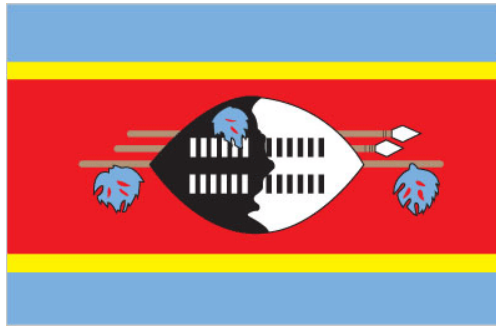




# ESWATINI



## INTRODUCTION

Autonomy for Eswatini was guaranteed by the British in the late 19th century and independence was granted in 1968. A new constitution came into effect in 2006, which included provisions for a more independent parliament and judiciary, but the legal status of political parties remains unclear.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

King MSWATI III

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Cleopas DLAMINI

### Government Type

absolute monarchy

### Capital

Mbabane (administrative capital); Lombamba (royal and legislative capital)

### Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (30 seats) and the House of Assembly (73 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 17,364 sq km

Land: 17,204 sq km

Water: 160 sq km

### Climate

varies from tropical to near temperate

### Natural Resources

asbestos, coal, clay, cassiterite, hydropower, forests, small gold and diamond deposits, quarry stone, and talc

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

landlocked southern African economy; South African trade dependent and currency pegging; CMA and SACU member state; COVID-19 economic slowdown; growing utilities inflation; persistent poverty and unemployment; HIV/AIDS labor force disruptions

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$9.74 billion (2020 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$8,400 (2020 est.)

**Industries** - soft drink concentrates, coal, forestry, sugar processing, textiles, apparel

**Agricultural products** - sugarcane, maize, roots/tubers nes, grapefruit, oranges, milk, beef, potatoes, vegetables, bananas

**Exports** \$1.81 billion (2020 est.)

soft drink concentrates, sugar, timber, cotton yarn, refrigerators, citrus, canned fruit

**partners:** South Africa 94% (2017)

**Imports** \$1.7 billion (2020 est.)

motor vehicles, machinery, transport equipment, foodstuffs, petroleum products, chemicals

**partners:** South Africa 82%, China 5% (2017)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

1.1 million (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

0.77% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

predominantly Swazi;

smaller populations of other African ethnic groups and people of European ancestry

### Language

English (official, used for government business), siSwati (official)

### Religion

Christian 90%, (Zionist – a blend of Christianity and indigenous ancestral worship – 40%, Roman Catholic 20%, other 30% - includes Anglican, Methodist, Church of Jesus Christ, Jehovah's Witness), Muslim 2%, other 8% ( includes Baha'i, Buddhist, Hindu, indigenous, Jewish) (2015 est.)

