



# SUDAN



## INTRODUCTION

Between the 14th and 15th centuries much of Sudan was settled by Arab nomads, and between the 16<sup>th</sup>-19th centuries it underwent extensive Islamization. Following independence from Anglo-Egyptian co-rule in 1956, military regimes favoring Islamic-oriented governments have dominated national politics. A referendum on independence for Southern Sudan was held in January 2011 and indicated overwhelming support for independence. South Sudan became independent in July 2011.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State/Head of Government

President (vacant); a Sovereignty Council of military officials and a civilian alliance chaired by General Abd-al-Fatah al-BURHAN Abd-al-Rahman has assumed leadership until elections are held in 2022

### Government Type

presidential republic

### Capital

Khartoum

### Legislature

government is in transition until elections can be held in 2022

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 1,861,484 sq km  
Land: 1,731,671 sq km  
Water: 129,813 sq km

### Climate

hot and dry; arid desert; rainy season varies by region (April to November)

### Natural Resources

petroleum, small reserves of iron ore, copper, chromium ore, zinc, tungsten, mica, silver, gold, hydropower

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

low-income Sahel economy; one of the world's major agricultural exporters; shared oil pipeline exports with South Sudan; transitional government increasing human capital investment; food prices hit hard by COVID-19; ongoing Gezira Scheme irrigation project

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$176.4 billion (2020 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$4,000 (2020 est.)

**Industries** - oil, cotton ginning, textiles, cement, edible oils, sugar, soap distilling, shoes, petroleum refining, pharmaceuticals, armaments, automobile/light truck assembly, milling

**Agricultural products** - sugarcane, sorghum, milk, groundnuts, onions, sesame seed, goat milk, millet, bananas, wheat

**Exports** \$4.1 billion (2017 est.)

gold, crude petroleum, sesame seeds, sheep, goats, cotton, ground nuts (2019)

**partners:** UAE 31%, China 19%, Saudi Arabia 14%, India 12%, Egypt 5% (2019)

**Imports** \$8.22 billion (2017 est.)

raw sugar, wheat, packaged medicines, jewelry, tires, cars/vehicle parts (2019)

**partners:** China 31%, India 14%, UAE 11%, Egypt 6% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

46.8 million (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

2.55% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

Sudanese Arab (approximately 70%), Fur, Beja, Nuba, Fallata

### Language

Arabic (official), English (official), Nubian, Ta Bedawie, Fur

### Religion

Sunni Muslim, small Christian minority

