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Chapter 1

75

1.1 75.guide

Texified version of data for Ethiopia.

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Ethiopia

1.2 75.guide/Ethiopia

Ethiopia

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

1.3 75.guide/Geography (Ethiopia)

Geography (Ethiopia)

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Location:

Eastern Africa, between Somalia and Sudan

Map references:

Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area: total area:

1,127,127 km²

land area:

1,119,683 km²

comparative area:

slightly less than twice the size of Texas

Land boundaries:

total 5,311 km, Djibouti 337 km, Erithea 912 km, Kenya 830 km, Somalia ↔
1,626

km, Sudan 1,606 km

Coastline:

none - landlocked

Maritime claims:

none - landlocked

International disputes:

southern half of the boundary with Somalia is a Provisional Administrative Line; possible claim by Somalia based on unification of ethnic Somalis; territorial dispute with Somalia over the Ogaden

Climate:

tropical monsoon with wide topographic-induced variation; some areas prone to extended droughts

Terrain:

high plateau with central mountain range divided by Great Rift Valley

Natural resources:

small reserves of gold, platinum, copper, potash

Land use:

arable land:

12%

permanent crops:

1%

meadows and pastures:

41%

forest and woodland:

24%
 other:
 22%
 Irrigated land:
 1,620 km² (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 geologically active Great Rift Valley susceptible to earthquakes, volcanic
 eruptions; deforestation; overgrazing; soil erosion; desertification;
 frequent droughts; famine
 Note:
 landlocked - entire coastline along the Red Sea was lost with the de jure
 independence of Eritrea on 27 April 1993

1.4 75.guide/People (Ethiopia)

People (Ethiopia)

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Population:
 53,278,446 (July 1993 est.)
 note:
 Ethiopian demographic data, except population and population growth rate,
 include Eritrea
 Population growth rate:
 3.41% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 45.37 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 14.23 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 2.94 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 108.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 52.21 years
 male:
 50.6 years
 female:
 53.88 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 6.88 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Ethiopian(s)
 adjective:
 Ethiopian
 Ethnic divisions:
 Oromo 40%, Amhara and Tigrean 32%, Sidamo 9%, Shankella 6%, Somali 6%, Afar
 4%, Gurage 2%, other 1%
 Religions:
 Muslim 45-50%, Ethiopian Orthodox 35-40%, animist 12%, other 5%
 Languages:

Amharic (official), Tigrinya, Orominga, Guaraginga, Somali, Arabic, English
 (major foreign language taught in schools)
 Literacy:
 age 10 and over can read and write (1983)
 total population:
 62%
 male:
 NA%
 female:
 NA%
 Labor force:
 18 million
 by occupation:
 agriculture and animal husbandry 80%, government and services 12%, industry
 and construction 8% (1985)

1.5 75.guide/Government (Ethiopia)

Government (Ethiopia)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 none
 conventional short form:
 Ethiopia
 local long form:
 none
 local short form: Ityop'iya
 Digraph:
 ET
 Type:
 transitional government
 note:
 on 28 May 1991 the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF ←
)
 toppled the authoritarian government of MENGISTU Haile-Mariam and took
 control in Addis Ababa; the Transitional Government of Ethiopia (TGE),
 announced a two-year transitional period
 Capital:
 Addis Ababa
 Administrative divisions:
 14 administrative regions (astedader akababiwach, singular - astedader
 akababi) Addis Ababa, Afar, Amhara, Benishangul, Gambela,
 Gurage-Hadiya-Kambata, Harer, Kefa, Omo, Oromo, Sidamo, Somali, Tigray,
 Wolayta
 Independence:
 oldest independent country in Africa and one of the oldest in the world - ←
 at
 least 2,000 years
 Constitution:
 to be redrafted by 1993
 Legal system:

NA

National holiday:
National Day, 28 May (1991) (defeat of Mengistu regime)

Political parties and leaders:
NA

Other political or pressure groups:
Oromo Liberation Front (OLF); Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP) ↔
;
numerous small, ethnic-based groups have formed since Mengistu's
resignation, including several Islamic militant groups

Suffrage:
18 years of age; universal

Elections:
President:
last held 10 September 1987; next election planned after new constitution
drafted; results - MENGISTU Haile-Mariam elected by the now defunct ↔
National
Assembly, but resigned and left Ethiopia on 21 May 1991

Constituent Assembly:
now planned for January 1994 (to ratify constitution to be drafted by end ↔
of
1993)

Executive branch:
president, prime minister, Council of Ministers

Legislative branch:
unicameral Constituent Assembly

Judicial branch:
Supreme Court

Leaders:
Chief of State:
President MELES Zenawi (since 1 June 1991)

1.6 75.guide/Government (Ethiopia 2. usage)

