# **Montenegro Country Summary**









# **Introduction**

# **Background**

Under Ottoman control beginning in 1496, Montenegro was ruled by bishop princes until it became a secular principality in 1852. In 1918, Montenegro was absorbed by the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes, which became Yugoslavia in 1929. When the latter dissolved in 1992, Montenegro first federated with Serbia but voted for independence in 2006. Montenegro became an official EU candidate in 2010 and joined NATO in 2017.

# **Geography**

## Area

**total**: 13,812 sq km **land**: 13,452 sq km **water**: 360 sq km

#### Climate

Mediterranean climate, hot dry summers and autumns and relatively cold winters with heavy snowfalls inland

#### **Natural resources**

bauxite, hydroelectricity

# **People and Society**

# **Population**

total: 599,849

# **Ethnic groups**

Montenegrin 45%, Serbian 28.7%, Bosniak 8.7%, Albanian 4.9%, Muslim 3.3%, Romani 1%, Croat 1%, other 2.6%, unspecified 4.9% (2011 est.)

# Languages

Serbian 42.9%, Montenegrin (official) 37%, Bosnian 5.3%, Albanian 5.3%, Serbo-Croat 2%, other 3.5%, unspecified 4% (2011 est.)

# Religions

Orthodox 72.1%, Muslim 19.1%, Catholic 3.4%, atheist 1.2%, other 1.5%, unspecified 2.6% (2011 est.)

# Population growth rate

-0.44% (2024 est.)

## Government

# Government type

parliamentary republic

# Capital

name: Podgorica; note - Cetinje retains the status of "Old Royal Capital"

#### **Executive branch**

chief of state: President Jakov MILATOVIC (since 20 May 2023)

head of government: Prime Minister Milojko SPAJIC (since 31 October 2023)

#### Legislative branch

**description:** unicameral Assembly or Skupstina (81 seats; members directly elected in a single nationwide constituency by proportional representation vote; members serve 4-year terms)

## **Economy**

## **Economic overview**

upper middle-income, small Balkan economy; uses euro as de facto currency; strong growth driven by tourism and consumption; new impetus for EU accession under Europe Now government; influx of affluent migrants from Russia and Ukraine; progress in fiscal position subject to risks from pension costs, debt service, and informal sector

# Real GDP (purchasing power parity)

```
$17.115 billion (2023 est.)
$16.149 billion (2022 est.)
$15.177 billion (2021 est.)
```

# Real GDP per capita

```
$27,800 (2023 est.)
$26,200 (2022 est.)
$24,500 (2021 est.)
```

# **Agricultural products**

milk, potatoes, grapes, watermelons, sheep milk, cabbages, oranges, eggs, goat milk, figs (2022)

## **Industries**

steelmaking, aluminum, agricultural processing, consumer goods, tourism

# **Exports**

```
$3.775 billion (2023 est.)
$3.178 billion (2022 est.)
$2.502 billion (2021 est.)
```

# **Exports - partners**

South Korea 24%, Serbia 12%, Italy 9%, Switzerland 9%, Bosnia and Herzegovina 7% (2022)

# **Exports - commodities**

copper ore, electricity, aluminum, aluminum ore, packaged medicine (2022)

# **Imports**

```
$5.163 billion (2023 est.)
$4.614 billion (2022 est.)
$3.637 billion (2021 est.)
```

# Imports - partners

Serbia 24%, China 8%, Italy 8%, Croatia 7%, Greece 7% (2022)

## Imports - commodities

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

#### **Exchange rates**

euros (EUR) per US dollar -

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