MOROCCO

INTRODUCTION
In 788, about a century after the Arab conquest of North Africa, a series of Moroccan Muslim dynasties began to rule in Morocco. In the 16th century, the Sa'adi monarchy, particularly under Ahmad al-MANSUR (1578-1603), repelled foreign invaders and inaugurated a golden age. The French imposed a protectorate over the country. A protracted independence struggle with France ended successfully in 1956.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
King MOHAMMED VI
Head of Government
Prime Minister Saad-Eddine al-OTHMANI
Government Type
parliamentary constitutional monarchy
Capital
Rabat
Legislature
bicameral Parliament consists of Chamber of Advisors (120 seats) and Chamber of Representatives (395 seats)

GEOPGRAPHY
Area
Total: 446,550 sq km
Land: 446,300 sq km
Water: 250 sq km
Climate
Mediterranean, becoming more extreme in the interior
Natural Resources
phosphates, iron ore, manganese, lead, zinc, fish, salt

ECONOMY
lower middle-income North African economy; COVID-19 brought first recession since 1995; reforming state-owned enterprises and expanding welfare system; large tourism, manufacturing, and aeronautics industries; managed debt
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $259.4 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $6,900 (2020 est.)
Industries - automotive parts, phosphate mining and processing, aerospace, food processing, leather goods, textiles, construction, energy, tourism
Agricultural products - wheat, sugar beets, milk, potatoes, olives, tangerines/mandarins, tomatoes, oranges, barley, onions
Exports $37.52 billion (2020 est.)
cars, insulated wiring, fertilizers, phosphoric acid, clothing, apparel (2019)
partners: Spain 23%, France 19% (2019)
Imports $46.26 billion (2020 est.)
refined petroleum, cars/vehicle parts, natural gas, coal, low-voltage protection equipment (2019)
partners: Spain 19%, France 11%, China 9%, US 7%, Germany 5%, Turkey 5%, Italy 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
36.6 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.92% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Arab-Berber 99%, other 1%
Language
Arabic (official), Berber languages (Tamazight (official), Tachelhit, Tarifit), French
Religion
Muslim 99% (official; virtually all Sunni, <0.1% Shia), other 1% (includes Christian, Jewish, and Baha'i); note - Jewish about 6,000 (2010 est.)
Urbanization
urban population: 64.1% of total population (2021)
rate of urbanization: 1.88% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)
Literacy
73.8% (2018)

as of October 2021