

MALDIVES









GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Ibrahim "Ibu" Mohamed SOLIH

Head of Government

President Ibrahim Mohamed SOLIH

Government Type

presidential republic

Capital

Male

Legislature

unicameral Parliament or People's Majlis (87 seats)

Judiciary

Supreme Court (consists of the chief justice and 4-6 judges)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador THILMEEZA Hussain

US Ambassador

the US does not have an embassy in Maldives; US Ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives, Alaina TEPLITZ

GEOGRAPHY

Area

total: 298 sq km land: 298 sq km water: 0 sq km

Climate

tropical; hot, humid; dry, northeast monsoon (November to March); rainy, southwest monsoon (June to August)

Natural Resources

fish

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

has quickly become a middle-income country, driven by the rapid growth of its tourism and fisheries sectors; still contends with a large and growing fiscal deficit; infrastructure projects, largely funded by China, could add significantly to debt levels

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$6.901 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$19,200 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$256.2 million (2016 est.)

partners: Thailand 42.8%, Sri Lanka 8.7%, Bangladesh 6.4%, France 6.2%, US 6.1%, Germany 5%, Ireland 4.6% (2017)

Imports

\$2.125 billion (2016 est.)

partners: UAE 17.1%, India 13.5%, Singapore 13.3%, China 10.8%, Sri Lanka 6.7%, Malaysia 6%, Thailand 4.5% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

391,900 (July 2020 est.)

Population Growth

-0.08% (2020 est.)

Ethnicity

homogeneous mixture of Sinhalese, Dravidian, Arab, Australasian, and

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African resulting from historical changes in regional hegemony over marine trade routes

Language

Dhivehi (official, dialect of Sinhala, script derived from Arabic), English (spoken by most government officials)

Religion

Sunni Muslim (official)

Urbanization

urban population: 40.7% of total population (2020) rate of urbanization: 2.93% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy

97.7% (2016)