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Chapter 1

97

1.1 97.guide

Texified version of data for Guam.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock
Neuhäuselerstr. 12
D-66459 Kirkel
Germany

Tel.: 06849 / 6134
INTERNET: leibrock@fsinfo.cs.uni-sb.de
fach5@cipsol.cs.uni-sb.de

Guam

1.2 97.guide/Guam

Guam

Header (Guam)

Geography (Guam)

People (Guam)

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Government (Guam 2. usage)

Economy (Guam)

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1.3 97.guide/Header (Guam)

Header (Guam)

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Affiliation:
(territory of the US)

1.4 97.guide/Geography (Guam)

Geography (Guam)

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Location:
in the North Pacific Ocean, 5,955 km west-southwest of Honolulu, about
three-quarters of the way between Hawaii and the Philippines

Map references:

Oceania

Area:

total area:

541.3 km²

land area:

541.3 km²

comparative area:

slightly more than three times the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

125.5 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone:

24 nm

continental shelf:

200 m or depth of exploitation

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

none

Climate:

tropical marine; generally warm and humid, moderated by northeast trade winds; dry season from January to June, rainy season from July to December; little seasonal temperature variation

Terrain:

volcanic origin, surrounded by coral reefs; relatively flat coralline limestone plateau (source of most fresh water) with steep coastal cliffs ← and narrow coastal plains in north, low-rising hills in center, mountains in south

Natural resources:

fishing (largely undeveloped), tourism (especially from Japan)

Land use:

arable land:

11%

permanent crops:

11%

meadows and pastures:

15%

forest and woodland:

18%

other: 45%

Irrigated land:

NA km²

Environment:

frequent squalls during rainy season; subject to relatively rare, but potentially very destructive typhoons (especially in August)

Note:

largest and southernmost island in the Mariana Islands archipelago; strategic location in western North Pacific Ocean

1.5 97.guide/People (Guam)

People (Guam)

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Population:

145,935 (July 1993 est.)

Population growth rate:

2.53% (1993 est.)

Birth rate:

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

Death rate:

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

Net migration rate:

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

Infant mortality rate:

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

Life expectancy at birth:

total population:

74.29 years

male:

72.42 years

female:

76.13 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 2.44 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Guamanian(s)
 adjective:
 Guamanian
 Ethnic divisions:
 Chamorro 47%, Filipino 25%, Caucasian 10%, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and
 other 18%
 Religions:
 Roman Catholic 98%, other 2%
 Languages:
 English, Chamorro, Japanese
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1980)
 total population:
 96%
 male:
 96%
 female:
 96%
 Labor force: 46,930 (1990)
 by occupation:
 federal and territorial government 40%, private 60% (trade 18%, services
 15.6%, construction 13.8%, other 12.6%) (1990)

1.6 97.guide/Government (Guam)

Government (Guam)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Territory of Guam
 conventional short form:
 Guam
 Digraph:
 GQ
 Type:
 organized, unincorporated territory of the US with policy relations between
 Guam and the US under the jurisdiction of the Office of Territorial and
 International Affairs, US Department of the Interior
 Capital:
 Agana
 Administrative divisions:
 none (territory of the US)
 Independence:
 none (territory of the US)
 Constitution:
 Organic Act of 1 August 1950
 Legal system:

modeled on US; federal laws apply

National holiday:
 Guam Discovery Day (first Monday in March); Liberation Day, 21 July

Political parties and leaders:
 Democratic Party (controls the legislature); Republican Party (party of the Governor)

Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal; US citizens, but do not vote in US presidential elections

Elections:
 Governor:
 last held on 6 November 1990 (next to be held NA November 1994); results - Joseph F. ADA reelected

Legislature:
 last held on 9 November 1992 (next to be held NA November 1994); results - percent of vote by party NA; seats - (21 total) Democratic 14, Republican 7

US House of Representatives:
 last held 9 November 1992 (next to be held NA November 1994); Guam elects one delegate; results - Robert UNDERWOOD was elected as delegate; seats - ←
 (1
 total) Democrat 1

Executive branch:
 US president, governor, lieutenant governor, Cabinet

Legislative branch:
 unicameral Legislature

Judicial branch:
 Federal District Court, Territorial Superior Court

Leaders: Chief of State:
 President William Jefferson CLINTON (since 20 January 1993); Vice President Albert GORE, Jr. (since 20 January 1993)

Head of Government:
 Governor Joseph A. ADA (since November 1986); Lieutenant Governor Frank F. BLAS (since NA)

Member of:
 ESCAP (associate), IOC, SPC

Diplomatic representation in US:
 none (territory of the US)

1.7 97.guide/Government (Guam 2. usage)

Government (Guam 2. usage)

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Flag:
 territorial flag is dark blue with a narrow red border on all four sides; centered is a red-bordered, pointed, vertical ellipse containing a beach scene, outrigger canoe with sail, and a palm tree with the word GUAM superimposed in bold red letters; US flag is the national flag

1.8 97.guide/Economy (Guam)

Economy (Guam)

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Overview:

The economy depends mainly on US military spending and on revenues from tourism. Over the past 20 years the tourist industry has grown rapidly, creating a construction boom for new hotels and the expansion of older ones ←

Visitors numbered about 900,000 in 1992. About 60% of the labor force works for the private sector and the rest for government. Most food and ←

industrial

goods are imported, with about 75% from the US.

National product:

GNP - purchasing power equivalent - \$2 billion (1991 est.)

National product real growth rate:

NA%

National product per capita:

\$14,000 (1991 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

4% (1992 est.)

Unemployment rate:

2% (1992 est.)

Budget:

revenues \$525 million; expenditures \$395 million, including capital expenditures of \$NA

Exports:

\$34 million (f.o.b., 1984)

commodities:

mostly transshipments of refined petroleum products, construction materials ←

fish, food and beverage products

partners:

US 25%, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands 63%, other 12%

Imports:

\$493 million (c.i.f., 1984)

commodities:

petroleum and petroleum products, food, manufactured goods

partners:

US 23%, Japan 19%, other 58%

External debt:

\$NA

Industrial production:

growth rate NA%

Electricity:

500,000 kW capacity; 2,300 million kWh produced, 16,300 kWh per capita (1990)

Industries:

US military, tourism, construction, transshipment services, concrete products, printing and publishing, food processing, textiles

Agriculture:

relatively undeveloped with most food imported; fruits, vegetables, eggs, pork, poultry, beef, copra

Economic aid:

although Guam receives no foreign aid, it does receive large transfer payments from the general revenues of the US Federal Treasury into which Guamanians pay no income or excise taxes; under the provisions of a special law of Congress, the Guamanian Treasury, rather than the US Treasury, receives federal income taxes paid by military and civilian Federal employees stationed in Guam

Currency:

US currency is used

Fiscal year:

1 October - 30 September

1.9 97.guide/Communications (Guam)

Communications (Guam)

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Highways:

674 km all-weather roads

Ports:

Apra Harbor

Airports:

total:

5

usable:

4

with permanent-surface runways:

3

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

3

with runways 1,200-2,439 m:

0

Telecommunications:

26,317 telephones (1989); broadcast stations - 3 AM, 3 FM, 3 TV; 2 Pacific Ocean INTELSAT ground stations

1.10 97.guide/Defense Forces (Guam)

Defense Forces (Guam)

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Note:

defense is the responsibility of the US