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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

197

1.1 197.guide

Texified version of data for Qatar.

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Qatar

1.2 197.guide/Qatar

Qatar

Geography (Qatar)

People (Qatar)

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1.3 197.guide/Geography (Qatar)

Geography (Qatar)

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Location:

Middle East, peninsula jutting into the central Persian Gulf, between Iran and Saudi Arabia

Map references:

Middle East, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

11,000 km²

land area:

11,000 km²

comparative area:

slightly smaller than Connecticut

Land boundaries:

total 60 km, Saudi Arabia 60 km

Coastline:

563 km

Maritime claims:

continental shelf:

not specified

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

territorial dispute with Bahrain over the Hawar Islands; maritime boundary with Bahrain

Climate:

desert; hot, dry; humid and sultry in summer

Terrain:

mostly flat and barren desert covered with loose sand and gravel

Natural resources:

petroleum, natural gas, fish

Land use:

arable land:

0%

permanent crops:

0%

meadows and pastures:

5%

forest and woodland:

0%

other:

95%

Irrigated land:

NA km2

Environment:

haze, duststorms, sandstorms common; limited freshwater resources mean increasing dependence on large-scale desalination facilities

Note:

strategic location in central Persian Gulf near major petroleum deposits

1.4 197.guide/People (Qatar)

People (Qatar)

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Population:

499,115 (July 1993 est.)

Population growth rate:

2.84% (1993 est.)

Birth rate:

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

Death rate:

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

Net migration rate:

12.36 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)

Infant mortality rate:

22.7 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)

Life expectancy at birth: total population:

72.25 years

male:

69.73 years

female:

74.68 years (1993 est.)

Total fertility rate:

3.88 children born/woman (1993 est.)

Nationality:

noun:

Qatari(s)

adjective:

Qatari

Ethnic divisions:

Arab 40%, Pakistani 18%, Indian 18%, Iranian 10%, other 14%

Religions:

Muslim 95%

Languages:

Arabic (official), English commonly used as a second language

Literacy:

age 15 and over can read and write (1986)

total population:

76%

male:

77%

female:

72%

Labor force:

104,000 85% non-Qatari in private sector (1983)

1.5 197.guide/Government (Qatar)

Government (Qatar)

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Names:

conventional long form:

State of Qatar

conventional short form:

Qatar

local long form:

Dawlat Qatar

local short form:

Qatar

Digraph:

QA

Type:

traditional monarchy

Capital:

Doha

Administrative divisions:

there are no first-order administrative divisions as defined by the US Government, but there are 9 municipalities (baladiyat, singular - baladiyah); Ad Dawhah, Al Ghuwayriyah, Al Jumayliyah, Al Khawr, Al Rayyan, Al Wakrah, Ash Shamal, Jarayan al Batnah, Umm Salal

Independence:

3 September 1971 (from UK)

Constitution:

provisional constitution enacted 2 April 1970

Legal system:

discretionary system of law controlled by the amir, although civil codes ← are

being implemented; Islamic law is significant in personal matters

National holiday:

Independence Day, 3 September (1971)

Political parties and leaders:

none

Suffrage:

none

Elections:

Advisory Council:

constitution calls for elections for part of this consultative body, but no elections have been held; seats - (30 total)

Executive branch:

amir, Council of Ministers (cabinet)

Legislative branch:

unicameral Advisory Council (Majlis al-Shura)

Judicial branch:

Court of Appeal

Leaders:

Chief of State and Head of Government:

Amir and Prime Minister KHALIFA bin Hamad Al Thani (since 22 February 1972) ↔
;

Crown Prince HAMAD bin Khalifa Al Thani (appointed 31 May 1977; son of Amir ↔
)

Member of:

ABEDA, AFESD, AL, AMF, CCC, ESCWA, FAO, G-77, GCC, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, IDB,
IFAD, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS, NAM,
OAPEC, OIC, OPEC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO

