



# POLAND



## INTRODUCTION

Poland's history as a state began near the middle of the 10th century. By the mid-16th century, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth ruled a vast tract of land in Central and Eastern Europe. During the 18th century, internal disorders weakened the nation, and in a series of agreements between 1772 and 1795, Russia, Prussia, and Austria partitioned Poland among themselves. Poland became a Soviet satellite state following World War II. Free elections in 1989 and 1990 brought the communist era to a close.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

President Andrzej DUDA

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Mateusz MORAWIECKI

### Government Type

parliamentary republic

### Capital

Warsaw

### Legislature

bicameral legislature consists of the Senate or Senat (100 seats) and the Sejm (460 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 312,685 sq km  
Land: 304,255 sq km  
Water: 8,430 sq km

### Climate

temperate with cold, cloudy, moderately severe winters with frequent precipitation; mild summers with frequent showers and thundershowers

### Natural Resources

coal, sulfur, copper, natural gas, silver, lead, salt, amber, arable land

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

diversified, high-growth European economy; COVID-19 led to first recession in nearly 3 decades, albeit small; EU and NATO member; bolstering US relations; economic concentration in western region; aging labor force; growing debt

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$1.223 trillion (2020 est.)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$32,200 (2020 est.)

**Industries** - machine building, iron, steel, coal mining, chemicals, shipbuilding, food processing, glass, beverages, textiles

**Agricultural products** - milk, sugar beets, wheat, potatoes, triticale, maize, barley, apples, mixed grains, rye

**Exports** \$333.5 billion (2020 est.)

Cars/vehicle parts, seats, furniture, computers, video displays (2019)

**partners:** Germany 27%, Czechia 6%, UK 6%, France 6%, Italy 5% (2019)

**Imports** \$292.4 billion (2020 est.)

cars/vehicle parts, crude petroleum, packaged medicines, broadcasting equipment, office machinery/parts (2019)

**partners:** Germany 25%, China 10%, Italy 5%, Netherlands 5% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

38.2 million (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

-0.23% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

Polish 96.9%, Silesian 1.1%, German 0.2%, Ukrainian 0.1%, other and unspecified 1.7% (2011 est.)

### Language

Polish (official) 98.2%, Silesian 1.4%, other 1.1%, unspecified 1.3% (2011 est.)

### Religion

Catholic 85% (includes Roman Catholic 84.8% and other Catholic 0.3%), Orthodox 1.3% (almost all are Polish Autocephalous Orthodox), Protestant 0.4% (mainly Augsburg Evangelical and Pentecostal), other 0.3% (includes Jehovah's Witness, Buddhist, Hare Krishna, Gaudiya Vaishnavism, Muslim, Jewish, Church of Jesus Christ), unspecified 12.9% (2020 est.)

