CAMEROON

INTRODUCTION
Cameroon resulted from the merger of former French and British Cameroon in the early 1960s. The country has enjoyed stability, permitting the development of agriculture, roads, railways, and a petroleum industry.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Paul BIYA
Head of Government
President Joseph Dion NGUTE
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
Yaounde
Legislature
bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (100 seats) and the National Assembly (180 seats)

GEOPGRAPHY
Area
Total: 475,440 sq km
Land: 472,710 sq km
Water: 2,730 sq km
Climate
varies with terrain, from tropical along coast to semiarid and hot in north
Natural Resources
petroleum, bauxite, iron ore, timber, hydropower

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
largest CEMAC economy with many natural resources; recent political instability and terrorism reducing economic output; systemic corruption; poor property rights enforcement; increasing poverty in northern regions
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $94.94 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $3,600 (2020 est.)
Industries
petroleum production and refining, aluminum production, food processing, consumer goods, textiles, lumber
Agricultural products
- cassava, plantains, maize, oil palm fruit, taro, sugarcane, sorghum, tomatoes, bananas, vegetables
Exports $4.732 billion (2017 est.)
crude petroleum, cocoa beans, lumber, gold, natural gas, bananas (2019)
partners: China 17%, Netherlands 14%, Italy 9%, UAE 8%, India 7%, US 6%, Belgium 6%, Spain 5%, France 5% (2019)
Imports $4.812 billion (2017 est.)
crude petroleum, scrap vessels, rice, special purpose ships, packaged medicines (2019)
partners: China 28%, Nigeria 15%, France 9%, Belgium 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
28.5 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
2.77% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Bamileke-Bamu 24.3%, Beti/Bassa/Mbam 21.6%, Biu-Mandara 14.6%, Arab-Choa/Hausa/Kanuri 11%, Adamawa-Ubangi 9.8%, Grassfields 7.7%, Kako/Meka/Pygmy 3.3%, Cotier/Ngoe/Oroko 2.7%, Southwestern Bantu 0.7%, foreign/other ethnicity 4.5% (2018 est.)
Language
24 major African language groups, English (official), French (official)
Religion
Roman Catholic 38.3%, Protestant 25.5%, other Christian 6.9%, Muslim 24.4%, animist 2.2%, other 0.5%, none 2.2% (2018 est.)

as of October 2021