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# Chapter 1

## 17

### 1.1 17.guide

Texified version of data for Azerbaijan.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock  
Neuhäuselerstr. 12  
D-66459 Kirdel  
Germany

Tel.: 06849 / 6134  
INTERNET: leibrock@fsinfo.cs.uni-sb.de  
fach5@cipsol.cs.uni-sb.de

Project Gutenberg

P. O. Box 2782

Champaign, IL 61825

When all other email fails try our Michael S. Hart, Executive  
Director:

hart@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu (internet) hart@uiucvmd (bitnet)

We would prefer to send you this information by email (Internet,  
Bitnet, Compuserve, ATTMAIL or MCImail).

Azerbaijan

### 1.2 17.guide/Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan

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

### 1.3 17.guide/Geography (Azerbaijan)

Geography (Azerbaijan)  
 =====

Location:

Southeastern Europe, between Armenia and Turkmenistan, bordering the ←  
 Caspian  
 Sea

Map references:

Africa, Asia, Commonwealth of Independent States - Central Asian States,  
 Commonwealth of Independent States - European States, Middle East, Standard  
 Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

86,600 km<sup>2</sup>

land area:

86,100 km<sup>2</sup>

comparative area:

slightly larger than Maine

note:

includes the Nakhichevan' Autonomous Republic and the Nagorno-Karabakh  
 Autonomous Oblast; region's autonomy was abolished by Azerbaijan Supreme  
 Soviet on 26 November 1991

Land boundaries:

total 2,013 km, Armenia (west) 566 km, Armenia (southwest) 221 km, Georgia  
 322 km, Iran (south) 432 km, Iran (southwest) 179 km, Russia 284 km, Turkey  
 9 km

Coastline:

0 km (landlocked)

note:

Azerbaijan does border the Caspian Sea (800 km, est.)

Maritime claims:

NA

note:

Azerbaijani claims in Caspian Sea unknown; 10 nm fishing zone provided for  
 in 1940 treaty regarding trade and navigation between Soviet Union and Iran

International disputes:

violent and longstanding dispute with Armenia over status of  
 Nagorno-Karabakh, lesser dispute concerns Nakhichevan; some Azerbaijanis

desire absorption of and/or unification with the ethnically Azeri portion ←  
 of  
 Iran; minor irredentist disputes along Georgia border  
 Climate:  
 dry, semiarid steppe; subject to drought  
 Terrain:  
 large, flat Kura-Aras Lowland (much of it below sea level) with Great  
 Caucasus Mountains to the north, Karabakh Upland in west; Baku lies on  
 Apsheron Peninsula that juts into Caspian Sea  
 Natural resources:  
 petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, nonferrous metals, alumina  
 Land use:  
 arable land:  
 18%  
 permanent crops:  
 0%  
 meadows and pastures:  
 25%  
 forest and woodland:  
 0%  
 other:  
 57%  
 Irrigated land:  
 14,010 km<sup>2</sup> (1990)

## 1.4 17.guide/Geography (Azerbaijan 2. usage)

Geography (Azerbaijan 2. usage)

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Environment:  
 local scientists consider Apsheron Peninsula, including Baku and Sumgait,  
 and the Caspian Sea to be "most ecologically devastated area in the world"  
 because of severe air and water pollution  
 Note:  
 landlocked

## 1.5 17.guide/People (Azerbaijan)

People (Azerbaijan)

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Population:  
 7,573,435 (July 1993 est.)  
 Population growth rate:  
 1.5% (1993 est.)  
 Birth rate:  
 24.09 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)

## Death rate:

6.61 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)

## Net migration rate:

-2.45 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)

## Infant mortality rate:

35.7 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)

## Life expectancy at birth:

total population:

70.6 years

male:

66.77 years

female:

74.63 years (1993 est.)

## Total fertility rate:

2.76 children born/woman (1993 est.)

