TAIWAN

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President TSAI Ing-wen
Head of Government
Premier SU Tseng-chang
Government Type
semi-presidential republic
Capital
Taipei
Legislature
unicameral Legislative Yuan (113 seats)
Judiciary
Supreme Court (consists of the court president, vice president, and approximately 100 judges organized into 8 civil and 12 criminal divisions); Constitutional Court (consists of the court president, vice president, and 13 justices)
Ambassador to US
None; Stanley KAO heads the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO)
US Ambassador
None; Director William Brent CHRISTENSEN heads the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT)

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
dynamic economy driven largely by industrial manufacturing; heavy dependence on exports exposes the economy to fluctuations in global demand; diplomatic isolation, low birth rate, rapidly aging population, and increasing competition from China and other Asia Pacific markets are major long-term challenges
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$1.189 trillion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$50,500 (2017 est.)
Exports
$349.8 billion (2018 est.) partners: China 28.8%, Hong Kong 12.4%, US 11.8%, Japan 6.9%, Singapore 5.2%, South Korea 4.8% (2018 est.)
Imports
$259 billion (2017 est.) partners: China 19.3%, Japan 16.2%, ASEAN 12%, US 11.7%, EU 10%, South Korea 6.5% (2017 est.)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
23.6 million (July 2020 est.)
Population Growth
0.11% (2020 est.)
Ethnicity
Han Chinese more than 95%, indigenous Malayo-Polynesian peoples 2.3%
Language
Mandarin Chinese (official), Taiwanese (Min Nan), Hakka dialects, approximately 16 indigenous languages
Religion
Buddhist 35.3%, Taoist 33.2%, Christian 3.9%, folk (includes Confucian) approximately 10%, none or unspecified 18.2% (2005 est.)
Urbanization
urban population: 78.9% of total population (2020)
ratio of urbanization: 0.8% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)
Literacy
98.5% (2014)
as of August 2020

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 35,980 sq km
Land: 32,260 sq km
Water: 3,720 sq km
Climate
tropical; marine; rainy season during southwest monsoon (June to August); extensive and persistent cloudiness all year
Natural Resources
small deposits of coal, natural gas, limestone, marble, asbestos, arable land

as of August 2020