CHAD

INTRODUCTION
Chad, part of France’s African holdings until 1960, endured three decades of civil warfare, as well as invasions by Libya, before peace was restored in 1990. The government eventually drafted a democratic constitution, but has only held flawed presidential elections since 1996 allowing the incumbent to remain in power.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
Interim President Mahamat Idriss DEBY
Head of Government
Interim President Mahamat Idriss DEBY
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
N’Djamena
Legislature
unicameral National Assembly (188)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 1,284,000 sq km
Land: 1,259,200 sq km
Water: 24,800 sq km
Climate
tropical in south, desert in north
Natural Resources
petroleum, uranium, natron, kaolin, fish (Lake Chad), gold, limestone, sand and gravel, salt

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
primarily oil-based economy, vulnerable to regional competition and international price shocks; increasing extreme poverty and minimal human capital capacities; one of the most environmentally disrupted economies; high maternal and infant mortality rates destabilizing labor force potentials
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $24.97 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $1,500 (2020 est.)
Industries - oil, cotton textiles, brewing, natron (sodium carbonate), soap, cigarettes, construction materials
Agricultural products - sorghum, groundnuts, millet, yams, cereals, sugarcane, beef, maize, cotton, cassava
Exports $2.464 billion (2017 est.)
 crude petroleum, gold, livestock, sesame seeds, gum arabic, insect resins (2019)
 partners: China 32%, UAE 21%, India 19%, US 10%, France 6%, Germany 5% (2019)
Imports $2.16 billion (2017 est.)
delivery trucks, paints, packaged medicines, aircraft, broadcasting equipment (2019)
 partners: China 29%, UAE 16%, France 10%, US 8%, India 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
17.4 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
3.12% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Sara (Ngambaye/Sara/ Madingaye/Mbaye) 30.5%, Kanembu/Bornu/Buduma 9.8%, Arab 9.7%, Wadai/Maba/Masalit/Mimi 7%, Gorane 5.8%, Masa/Musseye/Musgum 4.9%, many others (2014-15 est.)
Language
French (official), Arabic (official), Sara (in south), more than 120 different languages and dialects
Religion
Muslim 52%, Christian 44% (2014-15 est.)