



GUINEA-BISSAU



INTRODUCTION

Since independence from Portugal in 1974, Guinea-Bissau has experienced considerable political and military upheaval. Guinea-Bissau's history of political instability, a civil war, and several coups (the latest in 2012) have resulted in a fragile state with a weak economy, high unemployment, rampant corruption, and widespread poverty.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Umaro Cissoko EMBALO

Head of Government

Prime Minister Nuno NABIAM

Government Type

semi-presidential republic

Capital

Bissau

Legislature

unicameral National People's Assembly or Assembleia Nacional Popular (102 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 36,125 sq km
Land: 28,120 sq km
Water: 8,005 sq km

Climate

tropical; generally hot and humid; monsoonal-type rainy season (June to November) with southwesterly winds; dry season (December to May) with northeasterly harmattan winds

Natural Resources

fish, timber, phosphates, bauxite, clay, granite, limestone, unexploited deposits of petroleum

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

extremely poor West African economy; ethnically diverse labor force; increasing government expenditures; slight inflation due to food supply disruptions; major cashew exporter; systemic banking instabilities and corruption; vulnerable to oil price shocks

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$3.64 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$1,800 (2020 est.)

Industries - agricultural products processing, beer, soft drinks

Agricultural products - rice, cashew nuts, roots/tubers, oil palm fruit, plantains, cassava, groundnuts, vegetables, coconuts, fruit

Exports \$188 million (2018 est.)

cashews, gold, fish, lumber, aluminum ores (2019)

partners: India 50%, Belgium 28%, Cote d'Ivoire 8% (2019)

Imports \$383 million (2018 est.)

refined petroleum, rice, wheat products, soups/broths, malt extract (2019)

partners: Portugal 31%, Senegal 20%, China 10%, Netherlands 7%, Pakistan 7% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

2.0 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

2.52% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Fulani 28.5%, Balanta 22.5%, Mandinga 14.7%, Papel 9.1%, Manjaco 8.3%, Beafada 3.5%, Mancanha 3.1%, Bijago 2.1%, Felupe 1.7%, Mansoanca 1.4%, Balanta Mane 1%, other 1.8%, none 2.2% (2008 est.)

Language

Crioulo (lingua franca), Portuguese (official; largely used as a second or third language), Pular (a Fula language), Mandingo

Religion

Muslim 45.1%, Christian 22.1%, animist 14.9%, none 2%, unspecified 15.9% (2008 est.)

