ERITREA

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President ISAIAS Afwerki
Head of Government
President ISAIAS Afwerki
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
Asmara
Legislature
unicameral National Assembly (Hagerawi Baito) (150 seats; 5-year terms)
Judiciary
High Court (consists of 20 judges and organized into civil, commercial, criminal, labor, administrative, and customary sections)
Ambassador to US
Charge d’Affaires BERHANE Gebrehiwet Solomon
US Ambassador
Charge d'Affaires Natalie E. BROWN

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 117,600 sq km
Land: 101,000 sq km
Water: 16,600 sq km
Climate
hot, dry desert strip along Red Sea coast; cooler and wetter in the central highlands (up to 61 cm of rainfall annually, heaviest June to September); semiarid in western hills and lowlands
Natural Resources
gold, potash, zinc, copper, salt, possibly oil and natural gas, fish

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
command economy with few large private enterprises; nearly 80% of the population is engaged in subsistence agriculture, although mining accounts for most of the total economic output; erratic rainfall and the large percentage of the labor force tied up in military service interferes with agricultural production and economic development
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$9.4 billion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$1,600 (2017 est.)
Exports
$624 million (2017 est.)
partners: China 62%, South Korea 28%
Imports
$1.13 billion (2017 est.)
partners: UAE 14.5%, China 13.2%, Saudi Arabia 13.2%, Italy 12.9%, Turkey 5.6%, South Africa 4.6% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
6.1 million (July 2020 est.)
Population Growth
0.93% (2020 est.)
Ethnicity
Tigrinya 55%, Tigre 30%, Saho 4%, Kunama 2%, Rashaida 2%, Bilen 2%, other (Afar, Beni Amir, Nera) 5% (2010 est.)
Language
Tigrinya (official), Arabic (official), English (official), Tigre, Kunama, Afar, other Cushitic languages
Religion
Sunni Muslim, Coptic Christian, Roman Catholic, Protestant
Urbanization
urban population: 41.3% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: 3.86% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)
Literacy
76.6% (2018)

as of August 2020