

# Angola



## **Background**

Angola has begun to enjoy the fruits of peace since the end of a 27-year civil war in 2002. Fighting between the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), led by Jose Eduardo DOS SANTOS, and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), led by Jonas SAVIMBI, followed independence from Portugal in 1975. Peace seemed imminent in 1992 when Angola held national elections, but UNITA renewed fighting after being beaten by the MPLA at the polls. Up to 1.5 million lives may have been lost - and 4 million people displaced - in the quarter century of fighting. SAVIMBI's death in 2002 ended UNITA's insurgency and strengthened the MPLA's hold on power. DOS SANTOS has pledged to hold national elections in 2006

## **Location:**

Southern Africa, bordering the South Atlantic Ocean, between Namibia and Democratic Republic of the Congo

## **Area:**

*total:* 1,246,700 sq km

*land:* 1,246,700 sq km

*water:* 0 sq km

## **Coastline:**

1,600 km

## **Climate:**

semiarid in south and along coast to Luanda; north has cool, dry season (May to October) and hot, rainy season (November to April)

## **Terrain:**

narrow coastal plain rises abruptly to vast interior plateau

**Natural resources:**

petroleum, diamonds, iron ore, phosphates, copper, feldspar, gold, bauxite, uranium

**Environment - current issues:**

overuse of pastures and subsequent soil erosion attributable to population pressures; desertification; deforestation of tropical rain forest, in response to both international demand for tropical timber and to domestic use as fuel, resulting in loss of biodiversity; soil erosion contributing to water pollution and siltation of rivers and dams; inadequate supplies of potable water

**Population:**

11,190,786 (July 2005 est.)

**Population growth rate:**

1.9% (2005 est.)

**Net migration rate:**

0.28 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2005 est.)

**Languages:**

Portuguese (official), Bantu and other African languages

**Government Angola****Country name:**

*conventional long form:* Republic of Angola

**Government type:**

republic, nominally a multiparty democracy with a strong presidential system

**Capital:**

Luanda

**Independence:**

11 November 1975 (from Portugal)

**Legal system:**

based on Portuguese civil law system and customary law; recently modified to accommodate political pluralism and increased use of free markets

**Executive branch:**

*chief of state:* President Jose Eduardo DOS SANTOS

**International organization participation:**

ACP, AfDB, AU, FAO, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICt (signatory), ICFTU, ICRM, IDA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCS, ILO, IMF, IMO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, ISO (correspondent), ITU, MIGA, NAM, OAS (observer), SADC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WCO, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WToO, WTO

**Economy - overview:**

Agriculture provides the main livelihood for 85% of the population. Oil production and the supporting activities are vital to the economy, contributing about 45% to GDP and more than half of exports.

Export: gold, diamonds, extensive forests, Atlantic fisheries, and large oil deposits - Angola will need to continue reforming government policies and to reduce corruption. While Angola made progress in further lowering inflation, from 325% in 2000 to about 106% in 2002, the government has failed to make sufficient progress on reforms recommended by the IMF such as increasing foreign exchange reserves and promoting greater transparency in government spending. Increased oil production supported 7% GDP growth in 2003 and 12% growth in 2004.

**GDP:**

purchasing power parity - \$23.17 billion (2004 est.)

**GDP - real growth rate:**

11.7% (2004 est.)

**GDP - per capita:**

purchasing power parity - \$2,100 (2004 est.)

**GDP - composition by sector:**

agriculture: 8%

industry: 67%

services: 25% (2001 est.)

**Investment (gross fixed):**

34.5% of GDP (2004 est.)

**Population below poverty line:**

70% (2003 est.)

**Inflation rate (consumer prices):**

43.8% (2004 est.)

**Labor force:**

5.41 million (2004 est.)

**Unemployment rate:**

extensive unemployment and underemployment affecting more than half the population (2001 est.)

**Budget:**

revenues: \$9.013 billion

expenditures: \$9.562 billion, including capital expenditures of \$963 million (2004 est.)

**Agriculture - products:**

bananas, sugarcane, coffee, sisal, corn, cotton, manioc (tapioca), tobacco, vegetables, plantains; livestock; forest products; fish

**Industries:**

petroleum; diamonds, iron ore, phosphates, feldspar, bauxite, uranium, and gold; cement; basic metal products; fish processing; food processing; brewing; tobacco products; sugar; textiles, ship repair

**Oil - production:**

980,000 bbl/day (2004 est.)

**Oil - consumption:**

31,000 bbl/day (2001 est.)

**Oil - proved reserves:**

22.88 billion bbl (2004 est.)

**Natural gas - production:**

530 million cu m (2001 est.)

**Natural gas - consumption:**

530 million cu m (2001 est.)

**Natural gas - proved reserves:**

79.57 billion cu m (2004)

**Exports:**

\$12.76 billion f.o.b. (2004 est.)

**Exports - commodities:**

crude oil, diamonds, refined petroleum products, gas, coffee, sisal, fish and fish products, timber, cotton

**Exports - partners:**

US 39.8%, China 30.3%, Taiwan 8.1%, France 7.1% (2004)

**Imports:**

\$4.896 billion f.o.b. (2004 est.)

**Imports - commodities:**

machinery and electrical equipment, vehicles and spare parts; medicines, food, textiles, military goods

**Imports - partners:**

Portugal 18.4%, US 13.1%, South Africa 10.7%, Japan 6.9%, France 6.3%, Brazil 5.6%, UK 4.9%, China 4.5% (2004)

**Currency:**

kwanza (AOA)

**Exchange rates:**

kwanza per US dollar - 83.541 (2004), 74.606 (2003), 43.53 (2002), 22.058 (2001), 10.041 (2000)

**Fiscal year:**

calendar year

**Railways:**

total: 2,761 km

narrow gauge: 2,638 km 1.067-m gauge; 123 km 0.600-m gauge (2004)

**Highways:**

total: 51,429 km

paved: 5,328 km

unpaved: 46,101 km (2001)

**Waterways:**

1,300 km (2004)

**Pipelines:**

gas 214 km; liquid natural gas 14 km; liquid petroleum gas 30 km; oil 837 km; refined products 56 km (2004)

**Ports and harbors:**

Ambriz, Cabinda, Lobito, Luanda, Malongo, Namibe, Porto Amboim, Soyo

**Merchant marine:**

total: 4 ships (1,000 GRT or over) 26,123 GRT/42,879 DWT

by type: cargo 1, passenger/cargo 2, petroleum tanker 1

registered in other countries: 4 (2005)

**Airports:**

243 (2004 est.)