



UGANDA – Fact Sheet

- Uganda is a landlocked country in Eastern Africa, west of Kenya
- It has an area that is slightly smaller than the state of Oregon.
- Climate is tropical with dry seasons that run from December – February and June – August
- Approximately 1/5 of the land in Uganda is arable.

Population

- With a population of over 32 million, Uganda is the 40th most populated country in the world.
- Only 2% of the population is age 65 or older.
- The median age in Uganda is 15.
- Approximately 13% of the population lives in urban areas.
- Life expectancy is just over 52 years. This places Uganda at #200 in the world. On average, females live about two more years than males.
- Close to 50% of the population lacks clean water.
- There is high risk of food/waterborne diseases such as bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever.
- Uganda is ethnically diverse with no group making up more than 17% of the population. The largest ethnic group is the Baganda.
- More than 80% of Ugandans are Christians with a nearly even split between Roman Catholic and Protestant. About 12% of the population is Muslim.
- English is the official national language. It is taught in schools, used in the courts, and used by most newspapers. The primary native language is Ganda.
- Over 66% of the population is literate. 76% of males and 57% of females are literate.

Government

- Uganda is a republic that gained its independence from the UK in 1962. Independence Day is celebrated on October 9.
- The current legal system was established in 1995 and is based on English common law.
- The chief of state is President Lt. Gen. Yoweri Kugata Museveni. He has been in power since January 1986.
- Uganda currently has a multi-party political system.

Economy

- The most important sector of the economy is agriculture, where over 80% of the workforce is employed.
- Uganda's primary export is coffee.
- The GDP is over \$35 billion, placing it just inside the top 100 in the world. The economy is experiencing steady growth of about 6-8% over the past several years.
- The per capita GDP is \$1100, which ranks 210 in the world. Nearly 35% of the population lives below the poverty line.
- The currency is the Ugandan shilling.

Source: www.cia.gov