

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

MAL FACT SHEET



SUMMARY

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is located in the Middle East, northwest of Saudi Arabia, between Palestine to the west and Iraq to the east. It has a strategic location at the head of the Gulf of Aqaba and shares the longest border with Palestine and the occupied West Bank.

Chief of State: King Abdullah II (since 7 February 1999); Heir Apparent Crown Prince Hussein bin Abdullah al-Hashimi (eldest son of the monarch, born 28 June 1994).

Capital: Amman

Other notable cities: Aqaba, Irbid.

Gov Type: Constitutional Monarchy

Population: ~11,491,090 million

History: After World War I and the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire, the League of Nations awarded Britain the mandate to govern much of the Middle East. In 1921, Britain demarcated from Palestine and the Transjordan. In 1923, the Transjordan was declared independent, but under the supervision of Britain. The area gained its full independence in 1946 and thereafter became The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Jordan is about 89,342 square kilometers in total area and has 540 square kilometers of water.

Prominent Areas of Water: Gulf of Aqaba, Dead Sea, Jordan River

The climate is versatile as it depends on the zone, but it is mostly arid desert; dry and hot summers with cool winters; heavy participation from October-May.

Jordan is mostly an arid desert plateau; there is a great north-south geological drift, while the west of the country includes the Jordan River Valley, the Dead Sea, and the Jordanian Highlands.

Natural resources include phosphates, potash, limestone, minerals, shale oil.

Economy and Politics

DEMOGRAPHICS

Noun: Jordanian(s)

Adjective: Jordanian

Ethnic Groups (estimates): Jordanian 69.3%, Syrian 13.3%,
Palestinian 6.7%, Egyptian 6.7%, Iraqi 1.4%, other 2.6%

Languages: Arabic (Official), English (mostly used in commerce and
at university)

Religion: Muslim 97.2% (Official; predominantly Sunni but there are
Shiites), Christian 4% (majority Greek Orthodox, but some are
Roman Catholic, Coptic Orthodox, Syrian Orthodox, Melkite,
Armenian Orthodox, Maronite, Assyrian, Anglican, Lutheran,
Seventh-Day Adventist, United Pentecostal, and Presbyterian), and
the rest are other.

Literacy: 98.42% (Male 96.6%, Female 98.1%)

Population growth is at 1.63%

ECONOMY AND GDP

Jordan's economy is described as a low growth, upper middle-
income Middle Eastern economy. It has high debt and
unemployment, especially for youth and women. Jordan is a key US
foreign assistance recipient and is natural resource-poor and
import-reliant.

Real GDP (Purchasing Power Parity): \$153.65 billion (2026)

Real GDP Growth Rate: 2.7% (2026)

Real GDP Per Capita (PPP): \$13,260 (2026)

GDP (Official Exchange Rate): \$64.91 billion (2026)

Inflation Rate (Consumer Prices): 2.2% (2026)

GDP - Composition: 2.5% Agriculture (2019), 45.7% Industry
(2019), 49.1% Services (2019)

Unemployment Rate: 21.3% (2026)

Youth Unemployment: 38.8% (2026)

