at 22.3%. Approximately 91.7% of households used electricity mains for lighting. Ruiru and Thika West sub-county had the highest percentage of households using electricity as a source of lighting energy at 95.8% and 95%¹.

18.22%

County's forest cover

56.6%

Reliance on clean fuel and technologies

¹ Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2019: Volume IV

5,533
County's total
road network
(kilometers)

Transport: Kiambu's close distance to Nairobi, gives it access to the available transport systems present in the city i.e., airports and railway systems. Kiambu's distance to the nearest airport was 19.28km making it accessible by air transport. The County is trans versed by critical international trunk roads i.e., Thika Superhighway that connects Nairobi to Northern Kenya and Ethiopia, Eastern Bypass and Northern bypass connecting the county to the rest of the country. The County is also served by the one-meter gauge railway with stations in Ruiru, Kiambu.

Road network: The road network in Kiambu County is well developed. The county had a total road network of 5,533 Km. There were 249 Km of roads that had not been opened yet. The county had 865.4 Km of roads with bitumen standards, 1051 Km on gravel, and 3167 Km on earth surface. Of the total road network 1,050km is in good condition, while 2,693 km is in a fair condition. The rural access index is 95 ranking 2 overall, coming after Kisii County.

Tourism: The county hospitality industry is well developed to accommodate the changing economic landscape in Kiambu. Overall, the county has 160 hotel establishment, with a ratio of 7% hotel per 100 and ranking 14th overall on hotel establishments.

Connectivity: Kiambu County has a well-developed posts and telecommunications infrastructure that covers the entire county and is easily accessible. Kiambu County has excellent mobile network coverage of 98% due to its location near the city. The use of landlines has decreased because people find it easier to use mobile phones and new technology. There is a total of 19 post offices and 14 sub post offices spread out across the county, including locations like Ruiru, Thika, Juja, Githunguri, Karuri, Kiambu, Kikuyu, Limuru, and Matathia-Lari. Many cyber cafes provide internet access, thanks to the introduction of fibre optic cables in the county. The access to internet is at 43% ranking 2nd overall after Nairobi, which is at 45.3%.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kiambu County scored 72%, ranking 5th overall after Nairobi, Machakos, Kitui, and Tharaka Nithi. This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 7,980 million ranking 2nd after Nairobi that had Kshs. 19,690 million. On expenditure development, Kiambu county used 3,451.25 million in the same year, ranking second after Nairobi at 40,291.15 million.

Public security: Kiambu county had the highest crime rates reported, at 9,532 crimes, coming 2nd after Nairobi, which had reported 11,108 crimes in the same year.

7,980m
County's annual
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

507**County's total
number of public
health facilities**

Education: The county has a range of education facilities including 1,468 public pre-primary school, 910 public primary schools and 389 public secondary schools. It has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. It has a total of 194 TVET institutions and 5 universities. The universities include Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology located in Juja Constituency, two satellite campuses namely the University of Nairobi, Kikuyu campus in Kikuyu sub-county, and Kenyatta University. Ruiru campus in Ruiru Sub County, Gretsia University, Mount Kenya University, St. Paul's University, Kiriri Women's Science and Technology University and Presbyterian University of East Africa, Zitech University in Ruiru.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 202* there were a total of 507 public health facilities: 3 level 5, 4 level 4B, 27 level 4, 47 level 3B, 109 level 3A and 317 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kiambu, the least performing domains were human capital and economic development with scores of 63% and 37% respectively.

Human Capital

The county scored 63% on the human capital domain, ranking 8th of the counties, the highest performing counties were Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 100%, 96%, 91%1, and 91%0 respectively. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county, having women at 98.2% and male at 96.4%. In terms of enrolment, secondary levels had a higher gross enrolment (86.7%) compared to primary levels (81.1%) however, the net enrolment was higher in primary level (64%) compared to secondary level (72.5%).

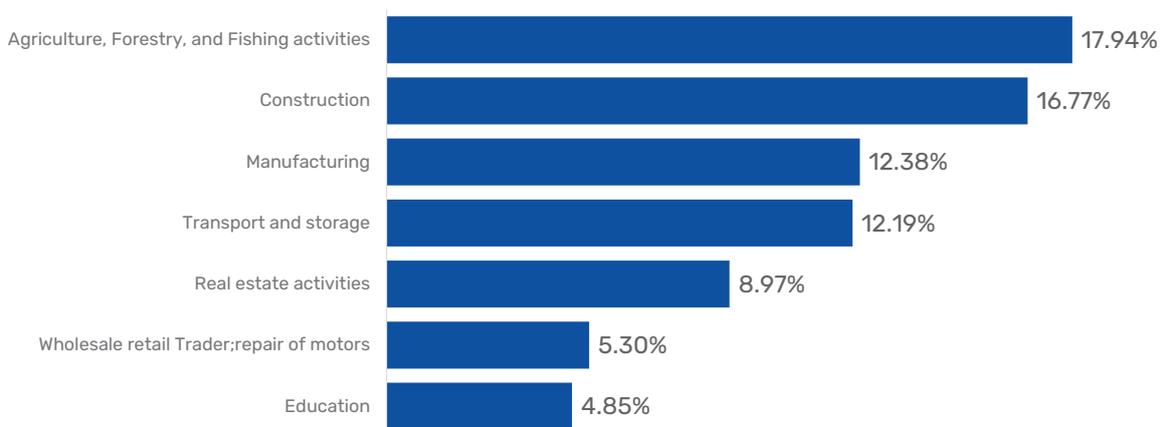
Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Kiambu County had a neonatal mortality of 28, post-neonatal mortality of 7%, infant mortality 35%, child mortality of 5%. The life expectancy under 5 was 40 years, the female expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 68.9 and 64.1 years respectively. The age dependency ratio was 43.2, with old-age dependency at 8.2 while child dependency was 55.

35%**County's infant
mortality**

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least with a score of 37%, although compared to other counties Kiambu County ranked 3rd in this domain after Nairobi and Kiambu, which had scores of 100% and 64.2. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 519,927 million coming second after Nairobi City that had a GCP of Kshs. 2,659,197 million. The GCP per capital was Kshs. 277,147, ranking sixth Nairobi, Mombasa, Nyeri, Embu and Nyandarua counties. The highest per capital was Nairobi with Kshs. 723,335.

Kiambu top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

To make Kiambu more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Promote economic development** through establishment of value addition processing and promote an enabling environment for industrial development within the county.
- On human capital, **address the mortality rates and increase secondary school enrolment** to improve the transition to tertiary education.
- **Expand sewerage coverage** beyond the current 18% by investing in decentralized wastewater treatment systems and upgrading pit latrines to eco-friendly models.

NYERI

County 019



Introduction

61%

County's competitive index average score.

Nyeri County had the **third** highest score in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 61%, coming third after Nairobi City and Kiambu Counties that had 77% and 73% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, Nyeri County scored the highest in human capital, environment and climate, productive infrastructure, and business efficiency with scores of 100%, 99%, 53% and 50% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in government and institutions and economic development with scores of 43% and 19% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, environment and climate, productive infrastructure, and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

The county scored the highest on the human capital domain, with a perfect score of 100%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county, having women at 98.2% and male at 97.4%. In terms of enrolment, secondary levels had a higher gross enrolment ratio (128) and net enrolment ratio (91.6), compared to primary level gross enrolment ratio of (98) and net enrolment ratio of 88.3.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Nyeri County had a neonatal mortality of 27, post-neonatal mortality of 21, infant mortality 48, child mortality of 5, under-5 mortality of 40. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 65.7 and 64.1 years respectively. The age dependency ratio was 66.7, with old-age dependency at 15.3 while child dependency was 51.4.

Climate and Environment

Climate and environment domain scored 99% ranking second after Kilifi County, that scored 100%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Nyeri's forest cover was the highest overall at 41% owing to the presence of physical features i.e., the Mount Kenya on the eastern side and the Aberdare ranges on the western side of the county.

In relation to the water resources, Nyeri County had a relatively high-water coverage. 56% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 6th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 75%, ranking 5th overall in terms of coverage. Besides the formal piped water, residents rely on stream/river water, wells, and boreholes².

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 99% of the county population lived within service areas of utilities but only 43% of the population is served. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 20% of the county is covered with sewerage and more than half (66.3%) of the households use covered pit latrines as a sanitation facility. The most common method of solid waste disposal is burning in the open, used by 27.6% of households³.

27

County's neonatal mortality

41%

County's overall forest cover

² Source: 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census: Volume IV

³ Source: 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census: Volume IV

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked sixth overall with a score of 53%, with the highest being Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (78%), Kiambu (77%) and Makueni (58%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

28.4%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Nyeri County had 28.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 7th overall. In the county, the most common cooking fuel is firewood with reported 64.8% usage among residents while 23.8% used Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG). About 71.8% of households used electricity mains for lighting, with solar being used by 8.4%.

Transport: The County has a well-established transportation system that primarily focuses on connecting towns and villages through roads. It has air transport options provided by two airstrips i.e., Nyaribo and Kamangura airstrips. The county is in proximity to Nanyuki airbase that offers domestic flights, and Nairobi JKIA which is accessible by road.

Road network: The road network in Nyeri County is well developed. The county boasts a total road network of 3,092.73 kilometres, consisting of both paved (488.72 km) and gravel roads (at least 2492.85 km) that link major towns like Nyeri, Karatina, and Nanyuki. The rural access index (RAI) was at 92 ranking sixth overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: The county hospitality industry is well developed to accommodate the changing economic landscape in the county. Overall, the county has 513 hotel establishments, with a ratio of 0.68 hotel per 100 and ranking 5th overall on hotel establishments.

16.8%

County's access to internet

Connectivity: The county has seen significant development due to the introduction of mobile telephony and internet hubs in urban areas. The access to internet is at 16.8% ranking 15th overall, with Nairobi having the highest internet access at 45.3%. Mobile phone coverage is at 91%, and there are 384 cyber cafes, which has transformed communication and increased efficiency in service delivery. There are six Post Offices, 19 sub-post offices, and 25 licensed stamp vendors. However, the Post Office is facing tough competition from 30 private courier services, such as G4S, Wells Fargo, 2NK Sacco, and 4NTE⁴.

Business Efficiency

Nyeri county scored 50% on business efficiency domain. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Nyeri County was at 81, ranking 25th compared to other counties, the highest was Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378. The employment ratio is at 0.24, meaning that about 24% of the working age population in Kiambu is employed.

4 Nyeri County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Nyeri, the least performing domains were government and institutions and economic development with scores of 43% and 19% respectively.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Nyeri County scored 43%, ranking 12th overall, the best performing counties were Nairobi (100%), Machakos (82%), Kitui (76%), and Tharaka Nithi (74%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

800m
County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 800 million ranking 22nd position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million and Kiambu at 7,980 million. On expenditure development, Nyeri county used 2,016 million in the same year, ranking 26th, with the highest development expenditure being in Kwale at Kshs. 4,714 million, followed by Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million.

Public security: Nyeri was among the top 15 counties with high crime rates. As a total Nyeri report 2,400 crimes, ranking 12th overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108) and Kiambu (9,532) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a range of education facilities including 607 public pre-primary school, 514 public primary schools and 238 public secondary schools. It has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. It has a total of 41 TVET institutions and 2 universities.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2024 there were a total of 125 public health facilities: 3 level 5, 2 level 4B, 6 level 4, 4 level 3B, 16 level 3A and 93 level 2.

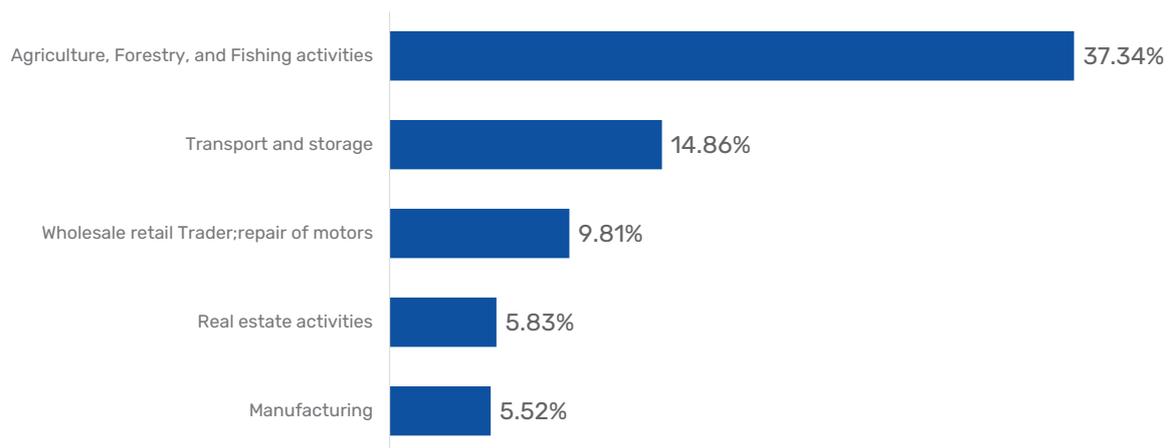
These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

Economic Development

173,104m
Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least with a score of score of 19%, although compared to other counties Nyeri County ranked 10th in this domain. The highest was Nairobi at 100% and Kiambu at 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 173,104 million coming twelfth. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million. The GCP per capital was Kshs. 293,944, ranking 3rd after Nairobi and Mombasa counties. The highest per capital was in Nairobi Kshs. 723,335.

Nyeri top performing sectors in 2022



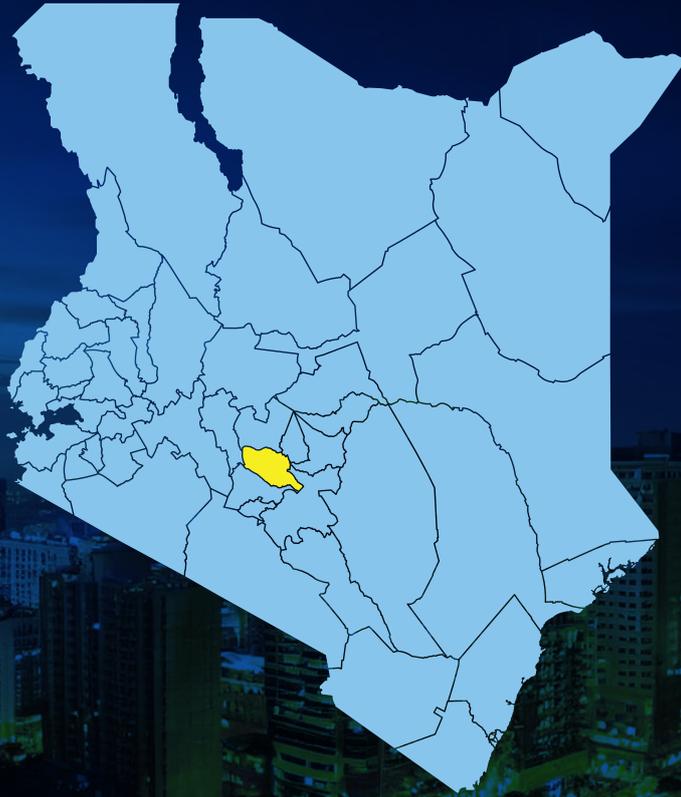
Recommendations

To make Nyeri more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Boost Economic Diversification** through fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in high-potential sectors like agro-processing, manufacturing, and eco-tourism to reduce overreliance on agriculture and unlock new growth opportunities.
- **Enhance Infrastructure for Growth** by investing in modernizing transport networks, water supply, and ICT infrastructure to attract investors and improve business efficiency.
- **Strengthen Public Revenue and Security** by improving revenue collection systems and enhance public security measures to create a conducive environment for investment and socio-economic development.

MURANG'A

County 021



Introduction

61%

County's competitive index average score.

Murang'a County had the fourth highest score in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 61%, coming fourth after Nairobi City, Kiambu and Nyeri Counties that had 77%, 73% and 61% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, Murang'a County scored the highest in human capital, business efficiency, environment and climate and government and institutions with scores of 91%, 81%, 74% and 59% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 42% and 18% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, business efficiency, environment and climate and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

The county scored the highest on the human capital domain, with a score of 91%, coming 3rd overall after Nyeri 100% and Kirinyaga 96%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county, having women at 97.6% and male at 97.1%. In terms of enrolment, secondary levels had a higher gross enrolment ratio (114.1) and net enrolment ratio (101.9), compared to primary level gross enrolment ratio of (106.2) and net enrolment ratio of 94.4.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Murang'a County had a neonatal mortality of 36, post-neonatal mortality of -7, infant mortality -43, child mortality of -5, under-5 mortality of -47. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 67.2 and 63.4 years respectively. The age dependency ratio was 65.8, with old-age dependency at 13.8 while child dependency was 52.

Business Efficiency

Murang'a county scored 81% on business efficiency domain. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Murang'a County was at 89, ranking 21st compared to other counties, the highest was Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375. The employment ratio is at 0.21, meaning that about 21% of the working age population in Murang'a is employed.

Climate and Environment

Climate and environment domain scored 74% ranking seventh. The top three scores were recorded in Kilifi County 100%, Nyeri 99% and Kiambu 89%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Muranga's forest cover was high at 16.48% ranking 12th. The highest forest cover was in Nyeri County at 41%.

In relation to the water resources, Murang'a County had a relatively high-water coverage. 71% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 3rd overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 68%, ranking 15th overall in terms of coverage.

36

County's neonatal mortality

16.48%

County's overall forest cover

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 78% of the county population lived within service areas of utilities but only 38% of the population is served. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 14% of the county is covered with sewerage and more than half (71.4%) of the households use covered pit latrines as a sanitation facility. The most common method of solid waste disposal is burning in the open, used by 30.4% of households⁵.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Murang'a County scored 57%, ranking 7th overall, top performing counties on this domain were Nairobi (100%), Machakos (82%), Kitui (76%), Tharaka Nithi (74%), Kiambu (72%), and Taita Taveta (61%).

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

1,475m
County's annual
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 1,475 million ranking 14th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Murang'a county used 2,046 million in the same year, ranking 24th with the highest development expenditure being in Kilifi at Kshs. 4,714 million, followed by Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million.

Public security: Murang'a was among the top 10 counties with high reported crimes. In 2023, Murang'a reported a total of 3,660 crimes, ranking 6th overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108) and Kiambu (9,532) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a range of education facilities including 1,968 public pre-primary school, 640 public primary schools and 346 public secondary schools. It has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. It has a total of 78TVET institutions and 1 university.

141
County's Number
of public health
facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2024 there were a total of 141 public health facilities: 1 level 4B, 7 level 4, 7 level 3B, 21 level 3A and 105 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

⁵ Source: 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census: Volume IV

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Murang'a, the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 42% and 18% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 10th place overall with a score of 42%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (78%), Kiambu (77%) and Makueni (58%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

15%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Nyeri County had 15% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 11th overall. Firewood was the most used cooking fuel, reported by 74.8% of households, followed by Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) at 17%. Approximately 60.5% of households used electricity mains for lighting, while 14.3% used Paraffin Tin lamps.

Transport: The County has a well-established transportation system that primarily focuses on connecting towns and villages through roads. For air transport, the County is with 60km to an air transport facility in Nairobi County.

Road network: The road network in Murang'a County is well developed about 60% of roads being all-weather routes. This allows for reliable access to both urban and rural areas. Major highways like the A2 road connect Murang'a county to important cities like Nairobi and Nyeri, promoting trade and commerce. However, some rural areas still struggle with accessibility, especially during the rainy season when certain roads become impassable. This is the case with most of rural areas in Kenya. In Murang'a the rural access index (RAI) was at 89 ranking ninth overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: The county hospitality industry is ill developed with only 38 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.036 hotel per 100. The county ranked 26th overall on hotel establishments.

97%

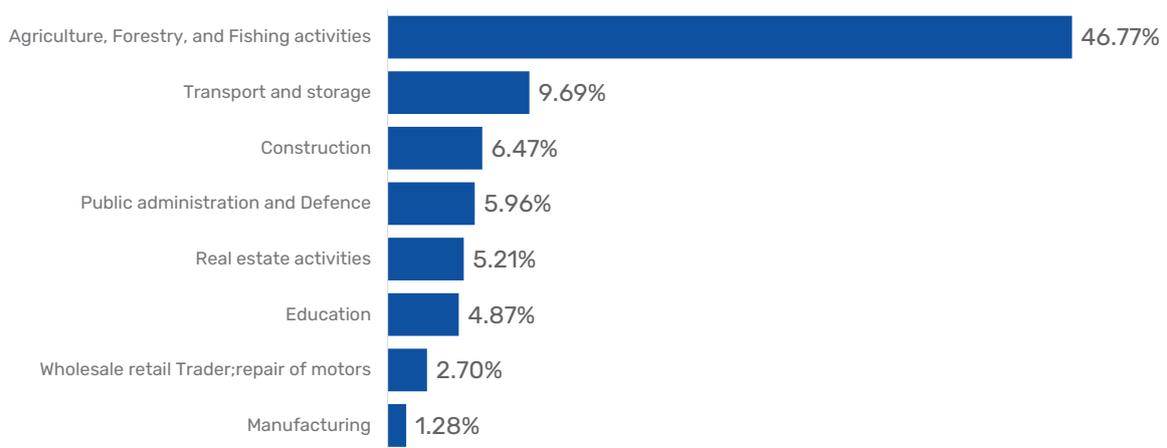
County's mobile network coverage

Connectivity: The County has a high mobile network coverage of approximately 97% of the area, with Safaricom, Equitel, Jamii Telkom, Airtel Kenya, and Telkom Kenya being the main service providers. The overall access to internet is at 23.7% ranking 4th after Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, and Mombasa at 42.1%.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least with a score of score of 18%, although compared to other counties Murang'a County ranked 11th overall in this domain. The highest was Nairobi at 100% and Kiambu at 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 168,815 million coming 14th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million. The GCP per capital in Murang'a was Kshs. 225,007, ranking 15th overall. The high per capita was reported in Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335) and Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390) counties.

Murang'a top performing sectors in 2022



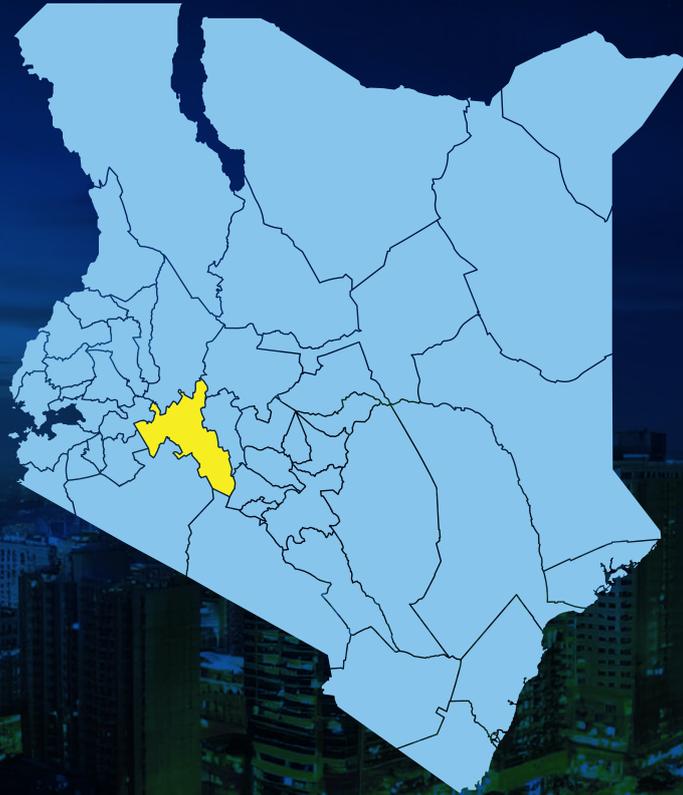
Recommendations

To make Murang'a more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Invest in Diversified Economic Drivers** through strengthening high-potential sectors such as agro-processing, manufacturing, and wholesale trade to reduce over-reliance on agriculture (46.77%). This could involve promoting value addition and improving access to domestic and export markets.
- **Enhance Productive Infrastructure** by accelerating rural road upgrades and support investments in clean energy adoption to boost economic activity and access to underserved areas. Increased connectivity will also bolster tourism and business development.
- **Expand Innovation and Business Support** through the establishment of incubation hubs and incentives for SMEs to foster job creation and entrepreneurship. Focus on leveraging Murang'a's high literacy and enrolment rates to cultivate a skilled workforce for emerging industries.

NAKURU

County 032



Introduction

57%

County's competitive index average score.

Nakuru County had the fifth highest score in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 57%, coming fifth after Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri and Murang'a Counties that had 77%, 73%, 61%, 61% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, Nakuru County scored the highest in productive infrastructure, climate and environment, business efficiency, and government and institutions with scores of 79%, 64%, 57% and 54% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in human capital and economic development with scores of 46% and 42% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in productive infrastructure, climate and environment, business efficiency, and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked third overall with a score of 79%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

19.9%
County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Nakuru County had 19.9% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 8th overall. The main sources of cooking energy in Nakuru County include firewood (39.6%), Liquefied Petroleum Gas (30%) and charcoal (13.3%). For lighting fuel electricity accounts for (64.4%), solar energy (14.5%), Solar Charged Torch/Spotlight (6.5%) and paraffin lantern (5.8%).

Transport: The County has a well-established transportation system including road, railway, and airstrip. Nakuru is served by the one-meter gauge Mombasa - Uganda railway that transports cargo from the port of Mombasa to the Malaba border. In addition, there is the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) that passes through Mai Mahiu (Naivasha) and connects to Narok County was opened in July 2022. The upgrade Facilitates smooth transfers for passengers traveling to Western Kenya by train between the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and the Meter Gauge Railway (MGR), cutting down travel time significantly. The implementation of SGR Phase 2A was completed in 2019. The construction of a dry port in Naivasha due to the SGR has also boosted economic activities in the county. Currently, there is no airport in Nakuru County. However, there are plans to expand the airstrip at Lanet Military Base for commercial services.

12,491
County's total
road network
(Kilometres)

Road network: The total road network in Nakuru County is approximately 12,491km. This includes 993.7 Km of paved roads, 4,500 Km of gravel roads, and 6,998 Km of earth roads. The condition of the roads can be categorized as 16% good and 39% fair. However, some rural areas still struggle with accessibility, especially during the rainy season when certain roads become impassable. This is the case with most of rural areas in Kenya. In Nakuru the rural access index (RAI) was at 63 ranking 25th overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: Nakuru County has a well-developed hospitality industry with 689 hotel establishments and a ratio of 32% hotel per 100. The county ranked tenth overall on hotel establishments.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 22.5% ranking 5th after Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1% and Murang'a 23.7%.

Climate and Environment

In Nakuru, the Climate and environment domain scored 64% ranking tenth overall. The top three scores were recorded in Kilifi County 100%, Nyeri 99% and Kiambu 89%.

The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Nakuru's forest cover was high at 178% ranking 21st. The highest forest cover was in Nyeri County at 41%.

24%**County sewerage coverage**

In relation to the water resources, Nakuru County had a low-water coverage. Only 51% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 8th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 69%, ranking 11th overall in terms of coverage.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 57% of the county population live within service areas of utilities but only 51% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 24% of the county is covered, ranking 4th on sewerage coverage after Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%). The most common human disposal method is the pit latrines, accounting for 53.2%. 17.8% use VIP latrines.

Business Efficiency

Nakuru county scored 56% on business efficiency domain. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Nakuru County was at 95, ranking 16th compared to other counties, the highest was Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350. The employment ratio is at 27%, meaning that about 27% of the working age population in Nakuru is employed.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Nakuru County scored 54%, ranking 8th overall, top performing counties on this domain were Nairobi (100%), Machakos (82%), Kitui (76%), Tharaka Nithi (74%), Kiambu (72%), and Taita Taveta (61%).

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

3,800m**County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)**

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 3,800 million ranking 6th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Nakuru county used 4,449 million in the same year, ranking 4th with the highest development expenditure being in Kilifi at Kshs. 4,714 million, followed by Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Nakuru was among the top 5 counties with high reported crimes. In 2023, Nakuru reported a total of 5,072 crimes, ranking 4th overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108) and Kiambu (9,532) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a range of education facilities including 2,404 public pre-primary school, 1,016 public primary schools and 512 public secondary schools. It has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. It has a total of 127 TVET institutions and 2 university.

365**Number of public health facilities**

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 365 public health facilities: 3 level 5, 4 level 4B, 20 level 4, 45 level 3B, 57 level 3A and 236 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Nakuru the least performing domains were human capital and economic development with scores of 42% and 18% respectively.

Human Capital

Nakuru scored 46% in human capital domain, coming 27th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri (100%) and Kirinyaga (96%). This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county, having women at 96.8% and male at 95.2%. In terms of enrolment, primary levels had a higher gross enrolment ratio (95.3) and net enrolment ratio (85.4), compared to secondary level gross enrolment ratio of (81.7) and net enrolment ratio of 59.2.

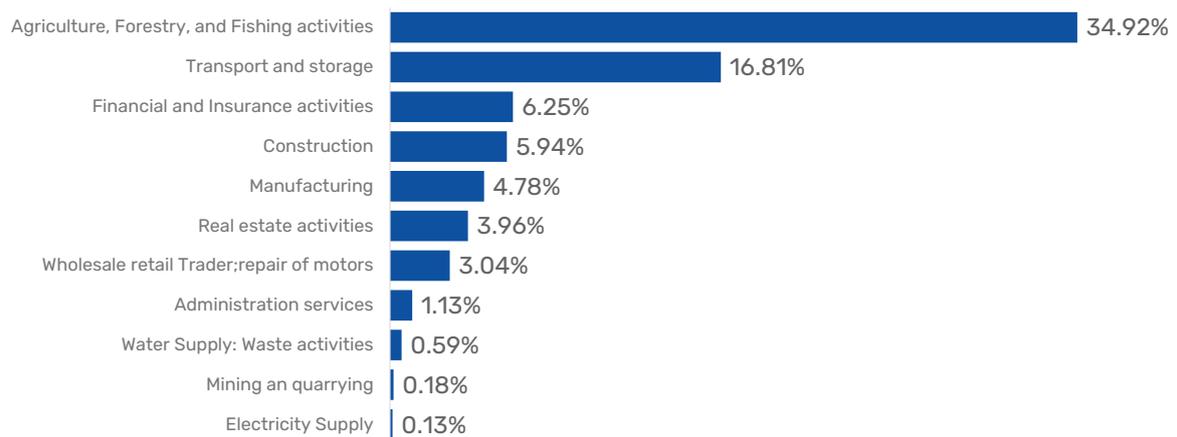
Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Nakuru had a neonatal mortality of 25, post-neonatal mortality of 16, infant mortality 41, child mortality of 10, under-5 mortality of 51. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 62.1 and 58.3 years respectively. The age dependency ratio was 85.5, with old-age dependency at 8.2 while child dependency was 77.2.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Nakuru score of 42%, although compared to other counties Nakuru County ranked 2nd overall coming after Nairobi at 100% and Kiambu at 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 433,728 million coming 4th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, then Mombasa at 467,036. The GCP per capital in Nakuru was Kshs. 268,188, ranking 7th overall. The high per capita was reported in Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

433,728m**Gross County Product (KES)**

Nakuru top performing sectors in 2022



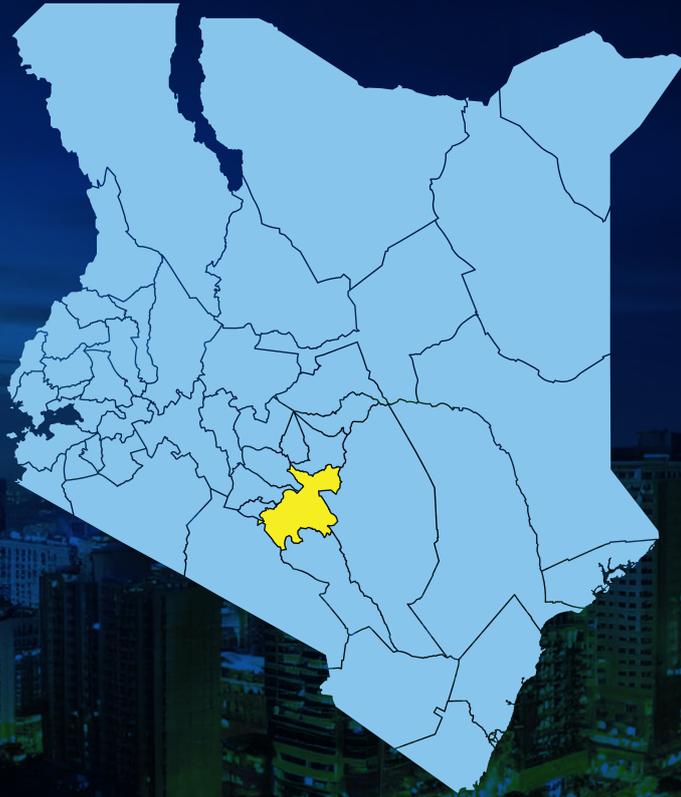
Recommendations

To make Nakuru County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Invest in Human Capital Development through** addressing the gaps in health and education by scaling up access to healthcare facilities and enhancing the quality of basic and secondary education. Focus on reducing neonatal and under-5 mortality rates through improved maternal and child health programs, while boosting secondary school enrolment and literacy levels to strengthen the county's workforce.
- **Enhance Economic Diversification and Value Addition by** expanding support for agriculture, forestry, and fishing through modernized practices and value addition to agricultural products. Develop programs to boost manufacturing and construction sectors, leveraging Nakuru's strategic position along transport corridors and the SGR to attract investments in industrial parks and export-processing zones.
- **Strengthen Infrastructure and Utilities Access by** improving road accessibility, especially in rural areas, to enhance market connectivity and economic activity. Accelerate the expansion of water and sewerage services and promote clean energy use by providing incentives for solar and LPG adoption.

MACHAKOS

County 016



56%

County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Machakos County ranked 6th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 56%, coming after Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, and Nakuru Counties that had 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, and 57% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, Machakos County scored the highest in government and institutions, business efficiency, human capital climate and environment with scores of 81%, 69%, 62% and 55% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 41% and 29% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in government and institutions, business efficiency, human capital climate and environment. These domains are discussed below:

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Machakos County scored 81%, ranking 2nd best overall after Nairobi (100%). Other counties that performed well included Kitui (76%), Tharaka Nithi (74%), Kiambu (72%), and Taita Taveta (61%).

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

4,007m

County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 4,007 million ranking 5th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Machakos county used 2,949 million in the same year, ranking 15th with the highest development expenditure being in Kilifi at Kshs. 4,714 million, followed by Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Machakos was among the top 5 counties with high reported crimes. In 2023, it reported a total of 4,780 crimes, ranking 5th overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532) and Meru (6,037) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a total of 5,141 schools. 67% are public pre-primary school, 25% are public primary schools and 9% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 93 TVET institutions and 3 universities.

365

County's total number of public health facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 365 public health facilities: 3 level 5, 15 level 4, 38 level 3B, 46 level 3A and 159 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

Business Efficiency

Machakos county scored 69% on business efficiency domain, ranking 5th best in the domain after Kiambu, Kirinyaga, and Murang'a that scored 100%, 83% and 81% respectively. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Machakos County was at 113, ranking 14th compared to other counties, the highest was Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350. The employment ratio is at 17%, meaning that about 17% of the working age population in Machakos county is employed.

Human Capital

Machakos county scored 62% in human capital domain, coming 9th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri (100%), Kirinyaga (96%) and Murang'a (91%). This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county, having men at 99.7% and female at 99.1%. In terms of enrolment, primary levels had a higher gross enrolment ratio (111.9) and net enrolment ratio (87.2), compared to secondary level gross enrolment ratio of (102.3) and net enrolment ratio of (69.8).

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Machakos had a neonatal mortality of 26, post-neonatal mortality of 8, infant mortality 34, child mortality of 7, under-5 mortality of 41. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 64.5 and 61.3 years respectively. The age dependency ratio was 65.4, with old-age dependency at 8.9 while child dependency was 56.5.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 55% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 13th overall. The top three scores were recorded in Kilifi County 100%, Nyeri 99% and Kiambu 89%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Machakos had a forest cover of 2.59% ranking 38th overall. The highest forest cover was in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Machakos County had a low-water coverage. Only 28% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 17th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 64%, ranking 19th overall in terms of coverage.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 79% of the county population live within service areas of utilities but only 64% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 16% of the county is covered, ranking 10th on sewerage coverage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage include Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

26

County's neonatal mortality

2.59%

County's forest cover

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Machakos the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 41% and 0. respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 11th overall with a score of 41%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

29.4%
County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Machakos County had 29.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 6th overall. The main sources of cooking energy in Nakuru County include firewood (53.4%), and Liquified Petroleum Gas (27.5%). For lighting the main source of energy for lighting is mains electricity (48.3%), solar (25.6%), and paraffin/lantern (11.6%).

Transport: The County has a good road network with major roads such as the Mombasa Highway, Machakos – Kitui, Machakos – Wote, Garissa, and Kangundo roads. The county is close to Nairobi therefore accessible to the International Airports. The distance from the county to the nearest airport is 43.42km.

Road network: Machakos County's the rural access index (RAI) is 84 ranking 13th overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: Machakos County has a fairly-developed hospitality industry with 55 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.039 hotel per 100. The county ranked 25th overall on hotel establishments.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 21.8% ranking 6th after Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a 23.7% and Nakuru 22.5%.

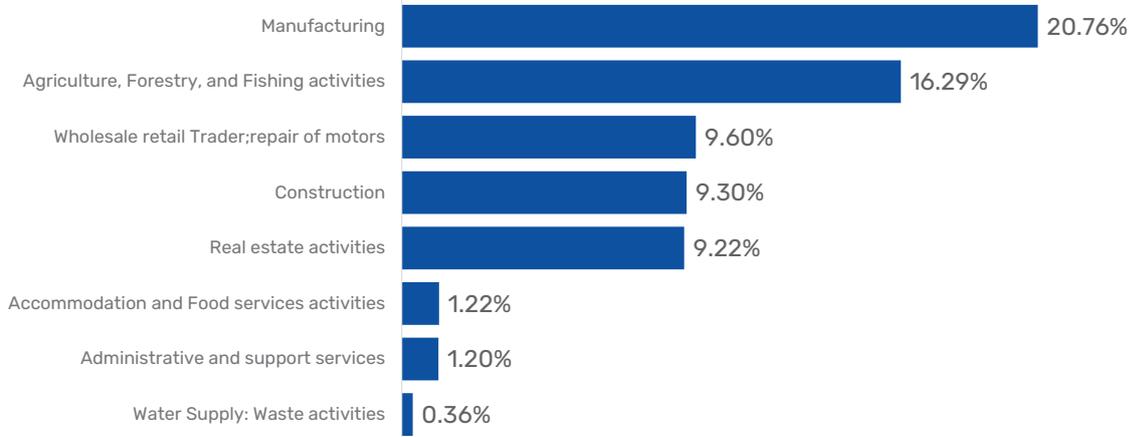
Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Machakos with a score of 29%, although compared to other counties Machakos County ranked 4th overall coming after Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 299,377 million coming 5th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million.

299,377m
Gross County Product
(KES)

The GCP per capital in Machakos was Kshs. 257,025 ranking 8th overall. The highest per capita was reported in Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Machakos top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

To make Machakos more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Strengthen economic development and infrastructure** by investing in key sectors like agriculture, manufacturing, and trade by fostering public-private partnerships to boost productivity and diversify economic activities. Enhance clean energy access and expand reliable internet connectivity to improve business efficiency and attract investment.
- **Improve water and sewerage services** by expanding water service coverage and sewerage infrastructure to ensure equitable access and address environmental management gaps, which will enhance quality of life and support sustainable growth.
- **Boost human capital development** by focusing on reducing health disparities by scaling up healthcare infrastructure and services, particularly in underserved areas. Leverage high literacy rates and existing TVET institutions to align workforce skills with industry demands, fostering job creation and innovation.

MOMBASA

County 001



Introduction

61%

County's competitive index average score.

Mombasa County demonstrated strong performance in the overall county competitive index, securing seventh position with an index of 61%. The highest scores were in Nairobi, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a and Nakuru with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61% and 57% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, Mombasa had high scores in productive infrastructure, environment and climate, business efficiency and human capital with scores of 93%, 57%, 53%, and 47% respectively. However, it faced challenges in areas of government and institutions and economic development with scores of 35% and 30% respectively.

Top performing Domains

The highly competitive domains are productive infrastructure, environment and climate, business efficiency and human capital. These domains are discussed below:

Productive Infrastructures

Productive infrastructure ranked the highest nationally with a score of 93% (coming second after Nairobi) owing to its strength in road network, energy, transport, tourism, and connectivity.

Energy: measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting, the county has made strides in supporting sustainable energy use.

Transport: The transport system in Mombasa gives it a significant competitive advantage. The county hosts the Moi International Airport in Changamwe, the second largest airport in Kenya, handling both domestic and international flights. The airport connects Mombasa to the rest of the country, regional and global cities facilitating the export of goods such as horticultural products and the import of essential supplies. Additionally, the county hosts the port of Mombasa, East Africa's largest seaport, which is a crucial regional and international trade hub. Furthermore, the county benefits from both the one metre gauge and the standard gauge railway, offering efficient options for transport for freight and passenger.

1,036.49
County's total
classified road
network (kilometres)

Road network: The road network in Mombasa County is well developed. The county total of 1,036.49 kilometres of classified road network, including 244.95 km of paved county roads and 178.74 km of national roads (40% is paved). Of the 423.69 km road network, 35.6% is in good condition, 51.7% in fair condition, and 10% in poor condition. To enhance connectivity in the region, the county has two key bridges i.e., Nyali and Mtwapa bridges connecting the mainland to the island and other coastal areas.

Tourism: Mombasa is known as a tourist destination for its beautiful beaches, heritage sites, wildlife and nature offerings, cultural and adventure activities such as snorkelling. Being a coastal and ancient city, the city hosts significant world heritage sites like the historic fort Jesus Museum which is a UNESCO site. As such the hospitality industry is well developed to accommodate the ever-growing demand in the city.

29.2%
County's access
to internet

Connectivity: In recent years, Mombasa has witnessed investments in telecommunications infrastructure, leading to improvements in mobile network coverage, internet services, and modern postal services. The introduction of fibre optic cables and data centers has improved connectivity, benefiting both businesses and households. The county has around 247 cyber cafes, mostly located in the central business sub-county. There are approximately 3700 landline telephone connections in the county, but they are losing business to the rapidly expanding mobile telephone services⁶. Moreover, the rise of mobile money and internet banking services has further integrated telecommunications with the local economy. As of 2019, the population that access to internet was 29.2% and the proportion of those with mobile phones was 61.8%⁷.

⁶ Mombasa County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022

⁷ Commission on Revenue Allocation (2022). Kenya County Factsheets. Third Edition

1.97%
County's forest
cover

Climate and environment

The score on climate and environment domain was 57% (ranking the 11th of all counties). Within the domain the factors investigated include environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Mombasa County's Forest cover was at a low of 1.97% ranking 39th of all the counties. The low forest cover poses major challenges in coping with the adverse effects of climate change and increasing sea level rise in the coastal areas. With climate change it is projected that the temperatures will rise, worsening the drought conditions and affecting the available water and overall human wellbeing.

In terms of water resources, Mombasa County has a relatively fair coverage of water. 53% of its population is served by a formalised water service providers (WSP) ranking 7th overall. The water coverage in the county was at 54% which ranked 30th overall.

On environmental policy and performance indicators of percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In Mombasa County, the percentage of the county population within service areas of utilities was 100% while only half 53% was served. In terms of sewerage system in the county only 8%, with most people relying on pit latrines (36.3%) and septic tanks (31.2%)⁸. The city's central business district and some surrounding areas have access to the sewer network, but it is outdated and often overloaded, causing frequent overflows, especially during the rainy season. This poses significant health and environmental risks as untreated sewage is discharged into the ocean or open drains.

Business Efficiency

Mombasa County scored well under business efficiency domain, scoring 53% and ranking 16th overall on this domain. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. Mombasa city is a major city in Kenya and as such has attracted commercial, and industrial activities that offer job opportunities for the residents. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Mombasa County was at 60, ranking 35th compared to other counties. The employment ratio is at 0.26, meaning that about 26% of the working age population in Mombasa is employed.

Human Capital

The county scored well in the human capital domain, achieving 47% ranking 25th of the counties. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

⁸ Kenya Population and Housing Census: Volume IV 2019

32%
County's neonatal mortality

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high, with male literacy at 95.8% and female at 90.2%. In terms of enrolment, primary levels had a higher gross enrolment and net enrolment of 76.8% and 67.4%. The enrolment dropped significantly in the secondary level, with a gross enrolment rate of 46.7% ranking 28th among the counties and a net enrolment was at 31.9%.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality in Mombasa was at 32%, post-neonatal 10%, infant mortality 43%, child mortality at 8. The life expectancy under 5 was 50 years, the female expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 65.1 and 61.7 years respectively. The age dependency ratio was 50.6, with old-age dependency at 4.1 while child dependency was 46.5.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Mombasa, the least performing domains were government and institutions and economic development with scores of 35% and 30% respectively.

