

# World Factbook

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## Canada



## Introduction

### Background

A land of vast distances and rich natural resources, Canada became a self-governing dominion in 1867, while retaining ties to the British crown. Canada repatriated its constitution from the UK in 1982, severing a final colonial tie. Economically and technologically, the nation has developed in parallel with the US, its neighbor to the south across the world's longest international border. Canada faces the political challenges

of meeting public demands for quality improvements in health care, education, social services, and economic competitiveness, as well as responding to the particular concerns of predominantly francophone Quebec. Canada also aims to develop its diverse energy resources while maintaining its commitment to the environment.

## **Geography**

### **Location**

Northern North America, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean on the east, North Pacific Ocean on the west, and the Arctic Ocean on the north, north of the conterminous US

### **Geographic Coordinates**

60 00 N, 95 00 W

### **Map References**

North America

### **Area**

total: 9,984,670 sq km

land: 9,093,507 sq km

water: 891,163 sq km

country comparison to the world: 3

### **Area Comparative**

slightly larger than the US

Area comparison map: The World Factbook Field Image Modal x North America :: Canada  
Print Image Description slightly larger than the US

### **Land Boundaries**

total: 8,893 km

border countries (1): US 8893 km (includes 2477 km with Alaska)

note: Canada is the world's largest country that borders only one country

### **Coastline**

202,080 km

note: the Canadian Arctic Archipelago - consisting of 36,563 islands, several of them some of the world's largest - contributes to Canada easily having the longest coastline in the world

### **Maritime Claims**

territorial sea: 12 nm

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm

contiguous zone: 24 nm

continental shelf: 200 nm or to the edge of the continental margin

## **Climate**

varies from temperate in south to subarctic and arctic in north

## **Terrain**

mostly plains with mountains in west, lowlands in southeast

## **Elevation**

mean elevation: 487 m

lowest point: Atlantic Ocean 0 m

highest point: Mount Logan 5,959 m

## **Natural Resources**

bauxite, iron ore, nickel, zinc, copper, gold, lead, rare earth elements, molybdenum, potash, diamonds, silver, fish, timber, wildlife, coal, petroleum, natural gas, hydropower

## **Land Use**

agricultural land: 6.8% (2011 est.)

arable land: 4.7% (2011 est.) / permanent crops: 0.5% (2011 est.) / permanent pasture: 1.6% (2011 est.)

forest: 34.1% (2011 est.)

other: 59.1% (2011 est.)

## **Irrigated Land**

8,700 sq km (2012)

## **Population Distribution**

vast majority of Canadians are positioned in a discontinuous band within approximately 300 km of the southern border with the United States; the most populated province is Ontario, followed by Quebec and British Columbia

## **Natural Hazards**

continuous permafrost in north is a serious obstacle to development; cyclonic storms form east of the Rocky Mountains, a result of the mixing of air masses from the Arctic, Pacific, and North American interior, and produce most of the country's rain and snow east of the mountains volcanism: the vast majority of volcanoes in Western Canada's Coast Mountains remain dormant

## **Environment Current Issues**

metal smelting, coal-burning utilities, and vehicle emissions impacting agricultural and forest productivity; air pollution and resulting acid rain severely affecting lakes and damaging forests; ocean waters becoming contaminated due to agricultural, industrial, mining, and forestry activities

## **Environment International Agreements**

party to: Air Pollution, Air Pollution-Nitrogen Oxides, Air Pollution-Persistent Organic Pollutants, Air Pollution-Sulfur 85, Air Pollution-Sulfur 94, Antarctic-Environmental Protocol, Antarctic-Marine Living Resources, Antarctic Seals, Antarctic Treaty, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Desertification, Endangered Species, Environmental Modification, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Marine Dumping, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Tropical Timber 83, Tropical Timber 94, Wetlands signed, but not ratified: Air Pollution-Volatile Organic Compounds, Marine Life Conservation

## **Geography Note**

note 1: second-largest country in world (after Russia) and largest in the Americas; strategic location between Russia and US via north polar route; approximately 90% of the population is concentrated within 160 km (100 mi) of the US border note 2: Canada has more fresh water than any other country and almost 9% of Canadian territory is water; Canada has at least 2 million and possibly over 3 million lakes - that is more than all other countries combined

## **People**

### **Population**

35,881,659 (July 2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 38

### **Nationality**

noun: Canadian(s)  
adjective: Canadian

### **Ethnic Groups**

Canadian 32.3%, English 18.3%, Scottish 13.9%, French 13.6%, Irish 13.4%, German 9.6%, Chinese 5.1%, Italian 4.6%, North American Indian 4.4%, East Indian 4%, other 51.6% (2016 est.)

note: percentages add up to more than 100% because respondents were able to identify more than one ethnic origin

### **Languages**

English (official) 58.7%, French (official) 22%, Punjabi 1.4%, Italian 1.3%, Spanish 1.3%, German 1.3%, Cantonese 1.2%, Tagalog 1.2%, Arabic 1.1%, other 10.5% (2011 est.)

### **Religions**

Catholic 39% (includes Roman Catholic 38.8%, other Catholic .2%), Protestant 20.3% (includes United Church 6.1%, Anglican 5%, Baptist 1.9%, Lutheran 1.5%, Pentecostal 1.5%, Presbyterian 1.4%, other Protestant 2.9%), Orthodox 1.6%, other Christian 6.3%, Muslim 3.2%, Hindu 1.5%, Sikh 1.4%, Buddhist 1.1%, Jewish 1%, other 0.6%, none 23.9% (2011 est.)

## Age Structure

0-14 years: 15.43% (male 2,839,236 /female 2,698,592)

15-24 years: 11.62% (male 2,145,626 /female 2,023,369)

25-54 years: 39.62% (male 7,215,261 /female 7,002,546)

55-64 years: 14.24% (male 2,538,820 /female 2,570,709)

65 years and over: 19.08% (male 3,055,560 /female 3,791,940) (2018 est.)

population pyramid: The World Factbook Field Image Modal x North America :: Canada  
Print Image Description This is the population pyramid for Canada. A population pyramid illustrates the age and sex structure of a country's population and may provide insights about political and social stability, as well as economic development. The population is distributed along the horizontal axis, with males shown on the left and females on the right. The male and female populations are broken down into 5-year age groups represented as horizontal bars along the vertical axis, with the youngest age groups at the bottom and the oldest at the top. The shape of the population pyramid gradually evolves over time based on fertility, mortality, and international migration trends. For additional information, please see the entry for Population pyramid on the Definitions and Notes page under the References tab.

## Dependency Ratios

total dependency ratio: 47.3 (2015 est.)

youth dependency ratio: 23.5 (2015 est.)

elderly dependency ratio: 23.8 (2015 est.)

potential support ratio: 4.2 (2015 est.)

## Median Age

total: 42.4 years (2018 est.)

male: 41.1 years

female: 43.7 years

country comparison to the world: 31

## Population Growth Rate

0.72% (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 139

## Birth Rate

10.2 births/1,000 population (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 189

## Death Rate

8.8 deaths/1,000 population (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 67

## Net Migration Rate

5.7 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 20

## **Population Distribution**

vast majority of Canadians are positioned in a discontinuous band within approximately 300 km of the southern border with the United States; the most populated province is Ontario, followed by Quebec and British Columbia

## **Urbanization**

urban population: 81.5% of total population (2019)

rate of urbanization: 0.97% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

## **Major Urban Areas Population**

6.139 million Toronto, 4.196 million Montreal, 2.556 million Vancouver, 1.513 million Calgary, 1.43 million Edmonton, 1.378 million OTTAWA (capital) (2019)

## **Sex Ratio**

at birth: 1.06 male(s)/female

0-14 years: 1.05 male(s)/female

15-24 years: 1.06 male(s)/female

25-54 years: 1.03 male(s)/female

55-64 years: 0.99 male(s)/female

65 years and over: 0.81 male(s)/female

total population: 0.98 male(s)/female (2018 est.)

## **Mother S Mean Age At First Birth**

28.1 years (2012 est.)

## **Maternal Mortality Rate**

10 deaths/100,000 live births (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 145

## **Infant Mortality Rate**

total: 4.5 deaths/1,000 live births (2018 est.)

male: 4.8 deaths/1,000 live births

female: 4.1 deaths/1,000 live births

country comparison to the world: 180

## **Life Expectancy At Birth**

total population: 82 years (2018 est.)

male: 79.4 years

female: 84.8 years

country comparison to the world: 18

## **Total Fertility Rate**

1.6 children born/woman (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 180



## **Drinking Water Source**

improved: urban: 100% of population  
rural: 99% of population  
total: 99.8% of population  
unimproved: urban: 0% of population  
rural: 1% of population  
total: 0.2% of population (2015 est.)

## **Current Health Expenditure**

10.5% (2016)

## **Physicians Density**

2.61 physicians/1,000 population (2017)

## **Hospital Bed Density**

2.7 beds/1,000 population (2012)

## **Sanitation Facility Access**

improved: urban: 100% of population (2015 est.)  
rural: 99% of population (2015 est.)  
total: 99.8% of population (2015 est.)  
unimproved: urban: 0% of population (2015 est.)  
rural: 1% of population (2015 est.)  
total: 0.2% of population (2015 est.)

## **Hiv Aids Adult Prevalence Rate**

NA

## **Hiv Aids People Living With Hiv Aids**

NA

## **Hiv Aids Deaths**

NA

## **Obesity Adult Prevalence Rate**

29.4% (2016)  
country comparison to the world: 26

## **Education Expenditures**

5.3% of GDP (2011)  
country comparison to the world: 46

## **School Life Expectancy Primary To Tertiary Education**

total: 16 years

male: 16 years

female: 17 years (2016)

## **Unemployment Youth Ages 15 24**

total: 11.1%

male: 12.5%

female: 9.6% (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 117

## **Government**

### **Country Name**

conventional long form: none

conventional short form: Canada

etymology: the country name likely derives from the St. Lawrence Iroquoian word "kanata" meaning village or settlement

### **Government Type**

federal parliamentary democracy (Parliament of Canada) under a constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth realm; federal and state authorities and responsibilities regulated in constitution

### **Capital**

name: Ottawa

geographic coordinates: 45 25 N, 75 42 W

time difference: UTC-5 (same time as Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

daylight saving time: +1hr, begins second Sunday in March; ends first Sunday in November

etymology: the city lies on the south bank of the Ottawa River, from which it derives its name; the river name comes from the Algonquin word "adawe" meaning "to trade" and refers to the indigenous peoples who used the river as a trade highway note: Canada has six time zones

### **Administrative Divisions**

10 provinces and 3 territories\*; Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories\*, Nova Scotia, Nunavut\*, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Yukon\*

### **Independence**

1 July 1867 (union of British North American colonies); 11 December 1931 (recognized by UK per Statute of Westminster)

### **National Holiday**

Canada Day, 1 July (1867)

## Constitution

history: consists of unwritten and written acts, customs, judicial decisions, and traditions dating from 1763; the written part of the constitution consists of the Constitution Act of 29 March 1867, which created a federation of four provinces, and the Constitution Act of 17 April 1982

amendments: proposed by either house of Parliament or by the provincial legislative assemblies; there are 5 methods for passage though most require approval by both houses of Parliament, approval of at least two thirds of the provincial legislative assemblies and assent and formalization as a proclamation by the governor general in council; the most restrictive method is reserved for amendments affecting fundamental sections of the constitution, such as the office of the monarch or the governor general, and the constitutional amendment procedures, which require unanimous approval by both houses and by all the provincial assemblies, and assent of the governor general in council; amended 11 times, last in 2011 (Fair Representation Act, 2011) (2018)

## Legal System

common law system except in Quebec, where civil law based on the French civil code prevails

## International Law Organization Participation

accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction with reservations; accepts ICCT jurisdiction

## Citizenship

citizenship by birth: yes

citizenship by descent only: yes

dual citizenship recognized: yes

residency requirement for naturalization: minimum of 3 of last 5 years resident in Canada

## Suffrage

18 years of age; universal

## Executive Branch

chief of state: Queen ELIZABETH II (since 6 February 1952); represented by Governor General Julie PAYETTE (since 2 October 2017)

head of government: Prime Minister Justin Pierre James TRUDEAU (Liberal Party) (since 4 November 2015)

cabinet: Federal Ministry chosen by the prime minister usually from among members of his/her own party sitting in Parliament

elections/appointments: the monarchy is hereditary; governor general appointed by the monarch on the advice of the prime minister for a 5-year term; following legislative elections, the leader of the majority party or majority coalition in the House of Commons generally designated prime minister by the governor general

note: the governor general position is largely ceremonial; Julie PAYETTE, a former space shuttle astronaut, is Canada's fourth female governor general but the first to have flown in space

## Legislative Branch

description: bicameral Parliament or Parlement consists of: Senate or Senat (105 seats; members appointed by the governor general on the advice of the prime minister and can serve until age 75) House of Commons or Chambre des Communes (338 seats; members directly elected in single-seat constituencies by simple majority vote with terms up to 4 years)

elections: Senate - appointed; latest appointments in December 2018 House of Commons - last held on 21 October 2019 (next to be held in October 2023)

election results: Senate - composition as of December 2018 - men 51, women 54, percent of women 51.4% House of Commons - percent of vote by party - CPC 34.4%, Liberal Party 33.1%, NDP 15.9%, Bloc Quebecois 7.7%, Greens 6.5%, other 2.4%; seats by party - Liberal Party 157, CPC 121, NDP 24, Bloc Quebecois 32, Greens 4; composition - men 240, women 98, percent of women 29%; note - total Parliament percent of women 34.3%

## Judicial Branch

highest courts: Supreme Court of Canada (consists of the chief justice and 8 judges); note - in 1949, Canada abolished all appeals beyond its Supreme Court, which prior to that time, were heard by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (in London)

judge selection and term of office: chief justice and judges appointed by the prime minister in council; all judges appointed for life with mandatory retirement at age 75

subordinate courts: federal level: Federal Court of Appeal; Federal Court; Tax Court; federal administrative tribunals; Courts Martial; provincial/territorial level: provincial superior, appeals, first instance, and specialized courts; note - in 1999, the Nunavut Court - a circuit court with the power of a provincial superior court, as well as a territorial court - was established to serve isolated settlements

## Political Parties And Leaders

Bloc Quebecois [Mario BEAULIEU] Conservative Party of Canada or CPC [Andrew SCHEER] Green Party [Jo-Ann ROBERTS] Liberal Party [Justin TRUDEAU] New Democratic Party or NDP [Jagmeet SINGH] People's Party of Canada [Maxime BERNIER]

## International Organization Participation

ADB (nonregional member), AfDB (nonregional member), APEC, Arctic Council, ARF, ASEAN (dialogue partner), Australia Group, BIS, C, CD, CDB, CE (observer), EAPC, EBRD, EITI (implementing country), FAO, FATF, G-7, G-8, G-10, G-20, IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC (national committees), ICCT, ICRM, IDA, IEA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCs, IGAD (partners), IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, IMSO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, ITUC (NGOs), MIGA, MINUSTAH, MONUSCO, NAFTA, NATO, NEA, NSG, OAS, OECD, OIF, OPCW, OSCE, Pacific Alliance (observer), Paris Club, PCA, PIF (partner), UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNFICYP, UNHCR, UNMISS, UNRWA, UNTSO, UPU, WCO, WFTU (NGOs), WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO, ZC

