SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Matamela Cyril RAMAPHOSA
Head of Government
President Matamela Cyril RAMAPHOSA
Government Type
parliamentary republic
Capital
Pretoria (administrative capital); Cape Town (legislative capital); Bloemfontein (judicial capital)
Legislature
bicameral Parliament consists of the National Council of Provinces (90 seats) and the National Assembly (400 seats)
Judiciary
Supreme Court of Appeals (consists of the court president, deputy president, and 21 judges); Constitutional Court (consists of the chief and deputy chief justices and 9 judges)
Ambassador to US
Charge d’Affaires Yoliswa MVEBE
US Ambassador
Charge d’Affaires Jessica "Jessye" LAPENN

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
middle-income emerging market with abundant supply of natural resources; well-developed financial, legal, communications, energy, and transport sectors; unemployment, poverty, and inequality remain a challenge
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$767.2 billion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$13,600 (2017 est.)
Exports
$94.93 billion (2017 est.)
partners: China 9.5%, US 7.7%, Germany 7.1%, Japan 4.7%, India 4.6%, Botswana 4.3%, Namibia 4.1% (2017)
Imports
$89.36 billion (2017 est.)
partners: China 18.3%, Germany 11.9%, US 6.6%, Saudi Arabia 4.7%, India 4.7% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
56.5 million (July 2020 est.)
Population Growth
0.97% (2020 est.)
Ethnicity
black African 80.9%, colored 8.8%, white 7.8%, Indian/Asian 2.5% (2018 est.); note: colored is a term used in South Africa, including on the national census, for persons of mixed race ancestry
Language
isiZulu (official) 24.7%, isiXhosa (official) 15.6%, Afrikaans (official) 12.1%, Sepedi (official) 9.8%, Setswana (official) 8.9%, English (official) 8.4%, Sesotho (official) 8%, Xitsonga (official) 4%, isiSwati (official) 2.6%, Tshivenda (official) 2.5%, isiNdebele (official) 1.6%, other 1.9% (2017 est.)
Religion
Christian 86%, ancestral, tribal, animist, or other traditional African religions 5.4%, Muslim 1.9%, other 1.5%, nothing in particular 5.2% (2015 est.)
Urbanization
urban population: 67.4% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: 1.97% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

as of March 2020