

**Department of Economic
and Social Affairs**
Statistics Division

World Statistics Pocketbook 2017 edition



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Explanatory notes	vi
Introduction	vii
Profile information and indicator list	ix
World, regional and country profiles	1
Technical notes	265
Statistical sources and references	278
Related statistical products	282

World, Regional and Country profiles

World	3	Aruba	43
Africa	4	Australia	44
Northern Africa	5	Austria	45
Sub-Saharan Africa	6	Azerbaijan	46
Eastern Africa	7	Bahamas	47
Middle Africa	8	Bahrain	48
Southern Africa	9	Bangladesh	49
Western Africa	10	Barbados	50
Americas	11	Belarus	51
Northern America	12	Belgium	52
Latin America & the Caribbean	13	Belize	53
Caribbean	14	Benin	54
Central America	15	Bermuda	55
South America	16	Bhutan	56
Asia	17	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	57
Central Asia	18	Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba	58
Eastern Asia	19	Bosnia and Herzegovina	59
Southern Asia	20	Botswana	60
South-eastern Asia	21	Brazil	61
Western Asia	22	British Virgin Islands	62
Europe	23	Brunei Darussalam	63
Eastern Europe	24	Bulgaria	64
Northern Europe	25	Burkina Faso	65
Southern Europe	26	Burundi	66
Western Europe	27	Cabo Verde	67
Oceania	28	Cambodia	68
Australia and New Zealand	29	Cameroon	69
Melanesia	30	Canada	70
Micronesia	31	Cayman Islands	71
Polynesia	32	Central African Republic	72
Afghanistan	33	Chad	73
Albania	34	Channel Islands	74
Algeria	35	Chile	75
American Samoa	36	China	76
Andorra	37	China, Hong Kong SAR	77
Angola	38	China, Macao SAR	78
Anguilla	39	Colombia	79
Antigua and Barbuda	40	Comoros	80
Argentina	41	Congo	81
Armenia	42	Cook Islands	82

Contents (*continued*)

Costa Rica	83	Indonesia	131
Côte d'Ivoire	84	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	132
Croatia	85	Iraq	133
Cuba	86	Ireland	134
Curaçao	87	Isle of Man	135
Cyprus	88	Israel	136
Czechia	89	Italy	137
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	90	Jamaica	138
Democratic Republic of the Congo	91	Japan	139
Denmark	92	Jordan	140
Djibouti	93	Kazakhstan	141
Dominica	94	Kenya	142
Dominican Republic	95	Kiribati	143
Ecuador	96	Kuwait	144
Egypt	97	Kyrgyzstan	145
El Salvador	98	Lao People's Democratic Republic	146
Equatorial Guinea	99	Latvia	147
Eritrea	100	Lebanon	148
Estonia	101	Lesotho	149
Ethiopia	102	Liberia	150
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	103	Libya	151
Faroe Islands	104	Liechtenstein	152
Fiji	105	Lithuania	153
Finland	106	Luxembourg	154
France	107	Madagascar	155
French Guiana	108	Malawi	156
French Polynesia	109	Malaysia	157
Gabon	110	Maldives	158
Gambia	111	Mali	159
Georgia	112	Malta	160
Germany	113	Marshall Islands	161
Ghana	114	Martinique	162
Gibraltar	115	Mauritania	163
Greece	116	Mauritius	164
Greenland	117	Mayotte	165
Grenada	118	Mexico	166
Guadeloupe	119	Micronesia (Federated States of)	167
Guam	120	Monaco	168
Guatemala	121	Mongolia	169
Guinea	122	Montenegro	170
Guinea-Bissau	123	Montserrat	171
Guyana	124	Morocco	172
Haiti	125	Mozambique	173
Holy See	126	Myanmar	174
Honduras	127	Namibia	175
Hungary	128	Nauru	176
Iceland	129	Nepal	177
India	130	Netherlands	178

New Caledonia.....	179	Sri Lanka.....	227
New Zealand.....	180	State of Palestine.....	228
Nicaragua.....	181	Sudan.....	229
Niger.....	182	Suriname.....	230
Nigeria.....	183	Swaziland.....	231
Niue.....	184	Sweden.....	232
Northern Mariana Islands.....	185	Switzerland.....	233
Norway.....	186	Syrian Arab Republic.....	234
Oman.....	187	Tajikistan.....	235
Pakistan.....	188	Thailand.....	236
Palau.....	189	The former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia.....	237
Panama.....	190	Timor-Leste.....	238
Papua New Guinea.....	191	Togo.....	239
Paraguay.....	192	Tokelau.....	240
Peru.....	193	Tonga.....	241
Philippines.....	194	Trinidad and Tobago.....	242
Poland.....	195	Tunisia.....	243
Portugal.....	196	Turkey.....	244
Puerto Rico.....	197	Turkmenistan.....	245
Qatar.....	198	Turks and Caicos Islands.....	246
Republic of Korea.....	199	Tuvalu.....	247
Republic of Moldova.....	200	Uganda.....	248
Réunion.....	201	Ukraine.....	249
Romania.....	202	United Arab Emirates.....	250
Russian Federation.....	203	United Kingdom.....	251
Rwanda.....	204	United Republic of Tanzania.....	252
Saint Helena.....	205	United States of America.....	253
Saint Kitts and Nevis.....	206	United States Virgin Islands.....	254
Saint Lucia.....	207	Uruguay.....	255
Saint Pierre and Miquelon.....	208	Uzbekistan.....	256
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....	209	Vanuatu.....	257
Samoa.....	210	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....	258
San Marino.....	211	Viet Nam.....	259
Sao Tome and Principe.....	212	Wallis and Futuna Islands.....	260
Saudi Arabia.....	213	Western Sahara.....	261
Senegal.....	214	Yemen.....	262
Serbia.....	215	Zambia.....	263
Seychelles.....	216	Zimbabwe.....	264
Sierra Leone.....	217		
Singapore.....	218		
Sint Maarten (Dutch part).....	219		
Slovakia.....	220		
Slovenia.....	221		
Solomon Islands.....	222		
Somalia.....	223		
South Africa.....	224		
South Sudan.....	225		
Spain.....	226		