## Diplomatic Representation In The Us

Ambassador David Brookes MACNAUGHTON (since 2 March 2016)  
chancery: 501 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001

telephone: [1] (202) 682-1740

FAX: [1] (202) 682-7726

consulate(s) general: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, San Francisco/Silicon Valley, Seattle

trade office(s): Houston, Palo Alto (CA), San Diego; note - there are trade offices in the Consulates General

## **Diplomatic Representation From The Us**

chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Charge d'Affaires Richard M. MILLS, Jr. (since 23 August 2019)

telephone: [1] (613) 688-5335

embassy: 490 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 1G8

mailing address: P. O. Box 5000, Ogdensburg, NY 13669-0430; P.O. Box 866, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5T1

FAX: [1] (613) 688-3082

consulate(s) general: Calgary, Halifax, Montreal, Quebec City, Toronto, Vancouver

consulate(s): Winnipeg

## **Flag Description**

two vertical bands of red (hoist and fly side, half width) with white square between them; an 11-pointed red maple leaf is centered in the white square; the maple leaf has long been a Canadian symbol

## **National Symbol S**

maple leaf, beaver; national colors: red, white

## **National Anthem**

name: O Canada

lyrics/music: Adolphe-Basile ROUTHIER [French], Robert Stanley WEIR [English]/Calixa LAVALLEE

note: adopted 1980; originally written in 1880, "O Canada" served as an unofficial anthem many years before its official adoption; the anthem has French and English versions whose lyrics differ; as a Commonwealth realm, in addition to the national anthem, "God Save the Queen" serves as the royal anthem (see United Kingdom)

# **Economy**

## **Economy Overview**

Canada resembles the US in its market-oriented economic system, pattern of production, and high living standards. Since World War II, the impressive growth of the manufacturing, mining, and service sectors has transformed the nation from a largely rural economy into one primarily industrial and urban. Canada has a large oil and natural gas sector with the majority of crude oil production derived from oil sands in the western provinces, especially Alberta. Canada now ranks third in the world in proved oil reserves behind Venezuela and Saudi Arabia and is the world's seventh-largest oil producer. TThe 1989 Canada-

US Free Trade Agreement and the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement (which includes Mexico) dramatically increased trade and economic integration between the US and Canada. Canada and the US enjoy the world's most comprehensive bilateral trade and investment relationship, with goods and services trade totaling more than \$680 billion in 2017, and two-way investment stocks of more than \$800 billion. Over three-fourths of Canada's merchandise exports are destined for the US each year. Canada is the largest foreign supplier of energy to the US, including oil, natural gas, and electric power, and a top source of US uranium imports. Given its abundant natural resources, highly skilled labor force, and modern capital stock, Canada enjoyed solid economic growth from 1993 through 2007. The global economic crisis of 2007-08 moved the Canadian economy into sharp recession by late 2008, and Ottawa posted its first fiscal deficit in 2009 after 12 years of surplus. Canada's major banks emerged from the financial crisis of 2008-09 among the strongest in the world, owing to the financial sector's tradition of conservative lending practices and strong capitalization. Canada's economy posted strong growth in 2017 at 3%, but most analysts are projecting Canada's economic growth will drop back closer to 2% in 2018.

### **Gdp Purchasing Power Parity**

\$1.774 trillion (2017 est.)

\$1.721 trillion (2016 est.)

\$1.697 trillion (2015 est.)

note: data are in 2017 dollars

country comparison to the world: 17

### **Gdp Official Exchange Rate**

\$1.653 trillion (2017 est.)

### **Gdp Real Growth Rate**

3% (2017 est.)

1.4% (2016 est.)

1% (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 112

### **Gdp Per Capita Ppp**

\$48,400 (2017 est.)

\$47,500 (2016 est.)

\$47,400 (2015 est.)

note: data are in 2017 dollars

country comparison to the world: 34

### **Gross National Saving**

20.8% of GDP (2017 est.)

20% of GDP (2016 est.)

20.5% of GDP (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 90

## **Gdp Composition By End Use**

household consumption: 57.8% (2017 est.)  
government consumption: 20.8% (2017 est.)  
investment in fixed capital: 23% (2017 est.)  
investment in inventories: 0.7% (2017 est.)  
exports of goods and services: 30.9% (2017 est.)  
imports of goods and services: -33.2% (2017 est.)

## **Gdp Composition By Sector Of Origin**

agriculture: 1.6% (2017 est.)  
industry: 28.2% (2017 est.)  
services: 70.2% (2017 est.)

## **Agriculture Products**

wheat, barley, oilseed, tobacco, fruits, vegetables; dairy products; fish; forest products

## **Industries**

transportation equipment, chemicals, processed and unprocessed minerals, food products, wood and paper products, fish products, petroleum, natural gas

## **Industrial Production Growth Rate**

4.9% (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 60

## **Labor Force**

19.52 million (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 31

## **Labor Force By Occupation**

agriculture: 2%  
industry: 13%  
services: 6%  
industry and services: 76%  
manufacturing: 3% (2006 est.)

## **Unemployment Rate**

6.3% (2017 est.)  
7% (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 94

## **Population Below Poverty Line**

9.4% (2008 est.)  
note: this figure is the Low Income Cut-Off, a calculation that results in higher figures than found in many comparable economies; Canada does not have an official poverty line

## **Household Income Or Consumption By Percentage Share**

lowest 10%: 2.6%

highest 10%: 24.8% (2000)

## **Distribution Of Family Income Gini Index**

32.1 (2005)

31.5 (1994)

country comparison to the world: 119

## **Budget**

revenues: 649.6 billion (2017 est.)

expenditures: 665.7 billion (2017 est.)

## **Taxes And Other Revenues**

39.3% (of GDP) (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 48

## **Budget Surplus Or Deficit**

-1% (of GDP) (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 77

## **Public Debt**

89.7% of GDP (2017 est.)

91.1% of GDP (2016 est.)

note: figures are for gross general government debt, as opposed to net federal debt; gross general government debt includes both intragovernmental debt and the debt of public entities at the sub-national level

country comparison to the world: 25

## **Fiscal Year**

1 April - 31 March

## **Inflation Rate Consumer Prices**

1.6% (2017 est.)

1.4% (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 87

## **Central Bank Discount Rate**

1% (31 December 2010)

0.25% (31 December 2009)

country comparison to the world: 133

## **Commercial Bank Prime Lending Rate**

3.2% (31 December 2017 est.)

2.7% (31 December 2016 est.)



country comparison to the world: 172

### **Stock Of Narrow Money**

\$748.9 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$637.6 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 9

### **Stock Of Broad Money**

\$748.9 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$637.6 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 9

### **Stock Of Domestic Credit**

\$3.219 trillion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$2.802 trillion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 8

### **Market Value Of Publicly Traded Shares**

\$1.593 trillion (31 December 2015 est.)

\$2.095 trillion (31 December 2014 est.)

\$2.114 trillion (31 December 2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 7

### **Current Account Balance**

-\$48.75 billion (2017 est.)

-\$49.32 billion (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 204

### **Exports**

\$423.5 billion (2017 est.)

\$393.5 billion (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 11

### **Exports Partners**

US 76.4%, China 4.3% (2017)

### **Exports Commodities**

motor vehicles and parts, industrial machinery, aircraft, telecommunications equipment; chemicals, plastics, fertilizers; wood pulp, timber, crude petroleum, natural gas, electricity, aluminum

### **Imports**

\$442.1 billion (2017 est.)

\$413.4 billion (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 12

## **Imports Commodities**

machinery and equipment, motor vehicles and parts, crude oil, chemicals, electricity, durable consumer goods

## **Imports Partners**

US 51.5%, China 12.6%, Mexico 6.3% (2017)

## **Reserves Of Foreign Exchange And Gold**

\$86.68 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$82.72 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 28

## **Debt External**

\$1.608 trillion (31 March 2016 est.)

\$1.55 trillion (31 March 2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 13

## **Stock Of Direct Foreign Investment At Home**

\$1.039 trillion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$1.004 trillion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 10

## **Stock Of Direct Foreign Investment Abroad**

\$1.371 trillion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$1.277 trillion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 11

## **Exchange Rates**

Canadian dollars (CAD) per US dollar -

1.308 (2017 est.)

1.3256 (2016 est.)

1.3256 (2015 est.)

1.2788 (2014 est.)

1.0298 (2013 est.)

# **Energy**

## **Electricity Access**

electrification - total population: 100% (2016)

## **Electricity Production**

649.6 billion kWh (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 6

## **Electricity Consumption**

522.2 billion kWh (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 7

## **Electricity Exports**

73.35 billion kWh (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 2

## **Electricity Imports**

2.682 billion kWh (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 52

## **Electricity Installed Generating Capacity**

143.5 million kW (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 8

## **Electricity From Fossil Fuels**

23% of total installed capacity (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 191

## **Electricity From Nuclear Fuels**

9% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 16

## **Electricity From Hydroelectric Plants**

56% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 30

## **Electricity From Other Renewable Sources**

12% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 73

## **Crude Oil Production**

4.264 million bbl/day (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 5

## **Crude Oil Exports**

2.818 million bbl/day (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 4

## **Crude Oil Imports**

806,700 bbl/day (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 14

## **Crude Oil Proved Reserves**

170.5 billion bbl (1 January 2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 3

### **Refined Petroleum Products Production**

2.009 million bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 10

### **Refined Petroleum Products Consumption**

2.445 million bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 10

### **Refined Petroleum Products Exports**

1.115 million bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 8

### **Refined Petroleum Products Imports**

405,700 bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 21

### **Natural Gas Production**

159.1 billion cu m (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 5

### **Natural Gas Consumption**

124.4 billion cu m (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 6

### **Natural Gas Exports**

83.96 billion cu m (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 5

### **Natural Gas Imports**

26.36 billion cu m (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 13

### **Natural Gas Proved Reserves**

2.056 trillion cu m (1 January 2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 16

### **Carbon Dioxide Emissions From Consumption Of Energy**

640.6 million Mt (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 9

## **Communications**

## **Telephones Fixed Lines**

total subscriptions: 14,700,854  
 subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 41 (2017 est.)  
 country comparison to the world: 15

## **Telephones Mobile Cellular**

total subscriptions: 31,458,600  
 subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 88 (2017 est.)  
 country comparison to the world: 43

## **Telephone System**

general assessment: excellent service provided by modern technology; consumer demand for mobile data services have prompted telecoms to invest and advance LTE infrastructure, and further investment in 5G; government policy has aided the extension of broadband to rural and regional areas, with the result that services are almost universally accessible (2018)  
 domestic: comparatively low mobile penetration provides further room for growth; domestic satellite system with about 300 earth stations; 41 per 100 fixed-line; 88 per 100 mobile-cellular (2018)  
 international: country code - 1; Nunavut Undersea Fibre Optic Network System, Greenland Connect, Persona, GTT Atlantic, and Express, KetchCan 1 Submarine Fiber Cable system, St Pierre and Miquelon Cable submarine cables provide links to the US and Europe; satellite earth stations - 7 (5 Intelsat - 4 Atlantic Ocean and 1 Pacific Ocean, and 2 Intersputnik - Atlantic Ocean region) (2019)

## **Broadcast Media**

2 public TV broadcasting networks, 1 in English and 1 in French, each with a large number of network affiliates; several private-commercial networks also with multiple network affiliates; overall, about 150 TV stations; multi-channel satellite and cable systems provide access to a wide range of stations including US stations; mix of public and commercial radio broadcasters with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), the public radio broadcaster, operating 4 radio networks, Radio Canada International, and radio services to indigenous populations in the north; roughly 1,119 licensed radio stations (2016)

## **Internet Country Code**

.ca

## **Internet Users**

total: 31,770,034  
 percent of population: 89.8% (July 2016 est.)  
 country comparison to the world: 22

## **Broadband Fixed Subscriptions**

total: 13,922,504  
 subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 39 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 14

## **Military**

### **Military Expenditures**

1.31% of GDP (2019 est.)

1.31% of GDP (2018)

1.44% of GDP (2017)

1.16% of GDP (2016)

1.2% of GDP (2015)

country comparison to the world: 93

### **Military And Security Forces**

Canadian Forces: Canadian Army, Royal Canadian Navy, Royal Canadian Air Force, Canadian Joint Operations Command, Canadian Special Operations Forces Command (2019)

### **Military Service Age And Obligation**

17 years of age for voluntary male and female military service (with parental consent);

16 years of age for Reserve and Military College applicants; Canadian citizenship or permanent residence status required; maximum 34 years of age; service obligation 3-9 years (2012)

## **Transportation**

### **National Air Transport System**

number of registered air carriers: 51 (2015)

inventory of registered aircraft operated by air carriers: 879 (2015)

annual passenger traffic on registered air carriers: 80,228,301 (2015)

annual freight traffic on registered air carriers: 2,074,830,881 mt-km (2015)

### **Civil Aircraft Registration Country Code Prefix**

C (2016)

### **Airports**

1,467 (2013)

country comparison to the world: 4

### **Airports With Paved Runways**

total: 523 (2017)

over 3,047 m: 21 (2017)

2,438 to 3,047 m: 19 (2017)

1,524 to 2,437 m: 147 (2017)

914 to 1,523 m: 257 (2017)  
under 914 m: 79 (2017)

## **Airports With Unpaved Runways**

total: 944 (2013)  
1,524 to 2,437 m: 75 (2013)  
914 to 1,523 m: 385 (2013)  
under 914 m: 484 (2013)

## **Heliports**

26 (2013)

## **Pipelines**

110000 km gas and liquid petroleum (2017)

## **Railways**

total: 77,932 km (2014)  
standard gauge: 77,932 km 1.435-m gauge (2014)  
country comparison to the world: 4

## **Roadways**

total: 1,042,300 km (2011)  
paved: 415,600 km (includes 17,000 km of expressways) (2011)  
unpaved: 626,700 km (2011)  
country comparison to the world: 8

## **Waterways**

636 km (Saint Lawrence Seaway of 3,769 km, including the Saint Lawrence River of 3,058 km, shared with United States) (2011)  
country comparison to the world: 77

## **Merchant Marine**

total: 657  
by type: bulk carrier 17, container ship 1, general cargo 91, oil tanker 17, other 531 (2018)  
country comparison to the world: 32

## **Ports And Terminals**

major seaport(s): Halifax, Saint John (New Brunswick), Vancouver  
oil terminal(s): Lower Lakes terminal  
container port(s) (TEUs): Montreal (1,537,669), Vancouver (3,252,225) (2017)  
LNG terminal(s) (import): Saint John  
river and lake port(s): Montreal, Quebec City, Sept-Isles (St. Lawrence)  
dry bulk cargo port(s): Port-Cartier (iron ore and grain),  
Fraser River Port (Fraser) Hamilton (Lake Ontario)

## **Transnational**

### **Disputes International**

managed maritime boundary disputes with the US at Dixon Entrance, Beaufort Sea, Strait of Juan de Fuca, and the Gulf of Maine, including the disputed Machias Seal Island and North Rock; Canada and the United States dispute how to divide the Beaufort Sea and the status of the Northwest Passage but continue to work cooperatively to survey the Arctic continental shelf; US works closely with Canada to intensify security measures for monitoring and controlling legal and illegal movement of people, transport, and commodities across the international border; sovereignty dispute with Denmark over Hans Island in the Kennedy Channel between Ellesmere Island and Greenland; commencing the collection of technical evidence for submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in support of claims for continental shelf beyond 200 nm from its declared baselines in the Arctic, as stipulated in Article 76, paragraph 8, of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea

