

POLAND









INTRODUCTION

By the mid-16th century, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth ruled a vast tract of land in Central and Eastern Europe. During the 18th century, internal disorders weakened the nation, and in a series of agreements between 1772 and 1795, Russia, Prussia, and Austria partitioned Poland among themselves. Poland became a Soviet satellite state following World War II. Free elections in 1989 and 1990 brought the communist era to a close.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Andrzej DUDA

Head of Government

Prime Minister Mateusz MORAWIECKI

Government Type

parliamentary republic

Capital

Warsaw

Legislature

bicameral legislature consists of the Senate or Senat (100 seats) and the Sejm (460 seats)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Marek Grzegorz MAGIEROWSKI

US Ambassador

Ambassador Mark BRZEZINSKI

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 312,685 sq km Land: 304,255 sq km Water: 8,430 sq km

Climate

temperate with cold, cloudy, moderately severe winters with frequent precipitation; mild summers with frequent rain

Natural Resources

coal, sulfur, copper, natural gas, silver, lead, salt, amber, arable land

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

diversified, high-growth European economy; COVID-19 led to first recession in nearly 3 decades; recovering strongly; ongoing war in neighboring Ukraine likely to continue this trend; EU and NATO member; bolstering US relations; economic concentration in western region; aging labor force; growing debt

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$1.318 trillion (2021 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$34,900 (2021 est.)
Industries - machine building, iron, steel, coal mining, chemicals,

shipbuilding, food processing, glass, beverages, textiles

Agricultural products - milk, sugar beets, wheat, potatoes, triticale, maize, barley, apples, mixed grains, rye

Exports \$411.62 billion (2021 est.)

cars/vehicle parts, seats, furniture, electric batteries, computers (2020)

partners: Germany 28%, Czechia 6%, France 6%, UK 6%, Netherlands 4% (2020)

Imports \$380.70 billion (2021 est.)

cars/vehicle parts, crude petroleum, packaged medicines, broadcasting equipment, and office machinery/parts (2020) partners: Germany 25%, China 12%, Italy 5%, Netherlands 5%, Czechia 4% (2020)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

38 million (2023 est.)

Population Growth

-0.28% (2023 est.)

Ethnicity

Polish 96.9%, Silesian 1.1%, German 0.2%, Ukrainian 0.1%, other and unspecified 1.7% (2011 est.)

Language

Polish (official) 98.2%, Silesian 1.4%, other 1.1%, unspecified 1.2% (2011 est.)

Religion

Catholic 85%, Orthodox 1.3%, Protestant 0.4%, other 0.3%, unspecified 12.9% (2020 est.)