

# COUNTRY PROFILE

## IRAN



**Location:** Middle East, bordering the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, and the Caspian Sea, between Iraq and Pakistan

**Capital:** Tehran

**Government Type:** Theocratic Republic

**Area:**

Total: 1,648,195 sq km

Land: 1,531,595 sq km

Water: 116,600 sq km

**Population:** 82,801,633 (July 2016 est.)

**Population Density:** (per sq KM) 49 (2015)

**Population Growth Rate:** 1.18% (2016 est.)

**Population below Poverty Line:** 18.7% (2007 est.)

**Ethnic Groups:** Persian, Azeri, Kurd, Lur, Baloch, Arab, Turkmen and Turkic tribes

**Climate:** Mostly arid or semiarid, subtropical along Caspian coast

**Natural Resources:** Petroleum, natural gas, coal, chromium, copper, iron ore, lead, manganese etc.

**Languages:** Persian (official), Azeri Turkic and Turkic dialects, Kurdish, Gilaki and Mazandarani, Luri, Balochi, Arabic, other

**Religions:** Muslim (official) 99.4% (Shia 90-95%, Sunni 5-10%), other (includes Zoroastrian, Jewish, and Christian) 0.3%, unspecified 0.4% (2011 est.)

**Land Use:**

Agricultural land: 30.1%(arable lands 10.8%; permanent crops 1.2%; permanent pasture 18.1%)

Forest: 6.8%

Other: 63.1% (2011 est.)

**Natural Hazards:** Periodic droughts, floods; dust storms, sandstorms; earthquakes

**Literacy:** 86.8%

**GDP - Real Growth Rate:** 4.5% (2016 est.)

**GDP - Per Capita (PPP):** \$18,100 (2016 est.)

**Exports:** \$87.52 billion (2016 est.)

**Export Commodities:** Petroleum 80%, chemical and petrochemical products, fruits and nuts, carpets, cement, ore etc.

**Improved Drinking Water Source:** 96.2% of population

**Improved Sanitation Facility Access:** 90% of population