### **Refugees And Internally Displaced Persons**

refugees (country of origin): 7,356 (Colombia), 7,192 (China), 7,141 (Haiti), 5,483 (Nigeria), 5,607 (Pakistan) (2018); 9,978 (Venezuela) (2019)  
stateless persons: 3,790 (2018)

### **Illicit Drugs**

illicit producer of cannabis for the domestic drug market and export to US; use of hydroponics technology permits growers to plant large quantities of high-quality marijuana indoors; increasing ecstasy production, some of which is destined for the US; vulnerable to narcotics money laundering because of its mature financial services sector



## Armenia



## Introduction

### Background

Armenia prides itself on being the first nation to formally adopt Christianity (early 4th century). Despite periods of autonomy, over the centuries Armenia came under the sway of various empires including the Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Persian, and Ottoman. During World War I in the western portion of Armenia, the Ottoman Empire instituted a policy of forced resettlement coupled with other harsh practices that resulted in at least 1 million

Armenian deaths. The eastern area of Armenia was ceded by the Ottomans to Russia in 1828; this portion declared its independence in 1918, but was conquered by the Soviet Red Army in 1920. Armenia remains involved in the protracted Nagorno-Karabakh conflict with Azerbaijan. Nagorno-Karabakh was a primarily ethnic Armenian region that Moscow recognized in 1923 as an autonomous oblast within Soviet Azerbaijan. In the late Soviet period, a separatist movement developed which sought to end Azerbaijani control over the region. Fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh began in 1988 and escalated after Armenia and Azerbaijan attained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. By the time a ceasefire took effect in May 1994, separatists, with Armenian support, controlled Nagorno-Karabakh and seven surrounding Azerbaijani territories. The 1994 ceasefire continues to hold, although violence continues along the line of contact separating the opposing forces, as well as the Armenia-Azerbaijan international border. The final status of Nagorno-Karabakh remains the subject of international mediation by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group, which works to help the sides settle the conflict peacefully. The OSCE Minsk Group is co-chaired by the US, France, and Russia. Turkey closed the common border with Armenia in 1993 in support of Azerbaijan in its conflict with Armenia over control of Nagorno-Karabakh and surrounding areas, further hampering Armenian economic growth. In 2009, Armenia and Turkey signed Protocols normalizing relations between the two countries, but neither country ratified the Protocols, and Armenia officially withdrew from the Protocols in March 2018. In 2015, Armenia joined the Eurasian Economic Union alongside Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. In November 2017, Armenia signed a Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the EU. In spring 2018, Serzh SARGSIAN of the Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) stepped down and Civil Contract party leader Nikol PASHINYAN became prime minister.

## Geography

### Location

Southwestern Asia, between Turkey (to the west) and Azerbaijan; note - Armenia views itself as part of Europe; geopolitically, it can be classified as falling within Europe, the Middle East, or both

### Geographic Coordinates

40 00 N, 45 00 E

### Map References

Asia

### Area

total: 29,743 sq km

land: 28,203 sq km

water: 1,540 sq km

country comparison to the world: 143

## **Area Comparative**

slightly smaller than Maryland

Area comparison map: The World Factbook Field Image Modal × Middle East :: Armenia

Print Image Description slightly smaller than Maryland

## **Land Boundaries**

total: 1,570 km

border countries (4): Azerbaijan 996 km, Georgia 219 km, Iran 44 km, Turkey 311 km

## **Coastline**

0 km (landlocked)

## **Maritime Claims**

none (landlocked)

## **Climate**

highland continental, hot summers, cold winters

## **Terrain**

Armenian Highland with mountains; little forest land; fast flowing rivers; good soil in Aras River valley

## **Elevation**

mean elevation: 1,792 m

lowest point: Debed River 400 m

highest point: Aragats Lerrnagat' 4,090 m

## **Natural Resources**

small deposits of gold, copper, molybdenum, zinc, bauxite

## **Land Use**

agricultural land: 59.7% (2016 est.)

arable land: 15.8% (2016 est.) / permanent crops: 1.9% (2016 est.) / permanent pasture: 42% (2016 est.)

forest: 9.1% (2016 est.)

other: 31.2% (2016 est.)

## **Irrigated Land**

2,740 sq km (2012)

## **Population Distribution**

most of the population is located in the northern half of the country; the capital of Yerevan is home to more than five times as many people as Gyumri, the second largest city in the country

## **Natural Hazards**

occasionally severe earthquakes; droughts

## **Environment Current Issues**

soil pollution from toxic chemicals such as DDT; deforestation; pollution of Hrazdan and Aras Rivers; the draining of Sevana Lich (Lake Sevan), a result of its use as a source for hydropower, threatens drinking water supplies; restart of Metsamor nuclear power plant in spite of its location in a seismically active zone

## **Environment International Agreements**

party to: Air Pollution, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Environmental Modification, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Ozone Layer Protection, Wetlands

signed, but not ratified: Air Pollution-Persistent Organic Pollutants

## **Geography Note**

landlocked in the Lesser Caucasus Mountains; Sevana Lich (Lake Sevan) is the largest lake in this mountain range

# **People**

## **Population**

3,038,217 (July 2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 137

## **Nationality**

noun: Armenian(s)

adjective: Armenian

## **Ethnic Groups**

Armenian 98.1%, Yezidi (Kurd) 1.2%, other 0.7% (2011 est.)

## **Languages**

Armenian (official) 97.9%, Kurdish (spoken by Yezidi minority) 1%, other 1% (2011 est.)

note: Russian is widely spoken

## **Religions**

Armenian Apostolic 92.6%, Evangelical 1%, other 2.4%, none 1.1%, unspecified 2.9% (2011 est.)

## **Age Structure**

0-14 years: 18.86% (male 303,712 /female 269,279)

15-24 years: 12.37% (male 195,722 /female 179,970)

25-54 years: 43.31% (male 640,089 /female 675,643)

55-64 years: 13.77% (male 192,515 /female 225,882)

65 years and over: 11.7% (male 142,835 /female 212,570) (2018 est.)

population pyramid: The World Factbook Field Image Modal x Middle East :: Armenia  
 Print Image Description This is the population pyramid for Armenia. A population pyramid illustrates the age and sex structure of a country's population and may provide insights about political and social stability, as well as economic development. The population is distributed along the horizontal axis, with males shown on the left and females on the right. The male and female populations are broken down into 5-year age groups represented as horizontal bars along the vertical axis, with the youngest age groups at the bottom and the oldest at the top. The shape of the population pyramid gradually evolves over time based on fertility, mortality, and international migration trends. For additional information, please see the entry for Population pyramid on the Definitions and Notes page under the References tab.

## Dependency Ratios

total dependency ratio: 44.4 (2015 est.)

youth dependency ratio: 28.7 (2015 est.)

elderly dependency ratio: 15.8 (2015 est.)

potential support ratio: 6.3 (2015 est.)

## Median Age

total: 35.6 years (2018 est.)

male: 33.9 years

female: 37.4 years

country comparison to the world: 78

## Population Growth Rate

-0.25% (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 213

## Birth Rate

12.6 births/1,000 population (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 153

## Death Rate

9.5 deaths/1,000 population (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 47

## Net Migration Rate

-5.6 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 197

## Population Distribution

most of the population is located in the northern half of the country; the capital of Yerevan is home to more than five times as many people as Gyumri, the second largest city in the country

## **Urbanization**

urban population: 63.2% of total population (2019)

rate of urbanization: 0.22% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

## **Major Urban Areas Population**

1.083 million YEREVAN (capital) (2019)

## **Sex Ratio**

at birth: 1.11 male(s)/female

0-14 years: 1.13 male(s)/female

15-24 years: 1.09 male(s)/female

25-54 years: 0.95 male(s)/female

55-64 years: 0.85 male(s)/female

65 years and over: 0.67 male(s)/female

total population: 0.94 male(s)/female (2018 est.)

## **Mother S Mean Age At First Birth**

24.4 years (2015/16 est.)

## **Maternal Mortality Rate**

26 deaths/100,000 live births (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 119

## **Infant Mortality Rate**

total: 12.3 deaths/1,000 live births (2018 est.)

male: 13.7 deaths/1,000 live births

female: 10.7 deaths/1,000 live births

country comparison to the world: 110

## **Life Expectancy At Birth**

total population: 75.1 years (2018 est.)

male: 71.8 years

female: 78.7 years

country comparison to the world: 113

## **Total Fertility Rate**

1.64 children born/woman (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 177

## **Contraceptive Prevalence Rate**

57.1% (2015/16)

## **Drinking Water Source**

improved: urban: 100% of population  
rural: 100% of population  
total: 100% of population  
unimproved: urban: 0% of population  
rural: 0% of population  
total: 0% of population (2015 est.)

## **Current Health Expenditure**

9.9% (2016)

## **Physicians Density**

2.9 physicians/1,000 population (2014)

## **Hospital Bed Density**

4.2 beds/1,000 population (2015)

## **Sanitation Facility Access**

improved: urban: 96.2% of population (2015 est.)  
rural: 78.2% of population (2015 est.)  
total: 89.5% of population (2015 est.)  
unimproved: urban: 3.8% of population (2015 est.)  
rural: 21.8% of population (2015 est.)  
total: 10.5% of population (2015 est.)

## **Hiv Aids Adult Prevalence Rate**

0.2% (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 97

## **Hiv Aids People Living With Hiv Aids**

3,500 (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 126

## **Hiv Aids Deaths**

<200 (2018 est.)

## **Obesity Adult Prevalence Rate**

20.2% (2016)  
country comparison to the world: 101

## **Children Under The Age Of 5 Years Underweight**

2.6% (2016)  
country comparison to the world: 107

## **Education Expenditures**

2.7% of GDP (2017)  
country comparison to the world: 150

## **Literacy**

definition: age 15 and over can read and write  
total population: 99.7%  
male: 99.7%  
female: 99.6% (2015)

## **School Life Expectancy Primary To Tertiary Education**

total: 13 years  
male: 13 years  
female: 13 years (2015)

## **Unemployment Youth Ages 15 24**

total: 36.3%  
male: 29.5%  
female: 45.7% (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 17

# **Government**

## **Country Name**

conventional long form: Republic of Armenia  
conventional short form: Armenia  
local long form: Hayastani Hanrapetut'yun  
local short form: Hayastan  
former: Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic, Armenian Republic  
etymology: the etymology of the country's name remains obscure; according to tradition, the country is named after Hayk, the legendary patriarch of the Armenians and the great-great-grandson of Noah; Hayk's descendant, Aram, purportedly is the source of the name Armenia

## **Government Type**

parliamentary democracy; note - constitutional changes adopted in December 2015 transformed the government to a parliamentary system

## **Capital**

name: Yerevan  
geographic coordinates: 40 10 N, 44 30 E  
time difference: UTC+4 (9 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)  
etymology: name likely derives from the ancient Urartian fortress of Erebuni established on the current site of Yerevan in 782 B.C. and whose impressive ruins still survive

## **Administrative Divisions**



11 provinces (marzer, singular - marz); Aragatsotn, Ararat, Armavir, Geghark'unik', Kotayk', Lorri, Shirak, Syunik', Tavush, Vayots' Dzor, Yerevan

## **Independence**

21 September 1991 (from the Soviet Union); notable earlier dates: 321 B.C. (Kingdom of Armenia established under the Orontid Dynasty), A.D. 884 (Armenian Kingdom reestablished under the Bagratid Dynasty); 1198 (Cilician Kingdom established); 28 May 1918 (Democratic Republic of Armenia declared)

## **National Holiday**

Independence Day, 21 September (1991)

## **Constitution**

history: previous 1915, 1978; latest adopted 5 July 1995

amendments: proposed by the president of the republic or by the National Assembly;

passage requires approval by the president, by the National Assembly, and by a referendum with at least 25% registered voter participation and more than 50% of votes; constitutional articles on the form of government and democratic procedures are not amendable; amended 2005, 2007, 2008, 2015 (2017)

note: a 2015 amendment, approved in December 2015 by a public referendum and effective for the 2017-18 electoral cycle, changes the government type from the current semi-presidential system to a parliamentary system

## **Legal System**

civil law system

## **International Law Organization Participation**

has not submitted an ICJ jurisdiction declaration; non-party state to the ICCt

## **Citizenship**

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Armenia

dual citizenship recognized: yes

residency requirement for naturalization: 3 years

## **Suffrage**

18 years of age; universal

## **Executive Branch**

chief of state: President Armen SARKISSIAN (since 9 April 2018)

head of government: Prime Minister Nikol PASHINYAN (since 8 May 2018); Deputy Prime Ministers Mher GRIGORYAN and Tigran AVINYAN (since 16 January 2019)

cabinet: Council of Ministers appointed by the prime minister

elections/appointments: president indirectly elected by the National Assembly in 3 rounds if needed for a single 7-year term; election last held on 2 March 2018; prime minister

elected by majority vote in 2 rounds if needed by the National Assembly; election last held on 14 January 2019

election results: Armen SARKISSIAN elected president in first round; note - Armen SARKISSIAN ran unopposed and won the Assembly vote 90-10; Nikol PASHINYAN was chosen as prime minister by the parliament automatically after his party won a landslide victory in the December 2018 elections

note: After initially winning election on 8 May 2018, Nikol PASHINYAN resigned his post (but stayed on as acting prime minister) on 16 October 2018 to force a snap election (held on 9 December 2018) in which his bloc won more than 70% of the vote; PASHINYAN was reappointed prime minister on 14 January 2019

## **Legislative Branch**

description: unicameral National Assembly (Parliament) or Azgayin Zhoghov (minimum 101 seats, currently 132; members directly elected in single-seat constituencies by proportional representation vote; members serve 5-year terms)

elections: last held on 9 December 2018 (next elections to be held December 2023)

election results: percent of vote by party - My Step Alliance 70.4%, BHK 8.3%, Bright Armenia 6.4%, RPA 4.7%, ARF 3.9%, other 6.3%; seats by party - My Step Alliance 88, BHK 26, Bright Armenia 18; composition - men 112, women 20, percent of women 15.2%

## **Judicial Branch**

highest courts: Court of Cassation (consists of the Criminal Chamber with a chairman and 5 judges and the Civil and Administrative Chamber with a chairman and 10 judges – with both civil and administrative specializations); Constitutional Court (consists of 9 judges)

judge selection and term of office: Court of Cassation judges nominated by the Supreme Judicial Council, a 10-member body of selected judges and legal scholars; judges appointed by the president; judges can serve until age 65; Constitutional Court judges - 4 appointed by the president, and 5 elected by the National Assembly; judges can serve until age 70

subordinate courts: criminal and civil appellate courts; administrative appellate court; first instance courts; specialized administrative and bankruptcy courts

