BOTSWANA

INTRODUCTION
Formerly the British protectorate of Bechuanaland, Botswana adopted its new name at independence in 1966. More than five decades of uninterrupted civilian leadership, progressive social policies, and significant capital investment have created one of the most stable economies in Africa.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Mokgweetsie Eric MASISI
Head of Government
President Mokgweetsie Eric MASISI
Government Type
parliamentary republic
Capital
Gaborone
Legislature
unicameral Parliament consists of the National Assembly (63 seats); note – the House of Chiefs, an advisory body to the National Assembly, consists of 35 members

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
good economic governance and financial management; diamond-driven growth model declining; rapid poverty reductions; high unemployment, particularly among youth; COVID-19 sharply contracted the economy and recovery is slow; public sector wages have posed fiscal challenges
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $37.72 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $16,000 (2020 est.)
Industries - diamonds, copper, nickel, salt, soda ash, potash, coal, iron ore, silver, beef processing, textiles
Agricultural Products - milk, roots/tubers, vegetables, sorghum, beef, game meat, watermelons, cabbages, goat milk, onions
Exports $5.934 billion (2017 est.)
diamonds, insulated wiring, gold, beef, carbonates (2019)
partners: India 21%, Belgium 19%, UAE 19%, South Africa 9%, Israel 7%, Hong Kong 6%, Singapore 5% (2019)
Imports $5.005 billion (2017 est.)
diamonds, refined petroleum, cars, delivery trucks, electricity (2019)
partners: South Africa 58%, Namibia 9%, Canada 7% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
2.4 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
1.43% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Tswana (or Setswana) 79%, Kalanga 11%, Basarwa 3%, other (including Kgalagadi and people of European descent) 7% (2011 est.)
Language
Setswana 77.3%, Sekalanga 7.4%, Shekgalagadi 3.4%, English (official) 2.8%, Zezuru/Shona 2%, Sesarwa 1.7%, Sembukushu 1.6%, Ndebele 1%, other 2.8% (2011 est.)
Religion
Christian 79.1%, Badimo 4.1%, other 1.4% (includes Baha’i, Hindu, Muslim, Rastafarian), none 15.2%, unspecified 0.3% (2011 est.)

as of October 2021