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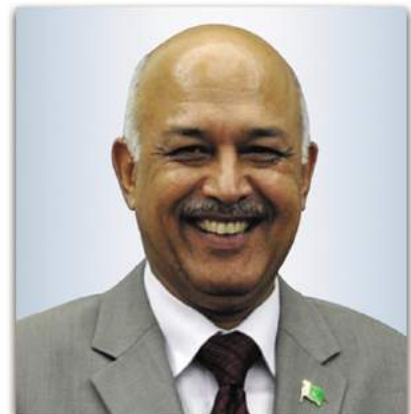
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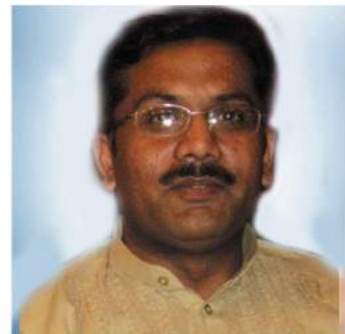
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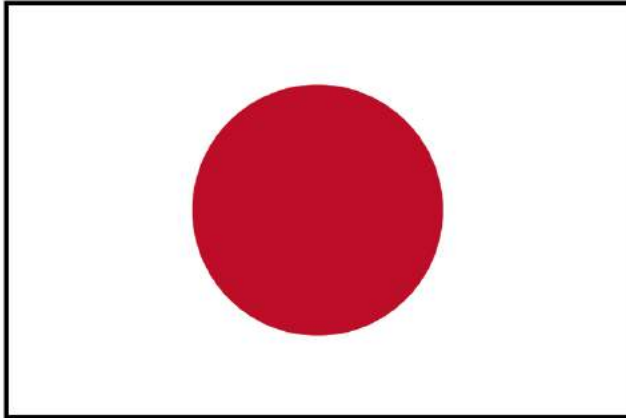
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JAPAN



MAP



History:

The first known written reference to Japan was recorded in the Chinese Book of Han in the first century CE. Around the 3rd century BCE, the Yayoi people from the continent immigrated to the Japanese archipelago and introduced iron technology and agricultural civilization. Between the fourth to ninth century, Japan's many kingdoms and tribes gradually came to be unified under a centralized government, nominally controlled by the Emperor of Japan. The imperial dynasty established at this time continues to this day.

Portugal and Japan came into contact in 1543, when the Portuguese became the first Europeans to reach Japan by landing in the southern archipelago.

They had a significant impact on Japan, even in this initial limited interaction, introducing firearms to Japanese warfare. The American Perry Expedition in 1853–54 more completely ended Japan's seclusion; this contributed to the fall of the shogunate and the return of power to the emperor during the Boshin War in 1868.

The new national leadership of the following Meiji period transformed the isolated feudal island country into an empire that closely followed Western models and became a great power. Although democracy developed and modern civilian culture prospered during the Taishō period (1912–26), Japan's powerful military had great autonomy and overruled Japan's civilian leaders in the 1920s and 1930s.

The Japanese military invaded Manchuria in 1931, and from 1937 the conflict escalated into a prolonged war with China. Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 led to war with the United States and its allies. Japan's forces soon became overextended, but the military held out in spite of Allied air attacks that inflicted severe damage on population centers. Emperor Hirohito announced Japan's surrender on 15 August 1945, following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the Soviet invasion of Manchuria.

The Allies occupied Japan until 1952, during which a new constitution was enacted in 1947 that transformed Japan into a constitutional monarchy. After 1955, Japan enjoyed very high economic growth under the governance of the Liberal Democratic Party, and became a world economic powerhouse.

Geography:

Japan is an island country consisting of four major and numerous smaller islands. The islands lie in an arc across the Pacific coast of northeastern Asia, forming a part of the volcanic "Rim of Fire." From north to south this chain of islands measures more than 1,500 miles, but it is only about 130 miles across; its total landmass is just under 150 thousand square miles. If placed alongside the Pacific coast of North America, the Japanese islands would extend from northern Washington State to the southern tip of Baja California in Mexico, and as a result Japan has a wide variation in climate. Japan's closest neighbors are Korea and China.

The five main islands are Hokkaido, Honshu, Kyushu, Shikoku and Okinawa. There are 6,847 remote islands. The Ryukyu Islands and Nanpō Islands are south and east of the main islands. The territory covers 377,973.89 km² (145,936.53 sq mi). It is the fourth largest island country in the world and the largest island country in East Asia. The country has the 6th longest coastline at 29,751 km (18,486 mi) and the 8th largest Exclusive Economic Zone of 4,470,000 km² (1,730,000 sq mi) in the world.

- ▶ Continent: Asia
- ▶ Region: East Asia
- ▶ Coordinates: 36°N 138°E
- ▶ Area: Ranked 62nd
 - Total 377,973.89 km² (145,936.53 sq mi)
 - Land 87.93099%
 - Water 12.06901%
- ▶ Coastline: 29,751 km (18,486 mi)
- ▶ Borders None
- ▶ Highest point: Mount Fuji, 3,776 m (12,388 ft)
- ▶ Lowest point: Hachirōgata, -4 m (-13 ft)[3]
- ▶ Longest river: Shinano River, 367 km (228 mi)
- ▶ Largest lake: Lake Biwa, 671 km² (259 sq mi)
- ▶ Terrain: Mostly rugged, volcanic and mountainous
- ▶ Natural hazard: Volcanic eruptions, tsunami, earthquakes and typhoons
- ▶ Environmental issues: Air pollution; acidification of lakes and reservoirs; overfishing; deforestation
- ▶ Exclusive economic zone: 4,470,000 km² (1,730,000 sq mi)

Climate:

Japan has four distinct seasons with a climate ranging from subarctic in the north to subtropical in the south. Conditions are different between the Pacific side and the Sea of Japan side. Northern Japan has warm summers and very cold winters with heavy snow on the Sea of Japan side and in mountainous areas. Eastern Japan has hot and humid summers and cold winters with very heavy snow on the Sea of Japan side and in mountainous areas. Western Japan has very hot and humid summers (with temperatures sometimes reaching 35 oC or above) and moderate cold winters. Okinawa and Amami have a subtropical oceanic climate. These areas have hot and humid summers (with temperatures rarely reaching 35 oC or above) and mild winters. The average winter temperature in Japan is 5.1 °C and the average summer temperature is 25.2 °C. The highest temperature ever measured is 40.9 °C and the lowest temperature ever measured is -41.0 °C.

The main rainy season begins in early May in Okinawa, and the rain front gradually moves north until reaching Hokkaido in late July. In most of Honshu, the rainy season begins before the middle of June and lasts about six weeks.

Japan's climate varies greatly with altitude and with location on the Pacific Ocean side or on the Sea of Japan side. Northern part of Japan has warm summers but long, cold winters with heavy snow. Central part of Japan in its elevated position has hot, humid summers and moderate to short winters with some areas having very heavy snow, and southwestern part of Japan has long, hot, humid summers and mild winters. As a result of this very different climate in a country, Japan is well-known for its biodiversity and cultural diversity compared to other nations of the same size.

Rivers:

Shinano River:

The Shinano River, at 228 miles long, is the longest river in Japan. The river rises from the Japanese Alps in Mount Kobushi, flows northwest to meet the Sai River from Matsumoto and drains into the Sea of Japan. The junction of Chikuma and Sai is famous as the historical site where the Kawanakajima Battles broke. The river provides water for irrigation schemes in Niigata rice plains. In fact, Shinano provides a port for this town. The Okozu Canal establishment built in 1922 protects the plains of Niigata from floods and brings the needed water in the rice fields.

Tone River:

The Tone River has the largest watershed among Japanese rivers, and it is the second-longest river in Japan at 200 miles. The river is located in Kanto, Honshu Island. The river rises from the Echigo Mountains in Mount Ominakami and empties into the Pacific Ocean. It has a drainage basin of around 16,840 square kilometers. The river serves more than 30 million inhabitants of Tokyo.

Ishikari River:

The Ishikari River starts from the Taisetsu Mountain range on the Ishikari Mountain. Located in Hokkaido, the Ishikari River is the third-longest river in the country with 167 miles and a drainage area of 14,330 square kilometers. It flows through Sapporo and Asahikawa.

Teshio River:

The Teshio River is 159 miles long. The river originates from Mount Teshiodake in Hokkaido and from there travels to its mouth at the Sea of Japan. It has a basin of 5,590 square kilometers. Forests surround the upper parts of the river. As it flows into the lowlands, meanders increase giving it the winding snake look. The river offers sporting grounds for people who love canoe travel, and from Nayoro to the estuary, there is a 157-kilometer stretch perfect for canoeing. The river also provides camping grounds and water sporting activities.

Political System:

Japan is a constitutional monarchy, with a parliamentary system of government based on the separation of powers. The Emperor is the symbol of the state and does not hold political functions, only performing ceremonial duties. Nevertheless, he can play a relevant diplomatic role. With Emperor Naruhito's enthronement in 2019, following his father's abdication, Japan has entered the Reiwa (beautiful harmony) age. The 2001 administrative reform strengthened the Prime Minister's leadership in the cabinet. The Chief Cabinet Secretary also plays a relevant role. Suga Yoshihide, leader of the Liberal-Democratic Party, is the country's Prime Minister, succeeding Abe Shinzō, Japan's longest-serving prime minister, in 2020. The Supreme Court is at the top of the judicial system.

- ▶ Japan adopted a constitution in 1947, based on three basic principles: sovereignty of the people, respect for key human rights, and the rejection of war. The Constitution also provides for the independence of the three branches of government: legislative (Parliament), the Executive (Cabinet), and judicial (courts), and discussions are ongoing to amend the Constitution in order to strengthen Japan's role on the world stage.
- ▶ The Japanese parliament, the highest authority in the state, is responsible for the preparation of legislation and regulations and consists of the House of Representatives (475 members) and councilors (242 members).
- ▶ The House of Representatives shall elect the prime minister and approve the public budget, while the House of Councilors will discuss the bills approved by the House of Representatives in advance to become laws after approval by the House.
- ▶ The prime minister is to form the government and present it to the emperor to ratify it and then it is officially launched. The government is accountable to parliament in performing the duties of the Executive power. The Prime Minister has the power to appoint and dismiss ministers. The Emperor is the symbol of the state and the unity of the people.

Emperor:

The Emperor is the symbol of Japan and of the unity of the people, performs the following acts in matters of state, with the advice and approval of the Cabinet, such as the promulgation of amendments of the Constitution, laws, cabinet orders and treaties, the convocation of the Diet, the dissolution of the House of Representatives, the proclamation of general election of members of the Diet, the attestation of the appointment and dismissal of Ministers of State and other officials as provided by laws, and of full powers and credentials of Ambassadors and Ministers, the awarding of honors, the attestation of instruments of ratification and other diplomatic documents as provided by laws, receiving foreign Ambassadors and Ministers and the performance of ceremonial functions, while he has no powers related to government.

Diet:

The National Diet, composed of two houses - the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors, is the highest organ of state power and the sole law-making organ of the State.

The Diet begins its 150 day ordinary session from January each year, which may be extended only once by the Diet. The Cabinet may determine to convoke extraordinary sessions whenever necessary.

Cabinet:

Executive power is vested in the Cabinet, which consists of the Prime Minister and not more than 17 Ministers of State (including Ministers without portfolio and the Chief Cabinet Secretary) and is collectively responsible to the Diet. The Cabinet has to resign en masse when the post of Prime Minister becomes vacant or when the first session of the Diet is convened after a general election of members of the House of Representatives. If the House of Representatives passes a non-confidence resolution or rejects a confidence resolution the Cabinet shall resign en masse, unless the House of Representatives is dissolved within ten days.

Judiciary:

The whole judicial power is vested in the Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as High Courts, District Courts, Family Courts and Summary Courts.

No extraordinary court can be established, nor can any organ of the Executive have final judicial power.

The Justices of the Supreme Court, except the Chief Justice who is appointed by the Emperor, are appointed by the Cabinet. The Judges of inferior courts are also appointed by the Cabinet but only from a list of persons nominated by the Supreme Court.

Economy:

The economy of Japan is a highly developed free-market economy. It is the third-largest in the world by nominal GDP and the fourth-largest by purchasing power parity (PPP). It is the world's second-largest developed economy. Japan is a member of both the G7 and G20. According to the World Bank, the country's per capita GDP (PPP) was at \$40,193 (2020). Due to a volatile currency exchange rate, Japan's GDP as measured in dollars fluctuates sharply. Accounting for these fluctuations through the use of the Atlas method, Japan is estimated to have a GDP per capita around \$39,048. The Japanese economy is forecast by the Quarterly Tankan survey of business sentiment conducted by the Bank of Japan. The Nikkei 225 presents the monthly report of top blue chip equities on the Japan Exchange Group, which is the world's fifth-largest stock exchange by market capitalization.

Japan is the world's second-largest automobile manufacturing country. It is often ranked among the world's most innovative countries, leading several measures of global patent filings. Facing increasing competition from China and South Korea, manufacturing in Japan currently focuses primarily on high-tech and precision goods, such as integrated circuits, hybrid vehicles, and robotics.

Japan's economic freedom score is 69.9, making its economy the 35th freest in the 2022 Index. Japan is ranked 6th among 39 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and its overall score is above the regional and world averages.

Economic growth in Japan slowed to zero in 2019, turned negative in 2020, and rebounded in 2021. Economic freedom has been expanding slowly, but with higher scores for property rights and judicial effectiveness just barely outpacing declines in

business freedom and labor freedom, Japan has managed to record only a 0.3-point overall gain of economic freedom since 2017 and is currently at the top of the “Moderately Free” category. The rule of law remains strong, but fiscal health is extremely weak.

▶ The world’s fourth-largest exporter behind China, America and Germany, Japan shipped US\$756 billion worth of goods around the globe in 2021.

▶ That dollar amount reflects a 17.9% gain since 2020 and an 8.3% increase from 2017 to 2021.

▶ Known as the Land of the Rising Sun, Japan is a major economic and political power in Asia. Mainland China was the number one purchaser of Japanese export products during 2021.

▶ Applying a continental lens, 60.9% of Japan exports by value were delivered to fellow Asian countries while 20.5% were sold to importers in North America. Japan shipped another 12.5% worth of goods to Europe.

▶ Smaller percentages went to Oceania (2.6%) led by Australia, Latin America (2.2%) excluding Mexico but including the Caribbean, then Africa (1.3%).