Government and institutions

In the government and institutions domain, Mombasa ranked third overall with a scored 61%, attributed to several factors like revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

Revenue: The County's revenue collection in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 15,534.42 () ranking 6th among the counties.

Education: The county has a range of education facilities including 442 public pre-primary school, 486 public primary schools and 129 public secondary schools. It has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. It has a total of 94 TVET institutions and 1 university. The university in Mombasa is the Technical University of Mombasa (TUM), offering a variety of undergraduate and postgraduate programs in fields like engineering, business, and applied sciences. It also plays a significant role by providing technical and vocational training in areas like hospitality, tourism, engineering, and IT, which are aligned with the county's economic needs. Additionally, the University of Nairobi (Mombasa Campus) offers degree programs in business and law to cater to both local and international students.

264
County's total number of public health facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 202* there were a total of 264 public health facilities: 4 level 5, 1 level 4B, 26 level 4, 28 level 3B, 67 level 3a and 138 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

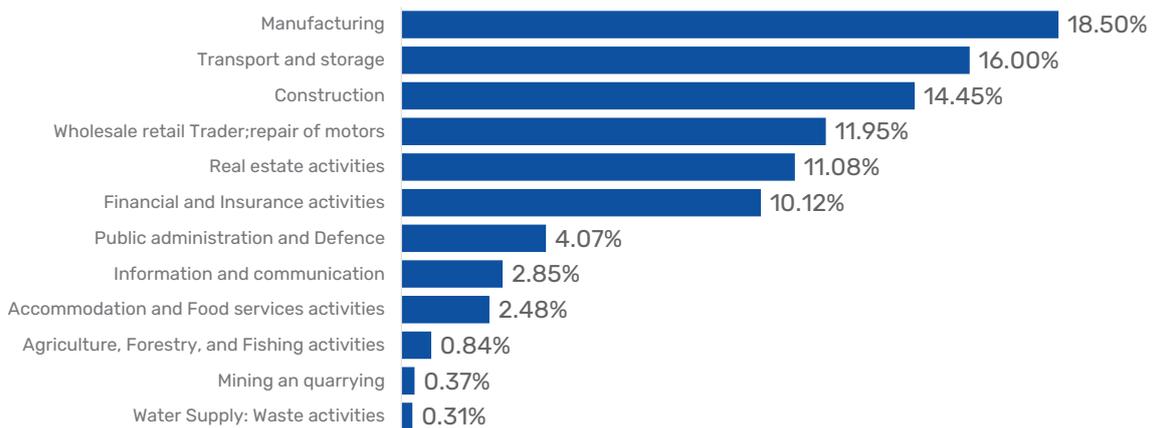
Economic Development

467,036m
 County's Gross County
 Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least with a score of score of 30%, although compared to other counties Mombasa County ranked 4th in this domain after Nairobi, Nakuru and Kiambu. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The low score is a testament of the low economic development across the country. For instance, in 2022, Mombasa Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 467,036 million coming third after Nairobi City and Kiambu that had a GCP of Kshs. 2,659,197 million and Kshs. 519,927 million respectively.

In the same year, 2022, Mombasa County's per capita GCP was Kshs. 439,390, with a population of 1,283,933. Kenya's national GDP per capita in 2022 was Kshs. 264,077. Only six counties, including Mombasa, had a per capita GCP higher than this. On the other hand, 18 out of 47 counties had a per capita GCP below Kshs. 150,000. Mombasa's relatively high per capita GCP is due to its diverse industries and its role as a gateway to the East and Central African region.

Mombasa top performing sectors in 2022



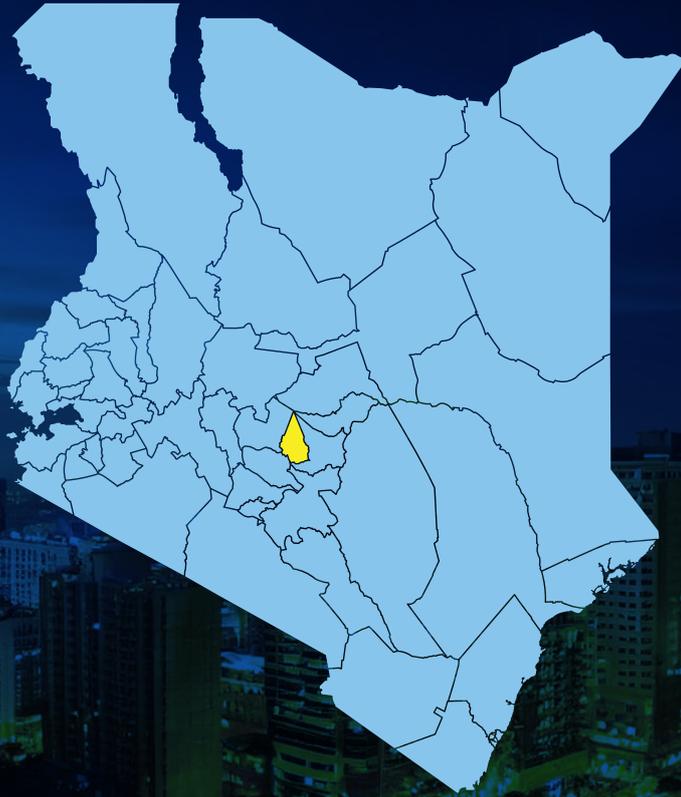
Recommendations

To make Mombasa more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Promote economic development** through establishment of value addition processing and promote an enabling environment for industrial development within the region.
- **The blue economy** is a resource therefore, there is need for deliberate effort to invest in deep sea fishing, fish processing plant and cold storage facilities.
- To curb the **challenges associated with climate change**, enhance tree planting efforts across the county.
- On **human capital**, address the mortality rates and increase secondary school enrolment to improve the transition to tertiary education.

KIRINYAGA

County 020



Introduction

52%

County's competitive index average score.

Kirinyaga County ranked **8th in the overall county** competitive index with an average score of 52%, coming after Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos and Mombasa Counties that had 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, and 53% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, business efficiency, climate and environment, and government and institutions with scores of 96%, 83%, 65% and 33% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 22% and 14% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, business efficiency, climate and environment, and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 96%, coming 2nd overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga second (96%), followed by Murang'a (91%). This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

97.4%
County's men
literacy rates

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county having men at 97.4% and female at 97.1%. The highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. In terms of enrolment, Kirinyaga had primary gross enrolment ratio of 106.4 ranking 23rd, Kakamega County had the highest gross enrolment at 173.5. Secondary gross enrolment ratio was 142.9, ranking 9th overall. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega at 171.2. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 89.7, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 80.8 ranking 6th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Kirinyaga had a neonatal mortality of 37, post-neonatal mortality of -17, infant mortality -55, child mortality of -2, under-5 mortality of -56. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 71.1 and 69.9 years respectively, ranking 2nd overall on female and 1st overall for male. The age dependency ratio was 67.9, with old-age dependency at 12.1 while child dependency was 55.9.

Business Efficiency

23%
County's employed
working age
population

On business efficiency, Kirinyaga scored 83% ranking 2nd best overall after Kiambu that scored 100%. The third best performer was Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kirinyaga County had an average score of 56, ranking 36th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350. The employment ratio is at 23%, meaning that about 23% of the working age population in Kirinyaga county is employed, the highest score was recorded in Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34%.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 65% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 8th overall. The top three scores were recorded in Kilifi County 100%, Nyeri 99% and Kiambu 89%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kirinyaga had a forest cover of 23.6% ranking 6th overall. The highest forest cover was in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

60%**County's overall
water coverage**

In relation to the water resources, Kirinyaga County had above average water coverage. 46% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 10th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 60%, ranking 23th overall in terms of coverage.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 72% of the county population live within service areas of utilities but only 33% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 13% of the county is covered, ranking 14th on sewerage coverage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage include Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kirinyaga County scored 32%, ranking 31st overall. The best performers were Nairobi at 100%, Machakos 82% and Kitui at 76%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), Kiambu (72%), and Taita Taveta (61%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

550m**County's annual
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)**

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 550 million ranking 29th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kirinyaga county used 2,949 million in the same year, ranking 40th with the highest development expenditure being in Kilifi at Kshs. 1,311 million, followed by Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Kirinyaga had low crime rates. In 2023, it reported a total of 1,884 crimes, ranking 21st overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532) and Meru (6,037) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a total of 931 schools. 44% are public pre-primary school, 37% are public primary schools and 18% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 33 TVET institutions and 1 university.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 167 public health facilities: 3 level 5, 1 level 4B, 18 level 4, 43 level 3B, 26 level 3A, and 76 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kirinyaga the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 23% and 14% respectively.

3.1 Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 22nd overall with a score of 23%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

30.6%
*County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies*

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kirinyaga County had 30.6% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 5th overall. The main sources of energy for lighting in the county are mains electricity (65.3%), paraffin tin lamps (12.5%), and solar power (8.5%). Firewood is the primary cooking fuel in the county at 65.4%, followed by gas (23.8%), paraffin (5.5%), and charcoal (4.4%)⁹. Only 11,652 rural homes have electricity, and 40 trading centres are not connected to the national grid¹⁰.

Transport: The County has a good road network with major roads connecting the county. It has a total of 5,000km of road network. The county is close to Nairobi therefore accessible to the International Airports. The distance from the county to the nearest airport is 96 km. The county is served by railway line. There is a 5 km railway line and one railway station in the county, located in Ndia Constituency, but it is currently not operational. Additionally, there is an airstrip in Mwea constituency, but it is not being utilized to its full potential.

Road network: Kirinyaga County's the rural access index (RAI) is 36 ranking 37th overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: The County has a developed hospitality industry with 30 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.049 hotel per 100. The county ranked 18th overall on hotel establishments. The County with the highest hotels was Kilifi, followed by Mombasa County with 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

21%
*County's overall
access to internet*

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 21% ranking 21st. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a 23.7% and Nakuru 22.5%.

⁹ Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2019: Volume IV

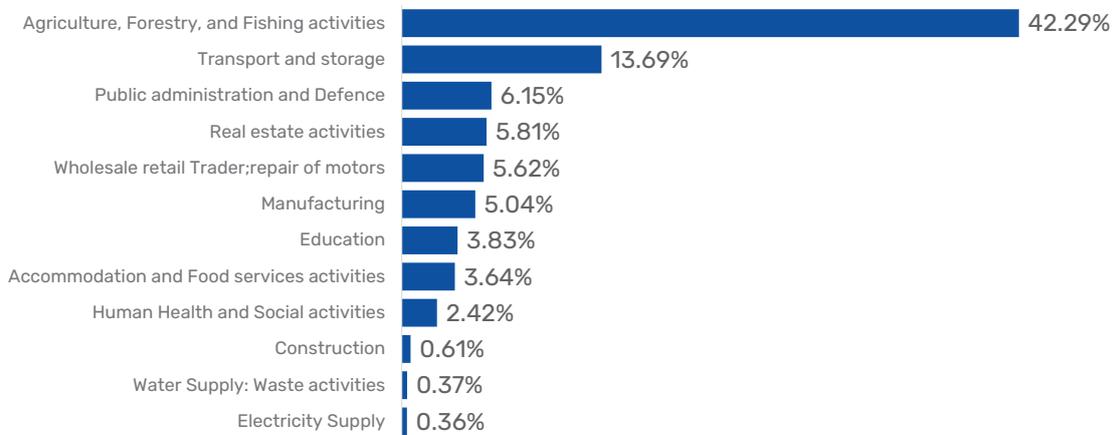
¹⁰ Kirinyaga County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022

3.2 Economic Development

109,072m
County's Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 14% ranking 15th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 109,072 million coming 26th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capita in Kirinyaga was Kshs. 248,397 ranking 11th overall. The highest per capita was reported in Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Kirinyaga top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

To make Kirinyaga more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Leverage High Agricultural Productivity to Drive Agri-Processing and Value Addition** by establishing agro-processing hubs and promoting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in value chains which can boost local employment, increase farmers’ income, and enhance competitiveness.
- **Enhance Infrastructure for Market Access and Industrial Development** by investing in road networks and digital infrastructure to facilitate access to regional and international markets. Targeted improvements in transport connectivity to markets like Nairobi and other trading hubs will stimulate trade and attract investors for industrial development. These infrastructure upgrades should also align with the county’s strategic vision for its Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Sagana.
- **Promote skills development and innovation for youth employment** through collaborating with TVET institutions and universities to offer training aligned with the demands of emerging sectors like agri-tech, ICT, and tourism. Establishing innovation hubs and incentivizing entrepreneurship among the youth can harness their potential, reducing reliance on traditional employment avenues.

EMBU

County 014



Introduction

51%
County's competitive
index average score.

Embu County ranked 9th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 51%, coming after Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, and Kirinyaga Counties that had 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53% and 52% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, climate and environment, business efficiency, and government and institutions with scores of 82%, 80%, 63% and 48% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 20% and 12% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, climate and environment, business efficiency, and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

2.1 Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 82%, coming 5th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga second at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi at 91%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

110.7
County's primary
gross enrolment
ratio

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county having men at 99.5% and female at 98.3%. The county ranked 3rd and 4th place respectively. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. In terms of enrolment, Embu had primary gross enrolment ratio of 110.7 ranking 19th, on primary enrolment the county with the highest enrolment was Kakamega with an enrolment of 173.5. In the county, the secondary gross enrolment ratio was 134.9, ranking 12th overall. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 87.1, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 75.9 ranking 10th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Embu had a neonatal mortality of 24, post-neonatal mortality of -11, infant mortality -36, child mortality of -8, under-5 mortality of -44. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 60.5 and 57.4 years respectively, ranking 27th overall on female and 32nd overall for male. The age dependency ratio was 68.9, with old-age dependency at 11.2 while child dependency was 57.9. The highest child dependency was recorded in Wajir county, with 131.7.

2.2 Climate and Environment

11.4%
County's forest
cover

The county scored 80% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 5th overall coming after Kilifi County 100%, Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Embu had a forest cover of 11.4% ranking 18th overall. The highest forest cover was in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Embu County had high water coverage. 63% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 5th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 90%, ranking the overall best in terms of coverage.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 66% of the county population live within service areas of utilities but only 52% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 15% of the county is covered, ranking 11th on sewerage coverage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage include Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

2.3 Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Embu scored 63% ranking 9th best overall. The best performers were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Embu County had an average score of 114, ranking 12th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350. The employment ratio is at 25%, meaning that about 25% of the working age population in Embu County is employed, the highest score was recorded in Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34%.

2.4 Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Embu County scored 48%, ranking 10th overall. Best performers in this domain were counties of Nairobi at 100%, Machakos 82% and Kitui at 76%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), Kiambu (72%), and Taita Taveta (61%).

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 383 million ranking 34th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Embu County used 1,586 million in the same year, ranking 33rd with the highest development expenditure being in Kilifi at Kshs. 1,311 million, followed by Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Embu had low crime rates. In 2023, it reported a total of 1,935 crimes, ranking 20th overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532) and Meru (6,037) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a total of 1334 schools. Out of which 45% are public pre-primary school, 39% are public primary schools and 16% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 44 TVET institutions and 1 university.

25%

*County's employed
working age
population*

383m

*County's annual
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)*

125

County's total
of public health
facilities, 2023

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 125 public health facilities: 2 level 5, 8 level 4, 11 level 3B, 25 level 3A, and 79 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Embu the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 20% and 11% respectively.

3.1 Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 28th overall with a score of 20%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

14.6%

County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Embu County had 14.6% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 13th overall. The primary source of energy in the county is firewood (80.4 percent), with electricity mainly available in urban areas rather than rural areas. Many trading centres are still not connected to the national grid, but efforts are being made through the rural electrification program to change this. Public institutions like schools and health facilities are among the main beneficiaries of rural electrification. Most residents rely on paraffin for lighting, and traditional stone fires are commonly used for cooking in Embu County¹¹.

Transport: The County has a good road network with major roads connecting the county. The county's road network includes 914.3 km of earthen surface, 154 km of tarmac (including the Meru-Embu highway and Embu-Kiritiri Road), and 948 km of gravel surface. Additionally, the county has two airstrips. The Don Bosco airstrip in Embu town is currently undergoing refurbishment and is primarily used for security purposes. The Kiambere airstrip is mainly utilized by KenGen.

Road network: Embu County's the rural access index (RAI) is 68 ranking 21st overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: The County has a developed hospitality industry with 25 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.041 hotel per 100. The county ranked 21st position overall on hotel establishments. The County with the highest hotels was Kilifi, followed by Mombasa County with 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 6.7% ranking 39th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

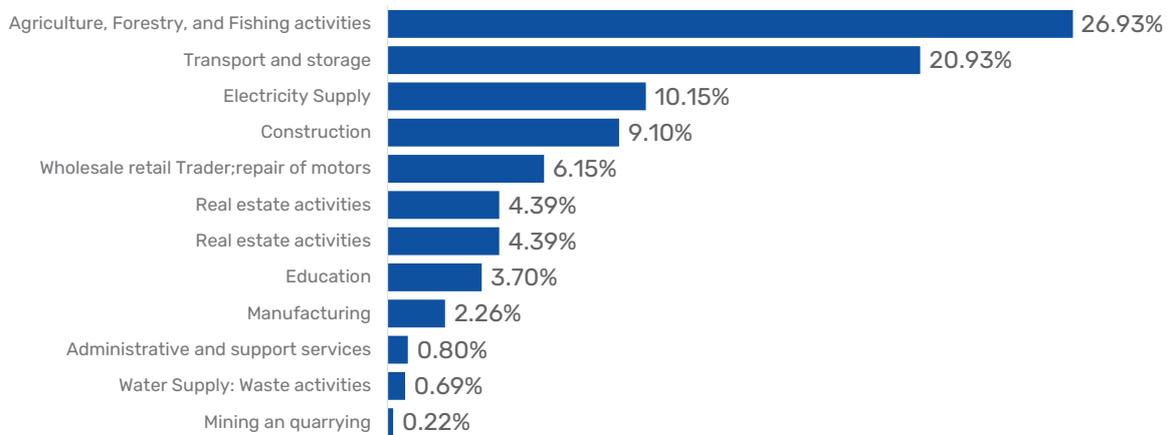
¹¹ Government of Kenya, "Embu County," Knowledge

3.2 Economic Development

519,927m
 County's Gross County
 Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 12% ranking 23rd overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 130,156 million coming 21st. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Embu was Kshs. 292,827 ranking 4th overall coming after Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Embu top performing sectors in 2022



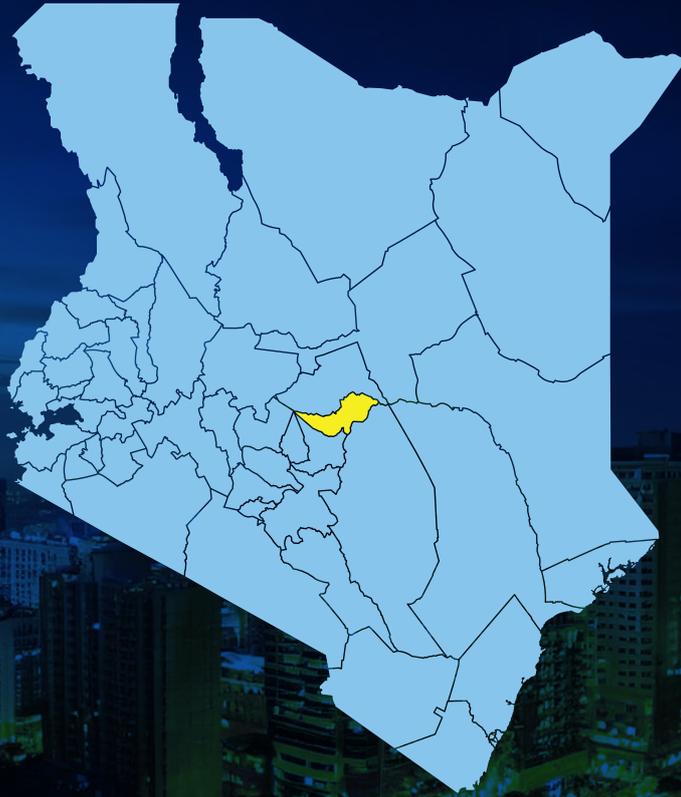
Recommendations

To make Embu more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Invest in agro-industrial value addition** to leverage Embu’s agricultural strengths and enhance employment opportunities.
- **Expand rural road networks and digital infrastructure** to improve market access and connectivity across the county.
- **Strengthen public-private partnerships** to boost investment in education and healthcare services for a more skilled and healthier workforce.
- **Prioritize climate-smart agricultural practices** to ensure resilience against environmental shocks and sustain productivity.

THARAKA NITHI

County 013



50%

County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Tharaka Nithi County ranked 10th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 50%, coming after Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga and Embu Counties that had 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52% and 51% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions, and business efficiency with scores of 91%, 74%, 64% and 56% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 10% and 5% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions, and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 91%, coming 4th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga second at 96%, followed by Murang'a. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

127.3

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county having men at 92.1% and female at 93.3%. The county ranked 30th and 25th place respectively. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. In terms of enrolment, Tharaka Nithi had primary gross enrolment ratio of 127.3 ranking 7th, on primary enrolment the county with the highest enrolment was Kakamega with an enrolment of 173.5. In the county, the secondary gross enrolment ratio was 169.9, ranking 2nd best overall. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 99.9, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 97 ranking 2nd overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Kirinyaga had a neonatal mortality of -12, post-neonatal mortality of -7, infant mortality -19, child mortality of -6, under-5 mortality of -25. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male and highest overall at 71.2. The male life expectancy was 63.8 years, ranking 4th overall. The age dependency ratio was 77.4, with old-age dependency at 9.8 while child dependency was 67.6. The highest child dependency was recorded in Wajir county, with 131.7.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 64% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 9th overall. The best performers were Kilifi County 100%, Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Tharaka Nithi had a forest cover of 15.6% ranking 13th overall. The highest forest cover was in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Tharaka Nithi County had an average water coverage. 29% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 16th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 77%, ranking 4th best after Embu, Taita Taveta and Kilifi counties.

15.6%

County's forest cover

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 60% of the county population live within service areas of utilities but only 51% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 11% of the county is covered, ranking 15th on sewerage coverage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage include Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Tharaka Nithi County scored 74%, ranking 4th best coming after Nairobi at 100%, Machakos 82% and Kitui at 76%. Other counties that performed well included Kiambu (72%), and Taita Taveta (61%).

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

400m
County's annual
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 400 million ranking 33rd position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Tharaka Nithi County used 1,174 million in the same year, ranking 43rd with the highest development expenditure being in Kilifi at Kshs. 1,311 million, followed by Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Tharaka Nithi had low crime rates. In 2023, it reported a total of 1,291 crimes, ranking 32nd overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532) and Meru (6,037) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a total of 1262 schools. Out of which 44% are public pre-primary school, 43% are public primary schools and 13% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 31 TVET institutions and 2 university.

42%
Number of public
health facilities,
2023

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 42 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 2 level 4, 3level 3B, 4 level 3A, and 21level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

16%*County's working age population that is employed*

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Tharaka Nithi scored 55% ranking 15th overall. The best performers were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Tharaka Nithi County had an average score of 84, ranking 22nd overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350. The employment ratio is at 16%, meaning that about 16% of the working age population in Tharaka Nithi county is employed, the highest score was recorded in Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Tharaka Nithi the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 10% and 5% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 39th overall with a score of 10%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

9%*County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies*

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Tharaka Nithi County had 9% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 19th overall. The main sources of lighting energy in Tharaka Nithi County include electricity, tin lamps, fuel wood, and lanterns. 8% of residents use electricity as their main source of lighting. 32% use lanterns, 49% use tin lamps, and 3% use fuel wood.

Transport: Transport systems within the county include roads, bridges, and water transport. The County has a total road network of 1670 kilometres with only 4% having a good surface condition, while 59% has a fair condition. The county does not have an airport but has 71 kilometres to the nearest airport.

Road network: Tharaka Nithi County has a rural access index (RAI) of 76 ranking 19 overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: The County has a ill developed hospitality industry with only 5 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.01 hotel per 100. The county ranked 40th position overall on hotel establishments. The County with the highest hotels was Kilifi, followed by Mombasa County with 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

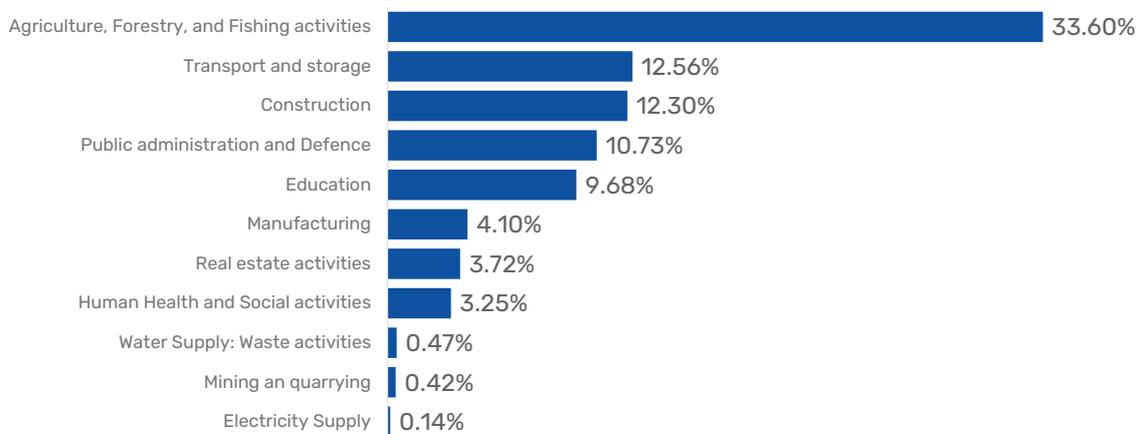
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 16% ranking 16th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

54,259m
County's Gross County
Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 5% ranking 37th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 54,259 million coming 40th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Tharaka Nithi was Kshs. 189,339 ranking 23rd overall. The best GCP was recorded in Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Tharaka Nithi top performing sectors in 2022



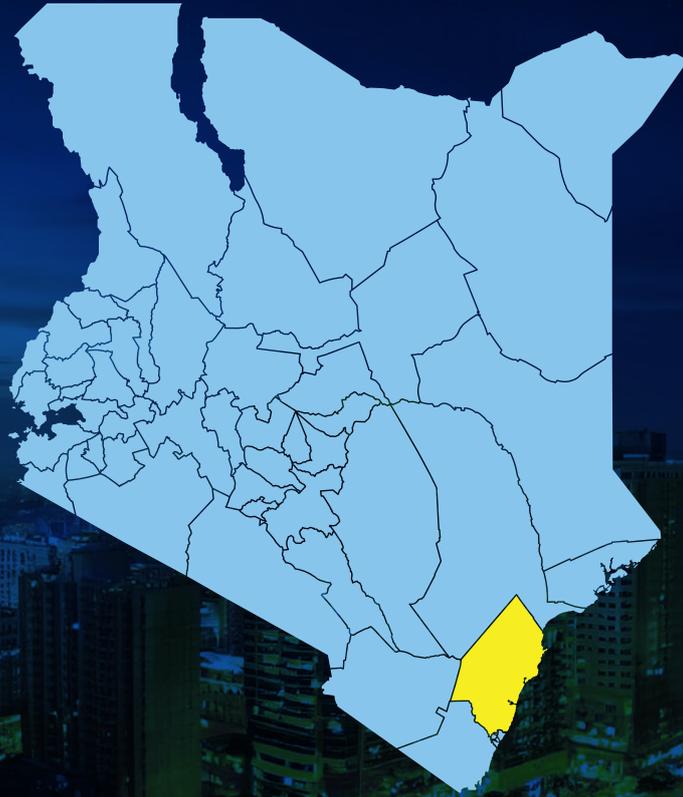
Recommendations

To make Tharaka Nithi more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance Agricultural Value Chains and Leverage Embu's agricultural potential** by investing in agro-processing industries and marketing cooperatives to improve value addition for key crops like tea, coffee, and macadamia. This will boost farmer incomes and create job opportunities along the value chain.
- **Strengthen and foster the growth of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Ecosystem** by improving access to affordable credit, capacity-building programs, and digital transformation initiatives. This will empower local businesses and increase their competitiveness in regional and national markets.
- **Expand Infrastructure for Trade and Investment** by Upgrading transport and logistics infrastructure, particularly feeder roads and market access routes, to facilitate efficient movement of goods and services. Additionally, invest in ICT infrastructure to attract tech-driven investments and improve access to e-commerce platforms.
- **Prioritize Skills Development and Youth Empowerment** by Aligning vocational training programs with market demands, focusing on high-growth sectors such as agribusiness, ICT, and renewable energy. Partner with local industries to provide internships and mentorship opportunities, ensuring the youth are equipped with practical skills for employment and entrepreneurship.

KILIFI

County 003



Introduction

51%
County's competitive
index average score.

Kilifi County ranked 11th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 51%, coming after Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties that had 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51% and 50% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in climate and environment, productive infrastructure, human capital, government, and institutions with scores of 100%, 52%, 46% and 40% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in business efficiency and economic development with scores of 38% and 16% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in climate and environment, productive infrastructure, human capital, government, and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

26.3%
County's overall
forest cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored a perfect score of 100% in the Climate and environment domain ranking the best overall. The other well performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kilifi had a forest cover of 26.3% ranking 3rd overall after Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Kilifi County had high water coverage. 73% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 2nd overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 78%, ranking 3rd place after Embu and Taita Taveta.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 100% of the county population live within service areas of utilities but only 73% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 0% of the county is covered, the higher sewerage coverage was in Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 7th overall with a score of 52%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

9.0%
County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kilifi County had 9.0% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 19th overall. The county mainly relies on the national electricity grid managed by Kenya Power to supply power to urban areas like Kilifi town, Malindi, and Watamu. However, many rural areas still lack access to electricity due to underdeveloped infrastructure. Alongside grid electricity, there is a growing interest in renewable energy sources, particularly solar power, due to Kilifi's favourable climate. The county receives ample sunlight, making it ideal for solar energy projects. Despite this potential, solar energy usage remains low, with only about 20% access in 2019¹². Many households and institutions in remote areas rely on off-grid solar systems for lighting and basic power needs, helping to bridge the energy gap. Gongoni Salt Farm operates a 0.98MW solar power plant, and Gongoni Salt Ltd. has developed two solar power plants, each with a 0.5MW capacity¹³, for their industrial use. The county also has potential for wind energy and biogas production, with some pilot projects already underway.

¹² Kenya Population and Housing Census: Volume IV 2019

¹³ Kilifi County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022

Transport: Transportation infrastructure in Kilifi County is essential for connecting urban and rural areas, boosting trade, and promoting tourism. The county has a network of over 100,000 km of roads, with major highways like the Mombasa-Malindi Highway (A14) serving as the main transport route connecting Kilifi to Mombasa in the south and Malindi in the north. Kilifi's proximity to the port of Mombasa not only improves access to shipping and trade routes but also enhances the county's logistics and storage sectors. Water transport along the coast, especially in areas like Malindi and Watamu, supports local tourism and fishing activities. Kilifi County has five jetties located in Mtwapa, Kilifi, Ngomeni, Malindi, and Takaungu. The Mombasa-Kisumu railway line passes through Kilifi County, covering about 40 km with one station at Mariakani.

There is also a railway terminus in neighbouring Mombasa County, located approximately 180 km from Malindi town. In Kilifi County, there is a second-class airport in Malindi that serves as a domestic hub for tourism and business, offering connections to major cities like Nairobi. Additionally, there are other airstrips at Mnarani Club, Kiswani farm, Vipingo ridge, and Galana Game Ranch.

Road network: Kilifi County's the rural access index (RAI) is 66 ranking 29th overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: The County has a vibrant hospitality industry with 1,501 hotel establishments and a ratio of 17.9 hotel per 100. The county ranked highest overall on hotel establishments. Other well performing Counties were Mombasa and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 17.9% ranking 13th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 46%, coming 26th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga second at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi at 91%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

Basic Education: In Kilifi, men had high literacy rates compared to female. The percent of literate men was 98.9% compared to 81% of female. The county ranked 8th place for male literacy and 37th place for female. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. In terms of enrolment, Kilifi had primary gross enrolment ratio of 108.8 ranking 122nd, on primary enrolment the county with the highest enrolment was Kakamega with an enrolment of 173.5. In the county, the secondary gross enrolment ratio was 59.9, ranking 40th overall. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 78.8, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 30.9 ranking 37th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

108.8

County's primary
gross enrolment
ratio

24**County's neonatal mortality**

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Kilifi had a neonatal mortality of 24, post-neonatal mortality of 10, infant mortality 34, child mortality of 6, under-5 mortality of 40. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 66.2 and 62.3 years respectively, ranking 9th overall on female and 9th overall for male. The age dependency ratio was 89.3, with old-age dependency at 5.7 while child dependency was 83.5. The highest child dependency was recorded in Wajir county, with 131.7.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kilifi County scored 40%, ranking 17th overall. Best performers in this domain were counties of Nairobi at 100%, Machakos 82% and Kitui at 76%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), Kiambu (72%), and Taita Taveta (61%).

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

1,789m**County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)**

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 1,789 million ranking 11th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kilifi County used 4,714 million in the same year, ranking the highest development. Kilifi County was followed by Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Kilifi had high crime rates. In 2023, it reported a total of 2,342 crimes, ranking 14th overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532) and Meru (6,037) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a total of 2557 schools. Out of which 61% are public pre-primary school, 31% are public primary schools and 8% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 75 TVET institutions and 1 university.

166**Number of public health facilities, 2023**

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 166 public health facilities: 8 level 4, 27 level 3B, 33 level 3A, and 98 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kilifi the least performing domains were business efficiency and economic development with scores of 38% and 16% respectively.

Business Efficiency

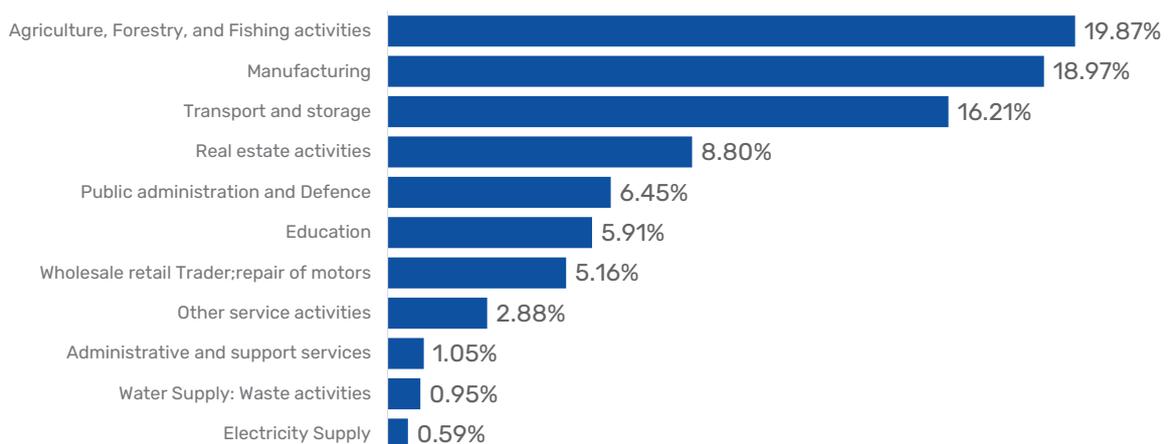
On business efficiency, Kilifi scored 38% ranking 25th overall. The best performers were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kilifi County had low score of 53, ranking 40th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 16%, meaning that about 16% of the working age population in Kilifi County is employed, the highest score was recorded in Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34%.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 12% ranking 23rd overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 185,670 million coming 10th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Kilifi was Kshs. 164,626 ranking 26th overall coming after Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

185,670m
Gross County Product
(KES)

Kilifi top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

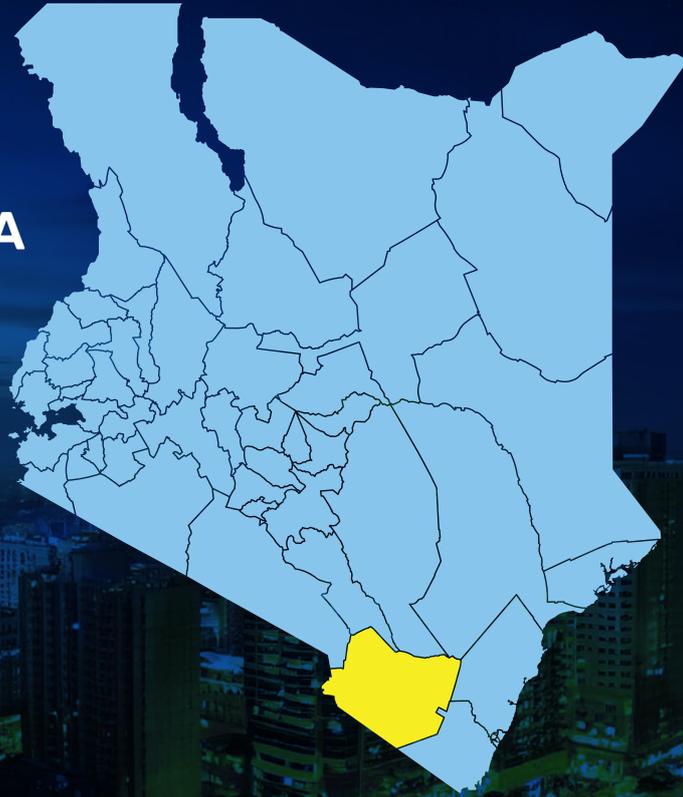
To make Kilifi more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Leverage Renewable Energy Potential by Capitalizing** on Kilifi's abundant sunlight to expand solar energy adoption through public-private partnerships and community-based initiatives. Encourage investments in mini-grids and off-grid solutions, particularly in underserved rural areas, to boost clean energy access and reduce reliance on non-renewable fuels.
- **Enhance secondary education Enrollment and literacy** programs by addressing gender disparities and low secondary school enrollment by implementing targeted education policies, such as scholarships for girls and infrastructure improvements in rural schools. Partner with stakeholders to introduce adult literacy programs, prioritizing female learners to close the literacy gap.
- **Strengthen the Business and Innovation Ecosystem** by developing a structured business support program to foster local entrepreneurship and job creation. This can include innovation hubs, access to affordable credit, and vocational training aligned with market demands. Incentivize investments in value-added industries to stimulate economic development and improve labour productivity.
- **Prioritize investments in sewerage infrastructure and sanitation services**, targeting urban and peri-urban areas. Collaborate with development partners to deploy scalable, eco-friendly waste management systems that align with the county's top-tier environmental profile, improving public health and quality of life.



TAITA TAVETA

County 006



Introduction

48%

County's competitive index average score.

Taita Taveta County ranked 12th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 48%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and business efficiency with scores of 80%, 74%, 61% and 46% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 22% and 5% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 80%, coming 6th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga second at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi at 91%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

117.5

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

Basic Education: In Taita Taveta, female had high literacy rates compared to male. The percent of literate female was 95.5% compared to 94.6% of male. The county ranked 20th place for female literacy and 23th place for female. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. In terms of enrolment, Taita Taveta had primary gross enrolment ratio of 117.5 ranking 12th. On primary enrolment the county with the highest enrolment was Kakamega with an enrolment of 173.5. In the county, the secondary gross enrolment ratio was 76.7, ranking 36th overall. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 88.7, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 68 ranking 15th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

19

County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Taita Taveta had a neonatal mortality of -19, post-neonatal mortality of -5, infant mortality -24, child mortality of -6, under-5 mortality of -29. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 64.8 and 61.7 years respectively, ranking 15th overall on female and 13th overall for male. The age dependency ratio was 73.7, with old-age dependency 8.7 while child dependency was 65. The highest child dependency was recorded in Wajir county, with 131.7.

Climate and Environment

8.4%

County's forest cover

The county scored 74% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 6th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Taita Taveta had a forest cover of 8.4% ranking 26th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Taita Taveta County an above water coverage. 47% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 9th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 86%, ranking 2nd place after Embu County.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 100% of the county population live within service areas of utilities but only 47% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 0% of the county is covered, the higher sewerage coverage was in Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Taita Taveta County scored 61%, ranking 6th overall. Best performers in this domain were counties of Nairobi at 100%, Machakos 82% and Kitui at 76%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%).

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 731 million ranking 24th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Taita Taveta County used 1,092 million in the same year, ranking 45th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development was Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Taita Taveta had moderate crime rates. In 2023, it reported a total of 1125 crimes, ranking 34th overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532) and Meru (6,037) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a total of 797 schools. Out of which 53% are public pre-primary school, 35% are public primary schools and 12% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 42 TVET institutions and 1 university.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 49 public health facilities: 3 level 4, 5 level 3B, 14 level 3A, and 27 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Taita scored 46% ranking 20th overall. The best performers were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Taita Taveta County had low score of 50, ranking 42nd overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104.

731m

County's annual
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

49

Number of public
health facilities

The employment ratio is at 19%, meaning that about 19% of the working age population in Taita Taveta county is employed, the highest score was recorded in Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Taita Taveta the least performing domains were business efficiency and economic development with scores of 22% and 5% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 23rd overall with a score of 22%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

11.5%
County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Taita Taveta County had 11.5% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 15th overall. The main sources of lighting energy in Taita Taveta County include lanterns, tin lamps and electricity. According to the Taita Taveta County's Exploring Kenya's Inequality Report 2013, 45.9% of the residents use Lantern, 23.0 34.8 percent tin lamps and 15% electricity. During this period, Voi Constituency had the highest level of electricity use at 19%, and Mwatate had 11% points below Voi, which was the lowest level of electricity use. In terms of electricity access at household level, Taita-Taveta's household access to electricity was at 48% in 2019 up from 15 percent in 2009.

1,832
County's total
road network in
kilometers

Transport: Transportation infrastructure in Taita Taveta County is essential for connecting urban and rural areas and boosting trade. Transport is supported by road, air, and rail transport. Taita Taveta County has a total road network of 1832.29km of which 10 percent (283.2km) are of bitumen standards, 9% (168.09km) are murrum, and 75% (1381 km) are earth road. Major roads in the county include Mombasa-Nairobi highway, which covers approximately 270 km, Voi-Taveta Road(110km) Mwatate–Wundanyi Roads, Voi-Salaita gate Road, Maungu - Kasigau road. Taita Taveta County has a total of 17 public airstrips most of which are underutilised; they are in Taveta (6), Voi (5) and Mwatate (6).

The main airstrips include Ikanga, Taveta and Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS). Ikanga airstrip is planned to handle chartered airlines which will greatly boost tourism and trade in the county. There are also two private airstrips one in Taveta and one Mwatate and 4 airstrips in Tsavo National Park. In addition, the County has a railway connection.

Road network: Taita Taveta County's the rural access index (RAI) is 48 ranking 34th overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 48 hotel establishments and a ratio of 14% hotel per 100. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

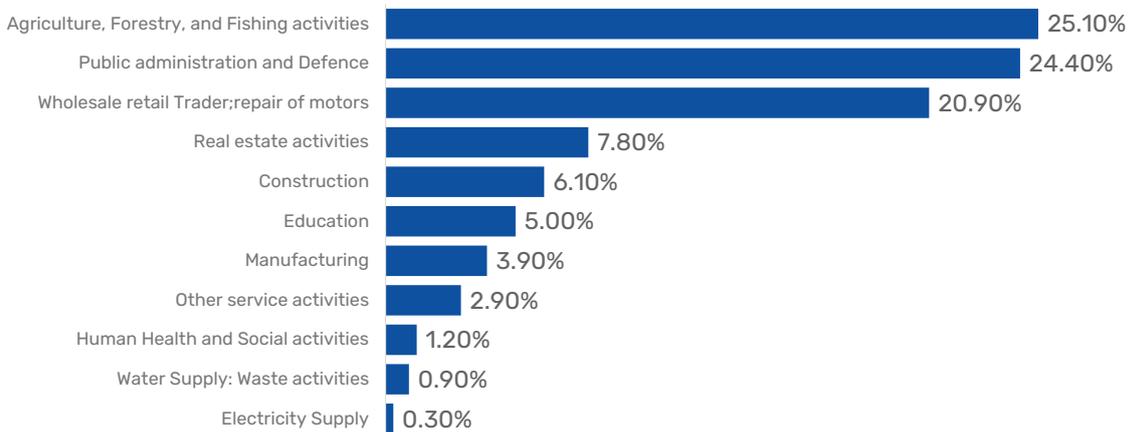
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 19.2% ranking 11th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 5% ranking 36th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 57,062 million coming 38th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Taita Taveta was Kshs. 195,787 ranking 21st overall coming after Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

57,062m
County's Gross
Product (KES)

Taita-Taveta top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

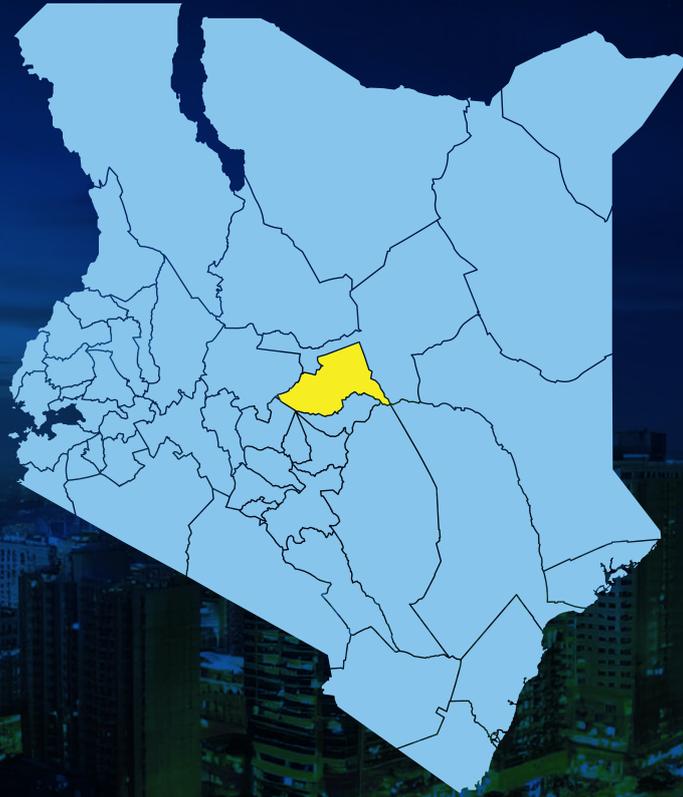
To make Taita Taveta more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Invest in infrastructure and connectivity:** Prioritize investments in road infrastructure, especially rural roads, to improve connectivity and facilitate economic activities. Additionally, expand access to reliable and affordable electricity and internet services to stimulate business growth and digital innovation.
- **Promote tourism and agribusiness:** Leverage the county's rich natural resources and wildlife to develop sustainable tourism initiatives. Support agribusiness through value-addition, market linkages, and modern agricultural practices to enhance food security and export potential.
- **Strengthen education and healthcare systems:** Invest in quality education and healthcare infrastructure to improve human capital. Focus on vocational training and technical skills development to meet labor market demands. Prioritize maternal and child health programs to reduce mortality rates.
- **Improve public financial management:** Strengthen revenue collection mechanisms and optimize expenditure to enhance service delivery. Implement transparent and accountable governance practices to foster public trust and attract investment.



