



Uzbekistan

Country Profile



Summary

Republic of Uzbekistan is the only doubly landlocked country in Central Asia and one of only two such countries worldwide, along with Liechtenstein. It shares borders with Kazakhstan to the west and to the north, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to the east, and Afghanistan and Turkmenistan to the south. Before 1991, it was part of the Soviet Union.

Historical Overview

Once part of the Persian Samanid and later Timurid empires, the region which today includes the Republic of Uzbekistan was conquered in the early 16th century by nomads who spoke an Eastern Turkic language. This region was subsequently incorporated into the Russian Empire in the 19th century, and in 1924 it became a constituent republic of the Soviet Union, known as the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic (Uzbek SSR). It subsequently became the independent Republic of Uzbekistan on 31 August 1991.

Political System

The first elections of the Oliy Majlis (Parliament) were held under a resolution adopted by the 16th Supreme Soviet in 1994. In that year, the Supreme Soviet was replaced by the Oliy Majlis. Since then Uzbekistan has held presidential and parliamentary elections on regular basis but no real opposition candidates or parties are able to participate.

Uzbekistan is divided into twelve provinces, one autonomous republic, and one independent city.

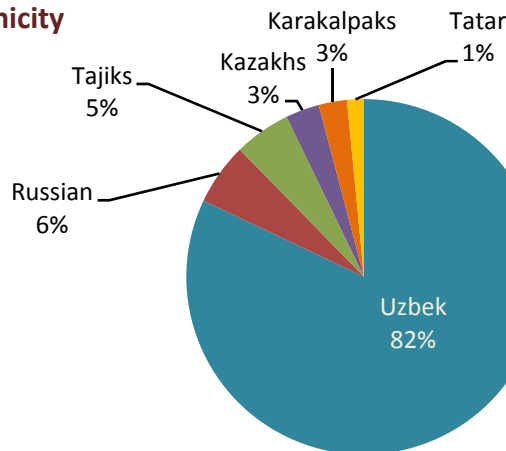
Memberships

Uzbekistan is a member of United Nations, World Bank, IAEA, NPT, CTBT, Asian Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and Economic Cooperation Organization.

Basic Facts

Capital City	Tashkent
Population	29.8 Million
Total Area	447,400 km ² (172,742 sq miles)
Languages	Uzbek language, Tajik, Kazakh, Tatar
Religion	96.3% Muslim
Political System	Presidential system, Republic
Current President	Islam Karimov
Currency	Uzbekistani som

Uzbekistan Ethnicity



Health

In the post-Soviet era, the quality of Uzbekistan's health care has declined. Between 1992 and 2003, spending on health care and the ratio of hospital beds to population both decreased by nearly 50 percent; and Russian emigration in that decade deprived the health system of many practitioners. In the early 2000s, policy has focused on improving primary health care facilities and cutting the cost of inpatient facilities. The state budget for 2006 allotted 11.1 percent to health expenditures, compared with 10.9 percent in 2005.

Uzbekistan annually increases the volume of the budget funds being allocated for the healthcare: compare to the year 1999 this indicator grew by 7,4 percent and accounted for UZS 480,8 bln. For over the past 10 years the total mortality rate in Uzbekistan has decreased by 22 percent, the child mortality indicators – by 68 percent, the mother mortality - by 38 percent. The most important directions of the reforms are to create the logistical and practical conditions to increase the quality of healthcare, enhance the role and prestige of the medical personnel, improve the payment system and stimulate their labor.

Health Indicators	2012
Under 5 mortality rate (per 1000)	52
Life expectancy at birth (years)	68.6
Expenditure on Health (% of GDP)(2010)	5.3
Number of Hospitals beds (Per 1000)	4.6
Number of Physicians (Per 1000)	2.62
People living with HIV (2009)	28000
Number of HIV Deaths (2009)	500

Education

Uzbekistan has a high literacy rate with about 99% of adults above the age of 15 being able to read and write. Uzbekistan has encountered severe budgeting shortfalls in its education program. The education law of 1992 began the process of theoretical reform, but the physical base has deteriorated and curriculum revision has been slow.

