

## Introduction

Sudan is a country located in Northern Africa bordering the Red Sea. Neighboring countries include the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Libya, and South Sudan. The geography of Sudan is generally flat, with mountains in the east and west and annual flooding in the south due to the Nile River system. The government system is a federal republic; the chief of state and head of government is the president. Sudan has a largely traditional economy in which most citizens rely on agriculture, and there is limited central planning by the government. Sudan is a member of the League of Arab States (Arab League) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).



**Location:** Northern Africa

**Capital City:** Khartoum (+3 GMT)

**Chief of State:** Sovereign Council Chair and Commander-in-Chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces General Abd-al-Fattah al-Burhan Abd-al-Rahman

**Head of Govt.:** Sovereign Council Chair and Commander-in-Chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces General Abd-al-Fattah al-Burhan Abd-al-Rahman

**Currency:** Sudan Pound (SDG)

**Major Languages:** <p>Arabic (official), English (official), Nubian, Ta Bedawie, Fur</p>

**Primary Religions:** <p>Sunni Muslim, small Christian minority</p>

**Calling Code:** 249

**Voltage:** 230

## Key Websites

Main Government Page: [sudan.gov.sd](http://sudan.gov.sd)

## Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Lower Middle Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$197.62 billion (2022)
GDP growth (annual %):	-0.95% (2022)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$4,216.02 (2022)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$22,165,390,604.10 (2021)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	7.80% (2015)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	-\$4.44 billion (2022)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	138.81% (2022)
Labor force, total:	13,501,917 (2022)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	18.73% (2022)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$0.58 billion (2022)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$0.81 billion (2022)

## GDP Composition %

Agriculture Services Industry Manufacturing



*\*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.*

## Rankings

Index	Rank
Corruption Perceptions Index	161 / 178
Index of Economic Freedom	173 / 176
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	121 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	119 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	181 / 185
Open Budget Index	110 / 114

## Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

**Country rating: E** - The highest-risk political and economic situation and the most difficult business environment. Corporate default is likely.

**Business Climate rating: E** - The highest possible risk in terms of business climate. Due to a lack of available financial information and an unpredictable legal system, doing business in this country is extremely difficult.

### Strengths

- Untapped agricultural (extensive arable land) and mineral (gold and oil) resources
- Strategic position between the Middle East and West Africa
- Gradual easing since 2017 of sanctions imposed by the U.S. in 1997 completed with removal from the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism (December 2020), making access to multilateral funding possible again
- International financial support
- Successful implementation of an economic reform program in partnership with the IMF between June 2020 and September 2021
- Accepted into the IMF's Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative in June 2021
- Improved diplomatic relations with South Sudan (ceasefire signed in 2018); relations resumed with Israel

### Weaknesses

- Democratic transition process and economic stabilization severely weakened by the October 2021 coup
- Dependence on agriculture (peanuts, sesame, cattle, cotton), oil, gold and international aid
- Persistent human and food insecurity
- High levels of unemployment (especially among young people) and poverty
- Numerous rebel groups in several provinces, persistent inter-community conflicts in Darfur
- Significant deficiencies in business environment and governance; endemic corruption (174th out of 198 in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2020)

- Lack of investment in infrastructure
- External debt, much of which in arrears, is unsustainable, despite being halved from USD 60 billion to USD 28 billion under the HIPC Initiative
- Extremely low foreign exchange reserves
- Sickly banking system and weak central bank independence

## **U.S. Embassy**

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