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Chapter 1

140

1.1 140.guide

Texified version of data for Libya.

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Libya

1.2 140.guide/Libya

Libya

Geography (Libya)
 People (Libya)
 Government (Libya)
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 Economy (Libya)
 Economy (Libya 2. usage)
 Communications (Libya)
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1.3 140.guide/Geography (Libya)

Geography (Libya)
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Location:

Northern Africa, on the southern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, between Egypt and Tunisia

Map references:

Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

1,759,540 km²

land area:

1,759,540 km²

comparative area:

slightly larger than Alaska

Land boundaries:

total 4,383 km, Algeria 982 km, Chad 1,055 km, Egypt 1,150 km, Niger 354 km ↔

Sudan 383 km, Tunisia 459 km

Coastline:

1,770 km

Maritime claims:

territorial sea:

12 nm

Gulf of Sidra closing line:

32 degrees 30 minutes north

International disputes:

claims and occupies the Aozou Strip in northern Chad; maritime boundary dispute with Tunisia; Libya claims part of northern Niger and part of southeastern Algeria

Climate:

Mediterranean along coast; dry, extreme desert interior

Terrain:

mostly barren, flat to undulating plains, plateaus, depressions

Natural resources:

petroleum, natural gas, gypsum

Land use:

arable land:

2%

permanent crops:

0%
 meadows and pastures:
 8%
 forest and woodland:
 0%
 other:
 90%
 Irrigated land:
 2,420 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 hot, dry, dust-laden ghibli is a southern wind lasting one to four days in
 spring and fall; desertification; sparse natural surface-water resources
 Note:
 the Great Manmade River Project, the largest water development scheme in ←
 the
 world, is being built to bring water from large aquifers under the Sahara ←
 to
 coastal cities

1.4 140.guide/People (Libya)

People (Libya)

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Population:
 4,872,598 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 3.73% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 45.66 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 8.37 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate: 65.5 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 63.47 years
 male:
 61.35 years
 female:
 65.7 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 6.44 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Libyan(s)
 adjective:
 Libyan
 Ethnic divisions:
 Berber and Arab 97%, Greeks, Maltese, Italians, Egyptians, Pakistanis,
 Turks, Indians, Tunisians
 Religions:

Sunni Muslim 97%

Languages:
 Arabic, Italian, English, all are widely understood in the major cities

Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)
 total population:
 64%

male:
 75%

female:
 50%

Labor force:
 1 million includes about 280,000 resident foreigners

by occupation:
 industry 31%, services 27%, government 24%, agriculture 18%

1.5 140.guide/Government (Libya)

Government (Libya)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
 conventional short form:
 Libya
 local long form:
 Al Jumahiriyyah al Arabiyyah al Libiyyah ash Shabiyah al Ishirakiyyah
 local short form:
 none

Digraph:
 LY

Type:
 Jamahiriya (a state of the masses) in theory, governed by the populace through local councils; in fact, a military dictatorship

Capital:
 Tripoli

Administrative divisions: 25 municipalities (baladiyah, singular - ← baladiyah); Ajdabiya, Al 'Aziziyah,
 Al Fatih, Al Jabal al Akhdar, Al Jufrah, Al Khums, Al Kufrah, An Nuqat al Khams, Ash Shati', Awbari, Az Zawiyah, Banghazi, Darnah, Ghadamis, Gharyan, Misratah, Murzuq, Sabha, Sawfajjin, Surt, Tarabulus, Tarhunah, Tubruq, Yafran, Zlitan

Independence:
 24 December 1951 (from Italy)

Constitution:
 11 December 1969, amended 2 March 1977

Legal system:
 based on Italian civil law system and Islamic law; separate religious courts; no constitutional provision for judicial review of legislative acts ←
 ;
 has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

National holiday:
 Revolution Day, 1 September (1969)
 Political parties and leaders:
 none
 Other political or pressure groups:
 various Arab nationalist movements and the Arab Socialist Resurrection (Ba'th) party with almost negligible memberships may be functioning clandestinely, as well as some Islamic elements
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal and compulsory
 Elections:
 national elections are indirect through a hierarchy of peoples' committees
 Executive branch:
 revolutionary leader, chairman of the General People's Committee (premier), General People's Committee (cabinet)
 Legislative branch:
 unicameral General People's Congress
 Judicial branch:
 Supreme Court
 Leaders:
 Chief of State:
 Revolutionary Leader Col. Mu'ammār Abu Minyār al-QADHAFI (since 1 September 1969)
 Head of Government:
 Chairman of the General People's Committee (Premier) Abu Zayd 'umar DURDA (since 7 October 1990)

1.6 140.guide/Government (Libya 2. usage)

Government (Libya 2. usage)
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Member of:
 ABEDA, AfDB, AFESD, AL, AMF, AMU, CAEU, CCC, ECA, FAO, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSTAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS, NAM, OAPEC, OAU, OIC, OPEC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO
 Diplomatic representation in US:
 none
 US diplomatic representation:
 none
 Flag:
 plain green; green is the traditional color of Islam (the state religion)