## **Political Parties And Leaders**

Armenian National Congress or ANC (bloc of independent and opposition parties) [Levon TER-PETROSSIAN] Armenian Revolutionary Federation or ARF ("Dashnak" Party) [Hakob TER-KHACHATURYAN] Bright Armenia [Edmon MARUKYAN] Citizen's Decision [Suren SAHAKYAN] Civil Contract [Nikol PASHINYAN] Free Democrats [Khachatur KOKOBELYAN] Heritage Party [Raffi HOVANNISIAN] Prosperous Armenia or BHK [Gagik TSARUKYAN] Republic [Aram SARGSYAN] Republican Party of Armenia or RPA [Serzh SARGSIAN] Rule of Law Party (Orinats Yerkir) or OEK [Artur BAGHDASARIAN] Sasna Tser [Varuzhan AVETISYAN]

## **International Organization Participation**

ADB, BSEC, CD, CE, CIS, CSTO, EAEC (observer), EAEU, EAPC, EBRD, FAO, GCTU, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC (NGOs), ICRM, IDA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCs, ILO, IMF, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, MIGA, NAM (observer), OAS (observer), OIF, OPCW, OSCE,

PFP, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNIFIL, UNWTO, UPU, WCO, WFTU (NGOs), WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

## **Diplomatic Representation In The Us**

Ambassador Varuzhan NERSESSYAN (since 11 January 2019)

chancery: 2225 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20008

telephone: [1] (202) 319-1976

FAX: [1] (202) 319-2982

consulate(s) general: Glendale (CA)

## **Diplomatic Representation From The Us**

chief of mission: Ambassador Lynne M. TRACEY (since 5 March 2019)

telephone: [374](10) 464-700

embassy: 1 American Ave., Yerevan 0082

mailing address: American Embassy Yerevan, US Department of State, 7020 Yerevan Place, Washington, DC 20521-7020

FAX: [374](10) 464-742

## **Flag Description**

three equal horizontal bands of red (top), blue, and orange; the color red recalls the blood shed for liberty, blue the Armenian skies as well as hope, and orange the land and the courage of the workers who farm it

## **National Symbol S**

Mount Ararat, eagle, lion; national colors: red, blue, orange

## **National Anthem**

name: "Mer Hayrenik" (Our Fatherland)

lyrics/music: Mikael NALBANDIAN/Barsegh KANACHYAN

note: adopted 1991; based on the anthem of the Democratic Republic of Armenia (1918-1922) but with different lyrics

# **Economy**

## **Economy Overview**

Under the old Soviet central planning system, Armenia developed a modern industrial sector, supplying machine tools, textiles, and other manufactured goods to sister republics, in exchange for raw materials and energy. Armenia has since switched to small-scale agriculture and away from the large agro industrial complexes of the Soviet era. Armenia has only two open trade borders - Iran and Georgia - because its borders with Azerbaijan and Turkey have been closed since 1991 and 1993, respectively, as a result of Armenia's ongoing conflict with Azerbaijan over the separatist Nagorno-Karabakh region. Armenia joined the World Trade Organization in January 2003. The government has made some improvements in tax and customs administration in recent years, but anti-

corruption measures have been largely ineffective. Armenia will need to pursue additional economic reforms and strengthen the rule of law in order to raise its economic growth and improve economic competitiveness and employment opportunities, especially given its economic isolation from Turkey and Azerbaijan. Armenia's geographic isolation, a narrow export base, and pervasive monopolies in important business sectors have made it particularly vulnerable to volatility in the global commodity markets and the economic challenges in Russia. Armenia is particularly dependent on Russian commercial and governmental support, as most key Armenian infrastructure is Russian-owned and/or managed, especially in the energy sector. Remittances from expatriates working in Russia are equivalent to about 12-14% of GDP. Armenia joined the Russia-led Eurasian Economic Union in January 2015, but has remained interested in pursuing closer ties with the EU as well, signing a Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement with the EU in November 2017. Armenia's rising government debt is leading Yerevan to tighten its fiscal policies – the amount is approaching the debt to GDP ratio threshold set by national legislation.

### **Gdp Purchasing Power Parity**

\$28.34 billion (2017 est.)

\$26.37 billion (2016 est.)

\$26.3 billion (2015 est.)

note: data are in 2017 dollars

country comparison to the world: 136

### **Gdp Official Exchange Rate**

\$11.54 billion (2017 est.)

### **Gdp Real Growth Rate**

7.5% (2017 est.)

0.3% (2016 est.)

3.3% (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 12

### **Gdp Per Capita Ppp**

\$9,500 (2017 est.)

\$8,800 (2016 est.)

\$8,800 (2015 est.)

note: data are in 2017 dollars

country comparison to the world: 142

### **Gross National Saving**

17.8% of GDP (2017 est.)

16.6% of GDP (2016 est.)

18.4% of GDP (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 112

### **Gdp Composition By End Use**

household consumption: 76.7% (2017 est.)  
government consumption: 14.2% (2017 est.)  
investment in fixed capital: 17.3% (2017 est.)  
investment in inventories: 4.1% (2017 est.)  
exports of goods and services: 38.1% (2017 est.)  
imports of goods and services: -50.4% (2017 est.)

## **Gdp Composition By Sector Of Origin**

agriculture: 16.7% (2017 est.)  
industry: 28.2% (2017 est.)  
services: 54.8% (2017 est.)

## **Agriculture Products**

fruit (especially grapes and apricots), vegetables; livestock

## **Industries**

brandy, mining, diamond processing, metal-cutting machine tools, forging and pressing machines, electric motors, knitted wear, hosiery, shoes, silk fabric, chemicals, trucks, instruments, microelectronics, jewelry, software, food processing

## **Industrial Production Growth Rate**

5.4% (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 51

## **Labor Force**

1.507 million (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 131

## **Labor Force By Occupation**

agriculture: 36.3%  
industry: 17%  
services: 46.7% (2013 est.)

## **Unemployment Rate**

18.9% (2017 est.)  
18.8% (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 183

## **Population Below Poverty Line**

32% (2013 est.)

## **Household Income Or Consumption By Percentage Share**

lowest 10%: 3.5%  
highest 10%: 25.7% (2014)

## **Distribution Of Family Income Gini Index**

31.5 (2014)  
31.5 (2013 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 125

## **Budget**

revenues: 2.644 billion (2017 est.)  
expenditures: 3.192 billion (2017 est.)

## **Taxes And Other Revenues**

22.9% (of GDP) (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 130

## **Budget Surplus Or Deficit**

-4.8% (of GDP) (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 167

## **Public Debt**

53.5% of GDP (2017 est.)  
51.9% of GDP (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 89

## **Fiscal Year**

calendar year

## **Inflation Rate Consumer Prices**

0.9% (2017 est.)  
-1.4% (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 44

## **Central Bank Discount Rate**

6.5% (14 December 2016)  
10.5% (10 February 2015)  
note: this is the Refinancing Rate, the key monetary policy instrument of the Armenian National Bank  
country comparison to the world: 57

## **Commercial Bank Prime Lending Rate**

14.41% (31 December 2017 est.)  
17.36% (31 December 2016 est.)  
note: average lending rate on loans up to one year  
country comparison to the world: 47

## **Stock Of Narrow Money**

\$1.629 billion (31 December 2017 est.)  
\$1.355 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 141

## **Stock Of Broad Money**

\$1.629 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$1.355 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 149

## **Stock Of Domestic Credit**

\$6.712 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$5.689 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 120

## **Market Value Of Publicly Traded Shares**

\$132.1 million (31 December 2012 est.)

\$139.6 million (31 December 2011 est.)

\$144.8 million (31 December 2010 est.)

country comparison to the world: 121

## **Current Account Balance**

-\$328 million (2017 est.)

-\$238 million (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 107

## **Exports**

\$2.361 billion (2017 est.)

\$1.891 billion (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 134

## **Exports Partners**

Russia 24.2%, Bulgaria 12.8%, Switzerland 12%, Georgia 6.9%, Germany 5.9%, China 5.5%, Iraq 5.4%, UAE 4.6%, Netherlands 4.1% (2017)

## **Exports Commodities**

unwrought copper, pig iron, nonferrous metals, gold, diamonds, mineral products, foodstuffs, brandy, cigarettes, energy

## **Imports**

\$3.771 billion (2017 est.)

\$2.835 billion (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 141

## **Imports Commodities**

natural gas, petroleum, tobacco products, foodstuffs, diamonds, pharmaceuticals, cars

## **Imports Partners**

Russia 28%, China 11.5%, Turkey 5.5%, Germany 4.9%, Iran 4.3% (2017)

## **Reserves Of Foreign Exchange And Gold**

\$2.314 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$2.204 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 119

## **Debt External**

\$10.41 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$8.987 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 113

## **Stock Of Direct Foreign Investment At Home**

\$4.169 billion (2015 est.)

\$4.087 billion (31 December 2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 109

## **Stock Of Direct Foreign Investment Abroad**

\$228 million (2015 est.)

\$215 million (2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 107

## **Exchange Rates**

drams (AMD) per US dollar -

487.9 (2017 est.)

480.49 (2016 est.)

480.49 (2015 est.)

477.92 (2014 est.)

415.92 (2013 est.)

# **Energy**

## **Electricity Access**

electrification - total population: 100% (2016)

## **Electricity Production**

6.951 billion kWh (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 112

## **Electricity Consumption**

5.291 billion kWh (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 121

## **Electricity Exports**



1.424 billion kWh (2015 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 50

### **Electricity Imports**

275 million kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 90

### **Electricity Installed Generating Capacity**

4.08 million kW (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 86

### **Electricity From Fossil Fuels**

58% of total installed capacity (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 134

### **Electricity From Nuclear Fuels**

9% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 15

### **Electricity From Hydroelectric Plants**

32% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 65

### **Electricity From Other Renewable Sources**

0% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 173

### **Crude Oil Production**

0 bbl/day (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 106

### **Crude Oil Exports**

0 bbl/day (2015 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 86

### **Crude Oil Imports**

0 bbl/day (2015 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 90

### **Crude Oil Proved Reserves**

0 bbl (1 January 2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 103

### **Refined Petroleum Products Production**

0 bbl/day (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 114

### **Refined Petroleum Products Consumption**

8,000 bbl/day (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 162

### **Refined Petroleum Products Exports**

0 bbl/day (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 126

### **Refined Petroleum Products Imports**

7,145 bbl/day (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 158

### **Natural Gas Production**

0 cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 100

### **Natural Gas Consumption**

2.35 billion cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 80

### **Natural Gas Exports**

0 cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 62

### **Natural Gas Imports**

2.35 billion cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 48

### **Natural Gas Proved Reserves**

0 cu m (1 January 2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 106

### **Carbon Dioxide Emissions From Consumption Of Energy**

5.501 million Mt (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 131

## **Communications**

### **Telephones Fixed Lines**

total subscriptions: 505,190

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 17 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 94

## **Telephones Mobile Cellular**

total subscriptions: 3,488,524

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 115 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 136

## **Telephone System**

general assessment: telecommunications investments have made major inroads in modernizing and upgrading the outdated telecommunications network inherited from the Soviet era; now 100% privately owned and undergoing continued modernization and expansion (2019)

domestic: 16 per 100 fixed-line, 122 per 100 mobile-cellular; reliable fixed-line and mobile-cellular services are available across Yerevan and in major cities and towns; mobile-cellular coverage available in most rural areas (2019)

international: country code - 374; Yerevan is connected to the Caucasus Cable System fiber-optic cable through Georgia and Iran to Europe; additional international service is available by microwave radio relay and landline connections to the other countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, through the Moscow international switch, and by satellite to the rest of the world; satellite earth stations - 3 (2019)

## **Broadcast Media**

Armenia's government-run Public Television network operates alongside 100 privately owned TV stations that provide local to near nationwide coverage; three Russian TV companies are broadcast in Armenia under interstate agreements; subscription cable TV services are available in most regions; several major international broadcasters are available, including CNN; Armenian TV completed conversion from analog to digital broadcasting in late 2016; Public Radio of Armenia is a national, state-run broadcast network that operates alongside 18 privately owned radio stations (2019)

## **Internet Country Code**

.am

## **Internet Users**

total: 1,891,775

percent of population: 62% (July 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 115

## **Broadband Fixed Subscriptions**

total: 315,319

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 10 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 94

## **Military**

### **Military Expenditures**

4.25% of GDP (2018)

3.84% of GDP (2017)

4.09% of GDP (2016)

4.25% of GDP (2015)

3.94% of GDP (2014)

country comparison to the world: 9

## **Military And Security Forces**

Armenian Armed Forces: Ground Forces (Armenian Army), Air Force, Air Defense;  
"Nagorno-Karabakh Republic": Nagorno-Karabakh Defense Army (2019)

## **Military Service Age And Obligation**

18-27 years of age for voluntary or compulsory military service; 2-year conscript service obligation, which can be served as an officer upon deferment for university studies if enrolled in officer-producing program; 17 year olds are eligible to become cadets at military higher education institutes, where they are classified as military personnel (2019)

# **Transportation**

## **National Air Transport System**

number of registered air carriers: 3 (2015)

inventory of registered aircraft operated by air carriers: 5 (2015)

## **Civil Aircraft Registration Country Code Prefix**

EK (2016)

## **Airports**

11 (2013)

country comparison to the world: 153

## **Airports With Paved Runways**

total: 10 (2017)

over 3,047 m: 2 (2017)

2,438 to 3,047 m: 2 (2017)

1,524 to 2,437 m: 4 (2017)

914 to 1,523 m: 2 (2017)

## **Airports With Unpaved Runways**

total: 1 (2013)

914 to 1,523 m: 1 (2013)

## **Pipelines**

3838 km gas (high and medium pressure) (2017)

## **Railways**

total: 780 km (2014)  
broad gauge: 780 km 1.520-m gauge (780 km electrified) (2014)  
note: 726 km operational  
country comparison to the world: 98

## **Roadways**

total: 7,700 km (2014)  
country comparison to the world: 135

# **Transnational**

## **Disputes International**

the dispute over the break-away Nagorno-Karabakh region and the Armenian military occupation of surrounding lands in Azerbaijan remains the primary focus of regional instability; residents have evacuated the former Soviet-era small ethnic enclaves in Armenia and Azerbaijan; Turkish authorities have complained that blasting from quarries in Armenia might be damaging the medieval ruins of Ani, on the other side of the Arpacay valley; in 2009, Swiss mediators facilitated an accord reestablishing diplomatic ties between Armenia and Turkey, but neither side has ratified the agreement and the rapprochement effort has faltered; local border forces struggle to control the illegal transit of goods and people across the porous, undemarcated Armenian, Azerbaijani, and Georgian borders; ethnic Armenian groups in the Javakheti region of Georgia seek greater autonomy from the Georgian Government

## **Refugees And Internally Displaced Persons**

refugees (country of origin): 14,701 (Syria - ethnic Armenians) (2018)  
stateless persons: 848 (2018)

## **Illicit Drugs**

illicit cultivation of small amount of cannabis for domestic consumption; minor transit point for illicit drugs - mostly opium and hashish - moving from Southwest Asia to Russia and to a lesser extent the rest of Europe

## Iceland



## Introduction

### Background

Settled by Norwegian and Celtic (Scottish and Irish) immigrants during the late 9th and 10th centuries A.D., Iceland boasts the world's oldest functioning legislative assembly, the Althingi, established in 930. Independent for over 300 years, Iceland was subsequently ruled by Norway and Denmark. Fallout from the Askja volcano of 1875 devastated the Icelandic economy and caused widespread famine. Over the next quarter century, 20%

of the island's population emigrated, mostly to Canada and the US. Denmark granted limited home rule in 1874 and complete independence in 1944. The second half of the 20th century saw substantial economic growth driven primarily by the fishing industry. The economy diversified greatly after the country joined the European Economic Area in 1994, but Iceland was especially hard hit by the global financial crisis in the years following 2008. The economy is now on an upward trajectory, fueled primarily by a tourism and construction boom. Literacy, longevity, and social cohesion are first rate by world standards.