MAIN POLITICAL CONTENTIONS

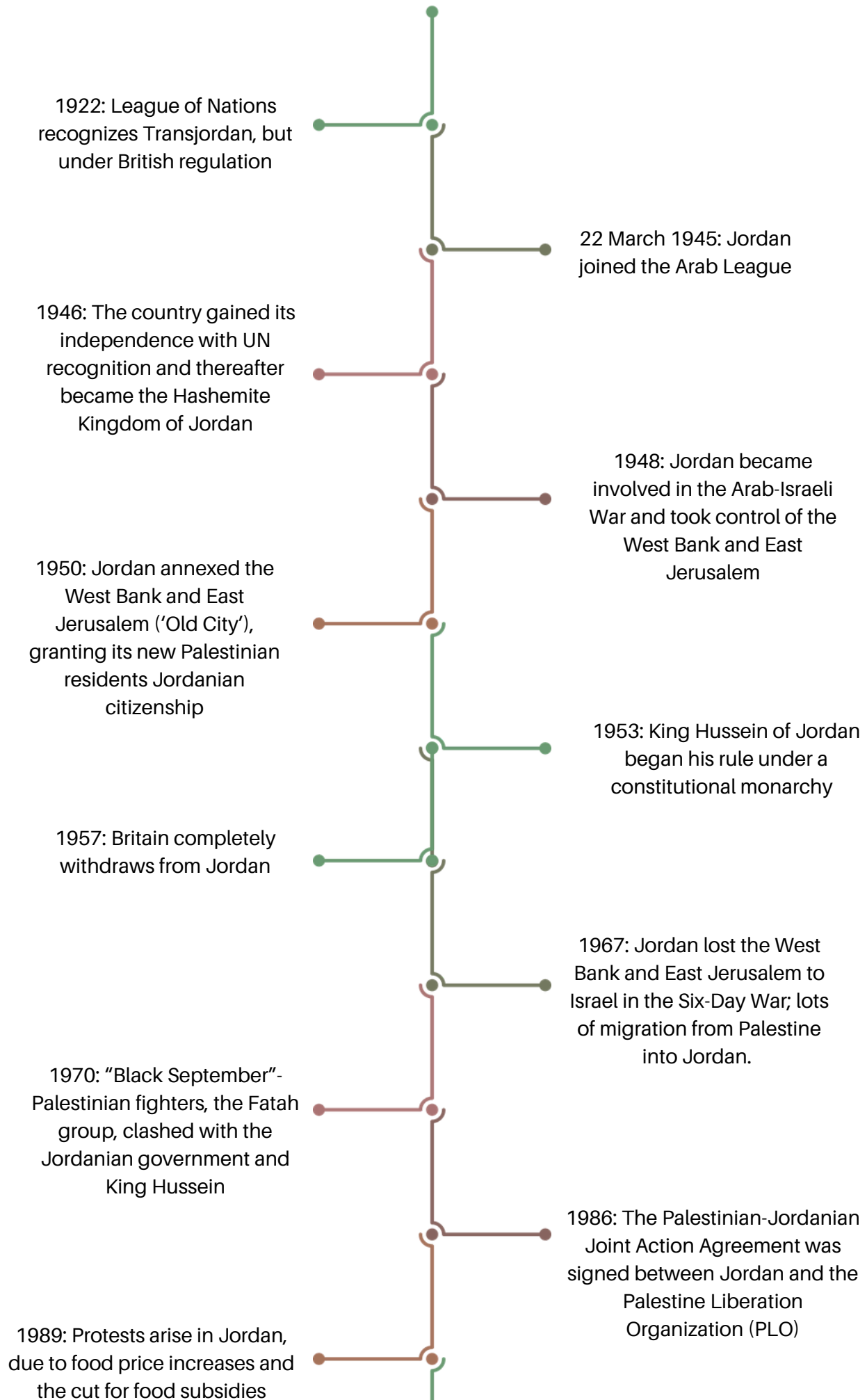
Jordan has navigated complex regional dynamics since its
independence in 1946. King Hussein (r. 1953-99) managed
pressures from the region, Israel, and Palestinian militants, leading
to a brief civil war in 1970 known as "Black September".

In 1948, during the Arab-Israeli War, Jordan annexed the West
Bank and East Jerusalem ('Old City'), but lost the land to Israel in
the 1967 Six-Day War. In 1988, Jordan severed ties with the West
Bank.

King Hussein signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1994.

King Hussein's eldest son, King Abdallah II, succeeded him in 1999.
His reign has seen challenges including the Arab Spring, the
COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, economic issues, the
Israel-Hamas conflict that began in October 2023, and trying to stay
stable in the region during the ongoing U.S.-Iran Conflict starting in
February 2026.

Jordan: A Timeline



1994: A peace treaty
between Jordan and Israel is
signed

1999: King Hussein dies in
February 1999; His eldest son,
Crown Prince Abdullah, is the
heir

2004: King Abdullah and
former Syrian President
Bashar al-Assad start the
Wahdah Sam Project

2009: King Abdallah
dissolves parliament during
the middle of its term

2011: The Arab Spring broke
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2014: Jordan participates
with other Arab states and
the U.S. on airstrikes to
militants in Syria

2023-2026: Jordan works on
protecting the nation
between the Israel-Hamas
Conflict and the U.S.-Iran War