In general, information available as of 1 January, 2004 was used in the preparation of The World Factbook 2004.

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Background:
The Sudanese Republic and Senegal became independent of France in 1960 as the Mali Federation. When Senegal withdrew after only a few months, what formerly made up the Sudanese Republic was renamed Mali. Rule by dictatorship was brought to a close in 1991 with a transitional government and in 1992 when Mali's first democratic presidential election was held. After his reelection in 1997, President Alpha KONARE continued to push through political and economic reforms and to fight corruption. In keeping with Mali's two-term constitutional limit, he stepped down in 2002 and was succeeded by Amadou TOURE.

Geography

Location:
Western Africa, southwest of Algeria

Geographic coordinates:
17 00 N, 4 00 W

Map references:
Africa

Area:
total: 1.24 million sq km
water: 20,000 sq km
land: 1.22 million sq km
Area -
comparative: slightly less than twice the size of Texas

Land boundaries:
total: 7,243 km
border countries: Algeria 1,376 km, Burkina Faso 1,000 km, Guinea 858 km, Cote d'Ivoire 532 km, Mauritania 2,237 km, Niger 821 km, Senegal 419 km

Coastline: 0 km (landlocked)

Maritime claims -
as described in UNCLOS 1982 (see Notes and Definitions):
none (landlocked)

Climate: subtropical to arid; hot and dry February to June; rainy, humid, and mild June to November; cool and dry November to February

Terrain: mostly flat to rolling northern plains covered by sand; savanna in south, rugged hills in northeast

Elevation extremes:
lowest point: Senegal River 23 m
highest point: Hombori Tondo 1,155 m

Natural resources: gold, phosphates, kaolin, salt, limestone, uranium, hydropower
note: bauxite, iron ore, manganese, tin, and copper deposits are known but not exploited

Land use:
arable land: 3.77%
permanent crops: 0.04%
other: 96.19% (1998 est.)

Irrigated land: 1,380 sq km (1998 est.)

Natural hazards: hot, dust-laden harmattan haze common during dry seasons; recurring droughts; occasional Niger River flooding

Environment -
current issues: deforestation; soil erosion; desertification; inadequate supplies of potable water; poaching

Environment -
international agreements:
party to: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Endangered Species, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Ozone Layer Protection, Wetlands
signed, but not ratified: none of the selected agreements

Geography - note:
landlocked; divided into three natural zones: the southern, cultivated Sudanese; the central, semiarid Sahelian; and the northern, arid Saharan

People Mali

Population: 11,956,788 (July 2004 est.)
Age structure:

- 0-14 years: 47.1% (male 2,835,378; female 2,801,578)
- 15-64 years: 49.9% (male 2,862,075; female 3,101,009)
- 65 years and over: 3% (male 163,927; female 192,821) (2004 est.)

Median age:

- Total: 16.3 years
- Male: 15.7 years
- Female: 16.9 years (2004 est.)

Population growth rate: 2.78% (2004 est.)

Birth rate: 47.29 births/1,000 population (2004 est.)

Death rate: 19.12 deaths/1,000 population (2004 est.)

Net migration rate: -0.33 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2004 est.)

Sex ratio:

- At birth: 1.03 male(s)/female
- Under 15 years: 1.01 male(s)/female
- 15-64 years: 0.92 male(s)/female
- 65 years and over: 0.85 male(s)/female
- Total population: 0.96 male(s)/female (2004 est.)

Infant mortality rate:

- Total: 117.99 deaths/1,000 live births
- Female: 111.27 deaths/1,000 live births (2004 est.)
- Male: 124.51 deaths/1,000 live births

Life expectancy at birth:

- Total population: 45.28 years
- Male: 44.7 years
- Female: 45.87 years (2004 est.)

Total fertility rate: 6.58 children born/woman (2004 est.)

HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate: 1.7% (2001 est.)

HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS: 110,000 (2001 est.)

HIV/AIDS - deaths: 11,000 (2001 est.)

Nationality:

- Noun: Malian(s)
- Adjective: Malian

Ethnic groups:

- Mande 50% (Bambara, Malinke, Soninke), Peul 17%, Voltaic 12%, Songhai 6%, Tuareg and Moor 10%, other 5%

Religions:

- Muslim 90%, indigenous beliefs 9%, Christian 1%

Languages:
French (official), Bambara 80%, numerous African languages

Literacy:
definition: age 15 and over can read and write
total population: 46.4%
males: 53.5%
females: 39.6% (2003 est.)