## Nationality:

noun:

Azerbaijani(s)

adjective: Azerbaijani

## Ethnic divisions:

Azeri 82.7%, Russian 5.6%, Armenian 5.6%, Daghestanis 3.2%, other 2.9%, ←  
note

- Armenian share may be less than 5.6% because many Armenians have fled the ethnic violence since 1989 census

## Religions:

Moslem 87%, Russian Orthodox 5.6%, Armenian Orthodox 5.6%, other 1.8%

## Languages:

Azeri 82%, Russian 7%, Armenian 5%, other 6%

## Literacy:

age 9-49 can read and write (1970)

total population:

100%

male:

100%

female:

100%

## Labor force:

2.789 million

by occupation:

agriculture and forestry 32%, industry and construction 26%, other 42%  
(1990)

## 1.6 17.guide/Government (Azerbaijan)

### Government (Azerbaijan)

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## Names:

conventional long form:

Republic of Azerbaijan

conventional short form:

Azerbaijan

local long form:

Azarbaijchan Respublikasy  
local short form:  
none  
former:  
Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic  
Digraph:  
AJ  
Type:  
republic  
Capital:  
Baku (Baky)  
Administrative divisions:  
1 autonomous republic (avtomnaya respublika); Nakhichevan (administrative center at Nakhichevan)  
note:  
all rayons except for the exclave of Nakhichevan are under direct republic jurisdiction; 1 autonomous oblast, Nagorno-Karabakh (officially abolished ↔ by Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet on 26 November 1991) has declared itself Nagorno-Karabakh Republic  
Independence:  
30 August 1991 (from Soviet Union)  
Constitution:  
adopted NA April 1978; writing a new constitution mid-1993  
Legal system:  
based on civil law system  
National holiday:  
NA  
Political parties and leaders:  
New Azerbaijan Party, ALIYEV; Musavat Party (Azerbaijan Popular Front - APF), Isa GAMBAROV; National Independence Party (main opposition party), Etibar MAMEDOV; Social Democratic Party (SDP), Zardusht Ali ZADE; Party of Revolutionary Revival (successor to the Communist Party), Sayad Afes OGLV, general secretary; Party of Independent Azerbaijan, SOVLEYMANOV  
Other political or pressure groups:  
self-proclaimed Armenian Nagorno-Karabakh Republic  
Suffrage:  
18 years of age; universal  
Elections:  
President:  
last held 8 June 1992 (next to be held NA); results - Abdulfaz Ali ELCHIBEY ↔  
,  
won 60% of vote  
National Council:  
last held 30 September and 14 October 1990 for the Supreme Soviet (next expected to be held late 1993 for the National Council); seats for Supreme Soviet - (360 total) Communists 280, Democratic Bloc 45 (grouping of opposition parties), other 15, vacant 20; note - on 19 May 1992 the Supreme Soviet was disbanded in favor of a Popular Front-dominated National Council ↔  
;  
seats - (50 total) 25 Popular Front, 25 opposition elements  
Executive branch:  
president, council of ministers  
Legislative branch:  
National Parliament (National Assembly or Milli Mejlis)

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## 1.7 17.guide/Government (Azerbaijan 2. usage)

Government (Azerbaijan 2. usage)

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Judicial branch:

Supreme Court

Leaders:

Chief of State:

President Ebulfesz ELCHIBEY (since 7 June 1992)

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Penah HUSEYNOV (since 29 April 1993; resigned 7 June 1993; likely replacement - E'tibar MAMEDOV); National Parliament Chairman Isa GAMBAROV (since 19 May 1992; resigned 13 June 1993; likely replacement Geydar ALIYEV)

Member of:

BSEC, CSCE, EBRD, ECO, ESCAP, IBRD, IDB, ILO, IMF, INTELSAT, ITU, NACC, OIC ↔

,

UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO

Diplomatic representation in US:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Hafiz PASHAYEV

chancery:

1615 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

telephone:

NA

US diplomatic representation:

chief of mission: Ambassador Richard MILES

embassy:

Hotel Intourist, Baku

mailing address:

APO AE 09862

telephone:

7-8922-91-79-56

Flag:

three equal horizontal bands of blue (top), red, and green; a crescent and eight-pointed star in white are centered in red band

## 1.8 17.guide/Economy (Azerbaijan)

Economy (Azerbaijan)

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Overview:

Azerbaijan is less developed industrially than either Armenia or Georgia, the other Transcaucasian states. It resembles the Central Asian states in its majority Muslim population, high structural unemployment, and low standard of living. The economy's most prominent products are cotton, oil, and gas. Production from the Caspian oil and gas field has been in decline for several years. With foreign assistance, the oil industry might generate the funds needed to spur industrial development. However, civil unrest,

marked by armed conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh region between Muslim Azeris and Christian Armenians, makes foreign investors wary. Azerbaijan accounted for 1.5% to 2% of the capital stock and output of the former Soviet Union. Azerbaijan shares all the formidable problems of the ex-Soviet republics in making the transition from a command to a market economy, but its considerable energy resources brighten its prospects somewhat. Old economic ties and structures have yet to be replaced. A particularly galling constraint on economic revival is the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, said to consume 25% of Azerbaijan's economic resources.

National product:  
 GDP \$NA

National product real growth rate:  
 -25% (1992)

National product per capita:  
 \$NA

Inflation rate (consumer prices):  
 20% per month (1992 est.)

Unemployment rate:  
 0.2% includes officially registered unemployed; also large numbers of underemployed workers

Budget:  
 revenues \$NA; expenditures \$NA, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1992)

Exports:  
 \$821 million to outside the successor states of the former USSR (f.o.b., 1992 est.)  
 commodities:  
 oil and gas, chemicals, oilfield equipment, textiles, cotton (1991)  
 partners:  
 mostly CIS and European countries

Imports:  
 \$300 million from outside the successor states of the former USSR (c.i.f., 1992 est.)  
 commodities: machinery and parts, consumer durables, foodstuffs, textiles (1991)  
 partners:  
 European countries

External debt:  
 \$1.3 billion (1991 est.)

Industrial production:  
 growth rate -27% (1992)

Electricity:  
 6,025,000 kW capacity; 22,300 million kWh produced, 2,990 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:  
 petroleum and natural gas, petroleum products, oilfield equipment; steel, iron ore, cement; chemicals and petrochemicals; textiles

Agriculture:  
 cotton, grain, rice, grapes, fruit, vegetables, tea, tobacco; cattle, pigs, sheep and goats

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## 1.9 17.guide/Economy (Azerbaijan 2. usage)

Economy (Azerbaijan 2. usage)

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Illicit drugs:

illicit producer of cannabis and opium; mostly for CIS consumption; limited government eradication program; used as transshipment points for illicit drugs to Western Europe

Economic aid:

wheat from Turkey

Currency:

1 manat (abbreviation NA) = 10 Russian rubles; ruble still used

Exchange rates:

NA

Fiscal year:

calendar year

## 1.10 17.guide/Communications (Azerbaijan)

Communications (Azerbaijan)

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Railroads:

2,090 km; does not include industrial lines (1990)

Highways:

36,700 km total (1990); 31,800 km hard surfaced; 4,900 km earth

Pipelines:

crude oil 1,130 km, petroleum products 630 km, natural gas 1,240 km

Ports:

inland - Baku (Baky)

Airports:

total:

65

useable:

33

with permanent-surface runways:

26

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m: 8

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

23

Telecommunications:

domestic telephone service is of poor quality and inadequate; 644,000

domestic telephone lines (density - 9 lines per 100 persons (1991)), ↔  
202,000

persons waiting for telephone installations (January 1991); connections to other former USSR republics by cable and microwave and to other countries via the Moscow international gateway switch; INTELSAT earth station

installed in late 1992 in Baku with Turkish financial assistance with access  
to 200 countries through Turkey; domestic and Russian TV programs are  
received locally and Turkish and Iranian TV is received from an INTELSAT  
satellite through a receive-only earth station

## 1.11 17.guide/Defense Forces (Azerbaijan)

Defense Forces (Azerbaijan)

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Branches:

Army, Air Force, Navy, National Guard, Security Forces (internal and border  
troops)

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 1,842,917; fit for military service 1,497,640; reach  
military age (18) annually 66,928 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

2,848 million rubles, NA% of GDP (1992 est.); note - conversion of the  
military budget into US dollars using the current exchange rate could  
produce misleading results