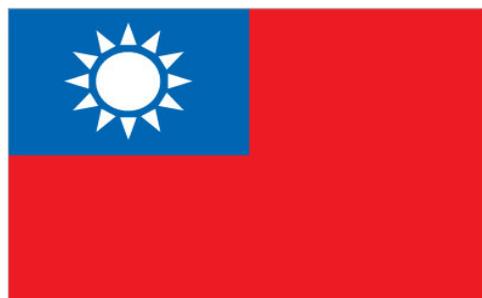




TAIWAN



INTRODUCTION

First inhabited by Austronesian people, Taiwan became home to Han immigrants beginning in the late Ming Dynasty (17th century). With the communist victory in the Chinese civil war in 1949, the Nationalist-controlled Republic of China government and 2 million Nationalists fled to Taiwan and continued to claim to be the legitimate government for mainland China and Taiwan based on a 1947 Constitution.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President TSAI Ing-wen

Head of Government

Premier SU Tseng-chang

Government Type

semi-presidential republic

Capital

Taipei

Legislature

unicameral Legislative Yuan (113 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 35,980 sq km
Land: 32,260 sq km
Water: 3,720 sq km

Climate

tropical; marine; rainy season during southwest monsoon (June to August); extensive and persistent cloudiness all year

Natural Resources

small deposits of coal, natural gas, limestone, marble, asbestos, arable land

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

high-income East Asian economy; most technologically advanced computer microchip manufacturing; increasing Chinese interference threatens market capabilities; minimum wages rising; longstanding regional socioeconomic inequality

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$1.143 trillion (2019 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$24,500 (2018 est.)

Industries - electronics, communications/information technology products, petroleum refining, chemicals, textiles, iron and steel, machinery, cement, food processing, vehicles

Agricultural products - rice, vegetables, pork, cabbages, poultry, sugarcane, milk, eggs, pineapples, tropical fruit

Exports \$388.5 billion (2019 est.)

integrated circuits, office machinery/parts, computers, refined petroleum, liquid crystal displays (2019)

partners: China 26%, US 14%, Hong Kong 12%, Japan 7%, Singapore 7%, South Korea 5% (2019)

Imports \$308.7 billion (2019 est.)

integrated circuits, crude petroleum, photography equipment, natural gas, refined petroleum (2019)

partners: China 21%, Japan 16%, US 11%, South Korea 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

23.57 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

0.04% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Han Chinese more than 95%, indigenous Malayo-Polynesian peoples 2.3%

Language

Mandarin Chinese (official), Taiwanese (Min Nan), Hakka dialects, approximately 16 indigenous languages

Religion

Buddhist 35.3%, Taoist 33.2%, Christian 3.9%, folk (includes Confucian) approximately 10%, none or unspecified 18.2% (2005 est.)

