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Chapter 1

115

1.1 115.guide

Texified version of data for Iraq.

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Iraq

1.2 115.guide/Iraq

Iraq

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

1.3 115.guide/Geography (Iraq)

Geography (Iraq)

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Location:

Middle East, between Iran and Saudi Arabia

Map references:

Middle East, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

437,072 km² land area:

432,162 km²

comparative area:

slightly more than twice the size of Idaho

Land boundaries:

total 3,631 km, Iran 1,458 km, Jordan 181 km, Kuwait 242 km, Saudi Arabia

814 km, Syria 605 km, Turkey 331 km

Coastline:

58 km

Maritime claims:

continental shelf:

not specified

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

Iran and Iraq restored diplomatic relations in 1990 but are still trying to work out written agreements settling outstanding disputes from their eight-year war concerning border demarcation, prisoners-of-war, and freedom of navigation and sovereignty over the Shatt al Arab waterway; in April ← 1991

official Iraqi acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 687, which demands that Iraq accept the inviolability of the boundary set forth in its 1963 agreement with Kuwait, ending earlier claims to Bubiyan and Warbah Islands or to all of Kuwait; the 20 May 1993 final report of the UN Iraq/Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission was welcomed by the Security Council in Resolution 833 of 27 May 1993, which also reaffirmed that the decisions of the commission on the boundary were final, bringing to a completion the official demarcation of the Iraq-Kuwait boundary; Iraqi officials still make public statements claiming Kuwait; periodic disputes with upstream riparian Syria over Euphrates water rights; potential dispute

over water development plans by Turkey for the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers

Climate:

mostly desert; mild to cool winters with dry, hot, cloudless summers;
northernmost regions along Iranian and Turkish borders experience cold
winters with occasionally heavy snows

Terrain:

mostly broad plains; reedy marshes in southeast; mountains along borders
with Iran and Turkey

Natural resources:

petroleum, natural gas, phosphates, sulfur

Land use:

arable land:

12%

permanent crops:

1%

meadows and pastures:

9%

forest and woodland:

3%

other:

75%

Irrigated land:

25,500 km² (1989 est)

1.4 115.guide/Geography (Iraq 2. usage)

Geography (Iraq 2. usage)

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Environment:

development of Tigris-Euphrates Rivers system contingent upon agreements
with upstream riparians (Syria, Turkey); air and water pollution; soil
degradation (salinization) and erosion; desertification

1.5 115.guide/People (Iraq)

People (Iraq)

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Population:

19,161,956 (July 1993 est.)

Population growth rate:

3.73% (1993 est.)

Birth rate:

44.57 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Death rate:

7.71 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Net migration rate:

0.42 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 71.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 64.96 years
 male:
 64.2 years
 female:
 65.76 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 6.86 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Iraqi(s)
 adjective:
 Iraqi
 Ethnic divisions:
 Arab 75-80%, Kurdish 15-20%, Turkoman, Assyrian or other 5%
 Religions:
 Muslim 97% (Shi'a 60-65%, Sunni 32-37%), Christian or other 3%
 Languages:
 Arabic, Kurdish (official in Kurdish regions), Assyrian, Armenian
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)
 total population:
 60%
 male:
 70%
 female:
 49%
 Labor force:
 4.4 million (1989)
 by occupation:
 services 48%, agriculture 30%, industry 22%
 note:
 severe labor shortage; expatriate labor force was about 1,600,000 (July 1990); since then, it has declined substantially

1.6 115.guide/Government (Iraq)

Government (Iraq)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Iraq
 conventional short form:
 Iraq
 local long form:
 Al Jumhuriyah al Iraqiyah
 local short form:
 Al Iraq

Digraph:

IZ

Type:

republic

Capital:

Baghdad

Administrative divisions:

18 provinces (muhafazat, singular - muhafazah); Al Anbar, Al Basrah, Al Muthanna, Al Qadisiyah, An Najaf, Arbil, As Sulaymaniyah, At Ta'mim, Babil, Baghdad, Dahuk, Dhi Qar, Diyala, Karbala', Maysan, Ninawa, Salah ad Din, Wasit

Independence:

3 October 1932 (from League of Nations mandate under British administration ←)

Constitution:

22 September 1968, effective 16 July 1970 (interim Constitution); new constitution drafted in 1990 but not adopted

Legal system:

based on Islamic law in special religious courts, civil law system elsewhere; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

National holiday:

Anniversary of the Revolution, 17 July (1968)

Political parties and leaders:

Ba'th Party

Other political or pressure groups:

political parties and activity severely restricted; possibly some ← opposition

to regime from disaffected members of the regime, Army officers, and Shi'a religious and Kurdish ethnic dissidents; the Green Party (government-controlled)

Suffrage:

18 years of age; universal

Elections:

National Assembly:

last held on 1 April 1989 (next to be held NA); results - Sunni Arabs 53%, Shi'a Arabs 30%, Kurds 15%, Christians 2% est.; seats - (250 total) number of seats by party NA

note:

in northern Iraq, a "Kurdish Assembly" was elected in May 1992 and calls ← for

Kurdish self-determination within a federated Iraq

Executive branch:

president, vice president, chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, vice chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, prime minister, first deputy prime minister, Council of Ministers

Legislative branch:

unicameral National Assembly (Majlis al-Watani)

Judicial branch:

Court of Cassation

1.7 115.guide/Government (Iraq 2. usage)

Government (Iraq 2. usage)

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Leaders:**Chief of State:**

President SADDAM Husayn (since 16 July 1979); Vice President Taha Muhyi al-Din MA'RUF (since 21 April 1974); Vice President Taha Yasin RAMADAN (since 23 March 1991)

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Muhammad Hamza al-ZUBAYDI (since 13 September 1991); Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'AZIZ (since NA 1979)

Member of:

ABEDA, ACC, AFESD, AL, AMF, CAEU, CCC, ESCWA, FAO, G-19, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC ↔

ISO, ITU, LORCS, NAM, OAPEC, OIC, OPEC, PCA, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU ↔

WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

Diplomatic representation in US:**chief of mission:**

Iraq has an Interest Section in the Algerian embassy in Washington, DC

chancery:

Iraqi Interests Section, 1801 P Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

telephone:

(202) 483-7500

FAX:

(202) 462-5066

US diplomatic representation:**chief of mission:**

(vacant); note - operations have been temporarily suspended; a US Interests Section is located in Poland's embassy in Baghdad

embassy:

Masbah Quarter (opposite the Foreign Ministry Club), Baghdad

mailing address:

P. O. Box 2447 Alwiyah, Baghdad

telephone:

[964] (1) 719-6138 or 719-6139, 718-1840, 719-3791

Flag:

three equal horizontal bands of red (top), white, and black with three green

five-pointed stars in a horizontal line centered in the white band; the phrase ALLAHU AKBAR (God is Great) in green Arabic script - Allahu to the right of the middle star and Akbar to the left of the middle star - was added in January 1991 during the Persian Gulf crisis; similar to the flag of

Syria that has two stars but no script and the flag of Yemen that has a plain white band; also similar to the flag of Egypt that has a symbolic eagle centered in the white band

1.8 115.guide/Economy (Iraq)

Economy (Iraq)

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Overview:

The Ba'athist regime engages in extensive central planning and management of industrial production and foreign trade while leaving some small-scale industry and services and most agriculture to private enterprise. The economy has been dominated by the oil sector, which has traditionally provided about 95% of foreign exchange earnings. In the 1980s, financial problems caused by massive expenditures in the eight-year war with Iran and damage to oil export facilities by Iran, led the government to implement austerity measures and to borrow heavily and later reschedule foreign debt payments. After the end of hostilities in 1988, oil exports gradually increased with the construction of new pipelines and restoration of damaged facilities. Agricultural development remained hampered by labor shortages, salinization, and dislocations caused by previous land reform and collectivization programs. The industrial sector, although accorded high priority by the government, also was under financial constraints. Iraq's seizure of Kuwait in August 1990, subsequent international economic embargoes, and military action by an international coalition beginning in January 1991 drastically changed the economic picture. Industrial and transportation facilities suffered severe damage and have been only partially restored. Oil exports remain at less than 10% of the previous level. Shortages of spare parts continue. Living standards deteriorated ← even

further in 1992 and early 1993; consumer prices at least tripled in 1992. The UN-sponsored economic embargo has reduced exports and imports and has contributed to the sharp rise in prices. The government's policies of supporting large military and internal security forces and of allocating resources to key supporters of the regime have exacerbated shortages. In brief, per capita output in early 1993 is far below the 1989-90 level, but no reliable estimate is available.