## Geography

### Location

Northern Europe, island between the Greenland Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean, northwest of the United Kingdom

### Geographic Coordinates

65 00 N, 18 00 W

### Map References

Arctic Region

### Area

total: 103,000 sq km

land: 100,250 sq km

water: 2,750 sq km

country comparison to the world: 109

### Area Comparative

slightly smaller than Pennsylvania; about the same size as Kentucky

Area comparison map: The World Factbook Field Image Modal x Europe :: Iceland Print Image Description slightly smaller than Pennsylvania; about the same size as Kentucky

### Land Boundaries

0 km

### Coastline

4,970 km

### Maritime Claims

territorial sea: 12 nm

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm

continental shelf: 200 nm or to the edge of the continental margin

### Climate

temperate; moderated by North Atlantic Current; mild, windy winters; damp, cool summers

## **Terrain**

mostly plateau interspersed with mountain peaks, icefields; coast deeply indented by bays and fiords

## **Elevation**

mean elevation: 557 m

lowest point: Atlantic Ocean 0 m

highest point: Hvannadalshnukur (at Vatnajökull Glacier) 2,110 m

## **Natural Resources**

fish, hydropower, geothermal power, diatomite

## **Land Use**

agricultural land: 18.7% (2011 est.)

arable land: 1.2% (2011 est.) / permanent crops: 0% (2011 est.) / permanent pasture: 17.5% (2011 est.)

forest: 0.3% (2011 est.)

other: 81% (2011 est.)

## **Irrigated Land**

NA

## **Population Distribution**

Iceland is almost entirely urban with half of the population located in and around the capital of Reykjavik; smaller clusters are primarily found along the coast in the north and west

## **Natural Hazards**

earthquakes and volcanic activity volcanism: Iceland, situated on top of a hotspot, experiences severe volcanic activity; Eyjafjallajökull (1,666 m) erupted in 2010, sending ash high into the atmosphere and seriously disrupting European air traffic; scientists continue to monitor nearby Katla (1,512 m), which has a high probability of eruption in the very near future, potentially disrupting air traffic; Grimsvoetn and Hekla are Iceland's most active volcanoes; other historically active volcanoes include Askja, Bardarbunga, Brennisteinsfjoll, Esjufjoll, Hengill, Krafla, Krisuvik, Kverkfjoll, Oraefajökull, Reykjanes, Torfajökull, and Vestmannaeyjar

## **Environment Current Issues**

water pollution from fertilizer runoff

## **Environment International Agreements**

party to: Air Pollution, Air Pollution-Persistent Organic Pollutants, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Endangered Species,



Hazardous Wastes, Kyoto Protocol, Law of the Sea, Marine Dumping, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Transboundary Air Pollution, Wetlands, Whaling signed, but not ratified: Environmental Modification, Marine Life Conservation

## **Geography Note**

strategic location between Greenland and Europe; westernmost European country; Reykjavik is the northernmost national capital in the world; more land covered by glaciers than in all of continental Europe

## **People**

### **Population**

343,518 (July 2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 178

### **Nationality**

noun: Icelander(s)

adjective: Icelandic

### **Ethnic Groups**

homogeneous mixture of descendants of Norse and Celts 81%, population with foreign background 19% (2018 est.)

note: population with foreign background includes immigrants and persons having at least one parent who was born abroad

### **Languages**

Icelandic, English, Nordic languages, German

### **Religions**

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland (official) 67.2%, Roman Catholic 3.9%, Reykjavik Free Church 2.8%, Hafnarfjordur Free Church 2%, Asatru Association 1.2%, The Independent Congregation .9%, other religions 4% (includes Zuist and Pentecostal), none 6.7%, other or unspecified 11.3% (2018 est.)

### **Age Structure**

0-14 years: 20.4% (male 35,812 /female 34,249)

15-24 years: 13.22% (male 22,952 /female 22,444)

25-54 years: 39.76% (male 69,177 /female 67,401)

55-64 years: 11.87% (male 20,350 /female 20,426)

65 years and over: 14.76% (male 23,822 /female 26,885) (2018 est.)

population pyramid: The World Factbook Field Image Modal x Europe :: Iceland Print Image Description This is the population pyramid for Iceland. A population pyramid illustrates the age and sex structure of a country's population and may provide insights about political and social stability, as well as economic development. The population is

distributed along the horizontal axis, with males shown on the left and females on the right. The male and female populations are broken down into 5-year age groups represented as horizontal bars along the vertical axis, with the youngest age groups at the bottom and the oldest at the top. The shape of the population pyramid gradually evolves over time based on fertility, mortality, and international migration trends. For additional information, please see the entry for Population pyramid on the Definitions and Notes page under the References tab.

## **Dependency Ratios**

total dependency ratio: 51.6 (2015 est.)  
 youth dependency ratio: 30.8 (2015 est.)  
 elderly dependency ratio: 20.8 (2015 est.)  
 potential support ratio: 4.8 (2015 est.)

## **Median Age**

total: 36.7 years (2018 est.)  
 male: 36.1 years  
 female: 37.3 years  
 country comparison to the world: 73

## **Population Growth Rate**

1.08% (2018 est.)  
 country comparison to the world: 103

## **Birth Rate**

13.6 births/1,000 population (2018 est.)  
 country comparison to the world: 140

## **Death Rate**

6.5 deaths/1,000 population (2018 est.)  
 country comparison to the world: 142

## **Net Migration Rate**

3.7 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2018 est.)  
 country comparison to the world: 36

## **Population Distribution**

Iceland is almost entirely urban with half of the population located in and around the capital of Reykjavik; smaller clusters are primarily found along the coast in the north and west

## **Urbanization**

urban population: 93.9% of total population (2019)  
 rate of urbanization: 0.81% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

## **Major Urban Areas Population**

216,000 REYKJAVIK (capital) (2018)

## **Sex Ratio**

at birth: 1.05 male(s)/female

0-14 years: 1.05 male(s)/female

15-24 years: 1.02 male(s)/female

25-54 years: 1.03 male(s)/female

55-64 years: 1 male(s)/female

65 years and over: 0.89 male(s)/female

total population: 1 male(s)/female (2018 est.)

## **Mother S Mean Age At First Birth**

27.4 years (2015 est.)

## **Maternal Mortality Rate**

4 deaths/100,000 live births (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 173

## **Infant Mortality Rate**

total: 2.1 deaths/1,000 live births (2018 est.)

male: 2.2 deaths/1,000 live births

female: 2 deaths/1,000 live births

country comparison to the world: 221

## **Life Expectancy At Birth**

total population: 83.1 years (2018 est.)

male: 80.9 years

female: 85.5 years

country comparison to the world: 7

## **Total Fertility Rate**

1.99 children born/woman (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 120

## **Drinking Water Source**

improved: urban: 100% of population

rural: 100% of population

total: 100% of population

unimproved: urban: 0% of population

rural: 0% of population

total: 0% of population (2015 est.)

## **Current Health Expenditure**

8.3% (2016)

## **Physicians Density**

3.97 physicians/1,000 population (2017)

### **Hospital Bed Density**

3.4 beds/1,000 population (2015)

### **Sanitation Facility Access**

improved: urban: 98.7% of population (2015 est.)

rural: 100% of population (2015 est.)

total: 98.8% of population (2015 est.)

unimproved: urban: 1.3% of population (2015 est.)

rural: 0% of population (2015 est.)

total: 1.2% of population (2015 est.)

### **Hiv Aids Adult Prevalence Rate**

0.1% (2018)

country comparison to the world: 124

### **Hiv Aids People Living With Hiv Aids**

<500 (2018)

### **Hiv Aids Deaths**

<100 (2018)

### **Obesity Adult Prevalence Rate**

21.9% (2016)

country comparison to the world: 83

### **Education Expenditures**

7.5% of GDP (2016)

country comparison to the world: 8

### **School Life Expectancy Primary To Tertiary Education**

total: 19 years

male: 18 years

female: 20 years (2016)

### **Unemployment Youth Ages 15 24**

total: 7.9%

male: 8.6%

female: 7.1% (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 147

## **Government**

### **Country Name**

conventional long form: Republic of Iceland

conventional short form: Iceland

local long form: Lydveldid Island

local short form: Island

etymology: Floki VILGERDARSON, an early explorer of the island (9th century), applied the name "Land of Ice" after spotting a fjord full of drift ice to the north and spending a bitter winter on the island; he eventually settled on the island, however, after he saw how it greened up in the summer and that it was, in fact, habitable

## **Government Type**

unitary parliamentary republic

## **Capital**

name: Reykjavik

geographic coordinates: 64 09 N, 21 57 W

time difference: UTC 0 (5 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

etymology: the name means "smoky bay" in Icelandic and refers to the steamy, smoke-like vapors discharged by hot springs in the area

## **Administrative Divisions**

74 municipalities (sveitarfelog, singular - sveitarfelagidh); Akrahreppur, Akraneskaupstadhur, Akureyrarkaupstadhur, Arneshreppur, Asahreppur, Blaskogabyggdh, Blonduosbaer, Bolungarvikurkaupstadhur, Borgarbyggdh, Borgarfjardharhreppur, Breidhdalshreppur, Dalabyggdh, Dalvikurbyggdh, Djupavogshreppur, Eyjafjardharsveit, Eyja-og Miklaholtshreppur, Fjallabyggdh, Fjardabyggdh, Fljotsdalsheradh, Fljotsdalshreppur, Floahreppur, Gardhabaer, Grimsnes-og Grafningshreppur, Grindavikurbaer, Grundarfjardharbaer, Grytubakkahreppur, Hafnarfjardharkaupstadhur, Helgafellssveit, Horgarsveit, Hrunamannahreppur, Hunathing Vestra, Hunavatnshreppur, Hvalfjardharsveit, Hveragerdhisbaer, Isafjardharbaer, Kaldrananeshreppur, Kjoserhreppur, Kopavogsbaer, Langanesbyggdh, Mosfellsbaer, Myrdalshreppur, Nordhurthing, Rangarthing Eystra, Rangarthing Ytra, Reykholahreppur, Reykjanesbaer, Reykjavikurborg, Sandgerdhisbaer, Seltjarnarnesbaer, Seydhisfjardharkaupstadhur, Skaftarhreppur, Skagabyggdh, Skeidha-og Gnupverjahreppur, Skorradalshreppur, Skutustadhahreppur, Snaefellsbaer, Strandabyggdh, Stykkisholmsbaer, Sudhavikurhreppur, Svalbardhshreppur, Svalbardhsstrandahreppur, Sveitarfelagidh Arborg, Sveitarfelagidh Gardhur, Sveitarfelagidh Hornafjordhur, Sveitarfelagidh Olfus, Sveitarfelagidh Skagafjordhur, Sveitarfelagidh Skagastrond, Sveitarfelagidh Vogar, Talknafjardharhreppur, Thingeyjarsveit, Tjorneshreppur, Vestmannaeyjabaer, Vesturbyggdh, Vopnafjardharhreppur

## **Independence**

1 December 1918 (became a sovereign state under the Danish Crown); 17 June 1944 (from Denmark; birthday of Jon SIGURDSSON, leader of Iceland's 19th Century independence movement)

## **National Holiday**

Independence Day, 17 June (1944)

## **Constitution**

history: several previous; latest ratified 16 June 1944, effective 17 June 1944 (at independence)

amendments: proposed by the Althingi; passage requires approval by the Althingi and by the next elected Althingi, and confirmation by the president of the republic; proposed amendments to Article 62 of the constitution – that the Evangelical Lutheran Church shall be the state church of Iceland – also require passage by referendum; amended many times, last in 2013 (2016)

## **Legal System**

civil law system influenced by the Danish model

## **International Law Organization Participation**

has not submitted an ICJ jurisdiction declaration; accepts ICCt jurisdiction

## **Citizenship**

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: at least one parent must be a citizen of Iceland

dual citizenship recognized: yes

residency requirement for naturalization: 3 to 7 years

## **Suffrage**

18 years of age; universal

## **Executive Branch**

chief of state: President Gudni Thorlacius JOHANNESSEN (since 1 August 2016)

head of government: Prime Minister Katrin JAKOBSDOTTIR (since 30 November 2017)

cabinet: Cabinet appointed by the president upon the recommendation of the prime minister

elections/appointments: president directly elected by simple majority popular vote for a 4-year term (no term limits); election last held on 25 June 2016 (next to be held in June 2020); following legislative elections, the leader of the majority party or majority coalition becomes prime minister

election results: Gudni Thorlacius JOHANNESSEN elected president; percent of vote - Gudni Thorlacius JOHANNESSEN 39.1%, Halla TOMASDOTTIR 27.9%, Andri Snaer MAGNASON 14.3%, David ODDSSON 13.7%, Sturla JONSSON 3.5%, invalid 1.5%

## **Legislative Branch**

description: unicameral Althingi or Parliament (63 seats; members directly elected in multi-seat constituencies by proportional representation vote to serve 4-year terms)

elections: last held on 28 October 2017 (next to be held in 2021)

election results: percent of vote by party - IP 25.2%, LGM 16.9%, SDA 12.1%, CP 10.9%, PP 10.7%, Pirate Party 9.2%, People's Party 6.9%, Reform Party 6.7%. other 1.5%; seats

by party - IP 16, LGM 11, SDA 7, CP 7, PP 8, Pirate Party 6, Reform Party 4, People's Party 4

## **Judicial Branch**

highest courts: Supreme Court or Haestirettur (consists of 9 judges)  
judge selection and term of office: judges proposed by Ministry of Interior selection committee and appointed by the president; judges appointed for an indefinite period  
subordinate courts: Appellate Court or Landsrettur; 8 district courts; Labor Court

## **Political Parties And Leaders**

Centrist Party (Midflokkurinn) or CP [Sigmundur David GUNNLAUGSSON] Independence Party (Sjalfstaedisflokkurinn) or IP [Bjarni BENEDIKTSSON] Left-Green Movement (Vinstrihreyfingin-graent frambod) or LGM [Katrín JAKOBSDOTTIR] People's Party (Flokkur Folksins) [Inga SAELAND] Pirate Party (Piratar) [rotating leadership] Progressive Party (Framsoknarflokkurinn) or PP [Sigurdur Ingi JOHANNSSON] Reform Party (Vidreisn) [Thorgerdur Katrin GUNNARSDOTTIR] Social Democratic Alliance (Samfylkingin) or SDA [Logi Mar EINARSSON]

## **International Organization Participation**

Arctic Council, Australia Group, BIS, CBSS, CD, CE, EAPC, EBRD, EFTA, FAO, FATF, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC (national committees), ICCT, ICRM, IDA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCS, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, IMSO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, ITUC (NGOs), MIGA, NATO, NC, NEA, NIB, NSG, OAS (observer), OECD, OPCW, OSCE, PCA, Schengen Convention, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UPU, WCO, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

