



Romania

Where Is Romania?



Romania is located in southeastern Europe on the Balkan Peninsula. It is bordered by Ukraine to the north and east. Bulgaria and the Danube river to the south. Serbia to the southwest. Hungary to the northwest. Moldova to the northeast. And the Black sea to the southeast. It's capital and biggest city is Bucharest.

Facts About Romania

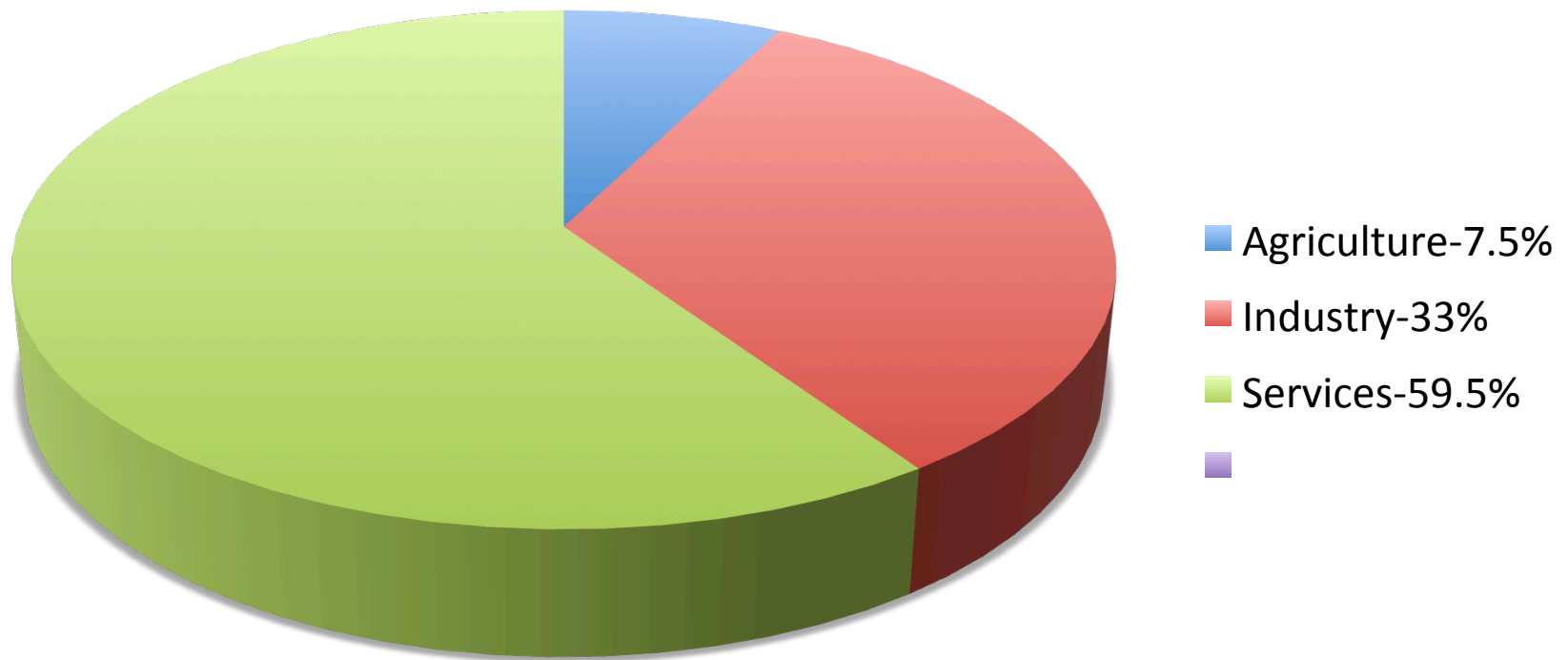
- Area: 92,043 Sq. Mi.
- Population: 21,790,000
- Population Growth: -0.3%
- Government: Republic
- Current President: Klaus Iohannis
- Urban Population: 53%
- Life Expectancy: 74 Years
- Literacy Rate: 98%
- Religions: Eastern Orthodox, Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Muslim
- Official Language: Romanian
- Currency: new Romanian leu (RON)
- GDP per capita: \$13,000
- GDP growth: 0.3%



Economy

GDP Comp.

