



East & Southeast Asia :: **Macau**
(special administrative region of China)

Introduction :: Macau

Background:

Colonized by the Portuguese in the 16th century, Macau was the first European settlement in the Far East. Pursuant to an agreement signed by China and Portugal on 13 April 1987, Macau became the Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR) of the People's Republic of China on 20 December 1999. In this agreement, China promised that, under its "one country, two systems" formula, China's political and economic system would not be imposed on Macau, and that Macau would enjoy a "high degree of autonomy" in all matters except foreign affairs and defense for the subsequent 50 years.

Geography :: Macau

Location:

Eastern Asia, bordering the South China Sea and China

Geographic coordinates:

22 10 N, 113 33 E

Map references:

Southeast Asia

Area:

total: 28.2 sq km

country comparison to the world: 237

land: 28.2 sq km

water: 0 sq km

Area - comparative:

less than one-sixth the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

total: 0.34 km

regional border: China 0.34 km

Coastline:

41 km

Maritime claims:

not specified

Climate:

subtropical; marine with cool winters, warm summers

Terrain:

generally flat

Elevation extremes:

lowest point: South China Sea 0 m

highest point: Coloane Alto 172 m

Natural resources:

NEGL

Land use:

arable land: 0%

permanent crops: 0%

other: 100% (2011)

Irrigated land:

NA; note - included in the total for China

Natural hazards:

typhoons

Environment - current issues:

NA

Environment - international agreements:

party to: Marine Dumping (associate member), Ship Pollution (associate member)

Geography - note:

essentially urban; an area of land reclaimed from the sea measuring 5.2 sq km and known as Cotai now connects the islands of Coloane and Taipa; the island area is connected to the mainland peninsula by three bridges

People and Society :: Macau

Nationality:

noun: Chinese

adjective: Chinese

Ethnic groups:

Chinese 92.4%, Portuguese 0.6%, mixed 1.1%, other 5.9% (includes Macanese - mixed Portuguese and Asian ancestry) (2011 est.)

Languages:

Cantonese 83.3%, Mandarin 5%, Hokkien 3.7%, English 2.3%, other Chinese dialects 2%, Tagalog 1.7%, Portuguese 0.7%, other 1.3%

note: Chinese and Portuguese are official languages (2011 est.)

Religions:

Buddhist 50%, Roman Catholic 15%, none or other 35% (1997 est.)

Population:

587,914

country comparison to the world: 170

note: Macau's statistical agency estimated the total population to be approximately 607,500 as of 31 December 2013 (July 2014 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 14.4% (male 44,350/female 40,272)

15-24 years: 13.7% (male 41,941/female 38,697)

25-54 years: 50.9% (male 133,612/female 165,735)

55-64 years: 9.2% (male 35,011/female 34,372)

65 years and over: 8.8% (male 25,254/female 28,670) (2014 est.)

Dependency ratios:

total dependency ratio: 25.8 %

youth dependency ratio: 15.6 %

elderly dependency ratio: 10.2 %

potential support ratio: 9.8 (2013)

Median age:

total: 37.7 years

male: 38.3 years

female: 37.3 years (2014 est.)

Population growth rate:

0.83% (2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 133

Birth rate:

8.98 births/1,000 population (2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 209

Death rate:

4.1 deaths/1,000 population (2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 210

Net migration rate:

3.4 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 33

Urbanization:

urban population: 100% of total population (2011)

rate of urbanization: 2.01% annual rate of change (2010-15 est.)

Sex ratio:

at birth: 1.05 male(s)/female

0-14 years: 1.1 male(s)/female

15-24 years: 1.08 male(s)/female

25-54 years: 0.81 male(s)/female

55-64 years: 0.91 male(s)/female

65 years and over: 0.88 male(s)/female

total population: 0.91 male(s)/female (2014 est.)