## **Diplomatic Representation In The Us**

Ambassador Geir Hilmar HAARDE (since 23 February 2015)  
chancery: House of Sweden, 2900 K Street NW, #509, Washington, DC 20007  
telephone: [1] (202) 265-6653  
FAX: [1] (202) 265-6656  
consulate(s) general: New York

## **Diplomatic Representation From The Us**

chief of mission: Ambassador Jeffrey Ross GUNTER (since 2 July 2019)  
telephone: [354] 595-2200  
embassy: Laufasvegur 21, 101 Reykjavik  
mailing address: US Department of State, 5640 Reykjavik Place, Washington, D.C. 20521-5640  
FAX: [354] 562-9118

## **Flag Description**

blue with a red cross outlined in white extending to the edges of the flag; the vertical part of the cross is shifted to the hoist side in the style of the Dannebrog (Danish flag); the colors represent three of the elements that make up the island: red is for the island's volcanic fires, white recalls the snow and ice fields of the island, and blue is for the surrounding ocean

## National Symbol S

gyrfalcon; national colors: blue, white, red

## National Anthem

name: "Lofsongur" (Song of Praise)

lyrics/music: Matthias JOCHUMSSON/Sveinbjorn SVEINBJORNSSON

note: adopted 1944; also known as "O, Gud vors lands" (O, God of Our Land), the anthem was originally written and performed in 1874

## Economy

### Economy Overview

Iceland's economy combines a capitalist structure and free-market principles with an extensive welfare system. Except for a brief period during the 2008 crisis, Iceland has in recent years achieved high growth, low unemployment, and a remarkably even distribution of income. Iceland's economy has been diversifying into manufacturing and service industries in the last decade, particularly within the fields of tourism, software production, and biotechnology. Abundant geothermal and hydropower sources have attracted substantial foreign investment in the aluminum sector, boosted economic growth, and sparked some interest from high-tech firms looking to establish data centers using cheap green energy. Tourism, aluminum smelting, and fishing are the pillars of the economy. For decades the Icelandic economy depended heavily on fisheries, but tourism has now surpassed fishing and aluminum as Iceland's main export industry. Tourism accounted for 8.6% of Iceland's GDP in 2016, and 39% of total exports of merchandise and services. From 2010 to 2017, the number of tourists visiting Iceland increased by nearly 400%. Since 2010, tourism has become a main driver of Icelandic economic growth, with the number of tourists reaching 4.5 times the Icelandic population in 2016. Iceland remains sensitive to fluctuations in world prices for its main exports, and to fluctuations in the exchange rate of the Icelandic Krona. Following the privatization of the banking sector in the early 2000s, domestic banks expanded aggressively in foreign markets, and consumers and businesses borrowed heavily in foreign currencies. Worsening global financial conditions throughout 2008 resulted in a sharp depreciation of the krona vis-a-vis other major currencies. The foreign exposure of Icelandic banks, whose loans and other assets totaled nearly nine times the country's GDP, became unsustainable. Iceland's three largest banks collapsed in late 2008. GDP fell 6.8% in 2009, and unemployment peaked at 9.4% in February 2009. Three new banks were established to take over the domestic assets of the collapsed banks. Two of them have majority ownership by the state, which intends to re-privatize them. Since the collapse of Iceland's financial sector, government economic priorities have included stabilizing the krona, implementing capital controls, reducing Iceland's high budget deficit, containing inflation, addressing high household debt, restructuring the financial sector, and diversifying the economy. Capital controls were lifted in March 2017, but some financial protections, such as reserve requirements for specified investments connected to new inflows of foreign currency, remain in place.

### Gdp Purchasing Power Parity



\$18.18 billion (2017 est.)

\$17.48 billion (2016 est.)

\$16.29 billion (2015 est.)

note: data are in 2017 dollars

country comparison to the world: 153

## **Gdp Official Exchange Rate**

\$24.48 billion (2017 est.)

## **Gdp Real Growth Rate**

4% (2017 est.)

7.4% (2016 est.)

4.5% (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 77

## **Gdp Per Capita Ppp**

\$52,200 (2017 est.)

\$51,700 (2016 est.)

\$48,900 (2015 est.)

note: data are in 2017 dollars

country comparison to the world: 25

## **Gross National Saving**

25.8% of GDP (2017 est.)

29.1% of GDP (2016 est.)

24.5% of GDP (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 52

## **Gdp Composition By End Use**

household consumption: 50.4% (2017 est.)

government consumption: 23.3% (2017 est.)

investment in fixed capital: 22.1% (2017 est.)

investment in inventories: 0% (2017 est.)

exports of goods and services: 47% (2017 est.)

imports of goods and services: -42.8% (2017 est.)

## **Gdp Composition By Sector Of Origin**

agriculture: 5.8% (2017 est.)

industry: 19.7% (2017 est.)

services: 74.6% (2017 est.)

## **Agriculture Products**

potatoes, carrots, green vegetables, tomatoes, cucumbers; mutton, chicken, pork, beef, dairy products; fish

## **Industries**

tourism, fish processing; aluminum smelting;; geothermal power, hydropower; medical/ pharmaceutical products

## **Industrial Production Growth Rate**

2.4% (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 120

## **Labor Force**

198,700 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 172

## **Labor Force By Occupation**

agriculture: 4.8%

industry: 22.2%

services: 73% (2008)

## **Unemployment Rate**

2.8% (2017 est.)

3% (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 30

## **Population Below Poverty Line**

NA

note: 332,100 families (2011 est.)

## **Household Income Or Consumption By Percentage Share**

lowest 10%: NA

highest 10%: NA

## **Distribution Of Family Income Gini Index**

28 (2006)

25 (2005)

country comparison to the world: 142

## **Budget**

revenues: 10.39 billion (2017 est.)

expenditures: 10.02 billion (2017 est.)

## **Taxes And Other Revenues**

42.4% (of GDP) (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 31

## **Budget Surplus Or Deficit**

1.5% (of GDP) (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 22

## **Public Debt**

40% of GDP (2017 est.)

51.7% of GDP (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 126

## **Fiscal Year**

calendar year

## **Inflation Rate Consumer Prices**

1.8% (2017 est.)

1.7% (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 93

## **Central Bank Discount Rate**

5.4% (31 January 2012)

5.75% (31 December 2010)

country comparison to the world: 77

## **Commercial Bank Prime Lending Rate**

7.26% (31 December 2017 est.)

8.24% (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 116

## **Stock Of Narrow Money**

\$4.945 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$4.251 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 106

## **Stock Of Broad Money**

\$4.945 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

\$4.251 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 110

## **Stock Of Domestic Credit**

\$24.51 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$21.18 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 86

## **Market Value Of Publicly Traded Shares**

\$2.825 billion (31 December 2012 est.)

\$2.021 billion (31 December 2011 est.)

\$1.996 billion (31 December 2010 est.)

country comparison to the world: 94

## **Current Account Balance**

\$857 million (2017 est.)  
\$1.556 billion (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 52

## **Exports**

\$4.957 billion (2017 est.)  
\$4.483 billion (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 108

## **Exports Partners**

Netherlands 25.5%, Spain 13.6%, UK 9.4%, Germany 7.6%, US 7%, France 6.3%, Norway 4.9%

## **Exports Commodities**

fish and fish products (42%), aluminum (38%), agricultural products, medicinal and medical products, ferro-silicon (2015)

## **Imports**

\$6.525 billion (2017 est.)  
\$5.315 billion (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 118

## **Imports Commodities**

machinery and equipment, petroleum products, foodstuffs, textiles

## **Imports Partners**

Germany 10.7%, Norway 9.2%, China 7%, Netherlands 6.7%, US 6.4%, Denmark 6.2%, UK 5.7%, Sweden 4.1%

## **Reserves Of Foreign Exchange And Gold**

\$6.567 billion (31 December 2017 est.)  
\$7.226 billion (31 December 2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 89

## **Debt External**

\$21.7 billion (31 December 2017 est.)  
\$25.02 billion (31 December 2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 91

## **Stock Of Direct Foreign Investment At Home**

\$6.666 billion (31 December 2017 est.)  
\$13.89 billion (31 December 2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 101

## **Stock Of Direct Foreign Investment Abroad**

\$11.24 billion (31 December 2017 est.)  
\$17.64 billion (31 December 2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 63

## **Exchange Rates**

Icelandic kronur (ISK) per US dollar -  
111.7 (2017 est.)  
120.81 (2016 est.)  
120.81 (2015 est.)  
131.92 (2014 est.)  
116.77 (2013 est.)

## **Energy**

### **Electricity Access**

electrification - total population: 100% (2016)

### **Electricity Production**

18.17 billion kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 80

### **Electricity Consumption**

17.68 billion kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 73

### **Electricity Exports**

0 kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 148

### **Electricity Imports**

0 kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 160

### **Electricity Installed Generating Capacity**

2.772 million kW (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 100

### **Electricity From Fossil Fuels**

4% of total installed capacity (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 206

### **Electricity From Nuclear Fuels**

0% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 109

## **Electricity From Hydroelectric Plants**

71% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 16

## **Electricity From Other Renewable Sources**

25% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 29

## **Crude Oil Production**

0 bbl/day (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 151

## **Crude Oil Exports**

0 bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 139

## **Crude Oil Imports**

0 bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 143

## **Crude Oil Proved Reserves**

0 bbl (1 January 2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 147

## **Refined Petroleum Products Production**

0 bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 159

## **Refined Petroleum Products Consumption**

20,850 bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 139

## **Refined Petroleum Products Exports**

2,530 bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 101

## **Refined Petroleum Products Imports**

20,220 bbl/day (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 120

## **Natural Gas Production**

0 cu m (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 148

## **Natural Gas Consumption**

0 cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 160

## **Natural Gas Exports**

0 cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 123

## **Natural Gas Imports**

0 cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 140

## **Natural Gas Proved Reserves**

0 cu m (1 January 2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 149

## **Carbon Dioxide Emissions From Consumption Of Energy**

3.228 million Mt (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 144

# **Communications**

## **Telephones Fixed Lines**

total subscriptions: 146,213

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 43 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 129

## **Telephones Mobile Cellular**

total subscriptions: 410,662

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 121 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 175

## **Telephone System**

general assessment: telecommunications infrastructure is modern and fully digitized, with satellite-earth stations, fiber-optic cables, and an extensive broadband network; LTE licenses providing 99% population coverage (2018)

domestic: liberalization of the telecommunications sector beginning in the late 1990s has led to increased competition especially in the mobile services segment of the market; 43 per 100 for fixed line and 121 per 100 for mobile-cellular subscriptions (2018)

international: country code - 354; the CANTAT-3, FARICE-1, Greenland Connect and DANICE submarine cable system provides connectivity to Canada, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, UK, Denmark, and Germany; satellite earth stations - 2 Intelsat (Atlantic Ocean), 1 Inmarsat (Atlantic and Indian Ocean regions); note - Iceland shares the Inmarsat earth station with the other Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden) (2019)

## Broadcast Media

state-owned public TV broadcaster (RUV) operates 21 TV channels nationally (RUV and RUV 2, though RUV 2 is used less frequently); RUV broadcasts nationally, every household in Iceland is required to have RUV as it doubles as the emergency broadcast network; RUV also operates stringer offices in the north (Akureyri) and the east (Egilsstaðir) but operations are all run out of RUV headquarters in Reykjavik; there are 3 privately owned TV stations; Stod 2 (Channel 2) is owned by Syn, following 365 Media and Vodafone merger, and is headquartered in Reykjavik; Syn also operates 4 sports channels under Stod 2; N4 is the only television station headquartered outside of Reykjavik, in Akureyri, with local programming for the north, south, and east of Iceland; Hringbraut is the newest station and is headquartered in Reykjavik; all of these television stations have nationwide penetration as 100% of households have multi-channel services though digital and/or fiber-optic connections RUV operates 3 radio stations (RAS 1, RAS2, and Rondo) as well as 4 regional stations (but they mostly act as range extenders for RUV radio broadcasts nationwide); there is 1 privately owned radio conglomerate, Syn (4 stations), that broadcasts nationwide, and 3 other radio stations that broadcast to the most densely populated regions of the country. In addition there are upwards of 20 radio stations that operate regionally (2019)

## Internet Country Code

.is

## Internet Users

total: 329,967

percent of population: 98.2% (July 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 156

## Broadband Fixed Subscriptions

total: 133,574

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 39 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 116

## Military

### Military Expenditures

0.3% of GDP (2018)

0.3% of GDP (2017)

0.3% of GDP (2016)

0.3% of GDP (2015)

0.5% of GDP (2014)

country comparison to the world: 154

### Military And Security Forces

no regular military forces; Icelandic Coast Guard; Icelandic National Police (2019)



## **Military Note**

Iceland is the only NATO member that has no standing military force; defense of Iceland remains a NATO commitment and NATO maintains an air policing presence in Icelandic airspace; Iceland participates in international peacekeeping missions with the civilian-manned Icelandic Crisis Response Unit (ICRU) (2019)

## **Transportation**

### **National Air Transport System**

number of registered air carriers: 5 (2015)  
 inventory of registered aircraft operated by air carriers: 43 (2015)  
 annual passenger traffic on registered air carriers: 3,413,950 (2015)  
 annual freight traffic on registered air carriers: 102,356,809 mt-km (2015)

### **Civil Aircraft Registration Country Code Prefix**

TF (2016)

### **Airports**

96 (2013)  
 country comparison to the world: 59

### **Airports With Paved Runways**

total: 7 (2017)  
 over 3,047 m: 1 (2017)  
 1,524 to 2,437 m: 3 (2017)  
 914 to 1,523 m: 3 (2017)

### **Airports With Unpaved Runways**

total: 89 (2013)  
 1,524 to 2,437 m: 3 (2013)  
 914 to 1,523 m: 26 (2013)  
 under 914 m: 60 (2013)

### **Roadways**

total: 12,898 km (2012)  
 paved/oiled gravel: 5,647 km (excludes urban roads) (2012)  
 unpaved: 7,251 km (2012)  
 country comparison to the world: 126

### **Merchant Marine**

total: 33  
 by type: general cargo 5, oil tanker 1, other 27 (2018)  
 country comparison to the world: 122

## **Ports And Terminals**

major seaport(s): Grundartangi, Hafnarfjordur, Reykjavik

## **Transnational**

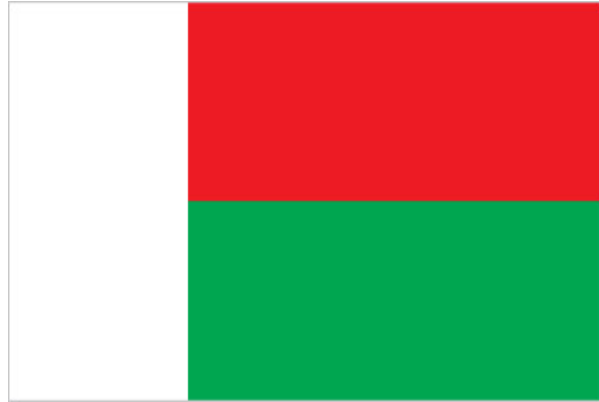
### **Disputes International**

Iceland, the UK, and Ireland dispute Denmark's claim that the Faroe Islands' continental shelf extends beyond 200 nm; the European Free Trade Association Surveillance Authority filed a suit against Iceland, claiming the country violated the Agreement on the European Economic Area in failing to pay minimum compensation to Icesave depositors

### **Refugees And Internally Displaced Persons**

stateless persons: 69 (2018)

## Madagascar



## Introduction

### Background

Madagascar was one of the last major habitable landmasses on earth settled by humans. While there is some evidence of human presence on the island in the millennia B.C., large-scale settlement began between A.D. 350 and 550 with settlers from present-day Indonesia. The island attracted Arab and Persian traders as early as the 7th century, and migrants from Africa arrived around A.D. 1000. Madagascar was a pirate stronghold

during the late 17th and early 18th centuries, and served as a slave trading center into the 19th century. From the 16th to the late 19th century, a native Merina Kingdom dominated much of Madagascar. The island was conquered by the French in 1896 who made it a colony; independence was regained in 1960. During 1992-93, free presidential and National Assembly elections were held ending 17 years of single-party rule. In 1997, in the second presidential race, Didier RATSIRAKA, the leader during the 1970s and 1980s, returned to the presidency. The 2001 presidential election was contested between the followers of Didier RATSIRAKA and Marc RAVALOMANANA, nearly causing secession of half of the country. In 2002, the High Constitutional Court announced RAVALOMANANA the winner. RAVALOMANANA won a second term in 2006 but, following protests in 2009, handed over power to the military, which then conferred the presidency on the mayor of Antananarivo, Andry RAJOELINA, in what amounted to a coup d'etat. Following a lengthy mediation process led by the Southern African Development Community, Madagascar held UN-supported presidential and parliamentary elections in 2013. Former de facto finance minister Hery RAJAONARIMAMPIANINA won a runoff election in December 2013 and was inaugurated in January 2014. In January 2019, RAJOELINA was declared the winner of a runoff election against RAVALOMANANA; both RATSIRAKA and RAJAONARIMAMPIANINA also ran in the first round of the election, which took place in November 2018.