1.7 140.guide/Economy (Libya)

Economy (Libya)
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Overview:

The socialist-oriented economy depends primarily upon revenues from the oil sector, which contributes practically all export earnings and about one-third of GDP. In 1990 per capita GDP was the highest in Africa at \$5,410, but GDP growth rates have slowed and fluctuate sharply in response to changes in the world oil market. Import restrictions and inefficient resource allocations have led to shortages of basic goods and foodstuffs, although the reopening of the Libyan-Tunisian border in April 1988 and the Libyan-Egyptian border in December 1989 have eased shortages. Austerity budgets and a lack of trained technicians have undermined the government's ability to implement a number of planned infrastructure development projects. Windfall revenues from the hike in world oil prices in late 1990 improved the foreign payments position and resulted in a current account surplus for the first time in five years. The nonoil manufacturing and construction sectors, which account for about 20% of GDP, have expanded ← from

processing mostly agricultural products to include petrochemicals, iron, steel, and aluminum. Although agriculture accounts for only 5% of GDP, it employs about 20% of the labor force. Climatic conditions and poor soils severely limit farm output, and Libya imports about 75% of its food requirements.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$26.1 billion (1992 est.)

National product real growth rate:

0.2% (1992 est.)

National product per capita:

\$5,800 (1992 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

7% (1991 est.)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$8.1 billion; expenditures \$9.8 billion, including capital expenditures of \$3.1 billion (1989 est.)

Exports:

\$9.71 billion (f.o.b., 1992)

commodities:

crude oil, refined petroleum products, natural gas

partners:

Italy, former USSR, Germany, Spain, France, Belgium/Luxembourg, Turkey

Imports:

\$8.66 billion (f.o.b., 1992)

commodities:

machinery, transport equipment, food, manufactured goods

partners:

Italy, former USSR, Germany, UK, Japan, Korea

External debt:

\$3.5 billion excluding military debt (1991 est.)

Industrial production:

growth rate 10.5%; accounts for 7.6% of GDP (not including oil) (1990)

Electricity:

4,935,000 kW capacity; 14,385 million kWh produced, 2,952 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:

petroleum, food processing, textiles, handicrafts, cement

Agriculture:

5% of GNP; cash crops - wheat, barley, olives, dates, citrus fruits, peanuts; 75% of food is imported

1.8 140.guide/Economy (Libya 2. usage)

Economy (Libya 2. usage)

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Economic aid:

Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-87), \$242 million; no longer a recipient

Currency:

1 Libyan dinar (LD) = 1,000 dirhams

Exchange rates:

Libyan dinars (LD) per US\$1 - 0.2998 (January 1993), 0.3013 (1992), 0.2684 (1991), 0.2699 (1990), 0.2922 (1989), 0.2853 (1988)

Fiscal year:

calendar year

1.9 140.guide/Communications (Libya)

Communications (Libya)

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Railroads:

Libya has had no railroad in operation since 1965, all previous systems having been dismantled; current plans are to construct a standard gauge (1.435 m) line from the Tunisian frontier to Tripoli and Misratah, then inland to Sabha, center of a mineral rich area, but there has been no progress; other plans made jointly with Egypt would establish a rail line from As Sallum, Egypt to Tobruk with completion set for mid-1994, progress unknown

Highways:

19,300 km total; 10,800 km bituminous/bituminous treated, 8,500 km crushed stone or earth

Inland waterways:

none

Pipelines:

crude oil 4,383 km; natural gas 1,947 km; petroleum products 443 km (includes liquified petroleum gas 256 km)

Ports:

Tobruk, Tripoli, Banghazi, Misratah, Marsa al Burayqah, Ra's Lanuf, Ra's al Unif

Merchant marine:

32 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 694,883 GRT/1,215,494 DWT; includes 4 short-sea passenger, 11 cargo, 4 roll-on/roll-off, 10 oil tanker, 1 chemical tanker, 2 liquefied gas

Airports:

total:

138

usable:

124

with permanent-surface runways:

56

with runways over 3,659 m: 9

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

27

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

47

Telecommunications:

modern telecommunications system using radio relay, coaxial cable, tropospheric scatter, and domestic satellite stations; 370,000 telephones; broadcast stations - 17 AM, 3 FM, 12 TV; satellite earth stations - 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT, 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT, and 14 domestic; ↔ submarine

cables to France and Italy; radio relay to Tunisia and Egypt; tropospheric scatter to Greece; planned ARABSAT and Intersputnik satellite stations

1.10 140.guide/Defense Forces (Libya)

Defense Forces (Libya)

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Branches:

Armed Peoples of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (including Army, Navy, Air and Air Defense Command)

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 1,058,134; fit for military service 628,285; reach military age (17) annually 50,997 (1993 est.); conscription now being implemented

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$3.3 billion, 15% of GDP (1989 est.)