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# Chapter 1

## 146

### 1.1 146.guide

Texified version of data for Madagascar.

Texified using wfact from

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Madagascar

### 1.2 146.guide/Madagascar

Madagascar

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

### 1.3 146.guide/Geography (Madagascar)

Geography (Madagascar)

=====

Location:

in the western Indian Ocean, 430 km east of Mozambique in Southern Africa

Map references:

Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

587,040 km<sup>2</sup>

land area:

581,540 km<sup>2</sup> comparative area:

slightly less than twice the size of Arizona

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

4,828 km

Maritime claims:

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

claims Bassas da India, Europa Island, Glorioso Islands, Juan de Nova Island, and Tromelin Island (all administered by France)

Climate:

tropical along coast, temperate inland, arid in south

Terrain:

narrow coastal plain, high plateau and mountains in center

Natural resources:

graphite, chromite, coal, bauxite, salt, quartz, tar sands, semiprecious stones, mica, fish

Land use:

arable land:

4%

permanent crops:

1%

meadows and pastures:

58%

forest and woodland:

26%  
 other:  
 11%  
 Irrigated land:  
 9,000 km2 (1989 est.)  
 Environment:  
 subject to periodic cyclones; deforestation; overgrazing; soil erosion;  
 desertification  
 Note:  
 world's fourth-largest island; strategic location along Mozambique Channel

## 1.4 146.guide/People (Madagascar)

People (Madagascar)

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Population:  
 13,005,989 (July 1993 est.)  
 Population growth rate:  
 3.2% (1993 est.)  
 Birth rate:  
 45.66 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Death rate:  
 13.71 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Net migration rate:  
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Infant mortality rate:  
 91 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
 Life expectancy at birth:  
 total population:  
 53.52 years  
 male:  
 51.65 years  
 female:  
 55.45 years (1993 est.)  
 Total fertility rate:  
 6.75 children born/woman (1993 est.)  
 Nationality:  
 noun:  
 Malagasy (singular and plural)  
 adjective:  
 Malagasy  
 Ethnic divisions:  
 Malayo-Indonesian (Merina and related Betsileo), Cotiers (mixed African,  
 Malayo-Indonesian, and Arab ancestry - Betsimisaraka, Tsimihety, Antaisaka,  
 Sakalava), French, Indian, Creole, Comoran  
 Religions:  
 indigenous beliefs 52%, Christian 41%, Muslim 7%  
 Languages:  
 French (official), Malagasy (official)  
 Literacy:  
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)  
 total population:

80%  
 male:  
 88%  
 female:  
 73%  
 Labor force:  
 4.9 million 90% nonsalaried family workers engaged in subsistence  
 agriculture; 175,000 wage earners  
 by occupation:  
 agriculture 26%, domestic service 17%, industry 15%, commerce 14%,  
 construction 11%, services 9%, transportation 6%, other 2%  
 note:  
 51% of population of working age (1985)

## 1.5 146.guide/Government (Madagascar)

Government (Madagascar)

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### Names:

conventional long form:  
 Republic of Madagascar  
 conventional short form:  
 Madagascar  
 local long form:  
 Republique de Madagascar  
 local short form:  
 Madagascar  
 former:  
 Malagasy Republic

### Digraph:

MA

### Type:

republic

### Capital:

Antananarivo

### Administrative divisions:

6 provinces - Antananarivo, Antsiranana, Fianarantsoa, Mahajanga, Toamasina ←

Toliary

### Independence:

26 June 1960 (from France)

### Constitution:

12 September 1992

### Legal system:

based on French civil law system and traditional Malagasy law; has not  
 accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

### National holiday:

Independence Day, 26 June (1960)

### Political parties and leaders:

some 30 political parties now exist in Madagascar, the most important of  
 which are Advance Guard of the Malagasy Revolution (AREMA), Didier  
 RATSIRAKA; Congress Party for Malagasy Independence (AKFM),

RAKOTOVAO-ANDRIATIANA; Movement for National Unity (VONJY), Dr. Marojama RAZANABAHINY; Malagasy Christian Democratic Union (UDECEMA), Norbert ANDRIAMORASATA; Militants for the Establishment of a Proletarian Regime (MFM), Manandafy RAKOTONIRINA; National Movement for the Independence of Madagascar (MONIMA), Monja JAONA; National Union for the Defense of Democracy (UNDD), Albert ZAFY

Other political or pressure groups:  
 National Council of Christian Churches (FFKM), leader NA; Federalist Movement, leader NA

Suffrage:  
 18 years of age; universal

Elections:  
 President:  
 last held on 10 February 1993 (next to be held 1998); results - Albert ZAFY (UNDD), 67%; Didier RATSIRAKA (AREMA), 33%

Popular National Assembly:  
 last held on 28 May 1989 (next to be held May 1993); results - AREMA 88.2%, MFM 5.1%, AKFM 3.7%, VONJY 2.2%, other 0.8%; seats - (137 total) AREMA 120, MFM 7, AKFM 5, VONJY 4, MONIMA 1

Executive branch:  
 president, prime minister, Council of Ministers

## 1.6 146.guide/Government (Madagascar 2. usage)

Government (Madagascar 2. usage)

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Legislative branch:  
 unicameral Popular National Assembly (Assemblée Nationale Populaire); note ←  
 -  
 the National Assembly has suspended its operations during 1992 and early 1993 in preparation for new legislative elections. In its place, an interim High Authority of State and a Social and Economic Recovery Council have ←  
 been  
 established