MERU

County 012



45%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Meru County ranked 13th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 45%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, business efficiency, government and institutions, climate, and environment and with scores of 67%, 56%, 43% and 42% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 37% and 27% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, business efficiency, government and institutions, climate, and environment. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 67%, coming 7th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga second at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi at 91%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

101.1

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

Basic Education: In Meru, female had high literacy rates compared to male. The percent of literate female was 86.4% compared to 85.9 of male. The county ranked 34th place for female literacy and 36th place for male. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. In terms of enrolment, Meru had primary gross enrolment ratio of 101.1 ranking 27th. On primary enrolment the county with the highest enrolment was Kakamega with an enrolment of 173.5. In the county, the secondary gross enrolment ratio was higher at 122.5 ranking 21th overall. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 81.7, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 61.9 ranking 21th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

20

County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Meru had a neonatal mortality of 20, post-neonatal mortality of 9, infant mortality 29, child mortality of -6, under-5 mortality of -35. In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 65.9 and 62.1 years respectively, ranking 12th overall on both female and male. The age dependency ratio was 72.3, with old-age dependency 10.4 while child dependency was 61.9. The highest child dependency was recorded in Wajir county, with 131.7.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Meru scored 56% ranking 15th overall. The best performers were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Meru County had low score of 45, ranking 44th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 26%, meaning that about 26.4% of the working age population in Meru County is employed, the highest score was recorded in Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34%.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Meru County scored 43%, ranking 14th overall. Best performers in this domain were counties of Nairobi at 100%, Machakos 82% and Kitui at 76%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%).

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

880m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 880 million ranking 21st position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Meru County used 2,974 million in the same year, ranking 12th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development was Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Meru had high crime rates. In 2023, it reported a total of 6,037 crimes, ranking 3th overall. Meru County came third after Nairobi (11,108), and Kiambu (9,532) in the same year.

Education: The county has a total of 2606 schools. Out of which 45% are public pre-primary school, 39% are public primary schools and 16% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 68 TVET institutions and 2 universities.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 218 public health facilities: 12 level 4, 18 level 3B, 35 level 3A, and 153 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

Climate and Environment

12.7%

County's forest cover

The county scored 42% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 19th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Meru had a forest cover of 12.7% ranking 17th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Meru County a below average coverage.23% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 20th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 53%, ranking 32nd place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, only 38% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and only 44% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 6% of the county is covered, the higher sewerage coverage was in Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Meru the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 37% and 27% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 13th overall with a score of 37%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

9.4%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Meru County had 9.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 18th overall. The low value is due to the low electricity connection and usage. Only 13.6% of households are connected to electricity, while 4.5% use paraffin, 2.4% use gas, 0.1% use biogas, and 6.6% use solar energy. For cooking wood fuel and charcoal are the primary sources making up 86.1% and 6.6% respectively.

Transport: The transport systems available in the county include road and air transport in the county and neighbouring counties i.e., Nyahururu. Meru County's the rural access index (RAI) is 76 ranking 19th overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98. Additionally, the county is served by Gaitu airstrip in Meru Central, which has been upgraded to accommodate more flights. Other air transport option is the Nanyuki airbase. The distance to the nearest air transport is 32.6km. While the nearest port is 507 km.

5,968

County's road network in kilometres

Road network: The County has a road network of 5968km, consisting of 582km of bitumen, 581km of gravel, and 4805km of earth surface roads. Out of this, 17% is in good condition and 44% in fair condition. Some of the main tarmac roads in the County are Embu-Meru-Maua, Meru-Nanyuki, Meru-Mikinduri, Meru-Githogo, and Meru-Ruiru-Isiolo roads.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 63 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.041 hotel per 100. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

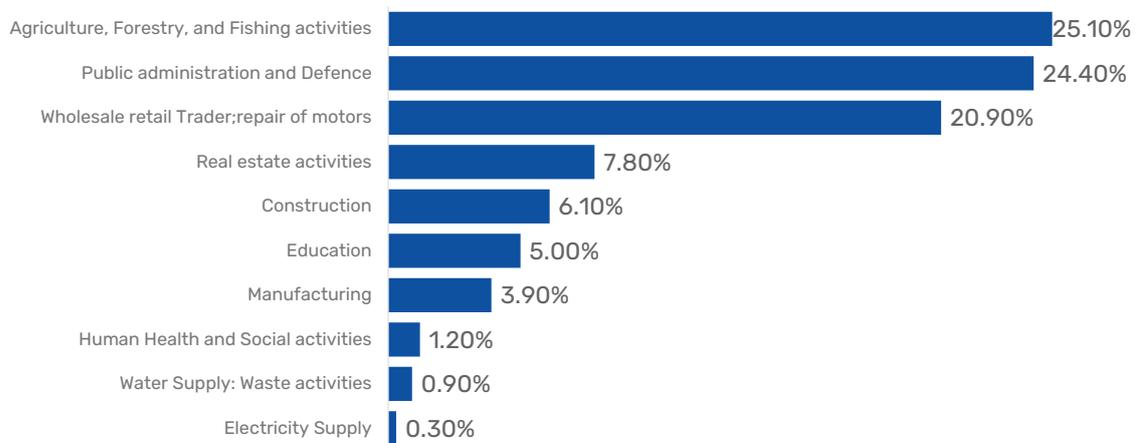
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 18.5% ranking 12th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

259,026m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 27% ranking 6th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 259,026 million coming 6th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Meru was Kshs. 253,718 ranking 10th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Meru top performing sectors in 2022



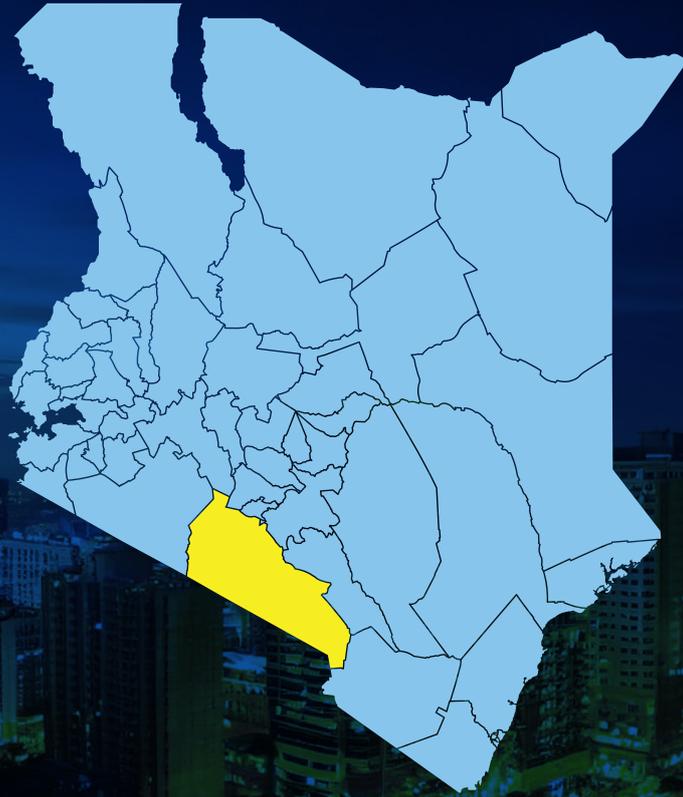
Recommendations

To make Meru County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance Infrastructure Development:** Prioritize investments in road infrastructure, especially rural roads, to improve connectivity and facilitate trade. Expand access to reliable and affordable electricity to power industries and households.
- **Promote Agribusiness and Tourism:** Leverage Meru’s fertile agricultural land and diverse landscapes to develop agribusiness and tourism sectors. Support value-addition, market linkages, and sustainable tourism practices.
- **Strengthen Education and Healthcare:** Invest in quality education and healthcare infrastructure to improve human capital. Focus on vocational training and technical skills development to meet labor market demands. Prioritize maternal and child health programs.
- **Improve Public Financial Management:** Strengthen revenue collection mechanisms and optimize expenditure to enhance service delivery. Implement transparent and accountable governance practices to foster public trust and attract investment.

KAJIADO

County 034



Introduction

43%

County's competitive index average score.

Kajiado County ranked 14th the overall county competitive index with an average score of 43%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in business efficiency, productive infrastructure, human and government and institutions with scores of 76%, 50%, 44% and 41% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in climate and environment and economic development with scores of 38% and 27% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, productive infrastructure, human and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Kajiado scored 76% ranking 4th overall coming after Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kajiado County had a score of 80, ranking 26th overall.

The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 29%0, meaning that about 29% of the working age population in Kajiado county is employed. On this Kajiado ranked 3rd after Nairobi, with a score of 34% and Kiambu 31.2%.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 7th overall with a score of 50%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

49.3%
County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kajiado County had 49.3% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 3rd best overall. The high rate is due to the reliance on electricity and LPG. The main fuel cooking sources are Gas (LPG) (47.2%), firewood (29.0%), charcoal (9.1%) while main sources of lighting energy in the county are electricity (67.4%), solar energy (15.5%), Solar Charged Torch/ Spotlight (20.1%) and paraffin tin lamps (5.6%). In terms of electricity access at household level, Kajiado's household access to electricity was at 67.9 percent in 2019 up from 39.8 percent in 2009.

Transport: The main transport system in Kajiado is road and rail transport. The County has a rural access index (RAI) is 56 ranking 29th overall. The highest RAI was in Kisii County at 98. The Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) runs through parts of Kajiado East and North, with a major terminus at Emali. There is also a 4.5km underpass tunnel in Em-Bulbul – Ngong. The metre gauge railway is used for transporting soda-ash and other products, as well as providing commuter services in towns like Singiraine, Kenya Marble Quarries (KMQ), Kajiado, and Elangata-Wuas. Additionally, the county is close to Nairobi County, hence benefits from the air transport facilities in the County. The distance to the nearest airport from Kajiado is 61 km.

2,419.2
County's total road
length in kilometres

Road network: The road network is fairly developed and serves to connect the county to the region. The county has a total road length of 2,419.2 Km, consisting of 1,111.9 Km of earth roads, 2177.3 Km of murrum, and 379.43 Km of bitumen. The five main tarmac roads in the county are Emali-Loitokitok, Namanga-Kitengela, Isinya-Kiserian, Magadi-Mbagathi, and Kiserian-Ngong. There are two modern bus parks in the county, located in Kitengela and Ngong.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry 107 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.096 hotel per 100. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 17.2% ranking 14th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 44%, coming 29th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga second at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi at 91%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

81.1

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

Basic Education: In Kajiado, male had high literacy rates compared to female. The percent of literate male was 91.2% compared to 87.3 of female. The county ranked 31st place for male literacy and 32nd place for female. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. In terms of enrolment, Kajiado had primary gross enrolment ratio of 81.1 ranking 35th. On primary enrolment, the county with the highest enrolment was Kakamega with an enrolment of 77.4. The secondary gross enrolment ratio was lower at 77.4 ranking 35th overall. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 62.1, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 37.3 ranking 33rd overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

14

County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Kajiado had a neonatal mortality of 14, post-neonatal mortality of 12, infant mortality 25, child mortality of 7, under-5 mortality of 32. In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 62.9 and 59.1 years respectively, ranking 18th for female and 23rd for male. The age dependency ratio was 75.8, with old-age dependency 4.3 while child dependency was 71.5. The highest child dependency was recorded in Wajir county, with 131.7.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kajiado County scored 40%, ranking 16th overall. Best performers in this domain were counties of Nairobi at 100%, Machakos 82% and Kitui at 76%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

1,516m

County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 1,516 million ranking 13th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kajiado County used 2,038 million in the same year, ranking 25th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development was Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Kajiado had high crime rates. In 2023, it reported a total of 2,240 crimes, ranking 17th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), and Kiambu (9,532).

Education: The county has a total of 2086 schools. Out of which 60% are public pre-primary school, 33% are public primary schools and 8% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 60 TVET institutions and 4 universities.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 218 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 2 level 4B, 29 level 4, 27 level 3B, 35 level 3A, and 119 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

218

*County's number
public health
facilities, 2023*

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kajiado the least performing domains were climate and environment and economic development with scores of 38% and 10% respectively.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 38% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 27th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kajiado had a forest cover of 9.0% ranking 24th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Kajiado County a below average coverage. 23% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 20th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 52%, ranking 35th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 73% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and only 23% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, no area in Kajiado had sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

9.0%

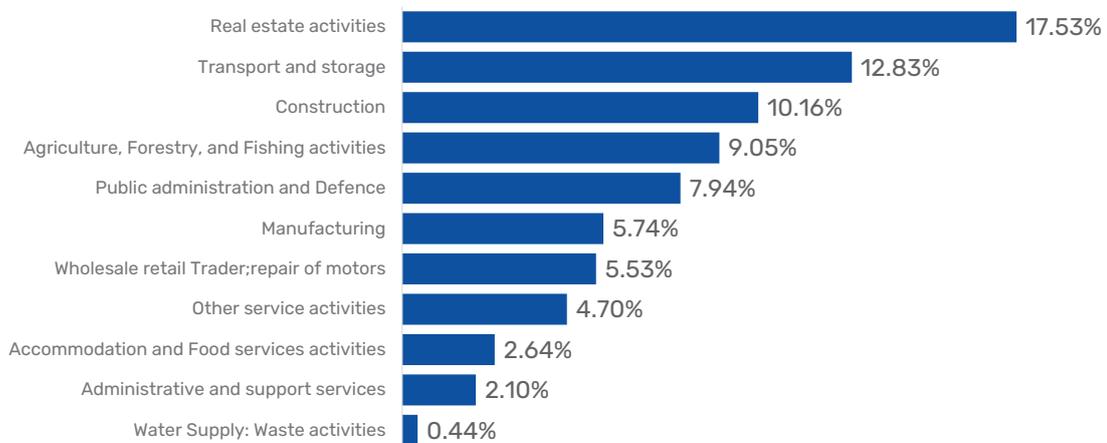
*County's forest
cover*

141,079m
Gross County Product
(KES)

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 10% ranking 25th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 141,079 million coming 17th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Kajiado was Kshs. 151,330 ranking 29th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Kajiado top performing sectors in 2022



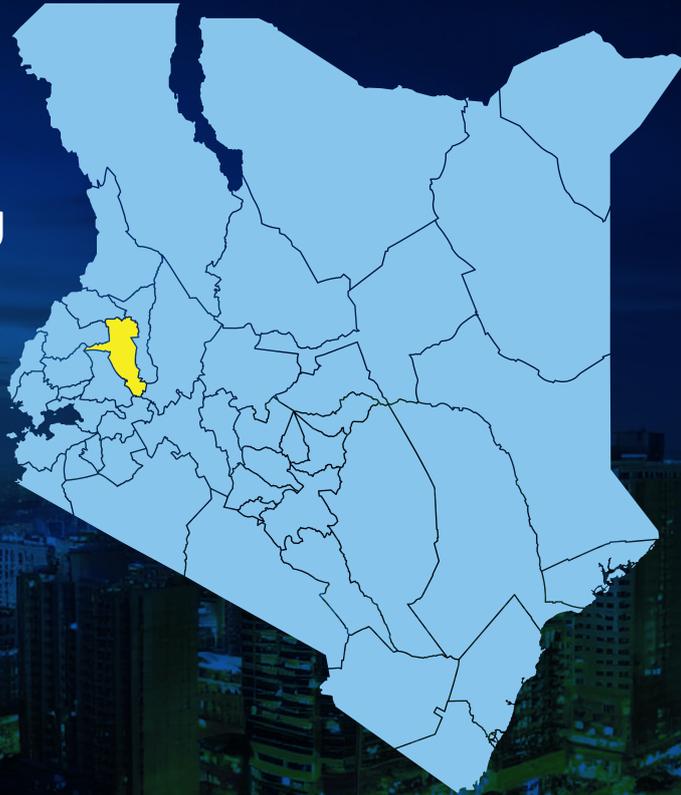
Recommendations

To make Kajiado more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Capitalize on Kajiado’s strategic location near Nairobi** to attract investments in logistics, warehousing, and light manufacturing. Enhance road infrastructure, particularly the Namanga-Kitengela and Isinya-Kiserian corridors, to improve connectivity and facilitate trade.
- **Promote Sustainable Tourism and Wildlife Conservation** by developing sustainable tourism initiatives focused on wildlife safaris, cultural experiences, and ecotourism. Strengthen partnerships with conservation organizations to protect the county’s rich biodiversity and attract tourists.
- **Invest in Human Capital Development** through prioritization of education and healthcare to improve the county’s human capital. Focus on vocational training and technical skills development to meet the demands of the growing economy. Implement targeted interventions to reduce maternal and child mortality rates.

UASIN GISHU

County 027



Introduction

40%¹

County's competitive index average score.

Uasin Gishu County ranked 15th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 40%¹, coming after Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu, Tharaka-Nithi, Kilifi, Taita Taveta, Meru and Kajiado Counties that had 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50%, 49%, 48%, 45% and 43% respectively. Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, climate and environment, productive infrastructure and government and institutions with scores of 53%, 50%, 45%, 38% and 39% respectively. Overall least performance was recorded in business efficiency and economic development with scores of 38% and 15% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, climate and environment, productive infrastructure and government and institutions. These domains are comprehensively discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 53%, coming 20th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga second at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi at 91%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education and health.

110.6

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

Basic Education: The literacy rates were high in the county having men at 99.6% and female at 95.9%. The county ranked 2nd and 19th place respectively. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. In terms of enrolment, Uasin Gishu had primary gross enrolment ratio of 110.6 ranking 20th, on primary enrolment the county with the highest enrolment was Kakamega with an enrolment of 173.5 with wajir county being the lowest with 34.6. In the county, the secondary gross enrolment ratio was 108.6, ranking 28th overall. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 77.3, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 44.3 ranking 31st overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

17

County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor took into consideration a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio. On mortality neonatal mortality, Uasin Gishu had a neonatal mortality of 17, post-neonatal mortality of 14, infant mortality 31, child mortality of 6, under-5 mortality of 37. The life expectancy of female at birth was higher compared to male at 63.5 and 60.4 years respectively, ranking 17th overall on female and 16th overall for male. The age dependency ratio was 75.3, with old-age dependency at 5.9 while child dependency was 69.4. The highest child dependency was recorded in Wajir county, with 131.7 with the lowest being Nairobi city with 42.6.

Climate and Environment

6.73%

County's forest cover

The county scored 50% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 14th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Kilifi County 100%, Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Uasin Gishu had a forest cover of 6.73% ranking 29th overall. The highest forest cover was in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, 34% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 14th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 69%, ranking 11th overall.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 42% of the county population live within service areas of utilities with 34% of the population being served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 38% of the county is covered, ranking 3rd on sewerage coverage behind Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Productive infrastructure

On productive infrastructure, County ranked 9th overall with a score of 45%. The highest scores were in Nairobi (100%), and Mombasa (93%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

18.5%
*County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies*

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Embu County had 18.5% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 9th overall. 49.9% of households use electricity from the main grid for lighting while the majority (44%) of households use firewood for cooking.

Transport: The County has a vast road network that includes 450 Km of paved roads, 1946 Km of gravel roads, and 2,450 Km of earth roads. The county boasts 1 International Airport, and two airstrips in Eldoret town and Sergoit. The County also has a railway line with eight stations. Major roads in the County include A8 (Timboroa – Kipkaren) which is part of the Northern Corridor connecting Kenya to East and Central Africa; C51 (Eldoret – Iten), C 54 (Eldoret – Kaptagat), C39 (Eldoret – Kapsabet), B2 (Eldoret – Kitale), D328 (Eldoret – Ziwa – Kitale) linking the County to neighboring counties like Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, and Trans Nzoia.

Road network: Uasin Gishu County's rural access index (RAI) is 85 ranking 12th overall, with Kisii having the highest RAI at 98.

Tourism: The County has a well-developed hospitality industry with 326 hotel establishments and a ratio of 28% hotel per 100. The county ranked 11th position overall on hotel establishments. The County with the highest hotels was Kilifi, followed by Mombasa County with 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

20.1%
*County's overall
access to internet*

Connectivity: The County has a strong fiber optic network and good mobile broadband and voice coverage from multiple service providers. This trend is expected to continue as internet services expand to rural areas through ICT Centers called Digital Mashinani centers, which are supported by the County government. The overall access to internet is at 20.1% ranking 10th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

2.4 Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Uasin Gishu County scored 39%, ranking 22nd overall. Best performers in this domain were counties of Nairobi at 100%, Machakos 82%, Kitui 76% and Tharaka Nithi at 74%.

This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public establishments.

1,179m
County's annual own
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 1,179 million ranking 18th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Uasin Gishu County used 2,522 million in the same year, ranking 18th with the highest development expenditure being in Kilifi at Kshs. 1,311 million, followed by Narok and Turkana County at Kshs. 4,602 million and Kshs. 4,451 million respectively.

Public security: In 2023 Uasin Gishu reported a total of 2325 crimes ranking 15th overall. The highest crimes were reported in Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532) and Meru (6,037) crimes in the same year.

Education: The county has a total of 2007 schools. Out of which 47% are public pre-primary school, 41% are public primary schools and 12% are public secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 86 TVET institutions and 2 universities.

160
County's number
of public health
facilities, 2023

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 160 public health facilities: 6 level 5, 15 level 4, 1 level 4B, 10 level 3B, 28 level 3A, and 98 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to the general wellbeing of the public.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Embu the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 20% and 11% respectively.

Business efficiency

On business efficiency, Uasin Gishu scored 38% ranking 25th best overall. The best performers were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Uasin Gishu County had an average score of 135, ranking 7th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350. The employment ratio is at 17%, meaning that about 17% of the working age population in Uasin Gishu county is employed, the highest score was recorded in Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34%.

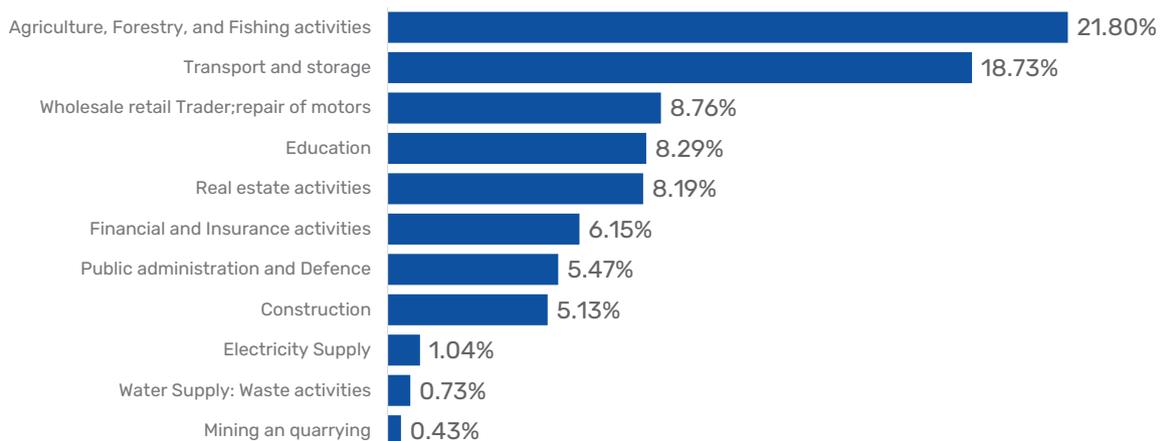
17%
County's employed working age population

3.2 Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 15% ranking 13th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Nakuru 42% Kiambu at 37%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 215,325 million coming 8th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Uasin Gishu was Kshs. 239,905 ranking 14th overall coming after Lamu (239,905) and Elgeyo Marakwet (247,276) counties.

215,325m
Gross County Product (KES)

Uasin Gishu top performing sectors in 2022



Maize crop production increased from 390,258 tonnes in 2018 to 466,797 tonnes in 2022. This improvement was due to the provision of subsidized seeds and fertilizer to farmers, mechanized farming at lower rates, extension services, promotion of climate-smart agriculture, and training for 50,000 farmers on best practices.

The growth of Transport and storage sector was driven by infrastructure development projects focused on improving road networks and transport efficiency. Investments in highways and bypasses have reduced congestion and increased freight flow, making Uasin Gishu an important logistics center.

Additionally, services like warehousing for grain and agricultural products have further contributed to the sector's impact on the GCP.

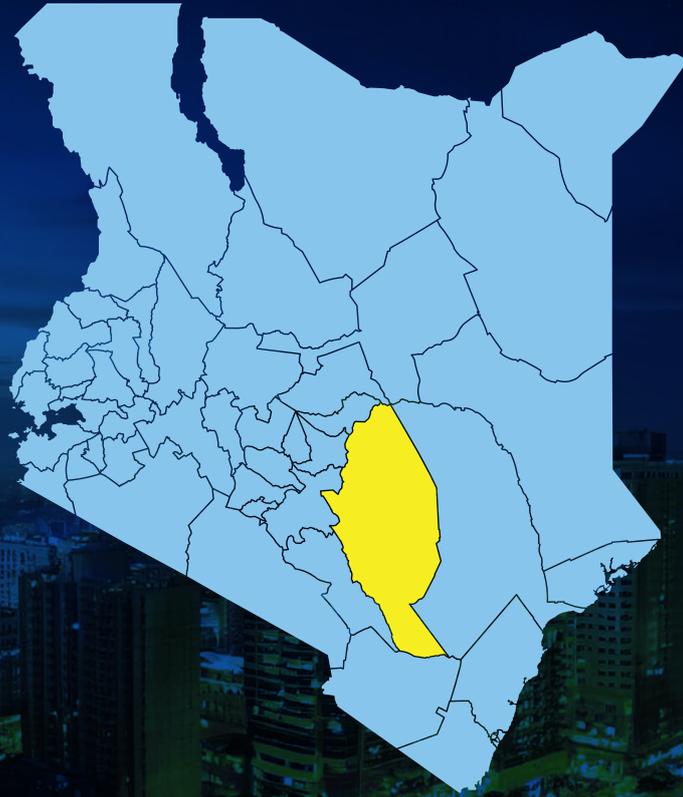
Recommendations

To make Uasin Gishu County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Leverage Uasin Gishu County Agricultural Potential and strengths** by promoting value-addition industries to increase the value of agricultural products. The adoption of modern agricultural technologies like precision agriculture and climate-smart farming can improve yields and reduce costs. Additionally, facilitating market access through farmers' cooperatives, improved transportation infrastructure, and exploring export markets can boost the agricultural sector's contribution to the economy.
- **Enhance Human Capital Development by investing in quality education**, particularly in STEM fields, to produce a skilled workforce. Vocational training can equip individuals with practical skills needed for the job market. Furthermore, improving healthcare infrastructure, especially in rural areas, can enhance the overall health and well-being of the population, leading to a more productive workforce.
- **Strengthen Infrastructure and Connectivity** by expanding and maintaining road networks that can improve connectivity within the county and to neighboring regions, facilitating the movement of goods and people. Investing in digital infrastructure, including broadband internet, can enhance access to information and facilitate e-commerce. Additionally, expanding access to reliable and affordable energy sources, such as renewable energy, can power industries and households, driving economic growth.

KITUI

County 015



Introduction

40%

County's competitive index average score.

Kitui County ranked 16th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 40%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in government and institutions, human capital, productive infrastructure, climate and environment with scores of 76%, 55%, 37%, and 37%. Overall least performance was recorded in business efficiency and economic development with scores of 25% and 7% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were government and institutions, human capital, productive infrastructure, climate, and environment. These domains are discussed below:

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kitui County scored 76%, ranking 3rd best after Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

951m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 951 million ranking 20th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kitui County used 3,830 million in the same year, ranking 6th position. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Kitui county reported high crimes. In 2023, it reported a total of 2,598 crimes, ranking 10th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 4197 schools. Out of which 53% are pre-primary school, 36% are primary schools and 11% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 90 TVET institutions and 1 university.

80

County's total number of public health facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 80 public health facilities: I level 5, 2 level 4B, 9 level 4, 14 level 3B, 17 level 3A, and 37 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 55%, coming 17th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels were higher in male compared to female. The percent of literate male was 99.3% compared to 94.8% for female. The county ranked high overall at 5th place for men literacy and 21st place for female. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female.

13

County's neonatal mortality

Gross Enrolment: Secondary levels enrolments were higher compared to the primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 151.7 ranking 5th while the gross enrolment at primary level was 117.5 ranking 12th place. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 98 ranking 4th, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 53.1 ranking 28th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality, Kitui had a neonatal mortality of 13, post-neonatal mortality of 9, infant mortality 23, child mortality of 4, under-5 mortality of 27.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 60.2 and 50.5 years respectively, ranking 32nd for female and 44th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 97.3, with old-age dependency 12.6 while child dependency was 84.8. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 12th overall with a score of 37%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

6.3%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kitui County had 6.3% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 28th overall.

Transport: The main transport system in Kitui is road transport. The County has a rural access index (RAI) is 90 ranking 8th overall. The Counties with the highest RAI was in Kisii County at 98, Mombasa and Nairobi Counties at 95. The distance to the nearest airport from the county is 121 km.

Road network: The road network is fairly developed and serves to connect the county to the region. The county has a total road length of 11,957 km, and out of this 10% of the road network is in good condition, while 24% is in fair condition.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry 15 hotel establishments and a ratio of 1%3 hotel per 100, ranking 41st place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 20.5% ranking 9th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 37% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 28th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kitui is within the arid and semi-arid ecological zone and had a low forest cover of 5.7% ranking 30th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Kitui County an average coverage. 37% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 12th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 46%, ranking 40th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 50% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 41% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 5% of the county has sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kitui the least performing domains were business efficiency and economic development with scores of 38% and 10% respectively.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Kitui scored 25% ranking 34th overall coming after Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kajiado County had a score of 80, ranking 26th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 29%0, meaning that about 29% of the working age population in Kajiado county is employed. On this Kajiado ranked 3rd after Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu 31.2%.

5.7%
County's total
forest cover

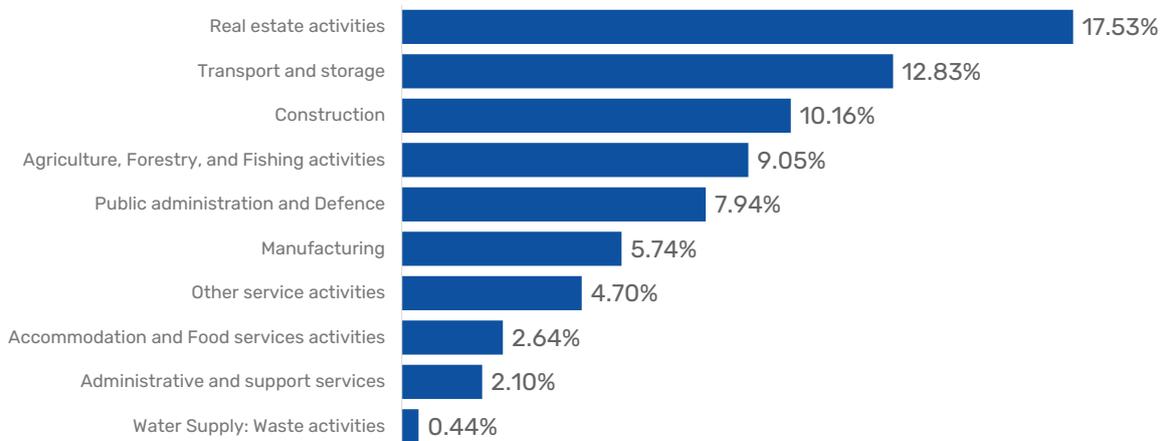
29%
County's employed
working age
population

Economic Development

141,079m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 10% ranking 25th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 141,079 million coming 17th. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Kajiado was Kshs. 151,330 ranking 29th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Kitui top performing sectors in 2022



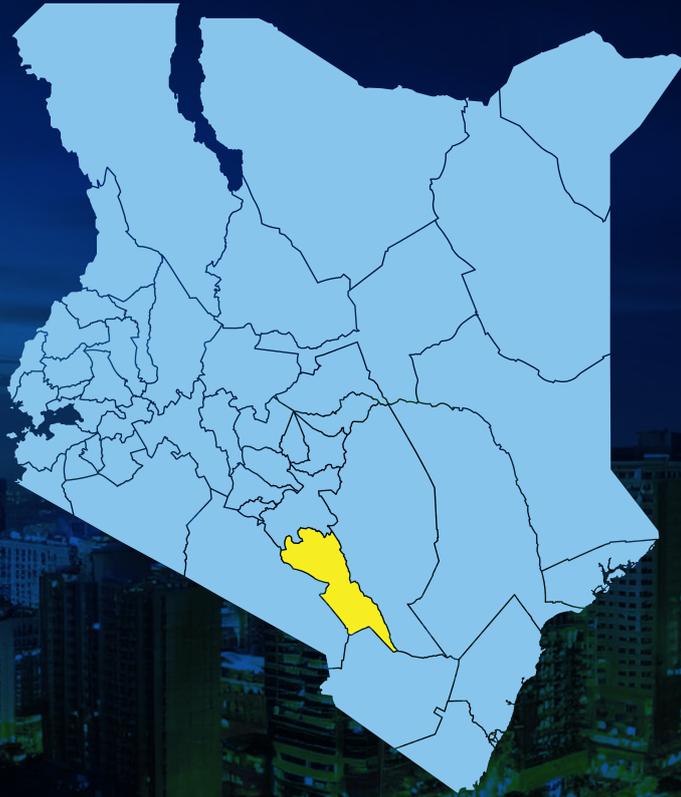
Recommendations

To make Kajiado more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Leverage Strong Governance and Public Finance Management:** Kitui County should capitalize on its strong governance and public finance management to attract investment and improve service delivery. Prioritize investments in infrastructure, particularly roads and water supply, to enhance connectivity and access to essential services.
- **Enhance Human Capital Development:** Invest in quality education, especially in STEM fields, to produce a skilled workforce. Focus on vocational training and technical skills development to meet labor market demands. Prioritize maternal and child health programs to improve health outcomes.
- **Promote Sustainable Agriculture and Agribusiness:** Given Kitui’s arid and semi-arid climate, promote climate-smart agriculture practices to enhance agricultural productivity. Encourage value-addition activities, such as processing and packaging, to increase the value of agricultural products. Support smallholder farmers through access to finance, technology, and market linkages.

MAKUENI

County 017



40%

County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Makueni County ranked 17th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 40%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, productive infrastructure, government and institutions, and climate and environment with scores of 58%, 58%, 53%, and 40%. Overall least performance was recorded in business efficiency and economic development with scores of 17% and 6% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, productive infrastructure, government and institutions, and climate and environment. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 58%³, coming 13th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels were higher in female compared to male. The percent of literate female was 98.4% compared to 93.3% for male. The county ranked high overall at 3rd place for women literacy and 28th place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in the neighbouring Machakos County, at 99.1% for female and 99.7% for male.

Gross Enrolment: Secondary levels enrolments were higher compared to the primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 144.3 ranking 7th while the gross enrolment at primary level was 120.5 ranking 10th place. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 97.1 ranking 5th, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 81.2 ranking 5th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6 while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality, Makueni had a neonatal mortality of 26, post-neonatal mortality of 9, infant mortality 35, child mortality of 3, under-5 mortality of 38.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 60.5 and 57.3 years respectively, ranking 27th for female and 35th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 84.9, with old-age dependency 9.7 while child dependency was 75.2. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

120.5

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level

26

County's neonatal mortality

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 5th overall with a score of 58%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

7.4%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Makueni County had a 7.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 23rd overall.

Transport: The main transport system in Makueni is road transport. The County has a rural access index (RAI) is 21 ranking 40th overall. The Counties with the highest RAI was in Kisii County at 98, Mombasa and Nairobi Counties at 95. The distance to the nearest airport from the county is 94 km, this is in relation to Nairobi County. In addition, the County has railway line passing and several railway stations. The SGR stations are at Mtito Andei, Kibwezi, and Emali and have had a positive impact on transportation in the county.

2,869.21

County's total road length in kilometres

Road network: The road network is fairly developed and serves to connect the county to the region. The county has a total road length of 12,869.21km, and out of this 11% of the road network is in good condition, while 49% is in fair condition.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 13 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.0132 hotel per 100, ranking 39th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 5.6% ranking 45th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Makueni County scored 53%, ranking 9th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

1,455m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 in KES

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 1,455 million ranking 16th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Makueni County used 2,017 million in the same year, ranking 22nd position. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Makueni county reported high crimes. In 2023, it reported a total of 2,316 crimes, ranking 16th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 2,896 schools. Out of which 51% are pre-primary school, 35% are primary schools and 14% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 65 TVET institutions and no public university in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 72 public health facilities: I level 5, 11 level 4, 5 level 3B, 14 level 3A, and 41 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 40% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 22nd overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Makueni is within the arid and semi-arid ecological zone and had a low forest cover of 5.4% ranking 33rd overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Makueni County had a below average coverage. 15% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 29th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 55%, ranking 29th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 88% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 32% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 7% of the county has sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

72

County's public health facilities, 2023

5.4%

County's total forest cover

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Makueni the least performing domains were business efficiency and economic development with scores of 17% and 6% respectively.

Business Efficiency

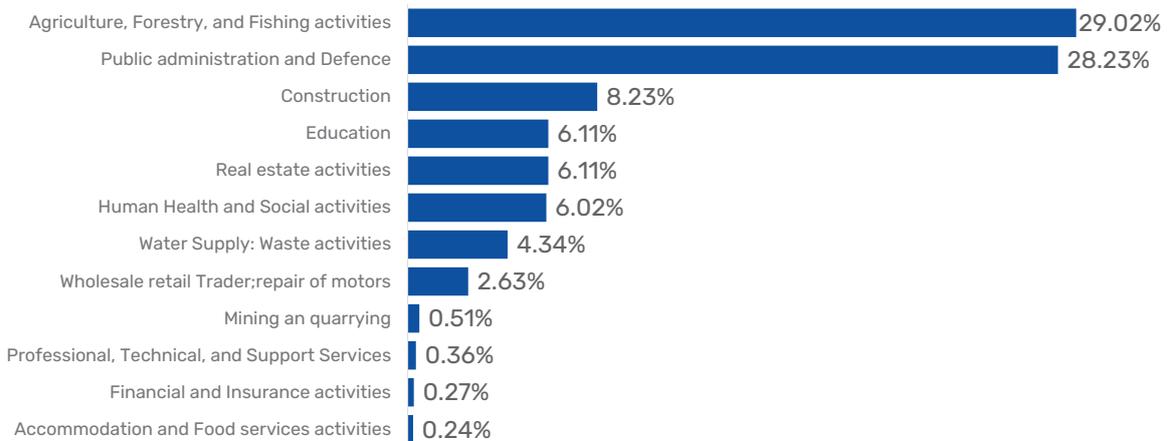
On business efficiency, Makueni scored 25% ranking 41st overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Makueni County had a score of 83, ranking 23rd overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 15.4, meaning that about 15.4% of the working age population in Makueni county is employed, ranking 24th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% and Kiambu at 31.2%.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 6% ranking 34th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 94,684 million coming 28th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Makueni was Kshs. 116,947 ranking 41st overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

94,684m
Gross County Product
(KES)

Makueni top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

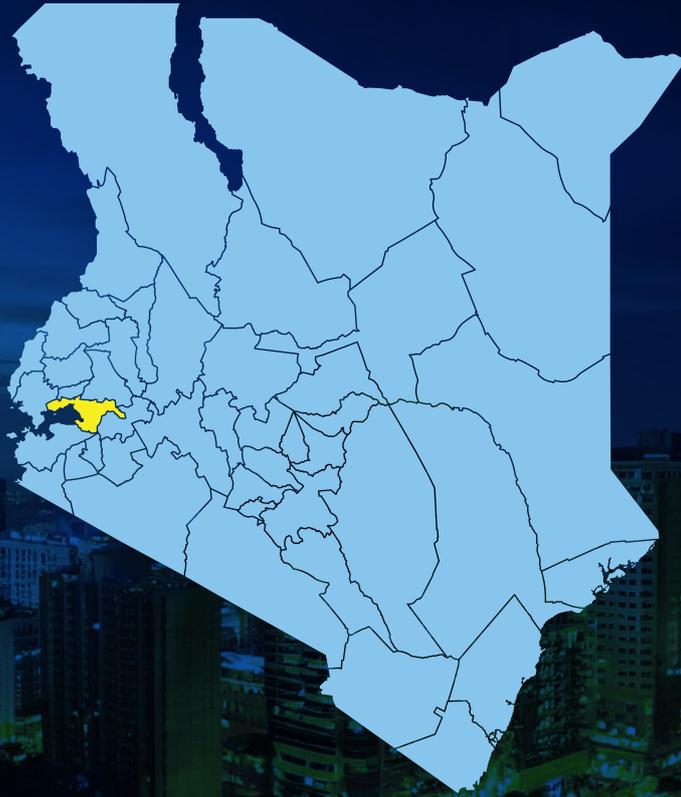
To make Makueni more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Leverage Strong Governance and Human Capital:** Makueni County should capitalize on its strong governance and human capital to attract investment and improve service delivery. Prioritize investments in education, particularly vocational training, to equip the workforce with the skills needed for the job market. Additionally, improve access to quality healthcare services to enhance the health and well-being of the population.
- **Enhance Infrastructure Development:** Improve the county's infrastructure, particularly road networks, to enhance connectivity and facilitate trade. Invest in renewable energy sources to address energy challenges and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Additionally, expand access to clean water and sanitation services to improve public health and hygiene.
- **Promote Sustainable Agriculture and Agribusiness:** Given Makueni's arid and semi-arid climate, promote climate-smart agriculture practices to enhance agricultural productivity. Encourage value-addition activities, such as processing and packaging, to increase the value of agricultural products. Support smallholder farmers through access to finance, technology, and market linkages.



KISUMU

County 042



38%

County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Kisumu County ranked 18th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 38%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and business efficiency with scores of 53%, 46%, 39%, and 31%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 30% and 20% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 53%, coming 19th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels were higher in men compared to women. The percent of literate men was 99.4% compared to 98.0% for women. The county ranked high overall at 4th place for men literacy and 8th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.1% for female and 99.7% for male.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to the secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 132.5 ranking 5th while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 131.7 ranking 15th place. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 101.6 ranking the highest overall, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 60.8 ranking 23rd overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality, Kisumu had a neonatal mortality of 21, post-neonatal mortality of 19, infant mortality 40, child mortality of 5, under-5 mortality of 45.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 62.6 and 57.9 years respectively, ranking 21st for female and 30th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 82.9, with old-age dependency 5.7 while child dependency was 77.1. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

132.5

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level

21

County's neonatal mortality

1.6%
County's total
forest cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 46% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 17th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kisumu had a low forest cover of 1.6% ranking 41st overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Kisumu County had above average coverage. 36% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 13th overall while the overall water coverage in the county is at 73%, ranking 6th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 40% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 36% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 23% of the county has sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kisumu County scored 39%, ranking 8th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

2,283m
County's annual own
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 2,283 million ranking 8th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kisumu County used 1,550 million in the same year, ranking 34th position. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Kisumu County reported high crimes. In 2023, it reported a total of 2,380 crimes, ranking 13th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 2,291 schools. Out of which 53% are pre-primary school, 36% are primary schools and 11% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 70 TVET institutions and 2 public university in the county.

