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Chapter 1

72

1.1 72.guide

Texified version of data for Equatorial Guinea.

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Equatorial Guinea

1.2 72.guide/Equatorial Guinea

Equatorial Guinea

Geography (Equatorial Guinea)

People (Equatorial Guinea)

Government (Equatorial Guinea)

Government (Equatorial Guinea 2. usage)

Economy (Equatorial Guinea)

Economy (Equatorial Guinea 2. usage)

Communications (Equatorial Guinea)

Defense Forces (Equatorial Guinea)

1.3 72.guide/Geography (Equatorial Guinea)

Geography (Equatorial Guinea)

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Location:

Western Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean between Cameroon and Gabon

Map references:

Africa, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

28,050 km²

land area:

28,050 km²

comparative area:

slightly larger than Maryland

Land boundaries:

total 539 km, Cameroon 189 km, Gabon 350 km

Coastline:

296 km

Maritime claims:

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

maritime boundary dispute with Gabon because of disputed sovereignty over islands in Corisco Bay

Climate:

tropical; always hot, humid

Terrain:

coastal plains rise to interior hills; islands are volcanic

Natural resources:

timber, petroleum, small unexploited deposits of gold, manganese, uranium

Land use:

arable land:

8%

permanent crops:

4%

meadows and pastures:

4%

forest and woodland:

51%

other:

33%

Irrigated land:

NA km2

Environment:

subject to violent windstorms

Note:

insular and continental regions rather widely separated

1.4 72.guide/People (Equatorial Guinea)

People (Equatorial Guinea)

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Population:

399,055 (July 1993 est.)

Population growth rate:

2.6% (1993 est.)

Birth rate:

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

Death rate:

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

Net migration rate:

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

Infant mortality rate:

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

Life expectancy at birth:

total population:

51.63 years

male:

49.56 years

female: 53.76 years (1993 est.)

Total fertility rate:

5.33 children born/woman (1993 est.)

Nationality:

noun:

Equatorial Guinean(s) or Equatoguinean(s)

adjective:

Equatorial Guinean or Equatoguinean

Ethnic divisions:

Bioko (primarily Bubi, some Fernandinos), Rio Muni (primarily Fang),

Europeans less than 1,000, mostly Spanish

Religions:

nominally Christian and predominantly Roman Catholic, pagan practices

Languages:

Spanish (official), pidgin English, Fang, Bubi, Ibo

Literacy:

age 15 and over can read and write (1990)

total population:

50%

male:

64%

female:

37%

Labor force:

172,000 (1986 est.)
 by occupation:
 agriculture 66%, services 23%, industry 11% (1980)
 note:
 labor shortages on plantations; 58% of population of working age (1985)

1.5 72.guide/Government (Equatorial Guinea)

Government (Equatorial Guinea)

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Names:

conventional long form:
 Republic of Equatorial Guinea
 conventional short form:
 Equatorial Guinea
 local long form:
 Republica de Guinea Ecuatorial
 local short form:
 Guinea Ecuatorial
 former:
 Spanish Guinea

Digraph:

EK

Type:

republic in transition to multiparty democracy

Capital:

Malabo

Administrative divisions:

7 provinces (provincias, singular - provincia); Annobon, Bioko Norte, Bioko Sur, Centro Sur, Kie-Ntem, Litoral, Wele-Nzas

Independence:

12 October 1968 (from Spain)

Constitution:

new constitution 17 November 1991

Legal system:

partly based on Spanish civil law and tribal custom

National holiday:

Independence Day, 12 October (1968)

Political parties and leaders:

ruling - Democratic Party for Equatorial Guinea (PDGE), Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Teodoro OBIANG NGUEMA MBASOGO, party leader

Suffrage:

universal adult at age NA

Elections:

President:

last held 25 June 1989 (next to be held 25 June 1996); results - President Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Teodoro OBIANG NGUEMA MBASOGO was reelected without opposition

Chamber of People's Representatives:

last held 10 July 1988 (next to be held 10 July 1993); results - PDGE is ← the only party; seats - (41 total) PDGE 41

Executive branch:

president, prime minister, deputy prime minister, Council of Ministers
(cabinet)

Legislative branch:

unicameral House of Representatives of the People (Camara de Representantes
del Pueblo)

Judicial branch:

Supreme Tribunal

Leaders:

Chief of State:

President Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Teodoro OBIANG NGUEMA MBASOGO (since 3 August
1979)

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Silvestre SIALE BILEKA (since 17 January 1992); Deputy Prime
Minister Miguel OYONO NDONG MIFUMU (since 22 January 1992)

1.6 72.guide/Government (Equatorial Guinea 2. usage)