## Geography

### Location

Southern Africa, island in the Indian Ocean, east of Mozambique

### Geographic Coordinates

20 00 S, 47 00 E

### Map References

Africa

### Area

total: 587,041 sq km

land: 581,540 sq km

water: 5,501 sq km

country comparison to the world: 48

### Area Comparative

almost four times the size of Georgia; slightly less than twice the size of Arizona

Area comparison map: The World Factbook Field Image Modal x Africa :: Madagascar

Print Image Description almost four times the size of Georgia; slightly less than twice the size of Arizona

### Land Boundaries

0 km

## **Coastline**

4,828 km

## **Maritime Claims**

territorial sea: 12 nm

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm

contiguous zone: 24 nm

continental shelf: 200 nm or 100 nm from the 2,500-m isobath

## **Climate**

tropical along coast, temperate inland, arid in south

## **Terrain**

narrow coastal plain, high plateau and mountains in center

## **Elevation**

mean elevation: 615 m

lowest point: Indian Ocean 0 m

highest point: Maromokotro 2,876 m

## **Natural Resources**

graphite, chromite, coal, bauxite, rare earth elements, salt, quartz, tar sands, semiprecious stones, mica, fish, hydropower

## **Land Use**

agricultural land: 71.1% (2011 est.)

arable land: 6% (2011 est.) / permanent crops: 1% (2011 est.) / permanent pasture: 64.1% (2011 est.)

forest: 21.5% (2011 est.)

other: 7.4% (2011 est.)

## **Irrigated Land**

10,860 sq km (2012)

## **Population Distribution**

most of population lives on the eastern half of the island; significant clustering is found in the central highlands and eastern coastline

## **Natural Hazards**

periodic cyclones; drought; and locust infestation volcanism: Madagascar's volcanoes have not erupted in historical times

## **Environment Current Issues**

erosion and soil degradation results from deforestation and overgrazing; desertification; agricultural fires; surface water contaminated with raw sewage and other organic wastes; wildlife preservation (endangered species of flora and fauna unique to the island)

## **Environment International Agreements**

party to: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Endangered Species, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Marine Life Conservation, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Wetlands  
signed, but not ratified: none of the selected agreements

## **Geography Note**

world's fourth-largest island; strategic location along Mozambique Channel; despite Madagascar's close proximity to the African continent, ocean currents isolate the island resulting in high rates of endemic plant and animal species; approximately 90% of the flora and fauna on the island are found nowhere else

# **People**

## **Population**

25,683,610 (July 2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 52

## **Nationality**

noun: Malagasy (singular and plural)  
adjective: Malagasy

## **Ethnic Groups**

Malayo-Indonesian (Merina and related Betsileo), Cotiers (mixed African, Malayo-Indonesian, and Arab ancestry - Betsimisaraka, Tsimihety, Antaisaka, Sakalava), French, Indian, Creole, Comoran

## **Languages**

French (official), Malagasy (official), English

## **Religions**

Christian, indigenous, Muslim

## **Demographic Profile**

Madagascar's youthful population – just over 60% are under the age of 25 – and high total fertility rate of more than 4 children per women ensures that the Malagasy population will continue its rapid growth trajectory for the foreseeable future. The population is predominantly rural and poor; chronic malnutrition is prevalent, and large families are the norm. Many young Malagasy girls are withdrawn from school, marry early (often pressured to do so by their parents), and soon begin having children. Early childbearing,

coupled with Madagascar's widespread poverty and lack of access to skilled health care providers during delivery, increases the risk of death and serious health problems for young mothers and their babies. Child marriage perpetuates gender inequality and is prevalent among the poor, the uneducated, and rural households – as of 2013, of Malagasy women aged 20 to 24, more than 40% were married and more than a third had given birth by the age of 18. Although the legal age for marriage is 18, parental consent is often given for earlier marriages or the law is flouted, especially in rural areas that make up nearly 65% of the country. Forms of arranged marriage whereby young girls are married to older men in exchange for oxen or money are traditional. If a union does not work out, a girl can be placed in another marriage, but the dowry paid to her family diminishes with each unsuccessful marriage. Madagascar's population consists of 18 main ethnic groups, all of whom speak the same Malagasy language. Most Malagasy are multi-ethnic, however, reflecting the island's diversity of settlers and historical contacts (see Background). Madagascar's legacy of hierarchical societies practicing domestic slavery (most notably the Merina Kingdom of the 16th to the 19th century) is evident today in persistent class tension, with some ethnic groups maintaining a caste system. Slave descendants are vulnerable to unequal access to education and jobs, despite Madagascar's constitutional guarantee of free compulsory primary education and its being party to several international conventions on human rights. Historical distinctions also remain between central highlanders and coastal people.

## Age Structure

0-14 years: 39.55% (male 5,119,804 /female 5,037,438)

15-24 years: 20.23% (male 2,608,996 /female 2,587,745)

25-54 years: 32.42% (male 4,160,278 /female 4,166,538)

55-64 years: 4.45% (male 560,072 /female 581,963)

65 years and over: 3.35% (male 390,094 /female 470,682) (2018 est.)

population pyramid: The World Factbook Field Image Modal x Africa :: Madagascar Print Image Description This is the population pyramid for Madagascar. A population pyramid illustrates the age and sex structure of a country's population and may provide insights about political and social stability, as well as economic development. The population is distributed along the horizontal axis, with males shown on the left and females on the right. The male and female populations are broken down into 5-year age groups represented as horizontal bars along the vertical axis, with the youngest age groups at the bottom and the oldest at the top. The shape of the population pyramid gradually evolves over time based on fertility, mortality, and international migration trends. For additional information, please see the entry for Population pyramid on the Definitions and Notes page under the References tab.

## Dependency Ratios

total dependency ratio: 80.1 (2015 est.)

youth dependency ratio: 75 (2015 est.)

elderly dependency ratio: 5.1 (2015 est.)

potential support ratio: 19.6 (2015 est.)

## Median Age

total: 19.9 years (2018 est.)  
male: 19.7 years  
female: 20.1 years  
country comparison to the world: 195

### **Population Growth Rate**

2.46% (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 24

### **Birth Rate**

31 births/1,000 population (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 33

### **Death Rate**

6.4 deaths/1,000 population (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 147

### **Net Migration Rate**

0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 90

### **Population Distribution**

most of population lives on the eastern half of the island; significant clustering is found in the central highlands and eastern coastline

### **Urbanization**

urban population: 37.9% of total population (2019)  
rate of urbanization: 4.48% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

### **Major Urban Areas Population**

3.21 million ANTANANARIVO (capital) (2019)

### **Sex Ratio**

at birth: 1.03 male(s)/female  
0-14 years: 1.02 male(s)/female  
15-24 years: 1.01 male(s)/female  
25-54 years: 1 male(s)/female  
55-64 years: 0.96 male(s)/female  
65 years and over: 0.83 male(s)/female  
total population: 1 male(s)/female (2018 est.)

### **Mother S Mean Age At First Birth**

19.5 years (2008/09 est.)  
note: median age at first birth among women 25-29

### **Maternal Mortality Rate**



335 deaths/100,000 live births (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 33

### **Infant Mortality Rate**

total: 40.1 deaths/1,000 live births (2018 est.)  
male: 43.8 deaths/1,000 live births  
female: 36.2 deaths/1,000 live births  
country comparison to the world: 44

### **Life Expectancy At Birth**

total population: 66.6 years (2018 est.)  
male: 65.1 years  
female: 68.2 years  
country comparison to the world: 175

### **Total Fertility Rate**

3.95 children born/woman (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 35

### **Contraceptive Prevalence Rate**

47.9% (2017)

### **Drinking Water Source**

improved: urban: 81.6% of population  
rural: 35.3% of population  
total: 51.5% of population  
unimproved: urban: 18.4% of population  
rural: 64.7% of population  
total: 48.5% of population (2015 est.)

### **Current Health Expenditure**

6% (2016)

### **Physicians Density**

0.18 physicians/1,000 population (2014)

### **Hospital Bed Density**

0.2 beds/1,000 population (2010)

### **Sanitation Facility Access**

improved: urban: 18% of population (2015 est.)  
rural: 8.7% of population (2015 est.)  
total: 12% of population (2015 est.)  
unimproved: urban: 82% of population (2015 est.)  
rural: 91.3% of population (2015 est.)

total: 88% of population (2015 est.)

### **Hiv Aids Adult Prevalence Rate**

0.3% (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 92

### **Hiv Aids People Living With Hiv Aids**

39,000 (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 69

### **Hiv Aids Deaths**

1,700 (2018 est.)

country comparison to the world: 51

### **Major Infectious Diseases**

degree of risk: very high (2016)

food or waterborne diseases: bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever (2016)

vectorborne diseases: malaria and dengue fever (2016)

water contact diseases: schistosomiasis (2016)

animal contact diseases: rabies (2016)

### **Obesity Adult Prevalence Rate**

5.3% (2016)

country comparison to the world: 180

### **Children Under The Age Of 5 Years Underweight**

32.9% (2013)

country comparison to the world: 6

### **Education Expenditures**

2.8% of GDP (2014)

country comparison to the world: 147

### **Literacy**

definition: age 15 and over can read and write

total population: 64.7%

male: 66.7%

female: 62.6% (2015)

### **School Life Expectancy Primary To Tertiary Education**

total: 10 years

male: 10 years

female: 10 years (2016)

### **Unemployment Youth Ages 15 24**

total: 1%  
male: 1%  
female: 1% (2012 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 179

## **Government**

### **Country Name**

conventional long form: Republic of Madagascar  
conventional short form: Madagascar  
local long form: Republique de Madagascar/Repoblikan'i Madagasikara  
local short form: Madagascar/Madagasikara  
former: Malagasy Republic  
etymology: the name "Madageiscar" was first used by the 13th-century Venetian explorer Marco POLO, as a corrupted transliteration of Mogadishu, the Somali port with which POLO confused the island

### **Government Type**

semi-presidential republic

### **Capital**

name: Antananarivo  
geographic coordinates: 18 55 S, 47 31 E  
time difference: UTC+3 (8 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)  
etymology: the name, which means "City of the Thousand," was bestowed by 17th century King Adrianjakaking to honor the soldiers assigned to guard the city

### **Administrative Divisions**

6 provinces (faritany); Antananarivo, Antsiranana, Fianarantsoa, Mahajanga, Toamasina, Toliara

### **Independence**

26 June 1960 (from France)

### **National Holiday**

Independence Day, 26 June (1960)

### **Constitution**

history: previous 1992; latest passed by referendum 17 November 2010, promulgated 11 December 2010  
amendments: proposed by the president of the republic in consultation with the cabinet or supported by a least two thirds of both the Senate and National Assembly membership; passage requires at least three-fourths approval of both the Senate and National Assembly and approval in a referendum; constitutional articles, including the form and

powers of government, the sovereignty of the state, and the autonomy of Madagascar's collectivities, cannot be amended (2017)

## **Legal System**

civil law system based on the old French civil code and customary law in matters of marriage, family, and obligation

## **International Law Organization Participation**

accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction with reservations; accepts ICCt jurisdiction

## **Citizenship**

citizenship by birth: no

citizenship by descent only: the father must be a citizen of Madagascar; in the case of a child born out of wedlock, the mother must be a citizen

dual citizenship recognized: no

residency requirement for naturalization: unknown

## **Suffrage**

18 years of age; universal

## **Executive Branch**

chief of state: President Andry RAJOELINA (since 21 January 2019) (2019)

head of government: Prime Minister Christian NTSAY (since 6 June 2018 and re-appointed 19 July 2019)

cabinet: Council of Ministers appointed by the prime minister

elections/appointments: president directly elected by absolute majority popular vote in 2 rounds if needed for a 5-year term (eligible for a second term); election last held on 7 November and 19 December 2018 (next to be held in 2023); prime minister nominated by the National Assembly, appointed by the president

election results: Andry RAJOELINA elected President in second round; percent of vote - Andry RAJOELINA (TGV) 55.7%, Marc RAVALOMANANA 44.3% (TIM)

## **Legislative Branch**

description: bicameral Parliament consists of: Senate or Antenimieran-Doholona (reestablished on 22 January 2016, following the December 2015 senatorial election) (63 seats; 42 members indirectly elected by an electoral college of municipal, communal, regional, and provincial leaders and 21 appointed by the president of the republic; members serve 5-year terms) National Assembly or Antenimierampirenena (151 seats; 87 members directly elected in single-seat constituencies by simple majority vote and 64 directly elected in multi-seat constituencies by closed-list proportional representation vote; members serve 5-year terms)

elections: Senate - last held 29 December 2015 (next to be held in 2021) National Assembly - last held on 27 May 2019

election results: Senate - percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - HVM 34, TIM 3, MAPAR 2, LEADER-Fanilo 1, independent 2, appointed by the president 21; composition - men 51, women 12, percent of women 19% National Assembly - percent of vote by party

-Independent Pro-HVM 18%, MAPAR 17%, MAPAR pro-HVM 16%, VPM-MMM 10%, VERTS 3%, LEADER FANILO 3%, HIARAKA ISIKA 3%, GPS/ARD 7%, INDEPENDENT 9%, TAMBATRA 1%, TIM 13%; composition - men 120, women 31, percent of women 20.5%; note - total National Assembly percent of women 20.1%

