GREECE

INTRODUCTION
Greece achieved independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1830 and became a kingdom. In 1974, it became a parliamentary republic and abolished the monarchy. In 1981 Greece joined the EU.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State  
President Ekaterini SAKELLAROPOULOU

Head of Government  
Prime Minister Kyriakos MITSOTAKIS

Government Type  
parliamentary republic

Capital  
Athens

Legislature  
unicameral Hellenic Parliament or Vouli ton Ellinon (300 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area  
Total: 131,957 sq km  
Land: 130,647 sq km  
Water: 1,310 sq km

Climate  
temperate; mild, wet winters; hot, dry summers

Natural Resources  
lignite, petroleum, iron ore, bauxite, lead, zinc, nickel, magnesite, marble, salt, hydropower potential

ECONOMY
Economic Overview  
tourism- and shipping-based EU economy; clientelism economic culture and systemic corruption; new structural reforms for fiscal solvency; high public debts and unemployment; increasing Chinese port control; oil and gas disputes with Turkey

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $292.4 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $27,300 (2020 est.)

Industries - tourism, food and tobacco processing, textiles, chemicals, metal products, mining, petroleum

Agricultural products - maize, olives, wheat, milk, peaches/nectarines, oranges, tomatoes, grapes, milk, potatoes

Exports $59.02 billion (2020 est.)  
refined petroleum, packaged medicines, aluminum plating, computers, cotton (2019)

partners: Italy 10%, Germany 7%, Turkey 5%, Cyprus 5%, Bulgaria 5% (2019)

Imports $71.76 billion (2020 est.)  
crude and refined petroleum, packaged medicines, cars, ships (2019)

partners: Germany 11%, China 9%, Italy 8%, Iraq 7%, Russia 6%, Netherlands 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population  
10.6 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth -0.34% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity  
Greek 91.6%, Albanian 4.4%, other 4% (2011)

Language  
Greek (official) 99%, other (includes English and French) 1%

Religion  
Greek Orthodox 81-90%, Muslim 2%, other 3%, none 4-15%, unspecified 1% (2015 est.)

Urbanization  
urban population: 80% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 0.11% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)