72**County's number
of public health
facilities, 2023**

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 72 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 1 level 4B, 23 level 4, 22 level 3B, 45 level 3A, and 104 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Kisumu scored 31% ranking 28th place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kisumu County had a score of 63, ranking 31st overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 14%, meaning that about 14.1% of the working age population in Kisumu County is employed, ranking 25th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% and Kiambu at 31.2%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kisumu the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 30% and 20% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 19th overall with a score of 30%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kisumu County had a 14.7% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 12th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: The transport systems in Kisumu include road, air, rail and water transport. The County has a rural access index (RAI) is 11 ranking 42nd place overall. The Counties with the highest RAI was in Kisii County at 98, Mombasa and Nairobi Counties at 95. The County has an airport within it, the Kisumu International Airport and the distance to the nearest airport from the county is 4 km. In addition, the County has railway line passing and several railway stations. Further, there is water transport in Lake Victoria.

14.7%**County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies**

Road network: Kisumu City has a well-developed road network that connects various town centers within the city.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 13 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.0132 hotel per 100, ranking 39th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 5.6% ranking 45th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

5.6%

County's overall access to internet

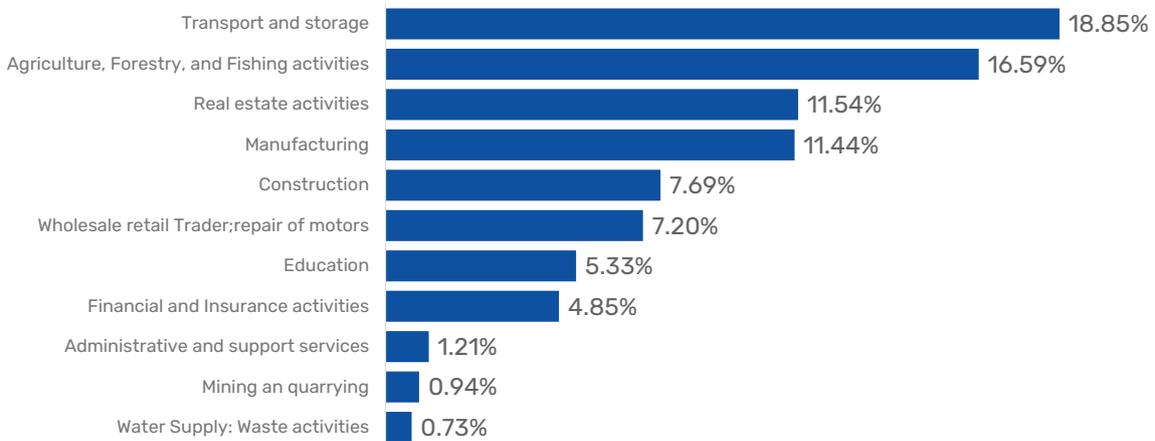
Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in least with a score of 20% ranking 8th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 232,269 million coming 7th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Kisumu was Kshs. 254,663 ranking 9th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

232,269m

Gross County Product (KES)

Kisumu top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

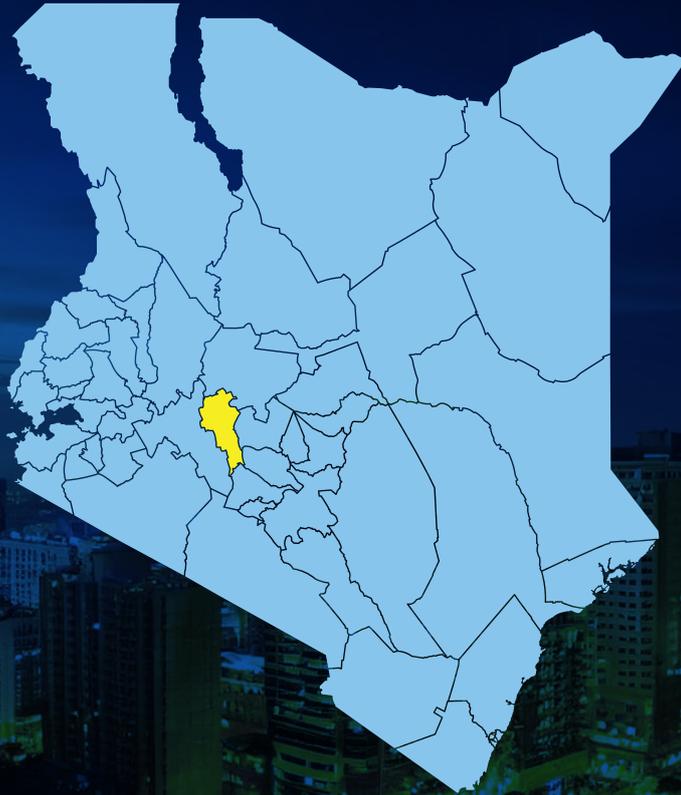
To make Kisumu more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Leverage Strategic Location and Infrastructure:** Kisumu should capitalize on its strategic location as a regional hub for trade and transportation. Invest in port infrastructure and logistics to enhance its connectivity to regional and international markets. Additionally, improve road and rail networks to facilitate the movement of goods and people.
- **Promote Tourism and Heritage:** Develop Kisumu's tourism potential by investing in cultural heritage sites, historical landmarks, and recreational facilities. Promote the city as a destination for both domestic and international tourists.
- **Strengthen Human Capital and Innovation:** Invest in quality education and skills training to develop a skilled workforce. Encourage innovation and entrepreneurship by supporting start-ups and incubators. Furthermore, improve healthcare infrastructure and access to quality healthcare services to enhance the health and well-being of the population.



NYANDARUA

County 018



36%

County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Nyandarua County ranked 19th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 36%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, climate and environment, productive infrastructure, and government and institutions with scores of 60%, 50%, 35%, and 33%. Overall least performance was recorded in economic development and business efficiency with scores of 22% and 17% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, climate and environment, productive infrastructure, and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 0.60%, coming 12th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels were higher in women compared to men. The percent of literate women was 97.5% compared to 92.6% for men. The county ranked high overall at 10th place for women literacy and 29th place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.1% for female and 99.7% for male.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to the primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 124.5 ranking 20th while the gross enrolment at primary level was 98.1 ranking 28th place. The highest ratio in secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 171.2.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 88 ranking 18th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 75.1 ranking 12th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality, Nyandarua had a neonatal mortality of 20, post-neonatal mortality of 16, infant mortality 36, child mortality of 10, under-5 mortality of 45.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 70.3 and 63.8 years respectively, ranking 3rd for female and 4th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 79.7, with old-age dependency 9.1 while child dependency was 69.9. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

124.5

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level of

76.4%

County's neonatal mortality

26.2%
County's total forest cover

2.2 Climate and Environment

The county scored 50% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 15th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Nyandarua had a high forest cover of 26.2% ranking 4th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Nyandarua County had below the average coverage. 13% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 32nd overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 57%, ranking 27th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 54% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 28% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 5% of the county has sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

2.3 Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 14th overall with a score of 35%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

17.1%
County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Nyandarua County had a 17.1% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 24th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: The transport systems in Nyandarua include road and rail transport. The County has a rural access index (RAI) of 92 ranking 6th place overall. The Counties with the highest RAI was in Kisii County at 98, Mombasa and Nairobi Counties at 95. In terms of railway transport, there is a 71-kilometer-long railway line connecting Gilgil to Nyahururu that passes through Nyandarua County with stations in Ol'Kalou and Ol'Joro Orok. This railway line, built in 1927, is currently not in use and some of its infrastructure has been damaged. From Nyandarua, the nearest airport is 140km away.

Road network: Nyandarua has a well-developed road network that connects within the county and to the rest of the region. Road transport is the main way people get around Nyandarua County, with a total of about 3,400 kilometres of roads. Most of these roads are made of earth, making up 78% of the total network, while only about 7% are bitumen roads.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 10 hotel establishments and a ratio of 2% hotel per 100, ranking 37th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 7.9% ranking 34th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

2.4 Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Nyandarua County scored 33%, ranking 33rd overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 985 million ranking 19th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Nyandarua County used 1,458 million in the same year, ranking 37th position. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Nyandarua County reported high crimes. In 2023, it reported a total of 1,720 crimes, ranking 24th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 1538 schools. Out of which 56% are pre-primary school, 31% are primary schools and 13% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 26 TVET institutions and 0 public university in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 35 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 3 level 4, 4 level 3B, 3 level 3A, and 24 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs and contributing to public welfare.

985m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

35

Total County's public health facilities

Least Performing Domains

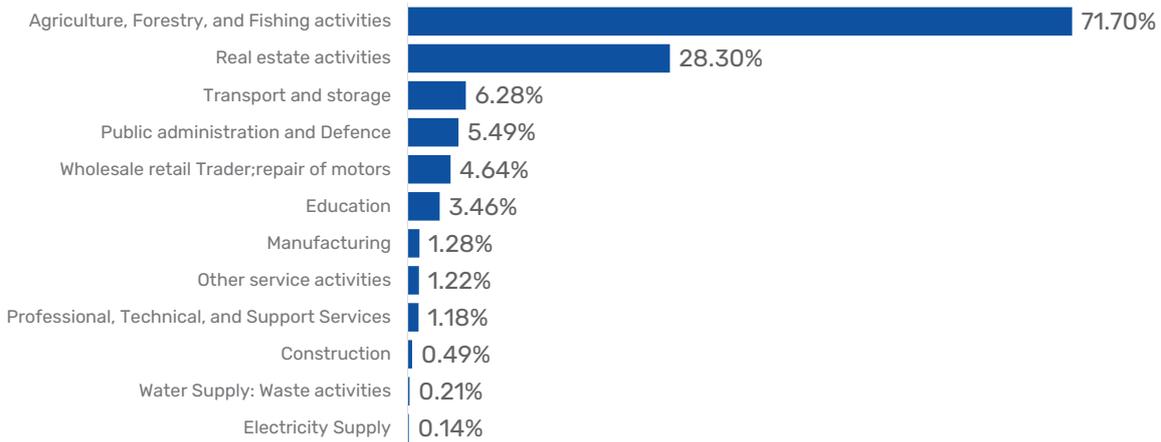
On the overall score for Nyandarua the least performing domains in economic development and business efficiency with scores of 22% and 17% respectively.

Economic Development

232,269m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked second last overall in Nyandarua with a score of 22% ranking 7th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 232,269 million coming 7th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Nyandarua was Kshs. 290,577 ranking 5th overall. The other best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Nyandarua top performing sectors in 2022



Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Nyandarua scored 17% ranking 42nd place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Nyandarua County had a score of 83, ranking 24th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 17.5, meaning that about 18% of the working age population in Nyandarua County is employed, ranking 18th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% and Kiambu at 31.2%.

18%
County's working age
population that is
employed

Recommendations

To make Nyandarua more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Leverage Agricultural Potential:** Nyandarua County should capitalize on its strong agricultural sector by promoting value-addition activities such as processing and packaging of agricultural products. The county can also focus on sustainable agriculture practices to ensure environmental sustainability and long-term productivity.
- **Enhance Infrastructure Development:** Improve the county's infrastructure, particularly road networks, to enhance connectivity and facilitate trade. Invest in renewable energy sources to address energy challenges and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Additionally, expand access to clean water and sanitation services to improve public health and hygiene.
- **Promote Tourism and Heritage:** Nyandarua County can leverage its natural beauty and cultural heritage to develop tourism. Investing in eco-tourism, adventure tourism, and cultural tourism can attract visitors and generate revenue. Additionally, the county can promote agricultural tourism, allowing visitors to experience rural life and local culture.



KISII

County 045



Introduction

36%

County's competitive index average score.

Kisii County ranked 20th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 36%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi Counties with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and business efficiency with scores of 57%, 47%, 39%, and 37%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 22% and 14% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 0.57%, coming 16th overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels were higher in men compared to women. The percent of literate men was 98.4% compared to 96.5% for women. The county ranked high overall at 11th place for men literacy and 17th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.1% for female and 99.7% for male.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to the secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 132 ranking 6th while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 131.9 ranking 14th place. The highest ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 172.2 in secondary and 173.5 in primary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 85.7 ranking 4th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 83 ranking 12th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality, Kisii had a neonatal mortality of 21, post-neonatal mortality of 3, infant mortality 24, child mortality of 16, under-5 mortality of 40.

In terms of life expectancy, male life expectancy at birth was higher compared to female at 60.1 and 59.6 years respectively, ranking 17th for male and 35th for female.

The age dependency ratio was 84.7, with old-age dependency 7 while child dependency was 77.6. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

132

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level

21

County's neonatal mortality

15.08%

County's forest cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 47% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 16th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kisii had a high forest cover of 15.08% ranking 15th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Kisii County had below the average coverage. 20% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 22nd overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 71%, ranking 10th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 49% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 20% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 6% of the county has sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kisii County scored 39%, ranking 21st overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

1,637m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 1,637 million ranking 12th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kisii County used 1,265 million in the same year, ranking 41st position. The counties that ranked highest in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: Kisii County reported high crimes. In 2023, it reported a total of 3,133 crimes, ranking 8th overall. The other counties with high crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 2,477 schools. Out of which 45% are pre-primary school, 39% are primary schools and 15% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 86 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 35 public health facilities: 6 level 5, 17 level 4, 30 level 3B, 24 level 3A, and 36 level 2. These facilities deliver a range of healthcare services from basic care to specialized treatments, supporting the county's healthcare needs, and contributing to public welfare.

Business Efficiency

8.9%

*County's employed
working age
population*

On business efficiency, Kisii scored 37% ranking 26th place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu 100%, Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kisii County had a score of 132, ranking 8th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.089, meaning that about 8.9% of the working age population in Kisii County is employed, ranking 37th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% and Kiambu at 31%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kisii the least performing domains in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 22% and 14% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 24th overall with a score of 22%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

9.9%

*County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies*

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kisii County had a 9.9% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 17th overall. The main sources of cooking energy in Kisii County include firewood (77.8%), Liquefied Petroleum Gas (13.5%) and charcoal (5.1%). While the main sources of lighting energy in the county are mains electricity (39.3%), solar energy (20.5%), Paraffin tin lamps (20.1%) and paraffin lantern (13.6%)¹⁴. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main mode of transport in Kisii. From Kisii, the nearest airport is 65 km away i.e., Kisumu International Airport.

14 Commission on Revenue Allocation (2022). Kenya County Factsheets. Third Edition

480+

County's network
of bitumen roads in
kilometres

Road network: Kisii County has a well-established transport system that is vital for enabling movement and economic activities in the area. The county serves as a key trade and transport hub for neighbouring counties like Nyamira, Migori, and Homa Bay. Road transport is the main mode of transportation in Kisii, with a network of both paved highways and rural roads. The County has a network of over 480 km of bitumen roads and 3155km of Murram roads. Important roads like the Kisii-Kisumu Road and Kisii-Nyamira Road link the county to major markets and regions, making it easier for people and goods to move around. The county government has invested significantly in upgrading and maintaining these roads to ensure they are usable all year round, especially during the rainy season when rural roads can become difficult to navigate. In terms of rural access index Kisii scored highest at 98 with Mombasa and Nairobi Counties following at 95.

Tourism: The County has a good hospitality industry with 68 hotel establishments and a ratio of 5%4 hotel per 100, ranking 16th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 14% ranking 18th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

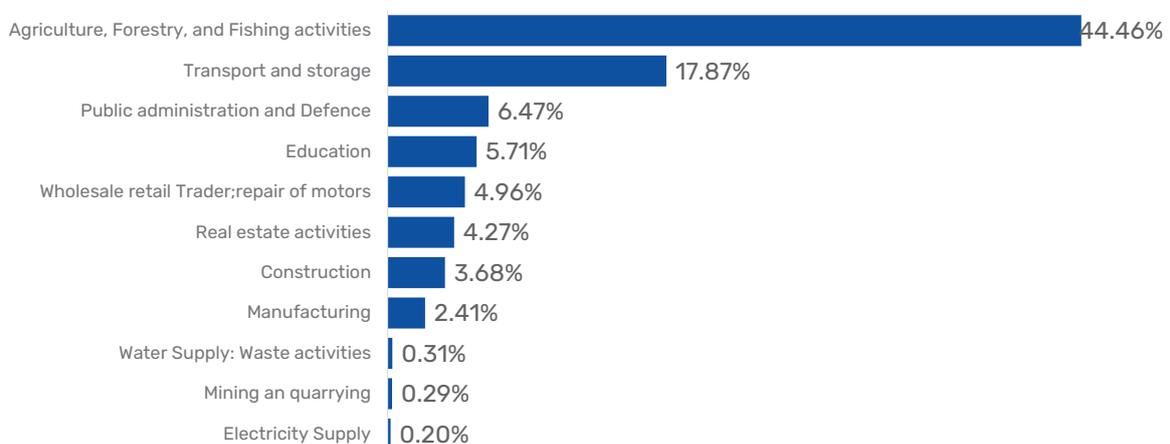
Economic Development

232,269m

Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked last overall in Kisii with a score of 14% but ranking 16th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 232,269 million coming 7th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Kisii was Kshs. 172,683 ranking 13th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Kisii top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

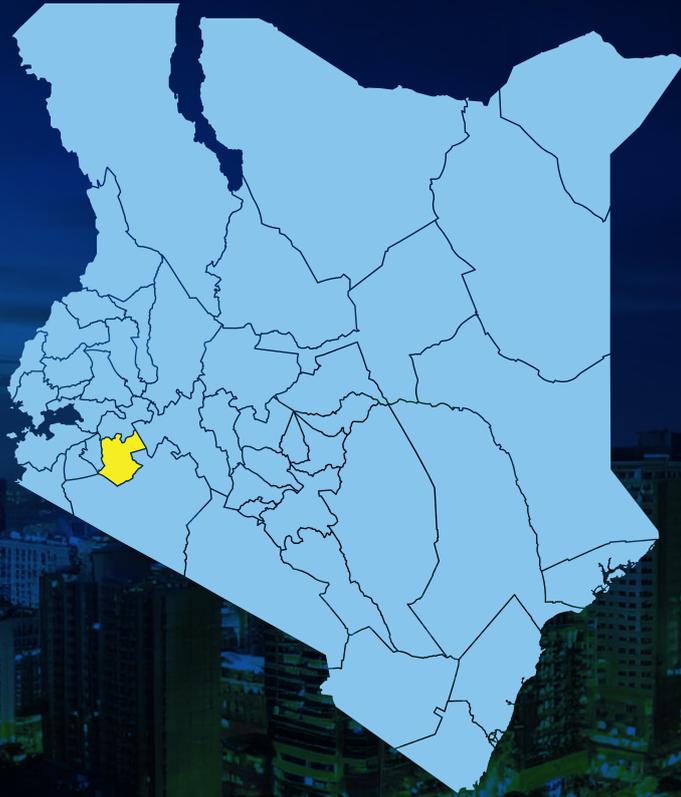
To make Kisii County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Leverage strong Agricultural sector and Potential** by promoting value-addition activities such as processing and packaging of agricultural products. The county can also focus on sustainable agriculture practices to ensure environmental sustainability and long-term productivity. Additionally, supporting smallholder farmers through access to finance, technology, and market linkages can enhance agricultural productivity and income.
- **Enhance Infrastructure Development** particularly road networks, to enhance connectivity and facilitate trade. Invest in renewable energy sources to address energy challenges and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Additionally, expand access to clean water and sanitation services to improve public health and hygiene.
- **Promote Tourism, cultural Heritage,** and natural attractions to develop tourism. Investing in cultural tourism, eco-tourism, and historical sites can attract visitors and generate revenue. Additionally, the county can promote local handicrafts and traditional arts to boost the local economy.



BOMET

County 036



35%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Bomet County ranked 21st in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 35%. The county came after Kisii that had a score of 36%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, government and institutions, climate and environment and business efficiency with scores of 53%, 43%, 41%, and 41%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 18% and 13% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, government and institutions, climate and environment and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 0.53%, coming 21st overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 99.3% compared to 96.9% for women. The county ranked high overall at 5th place for men literacy and 13th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.1% for female and 99.7% for male.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 118.8 ranking 22nd while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 114.3 ranking 15th place. The highest ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 172.2 in secondary and 173.5 in primary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 85.8 ranking 23rd place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 78.4 ranking 8th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Bomet had a neonatal mortality of 17, post-neonatal mortality of 9, infant mortality 26, child mortality of 3, under-5 mortality of 28.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 60.5 and 57.3 years respectively, ranking 35th for male and 27th for female.

The age dependency ratio was 96.2, with old-age dependency 4.7 while child dependency was 91.6. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

118.8

County's gross enrolment ratio at secondary level

17

County's neonatal mortality

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Bomet County scored 43%, ranking 13th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

332m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 332 million ranking 37th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Bomet County used 1,819 million in the same year, ranking 30th position. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Bomet County reported 1,719 crimes, ranking 25th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 2600 schools. Out of which 54% are pre-primary school, 34% are primary schools and 12% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 38 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

131

County's public health facilities, 2023

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 131 public health facilities: 1 level 4, 2 level 3B, 8 level 3A, and 19 level 2. The county has a ratio of 0.034 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 38th place overall.

Climate and Environment

24.3%

County's forest cover

The county scored 41% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 20th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Bomet had a high forest cover of 24.3% ranking 5th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Bomet County had below average coverage. Only 10% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 36th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 72%, ranking 8th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 17% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 10% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 1% of the county has sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Bomet scored 41% ranking 23rd place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Bomet County had a score of 36, ranking 46th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 18%, meaning that about 17.7% of the working age population in Bomet County is employed, ranking 17th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% and Kiambu at 31.2%.

17.7%

*County's employed
working age
population*

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Bomet the least performing domains in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 18% and 13% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 29th overall with a score of 18%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

4%

*County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies*

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Bomet County had a 4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 37th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Bomet. The County has a rural access index (RAI) of 49 ranking 32nd place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98. Bomet has a defunct airstrip, but the closest airport is 102.7 km from the county i.e., the Eldoret International Airport in Kisumu County.

Road network: Bomet County has a well-established transport system that is vital for enabling movement and economic activities in the area. Of the total road network, a small portion (11.6%) was paved, with the majority consisting of gravel and earth surfaces. This poses significant challenges, particularly during the rainy season, as these roads become impassable, hindering access to markets and essential services.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 13 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.015 hotel per 100, ranking 38th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

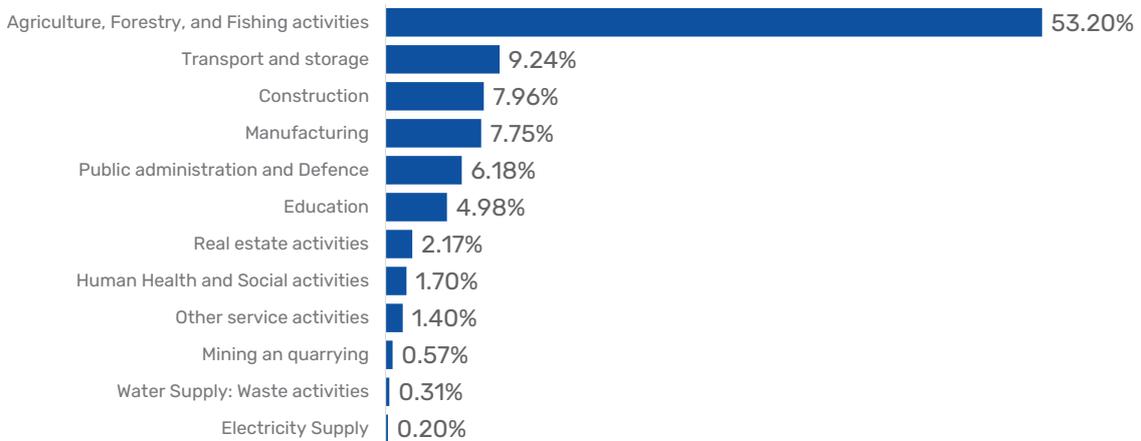
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 8.6% ranking 30th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

131,353m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Bomet County with a score of 13% ranking 18th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 131,353 million coming 19th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Bomet was Kshs. 210,134 ranking 19th overall. The other best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Bomet top performing sectors in 2022



The agriculture sector performed well due to Bomet’s favourable climate and soil conditions, which support various agricultural activities like tea and maize production, crucial cash crops in the region.

Transport and storage performed well as the County allows for easy access to markets in the region, the transport infrastructure support the agriculture sector which is performing.

Recommendations

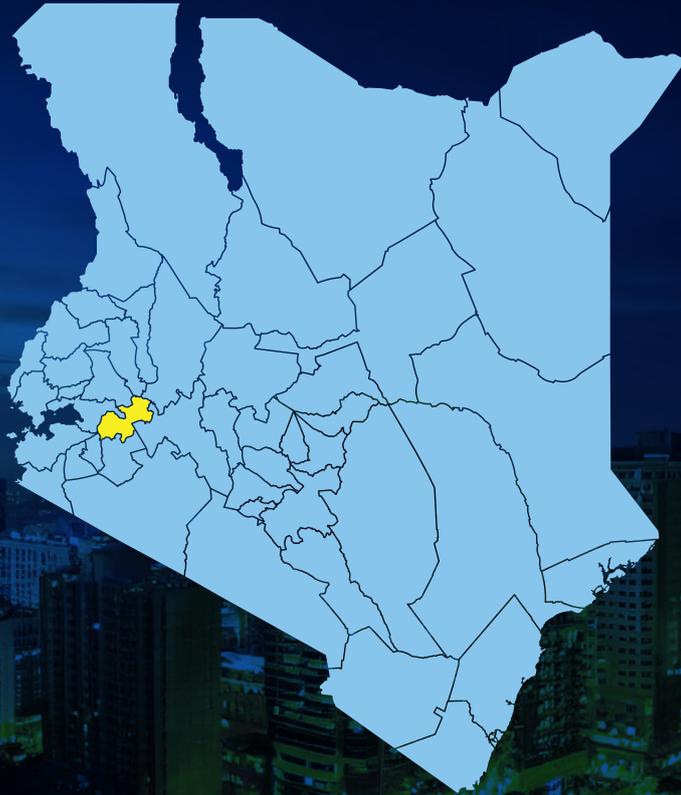
To make Bomet more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Develop Agriculture through Value Addition** by enhancing the agriculture sector by establishing processing and manufacturing plants for key produce like tea and maize. This will increase farmer incomes, create jobs, and boost the county's Gross County Product.
- **Invest in Health Infrastructure** through expansion and upgrading of the health facilities to improve accessibility and quality of care. Focus on increasing health facilities per capita and addressing gaps in specialized services to improve health outcomes and life expectancy.
- **Improve education access and quality** by strengthening school infrastructure and expanding tertiary institutions such as TVETs to support human capital development. In addition, prioritize addressing disparities in enrolment and literacy, particularly for women, to ensure inclusive growth.
- **Expand water and sewer services** through investing in water supply and sewerage systems to serve more households and businesses. Improving utility coverage will enhance living conditions, support economic growth, and attract investment to urban areas.
- **Enhance transport and connectivity** by upgrading the road network and improve rural access to ensure year-round connectivity. Also, develop internet infrastructure to increase digital access, facilitating innovation, business efficiency, and overall economic competitiveness.



KERICHO

County 035



Introduction

35%

County's competitive index average score.

Kericho County ranked 22nd in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 35%. The county came after Bomet that had a score of 35%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and business efficiency with scores of 61%, 41%, 40%, and 37%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 16% and 12% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were in human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 0.61%, coming 10th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 98.6% compared to 98.2% for women. The county ranked high overall at 10th place for men literacy and 4th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 140.3 ranking 4th while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 139.8 ranking 11th place. The highest ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 172.2 in secondary and 173.5 in primary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 98.7 ranking 3rd place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 75.4 ranking 11th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Kericho had a neonatal mortality of 17, post-neonatal mortality of 8, infant mortality 25, child mortality of 7, under-5 mortality of 31.

In terms of life expectancy, male life expectancy at birth was higher compared to female at 60.1 and 59.6 years respectively, ranking 17th for male and 35th for female.

The age dependency ratio was 78, with old-age dependency 5.7 while child dependency was 72.4. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

140.3

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level

17

County's neonatal mortality

20.6%
County's forest
cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 41% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 20th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kericho had a high forest cover of 20.6% ranking 8th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Kericho County had below average coverage. Only 15% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 29th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 58%, ranking 25th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 42% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 15% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 11% of the county has sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kericho County scored 0., ranking 18th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

1,273m
County's annual own
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 1,273 million ranking 17th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kericho County used 1, 685 million in the same year, ranking 32nd position. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Kericho County reported 1,856 crimes, ranking 23rd overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 2,214 schools. Out of which 50% are pre-primary school, 38% are primary schools and 11% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 32 TVET institutions and 2 public universities in the county.

131**County's number
of public health
facilities**

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 131 public health facilities: 2 level 5, 6 level 4, 7 level 3B, 7 level 3A, and 64 level 2. The county has a ratio of 0.095 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 28th place overall.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Kericho scored 37% ranking 27th place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kericho County had a score of 93, ranking 18th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 18.9%, meaning that about 18.9% of the working age population in Kericho County is employed, ranking 15th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% and Kiambu at 31.2%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kericho the least performing domains in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 18% and 13% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 32nd overall with a score of 16%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kericho County had a 5.5% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 30th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Kericho. Other modes of transport include railway. The County has a rural access index (RAI) of 81 ranking 15th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98. The closest airport is 69.1 km from the county i.e., the Eldoret International Airport in Kisumu County. In terms of rail transport, the Kenya Railways network passes through Kericho, providing an alternative means of transporting goods, especially agricultural products. This rail connection helps reduce transport costs and improve logistics efficiency.

5.5%**County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies**

Road network: Kericho County has a well-established road transport system. For road transport, the county has a variety of roads such as earth, gravel, and urban roads. Important roads like the Kericho-Kisumu Road and Kericho-Nakuru Road are crucial for both passengers and freight. Of the total road network, a small portion is in good condition, majority consisting of fair and bad conditions. This poses significant challenges, particularly during the rainy season, as these roads become impassable, hindering access to markets and essential services.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 37 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.041 hotel per 100, ranking 22nd place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

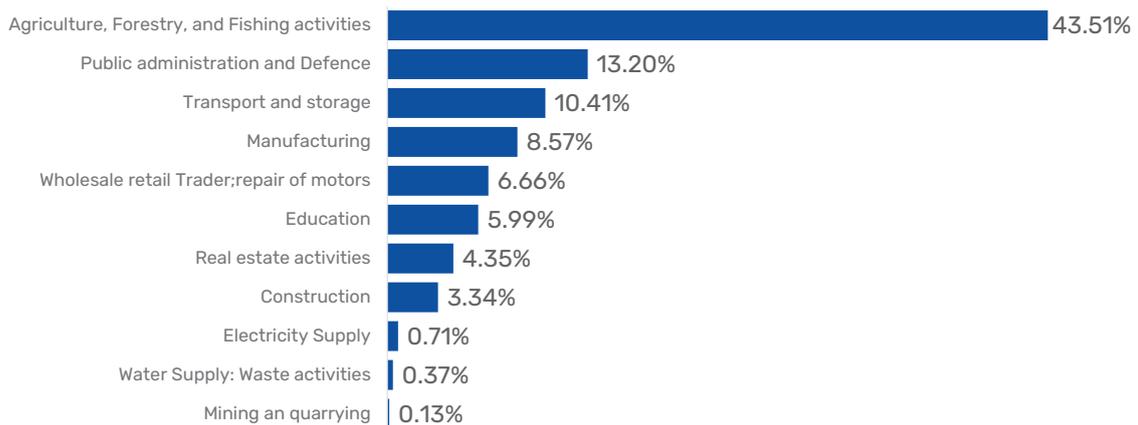
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 9.1% ranking 28th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

144,513m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Kericho County with a score of 12% ranking 20th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 144,513 million coming 16th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Kericho was Kshs. 216,9563 ranking 18th overall. The other best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Kericho top performing sectors in 2022



The Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing sector played a crucial role in boosting Kericho County's economy by contributing 43.51% to the county's Gross County Product (GCP). This significant contribution highlights Kericho's strong agricultural foundation, with a focus on cash crops like tea that drive the local economy. The region's favourable climate and fertile soils make it ideal for tea production, resulting in high yields and extensive export activities. Additionally, the diverse agricultural practices in Kericho, including horticulture and dairy farming, further enhance the sector's impact on the GCP.

Transport and storage performed well as the County due to improved infrastructure like road upgrades and development projects. The government's investment in road projects, such as the Kericho Interchange, has improved connectivity and traffic flow, making it easier to transport goods and services across the region. Furthermore, since the population heavily relies on agriculture, having efficient transport systems is crucial for farmers to access markets.

8.57%
*Manufacturing sector
 boost into the Gross
 County Product*

The manufacturing sector played a significant role in boosting Kericho County's Gross County Product (GCP), making up around 8.57% of the total. This contribution is mainly due to the strong tea production in Kericho, which not only supports the county's economy but also involves many local businesses in processing and manufacturing related products. The presence of large tea estates has created a supply chain that helps various manufacturing activities like packaging and distribution, thereby improving the sector's overall performance.

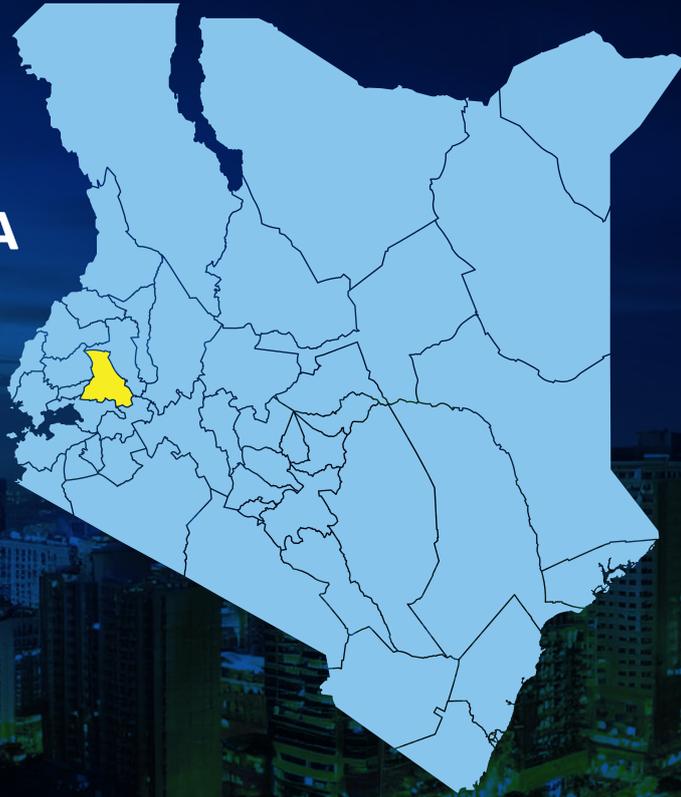
Recommendations

To make Kericho more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Strengthen educational infrastructure and access** by expanding capacity in primary and secondary schools to improve net enrolment ratios, particularly at the secondary level. It is also imperative to address gender disparities in literacy levels by introducing targeted programs for women and girls to further enhance human capital.
- **Enhance water and environmental services** by increasing water service coverage and sewerage infrastructure, prioritizing underserved populations to improve sanitation and health outcomes. Also, leverage the county's significant forest cover to implement sustainable environmental management and conservation programs.
- **Boost economic development and diversification** through promoting value addition in agriculture, particularly in tea and horticulture, and encouraging investment in manufacturing to expand employment opportunities and enhance Gross County Product (GCP).
- **Improve infrastructure and connectivity** by upgrading and maintaining road networks to ensure year-round accessibility to markets and essential services. In addition, it is crucial to expand digital connectivity to increase internet access and drive innovation and business growth, particularly in rural areas.
- **Increase health and social services coverage** by enhancing the ratio of healthcare facilities to population, focusing on underserved areas to improve health outcomes. Also, it is important to address dependency ratios by implementing social protection programs to support children and the elderly.

TRANS NZOIA

County 026



Introduction

33%
County's competitive
index average score.

Trans Nzoia County ranked 23rd in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 33%. The county came after Kericho that had a score of 34%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in business efficiency, human capital, climate and environment and government and institutions with scores of 61%, 52%, 39%, and 27%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 11% and 9% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, human capital, climate and environment and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

16.4%

*County's employed
working age
population*

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Trans Nzoia scored 61% ranking 10th place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Trans Nzoia County had a score of 56, ranking 39th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 16.4%, meaning that about 16.4% of the working age population in Trans Nzoia County is employed, ranking 21st overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 52%, coming 22nd place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 99% compared to 92.1% for women. The county ranked high overall at 7th place for men literacy and 26th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 118.3 ranking 23rd while the gross enrolment at primary level was 113.4 ranking 17th place. The highest ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 172.2 in secondary and 173.5 in primary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 89.3 ranking 14th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 62.8 ranking 19th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

113.4

*County's gross
enrolment at
primary level*

23

County's neonatal mortality

On mortality neonatal mortality Trans Nzoia had a neonatal mortality of 23, post-neonatal mortality of 14, infant mortality 36, child mortality of 6, under-5 mortality of 42.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 62.8 and 59.9 years respectively, ranking 19th for female and 22nd for male.

The age dependency ratio was 88.8, with old-age dependency 6.8 while child dependency was 81.9. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 39% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 26th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Trans Nzoia had a high forest cover of 8.2% ranking 27th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Trans Nzoia County had below average coverage. Only 16% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 29th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 73%, ranking 6th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 43% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 16% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, only 11% of the county has sewerage. Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%), Laikipia (44%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Trans Nzoia County scored 27%, ranking 36th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

644m**County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)**

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 644 million ranking 25th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Trans Nzoia County used 2,602 million in the same year, ranking 17th position. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Trans Nzoia County reported 2,412 crimes, ranking 11th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 1,422 schools. Out of which 39% are pre-primary school, 43% are primary schools and 18% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 60 TVET institutions and 0 public universities in the county.

131**County's number of public health facilities**

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 131 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 5 level 4, 10 level 3B, 12 level 3A, and 55 level 2. The county has a ratio of 0.084 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 31th place overall.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Trans Nzoia the least performing domains in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 11% and 9% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 37th overall with a score of 11%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Trans Nzoia County had a 6.7% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 26th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Trans Nzoia. The County has a rural access index (RAI) of 76 ranking 19th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98. The closest airport is 130.1 km from the county.

4421.7
 County's total road network (kilometres)

Road network: Trans Nzoia County has a well-established road transport system. For road transport, the county has a variety of roads such as earth, gravel, and urban roads Trans Nzoia County has a total road network of 4421.7 kilometres, with 163.3 km of bitumen surface, 2165.4 km of gravel surface, and 2093 km of earth surface roads.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 52 hotel establishments and a ratio of 5% hotel per 100, ranking 17th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

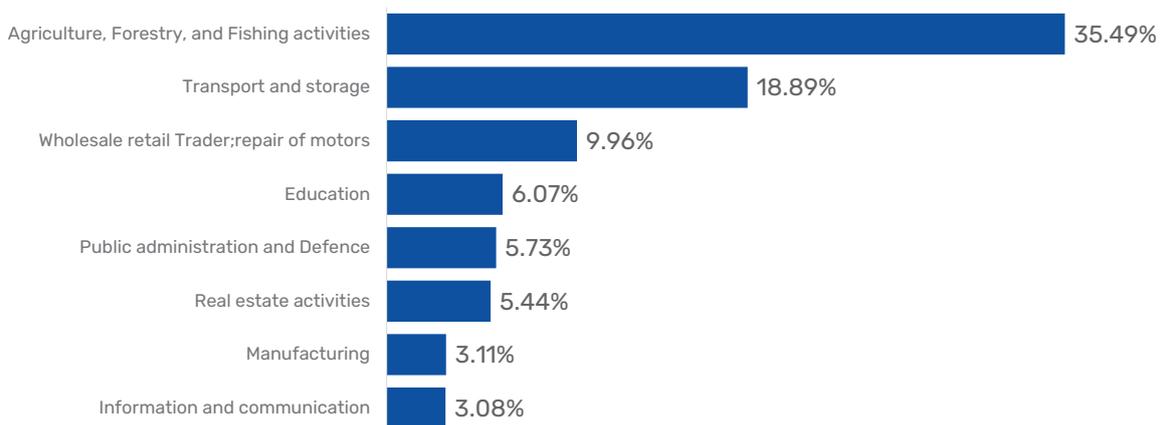
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 12.1% ranking 21th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

144,513m
 Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Trans Nzoia County with a score of 9% ranking 27th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 144,513 million coming 16th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Trans Nzoia was Kshs. 130,701 ranking 20th overall. The other best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Trans Nzoia top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

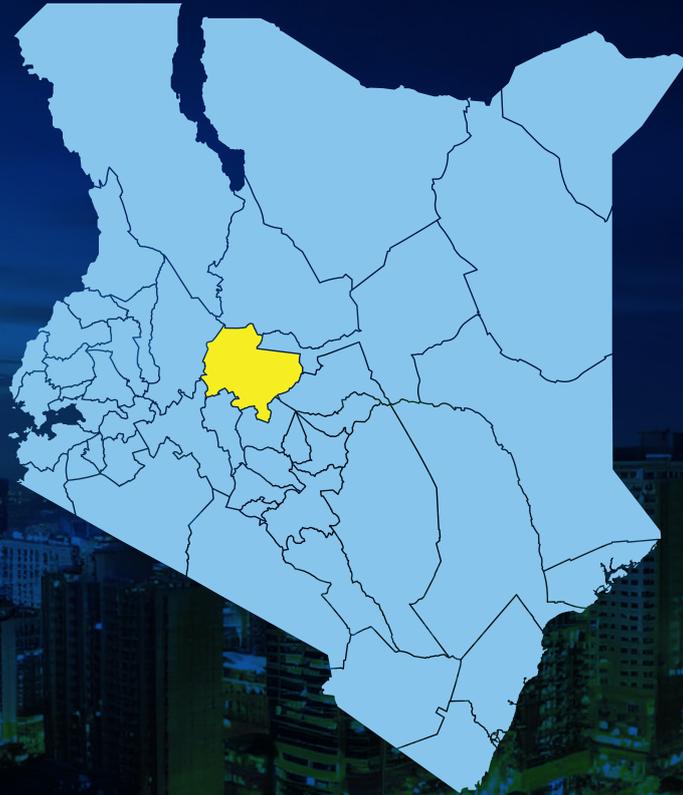
To make Trans Nzoia more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance business efficiency** through promoting labour productivity by providing targeted training programs, fostering innovation through support for start-ups, and creating a conducive business environment with streamlined regulations to attract investments and create jobs.
- **Strengthen human capital development** by improving healthcare services, addressing gender disparities in literacy, and increasing school enrolment, particularly at the secondary level, through targeted initiatives like scholarships and incentives.
- **Invest in climate and environmental sustainability** by expanding access to formal water services and sewerage systems, increasing forest cover through afforestation programs, and implementing effective policies to manage environmental resources sustainably.
- **Develop productive infrastructure** by increasing reliance on clean energy through subsidies, improving road connectivity and internet access, and enhancing tourism potential through investments in hospitality infrastructure and strategic marketing.
- **Diversify and grow economic sectors** through prioritizing agriculture, forestry, and fishing to boost GCP while expanding opportunities in manufacturing and information technology to create balanced economic growth across sectors.



LAIKIPIA

County 031



Introduction

33%

County's competitive index average score.

Laikipia County ranked 24th in the overall county competitive index with an average score of 33%. The county came after Kericho that had a score of 34%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in climate and environment, human capital, government and institution, and business efficiency with scores of 55%, 45%, 36% and 28%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 27% and 7% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were climate and environment, human capital, government and institution, and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

9.9%**County's forest cover**

2.1 Climate and Environment

The county scored 55% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 12th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Laikipia had a high forest cover of 9.9% ranking 23rd overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Laikipia County had below average coverage. 41% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 11th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 64%, ranking 19th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 46% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 41% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 44% of the county has sewerage, making the 2nd highest county in sewerage coverage. The other Counties with higher sewerage coverage were Nairobi (50%) and Uasin Gishu (38%).

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 45%, coming 28th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 96% compared to 91,5% for women. The county ranked high overall at 17th place for men literacy and 27th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 116.7 ranking 24th while the gross enrolment at primary level was 95 ranking 33rd place. The highest ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Kakamega county with a ratio of 172.2 in secondary and 173.5 in primary.

95**County's gross enrolment at primary level**

20**County's neonatal mortality**

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 80.2 ranking 30th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 59.3 ranking 25th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Laikipia had a neonatal mortality of 20, post-neonatal mortality of 23, infant mortality 44, child mortality of 7, under-5 mortality of 50.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 61.3 and 58.3 years respectively, ranking 26th for female and 24th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 82.6, with old-age dependency 6.6 while child dependency was 76.1. The highest child dependency ratio was recorded in Wajir county, at 131.7.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Laikipia County scored 36%, ranking 26th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

1,475m**County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)**

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 1,475 million ranking 14th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Laikipia County used 1,354 million in the same year, ranking 38th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Laikipia County reported 1,140 crimes, ranking 33rd overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108), Kiambu (9,532), Meru 6,037 and Nakuru 5,072.

