



Country Profile: Chad

Chad is a developing country in north central Africa with one of the lowest per capita incomes in the world. Years of civil and foreign war, drought, and lack of economic growth have severely damaged the country's institutions and its infrastructure. The country continues to experience episodes of political instability, characterized by violent clashes between government and rebel groups primarily in eastern Chad, but also in the capitol, N'Djamena. These clashes pose serious risks to civilians. Facilities for tourism are limited. French and Arabic are the official languages. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Chad for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Chad
Continent:	Africa
Capital City:	N'Djamena
Boundary Countries:	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Libya, Niger, Nigeria, Sudan
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	N'Djamena: Clinique Medico Chirugicale La Providence, International SOS Clinic, Hopital General de Reference
Main Cities:	N'Djamena, Aozou, Faya-Largeau, Abeche, Mao, Mongo, Bongor, Sarh, Kelo, Doba, Moundou
Country Size:	1.284 million sq km
Population:	9,944,201

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	French (official), Arabic (official), Sara (in south), more than 120 different languages and dialects
Currency:	Communaute Financiere Africaine franc (XAF); note- responsible authority is the Bank of the Central African States
Predominant Religions:	Muslim 51%, Christian 35%, animist 7%, other 7%
National Holidays:	Independence Day, 11 August (1960)
Economic Status:	Chad's primarily agricultural economy will continue to be boosted by major foreign direct investment projects in the oil sector that began in 2000. At least 80% of Chad's population relies on subsistence farming and livestock raising for its livelihood. Chad's economy has long been handicapped by its landlocked position, high energy costs, and a history of instability. Chad relies on foreign assistance and foreign capital for most public and private sector investment projects. A consortium led by two US companies has been investing \$3.7 billion to develop oil reserves - estimated at 1 billion barrels - in southern Chad. Chinese companies are also expanding exploration efforts and plan to build a refinery. The nation's total oil reserves have been estimated to be 1.5 billion barrels. Oil production came on stream in late 2003. Chad began to export oil in 2004. Cotton, cattle, and gum arabic provide the bulk of Chad's non-oil export earnings.
Security:	Chadian National Army (Armee Nationale Tchadienne, ANT), Air Force, Gendarmerie

US Presence:	U.S. Embassy in Ndjamena U.S. Embassy N'Djamena B.P. 413 N'Djamena, Chad Tel: (235) 22 51 50 17
Major Airports:	Airports: 52, Airports w/paved runways: 7 N'Djamena Airport (NDJ/FTTJ) N'djamena Airport, Chad, Box 70, N'djamena, CHAD Tel: +235 52.55.26, +235 52.38.81, +235 52.57.53 Fax: +235 52.62.31 E-mail: asecna@intnet.td or asecna.ca@intnet.td Customs, hours: 24 hours

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