

# Country Profile

**Country Name:** Cambodia

**Capital:** Phnom Penh

Political System	
Head of State	King Norodom Sihamoni
Political System	Constitutional monarchy
Current Ruling Party/Parties	Cambodian People's Party
Other Political Parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cambodian National Rescue Party</li><li>• National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia</li><li>• Nationalist Party</li><li>• Ranariddh Party</li></ul>
Military and Defence	
Alliances	ASEAN, United Nations and Vietnam
Disputes	<b>2012</b> July - Cambodia and Thailand withdraw their troops from a disputed border area near the Preah Vihear temple in line with a ruling by the International Court of Justice which aims to halt outbreaks of armed conflict in recent years.
Wars	<p><b>1941</b> - Prince Norodom Sihanouk becomes king. Cambodia is occupied by Japan during World War II.</p> <p><b>1946</b> - France re-imposes its protectorate. A new constitution permits Cambodians to form political parties. Communist guerrillas begin an armed campaign against the French.</p> <p><b>1965</b> - Sihanouk breaks off relations with the US and allows North Vietnamese guerrillas to set up bases in Cambodia in pursuance of their campaign against the US-backed government in South Vietnam.</p>

	<p><b>1969</b> - The US begins a secret bombing campaign against North Vietnamese forces on Cambodian soil.</p> <p><b>1970</b> - Prime Minister Lon Nol overthrows Sihanouk in coup. He proclaims the Khmer Republic and sends the army to fight the North Vietnamese in Cambodia. Sihanouk - in exile in China - forms a guerrilla movement. Over the next few years the Cambodian army loses territory to the North Vietnamese and communist Khmer Rouge guerrillas</p> <p><b>1975</b> - Lon Nol is overthrown as the Khmer Rouge led by Pol Pot occupy Phnom Penh. Sihanouk briefly becomes head of state, the country is re-named Kampuchea.</p> <p><b>1977</b> - Fighting breaks out with Vietnam.</p> <p><b>1985</b> - Hun Sen becomes prime minister. Cambodia is plagued by guerrilla warfare. Hundreds of thousands become refugees.</p>
Civil Unrest	<p><b>2013</b> September - Mass protests in Phnom Penh over contested election results. Parliament approves new five-year term for Hun Sen. Opposition boycotts opening of parliament.</p> <p><b>2014</b> January - Riot police clear a two-week opposition protest camp held in Phnom Penh as part of a long-running campaign launched against the government after the disputed 2013 election.</p>
<b>Economy</b>	
Economic Strength/ Ranking	95th among 144 countries in the World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report 2014-15
GNP Per Capita	<p>-GNI per capita US\$ 950 (2013)</p> <p>-GDP per capita US\$2,600 (2013)</p>
Main Trading Partners	<p>Exports: US 32.6%, UK 8.3%, Germany 7.7%, Canada 7.7%, Singapore 6.6%, Vietnam 5.7%, Japan 4.7% (2012)</p> <p>(Export commodities:clothing, timber, rubber, rice, fish, tobacco, footwear)</p>

	<p>-Imports: Thailand 27.1%, Vietnam 20.3%, China 19.5%, Singapore 7.1%, Hong Kong 5.8%, South Korea 4.3% (2012)</p> <p>(Import commodities: petroleum products, cigarettes, gold, construction materials, machinery, motor vehicles, pharmaceutical products)</p>
Main Sources of Income	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture: 34.8% -rice, rubber, corn, vegetables, cashews, cassava (manioc, tapioca), silk</li> <li>• Industry: 24.5% -tourism, garments, construction, rice milling, fishing, wood and wood products, rubber, cement, gem mining, textiles</li> <li>• Services: 40.7% -Services cover government activities, communications, transportation, finance, and all other private economic activities that do not produce material goods.</li> </ul> <p>(2013 est.)</p>
<b>Cultural, Religious and Social Practices</b>	
Population	15,458,332
Demographics	<p>By Age structure:</p> <p>0-14 years: 31.6% (male 2,460,659/female 2,423,619)</p> <p>15-24 years: 20.5% (male 1,565,135/female 1,596,099)</p> <p>25-54 years: 38.9% (male 2,938,366/female 3,082,496)</p> <p>55-64 years: 5.1% (male 298,733/female 482,588)</p> <p>65 years and over: 4% (male 229,684/female 380,953)</p> <p>(2014 est.)</p> <p>By Ethnic groups:</p> <p>Khmer 90%, Vietnamese 5%, Chinese 1%, other 4%</p>

Official Languages	Khmer (official) 96.3%, other 3.7% (2008 est.)
Major Religions	Buddhist (official) 96.9%, Muslim 1.9%, Christian 0.4%, other 0.8% (2008 est.)
Major Social Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Violence against children</b>  Over half of Cambodian children have experienced at least one form of violence before the age of 18 while roughly a quarter have been emotionally abused, a new United Nations-backed survey has revealed, exploring the magnitude and nature of violence against children in the Southeast Asian country. </li> <li> <b>Drugs</b>  In Cambodia, illegal drugs can be readily found and are easily accessible. The Cambodian drug trade includes cannabis, methamphetamine, and high grade heroin. It is reported that foreigners requesting cocaine are sometimes provided with heroin instead. </li> <li> <b>Human trafficking</b>  The Cambodian Government was placed in the Tier 2 Watch List in the 2007 U.S. Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report for not fully complying with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking but making significant efforts to do so. The Government remained in the Watch List because it has not increased its efforts to combat trafficking since 2005. </li> <li> <b>Corruption</b>  Cambodia suffers from land grabbing and illegal logging, where the most powerful logging syndicate is led by relatives of Prime Minister Hun Sen and other senior officials. </li> <li> <b>Illegal immigration</b>  There is an estimated two to four million Vietnamese immigrants living in Cambodia. </li> </ul>
<b>Geographical Features</b>	
Location	Southeastern Asia, bordering the Gulf of Thailand, between Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos
Neighbours	Laos, Thailand, Vietnam

Water Security	<p>-Total renewable water resources: 476.1 cu km (2011)</p> <p>-Freshwater withdrawal (domestic/industrial/agricultural): total: 2.18 cu km/yr per capita: 159.8 cu m/yr</p>
Environmental Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Illegal Logging</b> Illegal logging in Cambodia has resulted in an estimated deforestation rate of 1.2% annually (FAO, 2010). Protected forest are being exploited by major corporations (Hoang Anh Gia Lai and the Vietnam Rubber Group), and this has resulted in conflicts with the indigenous people.</li> <li>● <b>Soil Erosion</b> Change in forest cover has caused soil erosion as fertile topsoil is eroded. The quality and productivity of soil has degraded, resulting in land degradation. As of 2008, 43% of Cambodia's land has suffered from land degradation, affecting 3,583,464 of Cambodia's population.</li> </ul>
National Resources	Oil and gas, timber, gemstones, iron ore, manganese, phosphates, hydropower potential

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