Government
Mali

Country name:
conventional long form: Republic of Mali
conventional short form: Mali
local short form: Mali
former: French Sudan and Sudanese Republic
local long form: Republique de Mali

Government type:
republic

Capital:
Bamako

Administrative divisions:
8 regions (regions, singular - region); Gao, Kayes, Kidal, Koulikoro, Mopti, Segou, Sikasso, Tombouctou

Independence:
22 September 1960 (from France)

National holiday:
Independence Day, 22 September (1960)

Constitution:
adopted 12 January 1992

Legal system:
based on French civil law system and customary law; judicial review of legislative acts in Constitutional Court
(which was formally established on 9 March 1994); has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

Suffrage:
18 years of age; universal

Executive branch:
chief of state: President Amadou Toumani TOURE (since 8 June 2002)
head of government: Prime Minister Ahmed Mohamed Ag HAMANI (since 9 June 2002)
cabinet: Council of Ministers appointed by the prime minister
elections: president elected by popular vote for a five-year term (two-term limit); election last held 12 May
2002 (next to be held NA May 2007); prime minister appointed by the president
election results: Amadou Toumani TOURE elected president; percent of vote - Amadou Toumani TOURE
64.4%, Soumaila CISSE 35.6%

Legislative branch:
unicameral National Assembly or Assemblee Nationale (147 seats; members are elected by popular vote to
serve five-year terms)
elections: last held 14 July and 28 July 2002 (next to be held NA July 2007)
election results: percent of vote by party - NA%; seats by party - Hope 2002 coalition 66, ADEMA 51, other 30

Judicial branch:
Supreme Court or Cour Supreme

Political parties and leaders:
- Alliance for Democracy or ADEMA [Diounconda Traore KEITA, party chairman]; Block of Alternative for the Renewal of Africa or BARA [Yoro DIAKITE]; Democratic and Social Convention or CDS [Mamadou Bakary SANGARE, chairman]; Hope 2002 [leader NA]; Movement for the Independence, Renaissance and Integration of Africa or MIRIA [Mohamed Lamine TRAORE, Mouhamedick DICKO]; National Congress for Democratic Initiative or CNID [Mountaga TALL, chairman]; Party for Democracy and Progress or PDP [Me Idrissa TRAORE]; Party for National Renewal or PARENA [Yoro DIAKITE, chairman; Tiebile DRAH, secretary general]; Rally for Democracy and Labor or RDT [Ali GNANGADO]; Rally for Democracy and Progress or RDP [Almamy SYLLA, chairman]; Rally for Mali or RPM [Ibrahim Bonbasor KEITA, chairman]; Sudanese Union/African Democratic Rally or US/RDA [Mamadou Bamou TOURE, secretary general]; Union of Democratic Forces for Progress or UFDP [Youssouf TOURE, secretary general]; Union for Democracy and Development or UDD [Moussa Balla COULIBALY];

Political pressure groups and leaders:
- Patriotic Movement of the Ghanda Koye or MPGK; United Movement and Fronts of Azawad or MFUA

International organization participation:
- ACCT, ACP, ADDB, AU, ECOWAS, FAO, FZ, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICTU, ICRM, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFCS, IFRC, ILO, IMF, Interpol, IOC, IOM, ISO (observer), ITU, MCAH, MONUC, NAM, OIC, OPCW, UN, UNAMISIL, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNML, UPU, WADB (regional), WAEMU, WCO, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WToO, WTrO

Diplomatic representation in the US:
- chief of mission: Ambassador Abdoulaye DIOP
- embassy: 2130 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20008
- FAX: [1] (202) 332-6603
- telephone: [1] (202) 332-2249, 939-8950

Diplomatic representation from the US:
- chief of mission: Ambassador Vicki HUDDLESTONE
- embassy: Rue Rochester NY and Rue Mohamed V, Bamako
- mailing address: B. P. 34, Bamako
- telephone: [223] (2) 223-833
- FAX: [223] (2) 223-712

Flag description:
- three equal vertical bands of green (hoist side), yellow, and red; uses the popular pan-African colors of Ethiopia

Economy - overview:
Mali is among the poorest countries in the world, with 65% of its land area desert or semidesert and with a highly unequal distribution of income. Economic activity is largely confined to the riverine area irrigated by the Niger. About 10% of the population is nomadic and some 80% of the labor force is engaged in farming and fishing. Industrial activity is concentrated on processing farm commodities. Mali is heavily dependent on foreign aid and vulnerable to fluctuations in world prices for cotton, its main export, along with gold. The government has continued its successful implementation of an IMF-recommended structural adjustment program that is helping the economy grow, diversify, and attract foreign investment. Mali's adherence to economic reform and the 50% devaluation of the African franc in January 1994 have pushed up economic growth to a sturdy 5% average in 1996-2002. Worker remittances and external trade routes have been jeopardized by continued unrest in neighboring Cote d'Ivoire.