Education: The county has a total of 1,080 schools. Out of which 53% are pre-primary school, 35% are primary schools and 13% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 25 TVET institutions and 1 public universities in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 131 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 4 level 4, 13 level 3B, 11 level 3A, and 54 level 2. The county has a ratio of 16% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 11th place overall.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Laikipia scored 28% ranking 29th place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Laikipia County had a score of 57, ranking 38th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 19%¹, meaning that about 19.1% of the working age population in Laikipia County is employed, ranking 14th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Laikipia the least performing domains in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 27% and 7% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 20th overall with a score of 27%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Laikipia County had a 15.5% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 10th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Laikipia. There is an old railway network covering 23 Km in Nanyuki Town and a small stretch of about 2 Km in Nyahururu Town. Between 2018 and 2022, 2,094 Km of earth roads were upgraded through leasing machinery. The county also constructed one bridge in 2017 and six bridges between 2018 and 2022, including two long span bridges (Muramati and Gachuiro) and four medium span bridges (Doldol, Chumvi, Mukuri, and Shamanei)¹⁵. From Laikipia, the nearest airport is 132 km away.

19.1%
*County's employed
working age
population*

15.5%
*County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies*

¹⁵ Laikipia County Integrated Development Plan 2023-2027

1,038.1
 County's total
 classified road
 network (kilometres)

Road network: Laikipia County has a well-established road transport system. The county has a total classified road network of 1,038.1Km, with over 80% being feeder roads. The breakdown of road surfaces is as follows: 207.3 Km of bitumen, 328.9 Km of gravel, and 501.9 Km of earth surface. Major transport routes in the county include Nairobi-Isiolo-Marsabit (A102), Gilgil-Rumuruti (C55), Rumuruti-Mararal (A2), and Nakuru-Nyeri (B65). The County has a rural access index (RAI) of 63 ranking 25th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98. The closest airport is 132 km from the county.

Tourism: The County has a high hospitality industry with 260 hotel establishments and a ratio of 50% hotel per 100, ranking 6th place overall. The other best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

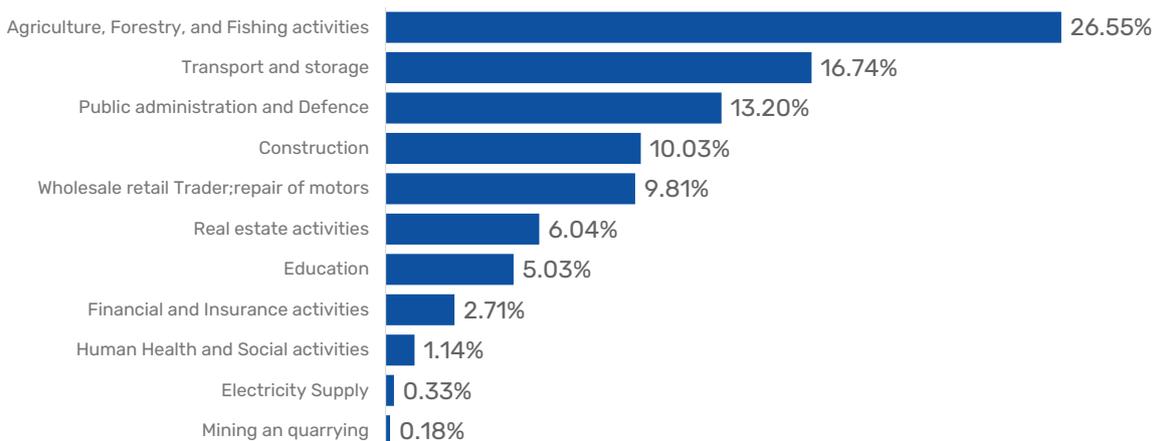
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 9.9% ranking 25th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

144,513m
 Gross County Product
 (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Laikipia County with a score of 7% ranking 30th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 144,513 million coming 16th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Laikipia was Kshs. 81,987 ranking 32nd overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Laikipia top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

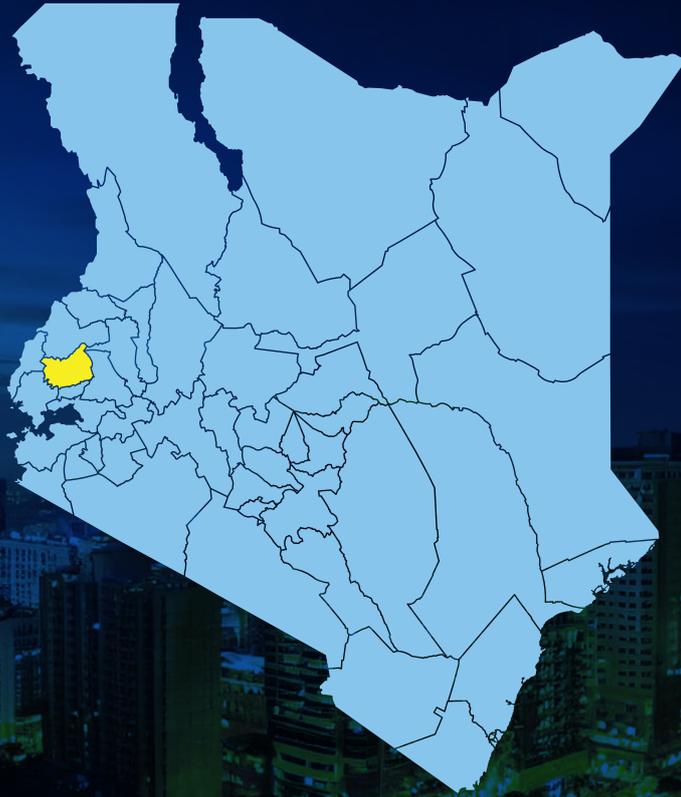
To make Laikipia County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Manufacturing:** Increased effort to support infrastructure development and investment in industrial parks to support the manufacturing sector and increase employment.
- **Invest in infrastructure services** i.e., water and sewer connection within its urban areas to attract investment within the county and improve business efficiency.
- **Improve the social infrastructure** such as schools and health centres to improve the quality of life for residents in the county.



KAKAMEGA

County 037



Introduction

32%

County's competitive index average score.

Kakamega County ranked 25th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 32%. The county came after Laikipia that had a score of 33%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, business efficiency, productive infrastructure and government and institutions with scores of 50%, 43%, 33%, and 27%. Overall least performance was recorded in climate and environment and economic development and with scores of 26% and 14% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, business efficiency, productive infrastructure and government and institutions. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 50%, coming 24th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels women had a slightly higher score compared to men. The percent of literate women was 93.8% compared to 93.6% for men. The county ranked 23rd place for women literacy and 27th place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 173.5 ranking the 1st while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 173 ranking 1st place. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 96.9 ranking 6th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 58.3 ranking 27th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Kakamega had a neonatal mortality of 16, post-neonatal mortality of 11, infant mortality 28, child mortality of 18, under-5 mortality of 45.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 62.8 and 57.4years respectively, ranking 19th for female and 32nd for male.

The age dependency ratio was 107.4, with old-age dependency 6.8 while child dependency was 100.5. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

173.5

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level

16

County's neonatal mortality

13.6%

County's employed working age population

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Kakamega scored 43% ranking 21st place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kakamega County had a score of 41, ranking 45th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.136, meaning that about 13.6% of the working age population in Kakamega County is employed, ranking 26th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 15th overall with a score of 33%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

7%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kakamega had a 7% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 25th overall. Wood is the primary fuel source, 80.8% of the county's population uses wood as their main energy source. Additionally, 7.4% use LPG, 2.4% use paraffin, 0.3% use biogas, 8.2% use charcoal, and 25.1% use mains electricity for lighting¹⁶. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Kakamega. The county is supported by railway with stations in Lugari and Butere. It also has an airstrip mainly used for private and commercial flights. The airstrip has a 1289-meter-long runway and an apron where planes park. It also has two new taxiways for aircraft movement to and from the terminal building, which has passenger facilities. Kakamega Airstrip can handle four Dash 7 Q300 and Dash 7 Q100 planes, each carrying 40 passengers, totalling 160 passengers at once. The distance to the nearest airport is 40km: the Kisumu International Airport.

Road network: Kakamega has an extensive road network, although many of the roads remain unpaved and in poor condition. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 81 ranking 15th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 46 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.025 hotel per 100, ranking 6th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

¹⁶ Kenya Population and Housing Census, volume IV, 2019

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 11.8% ranking 23rd place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kakamega County scored 27%, ranking 35th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 2,200 million ranking 9th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kakamega County spent 2,803 million in the same year, ranking 16th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Kakamega County reported 2,223 crimes or 0.03 crime per capita, ranking 18th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 2,177 schools. Out of which 27% are pre-primary school, 52% are primary schools and 21% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 91 TVET institutions and 1 public universities in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 131 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 6 level 4, 22 level 3B, 43 level 3A, and 86 level 2. The county has a ratio of 0.085 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 30th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

2,200m

County's annual own
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kakamega, the least performing domains climate and environment and economic development and with scores of 26% and 14% respectively.

Climate and Environment

7.0%
County's forest cover

The county scored 26% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 34th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kakamega had a forest cover of 7.0% ranking 28th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

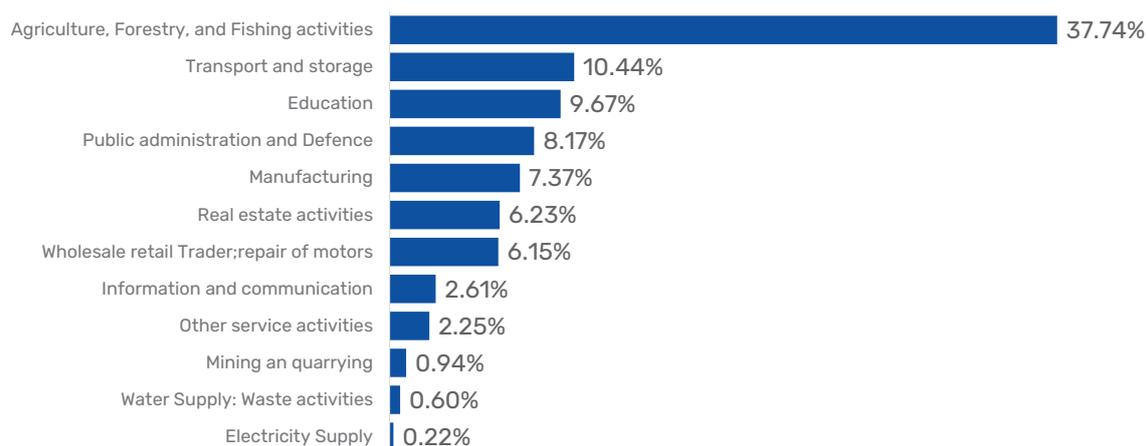
In relation to the water resources, Kakamega County had an average coverage. 19% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 23rd overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 53%, ranking 32nd place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 22% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 19% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 15% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Economic Development

195,207m
Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Kakamega County with a score of 14% ranking 14th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 195,207 million coming 9th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Kakamega was Kshs. 140,535 ranking 32nd overall. The other best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Kakamega top performing sectors in 2022**Recommendations**

To make Kakamega more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance human capital through improving literacy and education outcomes** by addressing disparities in enrolment and literacy rates, strengthening primary and secondary education enrolment, and improving health indicators such as life expectancy and dependency ratios.
- **Boost business efficiency by promoting labour productivity** through targeted workforce training, fostering innovation and job creation, and improving the business environment to support diverse economic activities.
- **Advance productive infrastructure** by increasing access to clean energy and reliable transport systems, enhancing road networks and connectivity, and investing in tourism and internet penetration to stimulate economic growth.
- **Strengthen government and institutional capacity** through increased revenue generation, efficient development expenditure, improved public security, and expanded access to education and healthcare facilities to bolster public service delivery.
- **Promote climate and economic resilience** by improving environmental quality through expanded forest cover and water service provision, enhancing sewerage systems, and diversifying economic activities to increase gross county product and reduce economic vulnerabilities.

NYAMIRA

County 046



32%
County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Nyamira County ranked 26th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 32%. The county came after Kakamega that had a score of 32%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in business efficiency, human capital, government and institutions and climate and environment and with scores of 64%, 56%, 37%, and 19%. Overall least performance was recorded in economic development and productive infrastructure with scores of 11% and 6% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, human capital, government and institutions and climate and environment. These domains are discussed below:

24.9%

*County's employed
working age
population*

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, Nyamira scored 64% ranking 42nd place overall. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Nyamira County had a score of 62, ranking 33rd place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.249, meaning that about 24.9% of the working age population in Nyamira County is employed, ranking 9th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 56%, coming 18th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels women had a slightly higher score compared to men. The percent of literate women was 99% compared to 95.6% for men. The county ranked 2nd place for women literacy and 19th place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 167.8 ranking the 2nd while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 166.4 ranking 4th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 92.4 ranking 10th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 78.6 ranking 7th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

167.8

*County's gross
enrolment ratio at
primary level*

27

County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Nyamira had a neonatal mortality of 27, post-neonatal mortality of 4, infant mortality 31, child mortality of 12, under-5 mortality of 42.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 60.2 and 50.5 years respectively, ranking 32nd for female and 44th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 81.5, with old-age dependency 6.7 while child dependency was 74.8. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Nyamira County scored 37%, ranking 30th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

625m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 625 million ranking 26th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Nyamira County spent 1,318 million in the same year, ranking 39th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Nyamira County reported 1,431 crimes or 0.02 crime per capita, ranking 29th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 1,310 schools. Out of which 43% are pre-primary school, 42% are primary schools and 15% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 47 TVET institutions and 0 public universities in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 131 public health facilities: 7 level 4, 27 level 3B, 15 level 3A, and 18 level 2. The county has a ratio of 0.085 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 30th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Climate and Environment

1.9%

County's forest cover

The county scored 19% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 39th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Nyamira had a forest cover of 1.9% ranking 40th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Nyamira County had a below average coverage. 14% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 31st overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 53%, ranking 32nd place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 35% of the county population live within service areas of utilities but only 14% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Nyamira, the least performing domains were economic development and productive infrastructure with scores of 11% and 6% respectively.

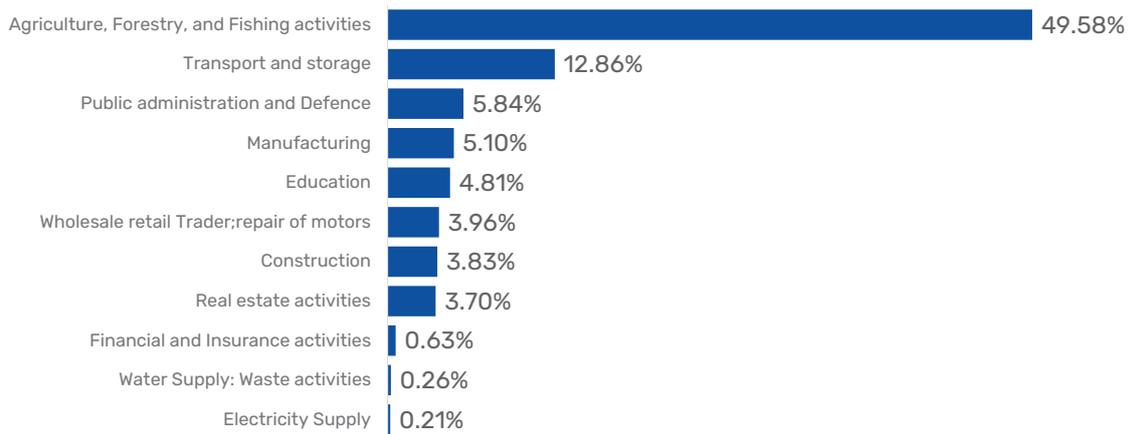
Economic Development

94,386

Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked second least in Nyamira County with a score of 11% ranking 24th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 94,386 million coming 29th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Nairobi was Kshs. 221,382 ranking 16th overall. The other best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Nyamira top performing sectors in 2022



Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 43rd overall with a score of 6%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

3.4%
County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Nyamira had a 3.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 38th overall. Wood is the primary fuel source, The main sources of cooking energy in Nyamira County include firewood (84.3%), Liquefied Petroleum Gas (8.6%) and charcoal (3.5%). The main sources of lighting energy in the county are mains electricity (42.9%), Paraffin tin lamp (19.5%), paraffin lantern (16.1%) and solar energy (15.5%)¹⁷. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Nyamira. The distance to the nearest airport is 57 km: the Kisumu International Airport.

Road network: The County has a total road network of 1,574.59 km of classified and unclassified roads. Only about 20.1% of the classified roads are paved (bitumen surface type) and About 27.6% of the roads are unclassified earth roads. Key roads like the Nyamira-Kisii Road and Nyamira-Migori Road play a crucial role in linking Nyamira to neighbouring counties, supporting trade and mobility. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 36 ranking 36th place overall.

The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

17 Commission on Revenue Allocation (2022). Kenya County Factsheets. Third Edition

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 7 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.0116 hotel per 100, ranking 42nd place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 7.3% ranking 37th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

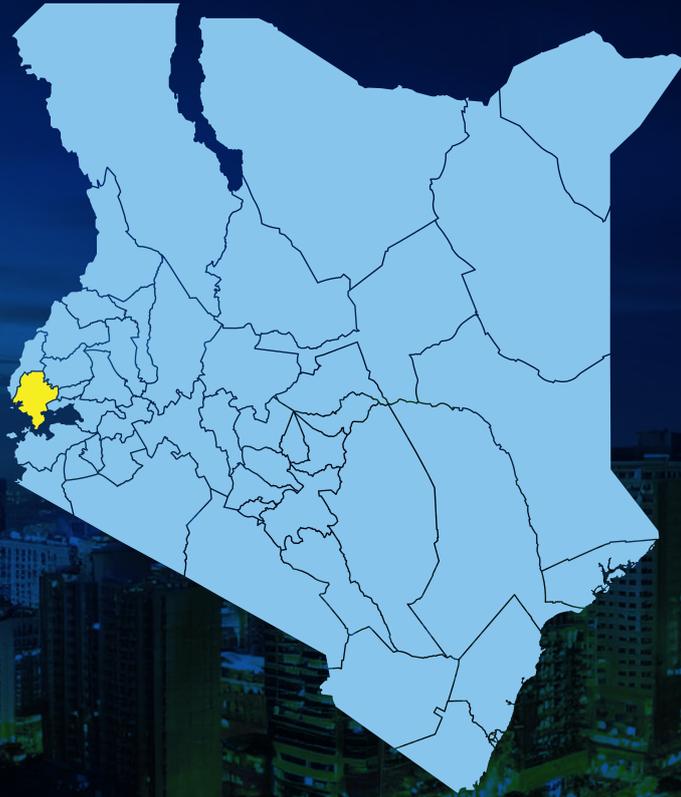
Recommendations

To make Nyamira more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance business efficiency** through improving labour productivity by implementing skill development initiatives, fostering entrepreneurship to create job opportunities, and strengthening innovation ecosystems to support start-ups and businesses.
- **Strengthen human capital** by improving literacy through targeted adult education programs, enhancing health services to lower mortality rates, and increasing access to primary and secondary education, particularly net enrolment rates, with a focus on underserved populations.
- **Bolster government and institutional performance** by improving revenue collection mechanisms, prioritizing investment in development projects, expanding technical and vocational education facilities, and enhancing public safety to attract investment and improve living standards.
- **Promote climate and environmental sustainability** by increasing forest cover through afforestation initiatives, expanding access to formalized water services, and adopting comprehensive environmental policies to improve sewerage coverage and sustainable resource management.
- **Develop productive infrastructure** by increasing reliance on clean energy technologies, improving the road network to enhance rural access, and expanding internet connectivity to support digital inclusion and economic activities.

SIAYA

County 041



29%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Siaya County ranked 27th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 29%. The county came after Nyamira that had a score of 32%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in climate and environment, human capital, government and institutions and productive infrastructure with scores of 40%, 39%, 33%, and 31%. Overall least performance was recorded in business efficiency and economic development and with scores of 26% and 7% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were climate and environment, human capital, government and institutions and productive infrastructure. These domains are discussed below:

23%**County's forest cover**

Climate and Environment

The county scored 40% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 23th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Siaya had a forest cover of 23% ranking last at 47th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Siaya County had an average coverage. 26% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 31st overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 69%, ranking 11th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 67% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 26% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 40%, coming 33rd place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels women had a slightly higher score compared to men. The percent of literate women was 90.8% compared to 88.4% for men. The county ranked 28th place for women literacy and 34th place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 109.9 ranking the 21st while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 109 ranking 27th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

109.9**County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level**

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 82.2 ranking 27th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 71.4 ranking 13th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Siaya had a neonatal mortality of 24, post-neonatal mortality of 22, infant mortality 45, child mortality of 19, under-5 mortality of 63.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 61.7 and 58.3 years respectively, ranking 25th for female and 25th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 102, with old-age dependency 9.3 while child dependency was 93.6. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Siaya County scored 37%, ranking 30th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 760 million ranking 23rd position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Siaya County spent 2,487 million in the same year, ranking 19th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Siaya County reported 1,375 crimes or 0.04 crime per capita, ranking 14th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 2,257 schools. Out of which 51% are pre-primary school, 38% are primary schools and 11% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 44 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

24

County's neonatal mortality

760m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

77**County's number
of public health
facilities**

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 77 public health facilities: 10 level 4, 12 level 3B, 14 level 3A, and 41 level 2. The county has a ratio of 8%5 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 35th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 43rd overall with a score of 6%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

5.9%**County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies**

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Siaya had a 5.9% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking over 29th all. The primary sources of lighting in the County are solar at 50.8%, paraffin at 24% and electricity at 19.7. For cooking fuel, households mainly use firewood at 72.4%, charcoal at 18%, LPG gas at 6%, and paraffin at 1.5%. Many trading centers (85%), health facilities (89%), and secondary schools (97%) in the county are connected to electricity. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Siaya. A railway line passes through the county in Gem with a station at Yala, but it is not operational. Additionally, there are three jetties in the county - Luanda K'otieno, Asembo Bay, and Usenge - however, Asembo Bay is currently not functioning. The distance to the nearest airport is 54 km: the Kisumu International Airport.

Road network: the county had a total of 434.2km of bitumen standard roads, 1297.41km of gravel roads, 532.78km of earth roads, and an additional 1,170 narrow roads. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 80 ranking 17th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 31 hotel establishments and a ratio of 3%2 hotel per 100, ranking 31st place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 7.3% ranking 37th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Siaya, the least performing domains were in business efficiency and economic development and with scores of 26% and 7% respectively.

Business Efficiency

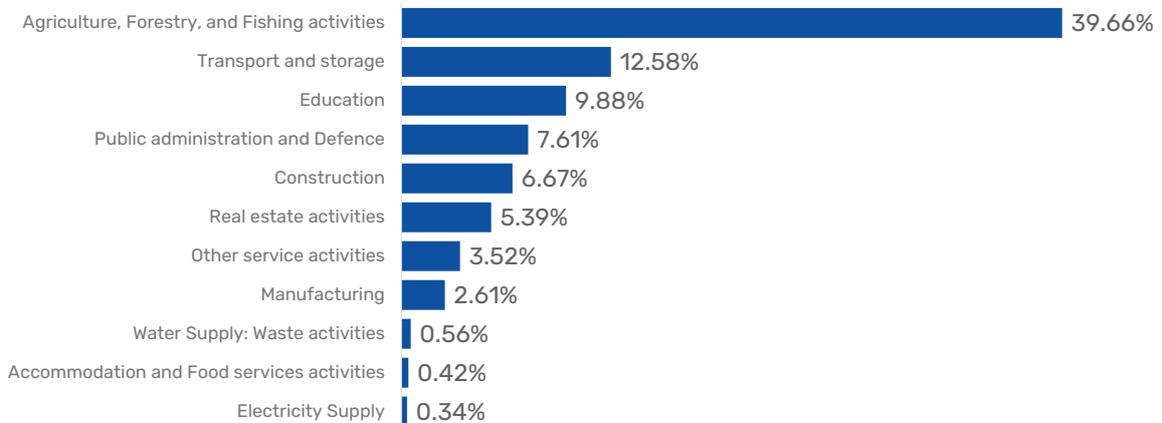
On business efficiency, the County ranked 33rd overall with a score of 26%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Siaya County had a score of 62, ranking 32nd place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.095, meaning that about 9.5% of the working age population in Siaya County is employed, ranking 35th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Siaya County with a score of 7% ranking 32nd overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 92,149 million coming 30th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Siaya was Kshs. 131,469 ranking 35th overall. The other best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

92,149m
Gross County Product
(KES)

Siaya top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

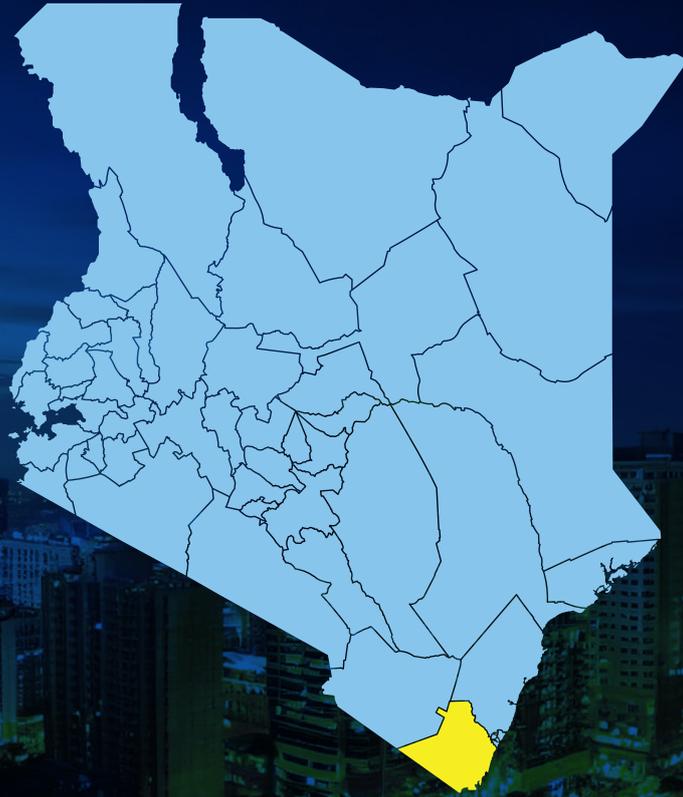
To make Siaya more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Strengthen environmental sustainability** by increasing forest cover through community-driven afforestation programs, expanding access to formalized water service providers, and enhancing sewerage infrastructure to improve overall environmental management and quality.
- **Enhance human capital development** by improving literacy levels and school enrolment rates through targeted educational programs, addressing health challenges like mortality rates and life expectancy through better healthcare services, and reducing dependency ratios via social welfare initiatives.
- **Improve government efficiency and institutional capacity** by boosting revenue collection through innovative tax strategies, increasing development expenditure on priority areas like education and healthcare, and enhancing public security measures to attract investments.
- **Expand and modernize productive infrastructure** by increasing access to clean energy and internet connectivity, improving the road network and rural access, and investing in tourism infrastructure to foster economic growth and job creation.
- **Boost economic development and business efficiency** by promoting labour productivity through vocational training, creating a conducive environment for innovation and entrepreneurship, and supporting key economic sectors like agriculture, transport, and real estate for sustainable growth.



KWALE

County 002



27%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Kwale County ranked 28th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 27%. The county came after Siaya that had a score of 29%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, productive infrastructure, business efficiency and government and institution with scores of 38%⁵, 33%, 27%, and 26%. Overall least performance was recorded in climate and environment and economic development and with scores of 20%⁶ and 19% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, productive infrastructure, business efficiency and government and institution. These domains are discussed below:

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 16th overall with a score of 33%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

7.5%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Kwale had a 7.5% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 22nd overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Kwale County primarily relies on road transport, but it also has air, rail, and water transport options available. Kwale County has five air terminal facilities. The Ukunda Airstrip is the only one with scheduled flights, managed by the Kenya Airports Authority (KAA). It connects Kwale to major airports in Nairobi, Mombasa, Lamu, Kilifi, and Kisumu, mainly supporting tourism by facilitating domestic flights. It serves as a crucial transport link for tourists visiting Diani Beach and other tourist destinations in the region. The Kwale (KWS) Airstrip is privately owned, while the Lunga Lunga Airstrip, Mackinnon Road Airstrip, and Funzi Airstrip are also privately-owned facilities. The Ukunda Airstrip is set for expansion, with upgrades planned for its apron, car park, runway, and terminal building to handle increased traffic and potentially achieve airport status. There are two railway lines in the northern part of Kwale County operated by Kenya Railways Corporation. Water transport is mainly used for fishing and tourism in the area.

Key facilities include: Shimoni Port: A small port primarily utilized by the Kenya Wildlife Service, with plans to expand into a larger facility through partnerships with the Kenya Ports Authority and the National Government. - Kisite Mpunguti Jetty: Links Shimoni to Wasini Island. - Other Facilities: The county also has multiple jetties at Diani, Tiwi, and Msambweni. - Undeveloped Harbours: Kinondo, Vanga, and Shimoni have natural harbours that hold potential for future development. The distance to the nearest airport is 22 km: the Moi International Airport.

3475.13

County's total classified roads (kilometres)

Road network: The county has a total of 3475.13 km of classified roads, including international trunk roads, national trunk roads, regional roads, county roads, and rural access roads. It has a rural access index (RAI) of 56 ranking 29th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a highly developed hospitality industry with 401 hotel establishments and a ratio of 46%26 hotel per 100, ranking 7th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 9.9% ranking 25th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 38%5, coming 34th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a slightly higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 84.9% compared to 81.7% for women. The county ranked 37th place for men literacy and 36th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 104.8 ranking the 26th while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 51.9 ranking 42nd place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 79 ranking 31st place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 26.5 ranking 40th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Kwale had a neonatal mortality of 19, post-neonatal mortality of 4, infant mortality 23, child mortality of 17 under-5 mortality of 30.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 51.9 and 55.2 years respectively, ranking 42nd for female and 41st for male.

The age dependency ratio was 95.4, with old-age dependency 6.4 while child dependency was 88.9. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

104.8

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level

19

County's neonatal mortality

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Kwale County scored 26% ranking 37th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

600m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 600 million ranking 28th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Kwale County spent 2,962 million in the same year, ranking 13th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Kwale County reported 1,094 crimes or 6% crime per capita, ranking 35th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 1,835 schools. Out of which 64% are pre-primary school, 30% are primary schools and 6% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 44 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

57

County's total number of public health facilities, 2023

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 57 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 3 level 4, 11 level 3B, 14 level 3A, and 28 level 2. The county has a ratio of 65%8 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 42nd place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

9.2%

*County's employed
working age
population*

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 31st overall with a score of 27%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Kwale County had a score of 58 ranking 37th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.092, meaning that about 9.2% of the working age population in Kwale County is employed, ranking 35th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Kwale, the least performing domains were climate and environment and economic development and with scores of 20%7 and 19% respectively.

Climate and Environment

5.5%

*County's forest
cover*

The county scored 20%7 in the Climate and environment domain ranking 37th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Kwale had a forest cover of 5.5% ranking 32nd overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Kwale County had an average coverage. 18% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 25th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 35%, ranking 44th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 61% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 18% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

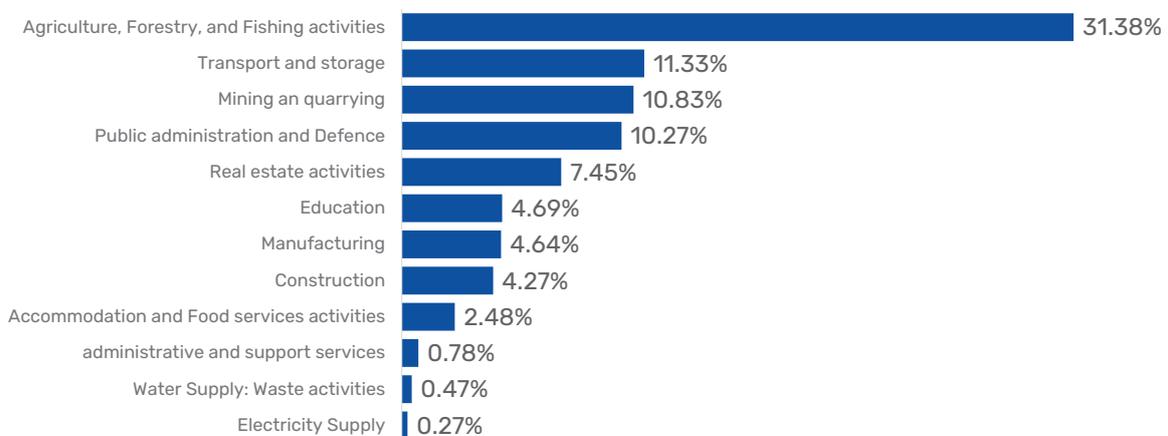
Economic Development

104,748m

**Gross County Product
(KES)**

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Kwale County with a score of 19% ranking 16th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 104, 748 million coming 27th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Kwale was Kshs. 164,048 ranking 27th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Kwale top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

To make Kwale more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- Enhance energy access through improved infrastructure development by increasing reliance on clean fuels and technologies, expanding electricity access, and incentivizing renewable energy solutions to increase energy availability, especially in rural areas.
- Improve transport infrastructure for economic growth by upgrading and expanding existing transport networks, particularly airstrips and ports, enhancing connectivity for tourism and commerce, and developing underutilized transport facilities like Shimoni and vanga harbours.
- Promote education and skills development by enhancing literacy rates and gross enrolment in primary and secondary education, improving health outcomes, and ensuring better accessibility to public education and health facilities to boost human capital development.
- Boost business efficiency through labour productivity and innovation by investing in training programs to increase labour productivity, improving the local business environment, and fostering innovation to create a competitive workforce and attract new businesses.
- Strengthen environmental management and climate resilience by improving water coverage and sewerage services, expanding forest cover, and implementing stronger environmental policies to manage natural resources sustainably and increase the county's resilience to climate change.

VIHIGA

County 038



27%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Vihiga County ranked 29th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 27%. The county came after Kwale that had a score of 27%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were in human capital, government and institution climate and environment and productive infrastructure with scores of 58%, 33%, 24%, and 21% Overall least performance was recorded in business efficiency and economic development and with scores of 21% and 6% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, government and institution climate and environment and productive infrastructure. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 58%, coming 14th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a slightly higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 95.4% compared to 90.1% for women. The county ranked 20th place for men literacy and 30th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 114.1 ranking the 16th while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 112.7 ranking 26th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 94.1 ranking 9th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 77.6 ranking 9th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Vihiga had a neonatal mortality of 16, post-neonatal mortality of 18, infant mortality 34, child mortality of 17 under-5 mortality of 51.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 67.9 and 64.4 years respectively, ranking 7th for female and second highest for male.

The age dependency ratio was 94.4, with old-age dependency 13.8, ranking 2nd highest while child dependency was 80.7. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

114.1

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level

16

County's neonatal mortality

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Vihiga County scored 33% ranking 28th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

301m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 301 million ranking 38th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Vihiga County spent 1,117 million in the same year, ranking 44th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Vihiga County reported 1,444 crimes or 0.02 crime per capita, ranking 14th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 1,160 schools. Out of which 47% are pre-primary school, 39% are primary schools and 14% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 36 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 57 public health facilities: 3 level 4, 8 level 3B, 14 level 3A, and 42 level 2. The county has a ratio of 11%⁴ for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 21st place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 24% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 35th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Vihiga had a forest cover of 11.1% ranking 20th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Vihiga County had an average coverage. 8% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 39th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 49%, ranking 39th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

11.1%

County's forest cover

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 46% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 8% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 27th overall with a score of 21%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

5.2%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Vihiga had a 5.2% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 33rd overall. Most households, 82%, use firewood for cooking, and 88.7% use paraffin for lighting. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Vihiga. There is a railway length of 20 Km in the County, with one railway station in Luanda that is currently not operational. The County does not have an operational airstrip and relies on neighbouring counties for flight services. The Kaimosi airstrip is also not operational now. The nearest airport is 17km away: Kisumu International Airport.

1,058.2

County's total road network (kilometres)

Road network: The County has a total road network of 1,058.2 Km, with 201.5 Km covered by bitumen surface, 373.7 Km covered by gravel surface, and 483 Km covered by earth surface. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 60 ranking 28th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 24 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.041 hotel per 100, ranking 24th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 20.9% ranking 8th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Vihiga, the least performing domains were business efficiency and economic development and with scores of 21% and 6% respectively.

Business Efficiency

8.8%

*County's employed
working age
population*

On business efficiency, the County ranked 38th overall with a score of 21%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Vihiga County had a score of 47 ranking 43rd place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.088, meaning that about 8.8% of the working age population in Vihiga County is employed, ranking 38th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

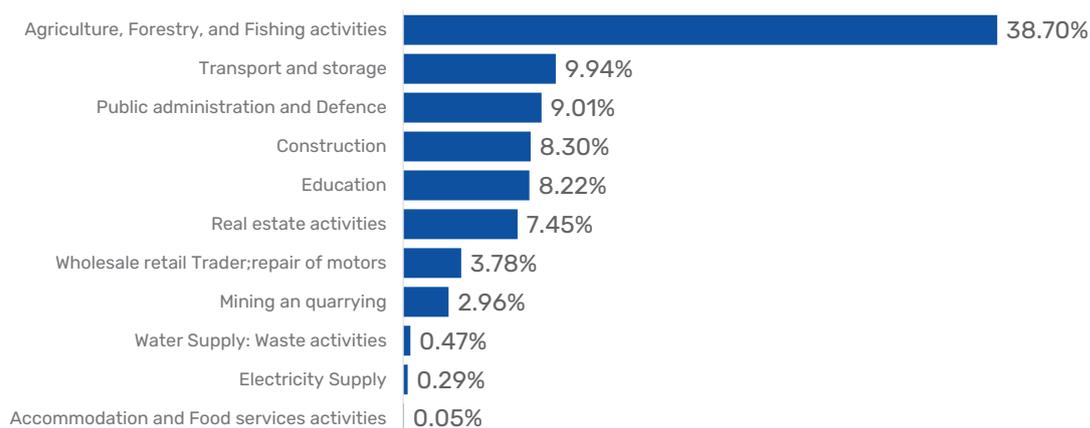
Economic Development

68,543m

*Gross County Product
(KES)*

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Vihiga County with a score of 6% ranking 33rd overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 68,543 million coming 35th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Vihiga was Kshs. 163,068 ranking 28th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

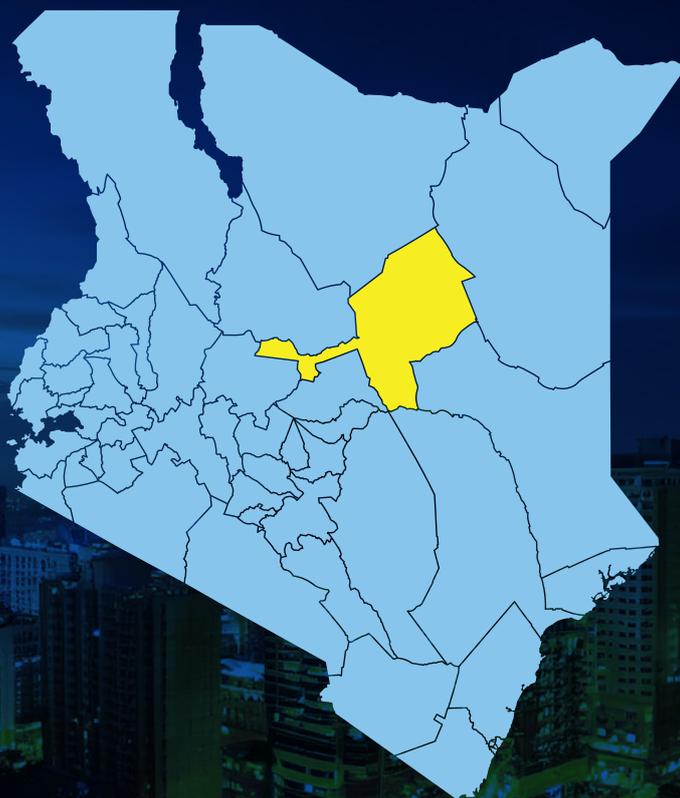
In Vihiga the main drivers of GCP were Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (38.7%); Transport and Storage (9.94%); Public Administration and Defense (9.01%) Construction (8.30%) and Education (8.22%). Other significant sectors included Real Estate Activities (7.45%); Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles (3.78%) and Mining and Quarrying (2.96%). The bottom three sectors were Water Supply: Waste Collection (47%) Electricity Supply (29%) and Accommodation and Food Service Activities (5%).

Vihiga top performing sectors in 2022**Recommendations**

To make Vihiga more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance business efficiency by improving labour productivity** through targeted training programs and incentives for innovation, fostering business-friendly policies, supporting start-ups, and addressing barriers to employment through skills development and infrastructure improvements, particularly in agriculture, transport, and education sectors.
- **Strengthen education and health systems** by improving literacy rates and school enrolment through targeted campaigns to boost female literacy, and investing in health infrastructure and services, especially in counties with high mortality rates like Vihiga.
- **Promote government and institutional development** by improving revenue generation and public expenditure through enhancing local revenue collection mechanisms, supporting investment in infrastructure and public services such as education and health.
- **Address climate and environmental challenges** by increasing forest cover and water resource management with an emphasis on expanding formal water service provision and promoting sustainable environmental practices, such as reforestation.
- **Boost economic development** by diversifying the local economy and improving productive infrastructure through investment in sectors beyond agriculture, such as real estate, tourism, and clean energy, while improving road networks and connectivity in areas with limited access like Vihiga, to create a more resilient economy.

ISIOLO
County 011



27%
County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Isiolo County ranked 30th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 27%. The county came after Vihiga that had a score of 27%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were business efficiency, climate and environment, human capital, and productive infrastructure with scores of 52%, 39%, 36%, and 23%. Overall least performance was recorded in government and institutions and economic development and with scores of 13% and 0% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, climate and environment, human capital, and productive infrastructure. These domains are discussed below:

11.4%
County's employed
working age
population

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 15th overall with a score of 52%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Isiolo County had a score of 66 ranking 30th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 11.4%, meaning that about 11.4% of the working age population in Isiolo County is employed, ranking 29th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 39% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 25th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Isiolo had a forest cover of 5.21% ranking 34th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Isiolo County had an average coverage. 28% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 17th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 66%, ranking 18th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 45% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 29% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 36%, coming 38th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 90.8% compared to 72.4% for women. The county ranked 32nd place for men literacy and 39th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

58.4
County's gross enrolment at primary level

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 99.4 ranking the 30th while the gross enrolment at primary level was 58.4 ranking 42nd place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 37.1 ranking 44th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 20.4 ranking 41st overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

22
County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Isiolo had a neonatal mortality of 22, post-neonatal mortality of 2, infant mortality 24, child mortality of 9 under-5 mortality of 33.

In terms of life expectancy, male life expectancy at birth was higher compared to female at 60.1 and 59.6 years respectively, ranking 17th for male and 35th for female.

The age dependency ratio was 93.2, with old-age dependency 6.8 ranking 26th overall, while child dependency was 86.5. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 21st overall with a score of 23%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

13.2%
County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Isiolo had a 13.2% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 14th overall. The main sources of lighting energy in Isiolo County include lanterns, fuelwood, tin lamps, and electricity. According to the Isiolo County's Exploring Kenya's Inequality Report 2013, 31.0 percent of the residents use Lantern, 23.0 percent fuelwood, 20.0 percent tin lamps and 19.0 percent electricity. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Isiolo. The County has an airport and 6 airstrips Funan, Funan-koricha, and Korbesa in Kinna, Merti, Malkadaka and Garbatulla. Isiolo airport is currently operational for local travels but is envisaged in near future to become fully operational to international airport under Vision 2030. 1.4km runway has been done and another 2.1km runway and security tower will be done in the second and third phases, a modern passenger terminus to handle over 600,000 passengers annually and modern car parks has already been completed. The proposed Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Transport Corridor is set to pass through Isiolo and includes an oil pipeline, a highway and a railway line will pass through Garba Tulla, Kinna, Ngare Mara, Burat and Oldonyiro ward. The nearest airport is 2km away: Isiolo Airport.

1,275
County's
road network
(kilometres)

Road network: The County has a road network of approximately 1,275 km, of which about 3% is tarmacked, 22% is gravel surfaced and 75% is earth surfaced. The earth roads are mainly in poor conditions, and this makes the roads impassable particularly during the rainy season. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 72 ranking 22nd place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 13 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.049 hotel per 100, ranking 19th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 8.9% ranking 29th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Isiolo, the least performing domains were government and institutions and economic development and with scores of 13% and 0% respectively.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Isiolo County scored 13% ranking 43rd place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

271m
 County's annual own
 source revenue in
 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 271 million ranking 39th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Isiolo County spent 980 million in the same year, ranking 46th position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Isiolo County reported 829 crimes or 0.03 crime per capita, ranking 22nd overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 444 schools. Out of which 56% are pre-primary school, 36% are primary schools and 8% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 9TVET institutions and 0 public universities in the county.