Trade Partners in term of Exports:

1.China: US\$163.6 billion (21.6% of total Japanese exports)

2.United States: \$135.7 billion (18%)

3.Taiwan: \$54.4 billion (7.2%)

4.South Korea: \$52.5 billion (6.9%)

5.Hong Kong: \$35.4 billion (4.7%)

6.Thailand: \$33 billion (4.4%)

7.Germany: \$20.7 billion (2.7%)

8.Singapore: \$20 billion (2.6%)

▶ **Population:** 125.8 million

▶ **GDP (PPP):** \$5.3 trillion

▶ **-4.8% growth**

▶ **-0.3% 5-year compound annual growth**

▶ **\$42,248 per capita**

▶ **Unemployment: 3.0%**

▶ **Inflation (CPI): 0.0%**

▶ **FDI Inflow: \$10.3 billion**

Defense:

Japan's 1 percent normative cap on defense spending was first established in 1976. Japanese leaders since then have aimed to stay at or below this threshold with very few exceptions, reinforcing post-war Japan's exclusively defense-oriented security policy. In recent years, however, Japan's security environment has steadily deteriorated as its neighbors' military capabilities have grown and their postures have become more aggressive. China has risen as a global power and has increased provocations around the Japanese-controlled Senkaku Islands (claimed by China as the Diaoyu Islands). North Korea has been testing missiles at an alarming rate, and recent reports indicate that Pyongyang could be close to resuming nuclear weapons testing. More recently, Japan's condemnation of Russia's war with Ukraine has all but dashed any hopes for a near-future solution to the Japan-Russia territorial dispute.

Japan is proposing to double its defense budget to around £86 billion, or 2% of its GDP.

For 2022, Japan is ranked 5 of 142 out of the countries considered for the annual GFP review.

Manpower:

Total Population: 124,687,293

Available Manpower: 53,615,536 (43.0%)

Fit-for-Service: 43,391,178 (34.8%)

Reaching Mil Age Annually: 1,122,186 (0.9%)

Tot Military Personnel (est.): 309,000 (0.2%)

Active Personnel: 240,000 (0.2%)

Reserve Personnel: 55,000 (0.0%)

Paramilitary: 14,000 (0.0%)

Air Power:

Total Aircraft Strength: 1,449

Fighters/Interceptors: 217 (15.0%)

Dedicated Attack: 23 (1.6%)

Transports: 59 (4.1%)

Trainers: 425 (29.3%)

Special-Mission: 164 (11.3%)

Tanker Fleet: 7 (0.5%)

Helicopters: 554 (38.2%)

Attack Helicopters: 119 (8.2%)

Land:

Tanks: 1,004

Armored Vehicles: 5,500

Self-Propelled Artillery: 214

Towed Artillery: 480

Rocket Projectors: 99

Naval:

Total Assets: 155
Aircraft Carriers: 0
Helicopter Carriers: 4
Destroyers: 36
Frigates: 4
Corvettes: 6
Submarines: 21
Patrol Vessels: 6
Mine Warfare: 22

Logistics:

Labor Force: 66,540,000
Merchant Marine Fleet: 5,201
Ports / Trade Terminals: 44
Roadway Coverage: 1,218,772
Railway Coverage: 27,311
Airports: 175

Japan Membership of International Organizations:

Japan's emergence as a great power and economic powerhouse coincided with the rise of international organizations in global politics. International organizations now facilitate cooperation in essentially all arenas of international relations. This article surveys major academic debates about Japan and international organizations across three time periods: from the Meiji Restoration until World War II; the postwar liberal international order; and the recent era of contestation. Japan has played a variety of roles as creator, reformer, and disruptor of international organizations. After World War II, Japan contributed actively to the liberal international order as a key democratic ally of the United States. Recent shifts in the international system and Japanese domestic politics are reconfiguring Japan's policy toward international organizations, opening exciting avenues for future research.

- ▶ African Development Bank (AfDB) (non-regional member)
- ▶ Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- ▶ Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
- ▶ Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) (dialogue partner)

- ▶ Australia Group
- ▶ Bank for International Settlements (BIS)
- ▶ Council of Europe (CE) (observer)
- ▶ East Asia Summit (EAS)
- ▶ European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- ▶ European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) (observer)
- ▶ Group of Five (G5)
- ▶ Group of Seven (G7)
- ▶ Group of Eight (G8)
- ▶ Group of Ten (G10)
- ▶ Group of Twenty Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (G20)
- ▶ Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)
- ▶ International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- ▶ Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA)
- ▶ South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) (observer)
- ▶ Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) (observer)
- ▶ United Nations (UN)
- ▶ United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- ▶ United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)
- ▶ United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- ▶ World Trade Organization (WTO)
- ▶ World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)
- ▶ World Health Organization (WHO)
- ▶ World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

CANADA



MAP



History:

From the late 15th century, French and British expeditions explored, colonized, and fought over various places within North America in what constitutes present-day Canada. The colony of New France was claimed in 1534 with permanent settlements beginning in 1608. France ceded nearly all its North American possessions to the United Kingdom in 1763 at the Treaty of Paris after the Seven Years' War. The now British Province of Quebec was divided into Upper and Lower Canada in 1791. The two provinces were united as the Province of Canada by the Act of Union 1840, which came into force in 1841.

In 1867, the Province of Canada was joined with two other British colonies of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia through Confederation, forming a self-governing entity. "Canada" was adopted as the legal name of the new country and the word "Dominion" was conferred as the country's title.

Over the next eighty-two years, Canada expanded by incorporating other parts of British North America, finishing with Newfoundland and Labrador in 1949. The Balfour Declaration of 1926, the 1930 Imperial Conference and the passing of the Statute of Westminster in 1931 recognized that Canada had become co-equal with the United Kingdom. The Patriation of the Constitution in 1982, marked the removal of legal dependence on the British parliament. Canada currently consists of ten provinces and three territories and is a parliamentary democracy and a constitutional monarchy.

Over centuries, elements of Indigenous, French, British and more recent immigrant customs have combined to form a Canadian culture that has also been strongly influenced by its linguistic, geographic and economic neighbor, the United States. Since the conclusion of the Second World War, Canadians have supported multilateralism abroad and socioeconomic development.

Geography:

Canada is a vast and rugged land. From north to south it spans more than half the Northern Hemisphere. From east to west it stretches almost 4,700 miles (7,560 kilometers) across six time zones. It is the second largest country in the world, but it has only one-half of one percent of the world's population. where it borders the United States, Canada's only neighboring nation to its south (and north-east, via the isolated state of Alaska). Canada's national motto, a Mari Usque ad Mare, or "From Sea to Sea," captures the vastness of the nation, as the country quite literally stretches from the Pacific Ocean on its western coast to the Atlantic Ocean on its east. Some have even suggested adding a third "...to Sea" in the motto to reflect the fact the country reaches high enough north to touch the Arctic Ocean as well.

Canada features black-blue lakes, numerous rivers, majestic western mountains, rolling central plains, and forested eastern valleys. The Canadian Shield, a hilly region of lakes and swamps, stretches across northern Canada and has some of the oldest rocks on Earth.

Canada's far north lies in the frozen grip of the Arctic, where ice, snow, and glaciers dominate the landscape. Few trees grow here, and farming is not practical. Native Canadians, called First Nations people, live in this region by hunting and fishing.

- ▶ Continent: North America
- ▶ Region: Northern America
- ▶ Coordinates: 60°00, N 95°00, W
- ▶ Area: Ranked 2nd
 - Total 9,984,671 km² (3,855,103 sq mi)
 - Land 91.08%
 - Water 8.92%
- ▶ Coastline: 243,042 km (151,019 mi)
- ▶ Borders: 8,893 km
- ▶ Highest point: Mount Logan, 5,959 m (19,551 ft)
- ▶ Lowest point: Atlantic Ocean, Sea Level
- ▶ Longest river: Mackenzie River, 4,241 km (2,635 mi)
- ▶ Largest lake: Great Bear Lake, 31,153 km² (12,028 sq mi)
- ▶ Exclusive economic zone: 5,599,077 km² (2,161,816 sq mi)

Climate:

Because of its great latitudinal extent, Canada has a wide variety of climates. Ocean currents play an important role, with both the warm waters of the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic and the Alaska Current in the Pacific affecting climate. Westerly winds, blowing from the sea to the land, are the prevailing air currents in the Pacific and bring coastal British Columbia heavy precipitation and moderate winter and summer temperatures. Inland, the Great Lakes moderate the weather in both southern Ontario and Quebec. In the east the cold Labrador Current meets the Gulf Stream along the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador, cooling the air and causing frequent fog.

In the winter those parts of the country farthest from open water are the coldest, so that in the interior plains and in the North the winters are extremely cold. The lowest temperature ever recorded was -81°F (-63°C) at Snag, Yukon, in 1947. During the summer, however, the parts of Canada farthest from open water are the warmest. The highest temperature recorded was 113°F (45°C) at Midale and Yellow Grass, both in Saskatchewan, in 1937. Thus, west-coast Vancouver has an average January temperature of 37°F (3°C) and an average July temperature of 64°F (18°C), while in Regina, Saskatchewan, on the interior plains, average temperatures vary from -1 to 67°F (-18 to 19°C). The daily range of temperature is also narrower on the coasts than in interior locations.

Humid air masses from the Pacific cause enormous quantities of orographic (mountain-caused) rain to fall on the west coast and mountain areas. Several sites along the British Columbia coast receive annual quantities in excess of 100 inches (2,500 mm), but British Columbia receives much less precipitation in summer than in winter because low-pressure systems move on a more northerly track in summer and seldom cross the southern part of the coast. Vancouver has an annual average precipitation of about 40 inches (1,000 mm).

Rivers:

Canada is a nation that is known for its vast number of lakes and rivers. Although this country is not home to the longest river in the world, it does have an entry that cracks the top fifteen. Some of the rivers and river systems in this nation are large.

South Saskatchewan River:

The South Saskatchewan River is a tributary of the Saskatchewan River. It begins at the Bow Glacier in Alberta and flows for 865 miles before it joins the Saskatchewan River. Although the river does flow exclusively in Canada, a portion of the river basin is located in the United States.

Churchill River:

The Churchill River is famous for the various fish species that live in the water as well as the presence of belugas near the river's mouth. The headwaters of the river are located at Churchill Lake. From there, the river flows 1,000 miles out to Hudson Bay in Manitoba. This river is important to this part of Canada for the various hydroelectric developments on the river and is planned to be implemented in the future.

Columbia River:

The river begins at Columbia Lake in Canada, but a lot of the Columbia River flows through the United States. This river is known for many things including the bountiful fish that live in the river as well as the outflow of the river. Also, the Columbia River has the greatest discharge rate of any river that has a mouth in the Pacific Ocean.

Slave River:

The Slave River's unfortunate-sounding name is likely derived from a First Nations group known as the Slavey. The river first starts at the delta formed by the Peace River and Lake Athabasca and flows primarily northwest until it reaches its mouth at the Great Slave Lake. The river is known throughout the world for its challenging and dangerous rapids.

Yukon River:

The Yukon River's source is the Llewellyn Glacier in Canada, but much of the river flows through Alaska in the United States before reaching its mouth, the Bering Sea. The river is important to First Nations people and Native Americans, both in a present and historical sense. Efforts are underway to help reduce pollution throughout the river. The length of the Yukon river is 1979 miles.

Mackenzie River:

The Mackenzie River is the longest river in Canada. This river stems from the Great Slave Lake and flows over 2,600 miles to the Beaufort Sea in the Arctic Ocean. Despite being a very large river, the economic opportunities and hydroelectric potential along this river are somewhat limited due to the remote areas it flows through.

Political System:

Canada's political system is based on that of the United Kingdom. It is a constitutional monarchy, which means that we recognize the Queen or King as the Head of State, while the Prime Minister is the Head of Government.

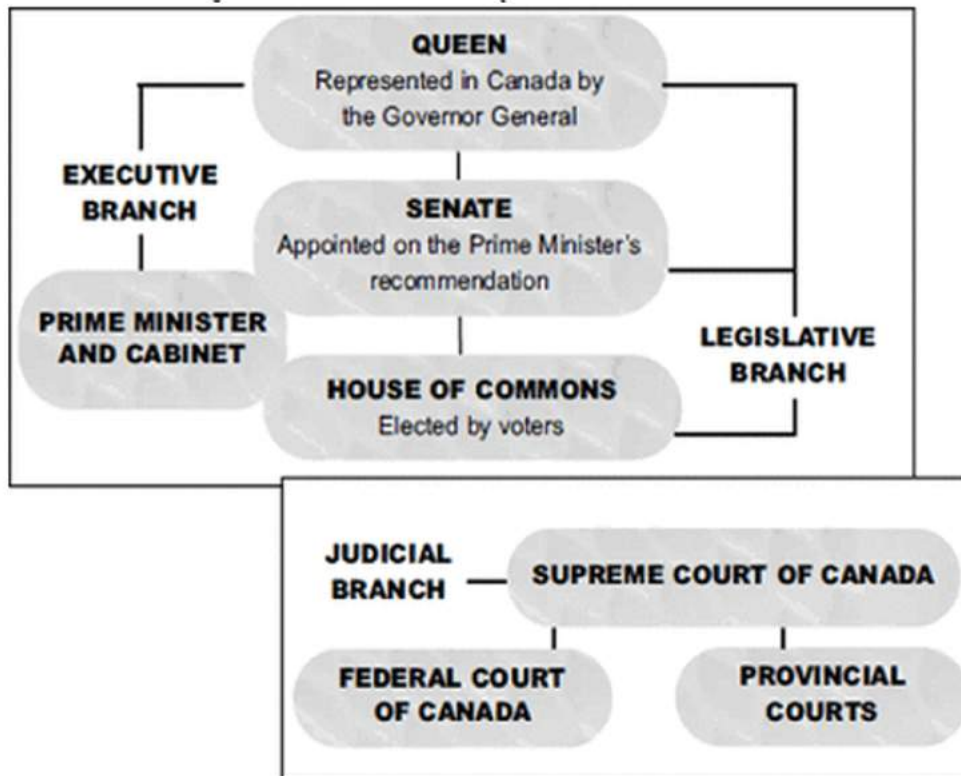
► Canada's Parliament is composed of the Queen of Canada (who is officially represented by the Governor General), the Senate and the House of Commons. The Senate has 105 seats and its members are appointed by the Governor General on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. The House of Commons consists of 338 members who are elected by Canadian citizens in general elections and by-elections.