## **Judicial Branch**

highest courts: Supreme Court or Cour Supreme (consists of 11 members; addresses judicial administration issues only); High Constitutional Court or Haute Cour Constitutionnelle (consists of 9 members); note - the judiciary includes a High Court of Justice responsible for adjudicating crimes and misdemeanors by government officials, including the president

judge selection and term of office: Supreme Court heads elected by the president and judiciary officials to serve 3-year, single renewable terms; High Constitutional Court members appointed - 3 each by the president, by both legislative bodies, and by the Council of Magistrates; members serve single, 7-year terms

subordinate courts: Courts of Appeal; Courts of First Instance

## **Political Parties And Leaders**

Economic liberalism and democratic action for national recovery or LEADER FANILO [Jean Max RAKOTOMAMONJY] FOMBA [Ny Rado RAFALIMANANA] Gideons fighting against poverty in Madagascar (Gedeona Miady amin'ny Fahantrana eto Madagascar) or GFFM [Andre Christian Dieu Donne MAILHOL] Green party or VERTS (Antoko Maintso) [Alexandre GEORGET] I Love Madagascar (Tiako I Madagasikara) or TIM [Marc RAVALOMANANA] Malagasy aware (Malagasy Tonga Saina) or MTS [Roland RATSIRAKA] Malagasy raising together (Malagasy Miara-Miainga) or MMM [Hajo ANDRIANAINARIVELO] New Force for Madagascar (Hery Vaovao ho an'ny Madagasikara) or HVM [Hery Martial RAJAONARIMAMPIANINA Rakotoarimanana] Total Refoundation of Madagascar (Refondation Totale de Madagascar) or RTM [Joseph Martin RANDRIAMAMPIONONA] Vanguard for the renovation of Madagascar (Avant-Garde pour la renovation de Madagascar) or AREMA [Didier RATSIRAKA] Young Malagasies Determined (Malagasy: Tanora malaGasy Vonona) or TGV [Andry RAJOELINA] and MAPAR [Andry RAJOELINA], and IRD (We are all with Andy Rajoelina) [Andry RAJOELINA]

## **International Organization Participation**

ACP, AfDB, AU, CD, COMESA, EITI (candidate country), FAO, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC (NGOs), ICCT, ICRM, IDA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCS, ILO, IMF, IMO, InOC, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO (correspondent), ITSO, ITU, ITUC (NGOs), MIGA, NAM, OIF, OPCW, PCA, SADC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNWTO, UPU, WCO, WFTU (NGOs), WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

## **Diplomatic Representation In The Us**

(vacant)

chancery: 2374 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008

telephone: [1] (202) 265-5525

FAX: [1] (202) 265-3034

consulate(s) general: New York

## **Diplomatic Representation From The Us**

chief of mission: Ambassador Michael PELLETIER (since 14 February 2019)

telephone: [261] 20 23 480 00

embassy: Lot 207A, Point Liberty, Andranoro, Antehiroka, 105 Antananarivo

mailing address: B.P. 620, Antsahavola, Antananarivo

FAX: [261] 20 23 480 35 or [261] 33 44 328 17

## **Flag Description**

two equal horizontal bands of red (top) and green with a vertical white band of the same width on hoist side; by tradition, red stands for sovereignty, green for hope, white for purity

## **National Symbol S**

traveller's palm, zebu; national colors: red, green, white

## **National Anthem**

name: "Ry Tanindrazana nay malala o" (Oh, Our Beloved Fatherland)

lyrics/music: Pasteur RAHAJASON/Norbert RAHARISOA

note: adopted 1959

# **Economy**

## **Economy Overview**

Madagascar is a mostly unregulated economy with many untapped natural resources, but no capital markets, a weak judicial system, poorly enforced contracts, and rampant government corruption. The country faces challenges to improve education, healthcare, and the environment to boost long-term economic growth. Agriculture, including fishing and forestry, is a mainstay of the economy, accounting for more than one-fourth of GDP and employing roughly 80% of the population. Deforestation and erosion, aggravated by bushfires, slash-and-burn clearing techniques, and the use of firewood as the primary source of fuel, are serious concerns to the agriculture dependent economy. After discarding socialist economic policies in the mid-1990s, Madagascar followed a World Bank- and IMF-led policy of privatization and liberalization until a 2009 coup d'état led many nations, including the United States, to suspend non-humanitarian aid until a democratically-elected president was inaugurated in 2014. The pre-coup strategy had placed the country on a slow and steady growth path from an extremely low starting point. Exports of apparel boomed after gaining duty-free access to the US market in 2000 under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA); however, Madagascar's failure to comply with the requirements of the AGOA led to the termination of the country's duty-free access in January 2010, a sharp fall in textile production, a loss of more than 100,000 jobs, and a GDP drop of nearly 11%. Madagascar regained AGOA access in January 2015 and ensuing growth has been slow and fragile. Madagascar produces around 80% of the world's vanilla and its reliance on this commodity for most of its foreign exchange is a significant source of vulnerability. Economic reforms have been modest and the country's

financial sector remains weak, limiting the use of monetary policy to control inflation. An ongoing IMF program aims to strengthen financial and investment management capacity.

### **Gdp Purchasing Power Parity**

\$39.85 billion (2017 est.)

\$38.25 billion (2016 est.)

\$36.72 billion (2015 est.)

note: data are in 2017 dollars

country comparison to the world: 120

### **Gdp Official Exchange Rate**

\$11.5 billion (2017 est.)

### **Gdp Real Growth Rate**

4.2% (2017 est.)

4.2% (2016 est.)

3.1% (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 72

### **Gdp Per Capita Ppp**

\$1,600 (2017 est.)

\$1,500 (2016 est.)

\$1,500 (2015 est.)

note: data are in 2017 dollars

country comparison to the world: 218

### **Gross National Saving**

14.8% of GDP (2017 est.)

15.4% of GDP (2016 est.)

11.2% of GDP (2015 est.)

country comparison to the world: 138

### **Gdp Composition By End Use**

household consumption: 67.1% (2017 est.)

government consumption: 11.2% (2017 est.)

investment in fixed capital: 15.1% (2017 est.)

investment in inventories: 8.8% (2017 est.)

exports of goods and services: 31.5% (2017 est.)

imports of goods and services: -33.7% (2017 est.)

### **Gdp Composition By Sector Of Origin**

agriculture: 24% (2017 est.)

industry: 19.5% (2017 est.)

services: 56.4% (2017 est.)

### **Agriculture Products**

coffee, vanilla, sugarcane, cloves, cocoa, rice, cassava (manioc, tapioca), beans, bananas, peanuts; livestock products

## **Industries**

meat processing, seafood, soap, beer, leather, sugar, textiles, glassware, cement, automobile assembly plant, paper, petroleum, tourism, mining

## **Industrial Production Growth Rate**

5.2% (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 54

## **Labor Force**

13.4 million (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 43

## **Unemployment Rate**

1.8% (2017 est.)

1.8% (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 17

## **Population Below Poverty Line**

70.7% (2012 est.)

## **Household Income Or Consumption By Percentage Share**

lowest 10%: 2.2%

highest 10%: 34.7% (2010 est.)

## **Distribution Of Family Income Gini Index**

41 (2012)

42.7 (2010)

country comparison to the world: 59

## **Budget**

revenues: 1.828 billion (2017 est.)

expenditures: 2.136 billion (2017 est.)

## **Taxes And Other Revenues**

15.9% (of GDP) (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 185

## **Budget Surplus Or Deficit**

-2.7% (of GDP) (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 123

## **Public Debt**



36% of GDP (2017 est.)  
38.4% of GDP (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 148

## **Fiscal Year**

calendar year

## **Inflation Rate Consumer Prices**

8.3% (2017 est.)  
6.7% (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 199

## **Central Bank Discount Rate**

9.5% (31 December 2017)  
8.3% (31 December 2016)  
country comparison to the world: 28

## **Commercial Bank Prime Lending Rate**

60% (31 December 2017 est.)  
60% (31 December 2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 1

## **Stock Of Narrow Money**

\$1.045 billion (31 December 2017 est.)  
\$849.1 million (31 December 2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 156

## **Stock Of Broad Money**

\$1.045 billion (31 December 2017 est.)  
\$849.1 million (31 December 2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 161

## **Stock Of Domestic Credit**

\$2.345 billion (31 December 2017 est.)  
\$1.746 billion (31 December 2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 145

## **Market Value Of Publicly Traded Shares**

NA

## **Current Account Balance**

-\$35 million (2017 est.)  
\$57 million (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 77

## **Exports**

\$2.29 billion (2017 est.)

\$2.26 billion (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 136

## **Exports Partners**

France 24.8%, US 16.5%, China 6.7%, Germany 6.5%, Japan 6%, Netherlands 4.7% (2017)

## **Exports Commodities**

coffee, vanilla, shellfish, sugar, cotton cloth, clothing, chromite, petroleum products, gems, ilmenite, cobalt, nickel

## **Imports**

\$2.738 billion (2017 est.)

\$2.427 billion (2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 152

## **Imports Commodities**

capital goods, petroleum, consumer goods, food

## **Imports Partners**

China 18.7%, India 9.3%, France 6.4%, South Africa 5.6%, UAE 5.3% (2017)

## **Reserves Of Foreign Exchange And Gold**

\$1.6 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$1.076 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 124

## **Debt External**

\$4.089 billion (31 December 2017 est.)

\$3.425 billion (31 December 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 139

## **Stock Of Direct Foreign Investment At Home**

\$6.461 billion (2014 est.)

\$6.462 billion (2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 102

## **Stock Of Direct Foreign Investment Abroad**

NA

## **Exchange Rates**

Malagasy ariary (MGA) per US dollar -

3,116.1 (2017 est.)

3,176.5 (2016 est.)

3,176.5 (2015 est.)  
2,933.5 (2014 est.)  
2,414.8 (2013 est.)

## **Energy**

### **Electricity Access**

population without electricity: 20 million (2017)  
electrification - total population: 22.9% (2016)  
electrification - urban areas: 67.3% (2016)  
electrification - rural areas: 17.3% (2016)

### **Electricity Production**

1.706 billion kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 142

### **Electricity Consumption**

1.587 billion kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 147

### **Electricity Exports**

0 kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 163

### **Electricity Imports**

0 kWh (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 169

### **Electricity Installed Generating Capacity**

675,400 kW (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 136

### **Electricity From Fossil Fuels**

74% of total installed capacity (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 97

### **Electricity From Nuclear Fuels**

0% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 134

### **Electricity From Hydroelectric Plants**

24% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 80

### **Electricity From Other Renewable Sources**

2% of total installed capacity (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 141

### **Crude Oil Production**

0 bbl/day (2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 167

### **Crude Oil Exports**

0 bbl/day (2015 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 158

### **Crude Oil Imports**

0 bbl/day (2015 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 158

### **Crude Oil Proved Reserves**

0 bbl (1 January 2018 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 162

### **Refined Petroleum Products Production**

0 bbl/day (2015 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 170

### **Refined Petroleum Products Consumption**

18,000 bbl/day (2016 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 147

### **Refined Petroleum Products Exports**

0 bbl/day (2015 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 175

### **Refined Petroleum Products Imports**

18,880 bbl/day (2015 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 125

### **Natural Gas Production**

0 cu m (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 163

### **Natural Gas Consumption**

0 cu m (2017 est.)  
country comparison to the world: 169

### **Natural Gas Exports**

0 cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 144

## **Natural Gas Imports**

0 cu m (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 151

## **Natural Gas Proved Reserves**

0 cu m (1 January 2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 164

## **Carbon Dioxide Emissions From Consumption Of Energy**

4.021 million Mt (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 138

# **Communications**

## **Telephones Fixed Lines**

total subscriptions: 68,792

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: less than 1 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 150

## **Telephones Mobile Cellular**

total subscriptions: 8,730,499

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: 35 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 93

## **Telephone System**

general assessment: system is above average for the region; competition among the four mobile service providers has spurred recent growth in the mobile market and helped the service to be less expensive for the consumer; LTE services available (2018)

domestic: less than 1 per 100 for fixed-line and mobile-cellular teledensity about 35 per 100 persons (2018)

international: country code - 261; landing points for the EASSy, METISS, and LION fiber-optic submarine cable systems connecting to numerous Indian Ocean Islands, South Africa, and Eastern African countries; satellite earth stations - 2 (1 Intelsat - Indian Ocean, 1 Intersputnik - Atlantic Ocean region) (2019)

## **Broadcast Media**

state-owned Radio Nationale Malagasy (RNM) and Television Malagasy (TVM) have an extensive national network reach; privately owned radio and TV broadcasters in cities and major towns; state-run radio dominates in rural areas; relays of 2 international broadcasters are available in Antananarivo (2019)

## **Internet Country Code**

.mg

## **Internet Users**

total: 1,151,563

percent of population: 4.7% (July 2016 est.)

country comparison to the world: 130

## **Broadband Fixed Subscriptions**

total: 25,062

subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: less than 1 (2017 est.)

country comparison to the world: 144

## **Military**

### **Military Expenditures**

0.6% of GDP (2018)

0.58% of GDP (2017)

0.59% of GDP (2016)

0.6% of GDP (2015)

0.65% of GDP (2014)

country comparison to the world: 143

### **Military And Security Forces**

People's Armed Forces: Intervention Force, Development Force, Navy, Air Force (2019)

### **Military Service Age And Obligation**

Madagascar has an all-volunteer military; 18-25 years of age for males; service obligation 18 months; women are permitted to serve in all branches (2018)

## **Transportation**

### **National Air Transport System**

number of registered air carriers: 3 (2015)

inventory of registered aircraft operated by air carriers: 11 (2015)

annual passenger traffic on registered air carriers: 546,946 (2015)

annual freight traffic on registered air carriers: 30,512,607 mt-km (2015)

### **Civil Aircraft Registration Country Code Prefix**

5R (2016)

### **Airports**

83 (2013)

country comparison to the world: 66

## **Airports With Paved Runways**

total: 26 (2017)  
over 3,047 m: 1 (2017)  
2,438 to 3,047 m: 2 (2017)  
1,524 to 2,437 m: 6 (2017)  
914 to 1,523 m: 16 (2017)  
under 914 m: 1 (2017)

## **Airports With Unpaved Runways**

total: 57 (2013)  
1,524 to 2,437 m: 1 (2013)  
914 to 1,523 m: 38 (2013)  
under 914 m: 18 (2013)

## **Railways**

total: 836 km (2018)  
narrow gauge: 836 km 1.000-m gauge (2018)  
country comparison to the world: 96

## **Roadways**

total: 31,640 km (2018)  
country comparison to the world: 95

## **Waterways**

600 km (432 km navigable) (2011)  
country comparison to the world: 79

## **Merchant Marine**

total: 28  
by type: general cargo 15, oil tanker 3, other 10 (2018)  
country comparison to the world: 128

## **Ports And Terminals**

major seaport(s): Antsiranana (Diego Suarez), Mahajanga, Toamasina, Toliara (Tulear)

# **Transnational**

## **Disputes International**

claims Bassas da India, Europa Island, Glorioso Islands, and Juan de Nova Island (all administered by France); the vegetated drying cays of Banc du Geyser, which were claimed by Madagascar in 1976, also fall within the EEZ claims of the Comoros and France (Glorioso Islands, part of the French Southern and Antarctic Lands)

## **Illicit Drugs**

illicit producer of cannabis (cultivated and wild varieties) used mostly for domestic consumption; transshipment point for heroin