**Jordan**

**Full name:** The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Government:** constitutional monarchy  

**Location:** Middle East, northwest of Saudi Arabia  
**Capital:** Amman  
**Area:** 89,342 sq km (34,492 sq miles); slightly smaller than Indiana  

**Climate:** mostly arid desert; rainy season in west (November to April)  
**Terrain:** mostly desert plateau in east, highland area in west; Great Rift Valley separates East and West Banks of the Jordan River  
**Natural Hazards:** droughts; periodic earthquakes  

**Population:** 5.7 million (UN, 2005)  
**Ethnicity:** Arab 98%, Circassian 1%, Armenian 1%  
**Major Language:** Arabic  
**Religion:** Sunni Muslim 92%, Christian 6% (majority Greek Orthodox, but some Greek and Roman Catholics, Syrian Orthodox, Coptic Orthodox, Armenian Orthodox, and Protestant denominations), other 2% (several small Shi'a Muslim and Druze populations)  
**Life expectancy:** 70 years (men), 73 years (women) (UN)  

**Currency:** 1 Jordan dinar = 1,000 fils