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Chapter 1

180

1.1 180.guide

Texified version of data for Northern Mariana Islands.

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Northern Mariana Islands

1.2 180.guide/Northern Mariana Islands

Northern Mariana Islands

Header (Northern Mariana Islands)
Geography (Northern Mariana Islands)
People (Northern Mariana Islands)
Government (Northern Mariana Islands)
Government (Northern Mariana Islands 2. usage)
Economy (Northern Mariana Islands)
Communications (Northern Mariana Islands)
Defense Forces (Northern Mariana Islands)

1.3 180.guide/Header (Northern Mariana Islands)

Header (Northern Mariana Islands)
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Affiliation:
 (commonwealth in political union with the US)

1.4 180.guide/Geography (Northern Mariana Islands)

Geography (Northern Mariana Islands)
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Location:
 in the North Pacific Ocean, 5,635 km west-southwest of Honolulu, about
 three-quarters of the way between Hawaii and the Philippines
Map references:
 Oceania
Area:
 total area:
 477 km2
 land area:
 477 km2
 comparative area:
 slightly more than 2.5 times the size of Washington, DC
note:
 includes 14 islands including Saipan, Rota, and Tinian
Land boundaries:
 0 km
Coastline:
 1,482 km
Maritime claims:
 contiguous zone:
 24 nm
 continental shelf:
 200 m (depth)
 exclusive economic zone:

200 nm
 territorial sea:
 12 nm
 International disputes:
 none
 Climate:
 tropical marine; moderated by northeast trade winds, little seasonal
 temperature variation; dry season December to June, rainy season July to
 October
 Terrain:
 southern islands are limestone with level terraces and fringing coral reefs ↵
 ;
 northern islands are volcanic; highest elevation is 471 meters (Mt. Okso'
 Takpochao on Saipan)
 Natural resources:
 arable land, fish
 Land use:
 arable land:
 5% on Saipan
 permanent crops:
 NA%
 meadows and pastures:
 19%
 forest and woodland:
 NA%
 other:
 NA%
 Irrigated land:
 NA km2
 Environment:
 active volcanos on Pagan and Agrihan; subject to typhoons (most during
 August through November)
 Note:
 strategic location in the North Pacific Ocean

1.5 180.guide/People (Northern Mariana Islands)

People (Northern Mariana Islands)

=====

Population:
 48,581 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 3.04% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 35.05 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 4.61 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 37.96 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:

total population:
 67.43 years
 male:
 65.53 years
 female:
 69.48 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 2.69 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 NA
 adjective:
 NA
 Ethnic divisions:
 Chamorro, Carolinians and other Micronesians, Caucasian, Japanese, Chinese, Korean
 Religions:
 Christian (Roman Catholic majority, although traditional beliefs and taboos may still be found)
 Languages:
 English, Chamorro, Carolinian
 note:
 86% of population speaks a language other than English at home
 Literacy:
 age NA and over can read and write (1980)
 total population:
 97%
 male:
 97%
 female:
 96%
 Labor force:
 7,476 total indigenous labor force, 2,699 unemployed; 21,188 foreign ↵
 workers
 (1990)
 by occupation:
 NA

1.6 180.guide/Government (Northern Mariana Islands)

Government (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
 conventional short form:
 Northern Mariana Islands
 Digraph:
 CQ
 Type:
 commonwealth in political union with the US; self-governing with locally

elected governor, lieutenant governor, and legislature; federal funds to ←
the
Commonwealth administered by the US Department of the Interior, Office of
Territorial and International Affairs

Capital:
Saipan

Administrative divisions:
none

Independence:
none (commonwealth in political union with the US)

Constitution:
Covenant Agreement effective 3 November 1986 and the constitution of the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Legal system:
based on US system except for customs, wages, immigration laws, and ←
taxation

National holiday:
Commonwealth Day, 8 January (1978)

Political parties and leaders:
Republican Party, Governor Lorenzo GUERRERO; Democratic Party, Carlos SHODA ←
,
chairman