Infant mortality rate:

total: 3.13 deaths/1,000 live births

country comparison to the world: 216

male: 3.29 deaths/1,000 live births

female: 2.97 deaths/1,000 live births (2014 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 84.48 years

country comparison to the world: 2

male: 81.52 years

female: 87.59 years (2014 est.)

Total fertility rate:

0.93 children born/woman (2014 est.)

country comparison to the world: 223

HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:

NA

HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS:

NA

HIV/AIDS - deaths:

NA

Education expenditures:

2.7% of GDP (2011)

country comparison to the world: 148

Literacy:

definition: age 15 and over can read and write

total population: 95.6%

male: 97.8%

female: 93.7% (2011 est.)

School life expectancy (primary to tertiary education):

total: 14 years

male: 15 years

female: 14 years (2008)

Unemployment, youth ages 15-24:

total: 5.8%

country comparison to the world: 134

male: 7%

female: 4.7% (2011)

Government :: Macau

Country name:

conventional long form: Macau Special Administrative Region

conventional short form: Macau

official long form: Aomen Tebie Xingzhengqu (Chinese); Regiao Administrativa Especial de Macau (Portuguese)

official short form: Aomen (Chinese); Macau (Portuguese)

Dependency status:

special administrative region of the People's Republic of China

Government type:

limited democracy

Administrative divisions:

none (special administrative region of the People's Republic of China)

Independence:

none (special administrative region of China)

National holiday:

National Day (Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China), 1 October (1949); note - 20 December 1999 is celebrated as Macau Special Administrative Region Establishment Day

Constitution:

previous 1976 (Organic Statute of Macau, by Portugal); latest adopted 31 March 1993, effective 20 December 1999 (Basic Law of the Macau Special Administrative Region, by the People's Republic of China, serves as Macau's constitution) (2013)

Legal system:

civil law system based on the Portuguese model

Suffrage:

18 years of age in direct elections for some legislative positions, universal for permanent residents living in Macau for the past seven years; note - indirect elections are limited to organizations registered as "corporate voters" (973 were registered in the 2009 legislative elections) and a 400-member Election Committee for the Chief Executive (CE) drawn from broad regional groupings, municipal organizations, central government bodies, and elected Macau officials

Executive branch:

chief of state: President of China XI Jinping (since 14 March 2013)

head of government: Chief Executive Fernando CHUI Sai On (since 20 December 2009)

cabinet: Executive Council consists of 1 government secretary, 3 legislators, 4 businessmen, 2 pro-Beijing unionists, and 1 professional

(For more information visit the [World Leaders website](#).)

elections: chief executive chosen by a 400-member Election Committee for a five-year term (current chief executive is eligible for a second term); election last held on 26 July 2009 (next to be held in August 2014)

note: the Legislative Assembly voted in August 2012 to expand the electoral committee from 300 to 400 seats for the 2014 election.

election results: Fernando CHUI Sai On elected in 2009 with 282 votes, took office on 20 December 2009

Legislative branch:

unicameral Legislative Assembly (33 seats; 14 geographical constituency seats elected by popular vote, 12 functional constituency seats elected by indirect vote, and 7 seats appointed by the chief executive; members serve four-year terms)

elections: last held on 15 September 2013 (next to be held in September 2017)

election results: percent of vote - ACUM 18.0%, UMG 11.1%, UPP 10.8%, NE 9.0%, NUDM 8.9%, UPD 8.2%, APMD 7.5%, ANMD 6.0%, APM 6.0%, others 14.5%; seats by political group - ACUM 3, UMG 2, UPP 2, NE 2, NUDM 1, UPD 1, APMD 1, ANMD 1, APM 1; 12 seats filled by professional and business groups; 7 members appointed by the chief executive

Judicial branch:

highest court(s): Court of Final Appeal of Macau Special Administrative Region (consists of the court president and 2 associate justices)

judge selection and term of office: justices appointed by the Macau chief executive upon the recommendation of an independent commission of judges, lawyers, and "eminent" persons; judge tenure NA

subordinate courts: Court of Second Instance; Court of First instance; Lower Court; Administrative Court