► According to Canada's Constitution, elections are held at least once every five years. However, an election may be called earlier if the Governor General accepts the resignation of the Prime Minister after the Government has been defeated on a motion of confidence in the House and the Governor General does not ask the leader of another party to become Prime Minister and form a government. In 2007, Parliament passed Bill C-16, which established fixed election dates every four years on the third Monday in October.

► Representation in the House of Commons is based on geographical divisions known as "electoral districts," commonly referred to as "ridings." The number of electoral districts is established by a formula set out in the Constitution Act, 1867, and one member of Parliament (MP) is elected in each electoral district. Canada currently has 338 ridings.

► Canada's electoral system is referred to as a "single-member plurality" or "first-past-the-post" system. In every electoral district, the candidate with the highest number of votes wins a seat in the House of Commons and represents that electoral district as an MP. An absolute majority (more than 50 percent of the votes in the electoral district) is not required for a candidate to be elected.

► Voting in Canada is by secret ballot. The security of the ballot is paramount, and the system makes it impossible to discover who any voter has voted for.



Economy:

The economy of Canada is a highly developed mixed-market economy. It is the 8th-largest GDP by nominal and 15th-largest GDP by PPP in the world. As with other developed nations, the country's economy is dominated by the service industry which employs about three quarters of Canadians. Canada has the third-highest total estimated value of natural resources, valued at US\$33.98 trillion in 2021. It has the world's third-largest proven oil reserves and is the fourth-largest exporter of crude oil. It is also the fifth-largest exporter of natural gas.

Canada's economy is dominated by the private sector, though some enterprises (e.g., postal services, some electric utilities, and some transportation services) have remained publicly owned. During the 1990s some nationalized industries were privatized. Canadian agriculture is firmly private, but it has come to depend on government subsidies in order to compete with the highly subsidized agricultural sectors of the European Union (EU) and the United States. Several marketing boards for specific farm commodities practice supply management and establish floor prices.

According to the Corruption Perceptions Index, Canada is perceived as one of the least corrupt countries in the world, and is one of the world's top ten trading nations, with a highly globalized economy. As of 2022, Its average household disposable income per capita is "well above" the OECD average. The Toronto Stock Exchange is the eighth-largest stock exchange in the world by market capitalization, listing over 1,500 companies with a combined market capitalization of over US\$3 trillion.

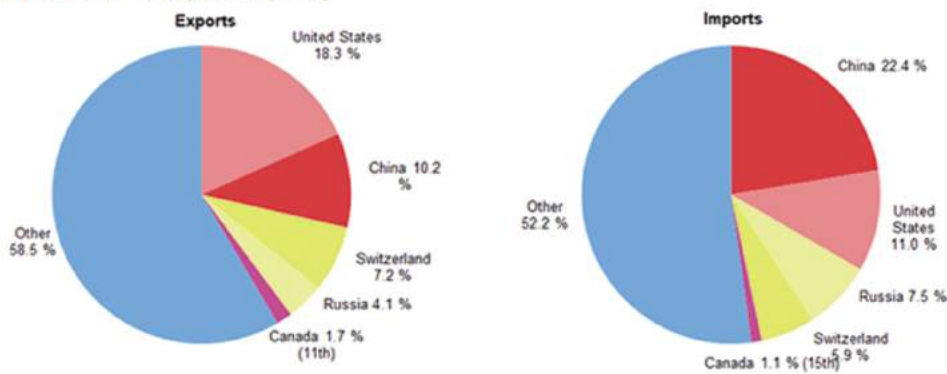
Canada's economic freedom score is 76.6, making its economy the 15th freest in the 2022 Index. Canada is ranked 1st among 32 countries in the Americas region, and its overall score is above the regional and world averages.

Over the past five years, Canada’s economic growth has decelerated, turning negative in 2020, although growth appears to have resumed in 2021. Economic freedom reached a high in Canada in 2011 and has been declining gradually ever since. Weakened by score decreases in government spending and fiscal health, Canada has recorded a 1.9-point overall loss of economic freedom since 2017 and has fallen further in the top half of the “Mostly Free” category. Rule of law is strong, but government spending remains excessive.

- ▶ Population: 38.0 million
- ▶ GDP (PPP): \$1.9 trillion
- ▶ -5.4% growth
- ▶ 0.6% 5-year compound annual growth
- ▶ \$48,720 per capita
- ▶ Unemployment: 9.5%
- ▶ Inflation (CPI): 0.7%
- ▶ FDI Inflow: \$23.8 billion

Trade Partners:

Canada among the EU's main partners for trade in goods, 2021
(% share of extra-EU exports/imports)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: ext_st_eu27_2020sitc and DS-018995)



Defense:

Canada has faced growing calls to boost its defense spending to meet the NATO target in light of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

The Liberal government spent an estimated 1.36 percent of Canada’s GDP on the military last year. Based on government figures, Giroux forecasts that Canada’s total military spending will increase from \$36.3 billion in the 2022-23 fiscal year to approximately \$51 billion in 2026-27. Canada's defense spending increased 67 per cent between 2014 and 2021.

The Canadian government released a fiscal year (FY) 2022–23 federal budget on 7 April, which boosts defense spending by more than CAD8 billion (USD6.4 billion) over five years.



Most of the funding, CAD6.1 billion, will help Canada meet its commitments to allies and continental defense and buy new equipment for the Canadian Armed Forces, the government said. The additional spending will also improve the country's cyber-security and promote cultural change in the military.

The government said it will launch a new defense policy review to determine whether its armed forces are adequately sized, equipped, and funded in light of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. To bolster Ukrainian forces in the short term, the federal budget includes USD500 million in military aid for Ukraine in FY 2022–23.

For 2022, Canada is ranked 23 of 142 out of the countries considered for the annual GFP review.

Manpower:

Total Population: 37,943,231

Available Manpower: 16,315,589 (43.0%)

Fit-for-Service: 13,204,244 (34.8%)

Reaching Mil Age Annually: 417,376 (1.1%)

Tot Military Personnel (est.): 94,500 (0.2%)

Active Personnel: 70,000 (0.2%)

Reserve Personnel: 19,000 (0.1%)

Paramilitary: 5,500 (0.0%)

Airpower:

Total Aircraft Strength: 380

Fighters/Interceptors: 63 (16.6%)

Dedicated Attack: 0 (0.0%)

Transports: 36 (9.5%)

Trainers: 133 (35.0%)

Special-Mission: 24 (6.3%)

Tanker Fleet: 6 (1.6%)

Helicopters: 118 (31.1%)

Naval:

Total Assets: 61

Aircraft Carriers: 0

Helicopter Carriers: 0

Destroyers: 0

Frigates: 12

Corvettes: 0

Submarines: 4

Patrol Vessels: 12

Mine Warfare: 0

Land:

Tanks: 82

Armored Vehicles: 1,534

Self-Propelled Artillery: 0

Towed Artillery: 163

Logistics:

Labor Force: 18,136,000

Merchant Marine Fleet: 679

Ports / Trade Terminals: 13

Roadway Coverage: 1,042,300

Railway Coverage: 77,932

Airports: 1,467

Canada Membership of International Organization:

Canada takes an active role in multilateral forums, demonstrating our commitment to peace, security, sustainability and prosperity. Canada works to advance these global priorities through its support for the following organizations, summits and forums:

- ▶ Canada and the Arctic Council
- ▶ Canada and the Order of Malta
- ▶ Canada and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
- ▶ Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- ▶ Canada and the European Union (EU),
- ▶ Canada and La Francophonie
- ▶ Canada and the G7
- ▶ Canada and the G20
- ▶ Canada and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- ▶ Canada and the International Criminal Court
- ▶ Canada and Canada and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- ▶ Canada and the Open Government Partnership
- ▶ Canada and the Organization of American States (OAS)
- ▶ Canada & the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- ▶ Canada and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
- ▶ Canada and the Pacific Alliance
- ▶ Canada and the United Nations (UN)
- ▶ Canada & the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- ▶ Canada and the World Trade Organization (WTO) the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN)

The Government of Canada supports a number of multilateral development institutions, global initiatives and international humanitarian assistance organizations to fulfill its international development mandate of helping people living in poverty. Working closely with these partners, Canada can respond quickly to humanitarian crises and pressing global development challenges. Canada works to ensure that these institutions and the multilateral system function effectively, deliver strong results, and remain viable mechanisms for building consensus on important issues.

- ▶ Canada and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- ▶ Canada and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (RCM)
- ▶ Canada and UNAIDS (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS)
- ▶ Canada and UNICEF
- ▶ Canada's Development Finance Institution
- ▶ Canada and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- ▶ Canada and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- ▶ Canada and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- ▶ Canada and the World Bank Group (WBG)
- ▶ Canada and the Commonwealth
- ▶ Canada and the World Food Programme (WFP)
- ▶ Canada and the World Health Organization (WHO)
- ▶ Canada and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
- ▶ Canada and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

NORTH KOREA



MAP



History:

The history of North Korea began at the end of World War II in 1945. The surrender of Japan led to the division of Korea at the 38th parallel, with the Soviet Union occupying the north, and the United States occupying the south. The Soviet Union and the United States failed to agree on a way to unify the country, and in 1948, they established two separate governments the Soviet-aligned Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the American-aligned Republic of Korea each claiming to be the legitimate government of all of Korea.

In 1950, the Korean War broke out. After much destruction, the war ended with a stalemate. The division at the 38th parallel was replaced by the Korean Demilitarized Zone. Tension between the two sides continued. Out of the rubble North Korea built an industrialized command economy.

Kim Il-sung led North Korea until his death in 1994. He developed a pervasive personality cult and steered the country on an independent course in accordance with the principle of Juche (self-reliance). However, with natural disasters and the collapse of the Soviet Bloc in 1991, North Korea went into a severe economic crisis. Kim Il-sung's son, Kim Jong-il, succeeded him, and was in turn succeeded by his grandson, Kim Jong-un.

Geography:

North Korea, a country in East Asia. It occupies the northern portion of the Korean peninsula, which juts out from the Asian mainland between the East Sea (Sea of Japan) and the Yellow Sea; North Korea covers about 55 percent of the peninsula's land area. The country is bordered by China and Russia to the north and by the Republic of Korea (South Korea) to the south. North Korea faces South Korea across a demilitarized zone (DMZ) 2.5 miles (4 km) wide that was established by the terms of the 1953 armistice that ended fighting in the Korean War (1950–53). The DMZ, which runs for about 150 miles (240 km), constitutes the 1953 military cease-fire line and roughly follows latitude 38° N (the 38th parallel) from the mouth of the Han River on the west coast of the Korean peninsula to a little south of the North Korean town of Kosŏng on the east coast.

North Korea is a land of mountains and hills separated by deep, narrow valleys. Paektu-san, or "white head mountain" in the Korean language, is the country's tallest mountain, reaching 9,003 feet (2,744 meters). It sprouts off the volcanic Baekdu Mountain, which sits near the country's border with China.

The Yalu River is the longest river in North Korea, stretching 491 miles (790 kilometers). It begins on Paektu-san and flows southwest to the Yellow Sea. The Tumen River also begins on Paektu-san; it flows east into the Sea of Japan.

Climate:

North Korea has a combination of a continental climate and an oceanic climate, with four distinct seasons. Most of North Korea is classified as being of a humid continental climate within the Köppen climate classification scheme, with warm summers and cold, dry winters. In summer, there is a short rainy season called changma.

North Korea has a generally cool continental climate. The winter season, from December to March, is long and cold; mean temperatures in January range between about 20 °F (−7 °C) in the south and −10 °F (−23 °C) in the northern interior.

The summer, from June to September, is warm, with mean July temperatures above the upper 60s F (about 20 °C) in most places. Accordingly, the annual range of temperatures is large—about 54 °F (30 °C) at P'yŏngyang and about 77 °F (43 °C) at Chunggang (Chunggangjin), where the lowest temperature in the Korean peninsula, -46.5 °F (-43.6 °C), has been recorded. Because of ocean currents and the mountain ranges bordering the narrow coastal lowlands, winter temperatures on the east coast are some 5 to 7 °F (3 to 4 °C) higher than those of the west coast.

Most of the country receives about 40 inches (1,000 mm) of precipitation annually. The northern inland plateau, however, receives only about 24 inches (610 mm) and the lower reaches of the Taedong River valley 32 inches (810 mm), while the upper Ch'ŏngch'ŏn River area averages between about 48 and 52 inches (1,220 and 1,320 mm) yearly. Some three-fifths of the annual precipitation falls in the four months from June to September; this heavy concentration of rainfall is related to the humid summer monsoon from the Pacific Ocean, which also produces occasional typhoons (tropical cyclones). Only a small portion of the total precipitation occurs in winter, generally as snow; snowfall can be locally heavy, as in the T'aebaek Mountains. There are about 200 frost-free days along the coast but fewer than 120 in the northern Kaema Highlands.

Rivers:***Yalu:***

The Yalu River, also known as the Amnok River, is located on the border between North Korea and China. It originates from Mount Paektu 8,200 feet above sea level and flows south into the Korean Bay. It is 491 miles long and more than 200 islands can be found on the river. The river plays a significant role in the economy of North Korea in that it supports the largest hydroelectric dam in Asia, made easy the transportation, as well as provides fish for the locals for subsistence.

Tumen:

The Tumen River, also known as the Tumen River, is a river 324 miles long, flowing from Mount Paektu in the northeastern region of Asia. It flows through the China-North Korea border, the North Korea-Russia border, and finally drains into the Sea of Japan. Though heavily polluted by industries from both North Korea and China, it still is a major tourist attraction site.

Taedong:

The Taedong River is a 273-mile-long river originating from the Rangrim Mountains in the northern regions of North Korea and eventually drains into Korea Bay. It flows through the country's capital, Pyongyang, and it is the second longest river in the Korean Peninsula and the largest wholly within North Korea. The river is mainly used for transport and is deep enough to be navigated by large ships.

Bukhan:

The Bukhan River is a 197-mile-long river flowing through both North Korea and South Korea, with its trail beginning from the Geumgangsan area in North Korea. It flows across the Kangwon Province in North Korea, as well as the Gangwon and Gyeonggi provinces of South Korea. It is a tributary of the Han River, and as such is often referred to as the North Han River. In Yangyeong, it joins the Namhan River to form the Han River.

