The Five Countries of Central Asia



































Facts and Figures About the Countries of Central Asia

	Kazakhstan	Kyrgyz Republic	Tajikistan	Turkmenistan	Uzbekistan
Local long form	Qazaqstan Respublikasy	Kyrgyz Respublikasy	Jumhurii Tojikiston	Turkmenistan	Ozbekiston Respublikasi
Geography					
Capital	Astana	Bishkek	Dushanbe	Ashgabat	Tashkent
Location	Located in the center of the continent of Asia, with a coastline only on the landlocked Caspian Sea. The Russian Federation forms its entire northern border.	Located along the eastern border of the Central Asian region, southeast of Kazakhstan, west of the People's Republic of China, east of Uzbekistan, and north of Tajikistan.	Located on the southern edge of Central Asia, bordering Afghanistan to the south, the People's Republic of China to the east, the Kyrgyz Republic to the north, and Uzbekistan to the west.	The farthest southwest country of Central Asia. Located on the eastern shore of the Caspian Sea. To the south is Iran, to the south and east is Afghanistan, and to the north are Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.	Located east of the Caspian Sea, directly south of Kazakhstan, north of Turkmenistan, and on the western borders of Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic.
Total area, thousand square kilometers	2,725	199.9	142.6	488.1	447.4
Climate	Continental climate. Rainfall varies from 100 to 200 millimeters/year; generally heaviest in the south and in the eastern mountains.	Continental climate	Continental climate, with drastic differences according to elevation; very dry in subtropical southwestern lowlands.	Mostly a subtropical desert climate that is severely continental.	Continental climate
Terrain	In the east and northeast, about 12% of territory occupied by parts of the Altay and Tien Shan mountain ranges. More than three-quarters of the country are desert or semi-desert. Along the Caspian Sea, elevations are below sea level.	Dominated by sharp mountain peaks and valleys, considerable areas are covered by glaciers. Relatively flat regions include Fergana Valley in the southwest, and the Chui and Talas valleys along the northern border.	Highly mountainous	Highly mountainous, dominated by the Alay Range in the north and the Pamir Mountains to the southeast. Lowest elevations are in the northwest, the southwest, and Fergana Valley.	Diverse: 80% is desert, dominated by Kyzylkum Desert in north–central part of the country and mountains in the far southeast and far northeast. In the northeast, Fergana Valley is surrounded by mountain ranges and intersected by the Syr Darya River. Far west is dominated by the Turan Lowland, the Amu Darya valley, and the southern half of the Aral Sea.
Lowest point	Vpadina Kaundy: 132 meters (m)	Kara Darya: 132 m	Syr Darya: 300 m	Vpadina Akchanaya: 81 m (Note: Sarygamysh Koli is a lake in northeastern Turkmenistan whose water levels fluctuate widely; at its shallowest, its level is –110 m; it is presently at –60 m, 20 m above Vpadina Akchanaya)	Sariqarnish Kuli: 12 m
Highest point	Khan Tangiri Shyngy (Pik Khan-Tengri): 7,010 m	Jengish Chokusu (Pik Pobedy): 7,439 m	Pik Imeni Ismail Samani: 7,495 m	Ayrybaba: 3,137 m	Adelunga Toghi: 4,301 m
Natural resources (nonliving)	Oil and natural gas, chromium, coal, copper, gold, lead, tungsten, and zinc	Gold, antimony and coal, mercury, tin, tungsten, and uranium oxide	Gold, silver, and antimony	Natural gas and oil, small amounts of salt and gypsum	Natural gas and oil; gold, copper, lead, silver, tungsten, uranium, and zinc
Natural hazards	Land degradation and desertification	Avalanches, floods, and landslides attributed to the melting of glaciers	Dust and sand from the deserts that cause air pollution	Sandstorms, droughts, and earthquakes	Severe earthquakes
People					
Population, total, million	15.48	5.23	6.74	4.96	26.87
Average annual population growth rate, %	1.14	0.82	1.50	1.30	1.43
Population density, persons/ square kilometer	6	27	48	11	63
Major ethnic groups	Kazakh (53%), Russian (30%), Others: Ukrainian, Uzbek, German, and Uyghur	Kyrgyz (65%), Uzbek (14%), Russian (12%), Others: Dungan (ethnic Chinese Muslim), Tartar, Uyghur, and Ukrainian (1999 Census)	Tajik (80%), Uzbek (15%), Russian (1%), Kyrgyz (1%). Others: German, Korean, Turk, and Ukrainian (2000 Census)	Turk (72%), Uzbek (9%), Russian (10%). Others: Tatar, Kazakh, Ukrainian, Azeri, and Armenian	Uzbek (76%), Russian (6%), Tajik (5%), Kazakh (4%), Tatar (2%), and Kyrgyz (1%) (1998 Census)
Religions	Muslim, primarily Sunni (47%), Russian Orthodox (44%), and Protestant (2%)	Muslim, primarily Sunni (80%), Christian, primarily Russian Orthodox (16%)	Sunni Muslim (85%), Shia Muslim (5%), Christian, mainly Russian Orthodox (3%) Others: other Christian denominations, and Jewish	Sunni Muslim (89%), Christian - Russian Orthodox (9%)	Muslim (88%), and Russian Orthodox (9%)
Languages	Kazakh, official "state" language (64%); Russian, official "language of interethnic communication" (95%)	Kyrgyz, official; Russian, second language and language of business	Tajik, official state language; Russian, widely used in government and business; and Uzbek (25%)	Turkmen, official state language (72%); Russian (12%), and Uzbek (9%)	Uzbek (74%), Russian (14%), and Tajik (4%)

