MAURITANIA

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Mohamed Cheikh El GHAZOUANI
Head of Government
Prime Minister Mohamed Ould BILAL
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
Nouakchott
Legislature
unicameral Parliament or Barlamane consists of the National Assembly or Al Jamiya Al Wataniya (157 seats; 5-year terms)
Judiciary
Supreme Court or Cour Suprême (subdivided into 7 chambers: 2 civil, 2 labor, 1 commercial, 1 administrative, and 1 criminal, each with a chamber president and 2 councilors); Constitutional Council (consists of 6 members)
Ambassador to US
Ambassador Mohamedoun DADDH
US Ambassador
Ambassador Michael J. DODMAN

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
dominated by extractive industries (oil and mines), fisheries, livestock, agriculture, and services; recent GDP growth driven largely by foreign investment in the mining and oil sectors; half of population depends on farming, raising livestock
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$17.28 billion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$4,500 (2017 est.)
Exports
$1.72 billion (2017 est.)
partners: China 31.2%, Switzerland 14.4%, Spain 10.1%, Germany 8.2%, Japan 8.1% (2017)
Imports
$2.09 billion (2017 est.)
partners: Belgium 11.5%, UAE 11.3%, US 9.2%, China 7.5%, France 7.4%, Netherlands 6.1%, Morocco 6%, Slovenia 4.8%, Vanuatu 4.7%, Spain 4.7% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
4.0 million (July 2020 est.)
Population Growth
2.09% (2020 est.)
Ethnicity
black Moors (Haratines) 40%, white Moors (Beydane) 30%, sub-Saharan Mauritanians (including Halpulaar, Fulani, Soninke, Wolof, Bambara ethnic groups) 30%
Language
Arabic (official and national), Pular, Soninke, Wolof (all national languages), French
Religion
Muslim (official) 100%
Urbanization
urban population: 55.3% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: 4.28% annual rate of change
Literacy
53.5% (2017)

as of August 2020