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Chapter 1

88

1.1 88.guide

Texified version of data for Georgia.

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Georgia

1.2 88.guide/Georgia

Georgia

Header (Georgia)
 Geography (Georgia)
 People (Georgia)
 Government (Georgia)
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 Economy (Georgia)
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 Communications (Georgia)
 Defense Forces (Georgia)

1.3 88.guide/Header (Georgia)

Header (Georgia)
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Note:

Georgia is currently besieged by conflicts driven by separatists in its Abkazian and South Ossetian enclaves, and supporters of ousted President GAMAKHURDIA control much of western Georgia

1.4 88.guide/Geography (Georgia)

Geography (Georgia)
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Location:

Southeastern Europe, bordering the Black Sea, between Turkey and Russia

Map references:

Africa, Asia, Middle East, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

69,700 km²

land area:

69,700 km²

comparative area:

slightly larger than South Carolina

Land boundaries:

total 1,461 km, Armenia 164 km, Azerbaijan 322 km, Russia 723 km, Turkey ↔
 252

km

Coastline:

310 km

Maritime claims:

note:

12 nm in 1973 USSR-Turkish Protocol concerning the sea boundary between the two states in the Black Sea; Georgia claims the coastline along the Black

Sea as its international waters, although it cannot control this area and the Russian navy and commercial ships transit freely

International disputes:
none

Climate:
warm and pleasant; Mediterranean-like on Black Sea coast

Terrain:
largely mountainous with Great Caucasus Mountains in the north and Lesser Caucasus Mountains in the south; Kolkhida Lowland opens to the Black Sea in the west; Kura River Basin in the east; good soils in river valley flood plains, foothills of Kolkhida lowland

Natural resources: forest lands, hydropower, manganese deposits, iron ores, ← copper, minor coal and oil deposits; coastal climate and soils allow for important tea and citrus growth

Land use:
arable land:
NA%
permanent crops:
NA%
meadows and pastures:
NA%
forest and woodland:
NA%
other:
NA%

Irrigated land:
4,660 km² (1990)

Environment:
air pollution, particularly in Rustavi; heavy pollution of Kura River, ← Black Sea

1.5 88.guide/People (Georgia)

People (Georgia)

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Population:
5,634,296 (July 1993 est.)

Population growth rate:
0.85% (1993 est.)

Birth rate:
16.48 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Death rate:
8.68 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Net migration rate:
0.64 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.) note - this data may be low because of movement of Ossetian, Russian, and Abkhaz refugees due to ← ongoing conflicts

Infant mortality rate:
24.2 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 72.58 years
 male:
 68.89 years
 female:
 76.46 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 2.21 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Georgian(s)
 adjective:
 Georgian
 Ethnic divisions:
 Georgian 70.1%, Armenian 8.1%, Russian 6.3%, Azeri 5.7%, Ossetian 3%, ←
 Abkhaz
 1.8%, other 5%
 Religions: Georgian Orthodox 65%, Russian Orthodox 10%, Muslim 11%, ←
 Armenian Orthodox
 8%, unknown 6%
 Languages:
 Armenian 7%, Azerbaijani 6%, Georgian 71% (official), Russian 9%, other 7%
 Literacy:
 age 9-49 can read and write (1970)
 total population:
 100%
 male:
 100%
 female:
 100%
 Labor force:
 2.763 million
 by occupation:
 industry and construction 31%, agriculture and forestry 25%, other 44%
 (1990)

1.6 88.guide/Government (Georgia)

Government (Georgia)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Georgia
 conventional short form:
 Georgia
 local long form:
 Sakartvelo Respublika
 local short form:
 Sakartvelo
 former:
 Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic

Digraph:

GG

Type:

republic

Capital:

T'bilisi (Tbilisi)

Administrative divisions:

2 autonomous republics (avtomnoy respubliki, singular - avtom respublika);
Abkhazia (Sukhumi), Ajaria (Batumi)

note:

the administrative centers of the autonomous republics are included in parentheses; there are no oblasts - the rayons around T'bilisi are under direct republic jurisdiction; also included is the South Ossetia Autonomous Oblast

