

Mali



Introduction Mali

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 by a coup that ushered in democratic government. President Alpha KONARE won Mali's first democratic presidential election in 1992 and was reelected in 1997. In keeping with Mali's two-term constitutional limit, KONARE stepped down in 2002 and was succeeded by Amadou TOURE.

Geography Mali

Location: Western Africa, southwest of Algeria

Geographic coordinates: 17 00 N, 4 00 W

Map references: Africa

Area: *total:* 1.24 million sq km
land: 1.22 million sq km
water: 20,000 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: 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, gypsum, granite, hydropower
note: bauxite, iron ore, manganese, tin, and copper deposits are known but not exploited

Land use: *arable land:* 3.76%
permanent crops: 0.03%
other: 96.21% (2005)

Irrigated land: 2,360 sq km (2003)

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: 11,716,829 (July 2006 est.)

Age structure: *0-14 years:* 48.2% (male 2,857,670/female 2,787,506)
15-64 years: 48.8% (male 2,804,344/female 2,910,097)
65 years and over: 3% (male 146,458/female 210,754) (2006 est.)

Median age: *total:* 15.8 years
male: 15.4 years
female: 16.3 years (2006 est.)

Population growth rate: 2.63% (2006 est.)

Birth rate: 49.82 births/1,000 population (2006 est.)

Death rate: 16.89 deaths/1,000 population (2006 est.)

Net migration rate: -6.6 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2006 est.)

Sex ratio: *at birth:* 1.03 male(s)/female
under 15 years: 1.03 male(s)/female
15-64 years: 0.96 male(s)/female
65 years and over: 0.7 male(s)/female
total population: 0.98 male(s)/female (2006 est.)

Infant mortality rate: *total:* 107.58 deaths/1,000 live births
male: 117.32 deaths/1,000 live births
female: 97.54 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)

Life expectancy at birth: *total population:* 49 years
male: 47.05 years
female: 51.01 years (2006 est.)

Total fertility rate: 7.42 children born/woman (2006 est.)

HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate: 1.9% (2003 est.)

HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS: 140,000 (2003 est.)

HIV/AIDS - deaths: 12,000 (2003 est.)

Major infectious diseases: *degree of risk:* very high
food or waterborne diseases: bacterial and protozoal diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever

vectorborne disease: malaria is a high risk in some locations
water contact disease: schistosomiasis
respiratory disease: meningococcal meningitis (2005)

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%
male: 53.5%
female: 39.6% (2003 est.)

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

Government type: republic

Capital: *name:* Bamako
geographic coordinates: 12 39 N, 8 00 W
time difference: UTC 0 (5 hours ahead of Washington, DC
during Standard Time)

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 Ousmane Issoufi MAIGA (since 30 April 2004)

cabinet: Council of Ministers appointed by the prime minister

elections: president elected by popular vote for a five-year term (eligible for a second term); election last held 12 May 2002 (next to be held April 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 Assemblée Nationale (147 seats; members are elected by popular vote to serve five-year terms)

elections: last held 14 and 28 July 2002 (next to be held July 2007)

election results: percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - Hope 2002 coalition 66 (including RPM 42, CNID 10, and MPR 3), ADEMA 51, other 30

Judicial branch: Supreme Court or Cour Supreme

Political parties and leaders: Alliance for Democracy and Progress or ADP (a coalition of 14 political parties including ADEMA and URD formed in December 2006 to support the presidential candidacy of Amadou TOURE); Alliance for Democracy or ADEMA [Dionconda TRAORE, party chairman]; Convergence 2007 [Soumeylou Boubeye MAIGA]; Hope 2002 (a coalition of CNID, MPR, RDT, and RPM); 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 [Tiebile DRAME, secretary general]; Patriotic Movement for Renewal or MPR [Choguel MAIGA]; Rally for Democracy and Labor or RDT; Rally for Mali or RPM [Ibrahim Boubacar KEITA, chairman]; Sudanese Union/African Democratic Rally or US/RDA [Mamadou Bamou TOURE, secretary general]; Union for Democracy and Development or UDD [Moussa Balla COULIBALY]; Union for Republic and Democracy or URD [Soumaila CISSE]

Political pressure groups and leaders: Alliance for Democratic Change or ACD; Patriotic Movement of the Ghanda Koye or MPKG; United Movement and Fronts of Azawad or MFUA

International ACCT, ACP, AfDB, AU, ECOWAS, FAO, FZ, G-77,

organization participation: IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICCt, ICRM, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, IFRCS, ILO, IMF, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO (correspondent), ITU, ITUC, MIGA, MONUC, NAM, OIC, OIF, ONUB, OPCW, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNMIL, UNMIS, UNWTO, UPU, WADB (regional), WAEMU, WCO, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

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

Diplomatic representation from the US: *chief of mission:* Ambassador Terrence P. MCCULLEY
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Flag description: three equal vertical bands of green (hoist side), yellow, and red; uses the popular pan-African colors of Ethiopia

Economy Mali

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 CFA franc in January 1994 have pushed up economic growth to a sturdy 5% average in 1996-2006. Worker remittances and external trade routes for the landlocked country have been jeopardized by continued unrest in neighboring Cote d'Ivoire.