Other Major Rivers In North Korea:

The Imjin River is 158-mile-long river flowing from North Korea to South Korea through three provinces, namely including North Korea's Kangwon and North Hwanghae provinces, and South Korea's Gyeonggi province. It originates from Turyu Mountain and joins the Han River, near the Yellow Sea. The Changja River is a river 148 miles long flowing through the North County and Kanggye City in North Korea. The ChongChon River originates from the Rangrim Mountains in North Korea and flows through two provinces Myonhyang-San and South Pyongan. It is 135 miles long and drains into the Yellow Sea.

Political System:

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK, also known as North Korea) is a highly centralized totalitarian state. Despite being one of the poorest countries in the world, it maintains one of the largest militaries and devotes significant resources to its nuclear weapon and ballistic missile development programs. These programs pose a serious threat to international peace and security and a major challenge to global non-proliferation objectives.

Constitution:

Adopted: 1942; Last amended in 2012. Establishes status as a socialist state and defined as a dictatorship of people's democracy. People have civil and political rights but they are superseded by safeguarding the political and ideological unity of the people.

Since the leadership succession in 2012, Kim Jong-un has begun to reshape the regime to his own liking. Politically, the key aspects of this process have included the rehabilitation of central party institutions, the weakening of the military's influence over politics and the economy, and the redistribution of trade licenses among power-holding agencies. Remaining members of older generations from the time of Kim Jong-il's rule, including some members of Kim Jong-un's own family, were removed through forced early retirements, abrupt promotions or demotions and purges. Kim Jong-un appears to be focusing more on practical tactics rather than relying on abstract ideology and rhetoric.

Government Type:

Communist State under Totalitarian Dictatorship.

Government Branches:

Main Powers

Executive:

The Cabinet is the administrative and executive body of the highest organ of state power and a general state management organ.

No credible election process.

Until dismissal by the Chief of State.

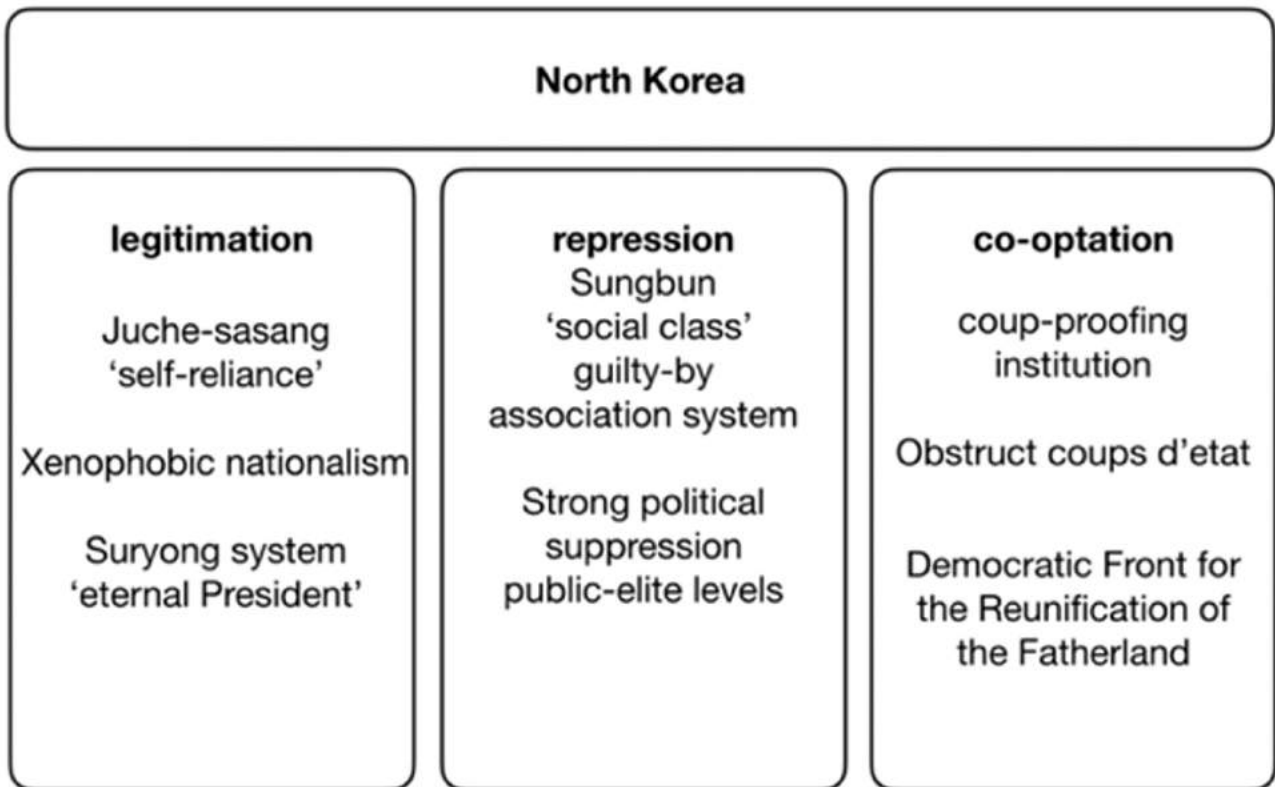
Judicial:

The judiciary does not practice judicial review. The security forces so often interfere with the actions of the judiciary that the conclusion of most cases is foregone. Experts outside North Korea and numerous defectors confirm this to be a widespread problem.

Elections in North Korea are non-competitive and have only single candidate races.

Legislative:

The Supreme People's Assembly always passes all proposals by the government into law during its sessions with almost no debate or modification.



Economy:

The country of North Korea, officially known as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), has an isolated and tightly controlled command economy. A command economy is a standard component of any communist country. In a command economy, the economy is centrally planned and coordinated by the government.

The government of North Korea determines what goods should be produced, how much should be produced, and the price at which the goods are offered for sale. North Korea had begun to experience severe economic hardships. The Soviet Union had collapsed, and the communist regimes of its eastern European allies had fallen, depriving North Korea of most of its trading partners and much of its former aid. China reduced but did not completely cut off its provision of materials to North Korea, but in 1992 it began to demand cash payments in place of grants-in-aid or credit accounts. In addition, in the mid-1990s the country suffered a series of natural disasters, including floods and drought. Serious grain and food shortages resulted, and starvation and malnutrition were widespread throughout the country.

The situation improved somewhat by the end of the decade because of a massive infusion of international food assistance. In July 2002 the government proclaimed a new policy intended to deal with the huge gap that had developed between the official economy and the so-called "real people's economy" (i.e., a black market), which was in the throes of runaway inflation.

Today, China is North Korea's main trading partner. North Korea relies on China for both economic and diplomatic assistance. It is estimated close to 86% of the region's exports from North Korea were directed to China.

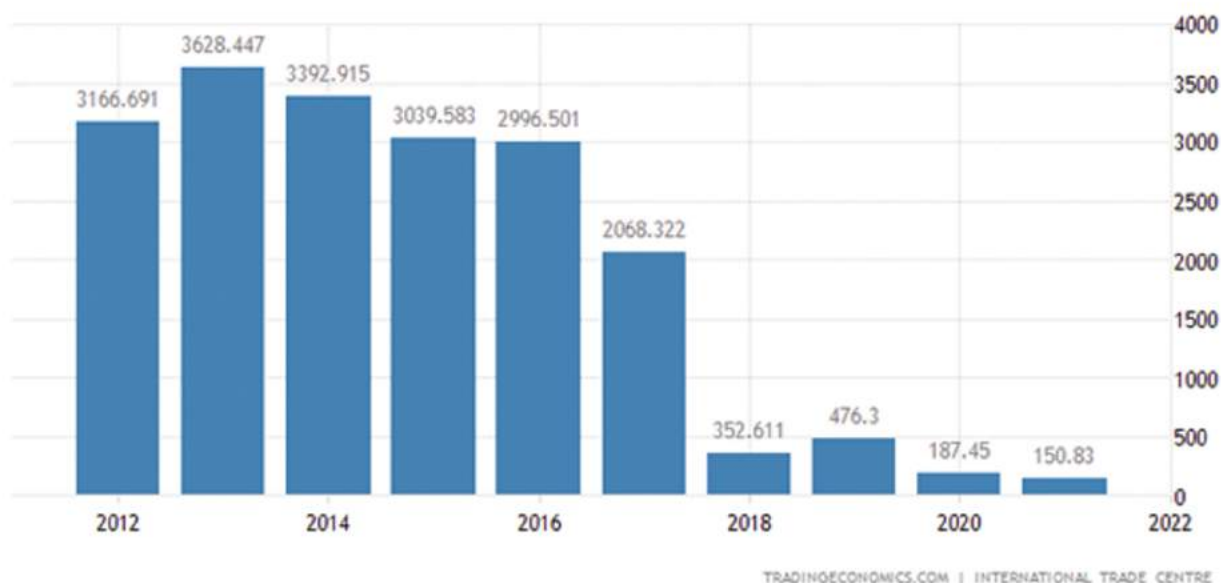
The country's main exports are metallurgical products, minerals, manufactured products, textiles, and agricultural and fishy products. The main import items for North Korea are petroleum coking coal, machinery, equipment, textiles and grain. More than 90% of the region's total imports came from China.

North Korea's economic freedom score is 3.0, making its economy the 177th freest in the 2022 Index. North Korea is ranked 39th among 39 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and its overall score is below the regional and world averages.

North Korea's economy is estimated to have shrunk by 8.0 percent in 2020 and by a further 5.0 percent in 2021. Commercial and business activity is severely repressed, and the country has been ranked lowest in the world every year since the inception of the Index in 1995. Chronic structural problems beset one of the world's most centrally commanded and least open economies. In a country that lacks even the most basic policy infrastructure of a free-market economy, individuals and businesses lack any economic freedom whatsoever, both in principle and in practice.

- ▶ Population: 25.8 million
- ▶ GDP (PPP): -8.0% growth
- ▶ -1.9% 5-year compound annual growth
- ▶ Unemployment: 2.8%
- ▶ Inflation (CPI): unknown
- ▶ FDI Inflow: \$6.0 million

Exports in North Korea decreased to 150.83 USD Million in 2021 from 187.45 USD Million in 2020.



Defense:

North Korea ranked No.1 in the world in terms of the proportion of military spending in gross domestic product between 2007-2020, though the total amount accounts for only one-tenth of South Korea's military expenditure, a U.S. State Department report showed.

According to the State Department's World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers 2019 report, the North's military expenditure averaged about US\$3.6 billion a year. That accounts for 13.4 to 23.3 percent of the country's average GDP of \$17 billion during the period.

North Korea has embarked on an accelerated buildup of nuclear weapons and the modernization of its already large conventional force. North Korea could have the material for more than one hundred nuclear weapons, according to analysts' estimates. It has successfully tested missiles that could strike the United States with a nuclear warhead.

It has the world's fourth-largest military, with more than 1.2 million personnel, and is believed to possess chemical and biological weapons.

North Korea has tested more than one hundred ballistic missiles with the ability to carry nuclear warheads, including short-, medium-, intermediate-, and intercontinental-range missiles and submarine-launched ones.

The regime successfully tested intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), each capable of carrying a large nuclear warhead, in July and November 2017. Pyongyang said that in its November test of the Hwasong-15 ICBM, the missile hit an altitude of 4,475 kilometers (2,780 miles), far above the International Space Station, and flew about 1,000 kilometers (590 miles) before landing in the sea off Japan's coast. Analysts estimate the Hwasong-15 has a potential range of 13,000 kilometers (8,100 miles) and, if fired on a flatter trajectory, could reach anywhere on the U.S. mainland. American analysts and experts from other countries still debate the nuclear payload that North Korea's ICBMs could carry, and it is still unclear whether the ICBMs have the capability to survive reentry.

For 2022, North Korea is ranked 30 of 142 out of the countries considered for the annual GFP review.

Manpower:

Total Population: 25,831,360

Available Manpower: 9,299,290 (36.0%)

Fit-for-Service: 5,217,935 (20.2%)

Reaching Mil Age Annually: 413,302 (1.6%)

Tot Military Personnel (est.): 2,000,000 (7.7%)

Active Personnel: 1,200,000 (4.6%)

Reserve Personnel: 600,000 (2.3%)

Paramilitary: 200,000 (0.8%)

Air Power:

Total Aircraft Strength: 946

Fighters/Interceptors: 458 (48.4%)

Dedicated Attack: 114 (12.1%)

Transports: 1 (0.1%)

Trainers: 169 (17.9%)

Special-Mission: 0 (0.0%)

Tanker Fleet: 0 (0.0%)

Helicopters: 204 (21.6%)

Attack Helicopters: 20 (2.1%)

Land:

Tanks: 5,895

Armored Vehicles: 4,114

Self-Propelled Artillery: 450

Towed Artillery: 250

Rocket Projectors: 1,360

Naval:

Total Assets: 450

Aircraft Carriers: 0

Helicopter Carriers: 0

Destroyers: 0

Frigates: 5

Corvettes: 0

Submarines: 35

Patrol Vessels: 200

Mine Warfare: 10

Logistics:

Labor Force: 14,000,000

Merchant Marine Fleet: 264

Ports / Trade Terminals: 7

Roadway Coverage: 25,554

Railway Coverage: 7,435

Airports: 82

North Korea Membership of International Organizations:

Despite a successive increase in the DPRK's engagement with international organizations and institutions since the 1970s, research on North Korean foreign policy largely ignores the role of multilateralism in the DPRK's overall foreign policy conception and thus lacks a sufficient understanding of the country's engagement with the international community through international organizations and institutions. This is all the more surprising given that encouraging the engagement of North Korea into stable structures of cooperation is considered to be among the most pressing tasks in contemporary Northeast Asia. Such an engagement, however, presupposes an understanding of the motives and strategies that lead to North Korean engagement in or disengagement from regional and international organizations and institutions.