Education Indicators	2012
Public Expenditure on Education (% of GDP)	9.5
Expected Years of Schooling	12
Adult Literacy Rate (% aged 15 and above)	99.4
Number of Schools	9816
Number of Students (000)	5707
Number of Universities	15

Economy

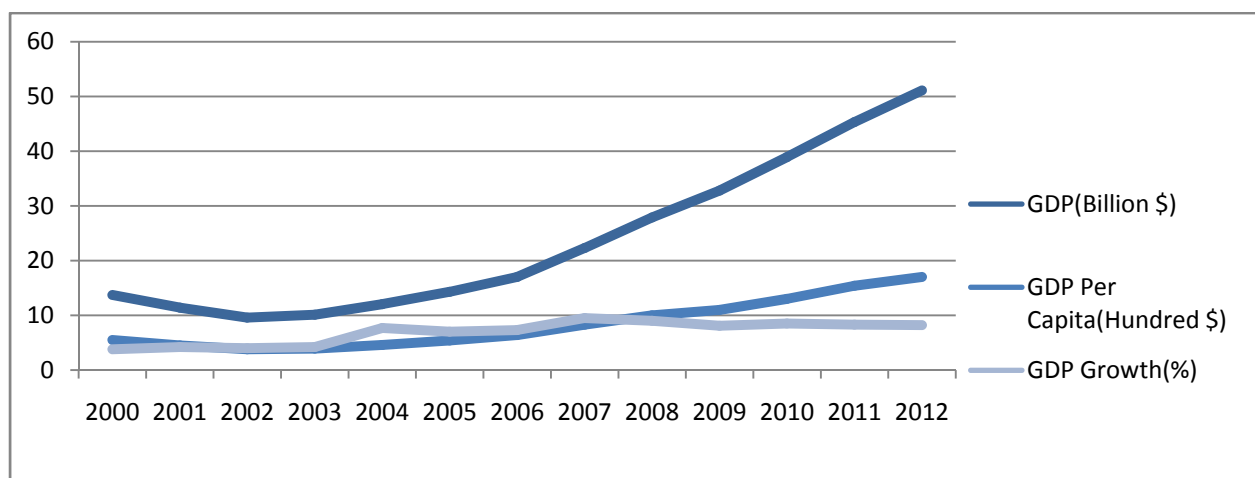
Uzbekistan's economy relies mainly on commodity production, including cotton, gold, uranium, and natural gas. Along with many Commonwealth of Independent States or CIS economies, Uzbekistan's economy declined during the first years of transition and then recovered after 1995, as the cumulative effect of policy reforms began to be felt. It has shown robust growth, rising by 4% per year between 1998 and 2003 and accelerating thereafter to 7%–8% per year. Uzbekistan is considered one of the fastest growing economies in the world (top 26) in the next decades according to a global bank HSBC survey.

Business Environment

Uzbekistan was ranked 166th out of 183 economies in Doing Business 2012. Its overall score decreased by 2 points from 2011. According to the latest Enterprise Surveys (2008), the top obstacles to running a business in Uzbekistan include Tax Rates and Access to Finance.

Only 10.5% of firms have a line of credit or loans from a financial institution, much lower than the regional 43.7%. In the World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators (2010) Uzbekistan rates at or below the 10th percentile for the Voice & Accountability, Regulatory Quality, Rule of Law and Control of Corruption Indicators. Uzbekistan's economic freedom score is 45.8, making its economy the 164th freest in the 2012 Index. Its score is unchanged from 2011, with a decline in the score for government spending that offsets small gains in fiscal freedom and monetary freedom. Uzbekistan is ranked 37th out of 41 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and its overall score is much lower than the world average.