Political parties and leaders:

Alliance for Change or APM [Melinda CHAN Mei-yi]

Macau-Guangdong Union or UMG [MAK Soi-kun]

New Democratic Macau Association or ANMD (an electoral list of New Macau Association [Jason CHAO Teng-hei])

New Hope or NE [Jose Maria Pereira COUTINHO]

New Macau Association or AMN [Jason CHAO Teng-hei]

New Union for Macau's Development or NUDM [Angela LEONG On-kei]

Prosperous Democratic Macau Association or APMD (an electoral list of New Macau Association [Jason CHAO Teng-hei])

Union for Development or UPD [KWAN Tsui-hang]

Union for Promoting Progress or UPP [HO Ion-sang]

United Citizens Association of Macau or ACUM [CHAN Meng-kam]

note: there is no political party ordinance, so there are no registered political parties; politically active groups register as societies or companies

Political pressure groups and leaders:

Civic Power [Agnes LAM lok-fong]
Democratic Action [LEE Kin-yun]
Bar-Bending Workers' Association [WONG Wai-Man]
Macau New Chinese Youth Association [LEONG Sin-man]
Macau Worker's Union [HO Heng-kuok]
New Macau Association [Antonio NG Kuok-cheong]
Workers' Self-Help Union [CHEONG Weng-fat]

International organization participation:

ICC (national committees), IHO, IMF, IMO (associate), Interpol (subbureau), ISO (correspondent), UNESCO (associate), UNWTO (associate), UPU, WCO, WTO

Diplomatic representation in the US:

none (Special Administrative Region of China)

Diplomatic representation from the US:

the US has no offices in Macau; US Consulate General in Hong Kong, currently Consul General Clifford A. HART Jr., is accredited to Macau

Flag description:

green with a lotus flower above a stylized bridge and water in white, beneath an arc of five gold, five-pointed stars: one large in the center of the arc and two smaller on either side; the lotus is the floral emblem of Macau, the three petals represent the peninsula and two islands that make up Macau; the five stars echo those on the flag of China

National symbol(s):

lotus blossom

National anthem:

note: as a Special Administrative Region of China, "Yiyongjun Jinxingqu" is the official anthem (see China)

Economy :: Macau

Economy - overview:

Since opening up its locally-controlled casino industry to foreign competition in 2001, Macau has attracted tens of billions of dollars in foreign investment, transforming the territory into one of the world's largest gaming centers. Macau's gaming and tourism businesses were fueled by China's decision to relax travel restrictions on Chinese citizens wishing to visit Macau. - In 2013, Macau's gaming-related taxes accounted for more than 85% of total government revenue. Macau's economy slowed dramatically in 2009 as a result of the global economic slowdown, but strong growth resumed in 2010-13, largely on the back of tourism from mainland China and the gaming sectors. In 2013, this city of 607,500 hosted nearly 29.3 million visitors. Almost 64% came from mainland China. Macau's traditional manufacturing industry has slowed greatly since the termination of the Multi-Fiber Agreement in 2005. China is Macau's second largest goods export market, behind Hong Kong, and followed by the United States. In 2013, exports were US\$1.1 billion, while gaming receipts were US\$45.2 billion, an 18.6% increase over 2012. Macau's economy expanded by 11.9% in 2013; although impressive, it was a slower growth rate than in previous years. Macau continues to face the challenges of managing its growing casino industry, money-laundering, and the need to diversify the economy away from heavy dependence on gaming revenues. Macau's currency, the pataca, is closely tied to the Hong Kong dollar, which is also freely accepted in the territory.

GDP (purchasing power parity):

\$47.19 billion (2011 est.)

country comparison to the world: 99

\$42.9 billion (2011 est.)

\$39 billion (2010 est.)

note: data are in 2013 US dollars

GDP (official exchange rate):

\$44.3 billion (2012 est.)

