

| |
|----------------------|
| COLLABORATORS |
|----------------------|

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | <i>TITLE :</i> 27 | | |
| <i>ACTION</i> | <i>NAME</i> | <i>DATE</i> | <i>SIGNATURE</i> |
| WRITTEN BY | | August 10, 2024 | |

| |
|-------------------------|
| REVISION HISTORY |
|-------------------------|

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

Contents

| | | |
|----------|--|----------|
| 1 | 27 | 1 |
| 1.1 | 27.guide | 1 |
| 1.2 | 27.guide/Benin | 1 |
| 1.3 | 27.guide/Geography (Benin) | 2 |
| 1.4 | 27.guide/People (Benin) | 3 |
| 1.5 | 27.guide/Government (Benin) | 4 |
| 1.6 | 27.guide/Government (Benin 2. usage) | 5 |
| 1.7 | 27.guide/Economy (Benin) | 6 |
| 1.8 | 27.guide/Economy (Benin 2. usage) | 7 |
| 1.9 | 27.guide/Communications (Benin) | 7 |
| 1.10 | 27.guide/Defense Forces (Benin) | 8 |

Chapter 1

27

1.1 27.guide

Texified version of data for Benin.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock
Neuhäuselerstr. 12
D-66459 Kirkel
Germany

Tel.: 06849 / 6134
INTERNET: leibrock@fsinfo.cs.uni-sb.de
fach5@cipsol.cs.uni-sb.de

Project Gutenberg

P. O. Box 2782

Champaign, IL 61825

When all other email fails try our Michael S. Hart, Executive
Director:

hart@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu (internet) hart@uiucvmd (bitnet)

We would prefer to send you this information by email (Internet,
Bitnet, Compuserve, ATTMAIL or MCImail).

Benin

1.2 27.guide/Benin

Benin

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

1.3 27.guide/Geography (Benin)

Geography (Benin)
=====

Location:
Western Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean between Nigeria and Togo
Map references:
Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World
Area:
total area:
112,620 km2
land area:
110,620 km2
comparative area:
slightly smaller than Pennsylvania
Land boundaries:
total 1,989 km, Burkina 306 km, Niger 266 km, Nigeria 773 km, Togo 644 km
Coastline:
121 km
Maritime claims:
territorial sea:
200 nm
International disputes:
none
Climate:
tropical; hot, humid in south; semiarid in north
Terrain:
mostly flat to undulating plain; some hills and low mountains
Natural resources:
small offshore oil deposits, limestone, marble, timber
Land use:
arable land:
12%
permanent crops:
4%
meadows and pastures:
4%
forest and woodland:
35%
other:
45%

Irrigated land:
 60 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 hot, dry, dusty harmattan wind may affect north in winter; deforestation;
 desertification
 Note:
 recent droughts have severely affected marginal agriculture in north; no
 natural harbors

1.4 27.guide/People (Benin)

People (Benin)

=====

Population:
 5,166,735 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 3.33% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 48.09 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 14.8 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 112.7 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 51.31 years
 male:
 49.51 years
 female:
 53.16 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 6.86 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Beninese (singular and plural)
 adjective:
 Beninese
 Ethnic divisions:
 African 99% (42 ethnic groups, most important being Fon, Adja, Yoruba, Bariba), Europeans 5,500
 Religions:
 indigenous beliefs 70%, Muslim 15%, Christian 15%
 Languages:
 French (official), Fon and Yoruba (most common vernaculars in south), ↵
 tribal
 languages (at least six major ones in north)
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)
 total population:
 23%

male:
 32%
 female:
 16%
 Labor force:
 1.9 million (1987)
 by occupation:
 agriculture 60%, transport, commerce, and public services 38%, industry ↔
 less
 than 2%
 note:
 49% of population of working age (1985)

1.5 27.guide/Government (Benin)

Government (Benin)
 =====

Names:
 conventional long form: Republic of Benin
 conventional short form:
 Benin
 local long form:
 Republique Populaire du Benin
 local short form:
 Benin
 former:
 Dahomey
 Digraph:
 BN
 Type:
 republic under multiparty democratic rule dropped Marxism-Leninism December
 1989; democratic reforms adopted February 1990; transition to multiparty
 system completed 4 April 1991
 Capital:
 Porto-Novo
 Administrative divisions:
 6 provinces; Atakora, Atlantique, Borgou, Mono, Oueme, Zou
 Independence:
 1 August 1960 (from France)
 Constitution:
 2 December 1990
 Legal system:
 based on French civil law and customary law; has not accepted compulsory ↔
 ICJ
 jurisdiction
 National holiday:
 National Day, 1 August (1990)
 Political parties and leaders:
 Alliance of the Democratic Union for the Forces of Progress (UDFP), ↔
 Timothee
 ADANLIN; Movement for Democracy and Social Progress (MDPS), Jean-Roger

AHOYO; Union for Liberty and Development (ULD), Marcellin DEGBE; Alliance ←
 of
 the National Party for Democracy and Development (PNDD) and the Democratic
 Renewal Party (PRD), Pascal Chabi KAO; Alliance of the Social Democratic
 Party (PSD) and the National Union for Solidarity and Progress (UNSP), ←
 Bruno
 AMOUSSOU; Our Common Cause (NCC), Albert TEVOEDJRE; National Rally for
 Democracy (RND), Joseph KEKE; Alliance of the National Movement for
 Democracy and Development (MNDD), leader NA; Movement for Solidarity, Union ←
 ,
 and Progress (MSUP), Adebo ADENIYI; Union for Democracy and National
 Reconstruction (UDRN), Azaria FAKOREDE; Union for Democracy and National
 Solidarity (UDS), Mama Amadou N'DIAYE; Assembly of Liberal Democrats for
 National Reconstruction (RDL), Severin ADJOVI; Alliance of the Alliance for
 Social Democracy (ASD), Robert DOSSOU; Bloc for Social Democracy (BSD),
 Michel MAGNIDE; Alliance of the Alliance for Democracy and Progress (ADP),
 Akindes ADEKPEDJOU; Democratic Union for Social Renewal (UDRS), Bio Gado
 Seko N'GOYE; National Union for Democracy and Progress (UNDP), Robert
 TAGNON; Party for Progress and Democracy, Theophile NATA; numerous other
 small parties
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal
 Elections:
 National Assembly:
 last held 10 and 24 March 1991; results - percent of vote by party NA; ←
 seats
 - (64 total) UDFP-MDPS-ULD 12, PNDD/PRD 9, PSD/UNSP 8, NCC 7, RND 7,
 MNDD/MSUP/UDRN 6, UDS 5, RDL 4, ASD/BSD 3, ADP/UDRS 2, UNDP 1

1.6 27.guide/Government (Benin 2. usage)

Government (Benin 2. usage)

=====

President:
 last held 10 and 24 March 1991; results - Nicephore SOGLO 68%, Mathieu
 KEREKOU 32%
 Executive branch:
 president, cabinet
 Legislative branch:
 unicameral National Assembly (Assemblée Nationale)
 Judicial branch:
 Supreme Court (Cour Supreme)
 Leaders:
 Chief of State and Head of Government:
 President Nicephore SOGLO (since 4 April 1991)
 Member of:
 ACCT, ACP, AfDB, CEAO, ECA, ECOWAS, Entente, FAO, FZ, G-77, GATT, IBRD,
 ICAO, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSTAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU,
 LORCS, NAM, OAU, OIC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WADB, WCL, WHO, WIPO,
 WMO, WTO
 Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:

Ambassador Candide AHOUANSSOU
 chancery:
 2737 Cathedral Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008
 telephone:
 (202) 232-6656
 US diplomatic representation:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Ruth A. DAVIS
 embassy:
 Rue Caporal Anani Bernard, Cotonou
 mailing address:
 B. P. 2012, Cotonou
 telephone:
 [229] 30-06-50, 30-05-13, 30-17-92
 FAX:
 [229] 30-14-39 and 30-19-74
 Flag:
 two equal horizontal bands of yellow (top) and red with a vertical green
 band on the hoist side

1.7 27.guide/Economy (Benin)

Economy (Benin)

=====

Overview:

Benin is one of the least developed countries in the world because of limited natural resources and a poorly developed infrastructure. ←

Agriculture

accounts for about 35% of GDP, employs about 60% of the labor force, and generates a major share of foreign exchange earnings. The industrial sector contributes only about 15% to GDP and employs 2% of the work force. Low prices in recent years have kept down hard currency earnings from Benin's major exports of agricultural products and crude oil.

National product: GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$2 billion (1991)

National product real growth rate:

3% (1991)

National product per capita:

\$410 (1991)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

3.4% (1990)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$194 million; expenditures \$390 million, including capital expenditures of \$104 million (1990 est.)

Exports:

\$263.3 million (f.o.b., 1990 est.)

commodities:

crude oil, cotton, palm products, cocoa

partners:

FRG 36%, France 16%, Spain 14%, Italy 8%, UK 4%

Imports:

\$428 million (f.o.b., 1990 est.)

commodities:
 foodstuffs, beverages, tobacco, petroleum products, intermediate goods,
 capital goods, light consumer goods

partners:
 France 34%, Netherlands 10%, Japan 7%, Italy 6%, US 4%

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

Industrial production:
 growth rate -0.7% (1988); accounts for 15% of GDP

Electricity:
 30,000 kW capacity; 25 million kWh produced, 5 kWh per capita (1991)

Industries:
 textiles, cigarettes, construction materials, beverages, food production,
 petroleum

Agriculture:
 accounts for 35% of GDP; small farms produce 90% of agricultural output;
 production is dominated by food crops - corn, sorghum, cassava, beans, rice ↵
 ;
 cash crops include cotton, palm oil, peanuts; poultry and livestock output
 has not kept up with consumption

Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$46 million; Western (non-US)
 countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$1,300 million; ↵
 OPEC
 bilateral aid (1979-89), \$19 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$101
 million

Currency:
 1 CFA franc (CFAF) = 100 centimes

Exchange rates:
 Communauté Financière Africaine francs (CFAF) per US\$1 - 274.06 (January
 1993), 264.69 (1992), 282.11 (1991), 272.26 (1990), 319.01 (1989), 297.85
 (1988)

1.8 27.guide/Economy (Benin 2. usage)

Economy (Benin 2. usage)
 =====

Fiscal year: calendar year

1.9 27.guide/Communications (Benin)

Communications (Benin)
 =====

Railroads:
 578 km, all 1.000-meter gauge, single track

Highways:

5,050 km total; 920 km paved, 2,600 laterite, 1,530 km improved earth

Inland waterways:

navigable along small sections, important only locally

Ports:

Cotonou

Airports:

total:

7

usable:

5

with permanent-surface runways:

1

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,439-3,659 m:

1

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

2

Telecommunications:

fair system of open wire, submarine cable, and radio relay microwave;
broadcast stations - 2 AM, 2 FM, 2 TV; 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT earth
station

1.10 27.guide/Defense Forces (Benin)

Defense Forces (Benin)

=====

Branches:

Armed Forces (including Army, Navy, Air Force), National Gendarmerie

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 1,075,053; females age 15-49 1,170,693; males fit for
military service 550,645; females fit for military service 591,506; males
reach military age (18) annually 56,872; females reach military age (18)
annually 55,141 (1993 est.); both sexes are liable for military service

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$29 million, 1.7% of GDP (1988 est.)