GDP Comp. Of Romania



Resources

- Petroleum
- Timber
- Natural Gas
- Coal
- Iron
- Ore
- Salt
- Arable Land
- Hydropower



Agriculture

- Wheat
- Corn
- Sugar Beets
- Sunflower Seeds
- Potatoes
- Grapes



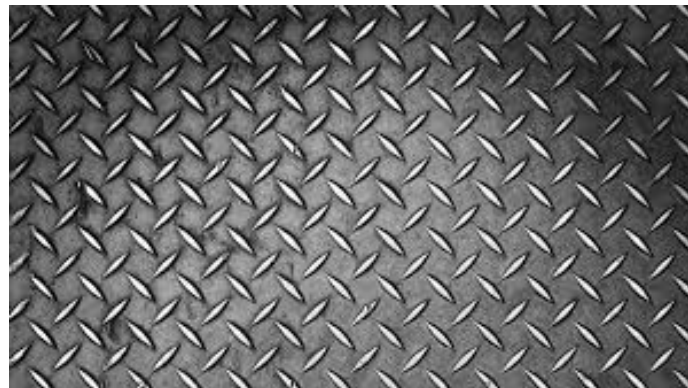
Industry

- Electric Machinery and Equipment
- Textiles
- Footwear
- Light Machinery and Auto Assembly
- Mining
- Timber



Major Exports

- Machinery and Equipment
- Metal and Metal Products
- Textiles
- Footwear
- Chemicals





The Land and it's people

Land & Climate

- Much of Romania is covered by mountains. The main ranges are the Eastern and Southern Carpathians. The Southern Carpathians - or Transylvanian Alps - reach 8,346 feet at the peak of Moldoveanu, the highest point in Romania
- Bordering the Carpathian ranges are zones of hills and tablelands
- The longest river is the Danube, which flows for 668 miles through Romanian territory to the Black Sea. The second longest river, the Mureș, flows for 477 miles westward to join in Hungary the Tisza, a tributary of the Danube.
- There are no lakes of any large size.
- Romania's climate is continental, with hot summers and cold winters. Bucharest, on the Walachian Plain, has an average July temperature of 74° F and a January temperature of 27° F.
- Annual precipitation averages 22.8 inches.

Plants & Animals



- About a quarter of the country's area is covered by forests. Fir and spruce are the most common trees in the mountains, while the lower slopes have forests of deciduous trees such as beech and oak.
- The Danube delta has vast areas of reeds and other aquatic plants.
- Animal life includes rare animals such as the chamois, as well as the more common bear, lynx, deer, wolf, fox, badger, and polecat.
- A large variety of birds includes the eagle, vulture, and hawk. Pelicans are common in the Danube delta.

Ancient History



- The region that is now Romania was known as Dacia in ancient times. The Roman Empire ruled Dacia from ad 106 until the late 200s.
- Over the next 800 years Goths, Huns, Slavs, and other peoples invaded Dacia.
- In the 1000s the Hungarians took over what is now Transylvania.

Formation of Romania

- In the early 1300s the people south of the Carpathian Mountains formed a state called Walachia.
- The people east of the Carpathians formed a state called Moldavia. Walachia and Moldavia were the first Romanian states.
- Walachia and Moldavia soon fell under the influence of the Turkish Ottoman Empire.
- Russia gained power in the region in the 1800s.
- In 1859 Walachia and Moldavia elected a single prince to rule both of them. The two states became the independent state of Romania.
- At the end of World War I in 1918, Romania gained Transylvania from Hungary.

Modern History

- The Soviet Union took control of Romania during World War II (1939-1945) and claimed Moldova and Bessarabia as part of the USSR.
- After World War II the Communist Party still had a tight control over the country.
- Nicolae Ceaușescu, who became party leader in 1965 and ruled with a fist of iron for the next 24 years.
- As other Communist governments began to fall in late 1989, Ceaușescu vowed to stay in power but, his control collapsed after he ordered troops to fire on a crowd of protesters, killing thousands of people.
 - Ceaușescu and his wife fled but were captured by the armed forces, summarily tried, and executed by firing squad on Dec. 25, 1989.
- Romania held its first free elections in 1990.
- With the aid of other countries its new leaders have worked to improve the economy
- In the late 1990s Romania also instituted a series of reforms designed to gain the country entry into both the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).



Fun Facts



- In 1884, Timișoara became the first European city to have electric street lighting
- The Parliament Palace in Romania's capital of Bucharest is the largest legislature building in the world.
- Francesco Illy, the founder of Illycaffè was born in Timisoara in 1892. He also invented the first automatic steam espresso coffee machine.
- Romania has the most beautiful waterfall in the world, according to World Geographer.
- The name “Romania” comes from the Latin word “Romanus” which means “citizen of the Roman Empire.”