GDP - real growth rate:

10% (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 7

20.7% (2012 est.)

27% (2010 est.)

GDP - per capita (PPP):

\$82,400 (2011 est.)

country comparison to the world: 4

\$75,500 (2010 est.)

\$69,700 (2009 est.)

GDP - composition, by end use:

household consumption: 19.2%

government consumption: 6.3%

investment in fixed capital: 13.3%

investment in inventories: 0%

exports of goods and services: 107.5%

imports of goods and services: -46.4%
(2013 est.)

GDP - composition, by sector of origin:

agriculture: 0%

industry: 6.5%

services: 93.5% (2013 est.)

Agriculture - products:

only 2% of land area is cultivated, mainly by vegetable growers; fishing, mostly for crustaceans, is important; some of the catch is exported to Hong Kong

Industries:

tourism, gambling, clothing, textiles, electronics, footwear, toys

Industrial production growth rate:

13.5% (2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 4

Labor force:

364,300 (2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 160

Labor force - by occupation:

manufacturing: 3%

construction: 6.6%

transport and communications: 4.3%

wholesale and retail trade: 12.7%

restaurants and hotels: 15.5%

gambling: 15.1%

public sector: 7.1%

financial services: 2.2%

other services: 33.5% (2012 est.)

Unemployment rate:

1.9% (2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 10

2% (2012 est.)

Population below poverty line:

NA%

Household income or consumption by percentage share:

lowest 10%: NA%

highest 10%: NA%

Budget:

revenues: \$18.5 billion

expenditures: \$4.975 billion (2013 est.)

Taxes and other revenues:

41.8% of GDP (2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 31

Budget surplus (+) or deficit (-):

30.5% of GDP (2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 1

Fiscal year:

calendar year

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

5.4% (2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 161

6.1% (2012 est.)

Commercial bank prime lending rate:

5.3% (31 December 2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 154

5.25% (31 December 2012 est.)

Stock of narrow money:

\$8.263 billion (31 December 2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 86

\$5.862 billion (31 December 2012 est.)

Stock of broad money:

\$57.9 billion (31 December 2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 67

\$46.93 billion (31 December 2012 est.)

Stock of domestic credit:

-\$6.513 billion (31 December 2013 est.)

country comparison to the world: 189

-\$5.689 billion (31 December 2012 est.)

Market value of publicly traded shares:

\$85.5 billion (2 March 2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 51

\$46.1 billion (31 February 2011)

\$2.3 billion (31 December 2008 est.)

Current account balance:

\$17.01 billion (2011 est.)

country comparison to the world: 17

\$12.06 billion (2010 est.)

Exports:

\$1.02 billion (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 159

\$871 million (2011 est.)

note: includes reexports

Exports - commodities:

clothing, textiles, footwear, toys, electronics, machinery and parts

Exports - partners:

Hong Kong 50.3%, China 16.8%, US 6.2% (2012)

Imports:

\$8.866 billion (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 107

\$7.786 billion (2011 est.)

Imports - commodities:

raw materials and semi-manufactured goods, consumer goods (foodstuffs, beverages, tobacco, garments and footwear, motor vehicles), capital goods, mineral fuels and oils

Imports - partners:

China 32.2%, Hong Kong 11.6%, France 8.8%, Switzerland 8.6%, Italy 7.5%, Japan 5.9%, US 5.2% (2012)

Reserves of foreign exchange and gold:

\$16.6 billion (31 December 2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 65

\$34.03 billion (31 December 2011 est.)

note: the Fiscal Reserves Act that came into force on 1 January 2012 requires the fiscal reserve to be separated from the foreign exchange reserves and to be managed separately; the transfer of assets took place in February 2012

Debt - external:

\$0 (2012)

country comparison to the world: 205

Stock of direct foreign investment - at home:

\$14.9 billion (2010 est.)

country comparison to the world: 81

\$13.6 billion (#REF! est.)

