



Europe :: Belarus

Location:

Eastern Europe, east of Poland

Geographic coordinates:

53 00N , 28 00 E

Map references:

Europe

Area:

total: 207,600 sq km

country comparison to the world: 86

land: 202,900 sq km

water: 4,700 sq km

Area - comparative:

slightly smaller than Kansas

Land boundaries:

total: 3,306 km

border countries: Latvia 171 km, Lithuania 680 km, Poland 605 km, Russia 959 km, Ukraine 891 km

Climate:

cold winters, cool and moist summers; transitional between continental and maritime

Terrain:

generally flat and contains much marshland

Elevation extremes:

lowest point: Nyoman River 90 m

highest point: Dzyarzhynskaya Hara 346 m

Natural resources:

timber, peat deposits, small quantities of oil and natural gas, granite, dolomitic limestone, marl, chalk, sand, gravel, clay

Land use:

arable land: 26.63%

permanent crops: 0.59%

other: 72.78% (201)

Irrigated land:

1,150 sq km (2003)

People and Society :: Belarus

Nationality:

noun: Belarusian(s)

adjective: Belarusian

Ethnic groups:

Belarusian 83.7%, Russian 8.3%, Polish 3.1%, Ukrainian 1.7%, other 2.4%, unspecified 0.9% (2009 est)

Languages:

Belarusian (official) 23.4%, Russian (official) 70.2%, other 3.1% (includes small Polish- and Ukrainian-speaking minorities), unspecified 3.3% (2009 est)

Religions:

Eastern Orthodox 80%, other (including Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and Muslim) 20% (1997 est)

Population:

9,608,058 (July 2014 est)

country comparison to the world: 93

Urbanization:

urban population: 75% of total population (2011)

rate of urbanization: 0.21% annual rate of change (2010-15 est)

Major urban areas - population:

MINSK (capital) 1.861 million (2011)

Government :: Belarus

Country name:

conventional long form: Republic of Belarus

conventional short form: Belarus

local long form: Respublika Byelarus'/Respublika Belarus'

local short form: Byelarus'/Belarus'

former: Belorussian (Byelorussian) Soviet Socialist Republic

Government type:

republic in name, although in fact a dictatorship

Capital:

name:Minsk

geographic coordinates: 53 54N , 27 34 E

time difference: UTC+2 (7 hours ahead of Washington, DC during Standard Time)

Administrative divisions:

6 provinces (voblastsi, singular - voblasts') and 1 municipality* (horad); Brest, Homyel' (Gomel), Horad

Minsk* (Minsk City), Hrodna (Grodno), Mahilyow (Mogilev), Minsk, Vitsyebsk (Vitebsk)

note: administrative divisions have the same names as their administrative centers; Russian spelling provided for reference when different from Belarusian

Independence:

25 August 1991 (from the Soviet Union)

National holiday:

Independence Day, 3 July (1944); note - 3 July 1944 was the date Minsk was liberated from German troops,

25 August 1991 was the date of independence from the Soviet Union

Constitution:

several previous; latest drafted between late 1991 and early 1994 , signed 15 March 1994; amended 1996, 2004 (2013)

Executive branch:

chief of state: president Aleksandr LUKASHENKO (since 20 July 1994); note - the US does not recognize the results of the 19 December 2010 elections under which the Central Election Commission of Belarus declared LUKASHENKO president

head of government: prime minister Mikhail MYASNIKOVICH (since 28 December 2010); first deputy prime minister Vladimir SEMASHKO (since December 2003)

International organization participation:

BSEC (observer), CBSS (observer), CEI, CIS, CSTO, EAEC, EAPC, EBRD, FAO, GCTU, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC

(NGOs), ICRM, IDA, IFC, IFRCs, ILO, IMF, IMSO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITU, ITUC (NGOs), MIGA, NAM,

NSG, OPCW, OSCE, PCA, PFP, SCO (dialogue member), UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNIFIL, UNWTO, UPU,

WCO, WFTU (NGOs), WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO (observer), ZC

Economy :: Belarus

GDP (purchasing power parity):

\$150.4 billion (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 63

\$147.3 billion (2012 est)

\$145 billion (2011 est)

note: data are in 2013 US dollars

GDP (official exchange rate):

\$69.24 billion (2013 est)

GDP- real growth rate:

2.1% (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 137

1.5% (2012 est)

5.5% (2011 est)

GDP- per capita (PPP):

\$16,100 (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 85

\$15,700 (2012 est)

\$15,400 (2011 est)

note: data are in 2013 US dollars

Gross national saving:

24.8% of GDP (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 49

31.8% of GDP (2012 est)

29.2% of GDP (2011 est)

GDP- composition, by end use:

household consumption: 46.3%

government consumption: 15.3%

investment in fixed capital: 30%

investment in inventories: 0.7%

exports of goods and services: 80.2%

imports of goods and services: -72.5%

(2013 est)

GDP- composition, by sector of origin:

agriculture: 9.2%

industry: 46.2%

services: 44.7% (2013 est.)

