Revenue Statistics in Africa 2020 — Kenya

Tax revenues: tax-to-GDP ratio

Tax-to-GDP ratio over time

The tax-to-GDP ratio in Kenya decreased by 1.1 percentage points from 18.5% in 2017 to 17.4% in 2018. In comparison, the average* for the 30 African countries increased by just under 0.1 percentage points over the same period, and was 16.5% in 2018. Since 2010, the average for the 30 African countries has increased by 1.4 percentage points, from 15.1% in 2010 to 16.5% in 2018. Over the same period, the tax-to-GDP ratio in Kenya has decreased by 0.5 percentage points, from 17.9% to 17.4%. The highest tax-to-GDP ratio in Kenya was 19.3% in 2014, with the lowest being 16.1% in 2002.

Tax-to-GDP ratio, 2018

Kenya's tax-to-GDP ratio in 2018 (17.4%) was higher than the average of the 30 African countries in Revenue Statistics in Africa 2020 (16.5%) by 0.8 percentage points but lower than the Latin America and the Caribbean (23.1%).

*The Africa (30) average was 16.5% in both 2017 and 2018 due to rounding. The Africa (30) average is not available before 2009 due to missing data in some countries. In 2009, it is calculated based on estimated tax-to-GDP ratios for Chad and Nigeria in that year, as data were not available prior to 2010 in these countries.
Tax revenues: structure

Tax structure refers to the share of each tax in total tax revenues. The highest share of tax revenues in Kenya in 2018 was contributed by taxes on goods & services other than VAT (28%). The second-highest share of tax revenues in 2018 was derived from personal income tax (25%).

Non-tax revenues

In 2018, Kenya's non-tax revenues amounted to 2.3% of GDP. This was lower than the average non-tax revenues for the 30 African countries (6.5% of GDP). Property income excluding rents and royalties represented the largest share of non-tax revenues in 2018, amounting to 0.7% of GDP and 30.4% of non-tax revenues.