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WRITTEN BY		August 10, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

45

1.1 45.guide

Texified version of data for Cape Verde.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock
Neuhäuselerstr. 12
D-66459 Kirkel
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).

Cape Verde

1.2 45.guide/Cape Verde

Cape Verde

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

1.3 45.guide/Geography (Cape Verde)

Geography (Cape Verde)
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Location:
in the southeastern North Atlantic Ocean, 500 km west of Senegal in Western Africa

Map references:
Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:
total area:
4,030 km²
land area:
4,030 km² comparative area:
slightly larger than Rhode Island

Land boundaries:
0 km

Coastline:
965 km

Maritime claims:
measured from claimed archipelagic baselines
exclusive economic zone:
200 nm
territorial sea:
12 nm

International disputes:
none

Climate:
temperate; warm, dry, summer; precipitation very erratic

Terrain:
steep, rugged, rocky, volcanic

Natural resources:
salt, basalt rock, pozzolana, limestone, kaolin, fish

Land use:
arable land:
9%
permanent crops:
0%
meadows and pastures:
6%
forest and woodland:

0%
 other:
 85%
 Irrigated land:
 20 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 subject to prolonged droughts; harmattan wind can obscure visibility;
 volcanically and seismically active; deforestation; overgrazing
 Note:
 strategic location 500 km from west coast of Africa near major north-south
 sea routes; important communications station; important sea and air
 refueling site

1.4 45.guide/People (Cape Verde)

People (Cape Verde)

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Population:
 410,535 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 3.03% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 47.02 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 9.43 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 -7.31 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate: 59.6 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 62.18 years
 male:
 60.3 years
 female:
 64.15 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 6.41 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Cape Verdean(s)
 adjective:
 Cape Verdean
 Ethnic divisions:
 Creole (mulatto) 71%, African 28%, European 1%
 Religions:
 Roman Catholicism fused with indigenous beliefs
 Languages:
 Portuguese, Crioulo, a blend of Portuguese and West African words
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1989)
 total population:
 66%

male:
 NA
 female:
 NA
 Labor force:
 102,000 (1985 est.)
 by occupation:
 agriculture (mostly subsistence) 57%, services 29%, industry 14% (1981)
 note:
 51% of population of working age (1985)

1.5 45.guide/Government (Cape Verde)

Government (Cape Verde)
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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Cape Verde
 conventional short form:
 Cape Verde
 local long form:
 Republica de Cabo Verde
 local short form:
 Cabo Verde
 Digraph:
 CV
 Type:
 republic
 Capital:
 Praia
 Administrative divisions: 14 districts (concelhos, singular - concelho); ↩
 Boa Vista, Brava, Fogo,
 Maio,
 Paul, Praia, Porto Novo, Ribeira Grande, Sal, Santa Catarina, Santa Cruz,
 Sao Nicolau, Sao Vicente, Tarrafal
 Independence:
 5 July 1975 (from Portugal)
 Constitution:
 7 September 1980; amended 12 February 1981, December 1988, and 28 September
 1990 (legalized opposition parties)
 Legal system:
 NA
 National holiday:
 Independence Day, 5 July (1975)
 Political parties and leaders:
 Movement for Democracy (MPD), Prime Minister Carlos VEIGA, founder and
 chairman; African Party for Independence of Cape Verde (PAICV), Pedro ↩
 Verona
 Rodrigues PIRES, chairman
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal
 Elections:

People's National Assembly:

last held 13 January 1991 (next to be held January 1996); results - percent of vote by party NA; seats - (79 total) MPD 56, PAICV 23; note - this multiparty Assembly election ended 15 years of single-party rule

President:

last held 17 February 1991 (next to be held February 1996); results - Antonio Monteiro MASCARENHAS (MPD) received 72.6% of vote

Executive branch:

president, prime minister, deputy minister, secretaries of state, Council of

Ministers (cabinet)

Legislative branch:

unicameral People's National Assembly (Assembleia Nacional Popular)

Judicial branch:

Supreme Tribunal of Justice (Supremo Tribunal de Justia)

Leaders:

Chief of State:

President Antonio Monteiro MASCARENHAS (since 22 March 1991)

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Carlos Alberto Wahnnon de Carvalho VEIGA (since 13 January 1991)

1.6 45.guide/Government (Cape Verde 2. usage)

Government (Cape Verde 2. usage)

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Member of:

ACP, AfDB, ECA, ECOWAS, FAO, G-77, IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOM (observer), ITU, LORCS, NAM, OAU, UN (Cape Verde assumed a nonpermanent seat on the Security Council on 1 January 1992), UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNOMOZ, UPU, WCL, WHO, WMO

