



# Guinea



**Background** Guinea's deep Muslim heritage arrived via the neighboring Almoravid Empire in the 11th century. Following Almoravid decline, Guinea existed on the fringe of several African kingdoms, all competing for regional dominance. In the 13th century, the Mali Empire took control of Guinea and encouraged its already growing Muslim faith. After the fall of the West African empires, various smaller kingdoms controlled Guinea. In the 18th century, Fulani Muslims established an Islamic state in central Guinea that provided one of the earliest examples of a written constitution and alternating leadership. European traders first arrived in the 16th century, and the French secured colonial rule in the 19th century.

In 1958, Guinea achieved independence from France. Sékou TOURE became Guinea's first post-independence president; he established a dictatorial regime and ruled until his death in 1984, after which General Lansana CONTE staged a coup and seized the government. He too established an authoritarian regime and manipulated presidential elections until his death in 2008, when Captain Moussa Dadis CAMARA led a military coup, seized power, and suspended the constitution. In 2009, CAMARA was wounded in an assassination attempt and was exiled to Burkina Faso. In 2010 and 2013 respectively, the country held its first free and fair presidential and legislative elections. Alpha CONDE won the 2010 and 2015 presidential elections, and his first cabinet was the first all-civilian government in Guinean history. CONDE won a third term in 2020 after a constitutional change to term limits. In 2021, Col Mamady DOUMBOUYA led another successful military coup, establishing the National Committee for Reconciliation and Development (CNRD), suspending the constitution, and dissolving the government and the legislature. DOUMBOUYA was sworn in as transition president and appointed Mohamed BEAVOGUI as transition prime minister. The National Transition Council (CNT), which acts as the legislative body for the transition, was formed in 2022 and consists of appointed members representing a broad swath of Guinean society.

**Capital**

name: Conakry

**Government type**

presidential republic

**Area**

total: 245,857 sq km

land: 245,717 sq km

water: 140 sq km

**Climate**

generally hot and humid; monsoonal-type rainy season (June to November) with southwesterly winds; dry season (December to May) with northeasterly harmattan winds

**Natural resources**

bauxite, iron ore, diamonds, gold, uranium, hydropower, fish, salt

**Population**

total: 13,986,179 (2024 est.)

**Population growth rate**

2.74% (2024 est.)

<b>Ethnic groups</b>	Fulani (Peuhl) 33.4%, Malinke 29.4%, Susu 21.2%, Guerze 7.8%, Kissi 6.2%, Toma 1.6%, other/foreign 0.4% (2018 est.)
<b>Religions</b>	Muslim 85.2%, Christian 13.4%, animist 0.2%, none 1.2% (2018 est.)
<b>Languages</b>	French (official), Pular, Maninka, Susu, other native languages
<b>Executive branch</b>	chief of state: Interim President Col. Mamady DOUMBOUYA (since 1 October 2021) head of government: Prime Minister Amadou Oury BAH (since 27 February 2024)
<b>Legislative branch</b>	legislature name: Transitional National Council (Conseil national de transition)
<b>Diplomatic representation in the US</b>	chief of mission: Ambassador Fatoumata KABA (since 19 April 2023)
<b>Diplomatic representation from the US</b>	chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Mary E. DASCHBACH (since 15 July 2025)
<b>Economic overview</b>	growing but primarily agrarian West African economy; major mining sector; improving fiscal and debt balances prior to COVID-19; economy increasingly vulnerable to climate change; slow infrastructure improvements; gender wealth and human capital gaps
<b>Real GDP (purchasing power parity)</b>	\$59.439 billion (2024 est.) \$56.251 billion (2023 est.) \$53.297 billion (2022 est.)
<b>Real GDP per capita</b>	\$4,000 (2024 est.) \$3,900 (2023 est.) \$3,800 (2022 est.)
<b>Exports</b>	\$12.008 billion (2023 est.) \$8.898 billion (2022 est.) \$10.266 billion (2021 est.)
<b>Exports - partners</b>	UAE 50%, China 36%, India 8%, Switzerland 1%, Spain 1% (2023)
<b>Exports - commodities</b>	gold, aluminum ore, cocoa beans, crude petroleum, coconuts/brazil nuts/cashews (2023)
<b>Imports</b>	\$8.365 billion (2023 est.) \$5.749 billion (2022 est.) \$5.353 billion (2021 est.)
<b>Imports - partners</b>	China 39%, India 9%, Netherlands 7%, Belgium 6%, UAE 4% (2023)
<b>Imports - commodities</b>	refined petroleum, rice, garments, construction vehicles, cars (2023)

Population Pyramid

