

9.

Name of the Tool

The World Factbook or CIA World Factbook

Home Page



Logo



URL

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

Subject

Yearbooks

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, DC

Brief History

The Intelligence Cycle is the process by which information is acquired, converted into intelligence, and made available to policymakers. The Central Intelligence Agency was established on 26 July 1947 and officially

began operating on 18 September 1947. Finally effective 1 October 1947. The Factbook was first made available on the Internet in June 1997.

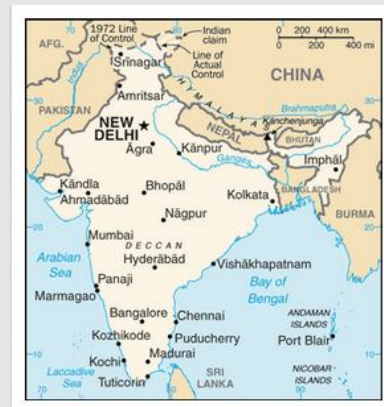
Scope and Coverage

The World Factbook also known as the CIA World Factbook is a reference resource produced by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) with almanac-style information about the countries of the world. The World Factbook provides information on the history, people, government, economy, geography, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues for 267 world entities. This tool covers various reference tab includes: maps of the major world regions, as well as Flags of the World, a Physical Map of the World, a Political Map of the World, a World Oceans map, and a Standard Time Zones of the World map. The official print version is available from the National Technical Information Service and the Government Printing Office. This print version provides a two- to three-page summary of the demographics, geography, communications, government, economy, and military of each of 267 international entities including U.S.-recognized countries, dependencies, and other areas in the world.

Kind of Information

For a particular country CIA Factbook provides different information under different heading, such as history, people, government, economy, energy, geography, communications, transportation, military, and transnational. Again within a main heading (people, government, economy, geography etc.) more information available in details. Some examples are given below through screen shot.

For country India



For a particular country, first of all flag of that country, political map and some photographs of that particular country are appeared (screen shot given above).

- Introduction :: INDIA +
- Geography :: INDIA +
- People and Society :: INDIA +
- Government :: INDIA +
- Economy :: INDIA +
- Energy :: INDIA +
- Communications :: INDIA +
- Transportation :: INDIA +
- Military and Security :: INDIA +
- Transnational Issues :: INDIA +



Geography :: INDIA

Location:
Southern Asia, bordering the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal, between Burma and Pakistan

Geographic coordinates:
20 00 N, 77 00 E

Map references:
Asia

Area:
total: 3,287,263 sq km
land: 2,973,193 sq km
water: 314,070 sq km
country comparison to the world: 8

Area - comparative:
slightly more than one-third the size of the US

Area comparison map:

Land boundaries:
total: 13,888 km
border countries (6): Bangladesh 4,142 km, Bhutan 659 km, Burma 1,468 km, China 2,659 km, Nepal 1,770 km, Pakistan 3,190 km

Coastline:
7,000 km

Maritime claims:
territorial sea: 12 nm
contiguous zone: 24 nm
exclusive economic zone: 200 nm
continental shelf: 200 nm or to the edge of the continental margin

Climate:
varies from tropical monsoon in south to temperate in north

Terrain:
upland plain (Deccan Plateau) in south, flat to rolling plain along the Ganges, deserts in west, Himalayas in north

(Not complete)

Energy :: INDIA

Electricity access:
population without electricity: 237,400,000
electrification - total population: 79%
electrification - urban areas: 98%
electrification - rural areas: 70% (2013)

Electricity - production:
1.218 trillion kWh (2014 est.)
country comparison to the world: 4

Electricity - consumption:
973 billion kWh (2014 est.)
country comparison to the world: 5

Electricity - exports:
200 million kWh (2012 est.)
country comparison to the world: 73

Electricity - imports:
5 billion kWh (2014 est.)
country comparison to the world: 41

(Not complete)

In this tool a strong appendices supplies abbreviations, international organization & groups, selected international environmental agreements. Also cross reference list of countries data code, geographic names, hydrographic codes etc. Examples are given below.

Abbreviations

Antarctic-Environmental Protocol
Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty
ANZUS
Australia-New Zealand-United States Security Treaty
AOSIS
Alliance of Small Island States
APEC
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
Arabsat
Arab Satellite Communications Organization
ARF
ASEAN Regional Forum
ASEAN
Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU
African Union
Autodin
Automatic Digital Network

International Organization & Groups

e.g.

European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)
note - acronym retained from the predecessor organization Conseil Europeenne pour la Recherche Nucleaire
established - 1 July 1953; effective - 29 September 1954
aim - to foster nuclear research for peaceful purposes only
members - (21) Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK
associate members - (2) Pakistan, Turkey
observers - (7) EC, India, Japan, Russia, Turkey, United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), US

In CIA, under heading “References” various information available under some areas like Regional and world maps, Flags of the world, Gallery of covers, Definitions and Notes, Guide to countries profiles, Guide to countries comparisons, The world fact book user guide. Some examples as follows:

Regional and world maps



(One can retrieve images in JPG or PDF format)

Flags of the world



Special Features

- Current different news are available under the heading “What’s new” option.
- Links to social networking site like Facebook, Twitter etc. RSS Feed also present.
- Information about different offices of CIA.
- FAQ present.
- Blog available.
- Types of many videos are present within CIA video centre.
- Career and internship related information present.
- Contact and feedback facility available.
- A kids’ zone present, that serves various links regarding parent-child, games for 0-5th, 6-12th grade etc.

Arrangement Pattern

In CIA World Factbook list countries are arranged in alphabetical order.

Afghanistan
Akrotiri
Albania
Algeria
American Samoa
Andorra
Angola
Anguilla
Antarctica
Antigua and Barbuda
Arctic Ocean
Argentina
Armenia
Aruba

“Flags of the World” category also represents its information according to alphabetical order.

Remarks

The World Factbook is available in the form of a website that is partially updated every week. It is also available for download for use off-line.

Comparable Tools

- The United Nations Demographic Yearbook
(<http://unstats.un.org/UNSD/Demographic/products/dyb/dyb2.htm>)
- The United Nations Statistical Yearbook
(<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/publications/statistical-yearbook>)

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