AFGHANISTAN

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Ashraf GHANI
Head of Government
President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Ashraf GHANI
Government Type
presidential Islamic republic
Capital
Kabul
Legislature
bicameral National Assembly consists of the Meshrano Jirga or House of Elders (102 seats) and the Wolesi Jirga or House of People (249 seats)
Judiciary
Supreme Court or Stera Mahkama (chief and 8 justices)
Ambassador to US
Ambassador Roya RAHMANI
US Ambassador
Ambassador (vacant); Charge d’Affaires Ross WILSON

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 652,230 sq km
Land: 652,230 sq km
Water: 0 sq km
Climate
arid to semi-arid; cold winters and hot summers
Natural Resources
natural gas, petroleum, coal, copper, chromite, talc, barites, sulfur, lead, zinc, iron ore, salt, precious and semiprecious stones, arable land

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
recovering from decades of conflict, living standards still among the lowest in the world, highly dependent on foreign aid, and suffering from shortages of housing, water, electricity, and jobs
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$69.45 billion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$2,000 (2017 est.)
Exports
$784 million (2017 est.)
partners: India 56.5%, Pakistan 29.6% (2017)
Imports
$7.616 billion (2017 est.)
partners: China 21%, Iran 20.5%, Pakistan 11.8% Kazakhstan 11%, Uzbekistan 6.8%, Malaysia 5.3% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
36.6 million (July 2020 est.)
Population Growth
2.38% (2020 est.)
Ethnicity
Pashtun, Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, other (includes smaller numbers of Baloch, Turkmen, Nuristani, Pamiri, Arab, Gujar, Brahui, Qizilbash, Aimaq, Pashai, and Kyrgyz) (2015)
Language
Afghan Persian or Dari (official) 77% (Dari functions as the lingua franca), Pashto (official) 48%, Uzbek 11%, English 6%, Turkmen 3%, Urdu 3%, Pashayi 1%, Nuristani 1%, Arabic 1% , Balochi 1% (2017 est.)
Religion
Muslim 99.7% (Sunni 84.7 - 89.7%, Shia 10 – 15%), other 0.3% (2009 est.)
Urbanization
urban population: 26% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: 3.37% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)
Literacy
43% (2018)
1 note: percentages total more than 100% because respondents were able to provide more than one answer