Suffrage:
18 years of age; universal; indigenous inhabitants are US citizens but do
not vote in US presidential elections

Elections:
Governor:
last held in NA November 1989 (next to be held NA November 1993); results -
Lorenzo I. DeLeon GUERRERO, Republican Party, was elected governor

Senate:
last held NA November 1991 (next to be held NA November 1993); results -
percent of vote by party NA; seats - (9 total) Republicans 6, Democrats 3

House of Representatives:
last held NA November 1991 (next to be held NA November 1993); results -
percent of vote by party NA; seats - (18 total) Republicans 10, Democrats ←
6,
Independent 2

US House of Representatives:
the Commonwealth does not have a nonvoting delegate in Congress; instead, ←
it
has an elected official "resident representative" located in Washington, DC ←
;
seats - (1 total) Republican (Juan N. BABAUTA)

Executive branch:
US president; governor, lieutenant governor

Legislative branch:
bicameral Legislature consists of an upper house or Senate and a lower ←
house
or House of Representatives

Judicial branch:
Commonwealth Supreme Court, Superior Court, Federal District Court

Leaders: Chief of State:
President William Jefferson CLINTON (since 20 January 1993); Vice President
Albert GORE, Jr. (since 20 January 1993)

1.7 180.guide/Government (Northern Mariana Islands 2. usage)

Government (Northern Mariana Islands 2. usage)

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Head of Government:

Governor Lorenzo I. DeLeon GUERRERO (since 9 January 1990); Lieutenant Governor Benjamin T. MANGLONA (since 9 January 1990)

Member of:

ESCAP (associate), SPC

Flag:

blue with a white five-pointed star superimposed on the gray silhouette of a latte stone (a traditional foundation stone used in building) in the center ←

1.8 180.guide/Economy (Northern Mariana Islands)

Economy (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Overview:

The economy benefits substantially from financial assistance from the US. The rate of funding has declined as locally generated government revenues have grown. An agreement for the years 1986 to 1992 entitled the islands to \$228 million for capital development, government operations, and special programs. A rapidly growing major source of income is the tourist industry, which now employs about 50% of the work force. Japanese tourists predominate. The agricultural sector is made up of cattle ranches and small farms producing coconuts, breadfruit, tomatoes, and melons. Industry is small scale, mostly handicrafts and light manufacturing.

National product:

GNP - purchasing power equivalent - \$541 million (1992)

note:

GNP numbers reflect US spending

National product real growth rate:

NA%

National product per capita:

\$11,500 (1992)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

6.5-7.5% (1991 est.)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$147.0 million; expenditures \$127.7 million, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1991)

Exports:

\$263.4 million (f.o.b. 1991 est.)

commodities:

manufactured goods, garments, bread, pastries, concrete blocks, light iron work

partners:

NA
 Imports:
 \$392.4 million (c.i.f. 1991 est.)
 commodities: food, construction, equipment, materials
 partners:
 NA
 External debt:
 \$0
 Industrial production:
 growth rate NA%
 Electricity:
 25,000 kW capacity; 35 million kWh produced, 740 kWh per capita (1990)
 Industries:
 tourism, construction, light industry, handicrafts
 Agriculture:
 coconuts, fruits, cattle, vegetables
 Economic aid:
 none
 Currency:
 US currency is used
 Fiscal year:
 1 October - 30 September

1.9 180.guide/Communications (Northern Mariana Islands)

Communications (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Railroads:
 none
 Highways:
 381.5 km total; 134.5 km primary, 55 km secondary, 192 km local (1991)
 Inland waterways:
 none
 Ports:
 Saipan, Tinian
 Airports:
 total:
 6
 usable:
 5
 with permanent-surface runways:
 3
 with runways over 3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
 2
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
 2
 Telecommunications:
 broadcast stations - 2 AM, 1 FM (1984), 1 TV, 2 cable TV stations; 2 ↔
 Pacific
 Ocean INTELSAT earth stations

1.10 180.guide/Defense Forces (Northern Mariana Islands)

Defense Forces (Northern Mariana Islands)

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Note:

defense is the responsibility of the US