



# Kenya



**Background** Kenya gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1963. In 2010, Kenyans voted to adopt a new constitution that introduced additional checks and balances to executive power and devolved power and resources to 47 newly created counties.

**Capital** name: Nairobi

**Government type** presidential republic

**Area** total : 580,367 sq km  
land: 569,140 sq km  
water: 11,227 sq km

**Climate** varies from tropical along coast to arid in interior

**Natural resources** limestone, soda ash, salt, gemstones, fluor spar, zinc, diatomite, gypsum, wildlife, hydropower

**Population** total: 58,246,378 (2024 est.)

**Population growth rate** 2.06% (2024 est.)

**Ethnic groups** Kikuyu 17.1%, Luhya 14.3%, Kalenjin 13.4%, Luo 10.7%, Kamba 9.8%, Somali 5.8%, Kisii 5.7%, Mijikenda 5.2%, Meru 4.2%, Maasai 2.5%, Turkana 2.1%, non-Kenyan 1%, other 8.2% (2019 est.)

**Religions** Christian 85.5% (Protestant 33.4%, Catholic 20.6%, Evangelical 20.4%, African Instituted Churches 7%, other Christian 4.1%), Muslim 10.9%, other 1.8%, none 1.6%, don't know/no answer 0.2% (2019 est.)

**Languages** English (official), Kiswahili (official), numerous indigenous languages

**Executive branch** chief of state: President William RUTO (since 13 September 2022)  
head of government: President William RUTO (since 13 September 2022)

**Diplomatic representation in the US** chief of mission: Ambassador David Kipkorir Kiplagat KERICH (since 18 September 2024)

**Diplomatic representation from the US** chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Susan M. BURNS (since 25 August 2025)

**Economic overview** fast growing, third largest Sub-Saharan economy; strong agriculture sector with emerging services and tourism industries; IMF program to address current account and debt service challenges; business-friendly policies foster infrastructure investment, digital innovation and public-private partnerships; vulnerable to climate change-induced droughts

**Real GDP (purchasing power parity)** \$328.632 billion (2024 est.)  
\$314.491 billion (2023 est.)  
\$297.938 billion (2022 est.)

<b>Real GDP per capita</b>	\$5,800 (2024 est.) \$5,700 (2023 est.) \$5,500 (2022 est.)
<b>Exports</b>	\$12.626 billion (2023 est.) \$13.954 billion (2022 est.) \$11.815 billion (2021 est.)
<b>Exports - partners</b>	Uganda 10%, USA 10%, UAE 8%, Netherlands 8%, Pakistan 6% (2023)
<b>Exports - commodities</b>	tea, cut flowers, garments, gold, tropical fruits (2023)
<b>Imports</b>	\$22.046 billion (2023 est.) \$24.606 billion (2022 est.) \$22.001 billion (2021 est.)
<b>Imports - partners</b>	China 22%, UAE 14%, India 10%, Saudi Arabia 5%, Malaysia 4% (2023)
<b>Imports - commodities</b>	refined petroleum, palm oil, wheat, plastics, garments (2023)

Population Pyramid