GDP

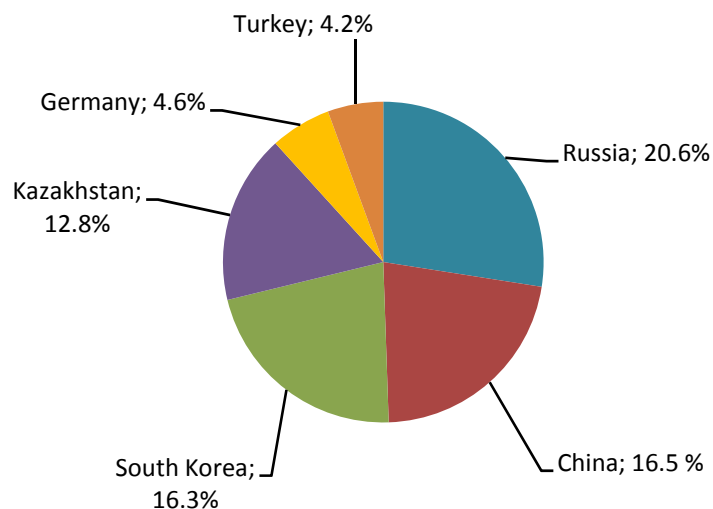


Natural Resources

Uzbekistan has the fourth largest gold deposits in the world. The country mines 80 tons of gold annually, seventh in the world. Uzbekistan's copper deposits rank tenth in the world and its uranium deposits twelfth. The country's uranium production ranks seventh globally. The Uzbek national gas company, Uzbek-neft-gas, ranks 11th in the world in natural gas production with an annual output of 60 to 70 billion cubic meters. The country has significant untapped reserves of oil and gas: there are 194 deposits of hydrocarbons in Uzbekistan, including 98 condensate and natural gas deposits and 96 gas condensate deposits.

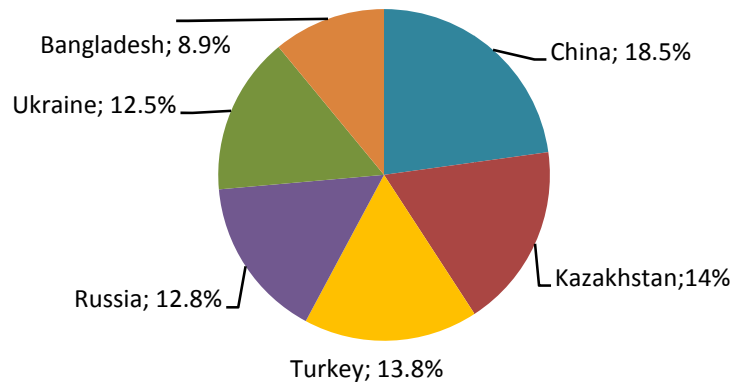
Imports

The government of Uzbekistan restricts foreign imports in many ways, including high import duties. Taxes are applied in a highly discriminatory manner to protect locally produced goods. Official tariffs are combined with unofficial, discriminatory charges resulting in total charges amounting to as much as 100 to 150% of the actual value of the product, making imported products virtually unaffordable. A number of CIS countries are officially exempt from Uzbekistan import duties. Main imports of Uzbekistan are machinery and equipment, foodstuffs, chemicals, ferrous and nonferrous metals. The total value of imports in 2012 was \$15.53 billion.



Exports

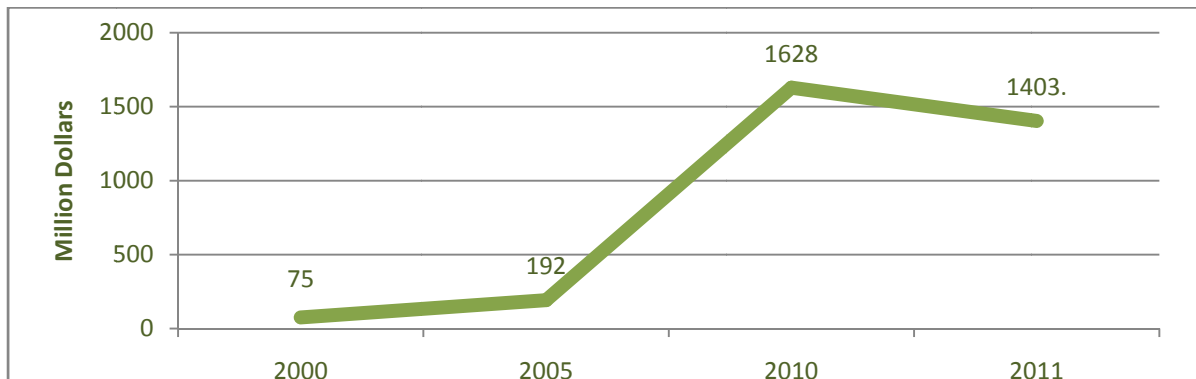
Main export commodities of Uzbekistan include energy products, cotton, gold, mineral fertilizers, ferrous and nonferrous metals, textiles, food products, machinery, and automobiles. The total value of exports in 2012 was \$16.65 billion.