57
 County's total
 number of public
 health facilities

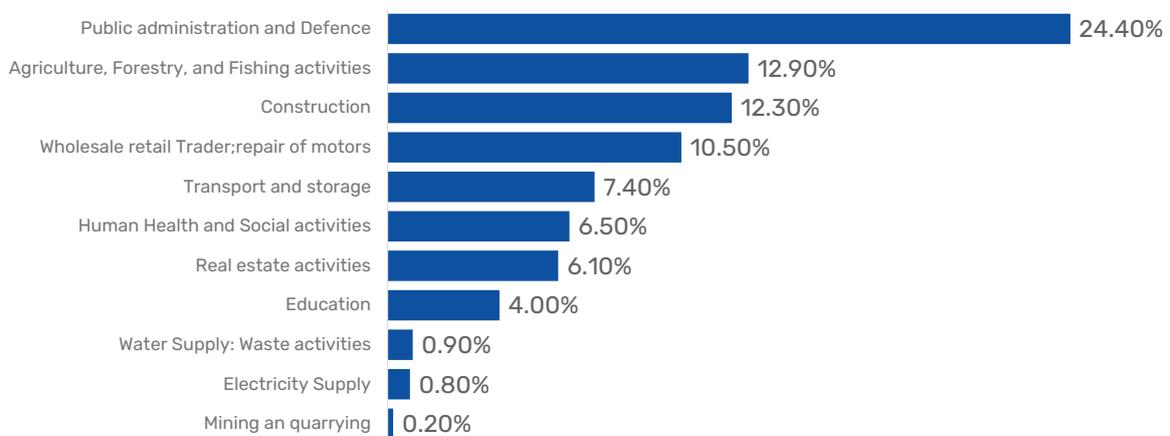
Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 57 public health facilities: 5 level 4, 7 level 3B, 3 level 3A, and 22 level 2. The county has a ratio of 14% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 14th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Economic Development

24,244m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Isiolo County with a score of 0.00 ranking 47th overall (last). The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 24,244 million coming 47th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Isiolo was Kshs. 102,008 ranking 43rd overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Isiolo top performing sectors in 2022



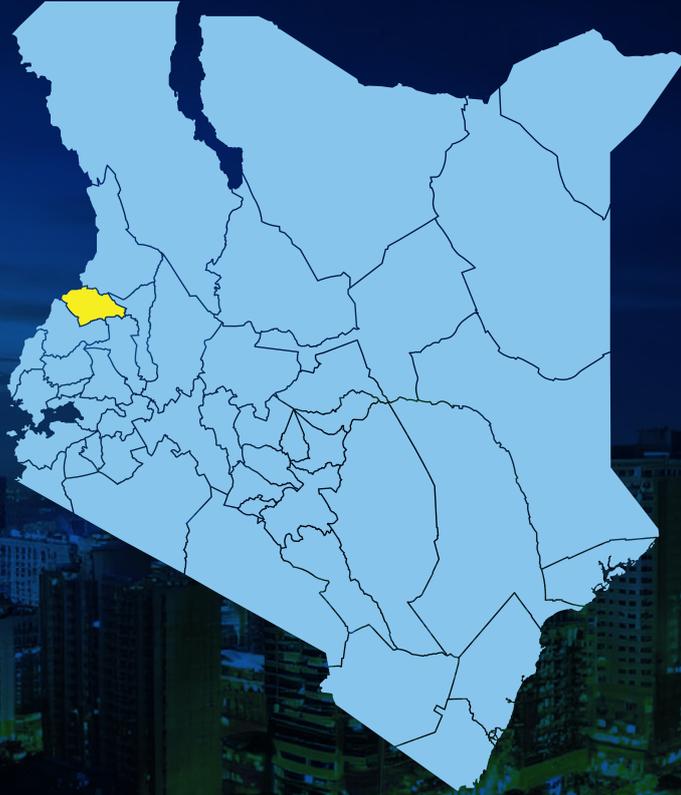
Recommendations

To make Isiolo more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance business efficiency** by improving labour productivity through targeted skill development programs, fostering an innovative business environment, and promoting job creation initiatives, particularly in sectors with high potential such as technology and agriculture.
- **Improve climate and environmental sustainability** by increasing forest cover, aiming for a higher percentage of the population served by formalized water services, and implementing robust environmental policies to enhance sewerage and utilities coverage, focusing on areas like Isiolo with lower rankings.
- **Boost human capital** by increasing literacy rates, particularly among women, improving school enrolment rates at both primary and secondary levels, and enhancing health indicators such as life expectancy and mortality rates, with a specific focus on increasing healthcare access and improving education infrastructure.
- **Strengthen productive infrastructure** by expanding access to clean energy, improving road networks, and enhancing transport connectivity, with a focus on ensuring all-season roads and supporting the development of key infrastructure projects like isiolo's airport and the Lamu port-South Sudan-Ethiopia transport corridor.
- **Increase economic development** by diversifying the local economy, investing in key sectors such as agriculture, tourism, and technology, and fostering an environment conducive to private sector growth, with an emphasis on boosting the gross county product and addressing gaps in revenue collection and public sector investment.

NANDI

County 029



27%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Nandi County ranked 31st overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 27%. The county came after Vihiga that had a score of 27%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were human capital, government and institutions, climate and environment and productive infrastructure with scores of 57%, 40%, 21%, and 16%. Overall least performance was recorded in business efficiency and economic development and with scores of 16% and 13% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, government and institutions, climate and environment and productive infrastructure. These domains are discussed below:

2.1 Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 057% coming 15th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels women had a higher score compared to men. The percent of literate women was 97.5% compared to 93.8% for men. The county ranked 10th place for women literacy and 26th place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 145.4 ranking the 6th while the gross enrolment at primary level was 97.5 ranking 30th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 95 ranking 7th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 59.5 ranking 24th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Nandi had a neonatal mortality of 24, post-neonatal mortality of 9, infant mortality 24, child mortality of 33 and under-5 mortality of 39.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 69.1 and 58.3 years respectively, ranking 4th for female and 25th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 77, with old-age dependency 4.8 ranking 42nd overall, while child dependency was 72.2. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

97.5

County's gross enrolment at primary level

24

County's neonatal mortality

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Nandi County scored 40% ranking 19th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

516m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 516 million ranking 31st position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Nandi County spent 1,784 million in the same year, ranking 31st position. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602 million, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Nandi County reported 1,337 crimes or 0.03 crime rate per capita, ranking 31st overall on total crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 2,417 schools. Out of which 51% are pre-primary school, 38% are primary schools and 10% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 29TVET institutions and 2 public universities in the county.

60

County's number of public health facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 60 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 5 level 4, 4 level 3B, 11 level 3A, and 39 level 2. The county has a ratio of 6%8 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 41st place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

16.7%

County's forest cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 21% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 36th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Nandi had a forest cover of 16.7% ranking 11th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Nandi County had an above average coverage. 6% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 41st overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 52%, ranking 35th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 12% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 6% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 31st overall with a score of 16%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

7.7%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Nandi had a 7.7% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 21st overall. The main sources of cooking energy in Nandi County include firewood (87.1%), charcoal (7.6%) and Gas (LPG) (5.8%). The main sources of lighting energy in the county are mains electricity (30.7%), solar energy (28.6%), Solar Charged Torch/Spotlight (17.8%) and paraffin tin lamps (11.9%)¹⁸. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Nandi. Nandi County does not have a rail network, port, airport, airstrip, or jetties. However, the county relies on neighbouring counties like Uasin Gishu, Kisumu, and Kakamega for air and rail transport, accessible through the main road network connecting the counties. The nearest airport is 64 km away: Kisumu International Airport.

¹⁸ Commission on Revenue Allocation (2022). Kenya County Factsheets. Third Edition

Road network: The total length of classified roads in Nandi County is 286 Km. Out of this, over 283 Km have bitumen surface, 1214 Km have gravel surface, and 3234 Km have earth surface. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 61 ranking 27th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 22 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.025 hotel per 100, ranking 32nd place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 21.4% ranking 29th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

21.4%
County's access
to internet

3. Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Nandi, the least performing domains were business efficiency and economic development and with scores of 16% and 13% respectively.

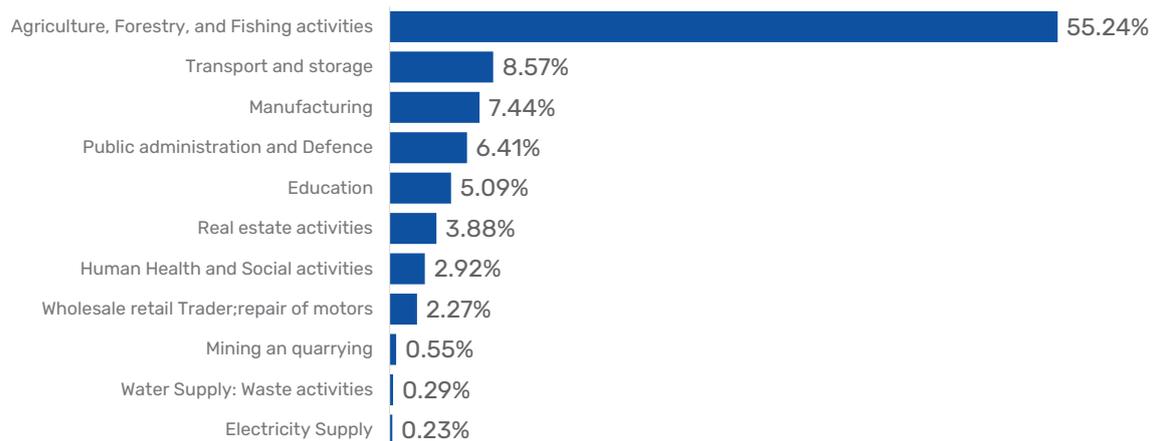
Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 43rd overall with a score of 16%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Nandi County had a score of 78 ranking 27th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 18%³, meaning that about 18.3% of the working age population in Nandi County is employed, ranking 29th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Nandi County with a score of 13% ranking 19th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 132,243 million coming 18th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Nandi was Kshs. 206,348 ranking 20th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

132,243m
Gross County Product
(KES)

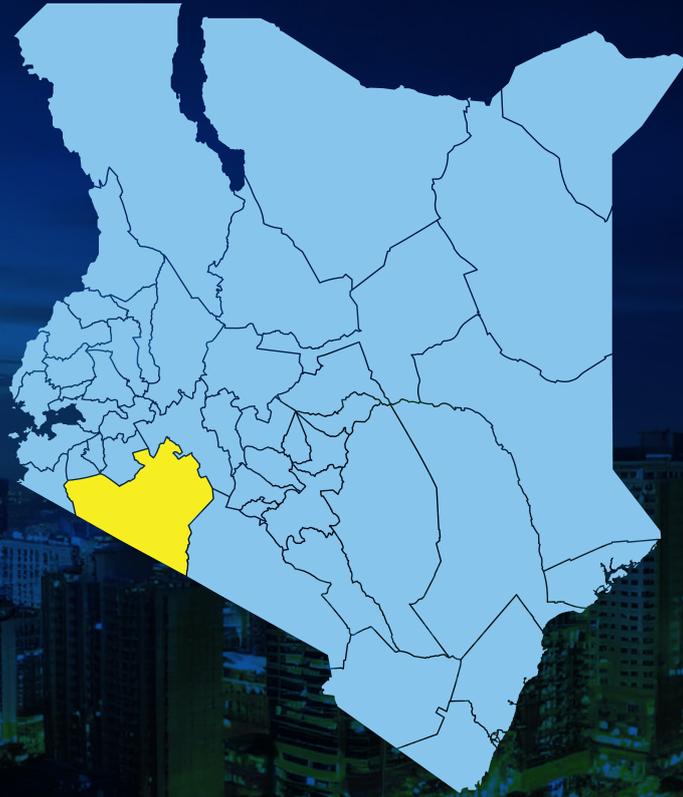
Nandi top performing sectors in 2022**Recommendations**

To make Nandi more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance human capital** through improving literacy rates and education enrolment by targeting primary and secondary education, with a focus on gender parity, and increasing net enrolment at the secondary level to match the performance of top counties like Kisumu and Murang'a.
- **Strengthen governance and institutions** by enhancing revenue collection and increasing investment expenditure through better fiscal management, focusing on developing local infrastructure like health and educational institutions, and improving public security and crime prevention strategies.
- **Improve climate and environmental sustainability** by increasing forest cover and expanding water and sewage coverage, particularly focusing on improving service areas for utilities and reducing reliance on informal water sources.
- **Boost productive infrastructure** by improving energy access, especially by increasing reliance on clean fuels and enhancing road and transport infrastructure to better connect rural areas, while promoting tourism and connectivity through improved internet access and increased hotel establishments.
- **Promote economic development and business efficiency** by fostering labour productivity through targeted training programs, improving the business environment for innovation and job creation, and diversifying the economy beyond agriculture to include key sectors like transport, manufacturing, and real estate, drawing inspiration from high-performing counties like Kiambu and Nairobi.

NAROK

County 033



27%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Narok County ranked 32nd overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 27%. The county came after Nandi that had a score of 27%0. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were human capital, government and institutions, climate and environment and business efficiency with scores of 42%, 36%, 0.261, and 22%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 22% and 12% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, government and institutions, climate and environment and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 42%, coming 30th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels women had a slightly higher score compared to men. The percent of literate women was 80.5% compared to 79% for men. The county ranked 38th place for women literacy and 41st place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 97.7 ranking the 31st while the gross enrolment at primary level was 97.3 ranking 31st place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 71.5 ranking 36th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 33.5 ranking 35th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Narok had a neonatal mortality of 16, post-neonatal mortality of 8, infant mortality 24, child mortality of 2 under-5 mortality of 26.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 66.2 and 62.3 years respectively, ranking 9th for female and 8th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 109, with old-age dependency 4.6 ranking 44th overall, while child dependency was 104.6. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

97.3

County's gross enrolment at primary level

16

County's neonatal mortality

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Narok County scored 36% ranking 25th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

4,589m
 County's annual own
 source revenue in
 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 4,589 million ranking 4th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Narok County spent 4,602 million in the same year, ranking 2nd highest. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714 then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Narok County reported 1,483 crimes or 7% crime per capita, ranking 27th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 2,212 schools. Out of which 54% are pre-primary school, 38% are primary schools and 8% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 20 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 57 public health facilities: 5 level 4, 12 level 3B, 14 level 3A, and 50 level 2. The county has a ratio of 7%0 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 40th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 0.261 in the Climate and environment domain ranking 33rd overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Narok had a forest cover of 14.0% ranking 16th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Narok County had a low coverage. Only 4% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 45th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 68%, ranking 15th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

14.0%
 County's forest
 cover

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 10% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 4% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 2% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Business Efficiency

9.6%

*County's employed
working age
population*

On business efficiency, the County ranked 36th overall with a score of 22%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Narok County had a score of 239 ranking 4th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.096, meaning that about 9.6% of the working age population in Narok County is employed, ranking 34th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Least performing domains

On the overall score for Narok, the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 22% and 12% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 25th overall with a score of 22%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

5.2%

*County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies*

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Narok had a 5.2% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 33rd overall. Firewood and charcoal are still the most common energy sources for cooking, accounting for 79.4% of total energy usage in the county. Many households use solar for lighting (37.7%), while 20.1% use Torch/Spotlight-Solar Charged, 19.7% use mains electricity, and 9.7% use paraffin lamps¹⁹. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Narok. The county has four airstrips in the Maasai Mara game reserve - Serena, Keekorok, Olkiombo, and Musiara - all of which are dirt. These airstrips are important for the tourism sector as they improve the mobility of tourists visiting the Maasai Mara game reserve. The Phase 2B of the Standard Gauge Railway, which runs through Suswa (262 KM), has relieved pressure on the Mai-Mahiu Narok Road. This railway has boosted productivity in the county by improving access to markets and transportation. The nearest airport is 120 km away.

4,602
County's total road network (kilometres)

Road network: Narok County has a total road network of 4,602km, with the national government responsible for 1,348 KM and the county government responsible for 3,254 KM. Out of this network, 485 KM is paved, 4,510 KM is gravel, and 2,907 KM is dirt road. One major issue is that some dirt roads become impassable during the rainy season, especially in highly agricultural areas, limiting their potential. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 55 ranking 31st place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a high hospitality industry with 404 hotel establishments and a ratio of 35% hotel per 100, ranking 9th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

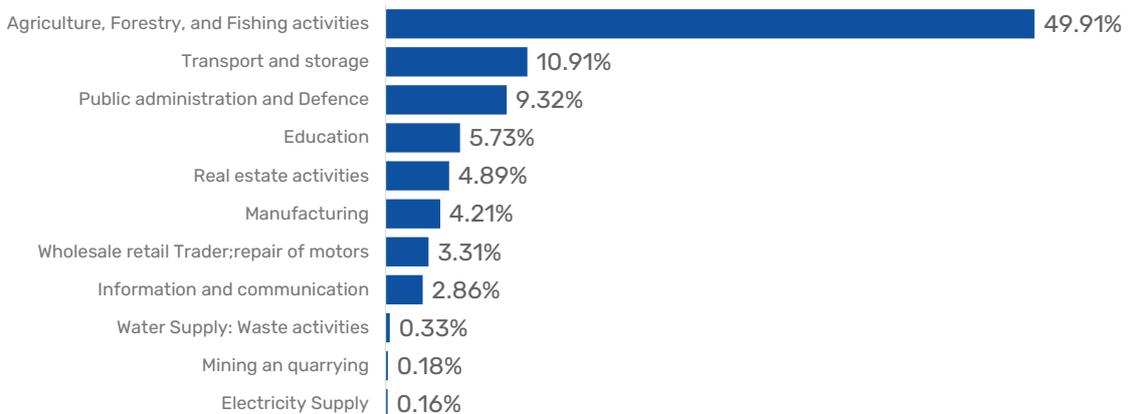
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 9.4% ranking 27th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

148,394m
Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Narok County with a score of 12% ranking 22nd overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 148,394 million coming 15th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Narok was Kshs. 173,883 ranking 25th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Narok top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

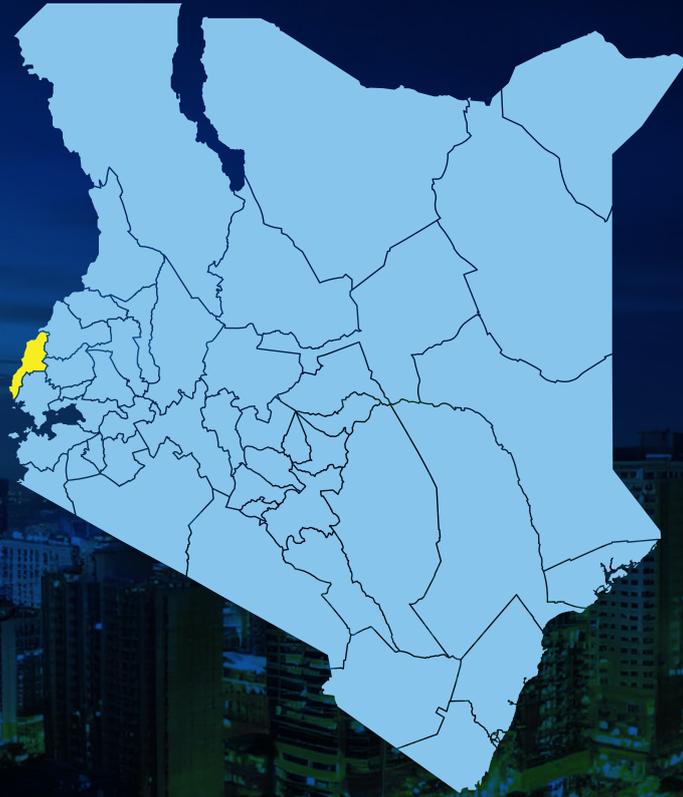
To make Narok more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance human capital through improved education and health services** by investing in literacy programs, expanding school enrolment at both primary and secondary levels, and improving access to health services.
- **Strengthen governance and institutional capacity** by improving revenue generation, increasing public security, and enhancing the presence of essential institutions like health facilities and educational institutions.
- **Improve environmental sustainability** by enhancing water coverage and formalized service provision, promoting forest conservation efforts, and increasing access to sewerage and utilities.
- **Boost business efficiency through infrastructure improvements** by increasing investments in energy infrastructure, improving road networks, and promoting digital connectivity. Target counties like Narok, which have challenges with energy reliance and internet access.
- **Foster economic development through diversified investments** by focusing on expanding key sectors such as agriculture, tourism, and transport. Increasing support for economic drivers like agriculture and infrastructure in counties with low Gross County Product (GCP) and GCP per capita, such as Narok, can stimulate growth.



BUSIA

County 040



27%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Busia County ranked 33rd overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 27%. The county came after Narok that had a score of 27%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were business efficiency, human capital, government and institutions and productive infrastructure with scores of 64%, 41%, 24%, and 17%. Overall least performance was recorded in climate and environment and economic development and with scores of 9% and 4% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, human capital, government and institutions and productive infrastructure. These domains are discussed below:

25.2%**County's employed
working age
population**

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 6th overall with a score of 64%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Busia County had a score of 68 ranking 29th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 25.2%, meaning that about 25.2% of the working age population in Busia County is employed, ranking 8th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had the highest score of 41%, coming 31st place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels women had a slightly higher score compared to men. The percent of literate women was 94.6% compared to 83.8% for men. The county ranked 22nd place for women literacy and 38th place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 126.4 ranking the 8th while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 125 ranking 19th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 81.2 ranking 29th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 42.6 ranking 32nd overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

126.4**County's gross
enrolment ratio at
primary level**

22

County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Busia had a neonatal mortality of 22, post-neonatal mortality of 12, infant mortality 34, child mortality of 20 under-5 mortality of 53.

In terms of life expectancy, male life expectancy at birth was slightly higher compared to female at 60.1 and 59.6 years respectively, ranking 17th for male and 35th for female.

The age dependency ratio was 103, with old-age dependency 10.4 ranking 9th overall, while child dependency was 93.1. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Busia County scored 24% ranking 39th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

549m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 549 million ranking 30th position, the best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Busia County spent 2,001 million in the same year, ranking 27th highest. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Busia County reported 1,653 crimes or 0.03 crime rate per capita, ranking 20th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 1,749 schools. Out of which 57% are pre-primary school, 33% are primary schools and 10% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 30 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

57**County's number
of public health
facilities**

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 57 public health facilities: 5 level 4, 15 level 3B, 18 level 3A, and 33 level 2. The county has a ratio of 7%⁹ for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 33rd place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 30th overall with a score of 17%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

6.7%**County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies**

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Narok had a 6.7% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 26th overall. The main sources of cooking energy in Busia County include firewood (73.4%), Liquefied Petroleum Gas (6%) and charcoal (18%). The main sources of lighting energy in the county are mains electricity (26.1%), solar energy (37.9%), paraffin tin lamp (18.3%) and paraffin lantern (8.7%)²⁰. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Busia. The county has rail, only 11 km of railway in the county, with one railway station in Malaba Town that crosses into Uganda. The county does not have a functional airport but has two ports on Lake Victoria: Sio Port in Samia Sub-County and Port Victoria in Bunyala Sub-County, mainly used for fish landing. The nearest airport is 91km away: Kisumu International Airport.

Road network: The county has a total road network of about 1,600 kilometres. This includes 169.64 km of paved roads, 591.91 km of gravel roads, and 838.55 km of dirt roads. Some roads become impassable during the rainy season due to poor drainage. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 82 ranking 14th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

7.7%**County's overall
access to internet**

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 28 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.031 hotel per 100, ranking 30th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 7.7% ranking 35th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

20 Commission on Revenue Allocation (2022). Kenya County Factsheets. Third Edition

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Busia, the least performing domains were climate and environment and economic development and with scores of 9% and 4% respectively.

Climate and Environment

56%%
County's forest cover

The county scored 9% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 45th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Busia had a forest cover of 56%% ranking 45th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

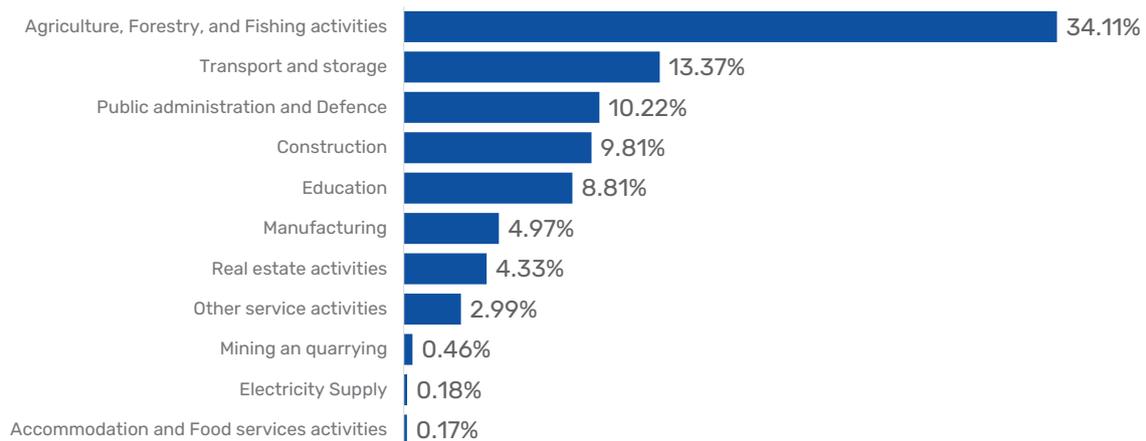
In relation to the water resources, Narok County had a below average coverage. 16% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 27th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 31%, ranking 46th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 37% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 16% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 2% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Economic Development

77,807m
Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Busia County with a score of 4% ranking 38th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 77,807 million coming 33rd place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Busia was Kshs. 121,582 ranking 40th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

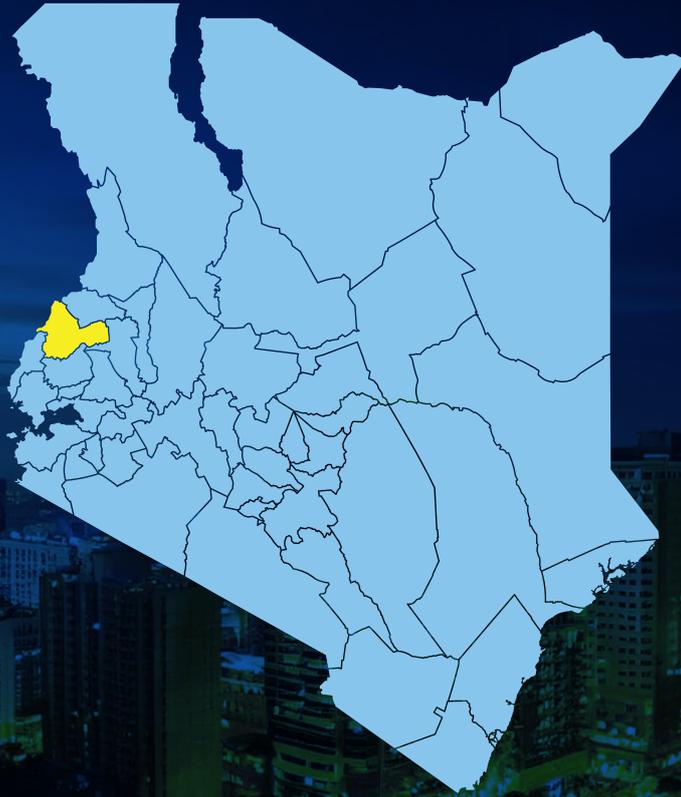
Busia top performing sectors in 2022**Recommendations**

To make Busia more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance business efficiency through promoting labour productivity** by providing targeted training programs, fostering innovation through support for start-ups, and creating an enabling business environment with improved infrastructure and regulatory frameworks.
- **Improve human capital development** by investing in education, particularly by focusing on gender equality in literacy rates, enhancing primary and secondary school enrolment ratios, and strengthening health sector services to address mortality and life expectancy disparities.
- **Strengthen government and institutional capacity** by increasing local revenue generation, enhancing public security measures, improving infrastructure for education and health services, and ensuring more robust investment in development projects.
- **Develop productive infrastructure** by prioritizing energy access through clean energy sources, improving road transport networks, boosting connectivity and internet access, and expanding tourism and hospitality services to increase the region's economic opportunities.
- **Foster economic development** through diversifying the economy, promoting agriculture and agro-processing, strengthening key sectors like transport and manufacturing, and increasing investment in high-impact sectors to grow the gross county product (GCP).

BUNGOMA

County 039



25%

County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Bungoma County ranked 34th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 25%. The county came after Busia that had a score of 27%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were government and institutions, human capital, climate and environment and productive infrastructure with scores of 38%, 35%, 26%, and 21%. Overall least performance was recorded in business efficiency and economic development and with scores of 15% and 12% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were government and institutions, human capital, climate and environment and productive infrastructure. These domains are discussed below:

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Bungoma County scored 38% ranking 23rd place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

2,020m
County's annual own
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 2,020 million ranking 10th position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Bungoma County spent 3,113.59 million in the same year, ranking 10th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Bungoma County reported 3,419 crimes or 0.02 crime per capita, ranking 7th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 2,948 schools. Out of which 54% are pre-primary school, 32% are primary schools and 13% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 88 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

220
County's number
of public health
facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 220 public health facilities: 19 level 4, 20 level 3B, 69 level 3A, and 109 level 2. The county has a ratio of 13% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 18th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 35%, coming 39th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels women had a slightly higher score compared to men. The percent of literate women was 96.1% compared to 87.7% for men. The county ranked 18th place for women literacy and 35th place for men. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 81.5 ranking the 34th while the gross enrolment at primary level was 81.4 ranking 34th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 86.7 ranking 21st place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 62.2 ranking 20th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Bungoma had a neonatal mortality of 25, post-neonatal mortality of 15, infant mortality 39, child mortality of 16 under-5 mortality of 55.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 58.6 and 56.2 years respectively, ranking 43rd for female and 39th for male.

The age dependency ratio was 104, with old-age dependency 6.7 ranking 29th overall, while child dependency was 97.3. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

81.4

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

25

County's neonatal mortality

15.6%
County's forest
cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 26% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 32nd overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Bungoma had a forest cover of 15.6% ranking 14th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Bungoma County had a low coverage. Only 10% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 36th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 50%, ranking 38th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 27% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 10% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 10% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 26th overall with a score of 21%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

5.5%
County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Bungoma had a 5.5% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 30th overall. The main sources of cooking energy in Bungoma County include firewood (78.3%), Liquefied Petroleum Gas (7.2%) and charcoal (11.3%). The main sources of lighting energy in the county are mains electricity (21.6%), solar energy (36.4%), paraffin tin lamp (18.5%) and paraffin lantern (11.4%)²¹. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Bungoma. Bungoma County also has two underutilized airstrips in Webuye and Bungoma Towns. The nearest airport is 74 km away.

Road network: In Bungoma county, the main mode of transportation is by road. The Mombasa – Nairobi – Eldoret – Webuye – Malaba highway (A104) passes through the County, serving as a crucial trade route. The reconstruction of the Webuye – Kitale highway (A1) has positioned the County as an attractive destination for investment. Other significant roads in the County include Webuye-Kitale, Musikoma-Buyofu-Mungatsi, Lwakhakha-Korosindet-Tulienge-

²¹ Commission on Revenue Allocation (2022). Kenya County Factsheets. Third Edition

Sirisia-Namwela-Chwele, and Musikoma – Sang’alo – Lurambi²². The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 95 ranking 2nd place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a high hospitality industry with 41 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.025 hotel per 100, ranking 34th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 8.2% ranking 32nd place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang’a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

8.2%

County's overall
access to internet

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Bungoma, the least performing domains business efficiency and economic development and with scores of 15% and 12% respectively.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 44th overall with a score of 15%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang’a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Bungoma County had a score of 113 ranking 13th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.096. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Economic Development

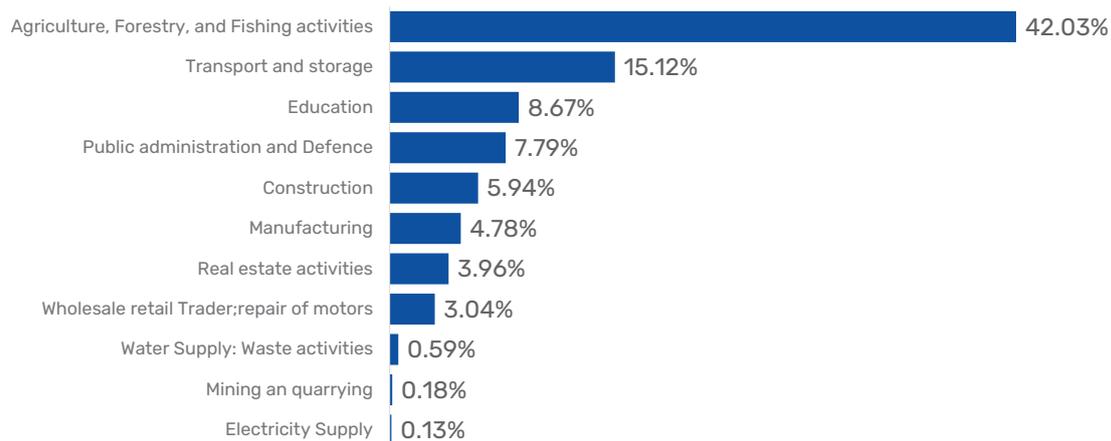
On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Bungoma County with a score of 12% ranking 21st overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 174,240 million coming 11th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Bungoma was Kshs. 145,239 ranking 31st overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

174,240m

Gross County Product
(KES)

22 Council of Governors. "Bungoma County." *Kenya County Knowledge Hub, Council of Governors*

Bungoma top performing sectors in 2022



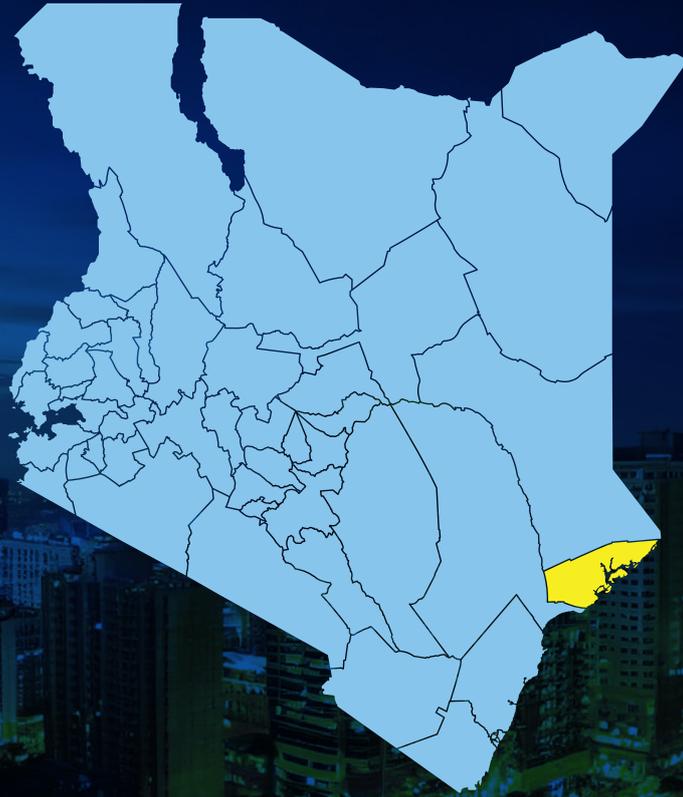
Recommendations

To make Bungoma more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance government efficiency** through increasing revenue generation through targeted reforms in tax collection and expanding public sector services, investing in security improvements, and strengthening the presence of higher education institutions and healthcare facilities.
- **Boost human capital development** by improving basic education literacy levels, especially for men, enhancing school enrolment rates at both primary and secondary levels, and investing in health systems to reduce mortality rates and improve life expectancy.
- **Strengthen climate and environmental sustainability** by improving forest cover through conservation initiatives, expanding access to formalized water services, and enhancing sewerage coverage, with a focus on increasing the population served by utilities.
- **Improve productive infrastructure** by enhancing energy access, focusing on clean fuel use, improving transport networks with emphasis on underutilized airstrips, increasing connectivity, and boosting the tourism sector through investment in hotel establishments.
- **Stimulate economic development and business efficiency** by improving labour productivity through skills development programs, fostering innovation through the promotion of business-friendly policies, and diversifying the economy to reduce reliance on agriculture, and strengthening key sectors such as transport and education.

LAMU

County 005



24%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

Lamu County ranked 35th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 24%. The county came after Bungoma that had a score of 25%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were climate and environment, human capital, government and institutions and business efficiency with scores of 40%, 36%, 31%, and 20%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 15% and 12% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were climate and environment, human capital, government and institutions and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

32.13%

County's forest cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 40% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 24th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Lamu had a forest cover of 32.13% ranking 2nd overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41%.

In relation to the water resources, Lamu County had a low coverage. Only 19% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 23rd overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 43%, ranking 41st place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 24% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 19% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 36%, coming 37th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 94.2% compared to 84.2% for women. The county ranked 25th place for men literacy and 35th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 105.2 ranking the 25th while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 64.7 ranking 38th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

105.2

County's gross enrolment ratio at primary level

26

County's neonatal mortality

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 83.7 ranking 26th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 35.4 ranking 34th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Lamu had a neonatal mortality of 26, post-neonatal mortality of 15, infant mortality 41, child mortality of 9 and under-5 mortality of 50.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 56.4 and 52.1 years respectively, ranking 46th for female and 43rd place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 87.8, with old-age dependency 8.1 ranking 21st overall, while child dependency was 79.9. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Lamu County scored 31% ranking 32nd place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

350m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 350 million ranking 35th position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Lamu County spent 805 million in the same year, ranking 47th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,714, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Lamu County reported 433 crimes or 0.04 crime rate per capita, ranking 45th overall. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 355 schools. Out of which 54% are pre-primary school, 37% are primary schools and 9% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 9 TVET institutions and 0 public universities in the county.

13.4%
County's employed
working age
population

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 15 public health facilities: 2 level 4, 1 level 3B, 5 level 3A, and 7 level 2. The county has a ratio of 10% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 24th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 39th overall with a score of 20%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Lamu County had a score of 92 ranking 20th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.134, meaning that about 13.4% of the working age population in Lamu County is employed, ranking 27th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Lamu, the least performing domains productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 15% and 12% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the county ranked 33rd overall with a score of 14%5. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

10.6%
County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Lamu had a 10.6% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 16th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: The main transport systems in Lamu include road, water, and air transport. There is an airport in Lamu, the Manda airport. Water transport is a critical component connecting Lamu east and the island. LAPSET port is also within Lamu County. The nearest airport is 243km* away.

Road network: The County has a total road network of 6,88.6 Km, with 6 Km covered by bitumen surface, 161.1 Km covered by gravel surface, and 521.5 Km covered by earth surface. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 13 ranking 41st place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a high hospitality industry with 127 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.882 hotel per 100, ranking 4th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

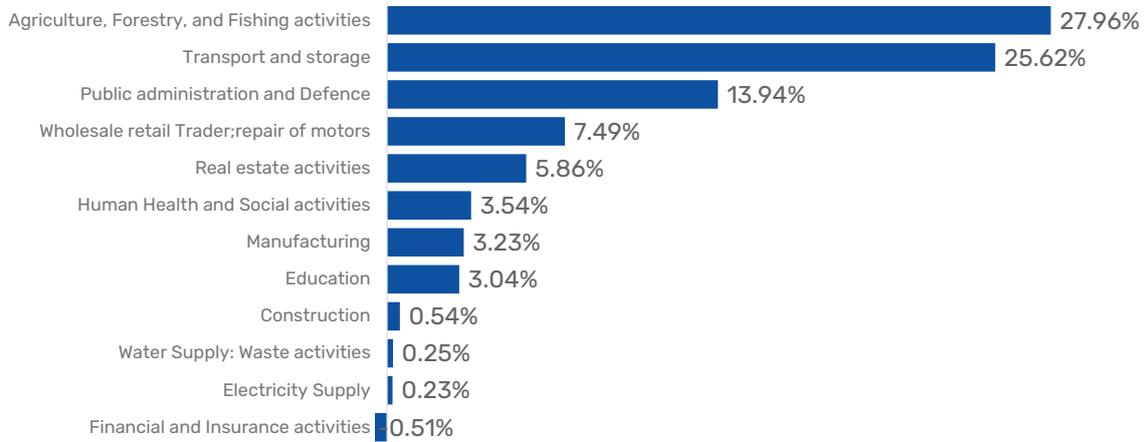
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 6% ranking 44th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

28,802m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Lamu County with a score of 0.037 ranking 39th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was Kshs. 28,802 million coming 44th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Lamu was Kshs. 246,186 ranking 13th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Lamu top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

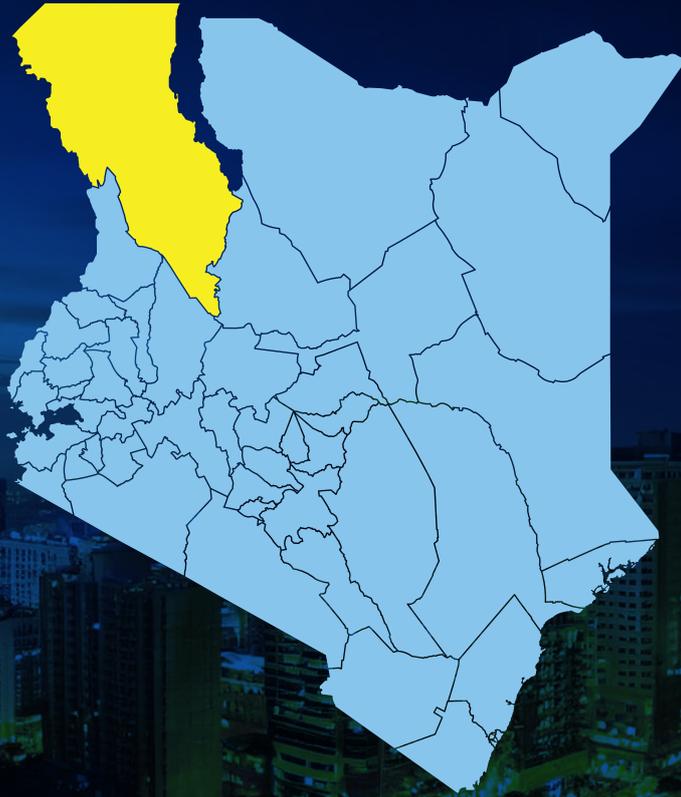
To make Lamu more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance climate and environmental sustainability** by improving water coverage, particularly through expanding access to formalized water service providers, and strengthening sewerage infrastructure to increase the population served by utilities.
- **Strengthen human capital development** by investing in education at all levels, with a focus on increasing secondary education enrolment, enhancing literacy rates for women, and improving healthcare services to reduce mortality and improve life expectancy.
- **Improve government and institutional effectiveness** by enhancing revenue collection, increasing development expenditure, and ensuring more equitable access to public security, education, and healthcare services, including the expansion of tertiary institutions and hospitals.
- **Foster business efficiency** by promoting labour productivity through targeted training programs, supporting the development of a more conducive business environment, and fostering innovation and job creation within local industries.
- **Develop productive infrastructure** by investing in energy access, particularly through the promotion of clean fuels and energy technologies, improving transport networks, especially roads and rural access, and enhancing internet connectivity to support economic growth and development.