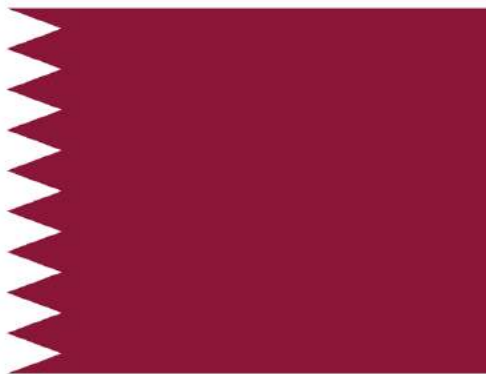
- ▶ United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) 1973
- ▶ World Health Organization (WHO) 1973
- ▶ International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) 1974 Withdrew membership in 1994
- ▶ United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) 1974
- ▶ Universal Postal Union (UPU) 1974
- ▶ World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) 1974
- ▶ International Telecommunication Union (ITU) 1975
- ▶ World Meteorological Organization (WMO) 1975
- ▶ Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 1977
- ▶ International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) 1977
- ▶ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) 1979
- ▶ United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) 1981
- ▶ United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) 1985
- ▶ United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 1985
- ▶ United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) 1986
- ▶ International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) 1986
- ▶ International Maritime Organization (IMO) 1986
- ▶ World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) 1987
- ▶ United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) 1989
- ▶ United Nations (UN) 1991
- ▶ United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) 1992
- ▶ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) 1994
- ▶ Conference on Disarmament (CD)

- ▶ World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) 1947 Joined through the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea prior to DPRK independence
- ▶ International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (ICRM) 1948
- ▶ International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 1954
- ▶ International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) 1956
- ▶ Joint Institute for Nuclear Research 1956
- ▶ Organization for Co-Operation between Railways (OSJD) 1956
- ▶ Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) 1958
- ▶ Group of 77 (G-77) 1964
- ▶ Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) 1973
- ▶ Asia-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO) 1974
- ▶ International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML) 1974 Correspondent Member
- ▶ International Bureau of Education (IBE) 1975
- ▶ Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) 1975
- ▶ Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) 1978
- ▶ Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) 1981
- ▶ International Bureau of Weights and Measures (IBWM) 1981
- ▶ Intersputnik International Organization of Space Communications 1983
- ▶ International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) 1986 Withdrew 1996
- ▶ International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) 1987
- ▶ Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) 1989
- ▶ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 1995
- ▶ The South Center 1995
- ▶ International Textile & Clothing Bureau (ITCB) 1999
- ▶ International Telecommunications and Satellite Organization (ITSO or INTELSAT) 2001
- ▶ Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT) 2001
- ▶ World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) 2001
- ▶ International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) 2004 Associate member
- ▶ Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) 2007
- ▶ Center for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI) 2010
- ▶ International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO) 2013

QATAR



MAP



History:

The history of Qatar spans from its first duration of human occupation to its formation as a modern state. The peninsula fell under the domain of several different empires during its early years of settlement, including the Seleucid, the Parthians and the Sasanians. In 628 AD, the population was introduced to Islam after Muhammad sent an envoy to Munzir ibn Sawa who was the Sasanid governor of Eastern Arabia.

Over the preceding centuries, Qatar was a site of contention between the Wahhabi of Najd and the Al Khalifa. The Ottomans expanded their empire into Eastern Arabia in 1871, withdrawing from the area in 1915 after the beginning of World War I.

In 1916, Qatar became a British protectorate and Abdullah Al Thani signed a treaty stipulating that he could only cede territory to the British in return for protection from all aggression by sea and support in case of a land attack. A 1934 treaty granted more extensive protection. In 1935, a 75-year oil concession was granted to Qatar Energy and high-quality oil was discovered in 1940 in Dukhan. During the 1950s and 1960s, increasing oil revenues brought prosperity, rapid immigration, substantial social progress, and the beginnings of the country's modern history. After Britain announced a policy of ending the treaty relationships with the Persian Gulf sheikdoms in 1968, Qatar joined the other eight states then under British protection in a plan to form a federation of Arab emirates. By mid-1971, as the termination date of the British treaty relationship approached, the nine still had not agreed on terms of union.

Qatar declared its independence on September 3, 1971. In June 1995, deputy emir Hamad bin Khalifa became the new emir after his father Khalifa bin Hamad in a bloodless coup. The emir permitted more liberal press and municipal elections as a precursor to parliamentary elections. A new constitution was approved via public referendum in April 2003 and came into effect in June 2005.

Geography:

Qatar occupies 11,437 square kilometers on a peninsula that extends approximately 160 kilometers north into the Persian Gulf from the Arabian Peninsula. Varying in width between fifty-five and ninety kilometers, the land is mainly flat (the highest point is 103 meters) and rocky. Notable features include coastal salt pans, elevated limestone formations (the Dukhan anticline) along the west coast under which lies the Dukhan oil field, and massive sand dunes surrounding Khawr al Udayd, an inlet of the gulf in the southeast known to local English speakers as the Inland Sea. Of the islands belonging to Qatar, Halul is the most important. Lying about ninety kilometers east of Doha, it serves as a storage area and loading terminal for oil from the surrounding offshore fields. Hawar and the adjacent islands immediately off the west coast are the subject of a territorial dispute between Qatar and Bahrain.

Qatar shares its land border with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), with which in 1993 it continued to have a dispute in the Khawr al Udayd area. The boundary with Saudi Arabia was settled in 1965 but never demarcated. Qatar's northwest coast is fewer than thirty kilometers from Bahrain.

- ▶ Continent: Asia
- ▶ Region: Middle East
- ▶ Coordinates: 25.30°N 51.15°E
- ▶ Area: Ranked 164th

- Total 11,571 km² (4,468 sq mi)
- Land 100%
- Water 0%
- ▶ Coastline: 563 km (350 mi)
- ▶ Borders Saudi Arabia: 60 km (37 mi)
- ▶ Exclusive economic zone: 31,590 km² (12,197 sq mi)

Climate:

The Climate of Qatar can be described as subtropical dry, hot desert climate with low annual rainfall, very high temperatures in summer and a big difference between maximum and minimum temperatures, especially in the inland areas. The coastal areas are slightly influenced by the Persian Gulf, and have lower maximum, but higher minimum temperatures and a higher moisture percentage in the air.

Summer (June to September) is very hot with low rainfall. Daily maximum temperatures can easily reach 40°C or more. Winter is cooler with occasional rainfall. Spring and autumn are warm, mostly dry and pleasant, with maximum temperatures between 25°C and 35°C and cooler night Temperatures between 15 and 22°C.

A hot, dust-laden wind, the Shamal, blows in the spring and summer-period, from March till August. Sometimes these winds can be very strong, and cause Sandstorms that can occur throughout the year, although they are most common in the spring. Most rain falls during the winter months in sudden, short but heavy cloudbursts and thunderstorms.

Rivers:

Qatar does not have any permanent rivers, but instead has numerous wadis. Wadis are defined as dry river valleys which experience intermittent water flow during the rainy season.

The Ministry of Municipality and Environment has recorded a total of 306 wadis scattered throughout Qatar.

Some of the most prominent wadis are:

- ▶ Wadi Asmah
- ▶ Wadi Al Banat
- ▶ Wadi Debayan
- ▶ Wadi Diyab
- ▶ Wadi Ghirban
- ▶ Wadi Huwaila
- ▶ Wadi Lusail

Political System:

Qatar is technically a constitutional monarchy, but in reality, the ruler (the Emir) possesses executive power to approve or reject the legislation. The Emir appoints his own Prime Minister (which is usually a family member) and the members of legislative bodies. Ultimately, he has the final say on any laws.

Qatar doesn't hold elections to select the Emir or Prime Minister, but the public instead takes to the polls to vote for the members of the Central Municipal Council (CMC). This 29-strong council (one member for each constituency in the state) can advise the authorities on local affairs but doesn't possess any legislative powers.

The Al-Thani family has been in power in Qatar since the 1800s. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani was named Emir of Qatar in 2014, when his father, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifah Al-Thani, stepped down from the role. Tamim was educated in Britain and attended Sandhurst, the famous military academy.

The Emir's role is wide-ranging, from convening the Council of Ministers and appointing diplomatic personnel to ratifying laws and granting pardons. In reality, the Prime Minister instead oversees some of this day-to-day work.

Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa al-Thani is the current Prime Minister of Qatar. The Prime Minister's main function is to preside over the sessions of the Council of Ministers, with the aim of achieving unity between the key departments of government in Qatar. It is the Prime Minister who signs decisions on behalf of the council. He then submits these to the Emir for approval.

The role of Prime Minister of Qatar can be a perilous one, with the Emir having the power to sack and replace ministers as he pleases.

Political parties are banned in Qatar. The country's first-ever legislative elections took place in October 2021, to elect 30 members of the 45-seat Shura council. This council takes an advisory role and has limited power on defense, security, economic, and investment issues.

The Shura elections should take place every 4 years, but these have been postponed in the past.

There are also elections for the 29-member Central Municipal Council. The CMC vote takes place every four years, allowing residents to choose their local representatives. These representatives can lobby on their behalf to federal representatives.

Voting in Qatar:

Since 1999, Qatari citizens have been allowed to vote in municipal elections for members of the CMC. The elections are open to all citizens aged 18 or over, with the exception of members of the police and armed forces.

Political representation in Qatar:

To run as a candidate in the CMC elections, you must either be a Qatari citizen or a direct descendant of a citizen. You'll also need to be at least 30 years old and not have been convicted of any criminal acts. Candidates for Shura Council elections must be of Qatari origin, at least 30 years old, able to read and write Arabic, and not have a criminal record.

The emir himself appoints the prime minister and cabinet members. He also chooses his successor with the aid of the ruling family and other elites.

Economy:

Qatar's oil and natural gas resources are the country's main economic engine and government revenue source, driving Qatar's high economic growth and per capita income levels, robust state spending on public entitlements, and booming construction spending, particularly as Qatar prepares to host the World Cup in 2022. Although the government has maintained high capital spending levels for ongoing infrastructure projects, low oil and natural gas prices in recent years have led the Qatari Government to tighten some spending to help stem its budget deficit.

Qatar's reliance on oil and natural gas is likely to persist for the foreseeable future. Proved natural gas reserves exceed 25 trillion cubic meters - 13% of the world total and, among countries, third largest in the world. Proved oil reserves exceed 25 billion barrels, allowing production to continue at current levels for about 56 years. Despite the dominance of oil and natural gas, Qatar has made significant gains in strengthening non-oil sectors, such as manufacturing, construction, and financial services, leading non-oil GDP to steadily rise in recent years to just over half the total.

Following trade restrictions imposed by Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, and Egypt in 2017, Qatar established new trade routes with other countries to maintain access to imports.

Qatar recognises the importance of balancing its economic policies which aim to create a diversified national economy while strengthening its natural resources and wealth. As such, Qatar's non-oil sector grew by 5.7% year-on-year in the first three quarters of 2018 to 2021, the strongest growth period in three years. In addition, Qatar continued to focus on the energy sector as an important source of national revenue by working towards increasing natural gas production levels and supply 25% of the world's total liquefied natural gas (LNG) which reinforces Qatar's position as the biggest producer and exporter of LNG in the world.

Petroleum and natural gas are the cornerstones of Qatar's economy and account for more than 70% of total government revenue, more than 60% of gross domestic product, and roughly 85% of export earnings.

Qatar has the world's third largest proven natural gas reserve and is the second largest exporter of natural gas.

- ▶ Population: 2.9 million
- ▶ GDP (PPP): \$262.0 billion
- ▶ -2.6% growth
- ▶ 0.2% 5-year compound annual growth
- ▶ \$93,508 per capita
- ▶ Unemployment: 3.5%
- ▶ Inflation (CPI): -2.7%
- ▶ FDI Inflow: \$-2434.0 million

Qatar's economic freedom score is 67.7, making its economy the 44th freest in the 2022 Index. Qatar is ranked 3rd among 14 countries in the Middle East and North Africa region, and its overall score is above the regional and world averages.

Qatar's economic growth has fluctuated over the past five years: positive in 2017 and 2018, slowing in 2019, negative in 2020, and returning to positive in 2021. A five-year trend of solid economic freedom, however, has faltered. With drops in scores for judicial effectiveness and trade freedom, Qatar has recorded a 5.4-point overall loss of economic freedom since 2017 and has fallen from the "Mostly Free" category to the "Moderately Free" category. Qatar has hearty fiscal health, but business freedom lags.

Trade partner:

In 2020 Qatar was the number 57 economy in the world in terms of GDP (current US\$), the number 49 in total exports, the number 68 in total imports, the number 15 economy in terms of GDP per capita (current US\$) and the number 62 most complex economy according to the Economic Complexity Index (ECI).

Exports:

The top exports of Qatar are Petroleum Gas (\$22.2B), Crude Petroleum (\$9.89B), Refined Petroleum (\$6.14B), Ethylene Polymers (\$1.56B), and Nitrogenous Fertilizers (\$1.15B), exporting mostly to Japan (\$8.09B), India (\$7.25B), China (\$7.09B), South Korea (\$6.02B), and Singapore (\$2.83B).

Imports:

The top imports of Qatar are Gas Turbines (\$1.81B), Cars (\$1.31B), Planes, Helicopters, and/or Spacecraft (\$1.14B), Jewellery (\$1.01B), and Special Purpose Ships (\$814M), importing mostly from China (\$3.32B), United States (\$2.99B), United Kingdom (\$2.04B), Germany (\$1.79B), and France (\$1.7B).

In 2020, Qatar was the world's biggest importer of Precious Stone Dust (\$42.6M)

Defense:

Qatar's military spending reached \$11.6 billion last year, making it one of the top spenders in the Arab world, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

SIPRI's 2021 'Trends in World Military Expenditure' report, looks at global military spending. According to the report, Qatar's military expenditure last year was 434% higher than what it was in 2010, the last time such data was released by the Gulf state. Qatar had spent 4.8% of its gross domestic product (GDP) on the military. Qatar said it expects to spend 204.3 billion riyals (\$56.13 billion) in its 2022 budget and run a deficit of 8.3 billion riyals.

The Gulf Arab country sees revenues of 196 billion riyals next year, based on an average oil price of \$55 per barrel, up from \$40 in 2021.

Qatar is ranked 77 of 142 out of the countries considered for the annual GFP review.

Manpower:

Total Population: 2,479,995

Available Manpower: 619,999 (25.0%)

Fit-for-Service: 476,159 (19.2%)

Reaching Mil Age Annually: 12,400 (0.5%)

Tot Military Personnel (est.): 19,000 (0.8%)

Active Personnel: 14,000 (0.6%)

Reserve Personnel: 0 (0.0%)

Paramilitary: 5,000 (0.2%)

Air Power:

Total Aircraft Strength: 165

Fighters/Interceptors: 40 (24.2%)

Dedicated Attack: 6 (3.6%)

Transports: 12 (7.3%)

Trainers: 41 (24.8%)

Special-Mission: 0 (0.0%)

Tanker Fleet: 0 (0.0%)

Helicopters: 66 (40.0%)

Attack Helicopters: 24 (14.5%)

Land Power:

Tanks: 134

Armored Vehicles: 3,100

Self-Propelled Artillery: 46

Towed Artillery: 12

Rocket Projectors: 47

Naval Force:

Total Assets: 86

Aircraft Carriers: 0

Helicopter Carriers: 0

Destroyers: 0

Frigates: 0

Corvettes: 4

Submarines: 0

Patrol Vessels: 20

Mine Warfare: 0

Logistics:

Labor Force: 1,953,000

Merchant Marine Fleet: 129

Ports / Trade Terminals: 3

Roadway Coverage: 7,039

Railway Coverage: 0

Airports: 6

Qatar membership of International organizations:

Since its independence in 1971, the state of Qatar has given a great attention to international cooperation, whereas the state of Qatar has joined international and regional organizations such as: the United Nations, the Arab League, the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council, the Islamic Cooperation Organization and other organizations.

