



Middle East :: Iran

Location:

Middle East, bordering the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, and the Caspian Sea, between Iraq and Pakistan

Geographic coordinates:

32 00N , 53 00 E

Map references:

Middle East

Area:

total: 1,648,195 sq km

country comparison to the world: 18

land: 1,531,595 sq km

water: 116,600 sq km

Area - comparative:

almost two and a half times the size of Texas; slightly smaller than Alaska

Land boundaries:

total: 5,440 km

border countries: Afghanistan 936 km, Armenia 35 km, Azerbaijan-proper 432 km, Azerbaijan-Naxcivan exclave 179 km, Iraq 1,458 km, Pakistan 909 km, Turkey 499 km, Turkmenistan 992 km

Coastline:

2,440 km; note - Iran also borders the Caspian Sea (740 km)

Climate:

mostly arid or semiarid, subtropical along Caspian coast

Terrain:

rugged, mountainous rim; high, central basin with deserts, mountains; small, discontinuous plains along both coasts

Elevation extremes:

lowest point: Caspian Sea -28 m

highest point: Kuh-e Damavand 5,671 m

Natural resources:

petroleum, natural gas, coal, chromium, copper, iron ore, lead, manganese, zinc, sulfur

Land use:

arable land: 10.05%

permanent crops: 1.08%

other: 88.86% (2011)

Irrigated land:

87,000 sq km (2009)

People and Society :: Iran

Nationality:

noun: Iranian(s)

adjective: Iranian

Ethnic groups:

Persian 61%, Azeri 16%, Kurd 10%, Lur 6%, Baloch 2%, Arab 2%, Turkmen and Turkic tribes 2%, other 1%

Languages:

Persian (official) 53%, Azeri Turkic and Turkic dialects 18%, Kurdish 10%, Gilaki and Mazandarani 7%, Luri

6%, Balochi 2%, Arabic 2%, other 2%

Religions:

Muslim (official) 99.4% (Shia 90-95%, Sunni 5-10%), other (includes Zoroastrian, Jewish, and Christian) 0.3%, unspecified 0.4% (2011 est)

Population:

80,840,713 (July 2014 est)

Urbanization:

urban population: 69.1% of total population (2011)

rate of urbanization: 1.25% annual rate of change (2010-15 est)

Major urban areas - population:

TEHRAN (capital) 7.19 million; Mashhad 2.592 million; Esfahan 1.704 million; Karaj 1.531 million; Tabriz 1.459 million (2009)

Capital:

name: Tehran

geographic coordinates: 35 42N , 51 25 E

time difference: UTC+3.5 (8.5 hours ahead of Washington, DC during Standard Time)

daylight saving time: +1hr, begins fourth Tuesday in March; ends fourth Thursday in September

Administrative divisions:

31 provinces (ostanha, singular - ostan); Alborz, Ardabil, Azarbayjan-e Gharbi (West Azerbaijan), Azarbayjan-e Sharqi (East Azerbaijan), Bushehr, Chahar Mahal va Bakhtiari, Esfahan, Fars, Gilan, Golestan, Hamadan, Hormozgan, Ilam, Kerman, Kermanshah, Khorasan-e Jonubi (South Khorasan), Khorasan-e Razavi (Razavi Khorasan), Khorasan-e Shomali (North Khorasan), Khuzestan, Kohgiluyeh va Bowyer Ahmad, Kordestan, Lorestan, Markazi, Mazandaran, Qazvin, Qom, Semnan, Sistan va Baluchestan, Tehran, Yazd, Zanjan

National holiday:

Republic Day, 1 April (1979)

Constitution:

previous 1906; latest adopted 24 October 1979, effective 3 December 1979; amended 1989 (2013)

Executive branch:

chief of state: Supreme Leader Ali Hoseini-KHAMENEI (since 4 June 1989)

head of government: President Hasan Fereidun RUHANI (since 3 August 2013); First Vice President Eshaq JAHANGIRI (since 5 August 2013)

International organization participation:

CICA, CP, D-8, ECO FAO, G-15, G-24, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC (national committees), ICRM, IDA, IDB,

IFAD, IFC, IFRCs, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, IMSO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, MIGA, NAM, OIC, OPCW,

