



# United Kingdom



<b>Background</b>	The United Kingdom has played a leading role in developing parliamentary democracy and advancing literature and science. At its zenith in the 19th century, the British Empire stretched over one fourth of the earth's surface. After the Empire was dismantled, the UK rebuilt itself into a modern and prosperous European nation. The Scottish Parliament, the National Assembly for Wales, and the Northern Ireland Assembly were established in 1998.
<b>Capital</b>	name: London
<b>Government type</b>	parliamentary constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth realm
<b>Area</b>	total : 243,610 sq km land: 241,930 sq km water: 1,680 sq km
<b>Climate</b>	temperate; moderated by prevailing southwest winds over the North Atlantic Current; more than one-half of the days are overcast
<b>Natural resources</b>	coal, petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, lead, zinc, gold, tin, limestone, salt, clay, chalk, gypsum, potash, silica sand, slate, arable land
<b>Population</b>	total: 68,459,055 (2024 est.)
<b>Population growth rate</b>	0.45% (2024 est.)
<b>Ethnic groups</b>	White 87.2%, Black/African/Caribbean/black British 3%, Asian/Asian British: Indian 2.3%, Asian/Asian British: Pakistani 1.9%, mixed 2%, other 3.7% (2011 est.)
<b>Religions</b>	Christian (includes Anglican, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist) 59.5%, Muslim 4.4%, Hindu 1.3%, other 2%, unspecified 7.2%, none 25.7% (2011 est.)
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Executive branch</b>	chief of state: King CHARLES III (since 8 September 2022) head of government: Prime Minister Keir STARMER (since 5 July 2024)
<b>Diplomatic representation in the US</b>	chief of mission: Ambassador Peter MANDELSON (since 25 February 2025)
<b>Diplomatic representation from the US</b>	chief of mission: Ambassador Warren A. STEPHENS (since 21 May 2025)
<b>Economic overview</b>	high-income, non-EU European economy; global financial center and dominant service sector; sluggish growth from stringent monetary policy, reduced business investment, low productivity and participation rates; fiscal austerity in face of high public debt
<b>Real GDP (purchasing power parity)</b>	\$3.636 trillion (2024 est.) \$3.596 trillion (2023 est.) \$3.582 trillion (2022 est.)
<b>Real GDP per capita</b>	\$52,500 (2024 est.) \$52,500 (2023 est.) \$53,000 (2022 est.)
<b>Exports</b>	\$1.117 trillion (2024 est.) \$1.078 trillion (2023 est.) \$1.041 trillion (2022 est.)
<b>Exports - partners</b>	USA 14%, China 8%, Germany 8%, Netherlands 7%, Ireland 7% (2023)
<b>Exports - commodities</b>	cars, gold, gas turbines, packaged medicine, crude petroleum (2023)
<b>Imports</b>	\$1.158 trillion (2024 est.) \$1.114 trillion (2023 est.) \$1.1 trillion (2022 est.)
<b>Imports - partners</b>	China 13%, USA 11%, Germany 10%, France 5%, Norway 4% (2023)
<b>Imports - commodities</b>	cars, gold, crude petroleum, refined petroleum, natural gas (2023)

Population Pyramid

