INTRODUCTION
Following World War I and the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, the League of Nations awarded Britain the mandate to govern much of the Middle East. Britain demarcated a semi-autonomous region of Transjordan from Palestine in the early 1920s. The area gained its independence in 1946 and thereafter became The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
King ABDALLAH II
Head of Government
Prime Minister Bisher AL-KHASAWNEH
Government Type
parliamentary constitutional monarchy
Capital
Amman
Legislature
bicameral National Assembly or Majlis 'Umma consists of the Senate or the House of Notables or Majlis al-Ayan (65 seats) and the Chamber of Deputies or House of Representatives or Majlis al-Nuwaab (130 seats)

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
low growth; high unemployment, especially for youth and women; growing debt; severe COVID-19 disruptions to service and tourism; high current account balances and Five-Year Reform Matrix progress; new business programs; declining remittances
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $100.2 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $9,800 (2020 est.)
Industries - tourism, information technology, clothing, fertilizer, potash, phosphate mining, pharmaceuticals, petroleum refining, cement, inorganic chemicals, light manufacturing
Agricultural products - tomatoes, poultry, olives, milk, potatoes, other vegetables, watermelons, peaches/nectarines
Exports $13.11 billion (2018 est.)
  fertilizers, calcium phosphates, packaged medicines, clothing and apparel, phosphoric acid (2019)
  partners: US 21%, Saudi Arabia 13%, India 8%, Iraq 7%, UAE 5%, China 5% (2019)
Imports $19.67 billion (2018 est.)
  cars, refined petroleum, natural gas, crude petroleum, clothing and apparel (2019)
  partners: China 17%, Saudi Arabia 15%, US 6%, UAE 6%, Egypt 5%, India 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
10.9 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.82% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Jordanian 69.3%, Syrian 13.3%, Palestinian 6.7%, Egyptian 6.7%, Iraqi 1.4%, other 2.6% (includes Armenian, Circassian) (2015 est.)
Language
Arabic (official), English (widely understood among upper and middle classes)
Religion
Muslim 97.1% (official; predominantly Sunni), Christian 2.1%, Buddhist 0.4%, Hindu 0.1%, Jewish <0.1%, folk <0.1%, other <0.1%, unaffiliated <0.1% (2020 est.)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
total: 89,342 sq km
land: 88,802 sq km
water: 540 sq km
Climate
mostly arid desert; rainy season in west (November to April)
Natural Resources
phosphates, potash, shale oil

as of October 2021