CROATIA

INTRODUCTION
The lands that today comprise Croatia were part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire until the close of World War I. In 1918, the Croats, Serbs, and Slovenes formed a kingdom known after 1929 as Yugoslavia. Although Croatia declared its independence from Yugoslavia in 1991, it took four years of sporadic, but often bitter, fighting to establish relative stability.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Zoran MILANOVIC
Head of Government
Prime Minister Andrej PLENKOVIC
Government Type
parliamentary republic
Capital
Zagreb
Legislature
unicameral Assembly or Hrvatski Sabor (151 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 56,594 sq km
Land: 55,974 sq km
Water: 620 sq km
Climate
Mediterranean and continental; continental climate predominant with hot summers and cold winters; mild winters, dry summers along coast
Natural Resources
oil, some coal, bauxite, low-grade iron ore, calcium, gypsum, natural asphalt, silica, mica, clays, salt, hydropower

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
4.2 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
-0.48% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Croat 90.4%, Serb 4.4%, other 4.4%, unspecified 0.8% (2011 est.)
Language
Croatian (official) 95.6%, Serbian 1.2%, other 3% (including Hungarian, Czech, Slovak, and Albanian), unspecified 0.2% (2011 est.)
Religion
Roman Catholic 86.3%, Orthodox 4.4%, Muslim 1.5%, other 1.5%, unspecified 2.5%, not religious or atheist 3.8% (2011 est.)

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
tourism-based economy that was one of the hardest hit by COVID-19 economic disruptions; EU member since 2013, helping recover from a 6-year recession; public debt increases due to COVID-19 and stimulus packages; weak exports; continuing emigration; new liquefied natural gas import terminal
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $107.1 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $26,500 (2020 est.)
Industries - chemicals, plastics, machine tools, fabricated metal, electronics, pig iron, rolled steel products, aluminum, paper, wood products, construction materials, textiles, shipbuilding, petroleum/refining, food/beverages, tourism
Agricultural products - maize, wheat, sugar beets, milk, barley, soybeans, potatoes, pork, grapes, sunflower seed
Exports $23.66 billion (2020 est.)
refined petroleum, packaged medicines, cars, medical cultures/vaccines, lumber (2019)
partners: Italy 13%, Germany 13%, Slovenia 10%, Bosnia and Herzegovina 9%, Austria 6%, Serbia 5% (2019)
Imports $27.59 billion (2020 est.)
crude petroleum, cars, refined petroleum, packaged medicines, electricity (2019)
partners: Italy 14%, Germany 14%, Slovenia 11%, Hungary 7%, Austria 6% (2019)

as of October 2021