OPEC, PCA, SAARC (observer), SCO (observer), UN, UNAMID, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNITAR,

UNWTO, UPU, WCO, WFTU (NGOs), WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO (observer)

Economy :: Iran

GDP (purchasing power parity):

\$987.1 billion (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 19

\$1.002 trillion (2012 est)

\$1.021 trillion (2011 est)

note: data are in 2013 US dollars

GDP (official exchange rate):

\$411.9 billion (2013 est)

GDP- real growth rate:

-1.5% (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 207

-1.9% (2012 est)

3% (2011 est)

GDP- per capita (PPP):

\$12,800 (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 103

\$13,200 (2012 est)

\$13,600 (2011 est)

note: data are in 2013 US dollars

Gross national saving:

30.3% of GDP (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 26

30.3% of GDP (2012 est)

36.6% of GDP (2011 est)

GDP- composition, by end use:

household consumption: 45.4%

government consumption: 14.1%

investment in fixed capital: 31.1%

investment in inventories: 1.2%

exports of goods and services: 20.8%

imports of goods and services: -12.7%

(2013 est)

GDP- composition, by sector of origin:

agriculture: 10.6%

industry: 44.9%

services: 44.5% (2013 est)

Agriculture - products:

wheat, rice, other grains, sugar beets, sugarcane, fruits, nuts, cotton; dairy products, wool; caviar

Industries:

petroleum, petrochemicals, fertilizers, caustic soda, textiles, cement and other construction materials, food processing (particularly sugar refining and vegetable oil production), ferrous and non-ferrous metal fabrication, armaments

Fiscal year:

21 March - 20 March

Exports:

\$61.22 billion (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 53

\$67.04 billion (2012 est)

Exports - commodities:

petroleum 80%, chemical and petrochemical products, fruits and nuts, carpets

Exports - partners:

China 22.1%, India 11.9%, Turkey 10.6%, South Korea 7.6%, Japan 7.1% (2012)

Imports:

\$64.42 billion (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 46

\$70.03 billion (2012 est)

Imports - commodities:

industrial supplies, capital goods, foodstuffs and other consumer goods, technical services

Imports - partners:

UAE 33.2%, China 13.8%, Turkey 11.8%, South Korea 7.4% (2012)

Transportation :: Iran**Airports:**

319 (2013)

country comparison to the world: 22**Airports - with paved runways:**

total: 140

over 3,047 m: 42

2,438 to 3,047 m: 29

1,524 to 2,437 m: 26

914 to 1,523 m: 36

under 914 m: 7 (2013)

Airports - with unpaved runways:

total: 179

over 3,047 m: 1

2,438 to 3,047 m: 2

1,524 to 2,437 m: 9

914 to 1,523 m: 135

under 914 m:

32 (2013)

Heliports:

26 (2013)

Pipelines:

condensate 7 km; condensate/gas 973 km; gas 20,794 km; liquid petroleum gas 570 km; oil 8,625 km; refined products 7,937 km (2013)

Railways:

total: 8,442 km

country comparison to the world: 24

broad gauge: 94 km 1.676-m gauge

standard gauge: 8,348 km 1.435-m gauge (148 km electrified) (2008)

Roadways:

total: 198,866 km

country comparison to the world: 26

paved: 160,366 km (includes 1,948 km of expressways)

unpaved: 38,500 km (2010)

Waterways:

850 km (on Karun River; some navigation on Lake Urmia) (2012)

country comparison to the world: 70

Merchant marine:

total: 76

country comparison to the world: 60

by type: bulk carrier 8, cargo 51, chemical tanker 3, container 4, liquefied gas 1, passenger/cargo 3, petroleum tanker 2, refrigerated cargo 2, roll on roll off 2

foreign-owned: 2 (UAE 2)

registered in other countries: 71 (Barbados 5, Cyprus 10, Hong Kong 3, Malta 48, Panama 5) (2010)

Ports and terminals:

major seaport(s): Bandar-e Asaluyeh, Bandar Abbas

river port(s): Bandar Emam Khomeyni (Shatt al-Arab)

container port(s) (TEUs): Bandar Abbas (2,752,460)