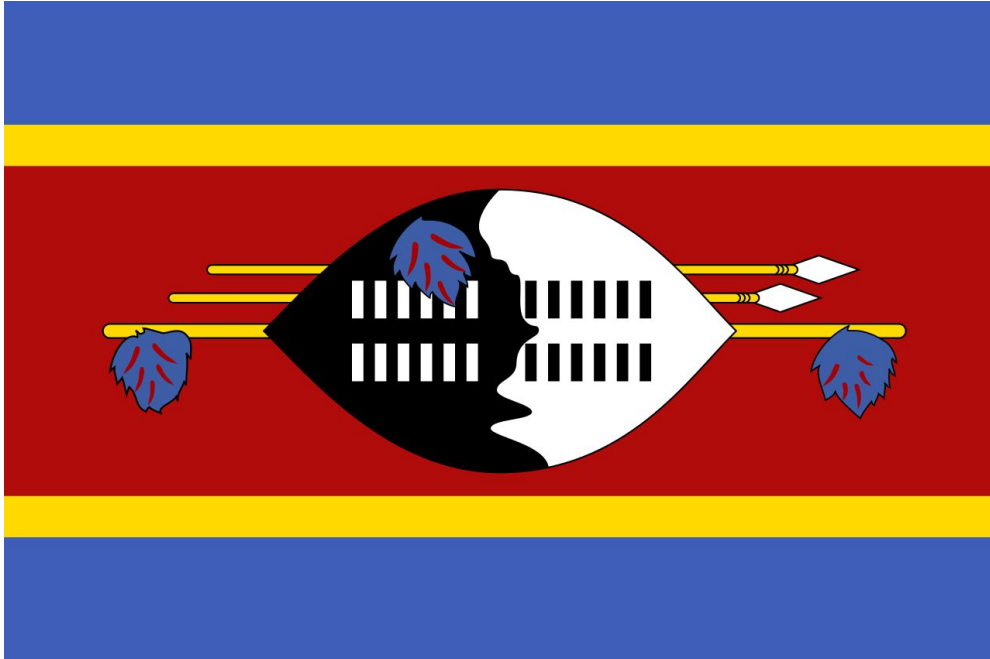


Swaziland



Swaziland is one of the smaller countries in Africa located at the bottom of the continent. The country in its current form is almost fifty years old, gaining independence from Great Britain in 1968. Swaziland has a king that appoints the Prime Minister and a number of representatives to the House of Assembly, and the reigning king, King Mswati III, has served since 1986. Overall, the country is small and has a small population of nearly one and half million people. The country suffers from high rates of HIV/AIDS, continues to face problems with tuberculosis, and has one of the lowest average life expectancies of an country in the world. Agriculture and manufacturing are the two sectors in the country responsible for the most employment.

Geography

Official Name: [Kingdom of Eswatini](#)

Conventional Short Form: [Swaziland](#)

Region: [Africa](#)

Area: [17,364 square kilometers](#)

Bordering Countries: [Mozambique and South Africa](#)

Climate: [A temperate climate with wet summers and dry winters.](#)

Physical Features/Terrain: Swaziland is a landlocked country and consists mostly of hills and mountains.

Natural Hazards: During the summer there can be dangerous thunderstorms and lightning storms.

People and Society

Population: 1,451,428 (155th in the world)

Ethnic Groups: African (97%), European (3%)

Official Language: Swazi

Other Spoken Languages: English

Religions: Christian (90%), Other (8%), Muslim (2%)

Capital City: Lobamba (Royal/Legislative) and Mbabane (Administrative)

Other Major Cities: Manzini

Median Age

Male: 21.2

Female: 21.7

Total Population: 21.4

Literacy Rate

Male: 87.4%

Female: 87.5%

Total Population: 87.5%

Life Expectancy at Birth

Male: 52.2

Female: 51

Total Population: 51.6

Government

Country Founded: September 6th, 1968

Type of Government: Unitary parliamentary absolute diarchy

Country Leaders

King: Mswati III

Ndlovukati: Queen Mother Ntfombi

Prime Minister: Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini

Allies: South Africa, Mozambique

Enemies: None to speak of

Economy

Currency: Swazi Lilangeni

GDP: \$3.938 billion

Natural Resources: Coal, clay, cassiterite, hydropower, small gold, diamond deposits, quarry stone

Unemployment Rate: 6.7%

Population Below Poverty Line: 63%

Major Imports and Exports

Imports: Motor vehicles, machinery, transport equipment, foodstuffs, petroleum products, chemicals

Exports: Soft drink concentrates, sugar, wood pulp, cotton yarn, refrigerators, citrus and canned fruit

Biggest Trading Partners

Imports: South Africa, European Union, Japan, Singapore

Exports: South Africa, European Union, United States, Mozambique

More information can be found at:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/geos/wz.html>