

Armenia

Where is Armenia?

Armenia is a landlocked country in the Caucasus mountains in Asia. It is bordered by Georgia to the North, Turkey to the west, Azerbaijan to the East, the Azerbaijan Nakhchivan enclave to the southwest, and Iran to the south. There is a lake called Lake Sevan in the northeast. It has a small enclave in Azerbaijan. Its capital and biggest city is Yerevan with a population of 1,116,000.



Basic Facts

Area: 11,484 sq. mi.

Population: 2,794,000

Population Growth: 0.1%

Government: Republic

Urban Population: 64%

Life Expectancy: 74 years

Literacy Rate: 100%

Official Language: Armenian

Currency: Armenian Dram (AMD)

GDP per Capita: \$5,200

GDP Growth: 7.2%

The Land and it' s People



Land

- The Northwest of Armenia is the Armenian highland and is home to its tallest peaks that can exceed 13,000 feet
- The East and North is home to the Lesser Caucasus, a mountain range that covers Georgia, Parts of Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan
- Also in the east we have the Sevan basin consisting of Lake Sevan and it is bordered by the Caucasus
- And in the southwest there is the Ararat plain which goes into Turkey and home to the important Aras river

Plants and Animals

- The boar, wildcat, jackal, adder, Gurza (a venomous snake), scorpion, and, more rarely, the leopard inhabit the Semi desert region
- Oak trees are common in the south along with squirrels, bears, and wildcats
- The alpine region is home to birds such as eagles while the tundra has really no life at all



Climate

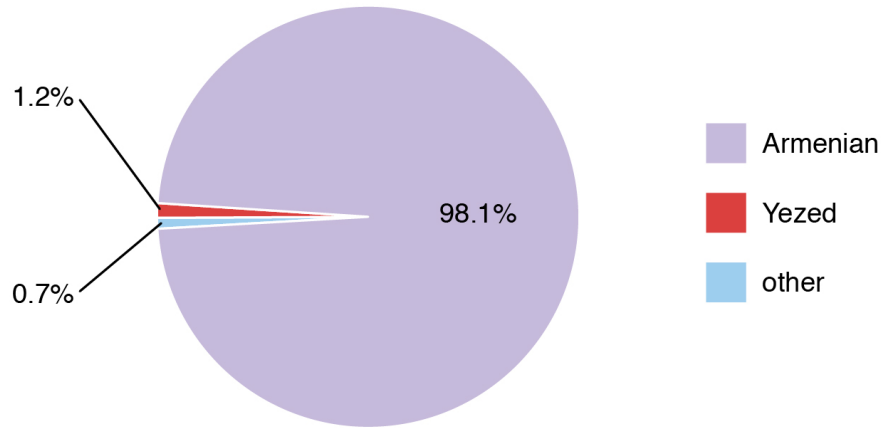
- Armenia's climate is very dry and continental due to the mountainous terrain
- Armenia can get very intense heat in the lowlands some days in the summer
- In the winter it is usually about 10 F. but in the mountains it can get freezing cold
- The record low in Armenia was -51 F.

Economy

- Most agriculture is in the south with farms producing wine grapes, the most important crop, figs, olives, pomegranates, etc.
- Hydroelectric power have been supplying power to factories in the Yerevan region
- Factories make chemicals, clothing, precision instruments and machineries.



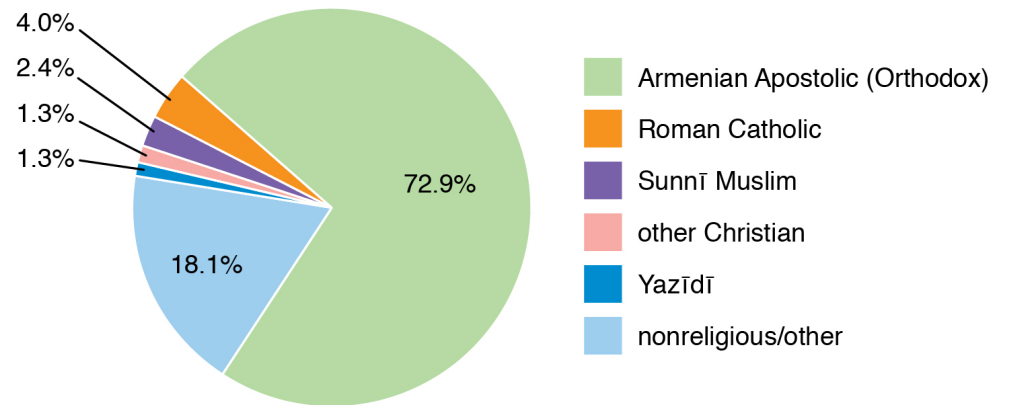
Ethnic composition (2011^{***})



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^{***} Census de jure estimate.

