

# Uganda

## Geography

Location: Eastern Africa, west of Kenya

Area:

total area: 236,040 sq km

land area: 199,710 sq km

Land boundaries: total 2,698 km, Kenya 933 km, Rwanda 169 km, Sudan 435 km, Tanzania 396 km, Zaire 765 km

Coastline: 0 km (landlocked)

Maritime claims: none; landlocked

Climate: tropical; generally rainy with two dry seasons (December to February, June to August); semiarid in northeast

Terrain: mostly plateau with rim of mountains

Natural resources: copper, cobalt, limestone, salt

Land use:

arable land: 23%

permanent crops: 9%

meadows and pastures: 25%

forest and woodland: 30%

other: 13%

Irrigated land: 90 sq km (1989 est.)

Environment:

current issues: draining of wetlands for agricultural use;

deforestation; overgrazing; soil erosion; poaching is widespread

Note: landlocked

## People

Population: 19,573,262 (July 1995 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 49% (female 4,792,164; male 4,834,757)

15-64 years: 49% (female 4,802,650; male 4,704,159)

65 years and over: 2% (female 215,648; male 223,884) (July 1995 est.)

Population growth rate: 2.25% (1995 est.)

Birth rate: 48.03 births/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Death rate: 24.35 deaths/1,000 population (1995 est.)

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

Infant mortality rate: 112.2 deaths/1,000 live births (1995 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 36.58 years

male: 36.26 years

female: 36.91 years (1995 est.)

Total fertility rate: 6.7 children born/woman (1995 est.)

Nationality:

noun: Ugandan(s)

adjective: Ugandan

Ethnic divisions: Baganda 17%, Karamojong 12%, Basogo 8%, Iteso 8%, Langi 6%, Rwanda 6%, Bagisu 5%, Acholi 4%, Lugbara 4%, Bunyoro 3%, Batobo 3%, European, Asian, Arab 1%, other 23%

Religions: Roman Catholic 33%, Protestant 33%, Muslim 16%, indigenous beliefs 18%

Languages: English (official), Luganda, Swahili, Bantu languages, Nilotic languages

Literacy:

total population: 56%

male: 68%

female: 45%

# Government

## Names:

conventional long form: Republic of Uganda

conventional short form: Uganda

Type: republic

Capital: Kampala

Independence: 9 October 1962 (from UK)

National holiday: Independence Day, 9 October (1962)

Constitution: 8 September 1967, in process of constitutional revision

Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal

Flag: six equal horizontal bands of black (top), yellow, red, black, yellow, and red; a white disk is superimposed at the center and depicts a red-crested crane (the national symbol) facing the staff side

# Economy

Overview: Uganda has substantial natural resources, including fertile soils, regular rainfall, and sizable mineral deposits of copper and cobalt. Agriculture is the most important sector of the economy. Coffee is the major export crop.

Industries: sugar, brewing, tobacco, cotton textiles, cement

Agriculture: mainly subsistence; accounts for 57% of GDP and over 80% of labor force; cash crops - coffee, tea, cotton, tobacco; food crops - cassava, potatoes, corn, millet, pulses; livestock products - beef, goat meat, milk, poultry; self-sufficient in food

## Transportation

Railroads:

total: 1,300 km single track

Highways:

total: 26,200 km

Inland waterways: Lake Victoria, Lake Albert, Lake Kyoga, Lake George, Lake Edward; Victoria Nile, Albert Nile; principal inland water ports are at Jinja and Port Bell, both on Lake Victoria

Ports: Entebbe, Jinja, Port Bell

Airports:

total: 29

Defence Forces

Branches: Army, Navy, Air Wing