Explanatory notes

The following symbols and abbreviations have been used in the *World Statistics Pocketbook*:

.	A point is used to indicate decimals.
...	Data are not available or not applicable.
~0.0	Not zero, but less than half of the unit employed.
–~0.0	Not zero, but negative and less than half of the unit employed.
%	Percentage
000	Thousands
CFA	African Financial Community
CFP	Change Franc Pacifique
CIF	Cost, Insurance and Freight
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
const.	Constant
CPI	Consumer price index
est.	Estimate
F	Females
FOB	Free on board
GDP	Gross domestic product
GNI	Gross national income
GVA	Gross value added
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
Km ²	Square kilometres
M	Males
Nes	Not elsewhere specified
pop.	Population
SAR	Special Administrative Region
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
US\$/USD	United States dollars

The metric system of weights and measures has been employed in the *World Statistics Pocketbook*. The equivalents of the basic British Imperial and United States weights and measures are as follows:

Area	1 square kilometre	= 0.386102 square mile
Weight or mass	1 ton	= 1.102311 short tons or
		= 0.987207 long ton
	1 kilogram	= 35.273962 avoirdupois ounces
		= 2.204623 avoirdupois pounds
Distance	1 kilometre	= 0.621371 mile
	1 millimetre	= 0.039 inch
Temperature	°C	= (°F - 32) × 5/9

The *World Statistics Pocketbook* is an annual compilation of key economic, social and environmental indicators, presented in one-page profiles. This edition includes profiles for the 30 world geographical regions and 232 countries or areas. Prepared by the United Nations Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, it responds to General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV), in which the Secretary-General is requested to supply basic national data that will increase international public awareness of countries' development efforts.

The indicators shown are selected from the wealth of international statistical information compiled regularly by the Statistics Division and the Population Division of the United Nations, the statistical services of the United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations and institutions. Special recognition is gratefully given for their assistance in continually providing data.

Organization of the Pocketbook

The profiles are presented first with the world and its geographical regions and sub-regions, based on the M49 regional classification¹, and then countries and areas alphabetically according to their names in English. Each profile is organised into 5 sections, where relevant and/or available:

- *General information*: includes data on surface area, population and population density, sex ratio of the population, capital city and its population, currency and its exchange rate to the US dollar, location by geographical region and the date of admission to the United Nations.
- *Economic indicators*: includes data on national accounts Gross domestic product (GDP), GDP per capita, GDP growth rate, Gross Value Added (GVA) share by industry, employment share by industry, unemployment, labour force participation, consumer price index, production indices (industry, agriculture and food), the value of total exports, imports and the trade balance and balance of payments.
- *Major trading partners*: shows a country's main trading partners
- *Social indicators*: includes data on population (growth rates, including for the urban population), total fertility rate, life expectancy at birth, population age distribution, international migrant stock, refugees, infant mortality rate, health (expenditure and physicians), education (expenditure and gross enrolment ratios), intentional homicide rate and seats held by women in national parliaments.
- *Environmental and infrastructure indicators*: includes data on mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions, internet users, Research &

¹ See UNSD website: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>

Development expenditure, threatened species, forested area, CO2 emission estimates, energy production and energy supply per capita, tourist arrivals, important sites for terrestrial biodiversity protected, population using improved drinking water sources and improved sanitation facilities and Official Development Assistance received or disbursed.

The complete set of indicators, listed by category and in the order in which they appear in the profiles, is shown before the country profile section (see page ix). Not all indicators are shown for each country or area due to different degrees of data availability.

The technical notes section, which follows the country profile pages, contains brief descriptions of the concepts and methodologies used in the compilation of the indicators as well as information on the statistical sources for the indicators. Readers interested in longer time-series data or more detailed descriptions of the concepts or methodologies should consult the primary sources of the data and the references listed in the section following the technical notes.

For brevity the Pocketbook omits specific information on the source or methodology for individual data points, and when a data point is estimated no distinction is made between whether the estimation was done by the international or national organization. See the technical notes section for the primary source which may provide this information.

Time period

This issue of the *World Statistics Pocketbook* presents data for the economic, social, environmental and infrastructure sections for three reference years - 2005, 2010 and 2017 - when available or the most recent data previous to these years, back to 2000. These instances are footnoted in each profile. For the general information and major trading partners sections the reference year is 2017 and 2016 respectively, unless otherwise footnoted.

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