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Chapter 1

146

1.1 146.guide

Texified version of data for Madagascar.

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Madagascar

1.2 146.guide/Madagascar

Madagascar

Geography (Madagascar)
People (Madagascar)
Government (Madagascar)
Government (Madagascar 2. usage)
Economy (Madagascar)
Economy (Madagascar 2. usage)
Communications (Madagascar)
Defense Forces (Madagascar)

1.3 146.guide/Geography (Madagascar)

Geography (Madagascar)

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Location:
in the western Indian Ocean, 430 km east of Mozambique in Southern Africa
Map references:
Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World
Area:
total area:
587,040 km²
land area:
581,540 km² comparative area:
slightly less than twice the size of Arizona
Land boundaries:
0 km
Coastline:
4,828 km
Maritime claims:
exclusive economic zone:
200 nm
territorial sea:
12 nm
International disputes:
claims Bassas da India, Europa Island, Glorioso Islands, Juan de Nova
Island, and Tromelin Island (all administered by France)
Climate:
tropical along coast, temperate inland, arid in south
Terrain:
narrow coastal plain, high plateau and mountains in center
Natural resources:
graphite, chromite, coal, bauxite, salt, quartz, tar sands, semiprecious
stones, mica, fish
Land use:
arable land:
4%
permanent crops:
1%
meadows and pastures:
58%
forest and woodland:

26%
 other:
 11%
 Irrigated land:
 9,000 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 subject to periodic cyclones; deforestation; overgrazing; soil erosion;
 desertification
 Note:
 world's fourth-largest island; strategic location along Mozambique Channel

1.4 146.guide/People (Madagascar)

People (Madagascar)
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Population:
 13,005,989 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 3.2% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 45.66 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 13.71 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 91 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 53.52 years
 male:
 51.65 years
 female:
 55.45 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 6.75 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Malagasy (singular and plural)
 adjective:
 Malagasy
 Ethnic divisions:
 Malayo-Indonesian (Merina and related Betsileo), Cotiers (mixed African,
 Malayo-Indonesian, and Arab ancestry - Betsimisaraka, Tsimihety, Antaisaka,
 Sakalava), French, Indian, Creole, Comoran
 Religions:
 indigenous beliefs 52%, Christian 41%, Muslim 7%
 Languages:
 French (official), Malagasy (official)
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)
 total population:

80%
 male:
 88%
 female:
 73%
 Labor force:
 4.9 million 90% nonsalaried family workers engaged in subsistence
 agriculture; 175,000 wage earners
 by occupation:
 agriculture 26%, domestic service 17%, industry 15%, commerce 14%,
 construction 11%, services 9%, transportation 6%, other 2%
 note:
 51% of population of working age (1985)

1.5 146.guide/Government (Madagascar)

Government (Madagascar)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Madagascar
 conventional short form:
 Madagascar
 local long form:
 Republique de Madagascar
 local short form:
 Madagascar
 former:
 Malagasy Republic
 Digraph:
 MA
 Type:
 republic
 Capital:
 Antananarivo
 Administrative divisions:
 6 provinces - Antananarivo, Antsiranana, Fianarantsoa, Mahajanga, Toamasina ←
 ,
 Toliary
 Independence:
 26 June 1960 (from France)
 Constitution:
 12 September 1992
 Legal system:
 based on French civil law system and traditional Malagasy law; has not
 accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction
 National holiday:
 Independence Day, 26 June (1960)
 Political parties and leaders:
 some 30 political parties now exist in Madagascar, the most important of
 which are Advance Guard of the Malagasy Revolution (AREMA), Didier
 RATSIKA; Congress Party for Malagasy Independence (AKFM),

RAKOTOVAO-ANDRIATIANA; Movement for National Unity (VONJY), Dr. Marojama RAZANABAHINY; Malagasy Christian Democratic Union (UDECEMA), Norbert ANDRIAMORASATA; Militants for the Establishment of a Proletarian Regime (MFM), Manandafy RAKOTONIRINA; National Movement for the Independence of Madagascar (MONIMA), Monja JAONA; National Union for the Defense of Democracy (UNDD), Albert ZAFY

Other political or pressure groups:
 National Council of Christian Churches (FFKM), leader NA; Federalist Movement, leader NA

Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal

Elections:
 President:
 last held on 10 February 1993 (next to be held 1998); results - Albert ZAFY (UNDD), 67%; Didier RATSIRAKA (AREMA), 33%

Popular National Assembly:
 last held on 28 May 1989 (next to be held May 1993); results - AREMA 88.2%, MFM 5.1%, AKFM 3.7%, VONJY 2.2%, other 0.8%; seats - (137 total) AREMA 120, MFM 7, AKFM 5, VONJY 4, MONIMA 1

Executive branch:
 president, prime minister, Council of Ministers

1.6 146.guide/Government (Madagascar 2. usage)

Government (Madagascar 2. usage)

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Legislative branch:
 unicameral Popular National Assembly (Assemblée Nationale Populaire); note ↔
 -
 the National Assembly has suspended its operations during 1992 and early 1993 in preparation for new legislative elections. In its place, an interim High Authority of State and a Social and Economic Recovery Council have ↔
 been
 established