Government (Ethiopia 2. usage)

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Head of Government:
Prime Minister TAMIRAT Layne (since 6 June 1991)

Member of:
ACP, AfDB, CCC, ECA, FAO, G-24, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IFAD, IFC,
IGADD, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ISO, ITU, LORCS, NAM, OAU,
UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UPU, WFTU, WHO, WMO, WTO

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Flag:

three equal horizontal bands of green (top), yellow, and red; Ethiopia is the oldest independent country in Africa, and the colors of her flag were so often adopted by other African countries upon independence that they became known as the pan-African colors

1.7 75.guide/Economy (Ethiopia)

Economy (Ethiopia)

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Overview:

With the independence of Eritrea on 27 April 1993, Ethiopia continues to face difficult economic problems as one of the poorest and least developed countries in Africa. (The accompanying analysis and figures predate the independence of Eritrea.) Its economy is based on subsistence agriculture, which accounts for about 45% of GDP, 90% of exports, and 80% of total employment; coffee generates 60% of export earnings. The manufacturing sector is heavily dependent on inputs from the agricultural sector. Over 90% of large-scale industry, but less than 10% of agriculture, is state run; the government is considering selling off a portion of state-owned plants. Favorable agricultural weather largely explains the 4.5% growth in output in FY89, whereas drought and deteriorating internal security conditions prevented growth in FY90. In 1991 the lack of law and order, particularly in the south, interfered with economic development and growth. In 1992, because of some easing of civil strife and aid from the outside world, the economy substantially improved.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$6.6 billion (FY92 est.)

National product real growth rate:

6% (FY92 est.)

National product per capita:

\$130 (FY92 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

7.8% (1989)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$1.4 billion; expenditures \$2.3 billion, including capital

expenditures of \$565 million (FY91)

Exports:

\$276 million (f.o.b., FY90)

commodities:

coffee, leather products, gold, petroleum products

partners:

EC, Djibouti, Japan, Saudi Arabia, US

Imports:

\$1.0 billion (c.i.f., FY90)

commodities:

capital goods, consumer goods, fuel

partners:

EC, Eastern Europe, Japan, US

External debt:

\$3.48 billion (1991)

Industrial production:

growth rate 2.3% (FY89 est.); accounts for 12% of GDP

Electricity:

330,000 kW capacity; 650 million kWh produced, 10 kWh per capita (1991)

Industries:

food processing, beverages, textiles, chemicals, metals processing, cement

Agriculture:

accounts for 47% of GDP and is the most important sector of the economy ←
 even
 though frequent droughts and poor cultivation practices keep farm output
 low; famines not uncommon; export crops of coffee and oilseeds grown partly
 on state farms; estimated 50% of agricultural production at subsistence
 level; principal crops and livestock - cereals, pulses, coffee, oilseeds,
 sugarcane, potatoes and other vegetables, hides and skins, cattle, sheep,
 goats

1.8 75.guide/Economy (Ethiopia 2. usage)

Economy (Ethiopia 2. usage)

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Illicit drugs:

transit hub for heroin originating in Southwest and Southeast Asia and
 destined for Europe and North America; cultivates qat (chat) for local use
 and regional export

Economic aid:

US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$504 million; Western (non-US)
 countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$3.4 billion; OPEC
 bilateral aid (1979-89), \$8 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$2.0
 billion

Currency:

1 birr (Br) = 100 cents

Exchange rates:

birr (Br) per US\$1 - 5.0000 (fixed rate)

Fiscal year:

8 July - 7 July

1.9 75.guide/Communications (Ethiopia)

Communications (Ethiopia)

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Railroads:

781 km total; 781 km 1.000-meter gauge; 307 km 0.950-meter gauge linking Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) to Djibouti; control of railroad is shared between Djibouti and Ethiopia

Highways:

39,150 km total; 2,776 km paved, 7,504 km gravel, 2,054 km improved earth, 26,816 km unimproved earth (1993 est.)

Ports:

none; landlocked

Merchant marine:

none; landlocked

Airports:

total:

121

usable:

82

with permanent-surface runways:

9

with runways over 3,659 m:

1

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

13

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

83 (1993 est.)

Telecommunications:

open-wire and radio relay system adequate for government use; open-wire to Sudan and Djibouti; microwave radio relay to Kenya and Djibouti; broadcast stations - 4 AM, no FM, 1 TV; 100,000 TV sets; 9,000,000 radios; satellite earth stations - 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT and 2 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT

1.10 75.guide/Defense Forces (Ethiopia)

Defense Forces (Ethiopia)

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Branches:

Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF)

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 12,793,340; fit for military service 6,640,616; reach military age (18) annually 576,329 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$NA, NA% of GDP