



Hungary



Background Hungary became a Christian kingdom in A.D. 1000 and for many centuries served as a bulwark against Ottoman Turkish expansion in Europe. The kingdom eventually became part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which collapsed during World War I. The country fell under communist rule after World War II. In 1956, Moscow responded to a Hungarian revolt and announcement of its withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact with a massive military intervention. Under the leadership of Janos KADAR in 1968, Hungary began liberalizing its economy, introducing so-called "Goulash Communism." Hungary held its first multiparty elections in 1990 and initiated a free market economy. It joined NATO in 1999 and the EU five years later.

Capital name: Budapest

Government type parliamentary republic

Area total : 93,028 sq km
land: 89,608 sq km
water: 3,420 sq km

Climate temperate; cold, cloudy, humid winters; warm summers

Natural resources bauxite, coal, natural gas, fertile soils, arable land

Population total: 9,855,745 (2024 est.)

Population growth rate -0.28% (2024 est.)

Ethnic groups Hungarian 84.3%, Romani 2.1%, German 1%, other 1.2%, unspecified 13.7% (2022 est.)

Religions Catholic 30.1% (Roman Catholic 27.5%, Greek Catholic 1.7%, other Catholic 0.9%), Calvinist 9.8%, Lutheran 1.8%, other Christian (includes Orthodox) 1.6%, other 0.4%, none 16.1%, no answer 40.1% (2022 est.)

Languages Hungarian (official) 98.8%, English 25.3%, German 12.6%, Russian 2.1%, French 1.5%, Romanian 1.4%, other 5.1% (2022 est.)

Executive branch chief of state: President Tamas SÜLYÖK (since 5 March 2024)
head of government: Prime Minister Viktor ORBAN (since 29 May 2010)

Legislative branch legislature name: National Assembly (Országgyűlés)

Diplomatic representation in the US chief of mission: Ambassador Szabolcs Ferenc TAKÁCS (since 23 December 2020)

Diplomatic representation from the US chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Caroline SAVAGE (since November 2025)

Economic overview	high-income EU and OECD economy; modest recovery from 2024 recession driven by private consumption and moderated inflation; challenges include high fiscal deficits, frozen access to EU funds, and risks from export reliance; implementing tax exemptions, price controls, and mortgage interest caps ahead of 2026 elections
Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$389.207 billion (2024 est.) \$387.223 billion (2023 est.) \$390.513 billion (2022 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$40,700 (2024 est.) \$40,400 (2023 est.) \$40,700 (2022 est.)
Exports	\$166.503 billion (2024 est.) \$173.034 billion (2023 est.) \$158.98 billion (2022 est.)
Exports - partners	Germany 25%, Italy 6%, Romania 6%, USA 5%, Slovakia 4% (2023)
Exports - commodities	cars, vehicle parts/accessories, electric batteries, packaged medicine, computers (2023)
Imports	\$154.077 billion (2024 est.) \$163.192 billion (2023 est.) \$167.262 billion (2022 est.)
Imports - partners	Germany 23%, China 7%, Austria 6%, Poland 6%, S. Korea 6% (2023)
Imports - commodities	vehicle parts/accessories, natural gas, integrated circuits, broadcasting equipment, industrial acids/oils/alcohols (2023)

Population Pyramid