▶ **General Assembly of the United Nations and its six Main Committees:** The State of Qatar presided over the 66th session of the General Assembly, represented by H.E. Ambassador Nassir bin Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, who also chaired the Fourth Committee in the 64th session. The State of Qatar assumed also the vice-presidency of the 57th session.

▶ **Security Council:** the State of Qatar served as a non-permanent member of the Security Council and its subcommittees, 2006-2007.

▶ **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC):** 1982-1984, 2002-2004 and 2011-2013

▶ **Human Rights Council:** 2007-2010, 2011-2013 and 2015-2017.

▶ **Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF):** 2010-2012.

▶ **Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO):** 1987-1991.

▶ **Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services:** 2010-2012.

▶ **Committee on the Status of Women:** 2005-2009, Committee on Conferences: 2014-2016.

▶ **Commission for Social Development:** 2009-2013 and 2015-2017.

▶ **Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations:** 2007- 2010.

▶ **International Law Commission:** represented by H.E. Dr. Ali Mohsen bin Fetais Al-Marri, Attorney General of the State of Qatar, 2002-2016.

▶ **Committee on the Rights of the Child:** represented by H.E. Dr. Sheikha Ghalia bint Mohammed bin Hamad Al-Thani, and subsequently by H.E. Ambassador Sheikha Alya Ahmed bin Saif Al-Thani, 2003-2009.

▶ **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women:** represented by Ms. Noor Al-Maliki Al-Jehni and subsequently by Dr. Bakhita Al-Dosari, 2013-2016.

▶ **Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:** By Dr. Amna Ali Al-Swaidi, 2009-2012.

▶ **The United Nations Population Award:** 2013-2015.

▶ **Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency:** 2013-2014

▶ **Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons:** 2012-14 and 2014-16.

▶ **Executive Board of the World Health Organization:** 1976-79, 1992-95, 1998-2001 & 2011-2014.

▶ **Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization:** 1999-2004.

▶ **Governing Body of the International Labour Organization Council:** 1993-1996 and 2008-2014.

▶ **Council of Administration of the Universal Postal Union:** 2009-2012, presidency of the Council of Administration of the UPU, and membership of the Postal Operations Council, 2013-2016.

▶ **Executive Council of the World Meteorological Organization:** 1986-1995 and 2012-2016.

SOUTH KOREA



MAP



History:

The succeeding Korean Empire (1897–1910) was annexed in 1910 into the Empire of Japan. Japanese rule ended following the former's surrender in World War II, after which Korea was divided into two zones; a northern zone occupied by the Soviet Union and a southern zone occupied by the United States. After negotiations on reunification failed, the latter became the Republic of Korea in August 1948 while the former became the socialist Democratic People's Republic of Korea the following month.

In 1950, a North Korean invasion began the Korean War, which saw extensive American-led United Nations intervention in support of the South, while China intervened to support the North, with Soviet assistance. After the war's end in 1953, the country entered into a military alliance with the U.S., and its devastated economy began to soar, recording the fastest rise in average GDP per capita in the world between 1980 and 1990. Despite lacking natural resources, the nation rapidly developed to become one of the Four Asian Tigers based on international trade and economic globalization, integrating itself within the world economy with export-oriented industrialization; currently being one of the largest exporting nations in the world, along with having one of the largest foreign-exchange reserves in the world. The June Democratic Struggle led to the end of authoritarian rule in 1987 and the country is now considered among the most advanced democracies in Asia, with the highest level of press freedom on the continent.

Geography:

Geographically, South Korea is located on the southern part of the Korean Peninsula below the 38th parallel of latitude. It has coastlines along the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea. South Korea's topography consists mainly of hills and mountains but there are large coastal plains in the western and southern parts of the country. The highest point in South Korea is Halla-san, an extinct volcano, which rises to 6,398 feet (1,950 m).

South Korea is located in East Asia, on the southern portion of the Korean Peninsula located out from the far east of the Asian landmass. The only country with a land border to South Korea is North Korea, lying to the north with 238 kilometers (148 mi) of the border running along the Korean Demilitarized Zone. South Korea is mostly surrounded by water and has 2,413 kilometers (1,499 mi) of coast line along three seas; to the west is the Yellow Sea, to the south is the East China Sea, and to the east is the Sea of Japan. Geographically, South Korea's land mass is approximately 100,032 square kilometers (38,623 sq mi). 290 square kilometers (110 sq mi) of South Korea are occupied by water.

Climate:

The greatest influence on the climate of the Korean peninsula is its proximity to the main Asian landmass. This produces the marked summer-winter temperature extremes of a continental climate while also establishing the northeast Asian monsoons (seasonal winds) that affect precipitation patterns. The annual range of temperature is greater in the north and in interior regions of the peninsula than in the south and along the coast, reflecting the relative decline in continental influences in the latter areas.

South Korea's climate is characterized by a cold, relatively dry winter and a hot, humid summer. The coldest average monthly temperatures in winter drop below freezing except along the southern coast. The average January temperature at Seoul is in the low 20s °F (about -5 °C), while the corresponding average at Pusan (Busan), on the southeast coast, is in the mid-30s °F (about 2 °C). By contrast, summer temperatures are relatively uniform across the country, the average monthly temperature for August (the warmest month) being in the high 70s °F (about 25 °C).

Rivers:

Two South Korean rivers exceed 300 miles in length, the Nakdong, and Han, and these pass through some of the country's largest cities, including Daegu. These two rivers provide water to most of the Koreans and their industries. People fish and irrigate their farms from these waters. Together with other rivers in Korea such as the famous Imjin River and Geum River, the water bodies of Korea have had a significant role in the Korean Peninsula.

Nakdong-Gang:

The Korean Nakdong-gang River is the longest river in South Korea, passing through the major cities of Daegu and Busan. From the Taebaek Mountains, it flows 326 miles to the Korean Strait. The river sources from the junction of the Hwangjicheon and Cahelamcheon stream Dongjeom-dong in Taebaek City. Along the course tributaries such as the Nam, Geumho, and Yeong drain, providing water to the residents of North and South Gyeongsang provinces and small portions of Gangwon, North Jeolla, and South Jeolla.

Han River:

The Korean Han-gang river arises from the western slopes of the Taebaek Mountains and flows westward across the Peninsula country through Kangwon, Kyonggi, and North Ch'ungch'ong provinces and the city of Seoul before draining into the Yellow Sea. 200 miles of its 319 miles length is navigable, providing transportation since ancient times most notably the Yi Dynasty (1392-1910). Civilizations such as the Baekje Kingdom developed along its banks recognizing the Han River strategic location as a primary waterway link to the central western region of Korea with the Yellow Sea and also for the fertile alluvial soils, a rarity in the mountainous peninsula.

Geum River:

The Geum River is sourced from the Jangsu-eup area in North Jeolla Province. It flows northwards through the provinces of North Jeolla and North Chungcheong and then changes direction in the Great Daejeon running southwest through the province of South Chungcheong and finally drains into the Yellow Sea in Gunsan city.

The Geum River is the third longest in Korea with 245 miles and has a basin of 3,807 sq miles. Extensive meandering occurs in the upper parts of the river while downstream the river course is gradual with fewer meanders. Tributaries such as the Gap, Miho, Yugu, Unsan, Seokseong, and Nonsan Cheons also join the Geum River. The Geum and its tributaries have formed many small alluvial plains such as the Honam and Nonsan Plains.

Imjin River:

The Rimjin River flows from north to south, crossing demilitarized zones to join the Han River downstream of Seoul near the Yellow Sea. The river is around 158 miles long and even though short, and it is home to two major battles sites. Namely, these are the sites of the Battle of the Imjin River in the Korean War of the 1950s and the Battle of the Imjin River in the Seven-Year War in 1592. The Imjin River sources from the Turyu Mountain in Poptong, Kangwon in North Korea and mouths in the Han River in Paju, Gyeonggi South Korea. During the rainy season of Korea, the river's smooth flow changes to a raging torrent confined only by the rocky banks that stand at an impressive height of 75 feet. In the winter, icy winds sweep along the Imjin causing thick ice layers on the river.

Political System:

General:

The Constitution of the Republic of Korea calls for a liberal democratic political system. Its principles are based on the sovereignty of the people, with all the authority of state emanating from its citizens: Separation of powers among the three branches of government, the rule of law, and the responsibility to promote citizens' welfare, as well as the attainment of a peaceful unification of Korea.

President:

Every five years, Korean citizens above the age of 20 elect the President in a nationwide, direct, equal and secret ballot. The President is the head of the executive branch and represents the nation externally. The President serves a single five-year term, with no additional term allowed. The current constitution, which was hammered out by a consensus among the ruling and opposition parties in 1987, stipulates the single five-year term provision as a safeguard against any individual holding the government power for a protracted period of time.

Under the current political system, the President plays several major roles First, the President is head of state, leading the government and representing the nation in foreign relations. The president has the duty to uphold the constitution and protect and preserve national independence and territorial integrity, as well as to carry out the unique task of attaining a peaceful unification of Korea.

The President is the Chief Executive of the government. In this capacity, he enforces the laws passed by the legislature and issues orders and decrees for that purpose. He is also the commander-in-chief of the armed forces, and has exclusive authority over military policies, including the power to declare war.

The President performs his executive functions through the State Council, or the Cabinet made up of 15 to 30 members, whom he appoints upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister. However, the President is solely responsible for all important government policies. The Prime Minister is appointed by the President and approved by the National Assembly. The members of the State Council, or the Cabinet, lead and supervise their administrative ministries, participate in the deliberation of major state affairs, and act on behalf of the President.

National Assembly:

Legislative power is vested in the National Assembly, which is composed of 299 members serving four-year terms. Every four years, 243 members are elected by popular vote, while the remaining 56 seats allotted to each political party that has obtained three percent or more of the total valid votes or five or more seats in the local constituency election.

An Assembly member is not held responsible outside the Assembly for opinions expressed or votes cast in the Assembly. When the Assembly is in session, no Assembly member may be arrested or detained without the consent of the Assembly, except in cases of arrest at the scene of crime. To be eligible for election, a candidate must be at least 25 years of age. One candidate from each electoral district is elected by a plurality of votes.

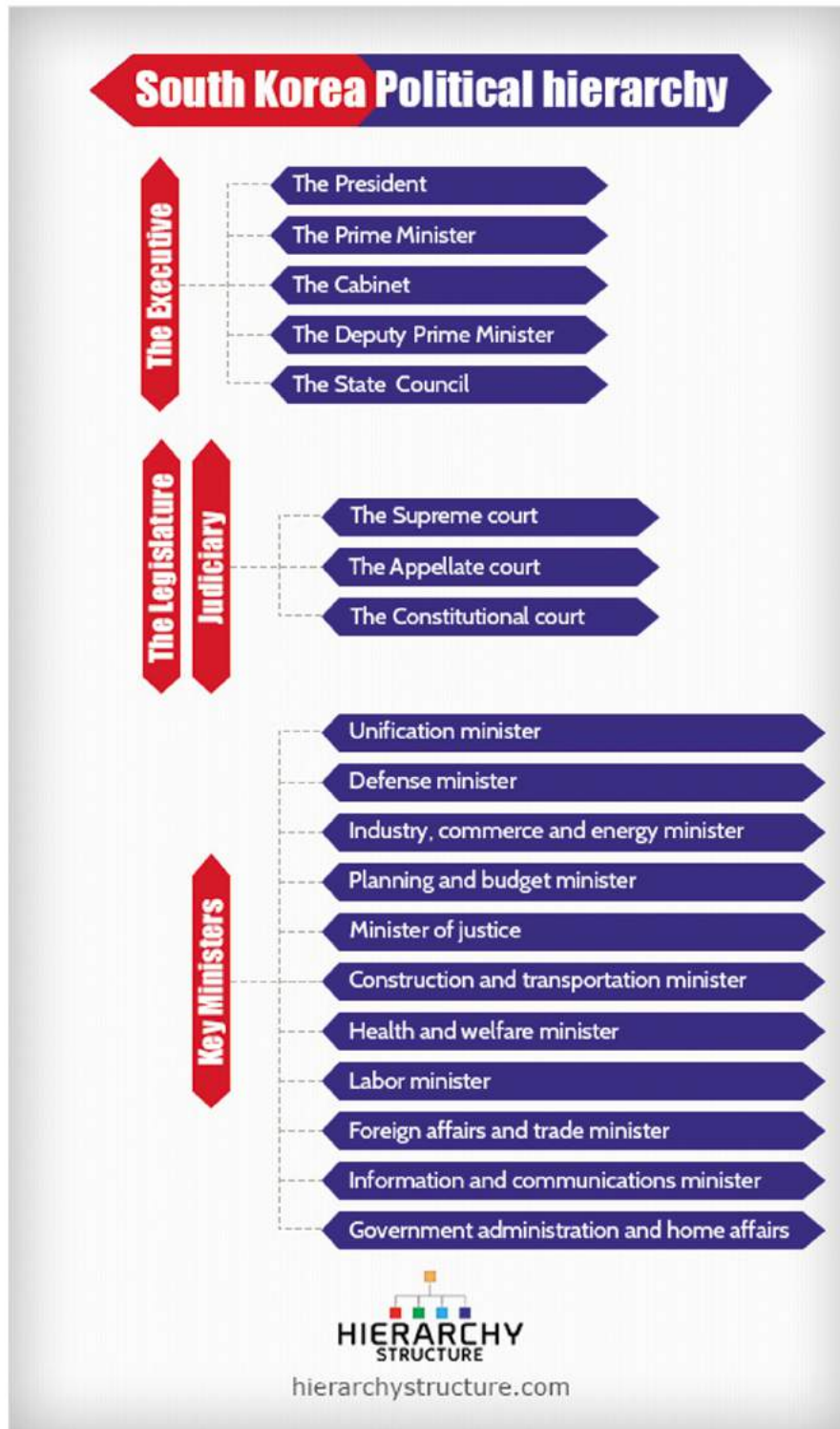
The National Assembly is charged with a number of functions under the Constitution. The foremost is making laws. Major functions of the Assembly include deliberation and approval of the annual budget, audits of the administration, matters related to foreign relations, declaration of war, the dispatch of armed forces abroad and impeachment.

