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| WRITTEN BY    |                       | August 10, 2024 |                  |

**REVISION HISTORY**

| NUMBER | DATE | DESCRIPTION | NAME |
|--------|------|-------------|------|
|        |      |             |      |

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# Chapter 1

## 180

### 1.1 180.guide

Texified version of data for Northern Mariana Islands.

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Northern Mariana Islands

### 1.2 180.guide/Northern Mariana Islands

Northern Mariana Islands  
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Header (Northern Mariana Islands)  
 Geography (Northern Mariana Islands)  
 People (Northern Mariana Islands)  
 Government (Northern Mariana Islands)  
 Government (Northern Mariana Islands 2. usage)  
 Economy (Northern Mariana Islands)  
 Communications (Northern Mariana Islands)  
 Defense Forces (Northern Mariana Islands)

### 1.3 180.guide/Header (Northern Mariana Islands)

Header (Northern Mariana Islands)  
 =====

Affiliation:  
     (commonwealth in political union with the US)

### 1.4 180.guide/Geography (Northern Mariana Islands)

Geography (Northern Mariana Islands)  
 =====

Location:  
     in the North Pacific Ocean, 5,635 km west-southwest of Honolulu, about  
     three-quarters of the way between Hawaii and the Philippines

Map references:  
     Oceania

Area:  
     total area:  
         477 km<sup>2</sup>  
     land area:  
         477 km<sup>2</sup>  
     comparative area:  
         slightly more than 2.5 times the size of Washington, DC

note:  
     includes 14 islands including Saipan, Rota, and Tinian

Land boundaries:  
     0 km

Coastline:  
     1,482 km

Maritime claims:  
     contiguous zone:  
         24 nm  
     continental shelf:  
         200 m (depth)  
     exclusive economic zone:

---

200 nm  
territorial sea:  
12 nm  
International disputes:  
none  
Climate:  
tropical marine; moderated by northeast trade winds, little seasonal temperature variation; dry season December to June, rainy season July to October  
Terrain:  
southern islands are limestone with level terraces and fringing coral reefs ←  
;  
northern islands are volcanic; highest elevation is 471 meters (Mt. Okso' Takpochao on Saipan)  
Natural resources:  
arable land, fish  
Land use:  
arable land:  
5% on Saipan  
permanent crops:  
NA%  
meadows and pastures:  
19%  
forest and woodland:  
NA%  
other:  
NA%  
Irrigated land:  
NA km2  
Environment:  
active volcanos on Pagan and Agrihan; subject to typhoons (most during August through November)  
Note:  
strategic location in the North Pacific Ocean

## 1.5 180.guide/People (Northern Mariana Islands)

People (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Population:  
48,581 (July 1993 est.)  
Population growth rate:  
3.04% (1993 est.)  
Birth rate:  
35.05 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
Death rate:  
4.61 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
Net migration rate:  
0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
Infant mortality rate:  
37.96 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
Life expectancy at birth:

total population:  
 67.43 years  
 male:  
 65.53 years  
 female:  
 69.48 years (1993 est.)  
 Total fertility rate:  
 2.69 children born/woman (1993 est.)  
 Nationality:  
 noun:  
 NA  
 adjective:  
 NA  
 Ethnic divisions:  
 Chamorro, Carolinians and other Micronesians, Caucasian, Japanese, Chinese, Korean  
 Religions:  
 Christian (Roman Catholic majority, although traditional beliefs and taboos may still be found)  
 Languages:  
 English, Chamorro, Carolinian  
 note:  
 86% of population speaks a language other than English at home  
 Literacy:  
 age NA and over can read and write (1980)  
 total population:  
 97%  
 male:  
 97%  
 female:  
 96%  
 Labor force:  
 7,476 total indigenous labor force, 2,699 unemployed; 21,188 foreign ←  
 workers  
 (1990)  
 by occupation:  
 NA

## 1.6 180.guide/Government (Northern Mariana Islands)

Government (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Names:  
 conventional long form:  
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
 conventional short form:  
 Northern Mariana Islands  
 Digraph:  
 CQ  
 Type:  
 commonwealth in political union with the US; self-governing with locally

