



PHILIPPINES



INTRODUCTION

The Philippine Islands became a Spanish colony during the 16th century and were ceded to the US in 1898 following the Spanish-American War. In 1935, the Philippines became a self-governing commonwealth. Following Japanese occupation during World War II, the Republic of the Philippines attained its independence on July 4, 1946.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Rodrigo DUTERTE

Head of Government

President Rodrigo DUTERTE

Government Type

presidential republic

Capital

Manila

Legislature

bicameral Congress or Kongreso consists of the Senate or Senado (24 seats) and the House of Representatives or Kapulungan Ng Mga Kinatawan (297 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 300,000 sq km
Land: 298,170 sq km
Water: 1,830 sq km

Climate

tropical marine; northeast monsoon (November to April); southwest monsoon (May to October)

Natural Resources

timber, petroleum, nickel, cobalt, silver, gold, salt, copper

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

diversified, growing East Asian economy; major semiconductor, ship-building, and electronics exporter; significant remittances; COVID-19 hit consumption and investments hard; regional tensions with China; major geothermal energy user

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$871.6 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$8,000 (2020 est.)

Industries - semiconductors, electronics assembly, business process outsourcing, food/beverage manufacturing, construction

Agricultural products - sugarcane, rice, coconuts, maize, bananas, vegetables, tropical fruit, plantains, pineapples, cassava

Exports \$78.82 billion (2020 est.)

integrated circuits, office machinery/parts, insulated wiring, semiconductors, transformers (2019)

partners: China 16%, US 15%, Japan 13%, Hong Kong 12%, Singapore 7%, Germany 5% (2019)

Imports \$97.58 billion (2020 est.)

integrated circuits, refined petroleum, cars, crude petroleum, broadcasting equipment (2019)

partners: China 29%, Japan 8%, South Korea 7%, US 6%, Singapore 6%, Indonesia 6%, Thailand 5%, Taiwan 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

110.8 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

1.49% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Tagalog 24.4%, Bisaya/Binisaya 11.4%, Cebuano 9.9%, Ilocano 8.8%, Hiligaynon/Ilonggo 8.4%, Bicol/Bicol 6.8%, Waray 4%, other local ethnicity 26.1%, other foreign ethnicity .1% (2010 est.)

Language

unspecified Filipino (official) and English (official); eight major dialects - Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon or Ilonggo, Bicol, Waray, Pampango, and Pangasinan

Religion

Roman Catholic 79.5%, Muslim 6%, Iglesia ni Cristo 2.6%, Evangelical 2.4%, National Council of Churches in the Philippines 1.1%, other 7.4%, none <0.1% (2015 est.)