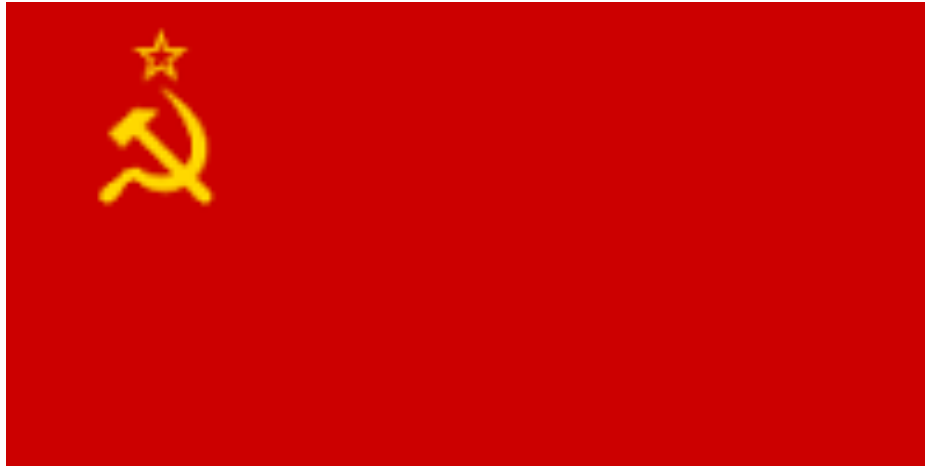
Religious affiliation (2005)



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People

- Almost 100% of Armenia's population is ethnically Armenian and can speak Armenian, a distant branch of the Indo-European family
- There are minorities are Kurds, Russians, and small numbers of Ukrainians and Assyrians.
- There is hardly any Azerbaijani people living in the country since of the political tensions between the two countries
- The region of Nagorno-Karabakh in Azerbaijan is very ethnically Armenian and has been trying hard to push for independence



The History Of Armenia



Early History

- In Early times the Assyrians and Persians both conquered Armenia but it was still ruled by Native Leaders
- Alexander the Great conquered Armenia during his conquest and it was ruled by the Greek Dynasty
- In 300 Ad. The King at the time Tiridates III converted to Christianity, he then made Christianity the State Religion
- In the 5th century a Christian Church was established
- It then fell to the Arabs in 653 who spread the new Islamic religion to Armenia, then again it fell to the Persians in 1502
- The Turks then incorporated into the Ottoman Empire who suppressed Christianity
- Many Armenians fled to other parts of Asia and Africa



Russian and Soviet Armenia

- Russia took the region from Persia known as Russian Armenia at the time in 1828
- Then after the Russo-Turkish Russia gained part of Turkish Armenia
- The Turkish government during WW1 began to decimate the Armenians and many fled to other countries
- After the war Armenia became independent for 2 years but Russian troops entered Yerevan in 1920 and set up a Soviet government out of Russian Armenia
- In 1936 the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic(ASSR) was formed



Modern History

- Since 1988 there have been many ethnic conflicts between Armenians and Azerbaijanis
- Ethnic tensions in Nagorno-Karabakh started in 1988 after a vote and Soviet troops were sent to restore order, Azerbaijan continued to cause ethnic tensions near the border
- A massive 6.9 magnitude earthquake hit Armenia killing 25,000 people on Dec. 2 1988
- Armenia got independence in 1991 after the Soviet Union Collapsed
- Later that year Armenia joined the Commonwealth of Independent States with 10 other former Soviet States

Interesting Facts

- Armenia was the first country to convert the entire country to Christianity
- Armenia is home to the world's oldest winery and it's located in a cave
- Armenia is the homeland of the apricot
- The Armenian alphabet is one of the most advanced in the world