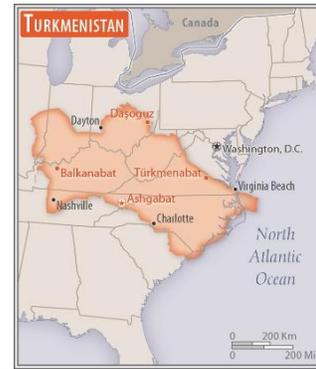




TURKMENISTAN



INTRODUCTION

Present-day Turkmenistan covers territory that has been at the crossroads of civilizations for centuries. The area was ruled in antiquity by various Persian empires, and was conquered by Alexander the Great, Muslim armies, the Mongols, Turkic warriors, and eventually the Russians. In 1924, Turkmenistan became a Soviet republic; it achieved independence upon the dissolution of the USSR in 1991.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Gurbanguly BERDIMUHAMEDOW

Head of Government

President Gurbanguly BERDIMUHAMEDOW

Government Type

presidential republic; authoritarian

Capital

Ashgabat

Legislature

unicameral National Assembly or Mejlis (125 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 488,100 sq km
Land: 469,930 sq km
Water: 18,170 sq km

Climate

subtropical desert

Natural Resources

petroleum, natural gas, sulfur, salt

ECONOMY

upper middle-income Central Asian economy; has 10% of global natural gas reserves, exporting to Russia and China; natural resource rich; authoritarian and dominated by state-owned enterprises; major central-south Asian pipeline development

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$86.86 billion (2018 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$14,850 (2018 est.)

Industries - natural gas, oil, petroleum products, textiles, food processing

Agricultural products - milk, wheat, cotton, tomatoes, potatoes, watermelons, grapes, sugar beets, beef, rice

Exports \$7.458 billion (2017 est.)

natural gas, refined and crude petroleum, cotton fibers, fertilizers (2019)

partners: China 82% (2019)

Imports \$4.571 billion (2017 est.)

iron products, harvesting machinery, packaged medicines, broadcasting equipment, tractors (2019)

partners: Turkey 25%, Russia 18%, China 14%, Germany 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

5.6 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

1.02% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Turkmen 85%, Uzbek 5%, Russian 4%, other 6% (2003 est.)

Language

Turkmen (official) 72%, Russian 12%, Uzbek 9%, other 7%

Religion

Muslim 93%, Christian 6.4%, Buddhist <1%, folk religion <1%, Jewish <1%, other <1%, unspecified <1% (2020 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 53% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 2.23% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

