INTRODUCTION
Georgia contained the ancient kingdoms of Colchis and Kartli-Iberia. The area came under Roman influence in the first centuries A.D., and Christianity became the state religion in the 330s. Independent for three years (1918-1921) following the Russian revolution, it was forcibly incorporated into the USSR in 1921 and regained its independence when the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Salome ZOURABICHVILI
Head of Government
Prime Minister Irakli GARIABASHVILI
Government Type
semi-presidential republic
Capital
Tbilisi
Legislature
unicameral Parliament or Sakartvelos Parlamenti (150 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 69,700 sq km
Land: 69,700 sq km
Water: 0 sq km
Climate
warm and pleasant; Mediterranean-like on Black Sea coast
Natural Resources
timber, hydropower, manganese deposits, iron ore, copper, minor coal and oil deposits; coastal climate and soils allow for important tea and citrus growth

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
COVID-19 crippled tourism, transportation, and construction sectors; rising unemployment, public debts and poverty; foreign investment and domestic bond issuance
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $52.33 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $14,100 (2020 est.)
Industries - steel, machine tools, electrical appliances, mining (manganese, copper, gold), chemicals, wood products, wine
Agricultural products - milk, grapes, maize, potatoes, wheat, watermelons, tomatoes, tangerines/mandarins, barley, apples
Exports $5.94 billion (2020 est.)
copper, cars, iron alloys, wine, packaged medicines (2019)
partners: Russia 12%, Azerbaijan 12%, Armenia 9%, Bulgaria 8%, China 6%, Turkey 6%, Ukraine 6% (2019)
Imports $8.94 billion (2020 est.)
cars, refined petroleum, copper, packaged medicines, natural gas (2019)
partners: Turkey 17%, China 11%, Russia 9%, Azerbaijan 6%, US 6%, Germany 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
4.9 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.05% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Georgian 86.8%, Azeri 6.3%, Armenian 4.5%, other 2.3% (includes Russian, Ossetian, Yazidi, Ukrainian, Kist, Greek) (2014 est.)
Language
Georgian (official) 87.6%, Azeri 6.2%, Armenian 3.9%, Russian 1.2%, other 1% (2014 est.)
Religion
Orthodox (official) 83.4%, Muslim 10.7%, Armenian Apostolic 2.9%, other 1.2%, none 0.5%, unspecified/no answer 1.2% (2014 est.)

as of October 2021