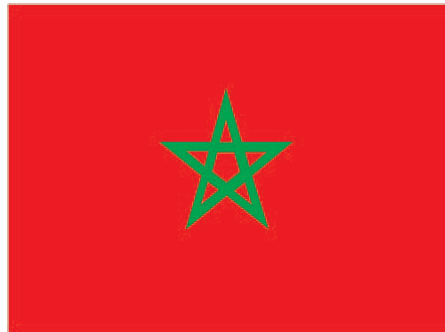




# MOROCCO



## INTRODUCTION

In 788, about a century after the Arab conquest of North Africa, a series of Moroccan Muslim dynasties began to rule in Morocco. In the 16th century, the Sa'adi monarchy, particularly under Ahmad al-MANSUR (1578-1603), repelled foreign invaders and inaugurated a golden age. The French imposed a protectorate over the country. A protracted independence struggle with France ended successfully in 1956.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

King MOHAMMED VI

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Saad-Eddine al-OTHMANI

### Government Type

parliamentary constitutional monarchy

### Capital

Rabat

### Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of Chamber of Advisors (120 seats) and Chamber of Representatives (395 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 446,550 sq km

Land: 446,300 sq km

Water: 250 sq km

### Climate

Mediterranean, becoming more extreme in the interior

### Natural Resources

phosphates, iron ore, manganese, lead, zinc, fish, salt

## ECONOMY

lower middle-income North African economy; COVID-19 brought first recession since 1995; reforming state-owned enterprises and expanding welfare system; large tourism, manufacturing, and aeronautics industries; managed debt

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$259.4 billion (2020 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$6,900 (2020 est.)

**Industries** - automotive parts, phosphate mining and processing, aerospace, food processing, leather goods, textiles, construction, energy, tourism

**Agricultural products** - wheat, sugar beets, milk, potatoes, olives, tangerines/mandarins, tomatoes, oranges, barley, onions

**Exports** \$37.52 billion (2020 est.)

cars, insulated wiring, fertilizers, phosphoric acid, clothing, apparel (2019)

**partners:** Spain 23%, France 19% (2019)

**Imports** \$46.26 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, cars/vehicle parts, natural gas, coal, low-voltage protection equipment (2019)

**partners:** Spain 19%, France 11%, China 9%, US 7%, Germany 5%, Turkey 5%, Italy 5% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

36.6 million (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

0.92% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

Arab-Berber 99%, other 1%

### Language

Arabic (official), Berber languages (Tamazight (official), Tachelhit, Tarifit), French

### Religion

Muslim 99% (official; virtually all Sunni, <0.1% Shia), other 1% (includes Christian, Jewish, and Baha'i); note - Jewish about 6,000 (2010 est.)

### Urbanization

urban population: 64.1% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 1.88% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

### Literacy

73.8% (2018)