TURKANA

County 023



23%

County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Turkana County ranked 36th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 23%. The county came after Lamu that had a score of 24%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were business efficiency, human capital, government and institutions and climate and environment with scores of 58%, 24%, 22%, and 14%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 13% and 6% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, human capital, government and institutions and climate and environment. These domains are discussed below:

10.4%
County's employed
working age
population

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 11th overall with a score of 58%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Turkana County had a score of 35 ranking 47th (the least) place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 10%, meaning that about 10.4% of the working age population in Turkana County is employed, ranking 30th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 24%, coming 42nd place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 56.4% compared to 36% for women. The county ranked 47th place for men literacy (the lowest) and 44th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

74.4
County's primary gross
enrolment ratio

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 168.9 ranking the 3rd overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 74.4 ranking 39th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 53 ranking 40th place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 16.7 ranking 43rd overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

21

County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Turkana had a neonatal mortality of 21, post-neonatal mortality of 7, infant mortality 29, child mortality of 27 and under-5 mortality of 55.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 59.6 and 58.3 years respectively, ranking 35th for female and 25th place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 97.4, with old-age dependency 10.7 ranking 7th overall, while child dependency was 86.6. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Turkana County scored 22% ranking 40th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

220m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 220 million ranking 43rd position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Turkana County spent 3rd largest at Kshs. 4,451 million in the same year. The other highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Turkana County reported 1,014 crimes or 0.09 crime rate per capita, ranking 36th overall on crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 1,474 schools. Out of which 64% are pre-primary school, 32% are primary schools and 4% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 23 TVET institutions and 1 public universities in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 37 public health facilities: 2 level 4, 4 level 3B, 12 level 3A, and 19 level 2. The county has a ratio of 0.040 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 45th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Climate and Environment

5.73%
County's forest
cover

The county scored 14% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 43rd overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Turkana had a forest cover of 5.73% ranking 31st overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Turkana County had a low coverage. Only 6% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 41st overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 51%, ranking 37th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 20% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 6% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 5% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Turkana, the least performing domains productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 13% and 6% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 36th overall with a score of 13%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

2.4%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Turkana had a 2.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 39th overall. Firewood was the most used cooking fuel, reported by 79.8% of households, followed by charcoal at 16.7%. Approximately 49.1% of households used wood for lighting, while 18.2% used Torch/Spotlight-Dry cells. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Turkana. The County currently does not have any rail connections, but it is anticipated that the proposed Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) project will go through the county. This project plans to establish a 1,720 km standard gauge rail link from the Kenyan coast to Juba in South Sudan, with a route passing through Lodwar in Turkana County. Lokichogio has the only commercial airport in Turkana County, along with 22 airstrips. The Lodwar airstrip is paved, while the others are just flat ground. Five commercial airlines offer daily flights to Lodwar, making it much easier to reach the county²³. The nearest airport is 367km away.

Road network: Turkana County has a total road network of around 9,000 km, with 504.5 km being paved and the rest being dirt or gravel roads. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 11 ranking 42nd place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 10 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.0108 hotel per 100, ranking 43rd place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 6.7% ranking 39th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Turkana County with a score of 6% ranking 36th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 91,934 million coming 31st place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million.

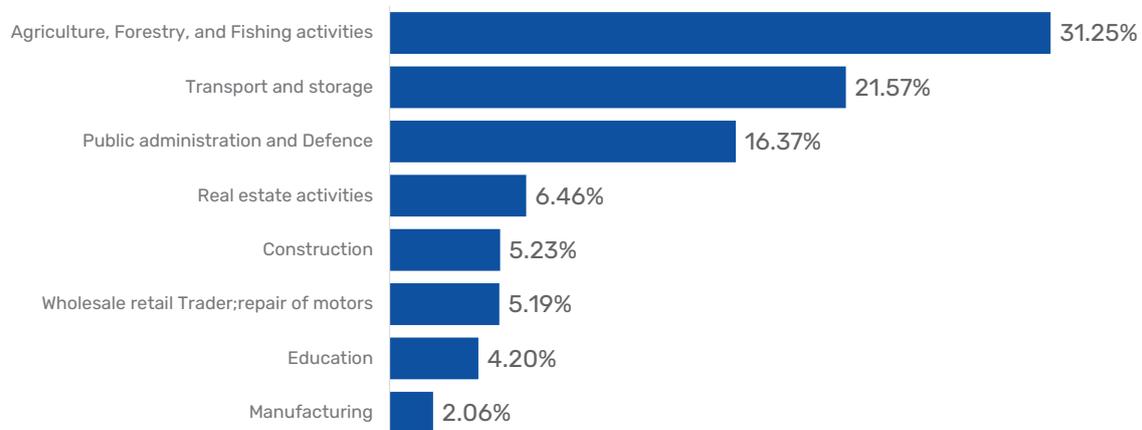
91,934m

Gross County Product (KES)

23 Turkana County Government. "Infrastructure, Transport, and Public Works." Knowledge Hub, n.d.,

The GCP per capital in Turkana was Kshs. 129,040 ranking 38th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Turkana top performing sectors in 2022



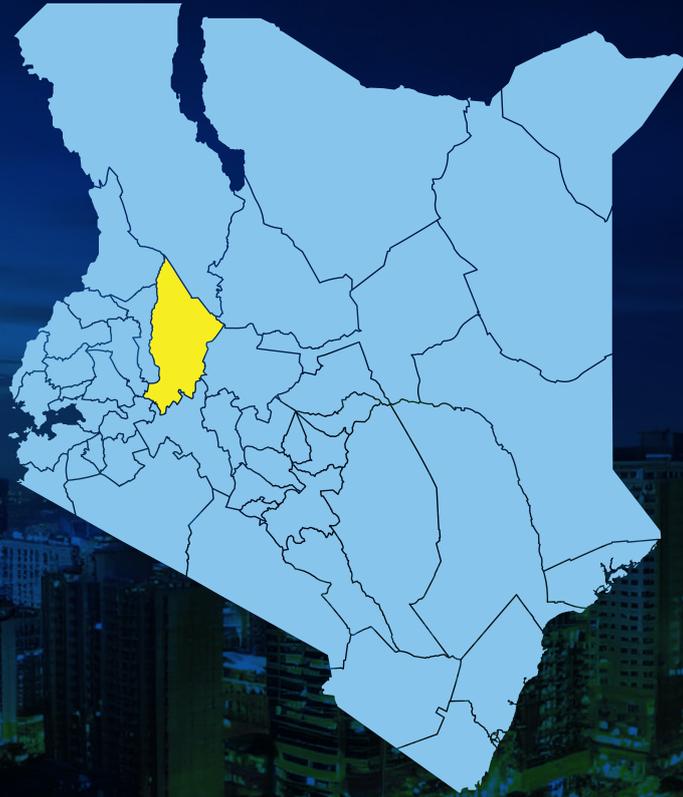
Recommendations

To make Turkana more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance business efficiency** by improving labour productivity through targeted skills training programs, fostering a better business environment by offering incentives for innovation and job creation, and promoting competitive industries to match leading counties like Nairobi and Kiambu.
- **Strengthen human capital** by addressing literacy gaps between men and women, enhancing access to secondary and primary education, and investing in healthcare infrastructure to reduce mortality rates and improve life expectancy, particularly for women.
- **Improve government and institutional performance** by increasing revenue collection, expanding public security measures to reduce crime, enhancing the availability of education and health facilities, and ensuring that development expenditure aligns with essential services.
- **Invest in productive infrastructure** by expanding access to clean energy, improving transport networks through projects like LAPSET, and boosting connectivity and internet access to attract businesses and enhance service delivery.
- **Promote economic development** by diversifying the economy beyond agriculture, investing in key sectors like transport, construction, and public administration, and improving the county's gross county product (GCP) through strategic investments in high-performing sectors.

BARINGO

County 030



23%
County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Baringo County ranked 37th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 23%. The county came after Turkana that had a score of 23%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were government and institutions, human capital, business efficiency and climate and environment with scores of 41%, 38%, 21%, and 18%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 14% and 3% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were government and institutions, human capital, business efficiency and climate and environment. These domains are discussed below:

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Baringo County scored 41% ranking 15th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

450m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 450 million ranking 32nd position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Baringo County spent Kshs. 2,115 million in the same year. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Baringo County reported 1,004 crimes or 0.04 crime rate per capita, ranking 37th overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 2,210 schools. Out of which 53% are pre-primary school, 38% are primary schools and 8% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 28 TVET institutions and 0 public universities in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 49 public health facilities: 8 level 4, 2 level 3B, 15 level 3A, and 24 level 2. The county has a ratio of 7% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 37th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

49

County's number of public health facilities

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 21%, coming 35th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 94.3% compared to 87.6% for women. The county ranked 24th place for men literacy and 31st place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

53

County's gross enrolment at primary level

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 130.1 ranking the 16th overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 53 ranking 43rd place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 78.3 ranking 33rd place, compared to secondary level in net enrolment ratio of 52.2 ranking 30th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

33

County's neonatal mortality

On mortality neonatal mortality Baringo had a neonatal mortality of 33, post-neonatal mortality of 17, infant mortality 50, child mortality of 5 and under-5 mortality of 55.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 60.5 and 57.3 years respectively, ranking 27th for female and 35th place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 119.7, with old-age dependency 10.7 ranking 7th overall, while child dependency was 86.6. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

10.1%
County's employed
working age
population

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 37th overall with a score of 21%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Baringo County had a score of 150 ranking 6th place overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 10%, meaning that about 10.1% of the working age population in Baringo County is employed, ranking 31st overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Climate and Environment

4.6%
County's forest
cover

The county scored 18% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 40th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Baringo had a forest cover of 4.6% ranking 35th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Baringo County had a low coverage. Only 10% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 36th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 58%, ranking 25th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 18% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 10% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Baringo, the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and economic development and with scores of 14% and 3% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 35th overall with a score of 14%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

2.1%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Baringo had a 2.1% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 43rd overall. The main sources of cooking energy in Baringo County include firewood (81.4%), charcoal (13.3%) and Gas (LPG) (4.1%). The main sources of lighting energy in the county are mains electricity (28.3%), solar energy (21.9%), Solar Charged Torch/Spotlight (10.1%) and paraffin tin lamps (4.8%)²⁴. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Baringo. The county has four airstrips but no airport, ports, or jetties. Examples of the airstrips include Kabarnet Airfield, Kimalel Airstrip, Marigat Airstrip and Lake Baringo Airstrip. Despite having many tourist attractions, accessibility is a challenge due to undeveloped airstrips and airfields. Improving aviation facilities in the county is necessary. There are helipads in all sub-counties, although they are not officially designated. Pilots have the discretion to land in places like school playfields, forest glades, hilltops, and grasslands²⁵. The nearest airport is 104km away.

Road network: Baringo County has a total of 8085.92 km of roads, with different classes having varying lengths. The roads are mainly earth and mixed type, making them difficult to pass during the rainy season. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 49 ranking 32nd place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 23 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.035 hotel per 100, ranking 28th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

8.6%

County's overall access to internet

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 8.6% ranking 30th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

²⁴ Commission on Revenue Allocation (2022). Kenya County Factsheets. Third Edition

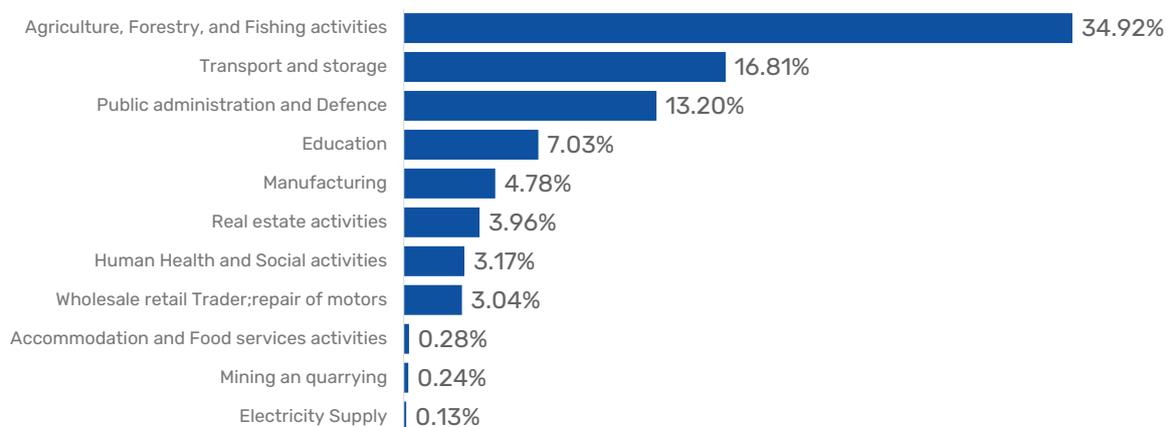
²⁵ Baringo County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022

65,216m
Gross County Product
(KES)

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked the least in Baringo County with a score of 3% ranking 40th overall. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 65,216 million coming 36th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Baringo was Kshs. 130,030 ranking 37th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Baringo top performing sectors in 2022



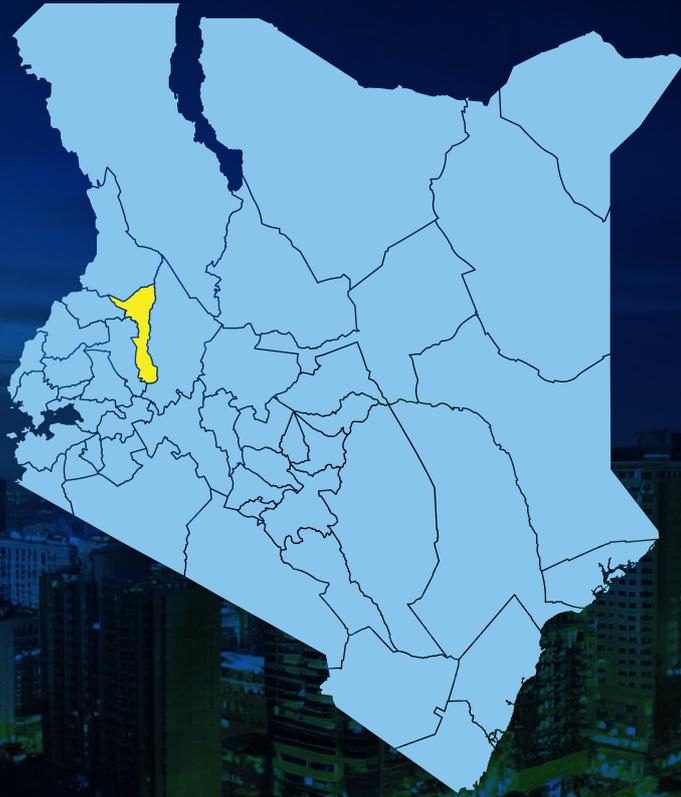
Recommendations

To make Baringo more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance government efficiency** through improving revenue collection, focusing on expanding public establishments (health and education) and increasing investment in infrastructure, ensuring Baringo county can boost its overall performance in government services.
- **Strengthen human capital development** by increasing investment in primary and secondary education, promoting gender equality in literacy rates, and expanding health sector services, particularly to improve life expectancy and mortality rates.
- **Boost business efficiency** by promoting labour productivity through targeted skills training, creating a more favourable business environment, and encouraging innovation and job creation, especially to raise the employment ratio and labour productivity in the county.
- **Improve climate and environmental sustainability** by expanding forest cover and formal water service provision, implementing stronger environmental policies, and enhancing waste management systems to improve sewerage coverage and overall environmental quality.
- **Develop productive infrastructure** by enhancing energy access, improving road and transport networks (including upgrading airstrips for tourism), and increasing connectivity, especially internet access, to support economic growth and attract investment in the hospitality and tourism sectors.

ELGEYO MARAKWET

County 028



Introduction

22%

County's competitive index average score.

Elgeyo Marakwet County ranked 38th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 22%. The county came after Baringo that had a score of 23%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and economic development with scores of 61%, 36%, 28%, and 9%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and business efficiency and with scores of 0.00 and 0.00 respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, climate and environment, government and institutions and economic development. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 61%, coming 11th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 97.1% compared to 96.6% for women. The county ranked 14th place for men literacy and 16th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 134.5 ranking the 13th overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 115.9 ranking 14th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 91.6 ranking 11th place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 61.7 ranking 22nd overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Elgeyo Marakwet had a neonatal mortality of 27, post-neonatal mortality of 5, infant mortality 32, child mortality of 1 and under-5 mortality of 33.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 66.2 and 62.3 years respectively, ranking 9th for female and 9th place overall for male.

115.9

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

27

County's neonatal mortality

The age dependency ratio was 87.2, with old-age dependency 7.7 ranking 23rd overall, while child dependency was 79.4. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Climate and Environment

20.5%
County's forest cover

The county scored 36% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 29th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Elgeyo Marakwet had a forest cover of 20.5% ranking 9th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Elgeyo Marakwet County had a low coverage. Only 11% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 34th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 64%, ranking 19th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 22% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 11% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Elgeyo Marakwet County scored 28% ranking 34th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

220m
County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 220 million ranking 43rd position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Elgeyo Marakwet County spent Kshs. 1,259 million in the same year, ranking 42nd overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Elgeyo Marakwet County reported 781 crimes or 0.03 crime rate per capita, ranking 39th overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 1,274 schools. Out of which 52% are pre-primary school, 38% are primary schools and 10% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 15 TVET institutions and 0 public universities in the county.

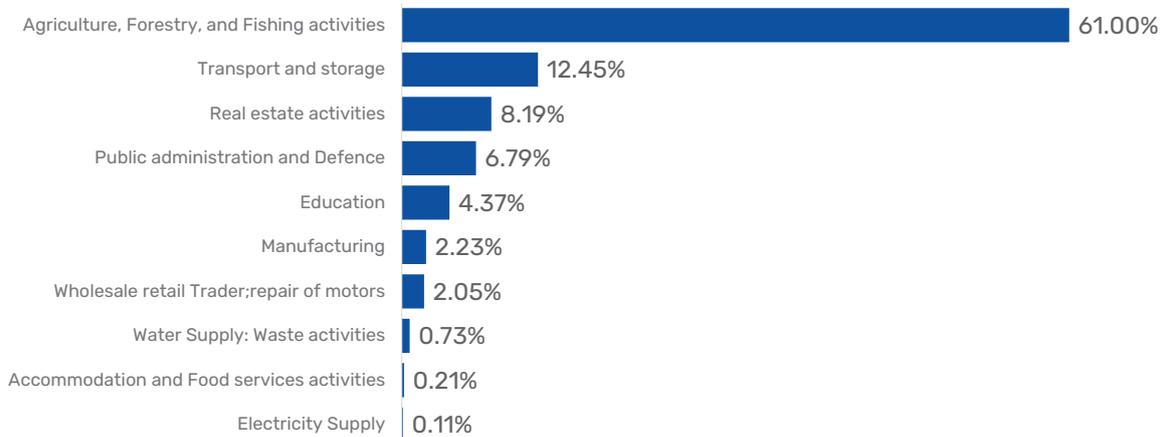
Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 19 public health facilities: 1 level 4, 1 level 3B, 2 level 3A, and 15 level 2. The county has a ratio of 4% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 44th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Economic Development

74,518m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 26th overall with a score of 9%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 74,518 million coming 34th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Elgeyo Marakwet was Kshs. 247,276 ranking 12th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Elgeyo Marakwet top performing sectors in 2022



Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Elgeyo Marakwet, the least performing domains were productive infrastructure and business efficiency and with scores of 0.00 and 0.00 respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 47th overall with a score of 0.00. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

2.4%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Baringo had a 2.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 43rd overall. Most households of firewood (87.1%), charcoal (8.5%), and Gas (LPG) (3.1%) for cooking. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Elgeyo Marakwet. In addition, there is rail transport. The metre gauge railway (Mombasa-Nairobi-Nakuru-Eldoret-Malaba-Tororo Railway line) passes through the county at Kapchorwa-Flax, covering a total of 24 KM. It ends at Tumeiyo Centre. There are two airstrips in the county, one in Tot (Marakwet East) and another in Chepsirei (Keiyo South). These airstrips have not been used to their full potential due to security concerns and lack of proper maintenance. The nearest airport is 104km* away: Eldoret International Airport.

3,207

County's total road network (kilometres)

Road network: The County has a total road network of 3,207 km. Out of this only 1% is in good condition and 21% in fair condition. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 89 ranking 9th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 16 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.035 hotel per 100, ranking 27th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 8% ranking 33rd place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Business Efficiency

7.0%

*County's employed
working age
population*

On business efficiency, the County ranked 47th overall with a score of 0.00. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Elgeyo Marakwet County had a score of 375 ranking 2nd best overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 7%0, meaning that about 7.0% of the working age population in Elgeyo Marakwet County is employed, ranking 40th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 0.31% or 31.2%.

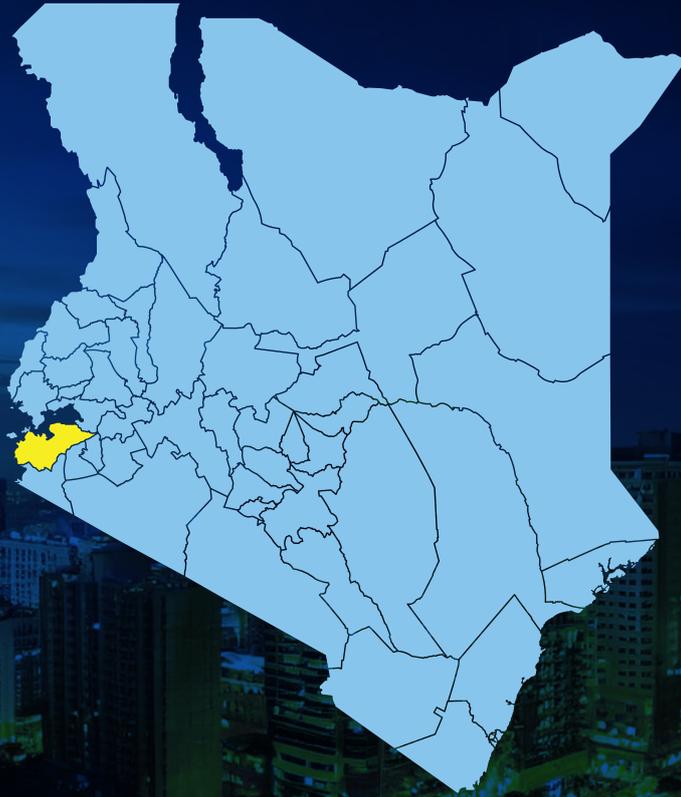
Recommendations

To make Elgeyo Marakwet more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Improve access to productive infrastructure** by expanding clean energy usage through subsidized LPG programs, improving road network conditions with targeted maintenance and construction, and enhancing connectivity through investments in broadband infrastructure.
- **Enhance business efficiency** by fostering innovation via start-up support programs, boosting labour productivity with skill-development initiatives, and creating a favourable business environment through streamlined regulatory processes and reduced compliance costs.
- **Strengthen climate and environmental sustainability** by increasing formalized water service coverage, developing county-level waste management policies, and promoting reforestation programs to enhance forest cover and overall environmental quality.
- **Bolster economic development** by diversifying the local economy beyond agriculture into sectors such as manufacturing, trade, and tourism through tailored incentives, improved transport access, and development of the hospitality industry.
- **Enhance institutional capacity and revenue collection** by modernizing tax systems to increase own-source revenue, improving public service delivery with investment in health and education infrastructure, and strengthening public security frameworks to support economic and social stability.

HOMA BAY

County 043



Introduction

22%

County's competitive index average score.

Homa Bay County ranked 39th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 22%. The county came after Elgeyo Marakwet County that had a score of 22%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were government and institutions, human capital, climate and environment and business efficiency with scores of 45%, 40%, 19%, and 11%. Overall least performance was recorded in economic development and productive infrastructure with scores of 8% and 7% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were government and institutions, human capital, climate and environment and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Homa Bay County scored 45% ranking 11th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

2,379m
County's annual own
source revenue in
2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 2,379 million ranking 7th position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Homa Bay County spent Kshs. 3,025 million in the same year, ranking 11th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Homa Bay County reported 1,870 crimes or 0.03 crime rate per capita, ranking 22nd overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 2,822 schools. Out of which 50% are pre-primary school, 37% are primary schools and 12% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 42 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

115
County's number
of public health
facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 115 public health facilities: 1 level 5, 11 level 4, 24 level 3B, 34 level 3A, and 45 level 2. The county has a ratio of 10%2 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 26th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 40%, coming 32nd place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 95.3% compared to 93.8% for women. The county ranked 21st place for men literacy and 23rd place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

143.2
County's gross enrolment at primary level

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 143.2 ranking the 3rd overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 142.5 ranking 10th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 88.8 ranking 15th place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 64.7 ranking 16th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Homa Bay had a neonatal mortality of 32, post-neonatal mortality of 11, infant mortality 42, child mortality of 20 and under-5 mortality of 61.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 60.5 and 57.4 years respectively, ranking 27th for female and 32nd place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 111.5, with old-age dependency 6.1 ranking 35th overall, while child dependency was 105. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Climate and Environment

3.2%
County's forest cover

The county scored 19% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 38th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Homa Bay had a forest cover of 3.2% ranking 37th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Homa Bay County had a low coverage. Only 11% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 34th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 59%, ranking 24th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 19% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 11% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 8% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 46th overall with a score of 11%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Homa Bay County had a score of 119 ranking 9th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.098, meaning that about 9.8% of the working age population in Homa Bay County is employed, ranking 32nd overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Homa Bay, the least performing domains were in economic development and productive infrastructure with scores of 8% and 7% respectively.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 29th overall with a score of 8%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 109,178 million coming 25th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Homa Bay was Kshs. 134,223 ranking 33rd overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

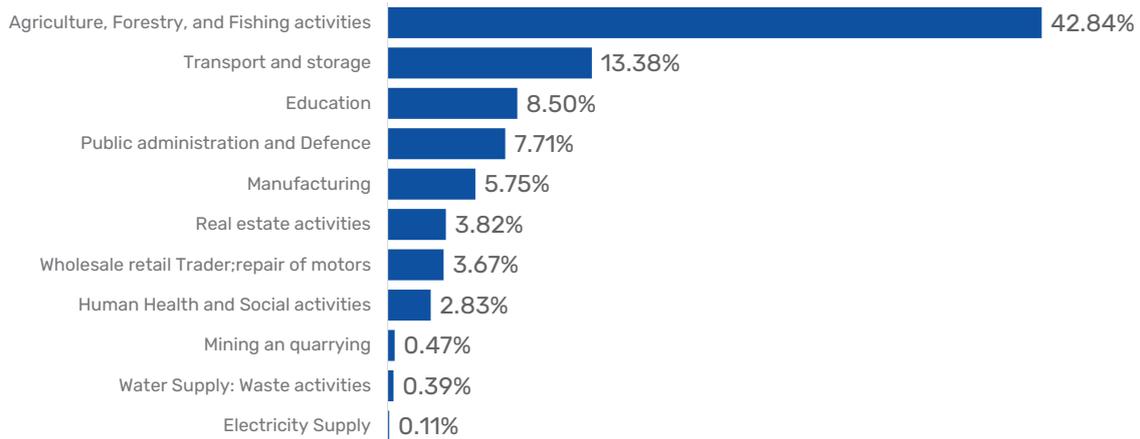
9.8%

County's employed
working age
population

109,178m

Gross County Product
(KES)

Homa Bay Top performing sectors in 2022



Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 42nd overall with a score of 7%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

5.1%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Homa Bay had a 5.1% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 35th overall. Most households rely on fuel wood 74.3% and charcoal 17%. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Transport systems in Homa Bay include roads, air, and water transport. In terms of air transportation, Homa Bay County has five airstrips: Kabunde, Mfangano, Rusinga, Otange, and Otaro. The county also has two water buses and two ferry services between Mbita and Lwanda Kotieno, as well as Mbita - Mfangano. The nearest airport is 57km away: Kisumu International Airport.

Road network: The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 24 ranking 39th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 39 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.035 hotel per 100, ranking 29th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 7.2% ranking 38th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Recommendations

To make Homa Bay more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Improve economic development** through diversifying key economic sectors by promoting value addition in agriculture, expanding the fishing industry, and fostering small-scale manufacturing, alongside investments in sectors like real estate and wholesale trade.
- **Strengthen productive infrastructure** by enhancing access to clean energy through increased adoption of renewable energy sources, improving rural road networks to raise the rural access index (rai), and boosting digital connectivity through broadband expansion programs.
- **Enhance climate and environment management** by implementing large-scale afforestation programs, increasing water service coverage through partnerships with water service providers (WSPS), and improving sewerage infrastructure to achieve better environmental sustainability and public health outcomes.
- **Boost human capital** through targeted literacy campaigns for women, improving access to secondary education by addressing barriers to enrolment, and reducing health-related mortality rates by expanding maternal and child healthcare programs.
- **Promote business efficiency** by fostering innovation through business incubation hubs, supporting job creation initiatives targeting youth and women, and enhancing labour productivity via skills development and workplace modernization programs.



MIGORI

County 044



Introduction

22%
County's competitive
index average score.

Migori County ranked 40th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 22%. The county came after Homa Bay County that had a score of 22%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were human capital, government and institutions, business efficiency and climate change with scores of 37%, 30%, 24%, and 15%. Overall least performance was recorded in economic development and productive infrastructure with scores of 14% and 10% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were human capital, government and institutions, business efficiency and climate change. These domains are discussed below:

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 37%, coming 36th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 89.1% compared to 86.6% for women. The county ranked 33rd place for men literacy and 33rd place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 126.2 ranking the 9th overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 125.5 ranking 18th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 90.3 ranking 12th place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 63.6 ranking 18th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Migori had a neonatal mortality of 37, post-neonatal mortality of 16, infant mortality 53, child mortality of 21 and under-5 mortality of 73.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 73 and 59.6 years respectively, ranking 1st for female and 35th place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 101.8, with old-age dependency 7.9 ranking 22nd overall, while child dependency was 93.8. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

89.1%

County's percent of literate men

90.3

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Migori County scored 30% ranking 33rd place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

625m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 625 million ranking 26th position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Migori County spent Kshs. 1,962 million in the same year, ranking 28th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,711, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Migori County reported 1,938 crimes or 0.02 crime rate per capita, ranking 19th overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 2,189 schools. Out of which 44% are pre-primary school, 42% are primary schools and 14% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary and higher education institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 46 TVET institutions and 1 public university in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 115 public health facilities: 15 level 4, 29 level 3B, 24 level 3A, and 37 level 2. The county has a ratio of 9% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 29th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 35th overall with a score of 24%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Migori County had a score of 92 ranking 19th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 0.097, meaning that about 9.7% of the working age population in Migori County is employed, ranking 33rd overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

9.7%

County's employed working age population

0.31%
County's forest
cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 15% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 42nd overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Migori had a forest cover of 0.31% ranking 46th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Migori County had a low coverage. Only 7% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 40th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 57%, ranking 27th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 30% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 7% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Least Performing Domains

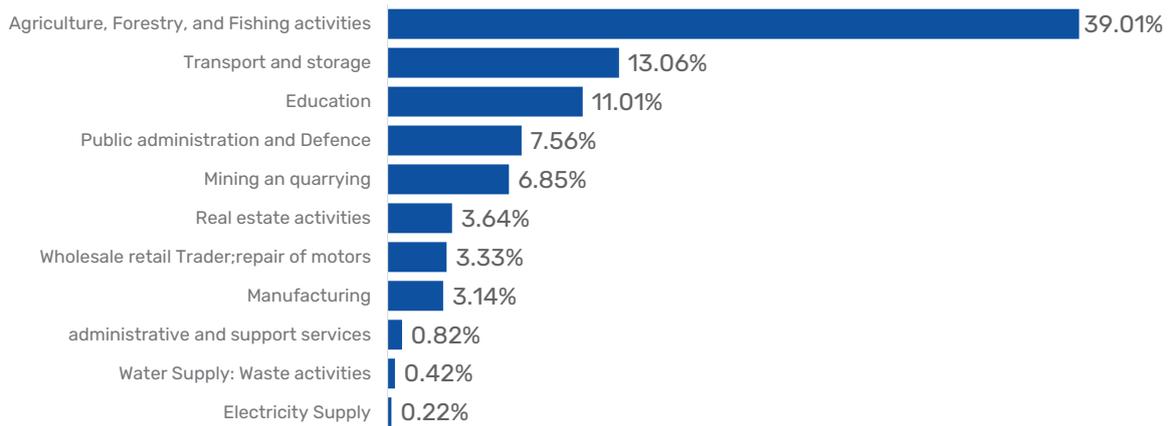
On the overall score for Migori, the least performing domains were in economic development and productive infrastructure with scores of 8% and 7% respectively.

Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 17th overall with a score of 14%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 111,578 million coming 23rd place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Migori was Kshs. 131,203 ranking 36th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

111,578m
Gross County Product
(KES)

Migori top performing sectors in 2022



Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 38th overall with a score of 10%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

5.5%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Migori had a 5.5% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 30th overall. Firewood was the most used type of cooking fuel reported by 71.3 per cent of the households followed by charcoal at 19.2 per cent. (41.3 per cent) of households reported using solar as a source of lighting fuel followed by electricity mains (23.3 per cent)²⁶. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: The transport systems in Migori include road and water transport near Lake Victoria. Road transport is the main transport mode in Migori. The nearest airport is 111.7km away: Kisumu International Airport.

Road network: The County has a total road network of 3,200 km, with 200 km covered by bitumen surface and 3000 km covered by gravel surface. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 78 ranking 18th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 19 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.017 hotel per 100, ranking 35th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 10.5% ranking 24th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

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Recommendations

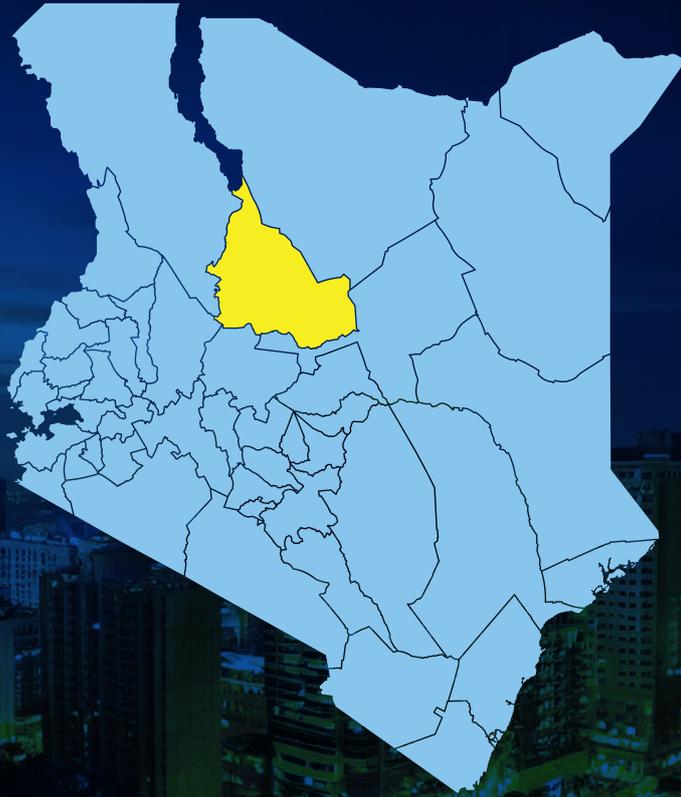
To make Migori County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance human capital** through equitable education access by addressing gender disparities in literacy through targeted adult education programs, improving enrolment rates by incentivizing school attendance, and expanding access to health services to reduce mortality and dependency ratios.
- **Strengthen government efficiency** through increased revenue mobilization by enhancing tax collection systems, promoting transparency in revenue use, and ensuring equitable investment in public infrastructure and services such as schools, healthcare facilities, and public safety.
- **Boost business efficiency** by fostering job creation and innovation through establishing incubation hubs, providing skill development programs aligned with labour market needs, and supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with accessible credit facilities.
- **Promote climate resilience** through better environmental management by expanding forest cover via reforestation programs, improving water coverage through enhanced water service provider networks, and adopting integrated waste management systems to improve sewerage services.
- **Modernize productive infrastructure** through enhanced connectivity by improving rural road networks, promoting clean energy adoption through subsidies and awareness campaigns, and expanding internet access to underserved areas to drive digital transformation.



SAMBURU

County 025



Introduction

21%

County's competitive index average score.

Samburu County ranked 41st overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 21%. The county came after Migori County that had a score of 22%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were climate and environment, business efficiency, human capital, government, and institution with scores of 46%, 28%, 23% and 20%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 9% and 1% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were climate and environment, business efficiency, human capital, government, and institution. These domains are discussed below:

23.2%
County's forest
cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 46% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 18th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Samburu had a forest cover of 23.2% ranking 7th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Samburu County had an above coverage. 30% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 40th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 57%, ranking 27th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 28% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 13% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 8% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Business Efficiency

5%
County's employed
working age
population

On business efficiency, the County ranked 30th overall with a score of 28%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Samburu County had a score of 116 ranking 11th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 1%, meaning that about 5% of the working age population in Samburu County is employed, ranking 43rd overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Samburu County scored 20% ranking 41st place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

256m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 256 million ranking 40th position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Samburu County spent Kshs. 1,506 million in the same year, ranking 36th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Samburu County reported 438 crimes or 7% crime rate per capita, ranking 44th overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 873 schools. Out of which 71% are pre-primary school, 23% are primary schools and 6% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 6 TVET institutions in the county.

115

County's number of public health facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 115 public health facilities: 1 level 4, 4 level 3B, 2 level 3A, and 16 level 2. The county has a ratio of 7%1 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 36kth place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 23%, coming 43rd place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 72.5% compared to 45.3% for women. The county ranked 43rd place for men literacy and 43rd place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

68.9

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 68.9 ranking the 40th overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 68.6 ranking 37th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 44 ranking 42nd place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 30 ranking 38th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

19

County's neonatal mortality

On mortality neonatal mortality Samburu had a neonatal mortality of 19, post-neonatal mortality of 10, infant mortality 29, child mortality of 9 and under-5 mortality of 38.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 59.3 and 57.1 years respectively, ranking 28th for female and 41st place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 102.1, with old-age dependency 5.6 ranking 41st overall, while child dependency was 96.5 The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Samburu, the least performing domains were in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 9% and 1% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 41st overall with a score of 0.0869. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

2.4%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Samburu had a 2.4% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 39th overall. Firewood was the most used type of cooking fuel. Approximately 73% of the total population relies on wood fuel for cooking²⁷. Additionally, residents use petroleum products like kerosene, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), petrol, and diesel for various purposes. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

1,606.6

County's total road network length (kilometres)

Transport: The main transport system in Samburu is road transport. Air transport is also present, it has a total of 11 airstrips. The airstrips owned by the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) are Wamba, Kisima, and Baragoi. The county government owns Oryx, Kalama, Ngilaie Wamba, Latakweny, and Kurungu airstrips. Sarara and Desert Rose are privately owned, while the Maralal Nkuroto airstrip is currently not operational. The nearest airport is 29 km away.

Road network: The county has a total road network length in the county is 1,606.6 kilometres. This includes 10 kilometres of Tarmac roads, 1,081 kilometres of Improved (gravelled) roads, and 515.6 kilometres of New (Opened) roads. Most of these roads are rural access roads and connect to major urban centres within the county. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 45 ranking 35th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 17 hotel establishments and a ratio of 5%4 hotel per 100, ranking 15th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 6.1% ranking 43rd place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

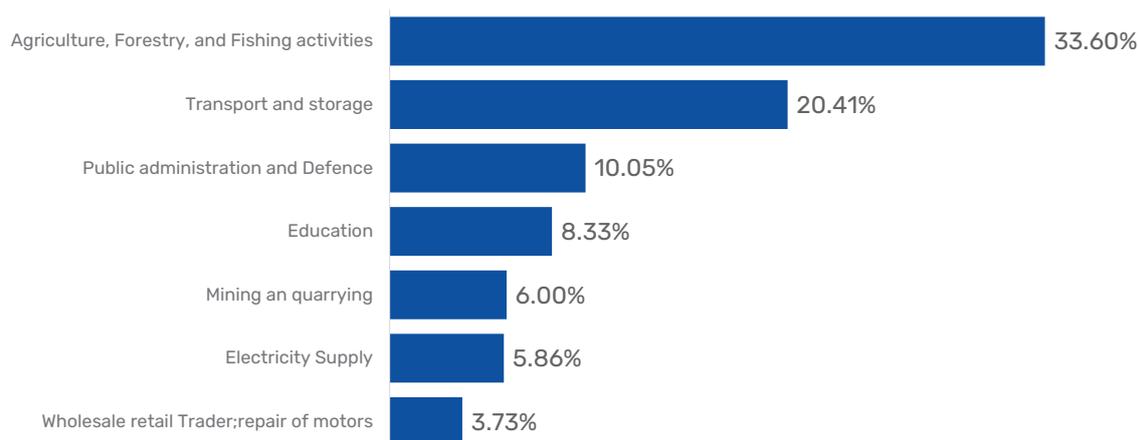
Economic Development

25,916m

Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 45th overall with a score of 1%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 25,916 million coming 45th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Samburu was Kshs. 100,013 ranking 44th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

27 Kenya Population and Housing Census, 2019: Volume IV

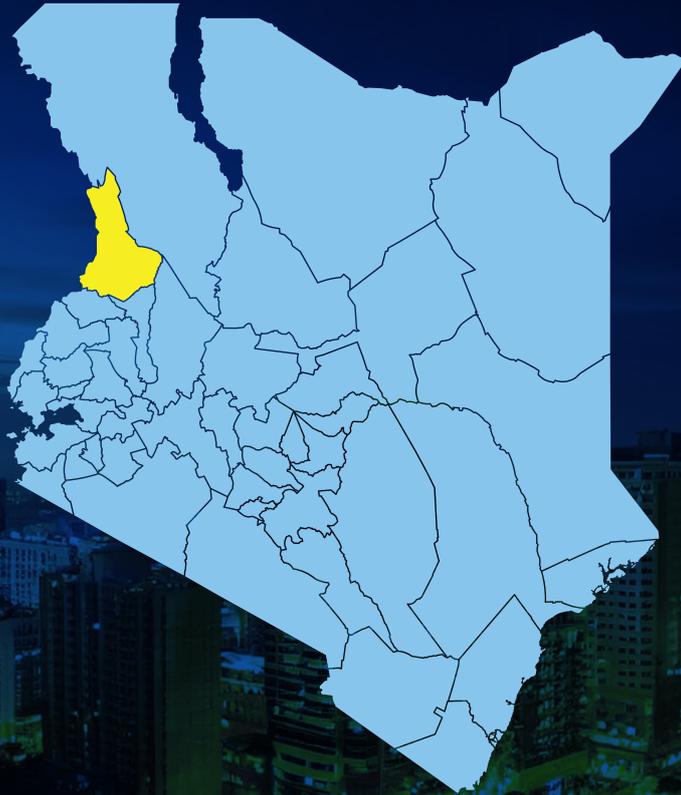
West Pokot top performing sectors in 2022**Recommendations**

To make Samburu County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance climate and environment resilience** by improving water coverage and sewerage systems through investment in formalized water service providers and expanding sewerage infrastructure, while promoting sustainable forest management practices to build on the county's forest cover strength.
- **Boost business efficiency** by promoting job creation through targeted entrepreneurship programs, enhancing labour productivity via vocational training, and fostering innovation by supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with access to financing and markets.
- **Strengthen government and institutional capacity** by increasing revenue collection through modernized systems, enhancing public security to attract investments, and expanding the network of public institutions, particularly health facilities and TVET institutions, to improve service delivery and support human capital development.
- **Develop productive infrastructure** by increasing access to clean energy solutions, improving the rural road network to enhance connectivity and access to markets, and promoting tourism through strategic marketing and investment in the hospitality industry to harness the county's natural attractions.
- **Foster economic development** by diversifying the economic base with targeted investments in high-potential sectors such as agriculture, transport, and wholesale trade, while building the capacity of local enterprises to improve their contribution to the Gross County Product (GCP).

WEST POKOT

County 024



20%
County's competitive
index average score.

Introduction

West Pokot County ranked 42nd overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 20%. The county came after Samburu County that had a score of 21%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were climate and environment, human capital, government and institution and business efficiency with scores of 33%, 33%, 25% and 19%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 2% and 8% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were climate and environment, human capital, government and institution and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

8.83%
County's forest
cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 15% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 42nd overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. West Pokot had a forest cover of 8.83% ranking 25th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, West Pokot County had a low coverage. Only 2% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 46th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 67%, ranking 17th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 50% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 15% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 8% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 37%, coming 36th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 83% compared to 65.2% for women. The county ranked 39th place for men literacy and 40th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 143.2 ranking the 8th overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 118.3 ranking 11th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

118.3
County's primary gross
enrolment ratio

27

County's neonatal mortality

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 86.4 ranking 22nd place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 52.3 ranking 29th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality West Pokot had a neonatal mortality of 27, post-neonatal mortality of 11, infant mortality 38, child mortality of 9 and under-5 mortality of 46.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 57.9 and 45 years respectively, ranking 45th for female and 42nd place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 116, with old-age dependency 6.2 ranking 34th overall, while child dependency was 110. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, West Pokot County scored 30% ranking 33rd place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

230m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 230 million ranking 41st position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, West Pokot County spent Kshs. 1,543 million in the same year, ranking 35th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, West Pokot County reported 660 crimes or 5% crime rate per capita, ranking 41st overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 1,762 schools. Out of which 50% are pre-primary school, 41% are primary schools and 9% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 15 TVET institutions in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 13 public health facilities: 3 level 3B, 4 level 3A, and 6 level 2. The county has a ratio of 2% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 47th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 35th overall with a score of 24%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), West Pokot County had a score of 52 ranking 47th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 5%, meaning that about 5.3% of the working age population in West Pokot County is employed, ranking 42nd overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for West Pokot, the least performing domains were in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 9% and 1% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 38th overall with a score of 10%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. West Pokot had a 2.3% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 30th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: The main transport systems in West Pokot is road transport. The nearest airport is 152 km away.

