



SAUDI ARABIA



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

King and Prime Minister SALMAN bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud

Head of Government

King and Prime Minister SALMAN bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud

Government Type

absolute monarchy

Capital

Riyadh

Legislature

unicameral Consultative Council (150 seats)

Judiciary

High Court (consists of the court chief and organized into circuits with 3-judge panels; criminal circuit has a 5-judge panel for cases involving major punishments)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Princess REEMA bint Bandar Al Saud

US Ambassador

Ambassador John P. ABIZAID

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 2.15 million sq km

Land: 2.15 million sq km

Water: 0 sq km

Climate

harsh, dry desert with great temperature extremes

Natural Resources

petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, gold, copper

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

Saudi Arabia has an oil-based economy with strong government controls over major economic activities. It has about 16% of the world's proven petroleum reserves.

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$1.775 trillion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$54,500 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$221.1 billion (2017 est.)

partners: Japan 12.2%, China 11.7%, South Korea 9%, India 8.9%, US 8.3%, UAE 6.7%, Singapore 4.2% (2017)

Imports

\$119.3 billion (2017 est.)

partners: China 15.4%, US 13.6%, UAE 6.5%, Germany 5.8%, Japan 4.1%, India 4.1%, South Korea 4% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

34.2 million (July 2020 est.)

Population Growth

1.6% (2020 est.)

Ethnicity

Arab 90%, Afro-Asian 10%

Language

Arabic (official)

Religion

Muslim (official; citizens are 85-90% Sunni and 10-15% Shia), other (includes Eastern Orthodox, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, and Sikh) (2012 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 84.3% of total population (2020)

rate of urbanization: 2.17% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy

78% (2015)

