# **Kazakhstan Country Summary**









# **Introduction**

# Background

Ethnic Kazakhs, a mix of Turkic nomadic tribes, migrated to the region in the 15th century. Russia conquered the area in the 18th and 19th centuries, and Kazakhstan became a Soviet Republic in 1925. The country gained independence in 1991.

# **Geography**

# Area

**total :** 2,724,900 sq km **land:** 2,699,700 sq km **water:** 25,200 sq km

# Climate

continental, cold winters and hot summers, arid and semiarid

# **Natural resources**

major deposits of petroleum, natural gas, coal, iron ore, manganese, chrome ore, nickel, cobalt, copper, molybdenum, lead, zinc, bauxite, gold, uranium

# People and Society

# Population

total: 20,260,006

# Ethnic groups

Kazakh 71%, Russian 14.9%, Uzbek 3.3%, Ukrainian 1.9%, Uyghurs 1.5%, German 1.1%, Tatar 1.1%, other 4.9%, unspecified 0.3% (2023 est.)

#### Languages

Kazakh (official, Qazaq) 80.1% (understand spoken language), Russian (understand spoken language) 83.7%, English (understand spoken language) 35.1% (2021 est.)

# Religions

Muslim 69.3%, Christian 17.2% (Orthodox 17%, other 0.2%), Buddhism 0.1%, other 0.1%, non-believers 2.3%, unspecified 11% (2021 est.)

# Population growth rate

0.86% (2024 est.)

# **Government**

# Government type

presidential republic

Capital

name: Astana

# **Executive branch**

chief of state: President Kasym-Zhomart TOKAYEV (since 20 March 2019) head of government: Prime Minister Olzhas BEKTENOV (since 6 February 2024)

#### Legislative branch

description: bicameral Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan consists of:

Senate (50 seats); 40 members indirectly elected by 2-round majority vote by the oblast-level assemblies and 10 members appointed by decree of the president; members serve 6-year terms, with one-half of the membership renewed every 3 years)

Mazhilis (98 seats; 69 members directly elected in a single national constituency by party list proportional representation vote (5% minimum threshold to gain seats) and 29 directly elected in single-seat constituencies to serve 5-year terms

# **Economy**

#### **Economic overview**

oil and gas giant, with growing international investment; domestic economy hit hard by COVID-19 disruptions; reforming civil society and improving business confidence; legacy state controls and Russian influence inhibit growth and autonomy

# Real GDP (purchasing power parity)

\$705.52 billion (2023 est.) \$671.285 billion (2022 est.) \$650.47 billion (2021 est.)

# **Real GDP per capita**

\$35,500 (2023 est.) \$34,200 (2022 est.) \$33,900 (2021 est.)

# Agricultural products

wheat, milk, potatoes, barley, watermelons, sunflower seeds, cantaloupes/melons, onions, maize, linseed (2022)

# Industries

oil, coal, iron ore, manganese, chromite, lead, zinc, copper, titanium, bauxite, gold, silver, phosphates, sulfur, uranium, iron and steel; tractors and other agricultural machinery, electric motors, construction materials

#### Exports

\$90.167 billion (2023 est.) \$93.598 billion (2022 est.) \$71.726 billion (2021 est.)

# **Exports - partners**

China 14%, Italy 13%, Russia 9%, UK 8%, Netherlands 6% (2022)

# **Exports - commodities**

crude petroleum, gold, refined copper, iron alloys, radioactive chemicals (2022)

# Imports

\$71.811 billion (2023 est.) \$60.151 billion (2022 est.) \$49.597 billion (2021 est.)

# Imports - partners

Russia 29%, China 28%, Germany 5%, South Korea 4%, Turkey 3% (2022)

# **Imports - commodities**

garments, cars, broadcasting equipment, plastic products, packaged medicine (2022)

# **Exchange rates**

tenge (KZT) per US dollar -

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