Independence:

9 April 1991 (from Soviet Union)

Constitution:

adopted NA 1921; currently amending constitution for Parliamentary and popular review by late 1995

Legal system:

based on civil law system

National holiday:

Independence Day, 9 April 1991

Political parties and leaders:

All-Georgian Merab Kostava Society, Vazha ADAMIA, chairman; All-Georgian Traditionalists' Union, Akakiy ASATIANI, chairman; Georgian National Front ←

Radical Union, Ruslan GONGADZE, chairman; Georgian Social Democratic Party, Guram MUCHAIDZE, chairman; Green Party, Zurab ZHVANIA, chairman; Monarchist-Conservative Party (MCP), Temur ZHORZHOLIANI, chairman; Georgian Popular Front (GPF), Nodar NATADZE, chairman; National Democratic Party (NDP), Georgi CHANTURIA, chairman; National Independence Party (NIP), ←

Irakli TSERETELI and Irakli BATIASHVILI, chairmen; Charter 1991 Party, Tedo PAATASHVILI, chairman; Democratic Georgia Party, Georgiy SHENGELAYA, Chairman; Peace Bloc; Unity; October 11

Other political or pressure groups:

supporters of ousted President GMSAKHURDIA boycotted the October elections and remain an important source of opposition and instability

Suffrage:

18 years of age; universal

Elections:

Chairman of Parliament:

last held NA October 1992 (next to be held NA); results - Eduard SHEVARDNADZE 95%

1.7 88.guide/Government (Georgia 2. usage)

Government (Georgia 2. usage)

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Georgian Parliament (Supreme Soviet):

last held 11 October 1992 (next to be held NA); results - percent of vote ←
 by
 party NA; seats - (225 total) number of seats by party NA; note -
 representatives of 26 parties elected; Peace Bloc, October 11, Unity,
 National Democratic Party, and the Greens Party won the largest
 representation

Executive branch:
 chairman of Parliament, Council of Ministers, prime minister

Legislative branch:
 unicameral Parliament

Judicial branch:
 Supreme Court

Leaders:

Chief of State:
 Chairman of Parliament Eduard Amvrosiyevich SHEVARDNADZE (since 10 March
 1992)

Head of Government:
 Prime Minister Tengiz SIGUA (since NA January 1992); First Deputy Prime
 Minister Roman GOTSIRIDZE (since NA); Deputy Prime Ministers Aleksandr
 KAVADZE, Avtandil MARGIANI, Zurab KERVALISHVILI (since NA)

Member of:
 BSEC, CSCE, EBRD, IBRD, IMF, NACC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, WHO

Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:
 NA
 chancery:
 NA
 telephone:
 NA

US diplomatic representation:
 chief of mission: Ambassador Kent N. BROWN
 embassy:
 #25 Antoneli Street, T'bilisi
 mailing address:
 APO AE 09862
 telephone:
 (7) 8832-74-46-23

Flag:
 maroon field with small rectangle in upper hoist side corner; rectangle
 divided horizontally with black on top, white below

1.8 88.guide/Economy (Georgia)

Economy (Georgia)

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Overview:

Among the former Soviet republics, Georgia has been noted for its Black Sea
 tourist industry, its large output of citrus fruits and tea, and an
 industrial sector that accounted, however, for less than 2% of the USSR's
 output. Another salient characteristic of the economy has been a ←
 flourishing
 private sector (compared with the other republics). About 25% of the labor

force is employed in agriculture. Mineral resources consist of manganese ←
and
copper, and, to a lesser extent, molybdenum, arsenic, tungsten, and mercury ←

Except for very small quantities of domestic oil, gas, and coal, fuel must be imported from neighboring republics. Oil and its products have been delivered by pipeline from Azerbaijan to the port of Batumi for export and local refining. Gas has been supplied in pipelines from Krasnodar and Stavropol'. The dismantling of central economic controls has been delayed ←
by

political factionalism, marked by bitter armed struggles. In early 1993 the Georgian economy was operating at well less than half capacity due to disruptions in fuel supplies and vital transportation links as a result of conflicts in Abkhazia and South Ossetia, antigovernment activity in Western Georgia, and Azerbaijani pressure against Georgian assistance for Armenia. To restore economic viability, Georgia must establish domestic peace and must maintain economic ties to the other former Soviet republics while developing new links to the West.

