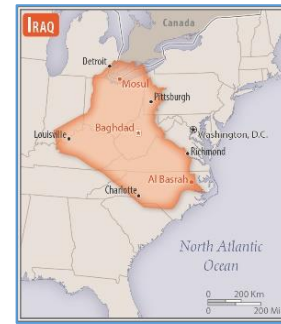




IRAQ



INTRODUCTION

Formerly part of the Ottoman Empire, Iraq was occupied by the United Kingdom during World War I and was declared a League of Nations mandate under UK administration in 1920. Iraq attained its independence as a kingdom in 1932. It was proclaimed a "republic" in 1958 after a coup overthrew the monarchy. The invasion of Kuwait in 1990 led to a period of instability as the country strove to install a representative government.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Barham SALIH

Head of Government

Prime Minister Mustafa al-KADHIMI

Government Type

federal parliamentary republic

Capital

Baghdad

Legislature

unicameral Council of Representatives or Majlis an-Nuwwab al-Iraqiyy (329 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area,

Total: 438,317 sq km
Land: 437,367 sq km
Water: 950 sq km

Climate

mostly desert; mild to cool winters with dry, hot summers; northern mountainous regions along Iranian and Turkish borders experience cold winters with occasionally heavy snows that melt in early spring, sometimes causing extensive flooding in central and southern Iraq

Natural Resources

petroleum, natural gas, phosphates, sulfur

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

oil-dependent Middle Eastern economy; COVID-19 disruption and domestic economy fragility post-US presence; poverty increases; currency devaluation leading to inflation; import-dependent for most sectors; evaluating fiscal and monetary restructuring

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$372.3 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$9,300 (2020 est.)

Industries - petroleum, chemicals, textiles, leather, construction materials, food processing, fertilizer, metal fabrication/processing
Agricultural products - wheat, barley, dates, tomatoes, rice, maize, grapes, potatoes, rice, watermelons

Exports \$50.61 billion (2020 est.)

crude and refined petroleum, gold, dates, petroleum coke (2019)
partners: China 26%, India 24%, South Korea 9%, US 8%, Italy 6%, Greece 6% (2019)

Imports \$54.72 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, broadcasting equipment, cars, jewelry, cigarettes (2019)
partners: UAE 28%, Turkey 21%, China 19% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

39.7 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

2.06% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Arab 75-80%, Kurdish 15-20%, other 5%

note: most recent available data is a 1987 Iraqi government estimate

Language

Arabic (official), Kurdish (official), Turkmen (a Turkish dialect), Syriac (Neo-Aramaic), and Armenian official in areas where native speakers of these languages constitute a majority of the population

Religion

Muslim (official) 95-98% (Shia 64-69%, Sunni 29-34%), Christian 1%, other 1-4% (2015 est.)

note: the Christian population may have dropped by at least 50% since the fall of the SADDAM Husayn regime in 2003