elected governor, lieutenant governor, and legislature; federal funds to ←  
 the  
 Commonwealth administered by the US Department of the Interior, Office of  
 Territorial and International Affairs  
 Capital:  
 Saipan  
 Administrative divisions:  
 none  
 Independence:  
 none (commonwealth in political union with the US)  
 Constitution:  
 Covenant Agreement effective 3 November 1986 and the constitution of the  
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
 Legal system:  
 based on US system except for customs, wages, immigration laws, and ←  
 taxation  
 National holiday:  
 Commonwealth Day, 8 January (1978)  
 Political parties and leaders:  
 Republican Party, Governor Lorenzo GUERRERO; Democratic Party, Carlos SHODA ←  
 ,  
 chairman  
 Suffrage:  
 18 years of age; universal; indigenous inhabitants are US citizens but do  
 not vote in US presidential elections  
 Elections:  
 Governor:  
 last held in NA November 1989 (next to be held NA November 1993); results -  
 Lorenzo I. DeLeon GUERRERO, Republican Party, was elected governor  
 Senate:  
 last held NA November 1991 (next to be held NA November 1993); results -  
 percent of vote by party NA; seats - (9 total) Republicans 6, Democrats 3  
 House of Representatives:  
 last held NA November 1991 (next to be held NA November 1993); results -  
 percent of vote by party NA; seats - (18 total) Republicans 10, Democrats ←  
 6,  
 Independent 2  
 US House of Representatives:  
 the Commonwealth does not have a nonvoting delegate in Congress; instead, ←  
 it  
 has an elected official "resident representative" located in Washington, DC ←  
 ;  
 seats - (1 total) Republican (Juan N. BABAUTA)  
 Executive branch:  
 US president; governor, lieutenant governor  
 Legislative branch:  
 bicameral Legislature consists of an upper house or Senate and a lower ←  
 house  
 or House of Representatives  
 Judicial branch:  
 Commonwealth Supreme Court, Superior Court, Federal District Court  
 Leaders: Chief of State:  
 President William Jefferson CLINTON (since 20 January 1993); Vice President  
 Albert GORE, Jr. (since 20 January 1993)

## 1.7 180.guide/Government (Northern Mariana Islands 2. usage)

Government (Northern Mariana Islands 2. usage)

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Head of Government:

Governor Lorenzo I. DeLeon GUERRERO (since 9 January 1990); Lieutenant Governor Benjamin T. MANGLONA (since 9 January 1990)

Member of:

ESCAP (associate), SPC

Flag:

blue with a white five-pointed star superimposed on the gray silhouette of a latte stone (a traditional foundation stone used in building) in the center ←

## 1.8 180.guide/Economy (Northern Mariana Islands)

Economy (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Overview:

The economy benefits substantially from financial assistance from the US. The rate of funding has declined as locally generated government revenues have grown. An agreement for the years 1986 to 1992 entitled the islands to \$228 million for capital development, government operations, and special programs. A rapidly growing major source of income is the tourist industry, which now employs about 50% of the work force. Japanese tourists predominate. The agricultural sector is made up of cattle ranches and small farms producing coconuts, breadfruit, tomatoes, and melons. Industry is small scale, mostly handicrafts and light manufacturing.

National product:

GNP - purchasing power equivalent - \$541 million (1992)

note:

GNP numbers reflect US spending

National product real growth rate:

NA%

National product per capita:

\$11,500 (1992)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

6.5-7.5% (1991 est.)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$147.0 million; expenditures \$127.7 million, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1991)

Exports:

\$263.4 million (f.o.b. 1991 est.)

commodities:

manufactured goods, garments, bread, pastries, concrete blocks, light iron work

partners:

NA  
 Imports:  
   \$392.4 million (c.i.f. 1991 est.)  
   commodities: food, construction, equipment, materials  
   partners:  
     NA  
 External debt:  
   \$0  
 Industrial production:  
   growth rate NA%  
 Electricity:  
   25,000 kW capacity; 35 million kWh produced, 740 kWh per capita (1990)  
 Industries:  
   tourism, construction, light industry, handicrafts  
 Agriculture:  
   coconuts, fruits, cattle, vegetables  
 Economic aid:  
   none  
 Currency:  
   US currency is used  
 Fiscal year:  
   1 October - 30 September

## 1.9 180.guide/Communications (Northern Mariana Islands)

Communications (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Railroads:  
   none  
 Highways:  
   381.5 km total; 134.5 km primary, 55 km secondary, 192 km local (1991)  
 Inland waterways:  
   none  
 Ports:  
   Saipan, Tinian  
 Airports:  
   total:  
     6  
   usable:  
     5  
   with permanent-surface runways:  
     3  
   with runways over 3,659 m:  
     0  
   with runways 2,440-3,659 m:  
     2  
   with runways 1,220-2,439 m:  
     2  
 Telecommunications:  
   broadcast stations - 2 AM, 1 FM (1984), 1 TV, 2 cable TV stations; 2 ↔  
     Pacific  
   Ocean INTELSAT earth stations

## 1.10 180.guide/Defense Forces (Northern Mariana Islands)

Defense Forces (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Note:

defense is the responsibility of the US