 $[\]ensuremath{^*}$ 2007 data are presented unless otherwise stated.

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	Kazakhstan	Kyrgyz Republic	Tajikistan	Turkmenistan	Uzbekistan
Poverty					
Human Development Index/ Rank	0.807, 71st of 179 countries (2006)	0.694, 122nd of 179 countries (2006)	0.684, 124th of 179 countries (2006)	0.728, 108th of 179 countries (2006)	0.701, 119th of 179 countries (2006)
Population in poverty, below national poverty line, %	15.4 (2002)	43.1 (2005)	44.4 (2003)	58.0 (2000)	27.5 (2000)
Poverty head-count ratio at \$1.25 a day (PPP), % of population	3.1 (2003)	21.81 (2004)	21.4 (2004)	4.6** (2003)	46.3 (2003)
Poverty head-count ratio at \$2.00 a day (PPP), % of population	17.2 (2003)	51.90 (2004)	50.8 (2004)	28.9 (2003)	76.6 (2003)
Education					
Net enrollment ratio in primary education, %	99.0	93.5 (2006)	97.3 (2006)	_	78.2 (1991)
Pupils starting Grade 1 who reach last grade of primary, %	100.0 (2006)	98.6 (2005)	98.7 (2005)	_	98.6 (2005)
Literacy rate,15–24 years old, %	99.8	99.6	99.9	99.8	99.3 (2000)
Government expenditure for education, % of GDP	2.3 (2002–2005)	4.4 (2002–2005)	3.5 (2002–2005)	3.9 (1991)	9.4 (1991)
Gender equality and women emp	oowerment				
Gender parity index in primary level enrolment	1.00	0.99 (2006)	0.95 (2006)	_	0.97
Gender parity index in secondary level enrollment	0.99	1.01 (2006)	0.83 (2006)	_	0.98
Gender parity index in tertiary level enrollment	1.44	1.27 (2006)	0.37 (2006)	_	0.71
Seats held by women in national parliament, %	15.90 (2008)	25.60 (2008)	17.50 (2008)	16.00 (2008)	17.50 (2008)
Share of women in wage employment in non-agriculture sector	49.40 (2004)	52.20 (2006)	46.40 (1996)	42.10 (2002)	43.50 (1995)
Health					
Life expectancy at birth, years	66.41	67.70	66.66	63.17	67.14
Mortality, children under 5, per 1,000 live births	29 (2006)	41 (2006)	68 (2006)	51 (2006)	43 (2006)
Mortality, maternal, per 100,000 live births	140 (2005)	150 (2005)	170 (2005)	130 (2005)	24 (2005)
Births attended by skilled health personnel, %	26 (2006)	36 (2006)	56 (2005)	45 (2006)	38 (2006)
Adolescent birth rate per 1,000 women 15–19 years old	28.6	25.8 (2005)	27.3 (2005)	19.0 (2001)	25.5 (2006)
Underweight children under 5 years of age, %	4.0 (2006)	3.4 (2006)	17.4 (2005)	11.0 (2005)	5.1 (2006)
Population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption, %	8 (2001–2003)	4 (2001–2003)	61 (2001–2003)	8 (2001–2003)	26 (2001–2003)
Population using an improved drinking water source, %	96 (2006)	89 (2006)	67 (2006)	72 (2004)	88 (2006)
Population using an improved sanitation facility, %	97 (2006)	93 (2006)	92 (2006)	62 (2004)	96 (2006)