National product:

GNP - exchange rate conversion - \$35 billion (1989 est.)

National product real growth rate:

10% (1989 est.)

National product per capita:

\$1,940 (1989 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

200% (1992 est.)

Unemployment rate:

less than 5% (1989 est.)

Budget:

revenues \$NA; expenditures \$NA, including capital expenditures of \$NA

Exports:

\$10.4 billion (f.o.b., 1990)

commodities:

crude oil and refined products, fertilizer, sulfur

partners:

US, Brazil, Turkey, Japan, Netherlands, Spain (1990)

Imports:

\$6.6 billion (c.i.f., 1990)

commodities:

manufactures, food

partners:

Germany, US, Turkey, France, UK (1990)

External debt:

\$45 billion (1989 est.), excluding debt of about \$35 billion owed to Arab Gulf states

Industrial production: NA%; manufacturing accounts for 10% of GNP (1989)

1.9 115.guide/Economy (Iraq 2. usage)

Economy (Iraq 2. usage)

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Electricity:

7,300,000 kW available out of 9,902,000 kW capacity due to Gulf war; 12,900 million kWh produced, 700 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:

petroleum production and refining, chemicals, textiles, construction materials, food processing

Agriculture:

accounts for 11% of GNP and 30% of labor force; principal products - wheat, barley, rice, vegetables, dates, other fruit, cotton, wool; livestock - cattle, sheep; not self-sufficient in food output

Economic aid:

US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-80), \$3 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$647 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$3.9 billion

Currency:

1 Iraqi dinar (ID) = 1,000 fils

Exchange rates:

Iraqi dinars (ID) per US\$1 - 3.2 (fixed official rate since 1982); black-market rate (April 1993) US\$1 = 53.5 Iraqi dinars

Fiscal year:

calendar year

1.10 115.guide/Communications (Iraq)

Communications (Iraq)

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Railroads:

2,457 km 1.435-meter standard gauge

Highways:

34,700 km total; 17,500 km paved, 5,500 km improved earth, 11,700 km unimproved earth

Inland waterways:

1,015 km; Shatt al Arab is usually navigable by maritime traffic for about 130 km; channel has been dredged to 3 meters and is in use; Tigris and Euphrates Rivers have navigable sections for shallow-draft watercraft; ← Shatt

al Basrah canal was navigable by shallow-draft craft before closing in 1991 because of the Persian Gulf war

Pipelines:

crude oil 4,350 km; petroleum products 725 km; natural gas 1,360 km

Ports:

Umm Qasr, Khawr az Zubayr, Al Basrah (closed since 1980)

Merchant marine:

41 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 930,780 GRT/1,674,878 DWT; includes 1 passenger, 1 passenger-cargo, 15 cargo, 1 refrigerated cargo, 3 roll-on/roll-off cargo, 19 oil tanker, 1 chemical tanker; note - none of the

Iraqi flag merchant fleet was trading internationally as of 1 January 1993

Airports:

total:

114

usable: 99

with permanent-surface runways:

74

with runways over 3,659 m:

9

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

52

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

12

Telecommunications:

reconstitution of damaged telecommunication facilities began after Desert Storm, most damaged facilities have been rebuilt; the network consists of coaxial cables and microwave radio relay links; 632,000 telephones; broadcast stations - 16 AM, 1 FM, 13 TV; satellite earth stations - 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT, 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT, 1 Atlantic Ocean GORIZONT in the Intersputnik system and 1 ARABSAT; coaxial cable and microwave radio relay to Jordan, Kuwait, Syria, and Turkey, Kuwait line is probably non-operational

1.11 115.guide/Defense Forces (Iraq)

Defense Forces (Iraq)

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Branches:

Army and Republican Guard, Navy, Air Force, Air Defense Force, Border Guard Force, Internal Security Forces

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 4,235,321; fit for military service 2,379,999; reach military age (18) annually 211,776 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

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