



Kuwait



Background	Kuwait gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1961. Iraq attacked and overran Kuwait in 1990, but a US-led UN coalition liberated the country in 1991. The AL-SABAH family has ruled since 1991 and has reestablished an elected legislature that has become increasingly assertive.
Capital	name: Kuwait City
Government type	constitutional monarchy (emirate)
Area	total : 17,818 sq km land: 17,818 sq km water: 0 sq km
Climate	dry desert; intensely hot summers; short, cool winters
Natural resources	petroleum, fish, shrimp, natural gas
Population	total: 3,138,355
Population growth rate	1.1% (2024 est.)
Ethnic groups	Kuwaiti 30.4%, other Arab 27.4%, Asian 40.3%, African 1%, other 0.9% (includes European, North American, South American, and Australian) (2018 est.)
Religions	Muslim (official) 74.6%, Christian 18.2%, other and unspecified 7.2% (2013 est.)
Languages	Arabic (official), English widely spoken
Executive branch	chief of state: Amir MISHAL al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah (since 16 December 2023) head of government: Prime Minister AHMAD ABDULLAH Al-Ahmad al-Sabah (since 15 May 2024)
Diplomatic representation in the US	chief of mission: Ambassador AL-ZAIN Sabah Naser Saud Al-Sabah (since 19 April 2023)
Diplomatic representation from the US	chief of mission: Ambassador Karen Hideko SASAHARA (since 10 March 2024)
Economic overview	small, high-income, oil-based Middle East economy; renewable energy proponent; regional finance and investment leader; maintains oldest sovereign wealth fund; emerging space and tourism industries; mid-way through 25-year development program

Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$225.481 billion (2023 est.) \$234 billion (2022 est.) \$221.048 billion (2021 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$46,500 (2023 est.) \$51,000 (2022 est.) \$50,700 (2021 est.)
Exports	\$95.476 billion (2023 est.) \$110.923 billion (2022 est.) \$77.121 billion (2021 est.)
Exports - partners	China 24%, India 15%, South Korea 11%, Japan 9%, Taiwan 7% (2022)
Exports - commodities	crude petroleum, refined petroleum, hydrocarbons, natural gas, acyclic alcohols (2022)
Imports	\$63.43 billion (2023 est.) \$55.909 billion (2022 est.) \$48.954 billion (2021 est.)
Imports - partners	UAE 20%, China 16%, Saudi Arabia 9%, US 7%, Japan 4% (2022)
Imports - commodities	cars, gold, jewelry, garments, packaged medicine (2022)