Judicial branch:
 Supreme Court (Cour Supreme), High Constitutional Court (Haute Cour Constitutionnelle)

Leaders: Chief of State:
 President Adm. Didier RATSIRAKA (since 15 June 1975)

Head of Government:
 Prime Minister Guy RAZANAMASY (since 8 August 1991)

Member of:
 ACCT, ACP, AfDB, CCC, ECA, FAO, G-77, GATT, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSTAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS, NAM, OAU, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UPU, WCL, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Pierrot Jocelyn RAJAONARIVELO
 chancery:
 2374 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008
 telephone:
 (202) 265-5525 or 5526

consulate general:
 New York
 US diplomatic representation:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Douglas BARRETT
 embassy:
 14 and 16 Rue Rainitovo, Antsahavola, Antananarivo
 mailing address:
 B. P. 620, Antananarivo
 telephone:
 [261] (2) 212-57, 209-56, 200-89, 207-18
 FAX:
 261-234-539
 Flag:
 two equal horizontal bands of red (top) and green with a vertical white band ←
 of the same width on hoist side

1.7 146.guide/Economy (Madagascar)

Economy (Madagascar)

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Overview:

Madagascar is one of the poorest countries in the world. Agriculture, including fishing and forestry, is the mainstay of the economy, accounting for over 30% of GDP and contributing to more than 70% of total export earnings. Industry is largely confined to the processing of agricultural products and textile manufacturing; in 1991 it accounted for only 13% of GDP. In 1986 the government introduced a five-year development plan that stressed self-sufficiency in food (mainly rice) by 1990, increased production for exports, and reduced energy imports. After mid-1991, however ←

output dropped sharply because of protracted antigovernment strikes and demonstrations for political reform.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$2.5 billion (1992 est.)

National product real growth rate:

1% (1992 est.)

National product per capita:

\$200 (1992 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

20% (1992 est.)

Unemployment rate: NA%

Budget:

revenues \$250 million; expenditures \$265 million, including capital expenditures of \$180 million (1991)

Exports:

\$312 million (f.o.b., 1991 est.)

commodities:

coffee 45%, vanilla 20%, cloves 11%, sugar, petroleum products

partners:

France, Japan, Italy, Germany, US

Imports:
 \$350 million (f.o.b., 1992 est.)
 commodities:
 intermediate manufactures 30%, capital goods 28%, petroleum 15%, consumer goods 14%, food 13%
 partners:
 France, Germany, UK, other EC, US
 External debt:
 \$4.4 billion (1991)
 Industrial production:
 growth rate 5.2% (1990 est.); accounts for 13% of GDP
 Electricity:
 125,000 kW capacity; 450 million kWh produced, 35 kWh per capita (1991)
 Industries:
 agricultural processing (meat canneries, soap factories, breweries, tanneries, sugar refining plants), light consumer goods industries (textiles, glassware), cement, automobile assembly plant, paper, petroleum
 Agriculture:
 accounts for 31% of GDP; cash crops - coffee, vanilla, sugarcane, cloves, cocoa; food crops - rice, cassava, beans, bananas, peanuts; cattle raising widespread; almost self-sufficient in rice
 Illicit drugs:
 illicit producer of cannabis (cultivated and wild varieties) used mostly for domestic consumption ←
 Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$136 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$3,125 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$491 million

1.8 146.guide/Economy (Madagascar 2. usage)

Economy (Madagascar 2. usage)

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Currency:
 1 Malagasy franc (FMG) = 100 centimes
 Exchange rates:
 Malagasy francs (FMG) per US\$1 - 1,910.2 (December 1992), 1,867.9 (1992), 1,835.4 (1991), 1,454.6 (December 1990), 1,603.4 (1989), 1,407.1 (1988), 1,069.2 (1987)
 Fiscal year:
 calendar year

1.9 146.guide/Communications (Madagascar)

Communications (Madagascar)

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Railroads:

1,020 km 1.000-meter gauge

Highways:

40,000 km total; 4,694 km paved, 811 km crushed stone, gravel, or ←
stabilized
soil, 34,495 km improved and unimproved earth (est.)

Inland waterways:

of local importance only; isolated streams and small portions of Canal des Pangalanes

Ports:

Toamasina, Antsiranana, Mahajanga, Toliara

Merchant marine:

11 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 35,359 GRT/48,772 DWT; includes 6 cargo, 2 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 1 oil tanker, 1 chemical tanker, 1 liquefied gas

Airports:

total:

146

usable:

103

with permanent-surface runways:

30

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

3

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

36

Telecommunications:

above average system includes open-wire lines, coaxial cables, radio relay, and troposcatter links; submarine cable to Bahrain; satellite earth ←
stations

- 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT and broadcast stations - 17 AM, 3 FM, 1 (36 repeaters) TV

1.10 146.guide/Defense Forces (Madagascar)

Defense Forces (Madagascar)

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Branches:

Popular Armed Forces (including Intervention Forces, Development Forces, Aeronaval Forces - including Navy and Air Force), Gendarmerie, Presidential Security Regiment

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 2,826,018; fit for military service 1,681,553; reach military age (20) annually 118,233 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$37 million, 2.2% of GDP (1991 est.)