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Chapter 1

2

1.1 2.guide

Texified version of data for Algeria.

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Algeria

1.2 2.guide/Algeria

Algeria

Geography (Algeria)
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 Economy (Algeria)
 Economy (Algeria 2. usage)
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 Defense Forces (Algeria)

1.3 2.guide/Geography (Algeria)

Geography (Algeria)

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Location:

Northern Africa, along the Mediterranean Sea, between Morocco and Tunisia

Map references:

Africa, Europe

Area:

total area:

2,381,740 km²

land area:

2,381,740 km²

comparative area:

slightly less than 3.5 times the size of Texas

Land boundaries:

total 6,343 km, Libya 982 km, Mali 1,376 km, Mauritania 463 km, Morocco

1,559 km, Niger 956 km, Tunisia 965 km, Western Sahara 42 km

Coastline:

998 km

Maritime claims:

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

Libya claims part of southeastern Algeria; land boundary disputes with

Tunisia under discussion

Climate:

arid to semiarid; mild, wet winters with hot, dry summers along coast; ←
drier

with cold winters and hot summers on high plateau; sirocco is a hot,
dust/sand-laden wind especially common in summer

Terrain:

mostly high plateau and desert; some mountains; narrow, discontinuous
coastal plain

Natural resources: petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, phosphates, uranium, ←
lead, zinc

Land use:

arable land:

3%

permanent crops:

0%

meadows and pastures:
 13%
 forest and woodland:
 2%
 other:
 82%
 Irrigated land:
 3,360 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 mountainous areas subject to severe earthquakes; desertification
 Note:
 second-largest country in Africa (after Sudan)

1.4 2.guide/People (Algeria)

People (Algeria)

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Population:
 27,256,252 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 2.34% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 30.38 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 6.41 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 -0.53 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 54 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 67.35 years
 male:
 66.32 years
 female:
 68.41 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 3.96 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Algerian(s)
 adjective:
 Algerian
 Ethnic divisions:
 Arab-Berber 99%, European less than 1%
 Religions:
 Sunni Muslim (state religion) 99%, Christian and Jewish 1%
 Languages:
 Arabic (official), French, Berber dialects
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)
 total population: 57%

male:
70%
female:
46%
Labor force:
6.2 million (1992 est.)
by occupation:
government 29.5%, agriculture 22%, construction and public works 16.2%,
industry 13.6%, commerce and services 13.5%, transportation and
communication 5.2% (1989)

1.5 2.guide/Government (Algeria)

Government (Algeria)

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Names:
conventional long form:
Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria
conventional short form:
Algeria
local long form:
Al Jumhuriyah al Jaza'iriyah ad Dimuqratiyah ash Shabiyah
local short form:
Al Jaza'ir
Digraph:
AG
Type:
republic
Capital:
Algiers
Administrative divisions:
48 provinces (wilayast, singular - wilaya); Adrar, Ain Defla, Ain
Temouchent, Alger, Annaba, Batna, Bechar, Bejaia, Biskra, Blida, Bordj Bou
Arreridj, Bouira, Boumerdes, Chlef, Constantine, Djelfa, El Bayadh, El Oued ←
,
El Tarf, Ghardaia, Guelma, Illizi, Jijel, Khenchela, Laghouat, Mascara,
Medea, Mila, Mostaganem, M'Sila, Naama, Oran, Ouargla, Oum el Bouaghi,
Relizane, Saida, Setif, Sidi Bel Abbes, Skikda, Souk Ahras, Tamanghasset,
Tebessa, Tiaret, Tindouf, Tipaza, Tissemsilt, Tizi Ouzou, Tlemcen
Independence:
5 July 1962 (from France)
Constitution:
19 November 1976, effective 22 November 1976; revised February 1989
Legal system:
socialist, based on French and Islamic law; judicial review of legislative
acts in ad hoc Constitutional Council composed of various public officials,
including several Supreme Court justices; has not accepted compulsory ICJ
jurisdiction
National holiday:
Anniversary of the Revolution, 1 November (1954)
Political parties and leaders:
Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), Ali BELHADJ, Dr. Abassi MADANI, Abdelkader

HACHANI (all under arrest), Rabeh KEBIR; National Liberation Front (FLN), Abdelhamid MEHRI, Secretary General; Socialist Forces Front (FFS), Hocine Ait AHMED, Secretary General

note: the government established a multiparty system in September 1989 and ←
 , as of
 31 December 1990, over 30 legal parties existed

Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal

Elections:
 National People's Assembly:
 first round held on 26 December 1991 (second round canceled by the military after President BENDJEDID resigned 11 January 1992); results - percent of vote by party NA; seats - (281 total); the fundamentalist FIS won 188 of ←
 the
 231 seats contested in the first round; note - elections (municipal and wilaya) were held in June 1990, the first in Algerian history; results - ←
 FIS
 55%, FLN 27.5%, other 17.5%, with 65% of the voters participating

President of the High State Committee:
 next election to be held December 1993

Executive branch:
 President of the High State Committee, prime minister, Council of Ministers (cabinet)

Legislative branch:
 unicameral National People's Assembly (Al-Majlis Ech-Chaabi Al-Watani)

1.6 2.guide/Government (Algeria 2. usage)

Government (Algeria 2. usage)
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Judicial branch:
 Supreme Court (Cour Supreme)

Leaders:
 Chief of State:
 High State Committee President Ali KAFI (since 2 July 1992)

