ARGENTINA

INTRODUCTION
In 1816, the United Provinces of the Rio Plata declared their independence from Spain. After Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay left, the area that remained became Argentina. The country's population and culture were heavily shaped by immigrants from throughout Europe.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Alberto Angel FERNANDEZ
Head of Government
President Alberto Angel FERNANDEZ
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
Buenos Aires
Legislature
bicameral National Congress or Congreso Nacional consists of the Senate (72 seats) and the Chamber of Deputies (257 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 2,780,400 sq km
Land: 2,736,690 sq km
Water: 43,710 sq km
Climate
mostly temperate; arid in southeast; subantarctic in southwest
Natural Resources
fertile plains of the pampas, lead, zinc, tin, copper, iron ore, manganese, petroleum, uranium, arable land

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
large diversified economy; financial risks from debt obligations, rapid inflation, and reduced investor appetites; resource-rich, export-led growth model; increasing trade relations with China; G20 and OAS leader; tendency to nationalize businesses and under-report inflation
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $893.3 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $19,700 (2020 est.)
Industries - food processing, motor vehicles, consumer durables, textiles, chemicals and petrochemicals, printing, metallurgy, steel
Agricultural products - maize, soybeans, wheat, sugarcane, milk, barley, sunflower seed, beef, grapes, potatoes
Exports $64.16 billion (2020 est.)
soybean products, corn, delivery trucks, wheat, frozen meat, gold (2019)
partners: Brazil 16%, China 11%, US 7%, Chile 5% (2019)
Imports $52.14 billion (2020 est.)
cars, refined petroleum, vehicle parts, natural gas, soybeans (2019)
partners: Brazil 21%, China 18%, US 14%, Germany 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
45.9 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.84% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
European (mostly Spanish and Italian descent) and Mestizo (mixed European and Amerindian ancestry) 97.2%, Amerindian 2.4%, African descent 0.4% (2010 est.)
Language
Spanish (official), Italian, English, German, French, indigenous (Mapudungun, Quechua)
Religion
Roman Catholic 62.9%, Evangelical 15.3%, Jehovah's Witness and Church of Jesus Christ 1.4%, other 1.2%, agnostic 3.2%, atheist 6%, none 9.7%, unspecified 0.3% (2019 est.)

as of October 2021