



Montenegro



Background The use of the name Crna Gora or Black Mountain (Montenegro) began in the 13th century in reference to a highland region in the Serbian province of Zeta. Under Ottoman control beginning in 1496, Montenegro was a semi-autonomous theocracy ruled by a series of bishop princes until 1852, when it became a secular principality. Montenegro fought a series of wars with the Ottomans and eventually won recognition as an independent sovereign principality at the Congress of Berlin in 1878. In 1918, the country was absorbed by the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, which became the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in 1929. At the end of World War II, Montenegro joined the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY). When the SFRY dissolved in 1992, Montenegro and Serbia created the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), which shifted in 2003 to a looser State Union of Serbia and Montenegro. Montenegro voted to restore its independence on 3 June 2006. Montenegro became an official EU candidate in 2010 and joined NATO in 2017.

Capital	name: Podgorica
Government type	parliamentary republic
Area	total : 13,812 sq km land: 13,452 sq km water: 360 sq km
Climate	Mediterranean climate, hot dry summers and autumns and relatively cold winters with heavy snowfalls inland
Natural resources	bauxite, hydroelectricity
Population	total: 599,849 (2024 est.)
Population growth rate	-0.44% (2024 est.)
Ethnic groups	Montenegrin 45%, Serbian 28.7%, Bosniak 8.7%, Albanian 4.9%, Muslim 3.3%, Romani 1%, Croat 1%, other 2.6%, unspecified 4.9% (2011 est.)
Religions	Orthodox 72.1%, Muslim 19.1%, Catholic 3.4%, atheist 1.2%, other 1.5%, unspecified 2.6% (2011 est.)
Languages	Serbian 42.9%, Montenegrin (official) 37%, Bosnian 5.3%, Albanian 5.3%, Serbo-Croat 2%, other 3.5%, unspecified 4% (2011 est.)
Executive branch	chief of state: President Jakov MILATOVIC (since 20 May 2023) head of government: Prime Minister Milojko SPAJIC (since 31 October 2023)
Legislative branch	legislature name: Parliament (Skupstina)
Diplomatic representation in the US	chief of mission: Ambassador Jovan MIRKOVIĆ (since 18 September 2024)

Diplomatic representation from the US	chief of mission: Ambassador Judy Rising REINKE (since 20 December 2018)
Economic overview	upper-middle-income, small Balkan economy; uses euro as de facto currency; reduced growth due to slowdown in tourism and industrial production; new impetus for EU accession under Europe Now government; energy price cap and declining food and services prices easing inflation rate
Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$17.375 billion (2024 est.) \$16.862 billion (2023 est.) \$15.857 billion (2022 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$27,900 (2024 est.) \$27,000 (2023 est.) \$25,400 (2022 est.)
Exports	\$3.629 billion (2024 est.) \$3.769 billion (2023 est.) \$3.177 billion (2022 est.)
Exports - partners	Italy 38%, Serbia 13%, Spain 6%, Slovenia 5%, Bosnia & Herzegovina 4% (2023)
Exports - commodities	electricity, aluminum, copper ore, aluminum ore, packaged medicine (2023)
Imports	\$5.478 billion (2024 est.) \$5.167 billion (2023 est.) \$4.614 billion (2022 est.)
Imports - partners	Serbia 21%, China 10%, Germany 8%, Croatia 6%, Italy 6% (2023)
Imports - commodities	refined petroleum, cars, electricity, packaged medicine, aluminum (2023)

Population Pyramid