Stock of direct foreign investment - abroad:

\$672.1 million (2011 est.)

country comparison to the world: 79

\$550.6 million (2010)

Exchange rates:

patacas (MOP) per US dollar -

8 (2013 est.)

7.9899 (2012 est.)

8.0022 (2010 est.)

7.983 (2008)

8.011 (2007)

Energy :: Macau

Electricity - production:

561 million kWh (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 160

Electricity - consumption:

4.214 billion kWh (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 121

Electricity - exports:

0 kWh (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 162

Electricity - imports:

3.86 billion kWh (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 42

Electricity - installed generating capacity:

472,000 kW (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 141

Electricity - from fossil fuels:

100% of total installed capacity (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 22

Electricity - from nuclear fuels:

0% of total installed capacity (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 131

Electricity - from hydroelectric plants:

0% of total installed capacity (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 181

Electricity - from other renewable sources:

0% of total installed capacity (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 197

Crude oil - production:

0 bbl/day (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 191

Crude oil - exports:

0 bbl/day (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 147

Crude oil - imports:

0 bbl/day (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 86

Crude oil - proved reserves:

0 bbl (1 January 2013 es)

country comparison to the world: 159

Refined petroleum products - production:

0 bbl/day (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 168

Refined petroleum products - consumption:

7,522 bbl/day (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 160

Refined petroleum products - exports:

0 bbl/day (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 193

Refined petroleum products - imports:

5,948 bbl/day (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 144

Natural gas - production:

0 cu m (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 159

Natural gas - consumption:

0 cu m (2012)

country comparison to the world: 166

Natural gas - exports:

0 cu m (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 140

Natural gas - imports:

0 cu m (2012 est.)

country comparison to the world: 91

Natural gas - proved reserves:

0 cu m (1 January 2013 es)

country comparison to the world: 163

Carbon dioxide emissions from consumption of energy:

1.805 million Mt (2011 est.)

country comparison to the world: 150

Communications :: Macau

Telephones - main lines in use:

162,500 (2012)

country comparison to the world: 132

Telephones - mobile cellular:

1.613 million (2012)

country comparison to the world: 150

Telephone system:

general assessment: fairly modern communication facilities maintained for domestic and international services

domestic: termination of monopoly over mobile-cellular telephone services in 2001 spurred sharp increase in subscriptions with mobile-cellular teledensity exceeding 200 per 100 persons; fixed-line subscribership appears to have peaked and is now in decline

international: country code - 853; landing point for the SEA-ME-WE-3 submarine cable network that provides links to Asia, the Middle East, and Europe; HF radiotelephone communication facility; satellite earth station - 1 Intelsat (Indian Ocean) (2011)

Broadcast media:

local government dominates broadcast media; 2 television stations operated by the government with one broadcasting in Portuguese and the other in Cantonese and Mandarin; 1 cable TV and 4 satellite TV services available; 3 radio stations broadcasting, of which 2 are government-operated (2012)

Internet country code:

.mo

Internet hosts:

327 (2012)

country comparison to the world: 189

Internet users:

270,200 (2009)

country comparison to the world: 134

Transportation :: Macau

Airports:

1 (2013)

country comparison to the world: 224

Airports - with paved runways:

total: 1

over 3,047 m: 1 (2013)

Heliports:

2 (2013)

Roadways:

total: 413 km

country comparison to the world: 199

paved: 413 km (2009)

Ports and terminals:

major seaport(s): Macau

Military :: Macau

Military branches:

no regular indigenous military forces

Manpower available for military service:

males age 16-49: 150,780 (2010 est.)

Manpower fit for military service:

males age 16-49: 124,189

females age 16-49: 149,514 (2010 est.)

Manpower reaching militarily significant age annually:

male: 4,274

female: 3,674 (2010 est.)

Military - note:

defense is the responsibility of China

Transnational Issues :: Macau

Disputes - international:

none

Illicit drugs:

transshipment point for drugs going into mainland China; consumer of opiates and amphetamines