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Chapter 1

87

1.1 87.guide

Texified version of data for Gaza Strip.

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Gaza Strip

1.2 87.guide/Gaza Strip

Gaza Strip

Header (Gaza Strip)
 Geography (Gaza Strip)
 People (Gaza Strip)
 Government (Gaza Strip)
 Economy (Gaza Strip)
 Communications (Gaza Strip)
 Defense Forces (Gaza Strip)

1.3 87.guide/Header (Gaza Strip)

Header (Gaza Strip)
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Note:

The war between Israel and the Arab states in June 1967 ended with Israel ←
 in
 control of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the Sinai, and the Golan
 Heights. As stated in the 1978 Camp David accords and reaffirmed by
 President Bush's post-Gulf crisis peace initiative, the final status of the
 West Bank and the Gaza Strip, their relationship with their neighbors, and ←
 a
 peace treaty between Israel and Jordan are to be negotiated among the
 concerned parties. Camp David further specifies that these negotiations ←
 will
 resolve the respective boundaries. Pending the completion of this process,
 it is US policy that the final status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip
 has yet to be determined. In the US view, the term West Bank describes all
 of the area west of the Jordan River under Jordanian administration before
 the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. With respect to negotiations envisaged in the
 framework agreement, however, it is US policy that a distinction must be
 made between Jerusalem and the rest of the West Bank because of the city's
 special status and circumstances. Therefore, a negotiated solution for the
 final status of Jerusalem could be different in character from that of the
 rest of the West Bank.

1.4 87.guide/Geography (Gaza Strip)

Geography (Gaza Strip)
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Location:

Middle East, bordering the eastern Mediterranean Sea, between Egypt and
 Israel

Map references:

Middle East

Area:

total area:
 380 km²
 land area:
 380 km²
 comparative area:
 slightly more than twice the size of Washington, DC
 Land boundaries:
 total 62 km, Egypt 11 km, Israel 51 km
 Coastline:
 40 km
 Maritime claims:
 Israeli occupied with status to be determined
 International disputes:
 Israeli occupied with status to be determined
 Climate:
 temperate, mild winters, dry and warm to hot summers
 Terrain:
 flat to rolling, sand- and dune-covered coastal plain
 Natural resources:
 negligible
 Land use:
 arable land:
 13%
 permanent crops:
 32%
 meadows and pastures:
 0%
 forest and woodland:
 0%
 other:
 55%
 Irrigated land: 200 km²
 Environment:
 desertification

1.5 87.guide/People (Gaza Strip)

People (Gaza Strip)

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Population:
 705,834 (July 1993 est.)
 note:
 in addition, there are 4,000 Jewish settlers in the Gaza Strip (1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 3.56% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 45.66 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 5.71 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 -4.35 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:

38.9 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 67.26 years
 male:
 66.01 years
 female:
 68.57 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 7.51 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 NA
 adjective:
 NA
 Ethnic divisions:
 Palestinian Arab and other 99.8%, Jewish 0.2%
 Religions:
 Muslim (predominantly Sunni) 99%, Christian 0.7%, Jewish 0.3%
 Languages:
 Arabic, Hebrew (spoken by Israeli settlers), English (widely understood)
 Literacy:
 total population:
 NA%
 male:
 NA%
 female:
 NA%
 Labor force:
 NA
 by occupation:
 small industry, commerce and business 32.0%, construction 24.4%, service ←
 and
 other 25.5%, agriculture 18.1% (1984)
 note:
 excluding Israeli Jewish settlers

1.6 87.guide/Government (Gaza Strip)

Government (Gaza Strip)

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Note:

The Gaza Strip is currently governed by Israeli military authorities and Israeli civil administration. It is US policy that the final status of the Gaza Strip will be determined by negotiations among the concerned parties. These negotiations will determine how this area is to be governed.

Names:

conventional long form:
 none
 conventional short form:
 Gaza Strip
 local long form:

none
 local short form:
 Qita Ghazzah
 Digraph:
 GZ

1.7 87.guide/Economy (Gaza Strip)

Economy (Gaza Strip)

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Overview:

In 1990 roughly 40% of Gaza Strip workers were employed across the border ←
 by

Israeli industrial, construction, and agricultural enterprises, with worker
 remittances accounting for about one-third of GNP. The construction,
 agricultural, and industrial sectors account for about 15%, 12%, and 8% of
 GNP, respectively. Gaza depends upon Israel for some 90% of its external
 trade. Unrest in the territory in 1988-93 (intifadah) has raised
 unemployment and substantially lowered the standard of living of Gazans. ←

The

Persian Gulf crisis and its aftershocks also have dealt severe blows to ←
 Gaza

since August 1990. Worker remittances from the Gulf states have plunged,
 unemployment has increased, and exports have fallen dramatically. The area' ←
 s

economic outlook remains bleak.

National product:

GNP - exchange rate conversion - \$380 million (1991 est.)

National product real growth rate:

-30% (1991 est.)

National product per capita:

\$590 (1991 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

9% (1991 est.)

Unemployment rate:

20% (1990 est.)

Budget:

revenues \$33.8 million; expenditures \$33.3 million, including capital
 expenditures of \$NA (FY88)

Exports:

\$30 million (f.o.b., 1989)

commodities:

citrus

partners: Israel, Egypt

Imports:

\$255 million (c.i.f., 1989)

commodities:

food, consumer goods, construction materials

partners:

Israel, Egypt

External debt:

\$NA

Industrial production:

growth rate 10% (1989); accounts for about 8% of GNP

Electricity:

power supplied by Israel

Industries:

generally small family businesses that produce textiles, soap, olive-wood carvings, and mother-of-pearl souvenirs; the Israelis have established some small-scale modern industries in an industrial center

Agriculture:

accounts for about 12% of GNP; olives, citrus and other fruits, vegetables, beef, dairy products

Economic aid:

NA

Currency:

1 new Israeli shekel (NIS) = 100 new agorot

Exchange rates:

new Israeli shekels (NIS) per US\$1 - 2.6480 (November 1992), 2.4591 (1992), 2.2791 (1991), 2.0162 (1990), 1.9164 (1989), 1.5989 (1988), 1.5946 (1987)

Fiscal year:

calendar year (since 1 January 1992)

1.8 87.guide/Communications (Gaza Strip)

Communications (Gaza Strip)

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Railroads:

one line, abandoned and in disrepair, some trackage remains

Highways:

small, poorly developed indigenous road network

Ports:

facilities for small boats to service the city of Gaza

Airports:

total:

1

useable:

1

with permanent-surface runways:

0

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

0

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

0

Telecommunications:

broadcast stations - no AM, no FM, no TV

1.9 87.guide/Defense Forces (Gaza Strip)

Defense Forces (Gaza Strip)

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Branches:

NA

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 136,311; fit for military service NA (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

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