

Department of Economic
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Statistics Division

World Statistics Pocketbook 2021 edition

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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
Assist.	Assistance
Bol. Rep.	Bolivarian Republic
CIF	Cost, Insurance and Freight
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
const.	Constant
CPI	Consumer price index
Dem. Rep.	Democratic Republic
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
Rep.	Republic
SAR	Special Administrative Region
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees
United Kingdom	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States	United States of America
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 *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, national 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 rate, labour force participation rate, consumer price index, agricultural production index, 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 the National Parliament.
- *Environmental and infrastructure indicators*: includes data on internet users, Research & Development expenditure, threatened species, forested area, CO2 emission estimates, energy production and energy

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

Introduction (*continued*)

supply per capita, tourist/visitor arrivals, important sites for terrestrial biodiversity protected, population using safely managed water sources and 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 - 2010, 2015 and 2021 - 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 2021 and 2020 respectively, unless otherwise footnoted.

Acknowledgement

The *World Statistics Pocketbook* is prepared annually by the Statistical

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