

Sahara, Western



Location North-west Africa
With a coastline on the Atlantic Ocean, Morocco is to the north, Algeria has a small common border to the north-east, and Mauritania is to the east and south
Land Area 266 000 km² = 103 000 mi²
Climate Hot and dry
Weather at Dakhlah, 11 m altitude
Temperature: hottest month September 19–27 °C, coldest January 13–22 °C

Rainfall (av monthly): driest month June 0 mm, wettest September 36 mm

Time GMT

Measures Metric system

Monetary unit Moroccan dirham and Mauritanian ouguiya

Summary

Political Territory administered by Morocco and Mauritania under an agreement made November 14, 1975 with Spain; formerly a Spanish province, Spain handed over full administration on February 26, 1976. There is a guerrilla movement fighting for independence as the Sahraoui Republic

Economic Phosphates are the most important feature, production having begun in 1972; the mainly nomadic population subsists by raising livestock. Guerrilla activity reduced the production of phosphates from 1976

People, resources and equipment

Population* 1960 25 000**, 1970 76 000**, 1976 120 000**

Growth: 1960–70 11.8** %pa, 1970–76 8.0** %pa

Density ((1976): 0.5** people per km²

Vital statistics (rate per 1 000 people, 1972): births 20.9*, deaths 4.5*

*Estimates are very approximate due to the number of nomads in the population; excludes refugees outside of the territory

Cities (population in 000, 1974) El Aaiún 28, Smara 7*, Dakhlah 5*

*Called Villa Cisneros before January 12, 1976

Race (1970) Arab 78 %, European 22 %

Language (1970) Arabic and Hassania 78 %, Spanish 22 %

Religion (1970) Moslem 78 %, Roman Catholic 22 %

Education (1972/73) Pupils 5 270, teachers 260*

Personnel (1971) Physicians: 53, 1 per 1 570 people

National income per person (1976) Dh 4 000*** = \$ 900*** = £ 500 ***

Consumption per person (1975) Electricity 570* kW h

Livestock (000, 1976) Goats 152*, sheep 17*, camels 83*

Mineral reserves (1974) Phosphates 1 700** mn tonnes

Electrical capacity (1975) 52* megawatts

Hospital beds (1972) 262, 1 per 344 people

Roads (1974) 6 500* km = 4 000* mi, density 0.02* km per km²

There are no railways

Port Dakhlah

Airports El Aaiún, Dakhlah

Durable equipment	000	no per
(Dec 1974)		1 000 people

Radio sets	16	144	no per
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Television sets	2.0	18	km of road
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Passenger cars	5.0	45	0.8*
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Commercial vehicles	0.5	5	0.1*
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Production, finance and trade

Gross domestic product

1976 est: Dh 500*** mn = \$ 110*** mn = £ 60*** mn

Main products (000 t, 1975) Barley 1*, goat milk 41*, fish catch 4*,

electricity (mn kW h) 65*, phosphates 3 300*

Transport traffic (1974) Sea Goods loaded 624 000 t, unloaded 387 000 t

Budget (1973) Balanced at Pa 1 553 mn = \$ 26 mn = £ 11 mn

External trade (1976)

Imports: Dh 450*** mn = \$ 100*** mn = £ 60*** mn

Exports: Dh 450*** mn = \$ 100*** mn = £ 60*** mn

Main imports (% of total, 1973) Food 54, manufactures 44

Main export: Phosphates

Saint Helena

Colony of Saint Helena and dependencies



Location South Atlantic
The island of St Helena is 2 000 km west of Angola with Ascension island 1 100 km to the north-west and the island of Tristan da Cunha 2 400 km to the south-west
Land Area 413 km² = 160 mi² of which, St Helena 122 km², Ascension 88 km², Tristan da Cunha 98 km²
Climate Mild, temperate in Tristan da Cunha
Weather at Jamestown, 12 m altitude

Temperature: hottest month March 22–28 °C, coldest July–Sept 17–22 °C

Rainfall (av monthly): driest month Nov 0 mm, wettest March 20 mm

Time GMT

Measures UK (imperial) system, changing to the metric system in line with the United Kingdom

Monetary unit UK pound (£) = 100 new pence

Rate of exchange (1976 av): free \$ 1.806 = £1

Summary

Political St Helena is a UK colony, and Ascension, Tristan da Cunha, Gough, Inaccessible and Nightingale islands are dependencies. Ascension Island is also sometimes known as Wideawake Island. Tristan da Cunha was evacuated from 1961–63 due to a volcanic eruption

Economic There is no industry nor are there minerals; agricultural production is very limited. There are telecommunications and meteorological stations, and a US air and missile base

People, resources and equipment

Population 1960 5 300**, 1970 6 100**, 1976 6 600**

Growth: 1960–70 1.4** %pa, 1970–76 1.3** %pa

Density (1976): 16** people per km²

Vital statistics (rate per 1 000 people, St Helena only, 1975) births 25.0, deaths 8.1

Regions (population in 000, 1975) St Helena 5.1, Ascension 1.2*, Tristan da Cunha 0.3*; Gough, Inaccessible and Nightingale islands: uninhabited

Town (population in 000, 1976) Jamestown (capital) 1.6*

Race (1976) St Helenians 85* %

Language English

Religion (1966) Christian 99.6 % (mainly Anglican Communion)

Education (1974) Pupils 1 250*, teachers 71*

Labour force (employees, 1975) 1 667

Personnel (1973) Physicians: 3, 1 per 2 160 people

National income per person (1976) £ 300*** = \$ 550***

Consumption per person (1975) Electricity 150* kW h

Livestock (000, Dec 1975) Cattle 1, sheep 3, goats 2, poultry 11

Electrical capacity (1972) 0.45 megawatt

Hospital beds (1975) 54, 1 per 121 people

Roads (1975) 107 km = 67 mi, density 0.26 km per km²

Port Jamestown

Airport There is an airfield on Ascension

Durable equipment (Dec 1974) Radio sets: 750, 115 per 1 000 people

Motor vehicles: 791, 121 per 1 000 people, 7.4 per km of road

Production, finance and trade

Gross domestic product 1976 est: £2.0*** mn = \$ 3.6*** mn

Main products (1975) Potatoes, sweet potatoes, vegetables, fish 162 t, electricity 1* mn k W h

Transport traffic Sea (1974) Goods unloaded 11 000 t

Budget (1975/76: year ending March 31st)

Revenue: £ 1 482 000 = \$ 3 148 000

Expenditure: £ 1 544 000 = \$ 3 279 000

External trade (1975) Imports: £ 1.1 mn = \$ 2.5 mn. Exports: nil

Main imports (1974)	% of total	Main exports (1974)
Manufactures	45*	None (in 1968 there were exports of wool and fish)
(of which, motor vehicles 6)		
Food	30*	
Petroleum products	16	
Beer, wines and spirits	7	

Main sources (1968)

United Kingdom	61	Main destinations (1974)
South Africa	28	
United States	4	

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