

The UN Matters

Country profile: **BRAZIL**

Name	Brazil
Capital city	Brasilia
Government	
• Head of State/govt.	– President Dilma Rousseff was elected in October 2010, serving the first of two potential 4-year terms
• Type	– Federal republic
Languages	Portuguese (official and most widely spoken language), alongside a large number of Amerindian languages and Spanish, German, Italian, Japanese and English
Religions	Roman Catholic 73.6%, Protestant 15.4%, Spiritualist 1.3%, traditional beliefs 0.3%, other 1.8%, unspecified 0.2%, none 7.4% (2000 est.)
Ethnic groups	White 53.7%, mixed white and black 38.5%, black 6.2%, other (incl. Japanese, Arab, Amerindian) 0.9%, unspecified 0.7% (2000 est.)
Population	
• Total	– 203 million – 5th most populous country (2011 est.)
• Birth rate	– 17.79 (per 1,000)
• Death rate	– 6.36 (per 1,000)
• Net migration	– -0.09 (per 1,000)
• Below the poverty line	– 26% (2008 est.)
Economy	
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	– \$2.172 trillion (2010 est.)
• GDP per capita	– \$10,800 (2010 est.)
• Economy	– Largest economy in South America and an emerging market
• Unemployment	– 6.7% (2010 est.)
• National debt	– 54.7% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	
• Life expectancy	– 73.5 years (2011 est.)
• Literacy rate	– 88.6% (2004 est.)
• Infant mortality	– 21.17 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	
• Electricity	– 10th largest producer/consumer in the world
• Oil	– 9th largest producer/7th largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas	– 37th largest producer/30th largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear	– 15.61% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **BRAZIL**

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$33.5 billion (1.6% of GDP in 2009)
 - Number of troops – 327,710
 - Nuclear weapons – None. Since 1969, Latin American and the Caribbean has been a nuclear-weapons-free zone
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Official Development Assistance

- Received \$338 million (equal to just under 0.02% of GDP) in 2009 and gave \$362 million (equal to just over 0.02% of GDP) in 2009
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Human rights

- ✓ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
 - ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
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UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Brazilian contribution towards this budget is set at 1.6% for 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. Brazil contributes 0.322% of this budget and 2,493 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012). Historically, Brazil has been one of the biggest troop contributors, participating in 33 missions with 27,000 troops
 - Brazil has just completed a two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.
 - Member of the General Assembly
 - Member of the Human Rights Council (elected)
 - Member of the G20, G77 and the Organization of American States
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The UN Matters

Country profile: **BRAZIL**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

For peacekeeping contributions, additional deductions are made to poor countries, and the five permanent members of the Security Council are asked to pay more, to reflect their role in authorising missions. The top five contributors are: US (27.1%), Japan (12.5%), UK (8.146%) Germany (8.01%) and France (7.5%).

Further reading

Starting points

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- The CIA World Factbook: www.cia.gov/index.html
- BBC News Country Profiles: http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/country_profiles/default.stm

Country data

- Human rights treaty signatories: www.ohchr.org
- UN Data: <http://data.un.org/>
- UN Human Development Index: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/>
- UN Millennium Development Goals: www.un.org/millenniumgoals
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- Global Policy Forum: www.globalpolicy.org
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute: www.sipri.org
- The Economist – world in figures: www.economist.com
- Global Humanitarian Assistance: www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org
- UNA-UK website: www.una.org.uk
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Resources

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **CHINA**

Name	People's Republic of China
Capital city	Beijing
Government <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of State/govt.• Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– President Hu Jintao has been head of state since March 2003 and General Secretary of the Communist Party of China since 2002. He is currently serving the second of two 5-year terms. A new President is due to be elected in 2012.– Single-party state
Languages	Mandarin 70% of population. Many other languages, including Putonghua (Beijing dialect), Yue (Cantonese), Wu (Shanghainese), Minbei (Fuzhou), Minnan (Hokkien-Taiwanese), Xiang, Gan, Hakka dialects, etc.
Religions	Buddhist or Daoist (estimates range from 50% to 80% but hard to determine due to historical lack of organised religion), Christian 3%-4%, Muslim 1%-2% and others
Ethnic groups	Han Chinese 91.5% and several others, including Zhuang, Manchu, Hui, Miao, Uighur, Tujia, Yi, Mongol, Tibetan, Buyi, Dong, Yao, Korean and others
Population <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total• Birth rate• Death rate• Net migration• Below the poverty line	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– 1.336 billion (2011 est.) – most populous in the world– 12.29 (per 1,000)– 7.03 (per 1,000)– -0.33 (per 1,000)– 2.8% (2007 est.)
Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)• GDP per capita• Economy• Unemployment• National debt	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– \$10.09 trillion (2010 est.)– \$7,600 (2010 est.)– 2nd largest economy in the world and world's largest exporter– 6.1 % (2009 est.)– 16.3% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life expectancy• Literacy rate• Infant mortality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– 73.5 years– 92.2% (2008 est.)– 16.06 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electricity• Oil• Natural gas• Alternative/nuclear	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– 2nd largest producer/consumer in the world– 4th largest producer and 3rd largest consumer in the world– 8th largest producer and 5th largest consumer in the world– 3.65% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **CHINA**