Foreign Investment

Despite the declared objective of transition to a market economy, Uzbekistan continues to maintain economic controls, which deter foreign investment and imports and benefit domestic 'import substitution'. The policy of a gradual, strictly controlled transition to the market economy has nevertheless produced beneficial results in the form of economic recovery after 1995.

For years, the largest barrier to foreign companies entering the Uzbekistan market has been the difficulty of converting currency. In 2003, the government accepted the obligations of Article VIII under the International Monetary Fund (IMF) providing for full currency convertibility. However, strict currency controls and the tightening of borders have lessened the effect of this measure.



Uzbekistan Trade Profile 2012

BASIC INDICATORS

Population (thousands, 2011)	29 341	Rank in world trade, 2011	<u>Exports</u>	<u>Imports</u>
GDP (million current US\$, 2011)	45 359	Merchandise	80	95
GDP (million current PPP US\$, 2011)	97 116	excluding intra-EU trade	57	71
Current account balance (million US\$, 2011)	...	Commercial services	98	148
Trade per capita (US\$, 2009-2011)	805	excluding intra-EU trade	72	122
Trade to GDP ratio (2009-2011)	58.7			

	<i>Annual percentage change</i>			
	2011	2005-2011	2010	2011
Real GDP (2005=100)	163	8	9	8
Exports of goods and services (volume, 2005=100)	...	...	...	...
Imports of goods and services (volume, 2005=100)	...	...	...	...

TRADE POLICY

WTO accession	Observer	Contribution to WTO budget	-
Trade Policy Review	-	Import duties collected	-
GPA accession	-	in total tax revenue	...
Tariffs and duty free imports	-	to total imports	...
Tariff binding coverage (%)	-	Number of notifications to WTO and measures in force	-
MFN tariffs	<u>Final bound</u> <u>Applied 2009</u>	Outstanding notifications in WTO Central Registry	-
Simple average of import duties		Goods RTAs - services EIAs notified to WTO	4 - 0
All goods	- 15.4	Anti-dumping	-
Agricultural goods (AOA)	- 18.9	Countervailing duties	-
Non-agricultural goods	- 14.9	Safeguards	-
Non <i>ad-valorem</i> duties (% total tariff lines)	- 5.8	Number of disputes (complainant - defendant)	-
MFN duty free imports	-	Requests for consultation	-
in agricultural goods (AOA)	...	Original panel / Appellate Body (AB) reports	-
in non-agricultural goods	...	Compliance panel / AB reports (Article 21.5 DSU)	-
Services sectors with GATS commitments	-	Arbitration awards (Article 22.6 DSU)	-

MERCHANDISE TRADE

	<i>Value</i>		<i>Annual percentage change</i>	
	2011	2005-2011	2010	2011
Merchandise exports, f.o.b. (million US\$)	13 254	19	9	13
Merchandise imports, c.i.f. (million US\$)	9 953	18	-4	15
	<u>2011</u>			<u>2011</u>
Share in world total exports	0.07			0.05
Breakdown in economy's total exports				Breakdown in economy's total imports
By main commodity group (ITS)				By main commodity group (ITS)
Agricultural products	...			Agricultural products
Fuels and mining products	...			Fuels and mining products
Manufactures	...			Manufactures
By main destination				By main origin
1. ...	...			1. ...
2. ...	...			2. ...
3. ...	...			3. ...
4. ...	...			4. ...
5. ...	...			5. ...

