INTRODUCTION
Autonomy for Eswatini was guaranteed by the British in the late 19th century and independence was granted in 1968. A new constitution came into effect in 2006, which included provisions for a more independent parliament and judiciary, but the legal status of political parties remains unclear.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
King MSWATI III
Head of Government
Prime Minister Cleopas DLAMINI
Government Type
absolute monarchy
Capital
Mbabane (administrative capital); Lombamba (royal and legislative capital)
Legislature
bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (30 seats) and the House of Assembly (73 seats)

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
landlocked southern African economy; South African trade dependent and currency pegging; CMA and SACU member state; COVID-19 economic slowdown; growing utilities inflation; persistent poverty and unemployment; HIV/AIDS labor force disruptions
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $9.74 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $8,400 (2020 est.)
Industries - soft drink concentrates, coal, forestry, sugar processing, textiles, apparel
Agricultural products - sugarcane, maize, roots/tubers nes, grapefruit, oranges, milk, beef, potatoes, vegetables, bananas
Exports $1.81 billion (2020 est.)
  soft drink concentrates, sugar, timber, cotton yarn, refrigerators, citrus, canned fruit
  partners: South Africa 94% (2017)
Imports $1.7 billion (2020 est.)
  motor vehicles, machinery, transport equipment, foodstuffs, petroleum products, chemicals
  partners: South Africa 82%, China 5% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
1.1 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.77% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
predominantly Swazi; smaller populations of other African ethnic groups and people of European ancestry
Language
English (official, used for government business), siSwati (official)
Religion
Christian 90%, (Zionist – a blend of Christianity and indigenous ancestral worship – 40%, Roman Catholic 20%, other 30% - includes Anglican, Methodist, Church of Jesus Christ, Jehovah’s Witness), Muslim 2%, other 8% (includes Baha’i, Buddhist, Hindu, indigenous, Jewish) (2015 est.)

as of October 2021