Judicial branch:  
 Supreme Court (Cour Suprême), High Constitutional Court (Haute Cour Constitutionnelle)

Leaders: Chief of State:  
 President Adm. Didier RATSIRAKA (since 15 June 1975)

Head of Government:  
 Prime Minister Guy RAZANAMASY (since 8 August 1991)

Member of:  
 ACCT, ACP, AfDB, CCC, ECA, FAO, G-77, GATT, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSTAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS, NAM, OAU, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UPU, WCL, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

Diplomatic representation in US:  
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 Ambassador Douglas BARRETT  
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 14 and 16 Rue Rainitovo, Antsahavola, Antananarivo  
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 B. P. 620, Antananarivo  
 telephone:  
 [261] (2) 212-57, 209-56, 200-89, 207-18  
 FAX:  
 261-234-539  
 Flag:  
 two equal horizontal bands of red (top) and green with a vertical white ←  
 band  
 of the same width on hoist side

## 1.7 146.guide/Economy (Madagascar)

### Economy (Madagascar)

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#### Overview:

Madagascar is one of the poorest countries in the world. Agriculture, including fishing and forestry, is the mainstay of the economy, accounting for over 30% of GDP and contributing to more than 70% of total export earnings. Industry is largely confined to the processing of agricultural products and textile manufacturing; in 1991 it accounted for only 13% of GDP. In 1986 the government introduced a five-year development plan that stressed self-sufficiency in food (mainly rice) by 1990, increased production for exports, and reduced energy imports. After mid-1991, however ←

output dropped sharply because of protracted antigovernment strikes and demonstrations for political reform.

#### National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$2.5 billion (1992 est.)

#### National product real growth rate:

1% (1992 est.)

#### National product per capita:

\$200 (1992 est.)

#### Inflation rate (consumer prices):

20% (1992 est.)

#### Unemployment rate: NA%

#### Budget:

revenues \$250 million; expenditures \$265 million, including capital expenditures of \$180 million (1991)

#### Exports:

\$312 million (f.o.b., 1991 est.)

#### commodities:

coffee 45%, vanilla 20%, cloves 11%, sugar, petroleum products

#### partners:

France, Japan, Italy, Germany, US

**Imports:**

\$350 million (f.o.b., 1992 est.)

**commodities:**

intermediate manufactures 30%, capital goods 28%, petroleum 15%, consumer goods 14%, food 13%

**partners:**

France, Germany, UK, other EC, US

**External debt:**

\$4.4 billion (1991)

**Industrial production:**

growth rate 5.2% (1990 est.); accounts for 13% of GDP

**Electricity:**

125,000 kW capacity; 450 million kWh produced, 35 kWh per capita (1991)

**Industries:**

agricultural processing (meat canneries, soap factories, breweries, tanneries, sugar refining plants), light consumer goods industries (textiles, glassware), cement, automobile assembly plant, paper, petroleum

**Agriculture:**

accounts for 31% of GDP; cash crops - coffee, vanilla, sugarcane, cloves, cocoa; food crops - rice, cassava, beans, bananas, peanuts; cattle raising widespread; almost self-sufficient in rice

**Illicit drugs:**

illicit producer of cannabis (cultivated and wild varieties) used mostly for domestic consumption ←

**Economic aid:**

US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$136 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$3,125 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$491 million

## 1.8 146.guide/Economy (Madagascar 2. usage)

Economy (Madagascar 2. usage)

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**Currency:**

1 Malagasy franc (FMG) = 100 centimes

**Exchange rates:**

Malagasy francs (FMG) per US\$1 - 1,910.2 (December 1992), 1,867.9 (1992), 1,835.4 (1991), 1,454.6 (December 1990), 1,603.4 (1989), 1,407.1 (1988), 1,069.2 (1987)

**Fiscal year:**

calendar year

## 1.9 146.guide/Communications (Madagascar)

Communications (Madagascar)

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## Railroads:

1,020 km 1.000-meter gauge

## Highways:

40,000 km total; 4,694 km paved, 811 km crushed stone, gravel, or ←  
stabilized  
soil, 34,495 km improved and unimproved earth (est.)

## Inland waterways:

of local importance only; isolated streams and small portions of Canal des Pangalanes

## Ports:

Toamasina, Antsiranana, Mahajanga, Toliara

## Merchant marine:

11 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 35,359 GRT/48,772 DWT; includes 6 cargo, 2 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 1 oil tanker, 1 chemical tanker, 1 liquefied gas

## Airports:

total:

146

usable:

103

with permanent-surface runways:

30

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

3

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

36

## Telecommunications:

above average system includes open-wire lines, coaxial cables, radio relay, and troposcatter links; submarine cable to Bahrain; satellite earth ← stations

- 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT and broadcast stations - 17 AM, 3 FM, 1 (36 repeaters) TV

## 1.10 146.guide/Defense Forces (Madagascar)

### Defense Forces (Madagascar)

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## Branches:

Popular Armed Forces (including Intervention Forces, Development Forces, Aeronaval Forces - including Navy and Air Force), Gendarmerie, Presidential Security Regiment

## Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 2,826,018; fit for military service 1,681,553; reach military age (20) annually 118,233 (1993 est.)

## Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$37 million, 2.2% of GDP (1991 est.)