Local Governments:

The Constitution provides in Article 117 that, "Local governments shall deal with matters pertaining to the welfare of local residents, manage properties, and may establish within the purview of the laws and decrees rules and regulations regarding local autonomy."

The Local Autonomy Act was first adopted in 1949, and local councils operated until 1961 when the military government disbanded them. Rapid regional development during the 1970s and 1980s increased the demand for more autonomy by local governments. In 1988, the government initiated a revision of the Local Autonomy Act.

The new law designated the Special City of Seoul, six autonomous cities, and nine provinces as wide-area autonomous governments, and the districts in Seoul and cities and counties as local autonomous bodies. The division was made to make a smoother transition in stages from a centralized system of government to local autonomy. These local administrative heads of government are elected for a four-year term for a maximum of three terms. (However, the winners of the first term in 1995 were elected to a three-year term. The four-year terms began from the 1998 elections.)



Economy:

The Republic of Korea has achieved remarkable success in combining rapid economic growth with significant poverty reduction. The government of Korea's policies resulted in real gross domestic product (GDP) growth averaging 5.45% annually between 1988 and 2021. This robust performance was fueled by annual export growth averaging 9.27% in the same period. As the first former aid recipient to become a member of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in 2009, Korea's gross national income (GNI) per capita increased rapidly from US\$67 in the early 1950s to US\$33,790 in 2021.

The economy of South Korea is a highly developed mixed economy. By nominal GDP, it has the 4th largest economy in Asia and the 10th largest in the world. South Korea is notable for its emergence of economic development from an underdeveloped nation to a developed, high-income country in a few generations. This economic growth has been described as the Miracle on the Han River, which has allowed it to join OECD and the G-20. South Korea still remains one of the fastest growing developed countries in the world, following the Great Recession. It is included in the group of Next Eleven countries as having the potential to play a dominant role in the global economy by the middle of the 21st century.

Despite the South Korean economy's high growth and structural stability, South Korea experiences damages to its credit rating in the stock market due to North Korea in times of military crises. The recurring conflict affects the financial markets of its economy.

- ▶ Population: 51.8 million
- ▶ GDP (PPP): \$2.3 trillion
- ▶ -1.0% growth
- ▶ 2.0% 5-year compound annual growth
- ▶ \$44,621 per capita
- ▶ Unemployment: 4.1%
- ▶ Inflation (CPI): 0.5%
- ▶ FDI Inflow: \$9.2 billion

South Korea's economic freedom score is 74.6, making its economy the 19th freest in the 2022 Index. South Korea is ranked 5th among 39 countries in the Asia–Pacific region, and its overall score is above the regional and world averages.

South Korea's Top Trading Partners:

Below is a list showcasing 25 of South Korea's top trading partners in terms of export sales during 2021. That is, these are the countries that imported the most Korean shipments by dollar value. Also shown is each import country's percentage of total Korean exports.

- ▶ China: US\$162.9 billion (25.3% of total South Korean exports)
- ▶ United States: \$96.3 billion (14.9%)
- ▶ Vietnam: \$56.7 billion (8.8%)
- ▶ Hong Kong: \$37.5 billion (5.8%)
- ▶ Japan: \$30.1 billion (4.7%)
- ▶ Taiwan: \$24.3 billion (3.8%)
- ▶ India: \$15.6 billion (2.4%)
- ▶ Singapore: \$14.2 billion (2.2%)

Defense:

South Korea's defence budget for 2022 has been finalised at KRW54.61 trillion (USD46.32 billion), the Ministry of National Defense (MND) in Seoul announced.

The MND said the new expenditure, approved by the National Assembly, is a 1% decline on the KRW55.23 trillion it requested in August but a 3.4% increase over the country's defence budget in 2021.

The increase is lower than in previous years and reflects the country's slowing economy but a requirement to bolster defence capability in response to North Korean military modernisation.

Earlier this year, Pyongyang announced a five-year programme to develop a range of capabilities including nuclear-powered submarines, tactical nuclear weapons, hypersonic glide vehicles, and unmanned aerial vehicles. Contained in South Korea's approved 2022 defence budget is KRW37.91 trillion for military operations and KRW16.69 trillion for force modernisation. These figures, compared with expenditures in 2021, represent a 5.8% increase and a 1.8% decline respectively.

South Korea's defense expenditure grew from \$38.2 billion in 2018 to \$48.3 billion in 2022, reflecting a CAGR of 6% during 2018–22. The growth is primarily attributed to the sudden acceleration in defense spending in 2022, which is valued at \$48.3 billion. For 2022, South Korea is ranked 6 of 142 out of the countries considered for the annual GFP review.

Manpower:

Total Population: 51,715,162
Available Manpower: 25,857,581 (50.0%)
Fit-for-Service: 21,203,216 (41.0%)
Reaching Mil Age Annually: 413,721 (0.8%)
Tot Military Personnel (est.): 1,130,000 (2.2%)
Active Personnel: 555,000 (1.1%)
Réserve Personne: 1500,000 (1.0%)
Paramilitary: 75,000 (0.1%)

Airforce:

Total Aircraft Strength: 1,595
Fighters/Interceptors: 402 (25.2%)
Dedicated Attack: 90 (5.6%)
Transports: 41 (2.6%)
Trainers: 289 (18.1%)
Special-Mission: 30 (1.9%)
Tanker Fleet: 4 (0.3%)
Helicopters: 739 (46.3%)
Attack Helicopters: 112 (7.0%)

Land Forces:

Tanks: 2,624
Armored Vehicles: 13,990
Self-Propelled Artillery: 3,040
Towed Artillery: 3,854
Rocket Projectors: 574

Naval Force:

Total Assets: 234
Aircraft Carriers: 0
Helicopter Carriers: 2
Destroyers: 12
Frigates: 18
Corvettes: 11
Submarines: 22
Patrol Vessels: 111

Logistics:

Labor Force: 26,839,000
Merchant Marine Fleet: 1,904
Ports / Trade Terminals: 11
Roadway Coverage: 100,428
Railway Coverage: 3,979

South Korea Membership of International Organizations:

South Korea strives to promote friendly and cooperative relations with other countries. As of June 2020, South Korea maintains diplomatic relations in 191 countries in total. Among them, the government manages 115 resident embassies, 5 permanent missions, and 46 consulate generals. South Korea is committed to carrying out positive activities as a member of diverse international organizations such as UNESCO, IMF, APEC, IAEA, ILO, WHO. South Korea became a member of the UN in 1991, and joined the OECD in 1996. The country has also engaged in various activities as a member of the IOC since 1947.

South Korea is a member of the United Nations, WTO, OECD/DAC, ASEAN Plus Three, East Asia Summit (EAS), and G-20. It is also a founding member of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the East Asia Summit.

TURKEY



MAP



History:

The history of modern Turkey begins with the foundation of the republic on 29 October 1923, with Atatürk as its first president. The government was formed from the Ankara-based revolutionary group, led by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and his colleagues. The second constitution was ratified by the Grand National Assembly on 20 April 1924.

For about the next 10 years, the country saw a steady process of secular Westernization through Atatürk's Reforms, which included the unification of education; the discontinuation of religious and other titles; the closure of Islamic courts and the replacement of Islamic canon law with a secular civil code modeled after Switzerland's and a penal code modeled after the Italian Penal Code; recognition of the equality between the sexes and the granting of full political rights to women on 5 December 1934; the language reform initiated by the newly founded Turkish Language Association; replacement of the Ottoman Turkish alphabet with the new Turkish alphabet.

Atatürk's successor after his death on 10 November 1938 was İsmet İnönü. He started his term in the office as a respected figure of the Independence War but because of internal fights between power groups and external events like the World War which caused a lack of goods in the country, he lost some of his popularity and support.

In the late 1930s Nazi Germany made a major effort to promote anti-Soviet propaganda in Turkey and exerted economic pressure. Britain and France, eager to outmaneuver Germany, negotiated a tripartite treaty in 1939. They gave Turkey a line of credit to purchase war materials from the West and a loan to facilitate the purchase of commodities. Afraid of threats from Germany and Russia, Turkey maintained neutrality. Turkey's goal was to maintain neutrality during the war. Ambassadors from the Axis powers and Allies intermingled in Ankara. İnönü signed a non-aggression treaty with Nazi Germany on 18 June 1941, 4 days before the Axis powers invaded the Soviet Union.

Nationalist magazines *Bozruk* and *Chinar Altu* called for the declaration of war against the Soviet Union. In July 1942, *Bozruk* published a map of Greater Turkey, which included Soviet controlled Caucasus and central Asian republics.] In the summer of 1942, Turkish high command considered war with the Soviet Union almost unavoidable. An operation was planned, with Baku being the initial target. Turkey traded with both sides and purchased arms from both sides. The Allies tried to stop German purchases of chrome (used in making better steel). Inflation was high as prices doubled.

By August 1944, the Axis was clearly losing the war and Turkey broke off relations. Only in February 1945, Turkey declared war on Germany and Japan, a symbolic move that allowed Turkey to join the future United Nations.

On 24 October 1945 Turkey signed the United Nations Charter as one of the fifty-one original members.

Geography:

Turkey, also called *Türkiye*, is a country that occupies a unique geographic position, lying partly in Asia and partly in Europe. Throughout its history it has acted as both a barrier and a bridge between the two continents. Turkey is situated at the crossroads of the Balkans, Caucasus, Middle East, and eastern Mediterranean.

It is among the larger countries of the region in terms of territory and population, and its land area is greater than that of any European state. Nearly all of the country is in Asia, comprising the oblong peninsula of Asia Minor also known as Anatolia (Anadolu) and, in the east, part of a mountainous region sometimes known as the Armenian Highland.

The country has a north-south extent that ranges from about 300 to 400 miles (480 to 640 km), and it stretches about 1,000 miles from west to east. Turkey is bounded on the north by the Black Sea, on the northeast by Georgia and Armenia, on the east by Azerbaijan and Iran, on the southeast by Iraq and Syria, on the southwest and west by the Mediterranean Sea and the Aegean Sea, and on the northwest by Greece and Bulgaria. The capital is Ankara, and its largest city and seaport is Istanbul.

Of a total boundary length of some 4,000 miles (6,440 km), about three-fourths is maritime, including coastlines along the Black Sea, the Aegean, and the Mediterranean, as well as the narrows that link the Black and Aegean seas. These narrows, which include the Bosphorus, the Sea of Marmara, and the Dardanelles are known collectively as the Turkish straits; Turkey's control of the straits, the only outlet from the Black Sea, has been a major factor in its relations with other states. Most of the islands along the Aegean coast are Greek; only the islands of Gökçeada and Bozcaada remain in Turkish hands. The maritime boundary with Greece has been a source of dispute between the two countries on numerous occasions since World War II.

- ▶ Continent: Asia and Europe
- ▶ Region: Western Asia and Southeastern Europe
- ▶ Coordinates: 39°00'N 35°00'E
- ▶ Area: Ranked 36th
 - Total 783,562 km² (302,535 sq mi)
 - Land 98%
 - Water 2%
- ▶ Coastline: 7,200 km (4,500 mi)
- ▶ Borders Total land borders: 2648 km Armenia 268 km, Azerbaijan 9 km, Bulgaria 240 km, Georgia 252 km, Greece 206 km, Iran 499 km, Iraq 352 km, Syria 822 km
- ▶ Exclusive economic zone: 462,000 km²

Climate:

Turkey's varied climate, generally a dry semi continental Mediterranean variant, is heavily influenced by the presence of the sea to the north, south, and west and by the mountains that cover much of the country.

The sea and the mountains produce contrasts between the interior and the coastal fringes. Several areas have the winter rainfall maximum typical of the Mediterranean regime, and summer drought is widespread. However, the elevation of the country ensures that winters are often much colder than is common in Mediterranean climates, and there are significant contrasts between winter and summer temperatures.

January mean temperatures are below freezing throughout the interior, and in the east there is a sizable area below 23 °F (−5 °C); extremely low temperatures occur at times, with minima from −4 °F (−20 °C) in the west to −40 °F (−40 °C) in the east. The duration of snow cover ranges from two weeks in the warmer areas to four months in some mountainous areas in the east. The coastal fringes are mild, with January means above 41 °F (5 °C). Summers generally are hot: July means exceed 68 °F (20 °C) in all but the highest mountain areas, 77 °F (25 °C) along the Aegean and Mediterranean, and 86 °F (30 °C) in the southeast. Precipitation is strongly affected by relief; annual totals of 12–16 inches (305–406 mm) are characteristic of much of the interior, whereas the higher parts of the Pontic and Taurus ranges receive more than 40 inches (1,000 mm).

Rivers:

The Republic of Turkey boasts of housing parts of two of the most important Biblical and historical rivers flowing within its landmass. The Euphrates River is the longest and most important river in Western Asia, and River Tigris defines Mesopotamia. The two rivers form the Euphrates-Tigris River system. However, these two rivers also flow in Iraq and Syria as well and as such disputes are likely to occur. The Kizilirmak (Halys) is the longest river running wholly in Turkey. The highlands of Turkey, from the south and eastern are the source of these mighty rivers. The river winds through Turkish territory before crossing borders to foreign lands. The Kura River for example zigzags Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

Euphrates:

Turks call the Euphrates the Firat Nehri. It is the longest in Southwest Asia at 1,740 miles. The river rises from the Armenian highlands in Turkey at the confluence of the Karasu and Murat Rivers. It flows southeast to the Syrian Plateau and across Iraq where it meets the Tigris to flow as Shatt-Al-Arab before draining into the Persian Gulf. In the mountains of Turkey, the river flows through xeric woodland.

Tigris:

The River Tigris is sourced from the Taurus Mountains, 30 kilometers east of the headwaters of the Euphrates. Tigris runs for 1,150 miles before joining the course with the Euphrates and emptying into the Persian Gulf.