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$119 billion (2.2% of GDP)
- Number of troops – 2.28 million (ranked 1st in the world)
- Nuclear weapons – 240 (China is one of the five internationally-recognised nuclear powers. The others are: France, Russia, UK and US)

Official Development Assistance

- Received \$1.1 billion (equal to 0.02% of GDP) in 2009 and gave \$2 billion (equal to 0.04% of GDP) in 2009. China gives a lot of loans and investment to African countries.

Human rights

- ✗ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- ✗ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (signed not ratified)
- ✓ UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. China contributed 3.189% of the budget in 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84bn. China contributes 3.933% of this budget and 1924 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
 - Permanent member of the UN Security Council. This means that China plays a key role in: setting up peacekeeping missions, selecting the UN Secretary-General, and endorsing applications for membership of the UN
 - Member of the G20 and G77
 - Member of the General Assembly
 - Human Rights Council (elected)
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The UN Matters

Country profile: **CHINA**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **EGYPT**

Name	Arab Republic of Egypt
Capital city	Cairo
Government	
• Head of State/govt.	– In February 2011, Hosni Mubarak resigned as President following popular protests against his regime. Since then, the armed forces have controlled the country although parliamentary elections have taken place. Protests and unrest continue
• Type	– Egypt has a two-chamber parliament which held its first meeting since the resignation of Mubarak
Languages	Arabic, English and French widely understood by educated classes
Religions	Muslim (mostly Sunni) 90%, Coptic 9%, other Christian 1%
Ethnic groups	Arab 99.6%, other 0.4% (2006 est.)
Population	
• Total	– 82 million (2011 est.)
• Birth rate	– 24.63 (per 1,000)
• Death rate	– 4.82 (per 1,000)
• Net migration	– -0.21 (per 1,000)
• Below the poverty line	– 20% (2005 est.)
Economy	
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	– \$497.8 billion (2010 est.)
• GDP per capita	– \$6,200 (2010 est.)
• Economy	– Market economy
• Unemployment	– 9% (2010 est.)
• National debt	– 81.4% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	
• Life expectancy	– 73.2 years
• Literacy rate	– 71.4% (2005 est.)
• Infant mortality	– 25.2 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	
• Electricity	– 28th largest producer/29th largest consumer in the world
• Oil	– 29th largest producer/25th largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas	– 13th largest producer/18th largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear	– 1.67% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)
Military/defence	
• Annual military spending	– \$4.29 billion (2.1% of GDP in 2009)
• Number of troops	– 468,500 (ranked 10th in the world)
• Nuclear weapons	– None. Since 2009, Africa has been a nuclear-weapons-free zone.
Official Development Assistance	– Received \$925 million (2009) – equivalent to 0.002% of GDP

The UN Matters

Country profile: **EGYPT**

Human rights

- ✗ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- ✓ UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Egyptian contribution is set at 0.094% for 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84bn. Egypt contributes 0.01887% of this budget and 4083 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012). It has generally been in the top 10 of troop contributors
 - Member of the General Assembly
 - Member of the G77 and Non Aligned Movement
 - Founder member of the Arab League
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The UN Matters

Country profile: **EGYPT**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **FRANCE**

Name	Republic of France
Capital city	Paris
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of State/govt. – President François Hollande• Type – Republic
Languages	French 100%, several rapidly declining regional dialects/languages (Provençal, Breton, Alsatian, Corsican, Catalan, Basque and Flemish)
Religions	Roman Catholic 83%-88%, Muslim 5%-10%, Protestant 2%, Jewish 1%, unaffiliated 4%
Ethnic groups	It is illegal in France to collect data on ethnicity and race, but groups broadly include: Celtic and Mediterranean, with German, Slavic, North African, Indochinese and Basque minorities
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total – 65 million (2011 est.)• Birth rate – 12.29 (per 1,000)• Death rate – 8.76 (per 1,000)• Net migration – 1.46 (per 1,000)• Below the poverty line – 6.2% (2004 est.)
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – \$2.145 trillion (2010 est.)• GDP per capita – \$33,100 (2010 est.)• Economy – Market economy• Unemployment – 9.3% (2010 est.)• National debt – 82.4% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Life expectancy – 81.5 years (2011 est.)Literacy rate – 99% (2003 est.)Infant mortality – 3.29 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electricity – 9th largest producer/consumer in the world• Oil – 52nd largest producer/13th largest consumer in the world• Natural gas – 64th largest producer/16th largest consumer in the world• Alternative/nuclear – 43.9% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)
Military/defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual military spending – \$59.3 billion (2.5% of GDP in 2009)• Number of troops – 352,771• