

# Explanatory notes

## Population

**Total population and female population in women per 100 men.** Unless otherwise specified, figures shown are mid-year estimates (i.e., 30 June or 1 July) or averages of year-end estimates, provided by national statistical offices. As far as possible, the population statistics presented are de facto (present-in-area).

**Population growth rate., annual.** The rate of increase is the annual percentage change in population size.

**Age distribution.** Data were provided by national statistical offices/ the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the rates were computed in the ESCAP Statistics Division.

**Urban population and urban population growth rate.** Classification of population by urban residence is provided by country or area. The definition of urban area can vary between countries/areas.

**Crude birth rate and crude death rate.** Data refer to the number of annual live births and deaths per 1,000 population which occurred or were registered during the period indicated.

**Population density.** Data refer to the number of persons in the total population per square kilometre of the surface area.

## Health, education and culture

**Infant mortality rate.** The number of deaths of infants under one year of age in a given year per 1,000 live births in that year. Data exclude foetal deaths.

**Life expectancy.** Defined as the average number of years expected to be lived by a newborn baby, assuming a fixed schedule of age-specific mortality rates.

**Number of physicians.** Number of physicians per 1000 population are persons who are graduates of a medical school or faculty and are actually working in the country in a medical field.

**Literacy rate and adult literacy ratio (population aged 15-24)** . Literacy

rate refers to the percentage of adult population (age 15 years and over) who are able to read and write. Semi-literate persons who can read but not write are not included.

**Primary school gross enrolment rate.** Data refer to gross enrolment ratio, which is the total enrolment of all ages divided by the population of the specific age groups corresponding to the primary school age group. The ratio may exceed 100 if the actual age distribution of pupils extends beyond the official school ages.

**Daily newspaper circulation.** A newspaper is considered to be "daily" if it appears at least four times a week.

**Telephone main lines and mobile phone subscribers.** Telephone main lines refer to the number of main lines in operation. Main telephone lines refer to the telephone lines connecting a customer's equipment to the public switched-telephone network (PSTN) and which have a dedicated port on a telephone exchange. Mobile phone subscribers refer to subscribers of portable telephones subscribing to an automatic public mobile telephone service using cellular technology which provides access to the PSTN.

**Television receivers.** Data refer to the number of all types of television receivers in use, for receiving broadcasts to the general public, including those connected to cable distribution systems. Private sets installed in public places and communal receivers are included.

**Internet users.** Data are based on reported estimates, derivations based on reported Internet Access Provider subscriber counts, or calculated by multiplying the number of hosts by an estimated multiplier. However, comparisons of user data can be misleading because there is no standard definition of frequency (e.g., daily, weekly, monthly) or services used (e.g., e-mail, World Wide Web).

## National accounts and prices

**Gross domestic product at constant 1990 prices.** Data on national accounts refer to the summary data for national accounts compiled according to the System of National Accounts (SNA). Unless otherwise indicated, total and per capita gross domestic product are in purchasers' values. Gross domestic product in purchasers' values is defined as (a) the difference between the gross output value of resident producers minus the value of their intermediate

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consumption plus duties, (b) the sum of domestic factor incomes (i.e., compensation of employees and operating surplus), indirect taxes net of subsidies and consumption of fixed capital, and (c) the sum of government and private consumption expenditure, gross capital formation in fixed assets and stocks and exports minus imports of goods and services.

**Private consumption at constant 1990 prices** measures the expenditure of all resident non-government units, which includes all households and private non-profit institutions serving households.

**Domestic saving.** Defined as the difference between current receipts and current disbursements.

**Gross domestic product per capita** in United States dollars is derived by converting the national currency into United States dollars based on the average official exchange rates for the period. The official exchange rate might differ significantly from market exchange rates.

**External debt.** Data refer to total debt stocks. This is defined as the sum of public and publicly guaranteed long-term debt, private non-guaranteed long-term debt, the use of International Monetary Fund credit, and short-term debt.

**Consumer price and consumer food price indices** show the movement of the cost of selected goods and services that are considered representative of the consumption habits of the country as a whole. When the indices refer to a city, it is so indicated.

**Wholesale price index** measures changes in the level of commodity prices at a non-retail stage of distribution. Data usually represent a mixture of producer and wholesaler prices for domestic goods. The index may cover the prices of goods imported in quantity for the domestic market.

## Trade, transport and tourism

**Exports and imports of merchandise trade** refer to international merchandise trade, which includes as far as possible, all goods which add to or subtract from the material resources of a country as a result of their movement into or out of the country. Thus, ordinary commercial transactions, government trade (including foreign aid, war reparations and trade in military goods), postal trade and all kind of silver (except silver coins after their issue), are included

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in the statistics. Since their movement affects monetary rather than material resources, monetary gold, and currency and titles of ownership after their issue into circulation, are excluded.

**Passenger cars in use.** Passenger cars refer to vehicles seating not more than nine persons (including the driver), including taxis, jeeps and station wagons.

**Railway and air passenger travel.** Railway and air passenger travel is defined in passenger-kilometres. Railway passengers include all passengers except military, government and railway personnel when carried without revenue. Air passenger travel relates to revenue scheduled civil aviation traffic of the airlines registered in the country for total operations, international and domestic, for which remuneration is received.

**Tourist arrivals** refer to persons travelling for pleasure, health, business, meetings, study (including students and young persons studying abroad), etc., and stopping for a period of 24 hours or more in a country (country of arrival other than that in which they usually reside).

**Tourist revenue** refers to the receipts of a country in the form of consumption expenditure, i.e., payments for goods and services made by foreign visitors.

## Finance

**Government revenue.** Data refer to all non-repayable government receipts, whether required or unrequired, other than grants; revenue is shown net of refunds and other adjustment transactions.

**Government expenditure.** Data for government expenditure and expenditure of education, health and economic affairs and services refer to all non-repayable payments by government, whether required or unrequired and whether for current or capital purposes.

**Money supply: money and quasi-money (M2).** Money equals the sum of currency outside deposit money banks and demand deposits other than those of the central government. Quasi-money equals the sum of time, savings

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and foreign currency deposits of resident sectors other than central government. The data on money are frequently referred to as M1, while the sum of M1 and quasi-money gives a broader measure of money similar to that which is frequently called M2.

**International reserves minus gold.** Data refer to the United States dollar value of monetary authorities holdings of special drawing rights (SDRs), reserve position in the International Monetary Fund, foreign exchange and the sum of these items, which is total reserves minus gold.

**Lending rate** is the bank rate that usually meets the short- and medium-term financing needs of the private sector. The rate is normally differentiated according to the creditworthiness of borrowers and objectives of financing.

**Exchange rate.** Data refer to the units of national currency required to purchase one United States dollar and pertain to the period average. For some countries or areas, mid-point rates (i.e., the average of buying and selling rates) are used.

## Labour force and production

**Population employed.** Data refer to all persons above a specified age who, during the specified period of either one day or one week, were working.

**Population employed in agriculture.** The proportion of people employed in agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing as a percentage of the total labour force.

**Female labour force.** The proportion of women in the labour force as a percentage of the total labour force.

**Agricultural production, food production and non-food agricultural production indices** are based on the sum of price-weighted (international prices) quantities of commodities produced. The index of agricultural production covers all crops and livestock products of a country. The index of food production covers commodities considered edible and containing nutrients. Thus coffee and tea, although edible, are excluded because they have no known nutritional value.

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**Industrial production index.** Data refer generally to mining, manufacturing and electricity, gas and water, and do not include construction unless otherwise indicated.

**Commercial primary energy production.** Included in the production of commercial primary energy for solids are hard coal, lignite, peat and oil shale; liquids are comprised of crude petroleum and natural gas liquids; gas comprises natural gas; and electricity is comprised of primary electricity generation from hydro, nuclear, geothermal, wind, tide, wave and solar sources.

## Natural resources and environment

**Commercial primary energy consumption per capita.** Data refer to the consumption of commercial energy for solids, liquids, gases and electricity.

**Carbon dioxide emissions.** Data are calculated by the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center located at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. National emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> from industrial sources are derived from United Nations consumption data for gas, liquid and solid fuels plus cement manufacturing and gas flaring statistics, to which appropriate emission factors have been applied. Emissions are in units of 1,000 metric tons of carbon; to convert carbon into carbon dioxide, multiply data by 0.272756.

**Total land area.** Data refer to total area, excluding area under inland water bodies. Inland water bodies generally include major rivers and lakes. (1,000 hectares = 10 square kilometres).

**Arable land and land under permanent crops.** Data refer to land under temporary crops (double-cropped areas are counted only once), temporary meadows for mowing and pasture, land under market and kitchen gardens (including those cultivated under grass) and land temporarily fallow or lying idle, land cultivated with crops that occupy the land for long periods and do not need to be replanted after each harvest, land under shrubs, fruit trees, nut trees and vines. Excluded is land under trees grown for fuelwood or timber.

**Irrigated area.** Data refer to areas purposely provided with water, including land flooded by river water for crop production or pasture improvement, whether this area is irrigated several times or only once during the year stated.

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**Non-arable land and land not under permanent crops.** Data refer to any other land not specifically listed under arable land and land under permanent crops. This may refer to areas such as permanent meadows and pastures, forests and woodland, built-on areas, roads and barren land.

## Human development index

The **human development index (HDI)** is compiled by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). It is a composite index measuring the average achievements in three basic dimensions of human development: longevity, educational attainment and a decent standard of living. Performance in each dimension is expressed by a value between 0 and 1 by applying the following general formula:

$$\text{Dimension index} = \frac{[\text{Actual value} - \text{Minimum value}]}{[\text{Maximum value} - \text{Minimum value}]}$$

For details on how the HDI is calculated, see the technical notes in the UNDP *Human Development Report 2005*, or the website <<http://www.undp.org/hdro>>.

## SYMBOLS

Unless otherwise stated, reference to “tons” indicates metric tons, and the term “billion” signifies a thousand million.

The following symbols are used in the tables:

- . . not applicable
- . . . not available
- nil or negligible

Substantial breaks in the homogeneity of a series are indicated by a vertical line.

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## PRINCIPAL SOURCES

Readers interested in more detailed data and information regarding data coverage should consult the following major publications:

- United Nations:
  - Demographic Yearbook
  - Energy Statistics Yearbook
  - Monthly Bulletin of Statistics
  - Statistical Yearbook
  - Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific
  - Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific
  - World Statistics Pocketbook
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations:
  - FAO Yearbook: Production
  - FAO Yearbook: Trade
- International Civil Aviation Organization:
  - Digest of Statistics: Traffic
- International Labour Office:
  - Yearbook of Labour Statistics
- United Nations Development Programme:
  - Human Development Report
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization:
  - Statistical Yearbook
- World Health Organization:
  - World Health Statistics Annual
- Asian Development Bank:
  - Asian Development Outlook
  - Key Indicators
- Commonwealth Secretariat:
  - Small States: Economic Review and Basic Statistics
- International Monetary Fund:
  - Government Finance Statistics Yearbook
  - International Financial Statistics (yearly and monthly)
- World Bank:
  - Global Development Finance
  - Social Indicators of Development
  - Trends in Developing Economies
  - World Development Indicators
  - World Development Report
- World Tourism Organization:
  - Compendium of Tourism Statistics
- Internet websites of national statistical offices and international organizations
- National publications
- Official communications