



El Salvador



Background El Salvador achieved independence from Spain in 1821 and from the Central American Federation in 1839. A 12-year civil war was brought to a close in 1992 when the government and leftist rebels signed a treaty that provided for military and political reforms.

Capital name: San Salvador

Government type presidential republic

Area total: 21,041 sq km
land: 20,721 sq km
water: 320 sq km

Climate tropical; rainy season (May to October); dry season (November to April); tropical on coast; temperate in uplands

Natural resources hydropower, geothermal power, petroleum, arable land

Population total: 6,628,702 (2024 est.)

Population growth rate 0.34% (2024 est.)

Ethnic groups Mestizo 86.3%, White 12.7%, Indigenous 0.2% (includes Lenca, Kakawira, Nahua-Pipil), Black 0.1%, other 0.6% (2007 est.)

Religions Roman Catholic 43.9%, Protestant 39.6% (Evangelical - unspecified 38.2%, Evangelical - Methodist 1.3%, Evangelical - Baptist 0.1%), none 16.3%, unspecified 0.2% (2023 est.)

Languages Spanish (official), Nawat (among some indigenous)

Executive branch chief of state: President Nayib Armando BUKELE Ortez (since 1 June 2019)
head of government: President Nayib Armando BUKELE Ortez (since 1 June 2019)

Diplomatic representation in the US chief of mission: Ambassador Carmen Milena MAYORGA VALERA (since 23 December 2020)

Diplomatic representation from the US chief of mission: Ambassador William H. DUNCAN (since 24 January 2023)

Economic overview upper-middle-income, dollarized Central American economy; reliant on remittances from US; recent growth linked to infrastructure investment, consumption, and crime reduction; \$1.3 billion IMF loan to address fiscal imbalances; Bitcoin adopted as legal tender; persistent poverty and large informal sector

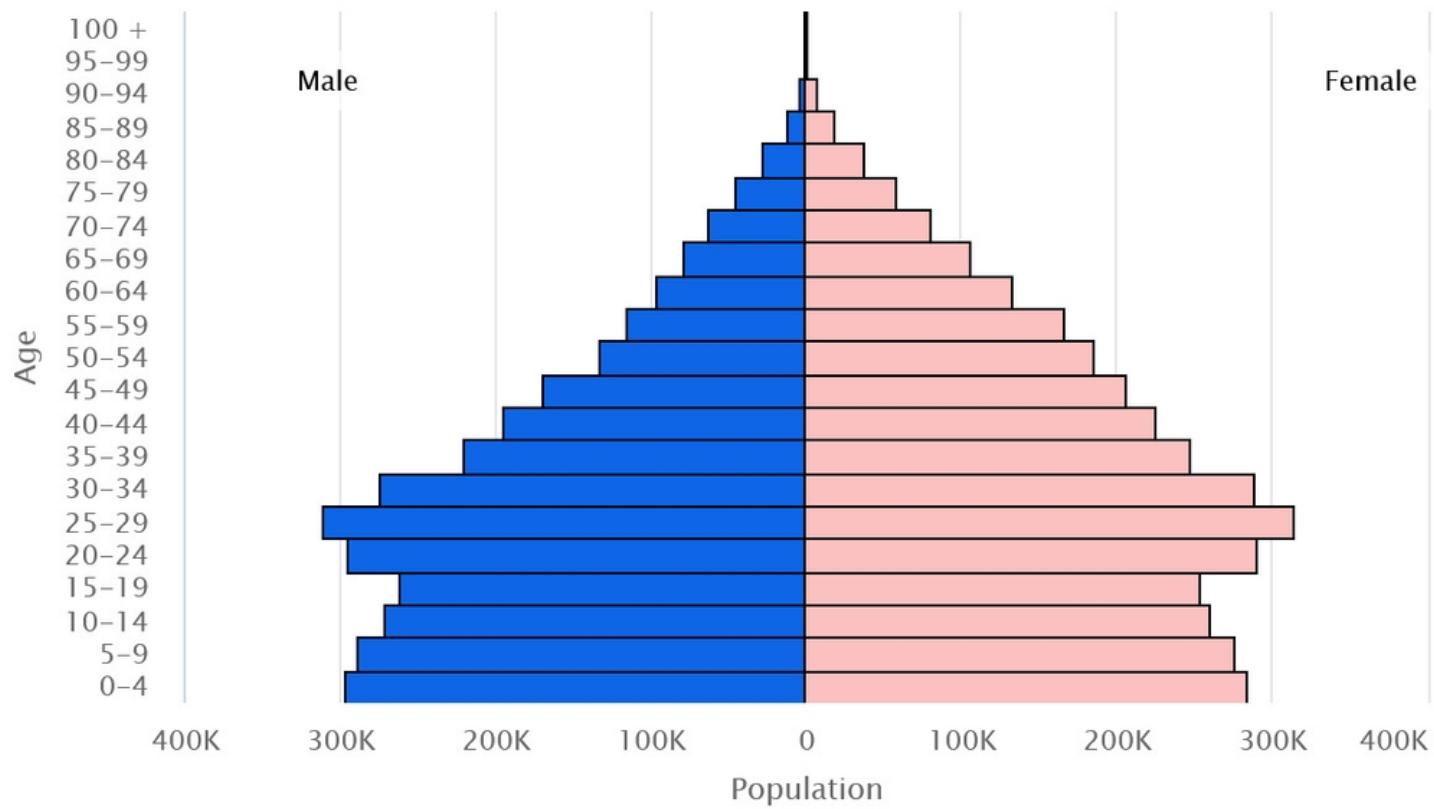
Real GDP (purchasing power parity) \$71.957 billion (2023 est.)

\$69.516 billion (2022 est.)

\$67.623 billion (2021 est.)

Real GDP per capita	\$11,400 (2023 est.) \$11,100 (2022 est.) \$10,800 (2021 est.)
Exports	\$10.629 billion (2023 est.) \$10.164 billion (2022 est.) \$8.351 billion (2021 est.)
Exports - partners	USA 36%, Guatemala 17%, Honduras 15%, Nicaragua 8%, Costa Rica 5% (2023)
Exports - commodities	garments, plastic products, electrical capacitors, raw sugar, toilet paper (2023)
Imports	\$17.032 billion (2023 est.) \$18.184 billion (2022 est.) \$15.483 billion (2021 est.)
Imports - partners	USA 28%, China 15%, Guatemala 11%, Mexico 8%, Honduras 5% (2023)
Imports - commodities	refined petroleum, natural gas, garments, packaged medicine, plastics (2023)

Population Pyramid



U.S. Census Bureau, International Database