

# SAUDI ARABIA

Capital: Riyadh

## GEODATA

### Area

1,960,582 km<sup>2</sup>

### Population

21.5 million

### Population growth rate

3.4 %

### Major languages

Arabic (official), English

### Major religious groups

Muslim (Sunni 90 %, Shi'a 10 %)

## POLITICAL DATA

### Type of government

Absolute monarchy

### Leaders

King Fahd

Crown Prince Abdullah

### Minister of Foreign Affairs

Prince Saud

### UN Human Development Index (1999)

Saudi Arabia ranks 78th among 174 countries

## ECONOMIC DATA

### GDP

\$131.5 billion US (1998)

### GDP growth rate

1.6 % (1998)

### GDP per capita

\$6,526 US (1998)

### Inflation rate

-0.4% (1998)

### Unemployment rate

6.5% (1998 est.)



### Main exports

Petroleum and petroleum products

### Main imports

Machinery and equipment, foodstuffs, chemicals, motor vehicles, textiles

### Main exports to Canada

\$428.9 million (1999), including petroleum and petroleum-based products, machinery parts

### Main imports from Canada

\$277.9 million (1999), including armoured vehicles, telecommunications equipment, aircraft parts

## CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE

D. E. (Ted) Hobson, Ambassador

The Canadian Embassy

Diplomatic Quarter

Riyadh

Saudi Arabia

Phone: (011-966-1) 488-2288

Fax: (011-966-1) 488-0137