In Turkey, the river flows for 400 kilometers before forming the border between Syria and Turkey. Similar to the Euphrates, civilizations and urbanization have arisen along its banks for millennia. The Sumerian civilization drew water from the banks of the River Tigris. Cities of Nineveh, Seleucia, and Ctesiphon flourished along the river banks.

Kura:

The Kura River, known in Turkish as the Kurucay, is the largest in Transcaucasia. Rising from the slopes of Mount Kisirindagi in Eastern Turkey, River Kura flows to Georgia and Azerbaijan where it confluences with its main tributary river Aras as it empties into the Caspian Sea. The river runs for a total length of 941 miles. Steppe vegetation characterizes the Arid Areas of River Kura, and meadows occupy the alpine areas.

Kizilirmak (Halys):

The Kizilirmak is the longest river to run entirely within Turkey. The "Red River", Kizilirmak in Turkish, rises in the Eastern Anatolia, then flows for 842 miles to the west and southwest, then northeast past Lake Tuz, it winds to the north and back to the northeast to meet the Delice River. From there it turns to the northwest to a confluence with the Devrez River and back to the northeast to join the Gökırmak. From here it flows into the Black Sea as a beautiful delta. Dams constructed along its banks include the Boyabat, Derbent, and Altınkaya.

Political System:

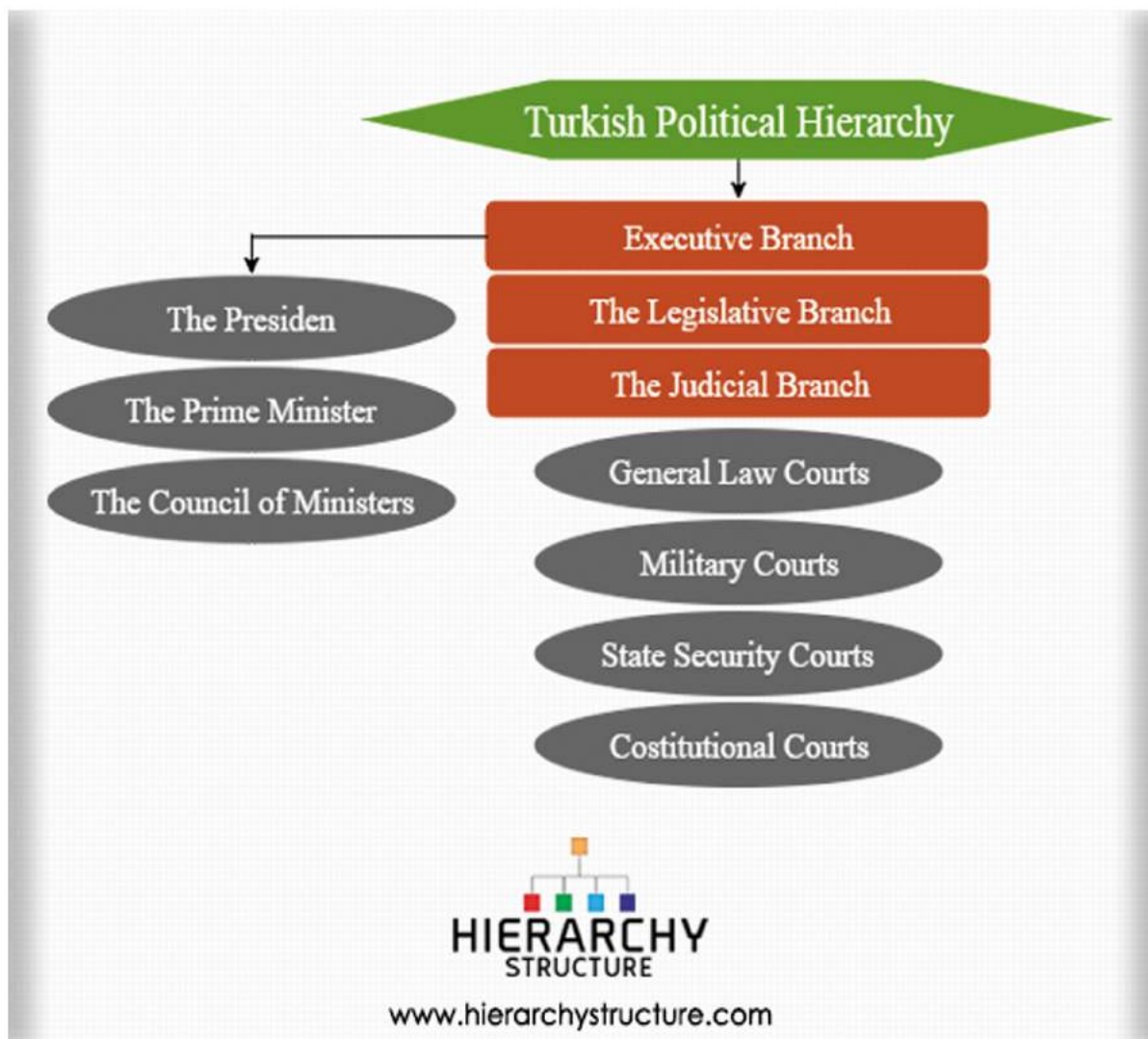
- ▶ The political system in Turkey is a democratic parliamentary republic system, which is based on social justice and the rule of law in a secular constitution, allowing multiple political parties.

- ▶ The Turkish language is the official language of the state. The flag is composed of a white crescent and a white star on a red background, the political capital of the country is Ankara, while many consider Istanbul as the economic capital of the country.

- ▶ The President is the head of state. According to constitutional amendments to the Turkish Constitution system, starting from 2014, the president of Turkey will be elected, by direct popular vote, as a President of the Turkish Republic for a period of five years renewable once. Noting that the old system stated that the election of the president would be based on the voices of Parliament, for a one period of seven years.

- ▶ Executive power is exercised by the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, while the legislative power is vested in the parliament. As for the judiciary, it is independent of the executive and the legislature power, and the Constitutional Court is responsible for the task of looking at the compatibility of laws and decrees with the constitution.

- ▶ The Prime Minister is elected by the parliament through a vote of confidence in the cabinet, and it is often that the chairman of the party, which has the largest number of seats in Parliament, will be the prime minister.
- ▶ Parliament consists of 550 members, which are elected by the people every four years, representing 81 electoral regions in the Turkish province.
- ▶ The electoral system has been organized in the Constitution, where the conduct of the parliamentary elections or local (municipal) for a period of one day, and considered each province is an electoral district, and every political party able to overcome the barrier of 10% of the electoral votes gain access to Parliament with a number of members of parliament according to the votes obtained (system of proportional representation).
- ▶ Of the main political parties participating in the current session of the Turkish Parliament: Justice and Development Party (the ruling conservative), the Republican People's Party (left- wing - the main opposition) party, the MHP (National Conservative) the HDP (National Kurdish).



Economy:

Türkiye's economy grew 11 percent in 2021, the fastest among the G20 countries, as COVID-19-related measures were gradually relaxed in Türkiye and abroad. Although Türkiye's interest rate cuts from September supported demand, they also amplified macro-financial instability, which, combined with spillovers from the Ukraine-Russia war, will lower 2022 growth to 1.4 percent. Rising energy and food price inflation will hurt the poor the most, compromising a gradual employment-driven, post-pandemic poverty recovery.

Türkiye enjoyed high growth rates between 2002 and 2017 that propelled the country to the higher reaches of upper-middle-income status. But productivity growth slowed as reform momentum waned over the past decade, and efforts turned to supporting growth with credit booms and a demand stimulus, exacerbating internal and external vulnerabilities. High private sector debt, persistent current account deficits financed by short-term portfolio flows, high inflation, and high unemployment have been intensified by macro-financial instability since August 2018. The declining value of the Turkish lira, especially during the 2018–2022 Turkish currency and debt crisis, had a significant impact on the recent decrease in the country's USD-based nominal GDP figures. High inflation continues to be a problem in the early 2020s. According to the IMF's estimates, published in the IMF WEO Database of April 2022, Turkey is forecasted to have the world's 23rd-largest nominal GDP and 11th-largest GDP by PPP by the end of 2022.

Over the past 20 years, there have been major developments in the financial and social aspects of Turkey's economy, such as increases in employment and average income since 2000. Turkey has recently slowed down in its economic progress, due to considerable changes in external and internal factors, as well as a reduction in the government's economic reforms. Environmentalists have argued that the economy is excessively dependent on the construction and contracting sector.

- ☒ Population: 84.3 million
- ☒ GDP (PPP): \$2.5 trillion
- ☒ 1.8% growth
- ☒ 3.3% 5-year compound annual growth
- ☒ \$30,253 per capita
- ☒ Unemployment: 13.9%
- ☒ Inflation (CPI): 12.3%
- ☒ FDI Inflow: \$7.9 billion

Turkey's economic freedom score is 56.9, making its economy the 107th freest in the 2022 Index. Turkey is ranked 42nd among 45 countries in the Europe region, and its overall score is below the regional and world averages.

Turkey's top trading partners in terms of export sales. These are countries that imported the most Turkish shipments by dollar value during 2021. Also shown is each import country's percentage of total Turkish exports.

- ▶ Germany: US\$19.3 billion (8.6% of total Turkish exports)
- ▶ United States of America: \$14.7 billion (6.5%)
- ▶ United Kingdom: \$13.7 billion (6.1%)
- ▶ Italy: \$11.5 billion (5.1%)
- ▶ Iraq: \$11.1 billion (4.9%)
- ▶ Spain: \$9.6 billion (4.3%)
- ▶ France: \$9.1 billion (4.1%)
- ▶ Netherlands: \$6.8 billion (3%)
- ▶ Israel: \$6.4 billion (2.8%)
- ▶ Russia: \$5.8 billion (2.6%)

Defense:

The Turkish Presidency of Strategy and Budget released the draft medium-term economic programme (MTEP) for the country, covering proposed expenditure for the 2022–24 period.

According to the proposal documents published in the Turkish Official Gazette, spending for the country's Ministry of National Defence (MND) will rise to TRY80.439 billion (USD9.69 billion) in 2022, up from the proposed TRY65.893 billion for the year proposed in the 2021–23 MTEP. Overall, MND spending will account for 5.05% of government expenditure under the new proposals.

Turkey's defense budget is just a little over \$20 billion a year, but what they have achieved with this small budget is eye-opening. Consider that Turkey countered a Kurdish insurgency, supported Qatar in its standoff with KSA and UAE, engaged in support of the GNA in Libya while being involved in significant operations in Syria. Besides all this, Turkish intervention won Azerbaijan the Nagorno-Karabakh war against Armenia. And now, Turkey is extending considerable support to Ukraine in its standoff with Russia. The sheer range of engagements Turkey has simultaneously sustained is impressive, and the results produced deserve attention. Recent Turkish military developments are cost effective power projection through the heavy use of autonomy. The \$20+ billion Turkish defense budget sustains the second largest NATO armed force and also makes room for smart investments to fuel an indigenous defense industry that is presently pursuing over 700 separate defense projects. These projects give a glimpse of future warfare and they span the spectrum across domains, defensive and offensive capabilities and include hardware and software.

For 2022, Turkey is ranked 13 of 142 out of the countries considered for the annual GFP review.

Manpower:

Total Population: 82,482,383
Available Manpower 42,148,498 (51.1%)
Fit-for-Service 35,384,942 (42.9%)
Reaching Mil Age Annually 1,402,201 (1.7%)
Tot Military Personnel (est.) 775,000 (0.9%)
Active Personnel: 425,000 (0.5%)
Reserve Personnel: 200,000 (0.2%)
Paramilitary: 150,000 (0.2%)

Air Power:

Total Aircraft Strength: 1,057
Fighters/Interceptors: 205 (19.4%)
Dedicated Attack: 0 (0.0%)
Transports: 81 (7.7%)
Trainers: 270 (25.5%)
Special-Mission: 20 (1.9%)
Tanker Fleet: 7 (0.7%)
Helicopters: 474 (44.8%)
Attack Helicopters: 107 (10.1%)

Land Power:

Tanks: 3,022
Armored Vehicles: 13,270
Self-Propelled Artillery: 956
Towed Artillery: 1,189
Rocket Projectors: 407

Naval:

Total Assets: 156
Aircraft Carriers: 0
Helicopter Carriers: 0
Destroyers: 0
Frigates: 16
Corvettes: 10
Submarines: 12
Patrol Vessels: 35
Mine Warfare: 11

Logistics:

Labor Force: 25,677,000
Merchant Marine Fleet: 1,217
Ports / Trade Terminals: 10
Roadway Coverage: 67,333
Railway Coverage: 12,710
Airports: 98

Turkey Membership in International Organizations:

Turkey, with its strategic location, is a key country in international organizations in which Turkey is a member, founder and / or has an important position in. These main organizations are:

- NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)
- Turkey became a member in 1952.
- UN (United Nations)
- Turkey has been a member of the UN since 1945 and also of many subsidiary organizations within the United Nations including UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank, World Health Organization, World Trade Organization.
- G-20
- Turkey hosted the organization in 2015.
- European Council

- Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
- OECD
- Economic Cooperation Organization

It was established in 1985 between Turkey, Iran and Pakistan. Later, with the participation of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, it became a 10 member organization.

Developing 8 (D8)

The members are, Turkey, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Egypt, Nigeria and Pakistan. Established to create and diversify new opportunities in trade relations among the 8 countries that represent a large economic potential, various resources, a large population and geographical area, to increase participation in the international decision-making process, to provide better living conditions, to promote economic co-operation around concrete joint projects, and to strengthen the situation of developing countries in the world economy.

- Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Established to protect the rights and interests of the Islamic world, to strengthen co-operation and solidarity among member states.

- Islamic Development Bank
- Founder members were UAE, Iran, Kuwait, Libya, Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

- Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

- The members are Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, Greece, Serbia.

It is aimed to ensure the Black Sea as a region of peace, stability and prosperity by taking advantage of the potentials of member countries, geographical proximity, complementary characteristics of economies, to diversify and further develop bilateral and multilateral economic, technological and social relations between them. The vehicle chosen for this purpose is economic cooperation.

About Pakistan House

Pakistan House, an Institute of International Affairs, is an independent policy institute based Islamabad.

Our mission is to help build a positive, secure and balanced world approach toward developing societies.

Founded in 2012

Pakistan House collaborates with universities, think tanks, governments, the private sector, civil society and diaspora. Each year, the institute organizes more than a dozen events – conferences, workshops, briefings, group discussions and roundtables – in Europe and Pakistan.

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