INTRODUCTION
Since independence from Portugal in 1974, Guinea-Bissau has experienced considerable political and military upheaval. Guinea-Bissau’s history of political instability, a civil war, and several coups (the latest in 2012) have resulted in a fragile state with a weak economy, high unemployment, rampant corruption, and widespread poverty.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Umaro Cissoko EMBALO
Head of Government
Prime Minister Nuno NABIAM
Government Type
semi-presidential republic
Capital
Bissau
Legislature
unicameral National People’s Assembly or Assembleia Nacional Popular (102 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 36,125 sq km
Land: 28,120 sq km
Water: 8,005 sq km
Climate
tropical; generally hot and humid; monsoon-type rainy season (June to November) with southwesterly winds; dry season (December to May) with northeasterly harmattan winds
Natural Resources
fish, timber, phosphates, bauxite, clay, granite, limestone, unexploited deposits of petroleum

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
extremely poor West African economy; ethnically diverse labor force; increasing government expenditures; slight inflation due to food supply disruptions; major cashew exporter; systemic banking instabilities and corruption; vulnerable to oil price shocks
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $3.64 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $1,800 (2020 est.)
Industries - agricultural products processing, beer, soft drinks
Agricultural products - rice, cashew nuts, roots/tubers, oil palm, fruit, plantains, cassava, groundnuts, vegetables, coconuts, fruit
Exports $188 million (2018 est.)
cashews, gold, fish, lumber, aluminum ores (2019)
partners: India 50%, Belgium 28%, Cote d’Ivoire 8% (2019)
Imports $383 million (2018 est.)
refined petroleum, rice, wheat products, soups/broths, malt extract (2019)
partners: Portugal 31%, Senegal 20%, China 10%, Netherlands 7%, Pakistan 7% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
2.0 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
2.52% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Balanta 30%, Fulani 30%, Manjaco 14%, Mandinga 13%, Papel 7%, unspecified smaller ethnic groups 6% (2015 est.)
Language
Crioulo (lingua franca), Portuguese (official; largely used as a second or third language), Pular (a Fula language), Mandingo
Religion
Muslim 46.1%, folk religions 30.6%, Christian 18.9%, other or unaffiliated 4.4% (2020 est.)
as of January 2022