MALAWI

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State
President Arthur Peter MUTHARIKA

Head of Government
President Arthur Peter MUTHARIKA

Government Type
presidential republic

Capital
Lilongwe

Legislature
unicameral National Assembly (193 seats)

Judiciary
Supreme Court of Appeal (consists of the chief justice and at least 3 judges)

Ambassador to US
Ambassador Edward Yakobe SAWERENGERA

US Ambassador
Ambassador Robert SCOTT

ECONOMY

Economic Overview
economic performance constrained by policy inconsistency, macroeconomic instability, poor infrastructure, rampant corruption, high population growth, and poor health and education; agriculture accounts for about one-third of GDP and 80% of export revenues

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$22.24 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$1,200 (2017 est.)

Exports
$1.42 billion (2017 est.)
partners: Zimbabwe 13.1%, Mozambique 11.8%, Belgium 10.7%, South Africa 6.3%, Netherlands 5%, UK 4.7%, Germany 4.3%, US 4.2% (2017)

Imports
$2.31 billion (2017 est.)
partners: South Africa 20.7%, China 14.2%, India 11.6%, UAE 7%, Netherlands 4.4% (2017)

As of March 2020

GEOGRAPHY

Area
Total: 118,484 sq km
Land: 94,080 sq km
Water: 24,404 sq km

Climate
sub-tropical; rainy season (November to May); dry season (May to November)

Natural Resources
limestone, arable land, hydropower, unexploited deposits of uranium, coal, and bauxite

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population
21.2 million (July 2020 est.)

Population Growth
3.31% (2020 est.)

Ethnicity
Chewa 34.3%, Lomwe 18.8%, Sena 9.2%, Mang'anja 3.2%, Tonga 1.8%, Nyanja 1.8%, Nkhone 1%, other 2.2%, foreign 0.3% (2018 est.)

Language
English (official), Chichewa (common), Chinyanja, Chiyao, Chitumbuka, Chilomwe, Chinkhonde, Chingoni, Chisena, Chitonga, Chinyakyusa, Chilambya

Religion
Protestant 33.5%, Roman Catholic 17.2%, other Christian 26.6%, Muslim 13.8%, traditionalist 1.1%, other 5.6%, none 2.1% (2018 est.)

Urbanization
urban population: 17.4% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: 4.19% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)