GDP (purchasing power parity): \$14.59 billion (2006 est.)

GDP (official exchange): \$5.847 billion (2006 est.)

rate):

GDP - real growth rate: 5.1% (2006 est.)

GDP - per capita (PPP): \$1,200 (2006 est.)

GDP - composition by sector: *agriculture: 45%*
industry: 17%
services: 38% (2001 est.)

Labor force: 3.93 million (2001 est.)

Labor force - by occupation: *agriculture: 80%*
industry and services: 20% (2001 est.)

Unemployment rate: 14.6% (2001 est.)

Population below poverty line: 64% (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.)

Budget: *revenues: \$764 million*
expenditures: \$828 million; including capital expenditures of \$NA (2002 est.)

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

Industries: food processing; construction; phosphate and gold mining

Industrial production growth rate: NA%

Electricity - production: 410 million kWh (2004)

Electricity - production by: *fossil fuel: 41.7%*
hydro: 58.3%

source: *nuclear:* 0%
other: 0% (2001)

Electricity - consumption: 381.3 million kWh (2004)

Electricity - exports: 0 kWh; note - recent hydropower developments may be providing electricity to Senegal and Mauritania (2004)

Electricity - imports: 0 kWh (2004)

Oil - production: 0 bbl/day (2004 est.)

Oil - consumption: 4,300 bbl/day (2004 est.)

Oil - exports: NA bbl/day (2001)

Oil - imports: NA bbl/day (2001)

Natural gas - production: 0 cu m (2004 est.)

Natural gas - consumption: 0 cu m (2004 est.)

Exports: \$323 million f.o.b. (2004 est.)

Exports - commodities: cotton, gold, livestock

Exports - partners: China 29.3%, Thailand 10.1%, Taiwan 7.7%, Italy 5.3%, Bangladesh 4.5%, France 4.4% (2005)

Imports: \$1.858 billion f.o.b. (2004 est.)

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

Imports - partners: France 13%, Senegal 13%, Cote d'Ivoire 8.5% (2005)

Debt - external: \$2.8 billion (2002)

Economic aid - recipient: \$472.1 million (2002)

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

Currency code: XOF

Exchange rates: Communauté Financière Africaine francs (XOF) per US dollar - 527.47 (2005), 528.29 (2004), 581.2 (2003), 696.99 (2002)

Fiscal year: calendar year

Communications Mali

Telephones - main lines in use: 75,000 (2005)

Telephones - mobile cellular: 869,600 (2005)

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)

Radios: 570,000 (1997)

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

Televisions: 45,000 (1997)

Internet country code: .ml

Internet hosts: 278 (2006)

Internet Service Providers (ISPs): 13 (2001)

Internet users: 60,000 (2005)

Transportation Mali

Airports: 29 (2006)

Airports - total: 9
with paved runways: 2,438 to 3,047 m: 4
1,524 to 2,437 m: 4
914 to 1,523 m: 1 (2006)

Airports - total: 20
with unpaved runways: 2,438 to 3,047 m: 1
1,524 to 2,437 m: 5
914 to 1,523 m: 6
under 914 m: 8 (2006)

Railways: total: 729 km
narrow gauge: 729 km 1.000-m gauge (2005)

Roadways: total: 18,709 km
paved: 3,368 km
unpaved: 15,341 km (2004)

Waterways: 1,815 km (2005)

Ports and terminals: Koulikoro

Military	Mali
Military branches:	Army, Air Force, National Guard
Military service age and obligation:	18 years of age for compulsory and voluntary military service; conscript service obligation - two years (2004)
Manpower available for military service:	males age 18-49: 2,094,432 females age 18-49: 2,027,352 (2005 est.)
Manpower fit for military service:	males age 18-49: 1,244,176 females age 18-49: 1,226,226 (2005 est.)
Military expenditures - dollar figure:	\$106.3 million (2005 est.)
Military expenditures - percent of GDP:	1.9% (2005 est.)

**Transnational
Issues**

Mali

Disputes - international: none

Refugees and internally displaced persons: *refugees (country of origin): 6,165 (Mauritania) (2006)*