GDP:
- purchasing power parity - $10.53 billion (2003 est.)

GDP - real growth rate:
- 0.5% (2003 est.)

GDP - per capita:
- purchasing power parity - $900 (2003 est.)
GDP - composition by sector:
- agriculture: 45%
- industry: 17%
- services: 38% (2001 est.)

Population below poverty line:
64% average; 30% of the total population living in urban areas; 70% of the total population living in rural areas (2001 est.)

Household income or consumption by percentage share:
- lowest 10%: 1.8%
- highest 10%: 40.4% (1994)

Distribution of family income - Gini index:
50.5 (1994)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):
4.5% (2002 est.)

Labor force:
3.93 million (2001 est.)

Labor force - by occupation:
- agriculture and fishing: 80% (2001 est.)

Unemployment rate:
14.6% urban areas; 5.3% rural areas (2001 est.)

Budget:
- revenues: $764 million
- expenditures: $828 million, including capital expenditures of $NA (2002 est.)

Industries:
- food processing; construction; phosphate and gold mining

Industrial production growth rate:
NA% (FY96/97)

Electricity - production:
480.2 million kWh (2001)

Electricity - production by source:
- fossil fuel: 41.7%
- hydro: 58.3%
- other: 0% (2001)
- nuclear: 0%

Electricity - consumption:
446.6 million kWh (2001)

Electricity - exports:
0 kWh; note - recent hydropower developments may be providing electricity to Senegal and Mauritania (2001)

Electricity - imports:
0 kWh (2001)

Oil - production:
0 bbl/day (2001 est.)
Oil - consumption: 4,000 bbl/day (2001 est.)

Oil - exports: NA

Oil - imports: NA

Agriculture - products: cotton, millet, rice, corn, vegetables, peanuts; cattle, sheep, goats

Exports: $915 million f.o.b. (2002 est.)

Exports - commodities: cotton, gold, livestock

Exports - partners: Thailand 14.4%, Italy 10.2%, India 7.8%, Germany 4.8%, Spain 4.8%, Mauritius 4.2%, Portugal 4.2% (2002)

Imports: $927 million f.o.b. (2002 est.)

Imports - commodities: petroleum, machinery and equipment, construction materials, foodstuffs, textiles

Imports - partners: Cote d'Ivoire 16.9%, France 13.4%, Senegal 6.4% (2002)

Debt - external: $3.3 billion (2000)

Economic aid - recipient: $596.4 million (2001)

Currency: Communaute Financiere Africaine franc (XOF); note - responsible authority is the Central Bank of the West African States

Currency code: XOF


Fiscal year: calendar year

Communications Mali
Telephones - main lines in use: 56,600 (2002)


Telephone system:
- General assessment: domestic system unreliable but improving; provides only minimal service
- Domestic: network consists of microwave radio relay, open-wire, and radiotelephone communications stations; expansion of microwave radio relay in progress
- International: country code - 223; satellite earth stations - 2 Intelsat (1 Atlantic Ocean and 1 Indian Ocean)

Radio broadcast stations: AM 1, FM 28, shortwave 1
- Note: the shortwave station in Bamako has seven frequencies and five transmitters and relays broadcasts for China Radio International (2001)

Television broadcast stations: 1 (plus repeaters) (2001)

Internet country code: .ml

Internet hosts: 158 (2002)

Internet users: 25,000 (2002)

Transportation

Mali
Railways:
- **total:** 729 km
  - narrow gauge: 729 km 1.000-m gauge (2002)

Highways:
- **total:** 15,100 km
  - paved: 1,827 km
  - unpaved: 13,273 km (1999 est.)

Waterways:
- 1,815 km

Ports and harbors:
- Koulikoro

Airports:
- 27 (2003 est.)

Airports - with paved runways:
- **total:** 8
  - 2,438 to 3,047 m: 4
  - 1,524 to 2,437 m: 3
  - 914 to 1,523 m: 1 (2003 est.)

Airports - with unpaved runways:
- **total:** 19
  - 2,438 to 3,047 m: 1
  - 1,524 to 2,437 m: 5
  - 914 to 1,523 m: 5
  - under 914 m: 8 (2003 est.)

Military

Mali

Military branches:
- Army, Air Force, National Guard

Military manpower - military age:
- 18 years of age (2004 est.)

Military manpower - availability:
- males age 15-49: 2,529,147 (2004 est.)

Military manpower - fit for military service:
- males age 15-49: 1,450,795 (2004 est.)

Military expenditures - dollar figure:
- $51.1 million (2003)

Military expenditures - percent of GDP:
- 1.3% (2003)

Transnational Issues

Disputes - international:
- none