Diplomatic representation in US:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Carlos Alberto Santos SILVA

chancery:

3415 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20007

telephone:

(202) 965-6820 consulate general:

Boston

US diplomatic representation:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Joseph SEGARS

embassy:

Rua Hoji Ya Henda 81, Praia

mailing address:

C. P. 201, Praia

telephone:

[238] 61-56-16 or 61-56-17

FAX:

[238] 61-13-55

Flag:

a new flag of unknown description reportedly has been adopted; previous flag consisted of two equal horizontal bands of yellow (top) and green with a vertical red band on the hoist side; in the upper portion of the red band is a black five-pointed star framed by two corn stalks and a yellow clam shell; uses the popular pan-African colors of Ethiopia; similar to the flag of Guinea-Bissau, which is longer and has an unadorned black star centered in the red band

1.7 45.guide/Economy (Cape Verde)

Economy (Cape Verde)

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Overview:

Cape Verde's low per capita GDP reflects a poor natural resource base, a serious, long-term drought, and a high birthrate. The economy is service oriented, with commerce, transport, and public services accounting for 60% of GDP. Although nearly 70% of the population lives in rural areas, agriculture's share of GDP is only 16%; the fishing sector accounts for 4%. About 90% of food must be imported. The fishing potential, mostly lobster and tuna, is not fully exploited. In 1988 fishing represented only 3.5% of GDP. Cape Verde annually runs a high trade deficit, financed by remittances from emigrants and foreign aid. Economic reforms launched by the new democratic government in February 1991 are aimed at developing the private sector and attracting foreign investment to diversify the economy.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$310 million (1990 est.)

National product real growth rate:

4% (1990 est.)

National product per capita:

\$800 (1990 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

8.7% (1991 est.)

Unemployment rate:

25% (1988)

Budget:

revenues \$104 million; expenditures \$133 million, including capital expenditures of \$72 million (1991 est.)

Exports:

\$5.7 million (f.o.b., 1990 est.)

commodities:

fish, bananas, hides and skins

partners: Portugal 40%, Algeria 31%, Angola, Netherlands (1990 est.)

Imports:

\$120 million (c.i.f., 1990 est.)

commodities:

foodstuffs, consumer goods, industrial products, transport equipment

partners:

Sweden 33%, Spain 11%, Germany 5%, Portugal 3%, France 3%, Netherlands, US (1990 est.)

External debt:

\$156 million (1991)

Industrial production:

growth rate 18% (1988 est.); accounts for 4% of GDP

Electricity:

15,000 kW capacity; 15 million kWh produced, 40 kWh per capita (1991)

Industries:

fish processing, salt mining, clothing factories, ship repair, construction materials, food and beverage production

Agriculture:

accounts for 20% of GDP (including fishing); largely subsistence farming; bananas are the only export crop; other crops - corn, beans, sweet potatoes ←

coffee; growth potential of agricultural sector limited by poor soils and scanty rainfall; annual food imports required; fish catch provides for both domestic consumption and small exports

Economic aid:

US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY75-90), \$93 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-90), \$586 million; OPEC bilateral aid (1979-89), \$12 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$36 million

1.8 45.guide/Economy (Cape Verde 2. usage)

Economy (Cape Verde 2. usage)

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Currency:

1 Cape Verdean escudo (CVEsc) = 100 centavos

Exchange rates:

Cape Verdean escudos (CVEsc) per US\$1 - 75.47 (January 1993), 73.10 (1992), 71.41 (1991), 64.10 (November 1990), 74.86 (December 1989), 72.01 (1988)

Fiscal year:

calendar year

1.9 45.guide/Communications (Cape Verde)

Communications (Cape Verde)

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Ports:

Mindelo, Praia

Merchant marine:

7 cargo ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 11,717 GRT/19,000 DWT

Airports:

total:

6

usable:

6
 with permanent-surface runways:
 6 with runways over 3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
 1
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
 2
 Telecommunications:
 interisland microwave radio relay system, high-frequency radio to Senegal
 and Guinea-Bissau; over 1,700 telephones; broadcast stations - 1 AM, 6 FM, ↔
 1
 TV; 2 coaxial submarine cables; 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT earth station

1.10 45.guide/Defense Forces (Cape Verde)

Defense Forces (Cape Verde)

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Branches:

People's Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARP) (including Army and Navy),
 Security Service

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 75,431; fit for military service 44,358 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

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