

Romania

Geography

Location: Southeastern Europe, bordering the Black Sea, between Bulgaria and Ukraine

Area:

total area: 237,500 sq km

land area: 230,340 sq km

Land boundaries: total 2,508 km, Bulgaria 608 km, Hungary 443 km, Moldova 450 km, Serbia and Montenegro 476 km (all with Serbia), Ukraine (north) 362 km, Ukraine (south) 169 km

Coastline: 225 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone: 24 nm

continental shelf: 200-m depth or to the depth of exploitation

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm

territorial sea: 12 nm

Climate: temperate; cold, cloudy winters with frequent snow and fog; sunny summers with frequent showers and thunderstorms

Terrain: central Transylvanian Basin is separated from the Plain of Moldavia on the east by the Carpathian Mountains and separated from the Walachian Plain on the south by the Transylvanian Alps

Natural resources: petroleum (reserves declining), timber, natural gas, coal, iron ore, salt

Land use:

arable land: 43%

permanent crops: 3%

meadows and pastures: 19%

forest and woodland: 28%

other: 7%

Irrigated land: 34,500 sq km (1989 est.)

Environment:

current issues: soil erosion and degradation; water pollution; air pollution in south from industrial effluents; contamination of Danube delta wetlands

natural hazards: earthquakes most severe in south and southwest;
geologic structure and climate promote landslides

Note: controls most easily traversable land route between the
Balkans, Moldova, and Ukraine

People

Population: 23,198,330 (July 1995 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 21% (female 2,413,933; male 2,534,019)

15-64 years: 67% (female 7,737,531; male 7,732,038)

65 years and over: 12% (female 1,604,210; male 1,176,599) (July
1995 est.)

Population growth rate: 0.09% (1995 est.)

Birth rate: 13.71 births/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Death rate: 9.93 deaths/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Net migration rate: -2.88 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Infant mortality rate: 18.7 deaths/1,000 live births (1995 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 72.24 years

male: 69.31 years

female: 75.35 years (1995 est.)

Total fertility rate: 1.82 children born/woman (1995 est.)

Nationality:

noun: Romanian(s)

adjective: Romanian

Ethnic divisions: Romanian 89.1%, Hungarian 8.9%, German 0.4%,
Ukrainian, Serb, Croat, Russian, Turk, and Gypsy 1.6%

Religions: Romanian Orthodox 70%, Roman Catholic 6% (of which
3% are Uniate), Protestant 6%, unaffiliated 18%

Languages: Romanian, Hungarian, German

Literacy:

total population: 97%

male: 98%
female: 95%

Government

Names:

conventional long form: none

conventional short form: Romania

local long form: none

local short form: Romania

Type: republic

Capital: Bucharest

Independence: 1881 (from Turkey; republic proclaimed 30
December 1947)

National holiday: National Day of Romania, 1 December (1990)

Constitution: 8 December 1991

Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal

Flag: three equal vertical bands of blue (hoist side), yellow, and red; the national coat of arms that used to be centered in the yellow band has been removed; now similar to the flags of Andorra and Chad

Economy

Industries: mining, timber, construction materials, metallurgy, chemicals, machine building, food processing, petroleum production and refining

Agriculture: accounts for 18% of GDP and 28% of labor force; major wheat and corn producer; other products - sugar beets, sunflower seed, potatoes, milk, eggs, meat, grapes

Illicit drugs: transshipment point for southwest Asian heroin and Latin American cocaine transiting the Balkan route

Transportation

Railroads:

Highways:

total: 461,880 km

Inland waterways: 1,724 km (1984)

Pipelines: crude oil 2,800 km; petroleum products 1,429 km; natural gas 6,400 km (1992)

Ports: Braila, Constanta, Galatz, Mangalia, Sulina, Tulcea

Airports:

total: 156

Defence Forces

Branches: Army, Navy, Air and Air Defence Forces, Paramilitary Forces, Civil Defence