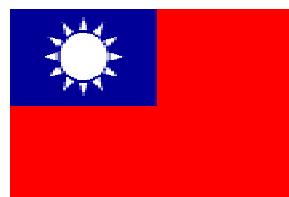


# Taiwan



## 1. General Information

Population <sup>*1</sup>	22,140,000
Population density <sup>*1</sup> [km <sup>2</sup> ]	615
Languages <sup>*1</sup>	Mandarin Chinese (official), Taiwanese (Min), Hakka dialects
Ethnic Groups <sup>*1</sup>	Taiwanese (including Hakka) 84%, mainland Chinese 14%, aborigine 2%
Climate <sup>*1</sup>	tropical; marine; rainy season during southwest monsoon (June to August); cloudiness is persistent and extensive all year
Land Area <sup>*1</sup> [km <sup>2</sup> ]	36,000

### Comments for General information <sup>\*1</sup>

In 1895, military defeat forced China to cede Taiwan to Japan, however it reverted to Chinese control after World War II. Following the communist victory on the mainland in 1949, 2 million Nationalists fled to Taiwan and established a government using the 1947 constitution drawn up for all of China. Over the next five decades, the ruling authorities gradually democratized and incorporated the native population within its governing structure. Throughout this period, the island has prospered to become one of East Asia's economic "Tigers." The dominant political issue continues to be the relationship between Taiwan and China and the question of eventual reunification.

## 2. Economy

GDP <sup>*1</sup> [US\$]	386 billion (2000 est.)
GDP-per capita <sup>*1</sup> [US\$]	17,400 (2000 est.)
Imports <sup>*1</sup> [US\$]	140.01 billion (c.i.f., 2000)

	machinery and electrical equipment 51%, minerals, precision instruments	
Exports <sup>*1</sup> [US\$]	148.38 billion (f.o.b., 2000)	
	machinery and electrical equipment 51%, metals, textiles, plastics, chemicals	
Composition of Industry <sup>*1</sup> (Ratio to GDP)	Agriculture & Fishery [%]	3 (1999)
	Industry [%]	33 (1999)
	Service [%]	64 (1999)

#### Comments for Economy <sup>\*1</sup>

Taiwan has a dynamic capitalist economy with gradually decreasing guidance of investment and foreign trade by government authorities. In keeping with this trend, some large government-owned banks and industrial firms are being privatized. Real growth in GDP has averaged about 8% during the past three decades. Exports have grown even faster and have provided the primary impetus for industrialization. Inflation and unemployment are low; the trade surplus is substantial; and foreign reserves are the world's fourth largest. Agriculture contributes 3% to GDP, down from 35% in 1952. Traditional labor-intensive industries are steadily being moved offshore and replaced with more capital- and technology-intensive industries. Taiwan has become a major investor in China, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Vietnam. The tightening of labor markets has led to an influx of foreign workers, both legal and illegal. Because of its conservative financial approach and its entrepreneurial strengths, Taiwan suffered little compared with many of its neighbors from the Asian financial crisis in 1998-99. Growth in 2001 will depend largely on conditions in Taiwan's export markets and may be about 5%.

### 3. Energy

Electricity <sup>*1</sup>	Electricity production [kWh]		139.676 billion
	Electricity consumption [kWh]		129.899 billion
	Electricity - production by source		Fossil fuel: 67.26%; hydro: 6.32%; nuclear: 26.42%; other: 0%
Energy Resources <sup>*2</sup>	Production	Oil	50,000(ton)
		Coal	NA
		Gas	NA
	Consumption	Oil	2.25 million (ton)
		Coal	44.9 million (ton)
		Gas	NA

#### Comments for Energy

The electric power plant is being managed by the Taiwanese electric power company of the government possession, and there is an enterprise which privately generates electricity, too. Oil is

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imported from the Middle East, Indonesia, Brunei, and Venezuela. As for the development of the river, it was strongly promoted for irrigation, the flood prevention, and power generation, and the geothermal power generation was researched from the latter half of 1970's to 1980's positively.

Introduction of renewal energy use

#### 4. Water

Precipitation <sup>*3</sup>		2,510 mm	
Internal renewable Water Resources		NA	
Population with Access to Improved Water Supply		NA	
Total Water Withdraw	NA	Industry [%]	NA
		Domestic [%]	NA
		Agriculture [%]	NA

Comments for Water

#### 5. Environment and Population

CO <sub>2</sub> Emission <sup>*4</sup>	Total metric tons	112.8 million (1990)
	Metric tons per capita	5.09 (1990)

Comments for Environment <sup>\*1</sup>

The comments for environment are the following:

- Air pollution
- Water pollution from industrial emissions, raw sewage
- Contamination of drinking water supplies
- Trade in endangered species
- Low-level radioactive waste disposal

#### References

\*1 <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook>

\*2 <http://www.eia.doe.gov>

\*3 Encyclopedia of World Geography

\*4 <http://www.netplus.ne.jp/>

Information