



# BURKINA FASO



## INTRODUCTION

Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta) achieved independence from France in 1960. Repeated military coups during the 1970s and 1980s were followed by multiparty elections in the early 1990s.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

transitional President Lt. Col. Paul-Henri Sandaogo DAMIBA

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Albert OUEDRAOGO

### Government Type

presidential republic

### Capital

Ouagadougou

### Legislature

unicameral National Assembly (127 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 274,200 sq km

Land: 273,800 sq km

Water: 400 sq km

### Climate

three climate zones including a hot tropical savanna with a short rainy season in the southern half, a tropical hot semi-arid steppe climate typical of the Sahel region in the northern half, and small area of hot desert in the very north of the country bordering the Sahara Desert

### Natural Resources

gold, manganese, zinc, limestone, marble, phosphates, pumice, salt

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

highly agrarian, low-income economy; limited natural resources; widespread poverty; terrorism disrupting potential economic activity; improving trade balance via increases in gold exports; economy inflating after prior deflation; growing public debt but still manageable

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$45.16 billion (2020 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$2,200 (2020 est.)

**Industries** - cotton lint, beverages, agricultural processing, soap, cigarettes, textiles, gold

**Agricultural products** - sorghum, maize, millet, cotton, cow peas, sugarcane, groundnuts, rice, sesame seed, vegetables

**Exports** \$3.902 billion (2018 est.)

gold, cotton, zinc, cashews, sesame seeds, (2019)

**partners:** Switzerland 59%, India 21% (2019)

**Imports** \$5.294 billion (2019 est.)

refined petroleum, delivery trucks, packaged medicines, electricity, aircraft (2019)

**partners:** Cote d'Ivoire 15%, China 9%, Ghana 8%, France 8%, India 6%, US 5% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

21.4 million (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

2.58% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

Mossi 52%, Fulani 8.4%, Gurma 7%, Bobo 4.9%, Gurunsi 4.6%, Senufo 4.5%, Bissa 3.7%, Lobi 2.4%, Dagara 2.4%, Tuareg/Bella 1.9%, Dioula 0.8%, unspecified 0.3%, other 7.2% (2010 est.)

### Language

French (official), native African languages belonging to Sudanic family spoken by 90% of the population

### Religion

Muslim 61.5%, Roman Catholic 23.3%, traditional/animist 7.8%, Protestant 6.5%, other/no answer 0.2%, none 0.7% (2010 est.)

