



Denmark



Background Once the seat of Viking raiders and later a major north European power, Denmark has evolved into a modern, prosperous nation that is part of the general political and economic integration of Europe. It joined NATO in 1949 and the EEC (now the EU) in 1973. The country has opted out of certain elements of the EU's Maastricht Treaty, including the European Economic and Monetary Union and justice and home affairs issues. A 2022 referendum resulted in the removal of Denmark's 30-year opt-out on defense issues, now allowing Denmark to participate fully in the EU's Common Security and Defense Policy.

Capital name: Copenhagen

Government type parliamentary constitutional monarchy

Area total: 43,094 sq km
land: 42,434 sq km
water: 660 sq km

Climate temperate; humid and overcast; mild, windy winters and cool summers

Natural resources petroleum, natural gas, fish, arable land, salt, limestone, chalk, stone, gravel and sand

Population total: 5,973,136 (2024 est.)

Population growth rate 0.64% (2025 est.)

Ethnic groups Danish (includes Greenlandic (who are predominantly Inuit) and Faroese) 84.2%, Turkish 1.1%, other 14.7% (largest groups are Polish, Romanian, Syrian, Ukrainian, German, and Iraqi) (2023 est.)

Religions Evangelical Lutheran (official) 71.4%, Muslim 4.3%, other/none/unspecified (denominations include Roman Catholic, Jehovah's Witness, Serbian Orthodox Christian, Jewish, Baptist, Buddhist, Church of Jesus Christ, Pentecostal, and nondenominational Christian) 24.3% (2024 est.)

Languages Danish, Faroese, Greenlandic (an Inuit dialect), German (small minority); note - English is the predominant second language

Executive branch chief of state: King FREDERIK X (since 14 January 2024)

head of government: Prime Minister Mette FREDERIKSEN (since 27 June 2019)

Legislative branch legislature name: Parliament (Folketinget)

Diplomatic representation in the US chief of mission: Ambassador Jesper Møller SØRENSEN (since 15 September 2023)

Diplomatic representation from the US chief of mission: Ambassador Kenneth A. HOWERY (since 5 November 2025)

Economic overview	high-income, EU-member, trade-oriented Nordic economy; growth driven by pharmaceuticals, energy, and services; large share of employment in public sector; fixed exchange rate pegged to euro; strong fiscal position and declining public debt; tight labor market mitigated by migrant workers and higher retirement age
Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$440.558 billion (2024 est.) \$424.937 billion (2023 est.) \$414.592 billion (2022 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$73,700 (2024 est.) \$71,500 (2023 est.) \$70,200 (2022 est.)
Exports	\$299.405 billion (2024 est.) \$276.646 billion (2023 est.) \$283.37 billion (2022 est.)
Exports - partners	Germany 13%, USA 10%, Sweden 9%, Netherlands 7%, China 5% (2023)
Exports - commodities	packaged medicine, fish, vaccines, refined petroleum, pork (2023)
Imports	\$252.954 billion (2024 est.) \$243.478 billion (2023 est.) \$245.07 billion (2022 est.)
Imports - partners	Germany 18%, Sweden 11%, Norway 10%, Netherlands 9%, China 7% (2023)
Imports - commodities	natural gas, cars, garments, packaged medicine, refined petroleum (2023)

Population Pyramid