INTRODUCTION
El Salvador achieved independence from Spain in 1821 and from the Central American Federation in 1839. A 12-year civil war was brought to a close in 1992 when the government and leftist rebels signed a treaty that provided for military and political reforms.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Nayib Armando BUKELE Ortez
Head of Government
President Nayib Armando BUKELE Ortez
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
San Salvador
Legislature
unicameral Legislative Assembly or Asamblea Legislativa (84 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 21,041 sq km
Land: 20,721 sq km
Water: 320 sq km
Climate
tropical; rainy season (May to October); dry season (November to April); tropical on coast; temperate in uplands
Natural Resources
hydropower, geothermal power, petroleum, arable land

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
growth challenged Central American economy buttressed via remittances; dense labor force; fairly aggressive COVID-19 stimulus plan; new and lower banking reserve requirements; earthquake, tropical storm, and crime disruptions; widespread corruption
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $52.26 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $8,100 (2020 est.)
Industries - food processing, beverages, petroleum, chemicals, fertilizer, textiles, furniture, light metals
Agricultural products - sugarcane, maize, milk, poultry, sorghum, beans, coconuts, eggs, apples, oranges
Exports $6.29 billion (2020 est.)
textiles and apparel, electrical capacitors, plastic lids, raw sugar, toilet paper (2019)
partners: US 40%, Guatemala 15%, Honduras 15%, Nicaragua 6% (2019)
Imports $10.82 billion (2020 est.)
refined petroleum, packaged medicines, clothing, broadcasting equipment, natural gas (2019)
partners: US 30%, China 14%, Guatemala 13%, Mexico 8%, Honduras 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
6.5 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.67% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Mestizo 86.3%, White 12.7%, Amerindian 0.2% (includes Lenca, Kakawira, Nahua-Pipil), Black 0.1%, other 0.6% (2007 est.)
Language
Spanish (official), Nawat (among some Amerindians)
Religion
Roman Catholic 50%, Protestant 36%, other 2%, none 12% (2014 est.)
as of October 2021