Head of Government:
 Prime Minister Belaid ABDESSELAM (since 8 July 1992)

Member of:
 ABEDA, AfDB, AFESD, AL, AMF, AMU, CCC, ECA, FAO, G-15, G-19, G-24, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ISO, ITU, LORCS, NAM, OAPEC, OAS (observer), OAU, OIC, OPEC, UN, UNAVEM II, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNTAC, UPU, WCL, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

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 embassy:
 4 Chemin Cheikh Bachir El-Ibrahimi, Algiers
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 B. P. Box 549, Alger-Gare, 16000 Algiers
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 FAX:
 [213] (2) 603979
 consulate: Oran
 Flag:
 two equal vertical bands of green (hoist side) and white with a red
 five-pointed star within a red crescent; the crescent, star, and color
 green ←
 are traditional symbols of Islam (the state religion)

1.7 2.guide/Economy (Algeria)

Economy (Algeria)

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Overview:

The oil and natural gas sector forms the backbone of the economy,
 hydrocarbons accounting for nearly all export receipts, about 30% of
 government revenues, and nearly 25% of GDP. In 1973-74 the sharp increase ←
 in
 oil prices led to a booming economy and helped to finance an ambitious
 program of industrialization. Plunging oil and gas prices, combined with ←
 the
 mismanagement of Algeria's highly centralized economy, has brought the
 nation to its most serious social and economic crisis since full
 independence in 1988. The current government has put reform, including
 privatization of some public sector companies and an overhaul of the ←
 banking
 and financial system, on hold, but has continued efforts to admit private
 enterprise to the hydrocarbon industry.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$42 billion (1992 est.)

National product real growth rate:

2.8% (1992 est.)

National product per capita:

\$1,570 (1992 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

55% (1992 est.)

Unemployment rate:

35% (1992 est.)

Budget:

revenues \$14.4 billion; expenditures \$14.6 billion, including capital
 expenditures of \$3.5 billion (1992 est.)

Exports:

\$11.6 billion (f.o.b., 1992 est.)

commodities:

petroleum and natural gas 97%

partners:
 Italy, France, US, Germany, Spain

Imports:
 \$8.2 billion (f.o.b., 1992 est.)

commodities:
 capital goods 39.7%, food and beverages 21.7%, consumer goods 11.8% (1990)

partners:
 France, Italy, Germany, US, Spain

External debt:
 \$26 billion (1992 est.)

Industrial production:
 growth rate NA%

Electricity:
 6,380,000 kW capacity; 16,834 million kWh produced, 630 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:
 petroleum, light industries, natural gas, mining, electrical, petrochemical ↔
 ,
 food processing

Agriculture:
 accounts for 10.8% of GDP (1991) and employs 22% of labor force; products-
 wheat, barley, oats, grapes, olives, citrus, fruits, sheep, cattle; net
 importer of food - grain, vegetable oil, sugar

Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-85), \$1.4 billion; Western (non-US)
 countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$925 million; OPEC
 bilateral aid (1979-89), \$1.8 billion; Communist countries (1970-89), \$2.7
 billion; net official disbursements (1985-89), -\$375 million

Currency:
 1 Algerian dinar (DA) = 100 centimes

1.8 2.guide/Economy (Algeria 2. usage)

Economy (Algeria 2. usage)
 =====

Exchange rates:
 Algerian dinars (DA) per US\$1 - 22.787 (January 1993), 21.836 (1992), ↔
 18.473
 (1991), 8.958 (1990), 7.6086 (1989), 5.9148 (1988)

Fiscal year:
 calendar year

1.9 2.guide/Communications (Algeria)

Communications (Algeria)
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Railroads:

4,060 km total; 2,616 km standard gauge (1.435 m), 1,188 km 1.055-meter gauge, 256 km 1.000-meter gauge; 300 km electrified; 215 km double track

Highways:

90,031 km total; 58,868 km concrete or bituminous, 31,163 km gravel, ←
crushed
stone, unimproved earth (1990)

Pipelines:

crude oil 6,612 km; petroleum products 298 km; natural gas 2,948 km

Ports:

Algiers, Annaba, Arzew, Bejaia, Djendjene, Ghazaouet, Jijel, Mers el Kebir, Mostaganem, Oran, Skikda

Merchant marine:

75 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 903,179 GRT/1,064,211 DWT; includes 5 short-sea passenger, 27 cargo, 12 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 5 oil tanker, 9 liquefied gas, 7 chemical tanker, 9 bulk, 1 specialized tanker

Airports:

total:

141

usable:

124

with permanent-surface runways:

53

with runways over 3,659 m:

2

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

32

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

65

Telecommunications: excellent domestic and international service in the ←
north, sparse in the

south; 822,000 telephones; broadcast stations - 26 AM, no FM, 18 TV; 1,600,000 TV sets; 5,200,000 radios; 5 submarine cables; microwave radio relay to Italy, France, Spain, Morocco, and Tunisia; coaxial cable to Morocco and Tunisia; satellite earth stations - 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT, ←

1

Indian Ocean INTELSAT, 1 Intersputnik, 1 ARABSAT, and 12 domestic; 20 additional satellite earth stations are planned

1.10 2.guide/Defense Forces (Algeria)

Defense Forces (Algeria)

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Branches:

National Popular Army, Navy, Air Force, Territorial Air Defense

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 6,610,342; fit for military service 4,063,261; reach military age (19) annually 291,685 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$1.36 billion, 2.5% of GDP (1993 est.)