Road network: The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 34 ranking 38th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

5.3%

*County's employed
working age
population*

2.3%

*County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies*

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 9 hotel establishments and a ratio of 2% hotel per 100, ranking 36th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

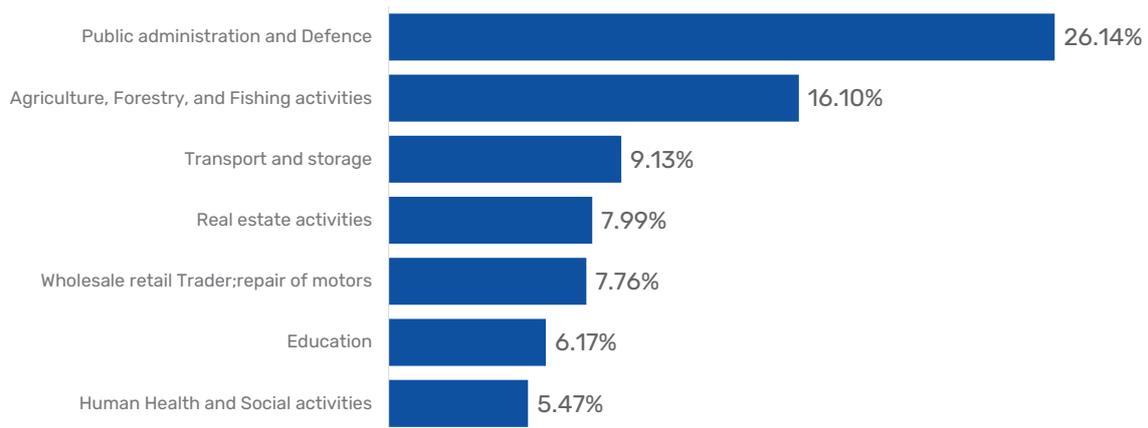
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 7.4% ranking 36th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

60,032m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 17th overall with a score of 14%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 60,032 million coming 37th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in was Kshs. 128,520 ranking 39th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Samburu top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

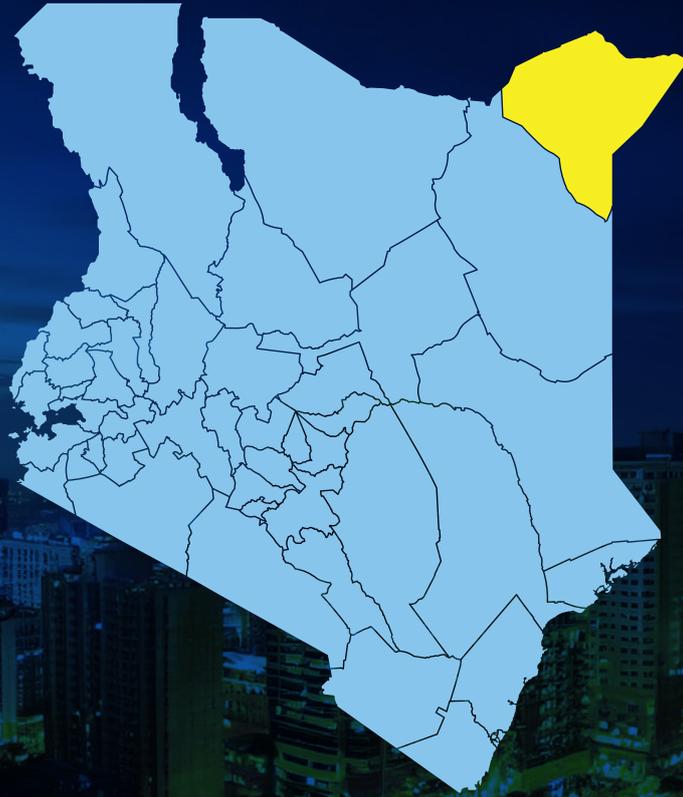
To make West Pokot County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance environmental resilience** through targeted investments in water infrastructure, expanding formalized water service providers (WSP) coverage, and increasing sewerage systems to improve environmental quality and public health outcomes.
- **Strengthen human capital development** by addressing gender disparities in literacy through community-based adult education programs, improving secondary school enrolment by building capacity in existing institutions, and enhancing health service delivery to reduce neonatal and under-five mortality rates.
- **Bolster institutional effectiveness** by increasing own-source revenue through innovative revenue collection strategies, prioritizing development expenditure in health and education, and improving security infrastructure to foster a conducive environment for economic activities.
- **Promote business efficiency** by encouraging innovation through support for entrepreneurship hubs, boosting labour productivity via skills development programs, and creating job opportunities by attracting investments in high-potential sectors like agriculture and tourism.
- **Upgrade productive infrastructure** by enhancing rural road networks to improve the Rural Access Index (RAI), increasing access to clean energy and internet connectivity to support households and businesses, and developing the tourism sector to unlock its economic potential.



MANDERA

County 009



Introduction

17%

County's competitive index average score.

Mandera County ranked 43rd overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 17%. The county came after West Pokot County that had a score of 20%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were business efficiency, climate and environment, human capital, and business efficiency with scores of 63%, 18%, 14% and 3%. Overall least performance was recorded in government and institutions and economic development with scores of 2% and 1% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, climate and environment, government and institution and human capital. These domains are discussed below:

1.2%**County's employed
working age
population**

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 8th overall with a score of 63%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Mandera County had a score of 96 ranking 15th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 1%, meaning that about 1.2% of the working age population in Mandera County is employed, ranking 46th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Climate and Environment

The county scored 18% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 41st overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Mandera had a forest cover of 1.5% ranking 42nd overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Mandera County had a low coverage. Only 5% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 43rd overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 69%, ranking 11th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 8% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 10% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 14%, coming 45th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

1.5%**County's forest
cover**

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 62.6% compared to 26.9% for women. The county ranked 46th place for men literacy and 47th place for women, the lowest. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

18.7

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 45 ranking the 45th overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 18.7 ranking 47th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 35.8 ranking 45th place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 11.4 ranking 46th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

16

County's neonatal mortality

On mortality neonatal mortality Mandera had a neonatal mortality of 16, post-neonatal mortality of 4, infant mortality 20, child mortality of 1 and under-5 mortality of 21.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 62.4 and 58.1 years respectively, ranking 22nd for female and 29th place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 137.2, with old-age dependency 6.5 ranking 32nd overall, while child dependency was 129.1. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 45th overall with a score of 3%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

1.3%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Mandera had a 1.3% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 47th overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: The main transport systems in Mandera is road. The nearest airport is 619 km away.

Road network: The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 4 ranking 47th place overall, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 0 recorded hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.00 hotel per 100, ranking 46th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 13% ranking 20th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Mandera, the least performing domains were in government and institutions and economic development with scores of 2% and 1% respectively.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Mandera County scored 2% ranking 45th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 337 million ranking 36th position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Mandera County spent Kshs. 3,894 million in the same year, ranking 5th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,711, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Mandera County reported 329 crimes or 25% crime rate per capita, ranking 47th overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

337m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Education: The county has a total of 763 schools. Out of which 46% are pre-primary school, 45% are primary schools and 9% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 9 TVET institutions in the county.

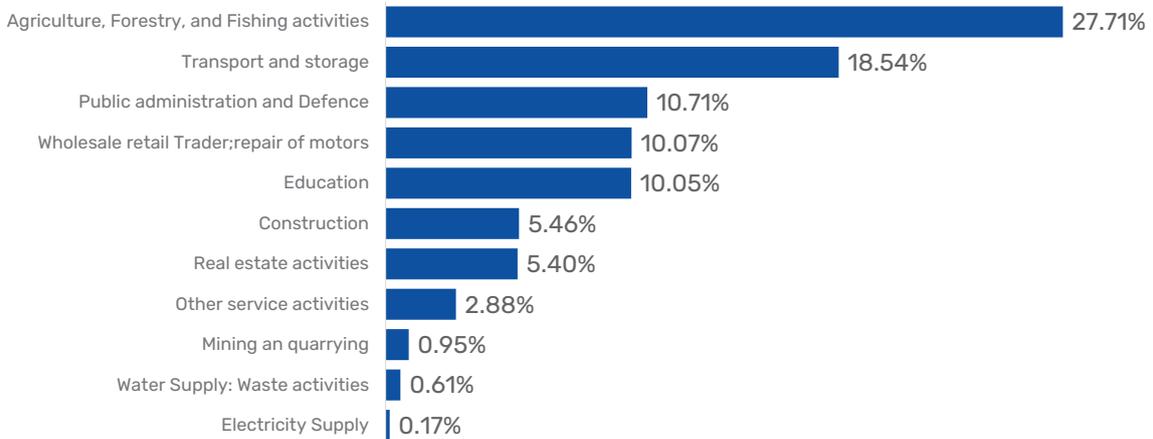
Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 132 public health facilities: 29 level 4, 71 level 3B, 15 level 3A, and 16 level 2. The county has a ratio of 15% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 12th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Economic Development

48,028m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 44th overall with a score of 1%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 48,028 million coming 42nd place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Mandera was Kshs. 67,518 ranking 47th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Mandera top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

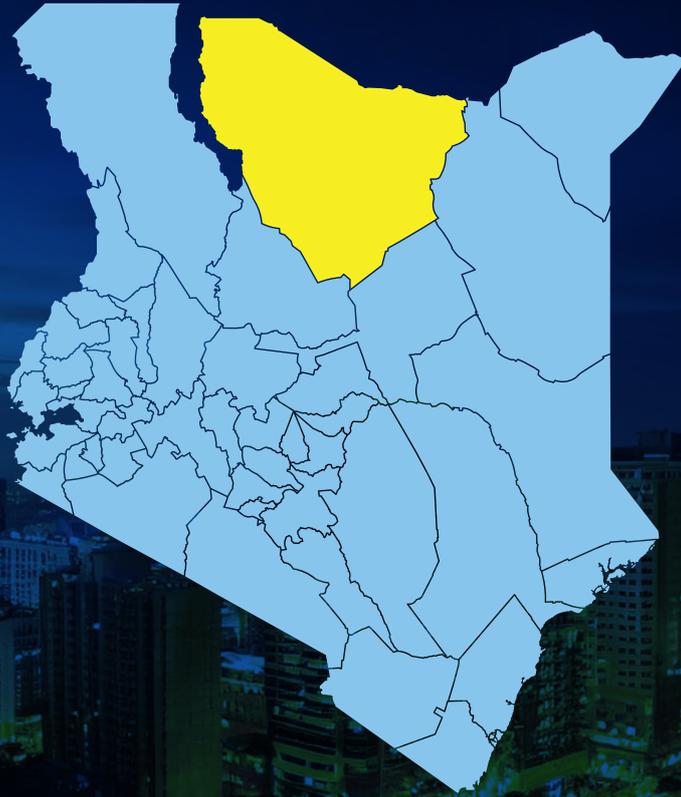
To make Mandera County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance business efficiency** through improving labour productivity by initiating targeted skills development programs, fostering local business innovation hubs, and incentivizing job creation in critical sectors to increase employment rates.
- Promote climate resilience by expanding water service coverage, investing in reforestation programs to increase forest cover, and implementing comprehensive sewerage systems for better environmental management and public health.
- **Strengthen human capital** by increasing literacy rates through adult education programs, enhancing access to quality education at all levels, and addressing gender disparities in literacy and enrolment to improve overall human development outcomes.
- **Develop productive infrastructure** by expanding access to clean energy solutions, improving rural road networks for better connectivity, and promoting local tourism through targeted investments in hospitality infrastructure.
- **Advance economic development** by diversifying economic activities, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and leveraging Mandera's unique potential for targeted economic initiatives to boost Gross County Product (GCP) and per capita income.



MARSABIT

County 010



Introduction

16%

County's competitive index average score.

Marsabit County ranked 44th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 16%. The county came after Mandera County that had a score of 17%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were business efficiency, human capital, productive infrastructure and government and institution scores of 47%, 26%, 14% and 5%. Overall least performance was recorded in economic development and climate and environment with scores of 2% and 0.00 respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, human capital, productive infrastructure and government and institution. These domains are discussed below:

2.8%

*County's employed
working age
population*

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 19th overall with a score of 47%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Marsabit County had a score of 117 ranking 10th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 3%, meaning that about 2.8% of the working age population in Marsabit County is employed, ranking 44th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 26%, coming 41st place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 70.4% compared to 34.2% for women. The county ranked 44th place for men literacy and 46th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 53 ranking the 43rd overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 51.3 ranking 43rd place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 38.9 ranking 43rd place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 12.1 ranking 45th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

53

*County's primary
gross enrolment
ratio*

4

County's neonatal mortality

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Marsabit had a neonatal mortality of 4, post-neonatal mortality of 5, infant mortality 9, child mortality of 21 and under-5 mortality of 15.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 62.1 and 57.9 years respectively, ranking 23rd for female and 30th place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 114.7, with old-age dependency 8.2 ranking 17th overall, while child dependency was 106.4. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 34th overall with a score of 14%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

2.1%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Marsabit had a 2.1% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 30th overall. Firewood was the most used type of cooking fuel. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode in Marsabit. The nearest airport is 225 km away.

Road network: The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 6 ranking 46th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 1 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0% hotel per 100, ranking 44th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 4.1% ranking 46th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Marsabit County scored 5% ranking 44th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

190m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 190 million ranking 46th position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Marsabit County spent Kshs. 2,952 million in the same year, ranking 14th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,711, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Marsabit County reported 637 crimes and had a 10% crime rate per capita, ranking 42nd overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 541 schools. Out of which 49% are pre-primary school, 42% are primary schools and 9% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 10 TVET institutions university in the county.

115

County's number of public health facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 115 public health facilities: 9 level 4, 4 level 3B, 3 level 3A, and 22 level 2. The county has a ratio of 0.083 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 32nd place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Marsabit, the least performing domains were in productive infrastructure and economic development with scores of 9% and 1% respectively.

Climate and Environment

1.11%
County's forest cover

The county scored 0.00 in the Climate and environment domain ranking 47th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Marsabit had a forest cover of 1.11% ranking 43rd overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

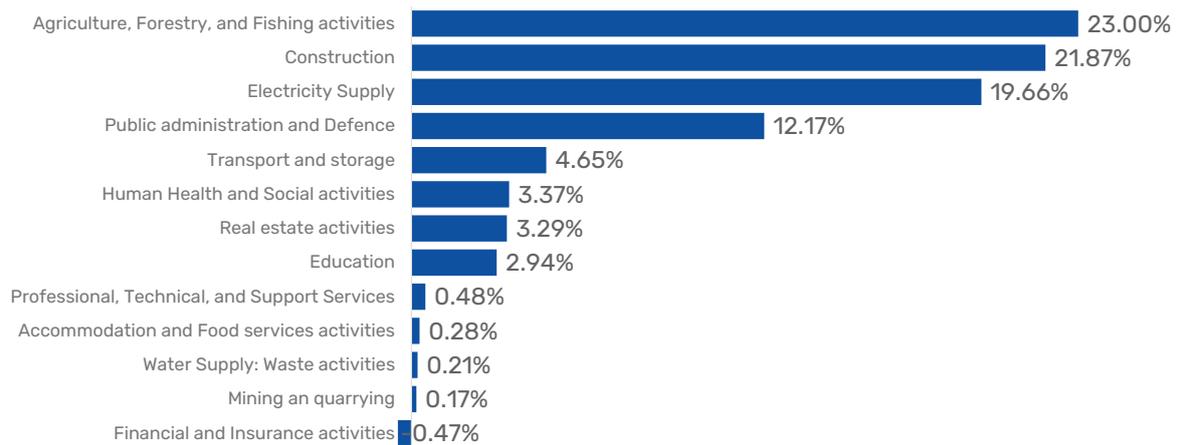
In relation to the water resources, Marsabit County had a low coverage. Only 5% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 40th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 34%, ranking 45th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 15% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 7% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Economic Development

55,273m
Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 42nd overall with a score of 2%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 55,273 million coming 39th place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Marsabit was Kshs. 146,733 ranking 30th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

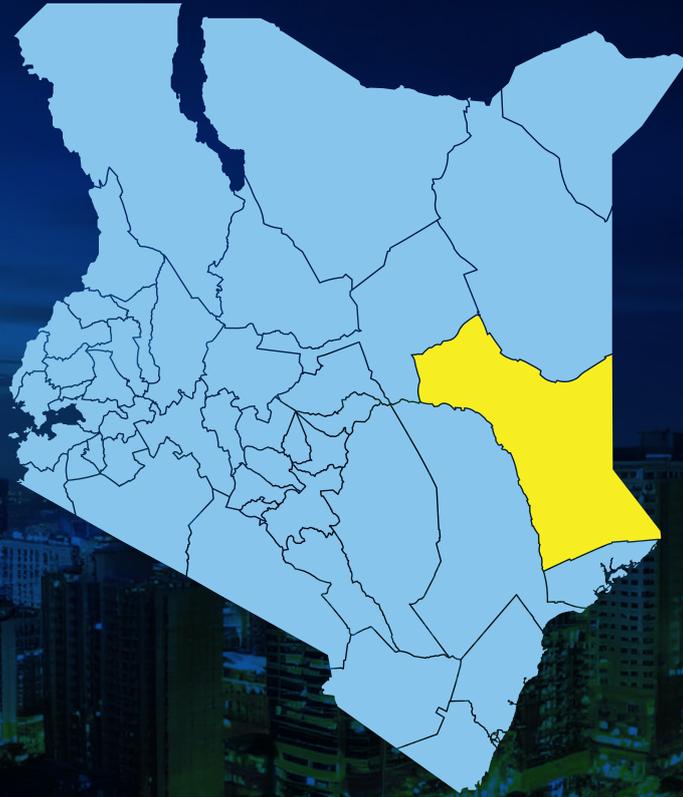
Marsabit top performing sectors in 2022**Recommendations**

To make Marsabit County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance economic development** by diversifying the county's economy through targeted support for key sectors like agriculture, tourism, and small enterprises, promoting value addition for local products, and incentivizing investments through public-private partnerships.
- **Improve productive infrastructure** by expanding access to clean energy and technology, increasing rural road connectivity through strategic investments, and enhancing digital infrastructure to improve internet access and foster business innovation.
- **Strengthen climate and environmental management** by increasing forest cover through reforestation programs, expanding access to clean water by investing in formalized water service providers, and implementing effective environmental policies, including sewerage and waste management systems.
- **Boost human capital development** by addressing disparities in literacy rates through adult education programs, improving school enrolment by subsidizing education costs, and enhancing health outcomes with investments in healthcare facilities and public health campaigns.
- **Improve governance and institutional capacity** by increasing local revenue collection through innovative taxation methods, allocating more resources to development expenditure, and strengthening public security through community-driven safety initiatives and partnerships.

GARISSA

County 007



15%

County's competitive index average score.

Introduction

Garissa County ranked 45th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 15%. The county came after Marsabit County that had a score of 16%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were business efficiency, climate and environment, human capital, and productive infrastructure with scores of 57%, 13%, 9% and 9%. Overall least performance was recorded in economic development and government and institution with scores of 2% and 1% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, climate and environment, human capital, and productive infrastructure. These domains are discussed below:

5.3%**County's employed
working age
population**

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 12th overall with a score of 57%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Garissa County had a score of 183 ranking 5th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 5%, meaning that about 5.3% of the working age population in Garissa County is employed, ranking 41st overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Climate and Environment

11.3%**County's forest
cover**

The county scored 13% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 44th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Garissa had a forest cover of 11.3% ranking 19th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Garissa County had a low coverage. 13% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 30th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 30, ranking 47th place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 16% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 13% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 20% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 9%, coming 46th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 79.3% compared to 46.5% for women. The county ranked 40th place for men literacy and 42nd place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were slightly higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 60.1 ranking the 39th overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 37.1 ranking 46th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 26.7 ranking 46th place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 9.9 ranking 47th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Garissa had a neonatal mortality of 28, post-neonatal mortality of 13, infant mortality 41, child mortality of 3 and under-5 mortality of 44.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 60.2 and 50.5 years respectively, ranking 32nd for female and 44th place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 124.2, with old-age dependency 5.8 ranking 37th overall, while child dependency was 118.4. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

37.1

County's gross enrolment at primary level

28

County's neonatal mortality

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 40th overall with a score of 0.092. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

4.6%

County's reliance on clean fuel and technologies

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Garissa had a 4.6% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 36th overall. Firewood was the most used type of cooking fuel. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode Garissa. The nearest airport is 245 km away.

Road network: The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 86 ranking 11th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 1 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.001 hotel per 100, ranking 45th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 14.7% ranking 17th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Garissa, the least performing domains were economic development and government and institution with scores of 2% and 1% respectively.

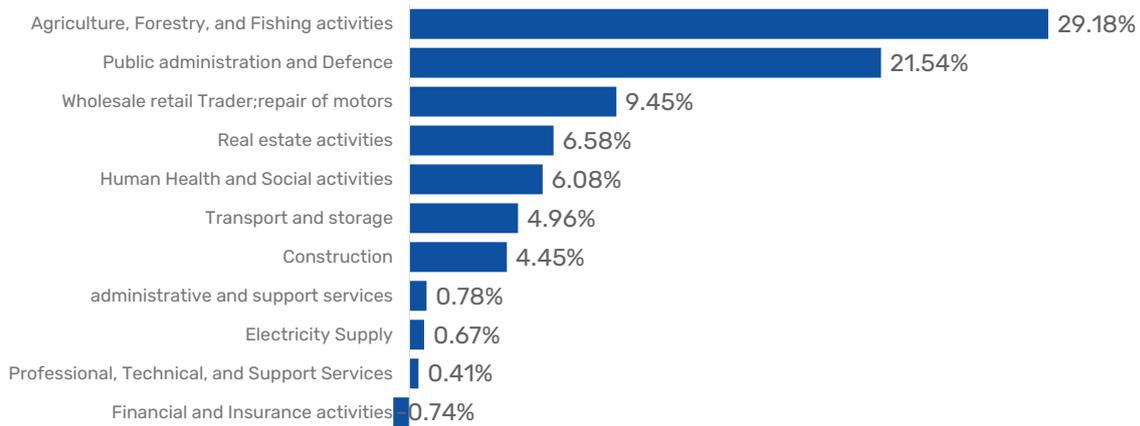
Economic Development

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 41st overall with a score of 2%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 55,591 million coming 41st place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Garissa was Kshs. 75,662 ranking 45th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

55,591m

Gross County Product (KES)

Garissa top performing sectors in 2022



Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Garissa County scored 1% ranking 46th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

230m
 County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 230 million ranking 41st position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Garissa County spent Kshs. 1,931 million in the same year, ranking 29th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Garissa County reported 666 crimes and had a 0.04 crime rate per capita, ranking 40th overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 800 schools. Out of which 51% are pre-primary school, 40% are primary schools and 9% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 16 TVET and 1 public university in the county.

84
 County's number of public health facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 84 public health facilities: 17 level 4, 23 level 3B, 23 level 3A, and 20 level 2. The county has a ratio of 10%0 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 27th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Recommendations

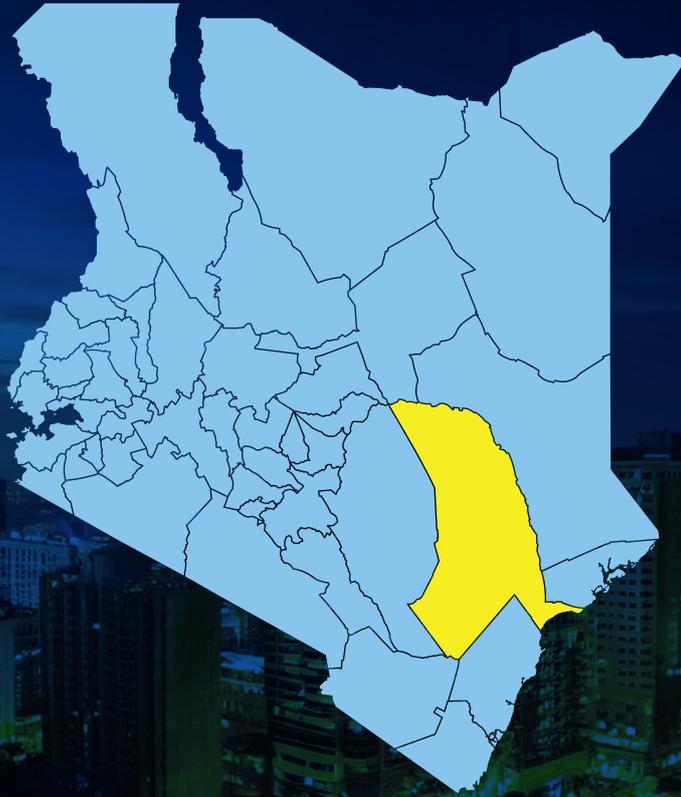
To make Garissa County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance water resource management** by expanding coverage of formalized water service providers, improving access to utilities, and implementing effective sewerage systems to address low water and sanitation access and rank in climate and environment indicators.
- **Strengthen human capital** through education and health initiatives by improving literacy through gender-inclusive education programs, boosting primary and secondary net enrolments, and addressing high child dependency and mortality rates with targeted health interventions.
- **Boost economic development** by expanding key sectors through investments in productive industries, enhancing Gross County Product (GCP) per capita, and developing strategies to optimize economic activities and employment opportunities across the county.
- **Improve governance and institutional efficiency** by increasing local revenue collection, ensuring strategic allocation of development expenditure, and fostering public security to create an enabling environment for growth and public service delivery.
- **Promote access to clean energy and transportation** by increasing the reliance on clean fuels for domestic use and improving rural connectivity to reduce energy disparities and enhance productive infrastructure across underserved regions.



TANA RIVER

County 004



Introduction

14%
County's competitive
index average score.

Tana River County ranked 46th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 14%. The county came after Garissa County that had a score of 15%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were climate and environment, human capital, government and institution and business efficiency with scores of 30%, 18%, 15% and 13%. Overall least performance was recorded in productive infrastructure economic development and with scores of 5% and 0% respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were climate and environment, human capital, government and institution and business efficiency. These domains are discussed below:

9.97%
County's forest
cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 30% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 31st overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Tana River had a forest cover of 9.97% ranking 22nd overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Tana River County had a low coverage. 18% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 25th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 38%, ranking 43rd place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 82% of the county population live within service areas of utilities and 18% of the population is served with utilities. In relation to sewerage coverage, 0% of the county has sewerage. The highest ranking was Nairobi (50%) and Laikipia (44%).

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 18%, coming 44th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 67.4% compared to 50.6% for women. The county ranked 45th place for men literacy and 41st place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The primary levels enrolments were higher compared to secondary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at primary level of 68.9 ranking the 40th overall while the gross enrolment at secondary level was 34.3 ranking 46th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

68.9
County's primary gross
enrolment ratio

23

County's neonatal mortality

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 48.1 ranking 41st place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 18.9 ranking 42nd overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Tana River had a neonatal mortality of 23, post-neonatal mortality of 14, infant mortality 38, child mortality of 8 and under-5 mortality of 45.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 58.6 and 56.2 years respectively, ranking 43rd for female and 39th place overall for male.

The age dependency ratio was 103.9, with old-age dependency 7.3 ranking 24th overall, while child dependency was 96.6. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Tana River County scored 15% ranking 42nd place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

97m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 97 million ranking 47th position, the least. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Tana River County spent Kshs. 2,057 million in the same year, ranking 29th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Tana River County reported 511 crimes and had a 0.09 crime rate per capita, ranking 43rd overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 609 schools. Out of which 60% are pre-primary school, 34% are primary schools and 6% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 12 TVET in the county.

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 25 public health facilities: 9 level 4, 6 level 3B, 5 level 3A, and 5 level 2. The county has a ratio of 0.08 for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 34th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 45th overall with a score of 13%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Tana River County had a score of 71 ranking 28th overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then Wajir at 350 and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 7%5, meaning that about 7.5% of the working age population in Tana River County is employed, ranking 39th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Tana River, the least performing domains were in productive infrastructure economic development and with scores of 5% and 0% respectively.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 44th overall with a score of 5%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Tana River had a 2.1% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 43rd overall. Firewood was the most used type of cooking fuel. 63.5% of households reported using firewood and charcoal as their main cooking fuel, followed by 31.5% using Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG). For lighting fuel, 25.6% of households used electricity mains, while 20.9% used solar energy²⁸. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode Tana River. There are seven airstrips in the county, with the main ones located in Hola, Bura, and Garsen. Additionally, the county has a 76km stretch of coastline, with Kipini serving as a fish landing site that has the potential to become a seaport for fishing vessels²⁹. The nearest airport is 277 km away.

7.5%

County's employed
working age
population

2.1%

County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies

²⁸ Kenya Population and Housing Census: Volume IV 2019

²⁹ Tana River County Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022

Road network: The county has a total road network of 3,377km, with approximately 55% of the roads in good enough condition for vehicles to use. This network consists of 1,108km of classified roads (class A - E) and 2,269km of unclassified roads (class U). Only 449km of the roads are surfaced with bitumen. The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 11 ranking 42nd place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with only 13 hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.041 hotel per 100, ranking 20th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

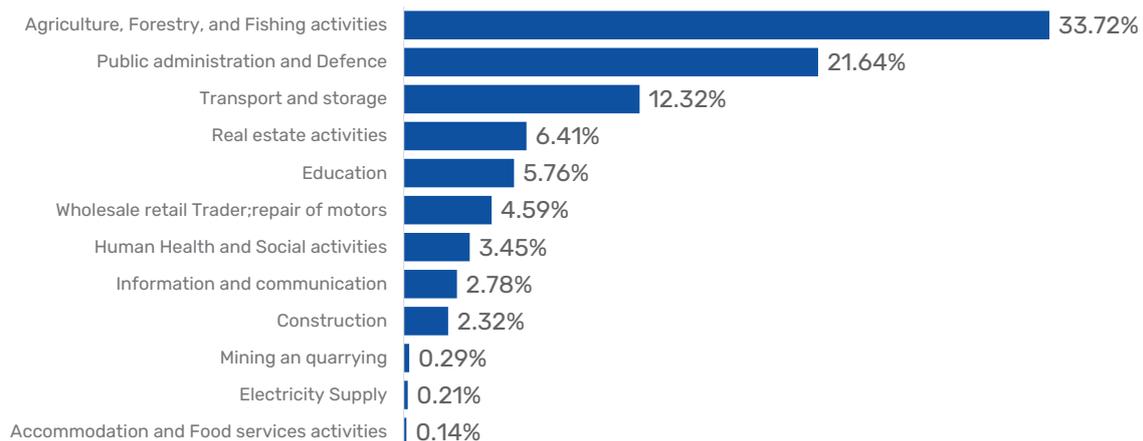
Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 3.1% ranking 47th place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

Economic Development

22,566m
Gross County Product
(KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 46th overall with a score of 0%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 22,566 million coming 42nd place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Tana River was Kshs. 102,310 ranking 42nd overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Tana River top performing sectors in 2022



Recommendations

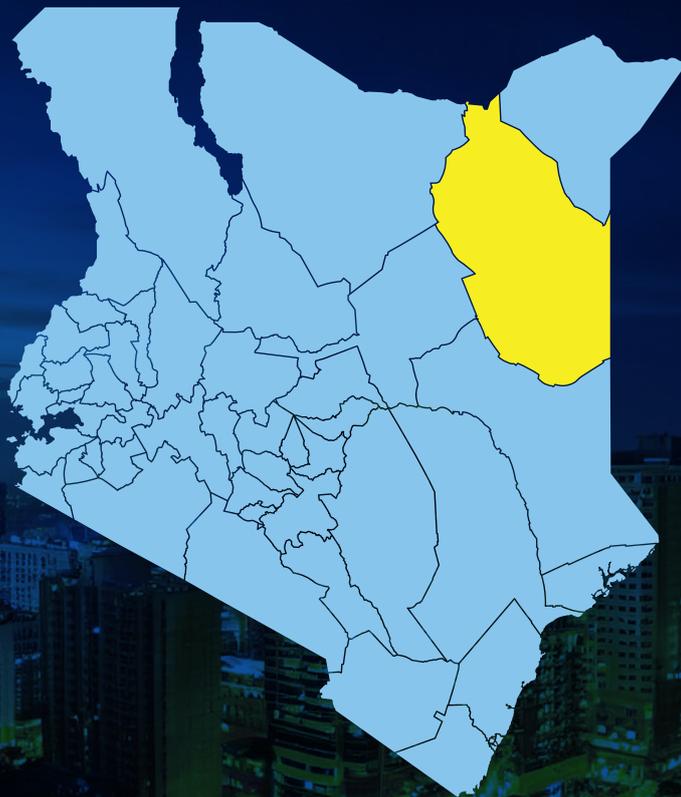
To make Tana River more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Strengthen water resource management** through improved water service infrastructure to increase coverage, focusing on formalized water service providers and expanding sewerage systems for enhanced environmental sustainability and public health.
- **Enhance educational outcomes** by addressing disparities in literacy and enrolment rates through targeted programs, including adult literacy initiatives, improving access to secondary education, and promoting gender parity in education.
- **Boost business efficiency** by promoting labour productivity through skill enhancement programs, fostering innovation via entrepreneurial support, and improving the business environment to attract investment and create jobs.
- **Develop energy and connectivity infrastructure** by scaling up clean energy access, enhancing rural road networks, and increasing internet connectivity to improve accessibility and economic integration.
- **Promote economic growth** through targeted investments in key sectors like agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, coupled with policies to diversify economic activities and increase the gross county product per capita.



WAJIR

County 008



Introduction

13%
County's competitive
index average score.

Wajir County ranked 47th overall in the county competitive index with an average score of 13%. The county came after Tana River County that had a score of 14%. The top 10 Counties were Nairobi City, Kiambu, Nyeri, Murang'a, Nakuru, Machakos, Mombasa, Kirinyaga, Embu and Tharaka Nithi with scores of 77%, 73%, 61%, 61%, 57%, 56%, 53%, 52%, 51%, 50% and 49% respectively. The counties with the least scores were Garissa, Tana River and Wajir with 15%, 14% and 13% respectively.

Of the six domains assessed, the highest scores were business efficiency, productive infrastructure, climate and environment and economic development scores of 41%, 31%, 3% and 1%. Overall least performance was recorded in human capital and government and institutions and with scores of 0.00 and 0.00 respectively.

Top performing domains

The highly competitive domains were business efficiency, productive infrastructure, climate and environment and economic development. These domains are discussed below:

1.9%**County's employed
working age
population**

Business Efficiency

On business efficiency, the County ranked 22nd overall with a score of 41%. The best performing counties in this domain were Kiambu (1.0), Kirinyaga 83% and Murang'a with a score of 81%. This assessment focused on 4 main factors: productivity of labour, business environment, innovation, and job creation. In terms of labour productivity (KES/ labour hours), Wajir County had a score of 350 ranking 3rd overall. The highest was recorded Nairobi with a labour productivity of 378, followed by Elgeyo Marakwet at 375, then **Wajir at 350** and the average score was 104. The employment ratio is at 2%, meaning that about 1.9% of the working age population in Wajir County is employed, ranking 45th overall. The counties with the highest employment ratio were Nairobi, with a score of 34% or 34% and Kiambu at 31% or 31.2%.

Productive Infrastructures

On productive infrastructure, the County ranked 17th overall with a score of 31%. Counties that scored highest in this domain included Nairobi (100%), Mombasa (93%), Nakuru (79%), and Kiambu (77%) counties. The performance under each indicator is discussed below:

1.7%**County's reliance
on clean fuel and
technologies**

Energy: Was measured by the electricity consumption and reliance on clean fuels for cooking, space heating and lighting. Wajir had a 1.7% reliance on clean fuel and technologies, ranking 46th overall. Firewood was the most used type of cooking fuel. The best performing counties were Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado and Kilifi with a percentage of 76.4%, 56.6%, 49.3% and 42.2% respectively.

Transport: Road transport is the main transport mode Wajir. The nearest airport is 317 km away.

Road network: The county had a rural access index (RAI) of 8 ranking 45th place overall. The highest RAI was recorded in Kisii at 98 while the least was Mandera with an RAI of 4, meaning only 4% of the rural population live within 2km of all season road.

Tourism: The County has a low hospitality industry with 0 recorded hotel establishments and a ratio of 0.00 hotel per 100, ranking 46th place overall. The best performing Counties were Kilifi and Mombasa with a ratio of 1.0 and 96% hotel establishments per 100 respectively.

Connectivity: The overall access to internet is at 6.2% ranking 42nd place. The highest scores were in Nairobi at 45.3%, Kiambu at 43%, Mombasa at 42.1%, Murang'a at 23.7% and Nakuru at 22.5%.

0.98%
County's forest cover

Climate and Environment

The county scored 3% in the Climate and environment domain ranking 46th overall. The best performing counties were Nyeri 99%, Kiambu 89% and Nairobi at 83%. The domain investigated factors including environmental quality and environment policy and management. On the environmental quality the indicators captured include forest cover, population in the county served by formalised WSPs and water coverage. Wajir had a forest cover of 0.98% ranking 44th overall. The highest forest cover was recorded in Nyeri County at 41% and Lamu at 32.13%.

In relation to the water resources, Wajir County had a low coverage. 2% of its population is served by formalized water service providers (WSP) ranking 25th overall while, the overall water coverage in the county is at 42%, ranking 42nd place. Embu County, Taita Taveta and Kilifi had the highest water coverage at 90%, 86% and 78% respectively.

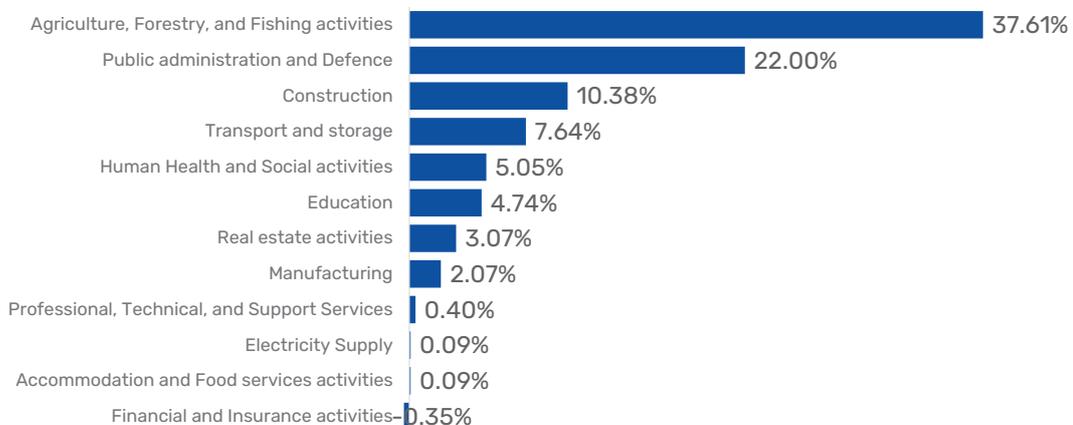
On environmental policy and performance, the indicators were percentage of county population within serviced areas of utilities, population served and sewerage coverage. In the County, 13% of the county population live within service areas of utilities.

Economic Development

45,984m
Gross County Product (KES)

On the overall score, economic development domain, ranked 43rd overall with a score of 2%. The highest performers were Nairobi at 100%, Kiambu at 42% and Nakuru 42%. The domain considered the size of the economy and the key economic sectors. The Gross County Product (at constant 2016 price) was 45,984 million coming 43rd place. The highest GCP was in Nairobi City Kshs. 2,659,197 million, followed by Kiambu at Kshs. 519,927 million, Mombasa at Kshs. 467,036 million and Nakuru Kshs. 433,728 million. The GCP per capital in Wajir was Kshs. 73,021 ranking 46th overall. The best performers were Nairobi (Kshs. 723,335), Mombasa (Kshs. 439,390), then Nyeri (Kshs. 293,944) counties.

Wajir top performing sectors in 2022



Least Performing Domains

On the overall score for Wajir, the least performing domains were human capital and government and institutions and with scores of 0.00 and 0.00 respectively.

Human Capital

On the overall score, human capital had a score of 0.00, coming 47th place overall. The best performing counties under this domain was Nyeri with a perfect score of 100%, then Kirinyaga at 96%, followed by Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi both at 91%. Least performers were Mandera, Garissa and Wajir with 14%, 9%, and 0 respectively.

This assessment focused on two primary factors basic education i.e., literacy levels, enrolment rates in schools and health parameters i.e., mortality, life expectancy and dependency ratio.

Basic Education

Literacy levels: In the County literacy levels men had a higher score compared to women. The percent of literate men was 78.4% compared to 34.9% for women. The county ranked 42nd place for men literacy and 45th place for women. Overall, the highest literacy rates were recorded in Machakos County, at 99.7% for male and 99.1% for female. The lowest literate levels for women 26.9% in Mandera and 56.4% for men in Turkana.

Gross Enrolment: The secondary levels enrolments were higher compared to primary. The county had gross enrolment ratio at secondary level of 58.2 ranking the 41st overall while the gross enrolment at primary level was 34.6 ranking 47th place. The highest ratios were in Kakamega at 173.5 for primary and 172 for secondary. The least ratio in primary and secondary gross enrolment was recorded in Wajir and Mandera county with a ratio of 34.6 in primary and 18.7 in secondary.

Net enrolment: Primary level had a higher ratio compared to the secondary. For net enrolment ratio the primary level had a ratio of 24.6 ranking 47th place, compared to secondary level net enrolment ratio of 14.5 ranking 44th overall. The highest net enrolment primary was recorded in Kisumu County at 101.6, while for secondary it was recorded in Murang'a County at 101.9.

Health Sector: This factor considered a range of indicators including included neonatal, infant, child mortality, under 5 mortality, female and male life expectancy at birth, age dependency ratio, old age dependency ratio and child dependency ratio.

On mortality neonatal mortality Wajir had a neonatal mortality of 37, post-neonatal mortality of 6, infant mortality 43, child mortality of 15 and under-5 mortality of 57.

In terms of life expectancy, female life expectancy at birth was higher compared to male at 54.7 and 50.1 years respectively, ranking 47th for female and 47th place overall for male.

34.6

County's primary gross enrolment ratio

37

County's neonatal mortality

The age dependency ratio was 139.8, with old-age dependency 8.2 ranking 24th overall, while child dependency was 131.7. The highest age dependency ratio and child dependency were recorded in Wajir county, at 139.8 and 131.7 respectively, while highest old age was in Nyeri county at 15.3.

Government and institutions

In the Government and institutions domain, Wajir County scored 0.00 ranking 47th place overall. The best performing counties were Nairobi at 100%, and Machakos at 81%. Other counties that performed well included Tharaka Nithi (74%), and Kiambu (72%). This domain looked at several factors including revenue collection, investment expenditure, public security, and presence of public/county establishments i.e., schools, health facilities, technical training institutions and universities.

200m

County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 (KES)

Revenue: The County's annual own source revenue in 2023/2024 was Kshs. 200 million ranking 45th position. The best performers were Nairobi at Kshs. 19,690 million, Kiambu at 7,980 million and Mombasa at 6,014 million. On expenditure development, Wajir County spent Kshs. 3,239 million in the same year, ranking 9th overall. The highest-ranking counties in terms of expenditure development were Kilifi at 4,71, Narok at Kshs. 4,602, then Turkana County at Kshs. 4,451 million.

Public security: In 2023, Wajir County reported 382 crimes and had a 18% crime rate per capita, ranking 46th overall on number of crimes reported. The counties with the highest crimes were Nairobi (11,108 crimes) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Kiambu (9,532) with 0.01 crimes per capita, Meru 6,037 crimes with 0.01 crimes per capita and Nakuru 5,072 with 0.02 crimes per capita.

Education: The county has a total of 675 schools. Out of which 45% are pre-primary school, 46% are primary schools and 8% are secondary schools. The county has also tertiary institutions supporting the human capital development. In total it has a total of 14 TVET in the county.

97

County's number of public health facilities

Health facilities: The county has a variety of public, private, and faith-based health facilities that offer different healthcare services, from basic care to specialized treatments. As of 2023 there were a total of 97 public health facilities: 21 level 4, 48 level 3B, 18 level 3A, and 10 level 2. The county has a ratio of 12% for health facilities per 1000 population, ranking 19th place overall. The county with the highest ratio was Nairobi with a ratio of 36%, translating to 1 hospital for every 2,769.

Recommendations

To make Wajir County more competitive the following recommendations are proposed:

- **Enhance human capital development** by improving literacy levels through targeted educational initiatives for women, expanding school infrastructure and enrolment programs, and increasing access to health services by investing in maternal and child health to reduce mortality rates.
- **Strengthen government and institutional capacity** by boosting local revenue generation through improved tax collection systems, investing in security to lower crime rates, and expanding public services such as education and healthcare by increasing funding and enhancing the capacity of existing institutions.
- **Develop productive infrastructure** by investing in cleaner energy sources and reducing reliance on firewood for cooking, improving transport infrastructure through the construction of roads and expanding air transport facilities, and increasing internet connectivity to support digital access and e-commerce.
- **Improve economic development** by diversifying the local economy beyond traditional sectors, increasing investments in key areas like tourism, and enhancing the gross county product through supporting small businesses and innovative industries.
- **Mitigate climate and environmental challenges** by increasing forest cover and water coverage through reforestation programs and better water management practices and improving environmental policy enforcement to protect natural resources while ensuring sustainable.





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