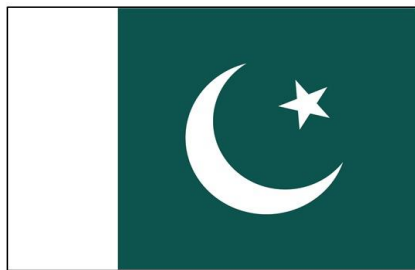




PAKISTAN



INTRODUCTION

The Indus Valley civilization, one of the oldest in the world and dating back at least 5,000 years, spread over much of what is presently Pakistan. The British came to dominate the region in the 18th century. The separation in 1947 of British India into the Muslim state of Pakistan (with West and East sections) and largely Hindu India was never satisfactorily resolved and the countries continue to spar over the disputed Kashmir territory.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Arif ALVI

Head of Government

Prime Minister Shehbaz SHARIF

Government Type

federal parliamentary republic

Capital

Islamabad

Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of Senate (104 seats) and National Assembly (342 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 796,095 sq km

Land: 770,875 sq km

Water: 25,220 sq km

Climate

mostly hot, dry desert; temperate in northwest; arctic in north

Natural Resources

arable land, extensive natural gas reserves, limited petroleum, poor quality coal, iron ore, copper, salt, limestone

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

lower middle-income South Asian economy; extremely high debt; endemic corruption; major currency devaluation; major food insecurity and inflation; environmentally fragile agricultural sector; regional disputes with India and Afghanistan hinder investment

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$1.021 trillion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$4,600 (2020 est.)

Industries - textiles, apparel, food processing, pharmaceuticals, surgical instruments, construction materials, paper products, fertilizer, shrimp

Agricultural products - sugarcane, buffalo milk, wheat, milk, rice, maize, potatoes, cotton, fruit, mangoes/guavas

Exports \$27.3 billion (2020 est.)

textiles, clothing, apparel, rice, leather goods, surgical instruments (2019)

partners: US 14%, China 8%, Germany 7%, UK 6% (2019)

Imports \$51.07 billion (2020 est.)

refined and crude petroleum, natural gas, palm oil, scrap iron (2019)

partners: China 28%, UAE 11%, US 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

242.9 million (2022 est.)

Population Growth

1.95% (2022 est.)

Ethnicity

Punjabi 44.7%, Pashtun (Pathan) 15.4%, Sindhi 14.1%, Saraiki 8.4%, Muhajirs 7.6%, Balochi 3.6%, other 6.3%

Language

Punjabi 48%, Sindhi 12%, Saraiki (a Punjabi variant) 10%, Pashto (alternate name, Pashtu) 8%, Urdu (official) 8%, Balochi 3%, Hindko 2%, Brahui 1%, English, Burushaski, other 8%

Religion

Muslim (official) 96.5% (Sunni 85-90%, Shia 10-15%), other (includes Christian and Hindu) 3.5% (2020 est.)

