Bosnia and Herzegovina Country Summary









Introduction

Background

After four centuries of Ottoman rule over Bosnia and Herzegovina, Austria-Hungary took control in 1878 and held the region until 1918, when it was incorporated into the new Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. In 1945, Bosnia and Herzegovina became part of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY), until declaring independence in 1992. Three years of interethnic war ended in 1995 with the Dayton Accords. Bosnia and Herzegovina became an official candidate for EU membership in 2022.

Geography

Area

total: 51,197 sq km **land**: 51,187 sq km **water**: 10 sq km

Climate

hot summers and cold winters; areas of high elevation have short, cool summers and long, severe winters; mild, rainy winters along coast

Natural resources

coal, iron ore, antimony, bauxite, copper, lead, zinc, chromite, cobalt, manganese, nickel, clay, gypsum, salt, sand, timber, hydropower

People and Society

Population

total: 3,798,671

Ethnic groups

Bosniak 50.1%, Serb 30.8%, Croat 15.4%, other 2.7%, not declared/no answer 1% (2013 est.)

Languages

Bosnian (official) 52.9%, Serbian (official) 30.8%, Croatian (official) 14.6%, other 1.6%, no answer 0.2% (2013 est.)

Religions

Muslim 50.7%, Orthodox 30.7%, Roman Catholic 15.2%, atheist 0.8%, agnostic 0.3%, other 1.2%, undeclared/no answer 1.1% (2013 est.)

Population growth rate

-0.25% (2024 est.)

Government

Government type

parliamentary republic

Capital

name: Sarajevo

Executive branch

chief of state: Chairperson of the Presidency Denis BECIROVIC (chairperson since 16 March 2024; presidency member since 16 November 2022 - Bosniak seat); Zeljka CVIJANOVIC (presidency member since 16 November 2022 - Serb seat); Zeljko KOMSIC (presidency member since 20 November 2018 - Croat seat) head of government: Chairperson of the Council of Ministers Borjana KRISTO (since 25 January 2023)

Legislative branch

description: bicameral Parliamentary Assembly or Skupstina consists of:

House of Peoples or Dom Naroda (15 seats - 5 Bosniak, 5 Croat, 5 Serb; members designated by the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina's House of Peoples and the Republika Srpska's National Assembly serve 4-year terms) House of Representatives or Predstavnicki Dom (42 seats to include 28 seats allocated to the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and 14 to the Republika Srpska; members directly elected by proportional representation vote to serve 4-year terms); note - the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina has a bicameral legislature that consists of the House of Peoples (80 seats - 23 Bosniak, 23 Croat, 23 Serb, 11 other) and the House of Representatives (98 seats; members directly elected by proportional representation vote to serve 4-year terms); Republika Srpska's unicameral legislature is the National Assembly or Narodna skupština Republike Srpske (83 directly elected delegates serve 4-year terms)

Economy

Economic overview

import-dominated economy; remains consumption-heavy; lack of private sector investments and diversification; jointly addressing structural economic challenges; Chinese energy infrastructure investments; high unemployment; tourism industry impacted by COVID-19

Real GDP (purchasing power parity)

\$63.769 billion (2023 est.) \$62.717 billion (2022 est.) \$60.174 billion (2021 est.)

Real GDP per capita

\$19,900 (2023 est.) \$19,400 (2022 est.) \$18,400 (2021 est.)

Agricultural products

maize, milk, vegetables, potatoes, plums, wheat, apples, barley, chicken, pears (2022)

Industries

steel, coal, iron ore, lead, zinc, manganese, bauxite, aluminum, motor vehicle assembly, textiles, tobacco products, wooden furniture, ammunition, domestic appliances, oil refining

Exports

\$11.942 billion (2023 est.) \$11.794 billion (2022 est.) \$10.058 billion (2021 est.)

Exports - partners

Croatia 14%, Germany 14%, Serbia 13%, Italy 10%, Austria 9% (2022)

Exports - commodities

aluminum, electricity, footwear, garments, plastic products (2022)

Imports

\$15.398 billion (2023 est.) \$15.162 billion (2022 est.) \$12.738 billion (2021 est.)

Imports - partners

Croatia 16%, Serbia 13%, Germany 8%, Italy 8%, China 7% (2022)

Imports - commodities

refined petroleum, aluminum, garments, coal, cars (2022)

Exchange rates

konvertibilna markas (BAM) per US dollar -

Page last updated: Wednesday, July 24, 2024

