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Chapter 1

41

1.1 41.guide

Texified version of data for Burundi.

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Burundi

1.2 41.guide/Burundi

Burundi

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

1.3 41.guide/Geography (Burundi)

Geography (Burundi)
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Location:
Central Africa, between Tanzania and Zaire
Map references:
Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World
Area:
total area:
27,830 km²
land area:
25,650 km²
comparative area:
slightly larger than Maryland
Land boundaries:
total 974 km, Rwanda 290 km, Tanzania 451 km, Zaire 233 km
Coastline:
0 km (landlocked)
Maritime claims:
none; landlocked
International disputes:
none
Climate:
temperate; warm; occasional frost in uplands
Terrain:
mostly rolling to hilly highland; some plains
Natural resources:
nickel, uranium, rare earth oxide, peat, cobalt, copper, platinum (not yet
exploited), vanadium
Land use:
arable land:
43%
permanent crops:
8%
meadows and pastures:
35%
forest and woodland:
2%
other:
12%

Irrigated land:
 720 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 soil exhaustion; soil erosion; deforestation
 Note:
 landlocked; straddles crest of the Nile-Congo watershed

1.4 41.guide/People (Burundi)

People (Burundi)

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Population:
 5,985,308 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 2.34% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 44.69 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 21.25 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 115.6 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 40.75 years
 male:
 38.79 years
 female:
 42.76 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 6.76 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Burundian(s)
 adjective:
 Burundi
 Ethnic divisions:
 Africans:
 Hutu (Bantu) 85%, Tutsi (Hamitic) 14%, Twa (Pygmy) 1% (other Africans include about 70,000 refugees, mostly Rwandans and Zairians)
 non-Africans:
 Europeans 3,000, South Asians 2,000
 Religions:
 Christian 67% (Roman Catholic 62%, Protestant 5%), indigenous beliefs 32%, Muslim 1%
 Languages:
 Kirundi (official), French (official), Swahili (along Lake Tanganyika and ↵
 in
 the Bujumbura area)
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)

total population:
 50%
 male:
 61%
 female:
 40%
 Labor force:
 1.9 million (1983 est.)
 by occupation:
 agriculture 93.0%, government 4.0%, industry and commerce 1.5%, services
 1.5%
 note:
 52% of population of working age (1985)

1.5 41.guide/Government (Burundi)

Government (Burundi)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Burundi
 conventional short form:
 Burundi
 local long form:
 Republika y'u Burundi
 local short form:
 Burundi
 Digraph:
 BY
 Type:
 republic
 Capital:
 Bujumbura
 Administrative divisions:
 15 provinces; Bubanza, Bujumbura, Bururi, Cankuzo, Cibitoke, Gitega, Karuzi ←
 Kayanza, Kirundo, Makamba, Muramvya, Muyinga, Ngozi, Rutana, Ruyigi
 Independence:
 1 July 1962 (from UN trusteeship under Belgian administration)
 Constitution:
 13 March 1992 draft provides for establishment of plural political system
 Legal system:
 based on German and Belgian civil codes and customary law; has not accepted
 compulsory ICJ jurisdiction
 National holiday:
 Independence Day, 1 July (1962)
 Political parties and leaders:
 only party - National Party of Unity and Progress (UPRONA), Nicolas MAYUGI,
 secretary general;
 note:
 although Burundi is still officially a one-party state, at least four
 political parties were formed in 1991 and set the precedent for

constitutional reform in 1992 – Burundi Democratic Front (FRODEBU), Organization of the People of Burundi (RPB), Socialist Party of Burundi (PSB), Royalist Parliamentary Party (PRP) – the most significant opposition party is FRODEBU, led by Melchior NDADAYE; the Party for the Liberation of the Hutu People (PALIPEHUTU), formed in exile in the early 1980s, is an ethnically based political party dedicated to majority rule; the government has long accused PALIPEHUTU of practicing divisive ethnic politics and fomenting violence against the state; PALIPEHUTU's exclusivist charter ← makes it an unlikely candidate for legalization under the new constitution that will require party membership open to all ethnic groups

Suffrage:
universal adult at age NA

Elections:
National Assembly:
note – The National Unity Charter outlining the principles for constitutional government was adopted by a national referendum on 5 ← February 1991; new elections to the National Assembly are to take place 29 June ← 1993; presidential elections are to take place 1 June 1993

Executive branch:
president; chairman of the Central Committee of the National Party of Unity and Progress (UPRONA), prime minister

1.6 41.guide/Government (Burundi 2. usage)

Government (Burundi 2. usage)

