

Murmansk Oblast

Flag of the Murmansk Oblast.

Coat of arms of the Murmansk Oblast.

Location of the oblast.

Murmansk Oblast (Russian: Му́рманская о́бласть, *Murmanskaya oblast'*) is a [federal subject](#) in northwestern [Russia](#). The [administrative centre](#) is [Murmansk](#), where most of the population lives. The oblast has a population of 741,511.

History

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

Records show people first began to populate the area sometime between 8000 BC and 7000 BC.^{[1][2]} The first permanent towns began to appear in the [15th century](#). These towns were mainly on the [Tersky Coast](#). In the late 15th century, the area became part of the [Grand Duchy of Moscow](#). At the time, most of the economy was based on [fishing](#).

Oblast divisions

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

The oblast is divided into six districts, six [closed cities](#) and six cities and towns under the oblast's control.

Districts

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The six districts are: [Kandalakshsky District](#), [Kolsky District](#), [Kovdorsky District](#), [Lovozersky District](#), [Pechengsky District](#), [Tersky District](#).

Closed cities

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

The six closed cities are: [Gadzhiyevo](#), [Ostrovnoy](#), [Polyarny](#), [Severomorsk](#), [Snezhnogorsk](#) and [Zaozyorsk](#).

These cities are controlled by the federal government. A "closed city" is a term for a city where residents need special permission to live there.

Cities and towns under the oblast's control

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The six cities and towns under the oblast's control are: [Murmansk](#), [Apatity](#), [Kirovsk](#), [Monchegorsk](#), [Olenegorsk](#) and [Polyarnye Zori](#).

These cities have their own oblast territory.

Climate

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Most of the oblast is in the [arctic circle](#), meaning in summer the sun is in the sky all day, while at night the sun never rises. The entire oblast also has a [subarctic climate](#), with very cold winters, and short, warm summers. The area isn't as cold as other locations of the same [longitude](#) because of the effects of the [North Atlantic Current](#). The current's influence also means that the northern coast is generally "warmer" than the southern central region.

Demographics

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The native people of the area are the [Sámi](#), but they only make up 0.2% of the population today.

Below is a list of the largest cities in the oblast:

Rank	City	Population (2019)	Coordinates
1	Murmansk	292,465	68°57′31″N 33°4′58″E
2	Apatity	55,201	67°34′40″N 33°23′26″E
3	Severomorsk	52,597	69°3′56″N 33°24′33″E
4	Monchegorsk	41,482	67°56′35″N 32°53′31″E
5	Kandalaksha	30,575	67°10′12″N 32°25′23″E
6	Kirovsk	26,206	67°36′39″N 33°40′21″E
7	Olenegorsk	20,697	68°8′33″N 33°15′27″E
8	Polyarny	17,605	69°11′55″N 33°26′22″E
9	Kovdor	16,435	67°34′12″N 30°28′26″E
10	Zapolyarny	14,902	69°25′29″N 30°49′24″E

Approximately 42% of the population adhere to the [Russian Orthodox Church](#). Another 4.5% follow another form of [Christianity](#). 1% of the population is [Muslim](#), 12% are [atheists](#) and 28% are "spiritual but not religious."^{[3][4]}

References

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

1. [↑](#) В. Я. Шумкин. Этапы освоения Северо-Запада Европейской Арктики, 2015
2. [↑](#) <http://kae.rekvizit.ru/olen/olintr.htm> [Archived](#) 2017-02-12 at the [Wayback Machine](#) Кольская археологическая экспедиция
3. [↑](#) [Arena - Atlas of Religions and Nationalities in Russia](#). Sreda.org
4. [↑](#) [2012 Survey Maps](#) [Archived](#) 2017-03-20 at the [Wayback Machine](#). "Ogonek", № 34 (5243), 27/08/2012. Retrieved 24-09-2012.

Other websites

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

- [Official website of Murmansk Oblast](#) [Archived](#) 2020-11-27 at the [Wayback Machine](#) (in Russian)
- [Murmansk Oblast news](#)

Russia Subdivisions of Russia	
<div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• v• t• e</div>	
Federal subjects	
<div><div>Oblasts (46)</div></div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amur• Arkhangelsk• Astrakhan• Belgorod• Bryansk• Chelyabinsk• Irkutsk• Ivanovo• Kaliningrad• Kaluga• Kemerovo• Kirov• Kostroma• Kurgan• Kursk• Leningrad• Lipetsk• Magadan• Moscow• Murmansk</div>

- [Nizhny Novgorod](#)
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- [Kabardino-Balkaria](#)
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- [Karachay-Cherkessia](#)
- [Karelia](#)
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- [Komi](#)
- [Mari El](#)
- [Mordovia](#)
- [North Ossetia-Alania](#)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sakha • Tatarstan • Tuva • Udmurtia
Krais (9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Altai • Kamchatka • Khabarovsk • Krasnodar • Krasnoyarsk • Perm • Primorsky • Stavropol • Zabaykalsky
Autonomous okrugs (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chukotka • Khanty-Mansi² • Nenets³ • Yamalo-Nenets²
Federal cities (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moscow • Saint Petersburg • Sevastopol¹
Autonomous oblast (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jewish
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ¹Claimed by Ukraine and said by most of the international community to be part of Ukraine. • ²Administratively part of Tyumen Oblast. • ³Administratively part of Arkhangelsk Oblast. 	
Other not official subdivisions	
•	Federal districts (by President)
•	Economic regions (by Ministry of Economic Development)
•	Military districts (by Ministry of Defence)
•	Judicial districts

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<div>Administrative center: Murmansk • Rural localities</div>	
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<div>Closed administrative-territorial formations</div>	<div> <div>• Alexandrovsk</div> <div>• Ostrovnoy</div> <div>• Severomorsk</div> <div>• Vidyayevo</div> <div>• Zaozyorsk</div> </div>
<div>Cities and towns (all levels)</div>	<div> <div>• Apatity</div> <div>• Gadzhiyevo</div> <div>• Kandalaksha</div> <div>• Kirovsk</div> <div>• Kola</div> <div>• Kovdor</div> <div>• Monchegorsk</div> <div>• Murmansk</div> <div>• Olenegorsk</div> <div>• Ostrovnoy</div> <div>• Polyarny</div> <div>• Polyarnye Zori</div> <div>• Severomorsk</div> <div>• Snezhnogorsk</div> <div>• Zaozyorsk</div> <div>• Zapolyarny</div> </div>
<div>Urban-type settlements</div>	<div> <div>• Kildinstroy</div> <div>• Molochny</div> <div>• Murmashi</div> <div>• Nikel</div> <div>• Pechenga</div> <div>• Revda</div> <div>• Safonovo</div> </div>

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