

Monaco

Geography

Location: Western Europe, bordering the Mediterranean Sea, on the southern coast of France, near the border with Italy

Area:

total area: 1.9 sq km

land area: 1.9 sq km

Land boundaries: total 4.4 km, France 4.4 km

Coastline: 4.1 km

Maritime claims:

territorial sea: 12 nm

Climate: Mediterranean with mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers

Terrain: hilly, rugged, rocky

Natural resources: none

Environment:

Note: second smallest independent state in world (after Holy See); almost entirely urban

People

Population: 31,515 (July 1995 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 17% (female 2,691; male 2,740)

15-64 years: 63% (female 10,233; male 9,645)

65 years and over: 20% (female 3,939; male 2,267) (July 1995 est.)

Population growth rate: 0.7% (1995 est.)

Birth rate: 10.66 births/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Death rate: 12.12 deaths/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Net migration rate: 8.44 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Infant mortality rate: 7 deaths/1,000 live births (1995 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:
total population: 77.9 years
male: 74.18 years
female: 81.8 years (1995 est.)

Total fertility rate: 1.7 children born/woman (1995 est.)

Nationality:
noun: Monacan(s) or Monegasque(s)
adjective: Monacan or Monegasque

Ethnic divisions: French 47%, Monegasque 16%, Italian 16%, other 21%

Religions: Roman Catholic 95%

Languages: French (official), English, Italian, Monegasque

Government

Names:

conventional long form: Principality of Monaco

conventional short form: Monaco

local long form: Principaute de Monaco

local short form: Monaco

Type: constitutional monarchy

Capital: Monaco

Independence: 1419 (rule by the House of Grimaldi)

National holiday: National Day, 19 November

Constitution: 17 December 1962

Suffrage: 25 years of age; universal

Flag: two equal horizontal bands of red (top) and white; similar to the flag of Indonesia which is longer and the flag of Poland which is white (top) and red

Economy

Overview: Monaco, situated on the French Mediterranean coast, is a popular resort, attracting tourists to its casino and pleasant climate. The Principality has successfully sought to diversify into services and small, high-value-added, nonpolluting industries. The state has no income tax and low business taxes and thrives as a tax haven both for individuals who have established residence and for foreign companies that have set up businesses and offices. Living standards are high, that is, roughly comparable to those in prosperous French metropolitan suburbs.

Agriculture: none

Transportation

Railroads:

total: 1.7 km

Highways: none; city streets

Ports: Monaco

Airports: linked to airport in Nice, France, by helicopter service

Defense Forces

Note: defense is the responsibility of France