

## Chad

**Type of Government:** Presidential Republic

**Head of Gov:** President Idriss Déby (5 year term with no term limits)

**Capital City:** N'Djamena

**Ideology:** Great powers are vested with the President, and Chad relies greatly on foreign aid and investment

**Region:** Africa (same region as Nigeria and Rwanda)

**Neighbours:** Cameroon, Central African Republic, Libya, Niger, Nigeria, and Sudan



### DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Population:** 11 million (low compared to region). High birth rate, but second highest infant mortality (behind South Sudan).
- **Religion:** Muslim 53%, Catholic 20%, and Protestant 14%.
- **Age:** Median age of 17 (one of the lowest in the world), life expectancy of 49, (the lowest in the world), and an extremely high death rate of 15 people per 1000.
- **Ethnicities:** Chad has over 200 distinct ethnic groups, with the most prominent being the Sara people (27.7%), Arabs (12.3%) and the Mayo-Kebbi (11.5%).
- **National Language:** French and Arabic, with over 100 languages and dialects spoken.

### ECONOMY

- Relatively low GDP of US\$ 26 billion (116<sup>th</sup> worldwide)
- World Bank Classification: Developing only
- Poverty Rate: 30% below line, but unemployment at 7.2% (79<sup>th</sup> in the world)
- GDP growth was 8.9% (2012 est.) up from 0.1% (2011 est.)
- Inflation rate: 10.2% (comparatively high)

#### Major Industries

- Agriculture 52.7% of GDP
- Services 40.6%
- Industry 6.7%

#### Exports

**Major Trading Partners:** United States, China, Cameroon, France

- Crude Petroleum comprises 96% of total exports

#### Imports

- In 2011 the total value of imports was US\$2.6 billion

#### Natural Resources

- Lots of arable land, mostly used for subsistence farming
- Extremely large amounts of oil, as well as reports of gold

## MILITARY

Compulsory 3 year military service for all men.

**Size:** 30, 350 active troops, 4.1 million available for service

**Army:** 40 Light and Medium Tanks, 22 armoured vehicles, and 62 artillery units. The military is generally committed to combatting the many and various rebel forces within the country.

**Air Force:** Reportedly 28 aircraft but could be far less

## POLITICS

### Domestic politics

- Highly regulated economy; ranked 124<sup>th</sup> in the world on “ease of doing business” from World Bank.
- Corruption Perceptions Index (Transparency International): 35 (102nd); corruption is a major problem exacerbated by local corruption and government control of major mining interests.

### Foreign Policy Concerns

- Chad has been affected by a humanitarian crisis since 2001, with over 400,000 refugees from the Darfur region, and over 90,000 internally displaced persons
- Chad has a long and chequered history with rebel groups, and presently government forces are combatting the Union for Resistance Forces
- Chad and neighbouring nations of Libya and Sudan have historically had tense relationships, but these have improved in recent years



## More Information

Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chad>

CIA: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/cd.html>

BBC: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-13164686>

Latest news from the New York Times (<http://topics.nytimes.com/top/news/international/countriesandterritories/chad/>),

The Economist (<http://www.economist.com/topics/chad>),

The Guardian (<http://www.theguardian.com/world/chad>), and

Al-Jazeera (<http://www.aljazeera.com/category/country/chad>),