Government (Equatorial Guinea 2. usage)

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Member of:

ACCT, ACP, AfDB, BDEAC, CEEAC, ECA, ECOWAS, FAO, FZ, G-77, IBRD, ICAO, IDA,
IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS (associate), NAM, OAS
(observer), OAU, UDEAC, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO

Diplomatic representation in US:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Damaso OBIANG NDONG

chancery:

(temporary) 57 Magnolia Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10553

telephone:

(914) 667-9664

US diplomatic representation:

chief of mission:

Ambassador John E. BENNETT

embassy:

Calle de Los Ministros, Malabo

mailing address: P.O. Box 597, Malabo

telephone:

[240] (9) 2185

FAX:

[240] (9) 2164

Flag:

three equal horizontal bands of green (top), white, and red with a blue
isosceles triangle based on the hoist side and the coat of arms centered in
the white band; the coat of arms has six yellow six-pointed stars
(representing the mainland and five offshore islands) above a gray shield
bearing a silk-cotton tree and below which is a scroll with the motto
UNIDAD, PAZ, JUSTICIA (Unity, Peace, Justice)

1.7 72.guide/Economy (Equatorial Guinea)

Economy (Equatorial Guinea)

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Overview:

The economy, devastated during the regime of former President Macias NGUEMA ←
,
is based on agriculture, forestry, and fishing, which account for about ←
half
of GDP and nearly all exports. Subsistence agriculture predominates, with
cocoa, coffee, and wood products providing income, foreign exchange, and
government revenues. There is little industry. Commerce accounts for about
8% of GDP and the construction, public works, and service sectors for about
38%. Undeveloped natural resources include titanium, iron ore, manganese,
uranium, and alluvial gold. Oil exploration, taking place under concessions
offered to US, French, and Spanish firms, has been moderately successful.
Increased production from recently discovered natural gas deposits will
provide a greater share of exports by 1995.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$144 million (1991 est.)

National product real growth rate:

-1% (1991 est.)

National product per capita:

\$380 (1991 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

1.4% (1990)

Unemployment rate:

NA%

Budget:

revenues \$26 million; expenditures \$30 million, including capital
expenditures of \$3 million (1991 est.)

Exports:

\$37 million (f.o.b., 1990 est.)

commodities:

coffee, timber, cocoa beans

partners:

Spain 38.2%, Italy 12.2%, Netherlands 11.4%, FRG 6.9%, Nigeria 12.4% (1988)

Imports:

\$63.0 million (c.i.f., 1990)

commodities:

petroleum, food, beverages, clothing, machinery

partners:

France 25.9%, Spain 21.0%, Italy 16%, US 12.8%, Netherlands 8%, FRG 3.1%,
Gabon 2.9%, Nigeria 1.8% (1988)

External debt: \$213 million (1990)

Industrial production:

growth rate 6.8% (1990 est.)

Electricity:

23,000 kW capacity; 60 million kWh produced, 160 kWh per capita (1991)

Industries:

fishing, sawmilling

Agriculture:

cash crops - timber and coffee from Rio Muni, cocoa from Bioko; food crops ←

-

rice, yams, cassava, bananas, oil palm nuts, manioc, livestock

Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY81-89), \$14 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89) \$130 million; Communist countries (1970-89), \$55 million

Currency:
 1 CFA franc (CFAF) = 100 centimes

Exchange rates:
 Communauté Financière Africaine francs (CFAF) per US\$1 - 274.06 (January 1993), 264.69 (1992), 282.11 (1991), 272.26 (1990), 319.01 (1989), 297.85 (1988)

1.8 72.guide/Economy (Equatorial Guinea 2. usage)

Economy (Equatorial Guinea 2. usage)

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Fiscal year:
 1 April - 31 March

1.9 72.guide/Communications (Equatorial Guinea)

Communications (Equatorial Guinea)

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Highways:
 Rio Muni - 2,460 km; Bioko - 300 km

Ports:
 Malabo, Bata

Merchant marine:
 2 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 6,413 GRT/6,699 DWT; includes 1 cargo and 1 passenger-cargo

Airports:
 total:
 3
 usable:
 3
 with permanent-surface runways:
 2
 with runways over 3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
 1
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
 1

Telecommunications:
 poor system with adequate government services; international communications from Bata and Malabo to African and European countries; 2,000 telephones;

broadcast stations - 2 AM, no FM, 1 TV; 1 Indian Ocean INTELSAT earth station

1.10 72.guide/Defense Forces (Equatorial Guinea)

Defense Forces (Equatorial Guinea)

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Branches:

Army, Navy, Air Force, National Guard, National Police

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 84,323; fit for military service 42,812 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

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