



CROATIA



INTRODUCTION

The lands that today comprise Croatia were part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire until the close of World War I. In 1918, the Croats, Serbs, and Slovenes formed a kingdom known after 1929 as Yugoslavia. Although Croatia declared its independence from Yugoslavia in 1991, it took four years of sporadic, but often bitter, fighting to establish relative stability.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Zoran MILANOVIĆ

Head of Government

Prime Minister Andrej PLENKOVIĆ

Government Type

parliamentary republic

Capital

Zagreb

Legislature

unicameral Assembly or Hrvatski Sabor (151 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 56,594 sq km

Land: 55,974 sq km

Water: 620 sq km

Climate

Mediterranean and continental; continental climate predominant with hot summers and cold winters; mild winters, dry summers along coast

Natural Resources

oil, some coal, bauxite, low-grade iron ore, calcium, gypsum, natural asphalt, silica, mica, clays, salt, hydropower

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

tourism-based economy that was one of the hardest hit by COVID-19 economic disruptions; EU member since 2013, helping recover from a 6-year recession; public debt increases due to COVID-19 and stimulus packages; weak exports; continuing emigration; new liquefied natural gas import terminal

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$107.1 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$26,500 (2020 est.)

Industries - chemicals, plastics, machine tools, fabricated metal, electronics, pig iron, rolled steel products, aluminum, paper, wood products, construction materials, textiles, shipbuilding, petroleum/refining, food/beverages, tourism

Agricultural products - maize, wheat, sugar beets, milk, barley, soybeans, potatoes, pork, grapes, sunflower seed

Exports \$23.66 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, packaged medicines, cars, medical cultures/vaccines, lumber (2019)

partners: Italy 13%, Germany 13%, Slovenia 10%, Bosnia and Herzegovina 9%, Austria 6%, Serbia 5% (2019)

Imports \$27.59 billion (2020 est.)

crude petroleum, cars, refined petroleum, packaged medicines, electricity (2019)

partners: Italy 14%, Germany 14%, Slovenia 11%, Hungary 7%, Austria 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

4.2 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

-0.48% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Croat 90.4%, Serb 4.4%, other 4.4%, unspecified 0.8% (2011 est.)

Language

Croatian (official) 95.6%, Serbian 1.2%, other 3% (including Hungarian, Czech, Slovak, and Albanian), unspecified 0.2% (2011 est.)

Religion

Roman Catholic 86.3%, Orthodox 4.4%, Muslim 1.5%, other 1.5%, unspecified 2.5%, not religious or atheist 3.8% (2011 est.)