Diplomatic representation in US:

chief of mission:

Ambassador 'Abd al-Rahman bin Sa'ud ALTHANI

chancery:

Suite 1180, 600 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20037

telephone:

(202) 338-0111

1.6 197.guide/Government (Qatar 2. usage)

Government (Qatar 2. usage)

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US diplomatic representation:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Kenton W. KEITH

embassy:

149 Ali Bin Ahmed St., Farig Bin Omran (opposite the television station),
Doha

mailing address:

P. O. Box 2399, Doha

telephone:

(0974) 864701 through 864703

FAX:

(0974) 861669

Flag:

maroon with a broad white serrated band (nine white points) on the hoist
side

1.7 197.guide/Economy (Qatar)

Economy (Qatar)

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Overview:

Oil is the backbone of the economy and accounts for more than 85% of export earnings and roughly 75% of government revenues. Proved oil reserves of 3.3 billion barrels should ensure continued output at current levels for about 25 years. Oil has given Qatar a per capita GDP of about \$17,000, comparable to the leading industrial countries. Production and export of natural gas ↔
is

becoming increasingly important.

National product:
 GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$8.1 billion (1991 est.)

National product real growth rate:
 3% (1991 est.)

National product per capita:
 \$17,000 (1991 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):
 3% (1990)

Unemployment rate:
 NA%

Budget:
 revenues \$2.5 billion; expenditures \$3.0 billion, including capital expenditures of \$440 million (FY92 est.)

Exports:
 \$3.2 billion (f.o.b., 1991)
 commodities:
 petroleum products 85%, steel, fertilizers
 partners:
 Japan 61%, Brazil 6%, South Korea 5%, UAE 4%

Imports:
 \$1.4 billion (f.o.b., 1991 est.)
 commodities:
 machinery and equipment, consumer goods, food, chemicals
 partners:
 France 13%, Japan 12%, UK 11%, Germany 9%

External debt:
 \$1.1 billion (December 1989 est.)

Industrial production:
 growth rate 0.6% (1987); accounts for 64% of GDP, including oil

Electricity:
 1,596,000 kW capacity; 4,818 million kWh produced, 9,655 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:
 crude oil production and refining, fertilizers, petrochemicals, steel (←
 rolls
 reinforcing bars for concrete construction), cement

Agriculture:
 farming and grazing on small scale, less than 2% of GDP; agricultural area is small and government-owned; commercial fishing increasing in importance; most food imported

Economic aid:
 donor - pledged \$2.7 billion in ODA to less developed countries (1979-88)

Currency:
 1 Qatari riyal (QR) = 100 dirhams

Exchange rates: Qatari riyals (QR) per US\$1 - 3.6400 riyals (fixed rate)

Fiscal year:
 1 April - 31 March

1.8 197.guide/Communications (Qatar)

Communications (Qatar)

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Highways:

1,500 km total; 1,000 km paved, 500 km gravel or natural surface (est.)

Pipelines:

crude oil 235 km, natural gas 400 km

Ports:

Doha, Umm Sa'id, Halul Island

Merchant marine:

20 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 390,072 GRT/593,508 DWT; includes 13 cargo, 4 container, 2 oil tanker, 1 refrigerated cargo

Airports:

total:

4

usable:

4

with permanent-surface runways:

1

with runways over 3,659 m:

1

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

0

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

2

Telecommunications:

modern system centered in Doha; 110,000 telephones; tropospheric scatter to Bahrain; microwave radio relay to Saudi Arabia and UAE; submarine cable to Bahrain and UAE; satellite earth stations - 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT, 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT, 1 ARABSAT; broadcast stations - 2 AM, 3 FM, 3 TV

1.9 197.guide/Defense Forces (Qatar)

Defense Forces (Qatar)

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Branches:

Army, Navy, Air Force, Public Security

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 214,977; fit for military service 113,514; reach military age (18) annually 3,578 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

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