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Legislative branch:
unicameral National Assembly (Assemblée Nationale) was dissolved following the coup of 3 September 1987; at an extraordinary party congress held from 27 to 29 December 1990, the Central Committee of the National Party of ← Unity and Progress (UPRONA) replaced the Military Committee for National Salvation, and became the supreme governing body during the transition to constitutional government

Judicial branch:
Supreme Court (Cour Supreme)

Leaders:
Chief of State:
President Major Pierre BUYOYA (since 9 September 1987)
Head of Government:
Prime Minister Adrien SIBOMANA (since 26 October 1988)

Member of:
ACCT, ACP, AfDB, CCC, CEEAC, CEPGL, ECA, FAO, G-77, GATT, IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, INTERPOL, ITU, LORCS, NAM, OAU, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

Diplomatic representation in US:
chief of mission:
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 Ambassador Cynthia Shepherd PERRY
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 Flag:
 divided by a white diagonal cross into red panels (top and bottom) and ↔
 green
 panels (hoist side and outer side) with a white disk superimposed at the
 center bearing three red six-pointed stars outlined in green arranged in a
 triangular design (one star above, two stars below)

1.7 41.guide/Economy (Burundi)

Economy (Burundi)

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Overview:

A landlocked, resource-poor country in an early stage of economic development, Burundi is predominately agricultural with only a few basic industries. Its economic health depends on the coffee crop, which accounts for an average 90% of foreign exchange earnings each year. The ability to pay for imports therefore continues to rest largely on the vagaries of the climate and the international coffee market. As part of its economic reform agenda, launched in February 1991 with IMF and World Bank support, Burundi is trying to diversify its agricultural exports and attract foreign investment in industry. Several state-owned coffee companies were ↔
 privatized
 via public auction in September 1991.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$1.23 billion (1991 est.)

National product real growth rate:

5% (1991 est.)

National product per capita:

\$205 (1991 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

9% (1991 est.)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$318 million; expenditures \$326 million, including capital expenditures of \$150 million (1991 est.)

Exports:

\$91.7 million (f.o.b., 1991)

commodities:
 coffee 81%, tea, hides, and skins
 partners:
 EC 83%, US 5%, Asia 2%

Imports:
 \$246 million (c.i.f., 1991)

commodities:
 capital goods 31%, petroleum products 15%, foodstuffs, consumer goods
 partners:
 EC 57%, Asia 23%, US 3%

External debt:
 \$1 billion (1990 est.)

Industrial production:
 real growth rate 11.0% (1991 est.); accounts for about 5% of GDP

Electricity:
 55,000 kW capacity; 105 million kWh produced, 20 kWh per capita (1991)

Industries:
 light consumer goods such as blankets, shoes, soap; assembly of imports;
 public works construction; food processing

Agriculture:
 accounts for 60% of GDP; 90% of population dependent on subsistence farming ↔
 ;
 marginally self-sufficient in food production; cash crops - coffee, cotton,
 tea; food crops - corn, sorghum, sweet potatoes, bananas, manioc; livestock
 - meat, milk, hides and skins

Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$71 million; Western (non-US)
 countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$10.2 billion; OPEC
 bilateral aid (1979-89), \$32 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$175
 million

Currency:
 1 Burundi franc (FBu) = 100 centimes

1.8 41.guide/Economy (Burundi 2. usage)

Economy (Burundi 2. usage)

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Exchange rates:
 Burundi francs (FBu) per US\$1 - 235.75 (January 1993), 208.30 (1992), ↔
 181.51
 (1991), 171.26 (1990), 158.67 (1989), 140.40 (1988)

Fiscal year:
 calendar year

1.9 41.guide/Communications (Burundi)

Communications (Burundi)

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Highways:

5,900 km total; 400 km paved, 2,500 km gravel or laterite, 3,000 km ←
improved
or unimproved earth

Inland waterways:

Lake Tanganyika

Ports:

Bujumbura (lake port) connects to transportation systems of Tanzania and
Zaire

Airports:

total:

5

usable:

4

with permanent-surface runways:

1

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

1

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

4

Telecommunications:

sparse system of wire, radiocommunications, and low-capacity microwave ←
radio

relay links; 8,000 telephones; broadcast stations - 2 AM, 2 FM, 1 TV; 1
Indian Ocean INTELSAT earth station

1.10 41.guide/Defense Forces (Burundi)

Defense Forces (Burundi)

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Branches:

Army (includes naval and air units), paramilitary Gendarmerie

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 1,283,308; fit for military service 670,381; reach military
age (16) annually 62,700 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$28 million, 3.7% of GDP (1989)