



BAHRAIN



INTRODUCTION

In 1783, the Sunni Al-Khalifa family took power in Bahrain. In order to secure these holdings, it entered into a series of treaties with the UK during the 19th century that made Bahrain a British protectorate. The archipelago attained its independence in 1971.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

King HAMAD bin Isa Al-Khalifa

Head of Government

Prime Minister Crown Prince SALMAN bin Hamad Al-Khalifa

Government Type

constitutional monarchy

Capital

Manama

Legislature

bicameral National Assembly consists of the Consultative Council or Majlis al-Shura (40 seats) and the Council of Representatives or Majlis al-Nuwab (40 seats)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Abdulla bin Rashed AL KHALIFA

US Ambassador

Ambassador Steven C. BONDY

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 760 sq km
Land: 760 sq km
Water: 0 sq km

Climate

arid; mild, pleasant winters; very hot, humid summers

Natural Resources

oil, associated and nonassociated natural gas, fish, pearls

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

growing, economically diverse Middle Eastern island economy; major recovery and balancing efforts to fulfill Economic Vision 2030; regional finance hub; increasing openness; high youth unemployment; water scarcity amid reservoir depletion

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$72.27 billion (2021 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$49,400 (2021 est.)

Industries - petroleum processing and refining, aluminum smelting, iron pelletization, fertilizers, Islamic and offshore banking, insurance, ship repairing, tourism

Agricultural products - mutton, dates, milk, poultry, tomatoes, fruit, sheep offals, sheep skins, eggs, pumpkins

Exports \$35.24 billion (2021 est.)

refined petroleum, aluminum, iron ore and reductions, aluminum wiring, crude petroleum (2021)

partners: UAE 17%, Saudi Arabia 16%, US 7%, Japan 7%, India 4% (2021)

Imports \$27.58 billion (2021 est.)

iron ore, jewelry, cars, floating platforms, refined petroleum, gold, broadcasting equipment (2021)

partners: UAE 24%, Saudi Arabia 15%, Brazil 12%, China 9%, India 6% (2021)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

1.6 million (2023 est.)

Population Growth

0.85% (2023 est.)

Ethnicity

Bahraini 47.4%, Asian 43.4%, other Arab 4.9%, African 1.4%, North American 1.1%, Gulf Co-operative countries 0.9%, European 0.8%, other 0.1% (2020 est.)

Language

Arabic (official), English, Farsi, Urdu

Religion

Muslim 74.2%, other (includes Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Baha'i) 25.8% (2020 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 89.9% of total population (2023)

rate of urbanization: 1.99% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)