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	Kazakhstan	Kyrgyz Republic	Tajikistan	Turkmenistan	Uzbekistan
People living with HIV/AIDS, 15–24 years old, %	_	0.1	0.3	_	0.1
Contraceptive use among currently married women 15–49 years old, any method, %	50.7 (2006)	48.7 (2006)	37.9 (2005)	37.9 (2000)	64.9 (2006)
Malaria incidence, notified cases per 100,000 population	-	9.34 (2003)	82.54 (2003)	0.12 (2003)	0.29 (2003)
Fuberculosis prevalence rate, per 100,000 population	142.1 (2006)	136.7 (2006)	297.7 (2006)	78.2 (2006)	144.6 (2006)
Government expenditure for nealth, % of GDP	2.3 (2004)	2.3 (2004)	1.0 (2004)	3.3 (2004)	2.4 (2004)
Economy					
GDP, current \$ billion	104.85	3.74	3.71	12.93	22.31
GDP, annual growth rate, %	8.9	8.2	7.8	_	9.5
GNI, Atlas method (current	78	3	3	2.91 (2000)	20
GNI per capita, Atlas method current \$)	5,020	610	460	650 (2000)	730
GNI, PPP (current nternational \$) (billion)	149	10	12	21.04 (2005)	65
GNI per capita, PPP (current nternational \$)	9,600	1,980	1,710	4,350 (2005)	2,430
abor force, million	8.23	2.34	2.57	2.25	11.80
Jnemployment rate, %	7.26	8.30 (2006)	2.20 (2006)	2.60 (2004)	0.22
GDP Composition by Sector					
Agriculture, value added, % of GDP	6	34	21	22.1 (2005)	23
ndustry, value added, % of GDP	41	19	28	41.5 (2005)	31
Services, etc., value added, % of GDP	53	47	51	33.4 (2005)	46
Main exports	Oil, uranium, ferrous and nonferrous metals, machinery, chemicals, grain, wool, meat, and coal	Fruits, vegetables, gold, and tobacco	Aluminum, electricity, cotton, fruits, and textiles	Oil, gas, textiles, and raw cotton	Cotton, gold, natural gas, mineral fertilizers, ferrous metals, and textiles
Exports of goods and services % of GDP)	49	45	21	63	40
mports of goods and services % of GDP)	43	90	66	48	30
Gross capital formation (% of GDP)	36	26	22	23 (2005)	19
Revenue, excluding grants (% of GDP)	15.9	21.0	13 (2004)	_	_
Cash surplus/deficit (% of GDP)	1.2	-1.5	- 0.8 (2000)	_	_
Environment					
Forest area, % of land area	1.22	4.37	2.88	8.46	7.44
Proportion of terrestrial and protected marine areas, %	2.8	3.1	13.7	2.5	1.9
Renewable internal freshwater resources, total, billion cubic meters	75.42	46.45	66.3	1.36	16.34

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	Kazakhstan	Kyrgyz Republic	Tajikistan	Turkmenistan	Uzbekistan
Annual freshwater withdrawals, total, billion cubic meters	35 (2000)	10.08 (2000)	11.96 (2000)	24.65 (2000)	58.34 (2000)
Annual freshwater withdrawals, agriculture, % of total freshwater withdrawal	82	94	92	98	93
Annual freshwater withdrawals, industry, % of total freshwater withdrawal	17	3	5	1	2
Annual freshwater withdrawals, domestic, % of total freshwater withdrawal	2	3	4	2	5
Rural Environment					
Rural population, % of total	42.34	63.88	73.56	51.82	63.22
Rural population density, persons per square kilometer of arable land	29.06 (2005)	257.18 (2005)	518.38 (2005)	110.74 (2005)	352.42 (2005)
Agricultural land, % of land area	77	56	33	69	63
Arable land, % of land area	8	7	5	4	10
Rangeland, % of land area	69	49	27	65	52
Urban Environment					
Urban population, % of total	57.7	36.1	26.4	48.2	36.8
Urban population growth rate, annual %	1.6	1.3	1.6	2.2	1.5
Population in largest city, % of urban population	13.6	43.3 (2006)	_	_	21.7
Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility, % of urban population	97 (2006)	94 (2006)	95 (2006)	77 (2004)	97 (2006)
Energy Production and Use					
Electric power consumption, kilowatt-hours per capita	4,292.56 (2006)	2,015.37 (2006)	2,240.57 (2006)	2,123.30 (2006)	1,694.27 (2006)
Energy use (kilograms [kg] oil equivalent) per \$1,000 GDP	398 (2005)	315 (2005)	357 (2005)	No data	895 (2005)
Energy use, kg of oil equivalent per capita	4,012.45 (2006)	541.98 (2006)	547.60 (2006)	3,524.47 (2006)	1,829.43 (2006)
Proportion of population using solid fuels (%)	5 (2003)	76 (2003)	75 (1999)	<5 (2003)	72 (2003)
Energy Efficiency of Emissions					
Carbon dioxide emissions, thousand metric tons	200,277.88 (2004)	5,726.73 (2004)	5,004.47 (2004)	41,725.93 (2004)	137,907.12 (2004)
Carbon dioxide emissions, metric tons per capita	13.3 (2004)	1.1 (2004)	0.8 (2004)	8.8 (2004)	5.3 (2004)
Ozone-depleting substances	79.9 (2006)	8.8 (2006)	3.6 (2006)	22.4 (2006)	3.5 (2005)

GDP = gross domestic product, GNI = gross national income, PPP = purchasing power parity.

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** at \$1 per day
Sources:

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