National product:

GDP \$NA

National product real growth rate:

-35% (1992 est.)

National product per capita:

\$NA

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

50% per month (January 1993 est.)

Unemployment rate:

3% but large numbers of underemployed workers

Budget:

revenues \$NA; expenditures \$NA, including capital expenditures of \$NA

Exports:

\$NA

commodities:

citrus fruits, tea, other agricultural products; diverse types of machinery ←

;

ferrous and nonferrous metals; textiles

partners:

Russia, Turkey, Armenia, Azerbaijan (1992)

Imports: \$NA

commodities:

machinery and parts, fuel, transport equipment, textiles

partners:

Russia, Ukraine (1992)

External debt:

\$650 million (1991 est.)

Industrial production:

growth rate -50% (1992)

Electricity:

4,875,000 kW capacity; 15,800 million kWh produced, about 2,835 kWh per capita (1992)

1.9 88.guide/Economy (Georgia 2. usage)

Economy (Georgia 2. usage)

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Industries:

heavy industrial products include raw steel, rolled steel, cement, lumber; machine tools, foundry equipment, electric mining locomotives, tower cranes ↔

electric welding equipment, machinery for food preparation, meat packing, dairy, and fishing industries; air-conditioning electric motors up to 100 kW ↔

in size, electric motors for cranes, magnetic starters for motors; devices for control of industrial processes; trucks, tractors, and other farm machinery; light industrial products, including cloth, hosiery, and shoes

Agriculture:

accounted for 97% of former USSR citrus fruits and 93% of former USSR tea; berries and grapes; sugar; vegetables, grains, potatoes; cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, poultry; tobacco

Illicit drugs:

illicit producers of cannabis and opium; mostly for domestic consumption; used as transshipment point for illicit drugs to Western Europe

Economic aid:

NA

Currency:

coupons introduced in April 1993 to be followed by introduction of the lari at undetermined future date; Russian ruble remains official currency until introduction of the lari

Exchange rates:

rubles per US\$1 - 415 (24 December 1992) but subject to wide fluctuations

Fiscal year:

calendar year

1.10 88.guide/Communications (Georgia)

Communications (Georgia)

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Railroads:

1,570 km, does not include industrial lines (1990)

Highways:

33,900 km total; 29,500 km hard surfaced, 4,400 km earth (1990)

Pipelines:

crude oil 370 km, refined products 300 km, natural gas 440 km (1992)

Ports:

coastal - Batumi, Poti, Sukhumi

Merchant marine: 47 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 658,192 GRT ↔
/1,014,056 DWT; includes 16

bulk cargo, 30 oil tanker, and 1 specialized liquid carrier

Airports:

total:

37

useable:

26
 with permanent-surface runways:
 19
 with runways over 3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
 10
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
 9

Telecommunications:

poor telephone service; as of 1991, 672,000 republic telephone lines providing 12 lines per 100 persons; 339,000 unsatisfied applications for telephones (31 January 1992); international links via landline to CIS members and Turkey; low capacity satellite earth station and leased international connections via the Moscow international gateway switch; international electronic mail and telex service established

Note:

transportation network is disrupted by ethnic conflict, criminal activities ←
 and fuel shortages

1.11 88.guide/Defense Forces (Georgia)

Defense Forces (Georgia)

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Branches:

Army, National Guard, Interior Ministry Troops

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 1,338,606; fit for military service 1,066,309; reach military age (18) annually 43,415 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

\$NA, NA% of GNP

Note:

Georgian forces are poorly organized and not fully under the government's control