INTRODUCTION
Modern Turkey was founded in 1923 from the remnants of the defeated Ottoman Empire by national hero Mustafa KEMAL, who was later honored with the title Ataturk or "Father of the Turks." Under his leadership, the country adopted radical social, legal, and political reforms. Turkey joined the UN in 1945 and in 1952 it became a member of NATO. In 1963, Turkey became an associate member of the European Community.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Recep Tayyip ERDOGAN
Head of Government
President Recep Tayyip ERDOGAN
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
Ankara
Legislature
unicameral Grand National Assembly of Turkey or Turkiye Buyuk Millet Meclisi (600 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 783,562 sq km
Land: 769,632 sq km
Water: 13,930 sq km
Climate
temperate; hot, dry summers with mild, wet winters; harsher in interior
Natural Resources
coil, iron ore, copper, chromium, antimony, mercury, gold, barite, borate, celestite (strontium), emery, feldspar, limestone, magnesite, marble, perlite, pumice, pyrites (sulfur), clay, arable land, hydropower

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
upper middle-income, diversified Middle Eastern economy; economic instability from 2016 attempted coup and 2018 currency recession; hit hard by COVID-19, increasing poverty and unemployment; endemic corruption; large agriculture labor force
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $2.394 trillion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $28,400 (2020 est.)
Industries - textiles, food processing, automobiles, electronics, mining, steel, petroleum, construction, lumber, paper
Agricultural products - milk, wheat, sugar beets, tomatoes, barley, maize, potatoes, grapes, watermelons, apples
Exports $203.3 billion (2020 est.)
cars/vehicle parts, refined petroleum, delivery trucks, jewelry, clothing, apparel (2019)
partners: Germany 9%, UK 6%, Iraq 5%, Italy 5%, US 5% (2019)
Imports $232 billion (2020 est.)
gold, refined and crude petroleum, vehicle parts, scrap iron (2019)
partners: Germany 11%, China 9%, Russia 9%, US 5%, Italy 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
82.5 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.7% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Turkish 70-75%, Kurdish 19%, other minorities 7-12% (2016 est.)
Language
Turkish (official), Kurdish, other minority languages
Religion
Muslim 99.8% (mostly Sunni), other 0.2% (mostly Christians and Jews)
Urbanization
urban population: 76.6% of total population (2021)
rate of urbanization: 1.11% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)
Literacy
96.2% (2017)