Agriculture - products:

grain, potatoes, vegetables, sugar beets, flax; beef, milk

Industries:

metal-cutting machine tools, tractors, trucks, earthmovers, motorcycles, televisions, synthetic fibers,

fertilizer, textiles, radios, refrigerators

Industrial production growth rate:

1% (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 149

Exports - commodities:

machinery and equipment, mineral products, chemicals, metals, textiles, foodstuffs

Exports - partners:

Russia 35.4%, Netherlands 16.4%, Ukraine 12.1%, Latvia 7.1% (2012)

Imports:

\$45.17 billion (2013 est)

country comparison to the world: 58

\$45.01 billion (2012 est)

Imports - commodities:

mineral products, machinery and equipment, chemicals, foodstuffs, metals

Imports - partners:

Russia 59.4%, Germany 5.9%, China 5.1%, Ukraine 5% (2012)

Exchange rates:

Belarusian rubles (BYB/BYR) per US dollar -

8,950.7 (2013 est)

8,336.9 (2012 est)

2,978.5 (2010 est)

2,789.49 (2009)

2,130 (2008)

Energy :: Belarus

Electricity - production:

32.82 billion kWh (2010 est)

country comparison to the world: 64

Electricity - consumption:

31.74 billion kWh (2010 est)

country comparison to the world: 61

Electricity - exports:

5.067 billion kWh (2010 est)

country comparison to the world: 28
Electricity - imports:
7.767 billion kWh (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 29
Electricity - installed generating capacity:
8.032 million kW (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 64
Electricity - from fossil fuels:
99.7% of total installed capacity (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 48
Electricity - from nuclear fuels:
0% of total installed capacity (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 54
Electricity - from hydroelectric plants:
0.2% of total installed capacity (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 147
Electricity - from other renewable sources:
0.1% of total installed capacity (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 104
Crude oil - production:
32,070 bbl/day (2012 est)
country comparison to the world: 66
Crude oil - exports:
0 bbl/day (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 89
Crude oil - imports:
294,800 bbl/day (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 27
Crude oil - proved reserves:
198 million bbl (1 January 2013 es)
country comparison to the world: 60
Refined petroleum products - production:
346,000 bbl/day (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 39
Refined petroleum products - consumption:
188,800 bbl/day (2011 est)
country comparison to the world: 61
Refined petroleum products - exports:
224,200 bbl/day (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 29
Refined petroleum products - imports:
43,240 bbl/day (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 77
Natural gas - production:
220 million cu m (2011 est)
country comparison to the world: 78
Natural gas - consumption:
21.82 billion cu m (2010 est)
country comparison to the world: 34
Natural gas - exports:
0 cu m (2011 est)
country comparison to the world: 69
Natural gas - imports:
21.02 billion cu m (2011 est)
country comparison to the world: 20
Natural gas - proved reserves:

2.832 billion cu m (1 January 2013 es)
country comparison to the world: 97

Carbon dioxide emissions from consumption of energy:

67.16 million Mt(2011 est)
country comparison to the world: 51

Communications :: Belarus

Telephones - main lines in use:

4.407 million (2012)
country comparison to the world: 37

Telephones - mobile cellular:

10.675 million (2012)
country comparison to the world: 75

Transportation :: Belarus

Airports:

65 (2013)
country comparison to the world: 75

Airports - with paved runways:

total: 33
over 3,047 m: 1
2,438 to 3,047 m: 20
1,524 to 2,437 m: 4
914 to 1,523 m: 1
under 914 m: 7 (2013)

Airports - with unpaved runways:

total: 32
over 3,047 m: 1
1,524 to 2,437 m: 1
914 to 1,523 m: 2
under 914 m:
28 (2013)

Heliports:

1 (2013)

Pipelines:

gas 5,386 km; oil 1,589 km; refined products 1,730 km (2013)

Railways:

total: 5,537 km
country comparison to the world: 32
broad gauge: 5,512 km 1.520-m gauge (874 km electrified)
standard gauge: 25 km 1.435-m gauge (2008)

Roadways:

total: 86,392 km
country comparison to the world: 54

paved: 74,651 km

unpaved: 11,741 km (2010)

Waterways:

2,500 km (use limited by its location on the perimeter of the country and by its shallowness) (2011)

country comparison to the world: 36

Ports and terminals:

river port(s): Mazyr (Prypyats')