COMMERCIAL SERVICES TRADE

	<i>Value</i>		<i>Annual percentage change</i>	
	2011	2005-2011	2010	2011
Commercial services exports (million US\$)	1 773	18	28	33
Commercial services imports (million US\$)	557	5	17	15
	<u>2011</u>			<u>2011</u>
Share in world total exports	0.04			0.01
Breakdown in economy's total exports				Breakdown in economy's total imports
By principal services item				By principal services item
Transportation	...			Transportation
Travel	...			Travel
Other commercial services	...			Other commercial services

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

Patent grants by patent office, 2010

<u>Residents</u>	<u>Non-residents</u>	<u>Total</u>
111	81	192

Trademark registrations by office, 2010

<u>Direct residents</u>	<u>Direct non-residents</u>	<u>Madrid</u>	<u>Total</u>
852	529	2 301	3 682

Uzbekistan Tariff Profile 2012

No available data

Uzbekistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Name	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Chairman	Mr. Alisher Shaykhov
Address	Chamber of Commerce and Industry Building, 6, Bukhara Street, 100047, Tashkent
Telephone	+998 71 150 60 00, 3/4/5
Fax	+998 71 232 09 03, 150.60.09/07
E-mail	info@chamber.uz ; business@chamber.uz
Website	Website: www.chamber.uz

Uzbekistan Banks

Uzbekistan Banks			
Name	"Asaka" Bank	Name	Agrobank
Telephone	+998 (71) 120-8111	Telephone	+998 (71) 120-8833
Fax	+998 (71) 120-8691	Fax	+998 (71) 150-5395
E-mail	contact@asakabank.com	E-mail	headoffice@agrobank.uz
Website	www.asakabank.uz	Website	www.agrobank.uz
Name	Qishloq qurilish Bank	Name	Uzsanoatqurilishbank
Telephone	+998 (71) 236-1105	Telephone	+998 (71) 120-4501
Fax	998 (71) 236-1617	Fax	+998 (71) 233-3426
E-mail	headoffice@qqb.uz	E-mail	www.uzpsb.uz
Website	www.qishloqqurilishbank.uz	Website	info@uzpsb.uz
Name	Ipoteka Bank	Name	Xalk Bank
Telephone	+998 (71) 150-1122	Telephone	+998 (71) 273-6913
Fax	+998 (71) 150-8972	Fax	+998 (71) 150-1294
E-mail	info@ipotekabank.uz	E-mail	info@xb.uz
Website	www.ipotekabank.uz	Website	www.xb.uz
Name	Mikrokreditbank	Name	The Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Telephone	998 (71) 273-0586	Telephone	+998 (71) 252-5739
Fax	N.A	Fax	N.A
E-mail	info@mikrokreditbank.uz	E-mail	webmaster@cbu.uz
Website	www.mikrokreditbank.uz	Website	www.cbu.uz

Name	National Bank for Foreign Economic Activity of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Telephone	+998 (71) 234-4771
Fax	+998 (71) 235-9020
E-mail	webmaster@nbu.central.com
Website	www.nbu.uz

Uzbekistan Economic Ministries

Ministry of Economy	
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Website	www.mineconomy.uz
E-mail	info@mineconomy.uz
Ministry of Finance	
Minister	Azimov Rustam Sadikovich
Telephone	998 (71) 233-7073
Fax	(998 71) 244-56-43
Website	www.mf.uz
E-mail	iyuldashev@mf.uz
Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, Investment and Trade	
Minister	Elyor Ganiev
Telephone	998 (71) 238-5100,
Fax	+998 (71) 238-5200
Website	www.mfer.uz
E-mail	secretary@mfer.uz

Uzbekistan Insurance Companies

Uzbekistan Insurance Companies	
Name	Insurance Company "Kafolat"
Telephone	+998 (71) 239-4886, 239-4881
Fax	+998 (71) 239-4640, 239-4320
E-mail	info@kafolat.uz
Website	www.kafolat.uz

Name	Insurance company "Uzagrosugurta"
Telephone	+998 (71) 239-1065
Fax	+998 (71) 239-1066
E-mail	info@agros.uz
Website	www.agros.uz

Uzbekistan and Iran

