

## FACT SHEET

Area: 2,240,000 square kilometers.  
Only a fraction of this largely desert country is habitable.

Population: 10 million including some 2 to 3 million foreign workers. A small part of the population is still nomadic Bedouin.

Religion: All Saudis are Moslems. The majority are Sunnis.

Capital: Riyadh, population 1,300,000, is the royal and administrative capital; in the summer the Government moves to Taif in the hills above Jeddah.

Government: Saudi Arabia is a patriarchal rather than a constitutional monarchy. The King is guided by Islamic law and assisted by a Council of Ministers.

Head of State: King Fahd ibn Abdul Aziz al Saud, Chief of State and Prime Minister.

Minister of Foreign Affairs: Prince Saud al Faisal.

Languages: The official language is Arabic; most of the élite also speak English.

Gross Domestic Product: \$108 billion (US).

Per Capita GDP: \$10,800 (US).

Oil Production: Oil is by far the main source of Saudi wealth. The Kingdom is the third most important oil producer in the world after the USSR and the United States. Reserves are estimated at 169 billion barrels and could last for over 100 years at 1984 levels of production.