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Chapter 1

197

1.1 197.guide

Texified version of data for Qatar.

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Qatar

1.2 197.guide/Qatar

Qatar

Geography (Qatar)
People (Qatar)
Government (Qatar)
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1.3 197.guide/Geography (Qatar)

Geography (Qatar)

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Location:

Middle East, peninsula jutting into the central Persian Gulf, between Iran and Saudi Arabia

Map references:

Middle East, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

11,000 km²

land area:

11,000 km²

comparative area:

slightly smaller than Connecticut

Land boundaries:

total 60 km, Saudi Arabia 60 km

Coastline:

563 km

Maritime claims:

continental shelf:

not specified

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

territorial dispute with Bahrain over the Hawar Islands; maritime boundary with Bahrain

Climate:

desert; hot, dry; humid and sultry in summer

Terrain:

mostly flat and barren desert covered with loose sand and gravel

Natural resources:

petroleum, natural gas, fish

Land use:

arable land:

0%

permanent crops:

0%

meadows and pastures:

5%
 forest and woodland:
 0%
 other:
 95%
 Irrigated land:
 NA km2
 Environment:
 haze, duststorms, sandstorms common; limited freshwater resources mean
 increasing dependence on large-scale desalination facilities
 Note:
 strategic location in central Persian Gulf near major petroleum deposits

1.4 197.guide/People (Qatar)

People (Qatar)

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Population:
 499,115 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 2.84% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 19.61 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 3.53 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 12.36 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 22.7 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth: total population:
 72.25 years
 male:
 69.73 years
 female:
 74.68 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 3.88 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Qatari(s)
 adjective:
 Qatari
 Ethnic divisions:
 Arab 40%, Pakistani 18%, Indian 18%, Iranian 10%, other 14%
 Religions:
 Muslim 95%
 Languages:
 Arabic (official), English commonly used as a second language
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1986)
 total population:
 76%

male:
 77%
 female:
 72%
 Labor force:
 104,000 85% non-Qatari in private sector (1983)

1.5 197.guide/Government (Qatar)

Government (Qatar)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 State of Qatar
 conventional short form:
 Qatar
 local long form:
 Dawlat Qatar
 local short form:
 Qatar
 Digraph:
 QA
 Type:
 traditional monarchy
 Capital:
 Doha
 Administrative divisions:
 there are no first-order administrative divisions as defined by the US
 Government, but there are 9 municipalities (baladiyat, singular -
 baladiyah); Ad Dawhah, Al Ghuwayriyah, Al Jumayliyah, Al Khawr, Al Rayyan,
 Al Wakrah, Ash Shamal, Jarayan al Batnah, Umm Salal
 Independence:
 3 September 1971 (from UK)
 Constitution:
 provisional constitution enacted 2 April 1970
 Legal system:
 discretionary system of law controlled by the amir, although civil codes ←
 are
 being implemented; Islamic law is significant in personal matters
 National holiday:
 Independence Day, 3 September (1971)
 Political parties and leaders:
 none
 Suffrage:
 none
 Elections:
 Advisory Council:
 constitution calls for elections for part of this consultative body, but no
 elections have been held; seats - (30 total)
 Executive branch:
 amir, Council of Ministers (cabinet)
 Legislative branch:

unicameral Advisory Council (Majlis al-Shura)
 Judicial branch:
 Court of Appeal
 Leaders:
 Chief of State and Head of Government:
 Amir and Prime Minister KHALIFA bin Hamad Al Thani (since 22 February 1972) ↔
 ;
 Crown Prince HAMAD bin Khalifa Al Thani (appointed 31 May 1977; son of Amir ↔
)
 Member of:
 ABEDA, AFESD, AL, AMF, CCC, ESCWA, FAO, G-77, GCC, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IDB,
 IFAD, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS, NAM,
 OAPEC, OIC, OPEC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO
 Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador 'Abd al-Rahman bin Sa'ud ALTHANI
 chancery:
 Suite 1180, 600 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20037
 telephone:
 (202) 338-0111

1.6 197.guide/Government (Qatar 2. usage)

Government (Qatar 2. usage)

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US diplomatic representation:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Kenton W. KEITH
 embassy:
 149 Ali Bin Ahmed St., Farig Bin Omran (opposite the television station),
 Doha
 mailing address:
 P. O. Box 2399, Doha
 telephone:
 (0974) 864701 through 864703
 FAX:
 (0974) 861669
 Flag:
 maroon with a broad white serrated band (nine white points) on the hoist
 side

1.7 197.guide/Economy (Qatar)

Economy (Qatar)

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Overview:

Oil is the backbone of the economy and accounts for more than 85% of export earnings and roughly 75% of government revenues. Proved oil reserves of 3.3 billion barrels should ensure continued output at current levels for about 25 years. Oil has given Qatar a per capita GDP of about \$17,000, comparable to the leading industrial countries. Production and export of natural gas ←
is

becoming increasingly important.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$8.1 billion (1991 est.)

National product real growth rate:

3% (1991 est.)

National product per capita:

\$17,000 (1991 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

3% (1990)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$2.5 billion; expenditures \$3.0 billion, including capital expenditures of \$440 million (FY92 est.)

Exports:

\$3.2 billion (f.o.b., 1991)

commodities:

petroleum products 85%, steel, fertilizers

partners:

Japan 61%, Brazil 6%, South Korea 5%, UAE 4%

Imports:

\$1.4 billion (f.o.b., 1991 est.)

commodities:

machinery and equipment, consumer goods, food, chemicals

partners:

France 13%, Japan 12%, UK 11%, Germany 9%

External debt:

\$1.1 billion (December 1989 est.)

Industrial production:

growth rate 0.6% (1987); accounts for 64% of GDP, including oil

Electricity:

1,596,000 kW capacity; 4,818 million kWh produced, 9,655 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:

crude oil production and refining, fertilizers, petrochemicals, steel (←
rolls

reinforcing bars for concrete construction), cement

Agriculture:

farming and grazing on small scale, less than 2% of GDP; agricultural area is small and government-owned; commercial fishing increasing in importance; most food imported

Economic aid:

donor - pledged \$2.7 billion in ODA to less developed countries (1979-88)

Currency:

1 Qatari riyal (QR) = 100 dirhams

Exchange rates: Qatari riyals (QR) per US\$1 - 3.6400 riyals (fixed rate)

Fiscal year:

1 April - 31 March

1.8 197.guide/Communications (Qatar)

Communications (Qatar)

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Highways:

1,500 km total; 1,000 km paved, 500 km gravel or natural surface (est.)

Pipelines:

crude oil 235 km, natural gas 400 km

Ports:

Doha, Umm Sa'id, Halul Island

Merchant marine:

20 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 390,072 GRT/593,508 DWT; includes 13 cargo, 4 container, 2 oil tanker, 1 refrigerated cargo

Airports:

total:

4

usable:

4

with permanent-surface runways:

1

with runways over 3,659 m:

1

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

0

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

2

Telecommunications:

modern system centered in Doha; 110,000 telephones; tropospheric scatter to Bahrain; microwave radio relay to Saudi Arabia and UAE; submarine cable to Bahrain and UAE; satellite earth stations - 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT, 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT, 1 ARABSAT; broadcast stations - 2 AM, 3 FM, 3 TV

1.9 197.guide/Defense Forces (Qatar)

Defense Forces (Qatar)

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Branches:

Army, Navy, Air Force, Public Security

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 214,977; fit for military service 113,514; reach military age (18) annually 3,578 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$NA, NA%, of GDP