



Uzbekistan



Background Uzbekistan is the geographic and population center of Central Asia, with a diverse economy and a relatively young population. Russia conquered and united the disparate territories of present-day Uzbekistan in the late 19th century. Stiff resistance to the Red Army after the Bolshevik Revolution was eventually suppressed and a socialist republic established in 1924. During the Soviet era, intensive production of "white gold" (cotton) and grain led to the overuse of agrochemicals and the depletion of water supplies, leaving the land degraded and the Aral Sea and certain rivers half-dry. Independent since the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) dissolved in 1991, the country has diversified agricultural production while developing its mineral and petroleum export capacity and increasing its manufacturing base, although cotton remains a major part of its economy. Uzbekistan's first president, Islam KARIMOV, led Uzbekistan for 25 years until his death in 2016. His successor, former Prime Minister Shavkat MIRZIYOYEV, has improved relations with Uzbekistan's neighbors and introduced wide-ranging economic, judicial, and social reforms. MIRZIYOYEV was reelected in 2021 with 80% of the vote and again following a 2023 constitutional referendum with 87% of the vote.

Capital name: Tashkent (Toshkent)

Government type presidential republic; highly authoritarian

Area total : 447,400 sq km
land: 425,400 sq km
water: 22,000 sq km

Climate mostly mid-latitude desert, long, hot summers, mild winters; semiarid grassland in east

Natural resources natural gas, petroleum, coal, gold, uranium, silver, copper, lead and zinc, tungsten, molybdenum

Population total: 36,520,593 (2024 est.)

Population growth rate 1.43% (2024 est.)

Ethnic groups Uzbek 83.8%, Tajik 4.8%, Kazakh 2.5%, Russian 2.3%, Karakalpak 2.2%, Tatar 1.5%, other 2.9% (2017 est.)

Religions Muslim 88% (mostly Sunni), Eastern Orthodox 9%, other 3%

Languages Uzbek (official) 74.3%, Russian 14.2%, Tajik 4.4%, other 7.1%

Executive branch chief of state: President Shavkat MIRZIYOYEV (since 14 December 2016)
head of government: Prime Minister Abdulla ARIPOV (since 14 December 2016)

Legislative branch legislature name: Supreme Assembly (Oliy Majlis)

Diplomatic representation in the US chief of mission: Ambassador Furqat SIDIKOV (since 19 April 2023)

Diplomatic representation from the US chief of mission: Ambassador Jonathan HENICK (since 14 October 2022)

Economic overview	lower-middle income Central Asian economy; key exporter of natural gas, cotton, and gold; ongoing reform efforts to reduce state-owned sector dominance, attract foreign investment, and improve sustainability of cotton production
Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$379.989 billion (2024 est.) \$356.797 billion (2023 est.) \$335.678 billion (2022 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$10,500 (2024 est.) \$10,000 (2023 est.) \$9,600 (2022 est.)
Exports	\$26.173 billion (2024 est.) \$25.05 billion (2023 est.) \$20.966 billion (2022 est.)
Exports - partners	Switzerland 34%, Russia 12%, UK 11%, China 7%, Turkey 6% (2023)
Exports - commodities	gold, cotton yarn, garments, fertilizers, fabric (2023)
Imports	\$43.624 billion (2024 est.) \$42.646 billion (2023 est.) \$35.643 billion (2022 est.)
Imports - partners	China 32%, Russia 17%, Kazakhstan 8%, S. Korea 6%, Turkey 5% (2023)
Imports - commodities	cars, vehicle parts/accessories, packaged medicine, refined petroleum, aircraft (2023)

Population Pyramid

