# **SOUTH SUDAN**







## INTRODUCTION

British explorers established the colony of Equatoria in 1870, which composed most of what is now South Sudan. When Sudan gained its independence in 1956, it was declared that the southerners would be able to participate fully in the political system. A referendum, held in January 2011, was in favor of secession and South Sudan gained independence on 9 July 2011.

## **GOVERNMENT**

#### **Chief of State**

President Salva KIIR Mayardit

## **Head of Government**

President Salva KIIR Mayardit

## **Government Type**

presidential republic

#### Capital

Juba

#### Legislature

bicameral National Legislature consisting of a Council of States (50 seats) and Transitional National Legislative Assembly (400 seats; will be expanded to 550 members after the transitional government forms)

## **GEOGRAPHY**

#### Area

Total: 644,329 sq km Land: 644,329 sq km Water: 0 sq km

#### Climate

hot with seasonal rainfall, heaviest in upland areas of the south and diminishes to the north

#### **Natural Resources**

hydropower, fertile agricultural land, gold, diamonds, petroleum, hardwoods, limestone, iron ore, copper, chromium ore, zinc, tungsten, mica, silver

## **ECONOMY**

#### **Economic Overview**

low-income, oil-based Sahelian economy; extreme poverty and food insecurity; COVID-19 and ongoing violence threaten socioeconomic potential; environmentally fragile; ongoing land and property rights issues; natural resource rich but lacks infrastructure

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$20.01 billion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$1,600 (2017 est.)
Industries - N/A

**Agricultural products -** milk, sorghum, vegetables, cassava, goat milk, fruit, beef, sesame seed, sheep milk, mutton

**Exports** \$1.13 billion (2016 est.)

crude petroleum, gold, forage crops, lumber, insect resins (2019) **partners**: China 88%, UAE 5% (2019)

**Imports** \$ 3.795 (2016 est.)

cars, delivery trucks, packaged medicines, foodstuffs, clothing, apparel (2019)

partners: UAE 37%, Kenya 18%, China 18% (2019)

#### PEOPLE & SOCIETY

#### **Population**

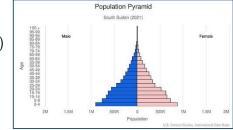
11 million (July 2021 est.)

## Population Growth

5.05% (2021 est.)

#### **Ethnicity**

Dinka (Jieng) 35.8%, Nuer (Naath) 15.6%,



Shilluk (Chollo), Azande, Bari, Kakwa, Kuku, Murle, Mandari, Didinga, Ndogo, Bviri, Lndi, Anuak, Bongo, Lango, Dungotona, Acholi, Baka, Fertit (2011 est.)

#### Language

English (official), Arabic (includes Juba and Sudanese variants), ethnic languages include Dinka, Nuer, Bari, Zande, Shilluk

#### Religion

Christian 60.5%, folk religion 32.9%, Muslim 6.2%, other <1%, unaffiliated <1% (2020 est.)

#### Urbanization

urban population: 20.5% of total population (2021) rate of urbanization: 4.12% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)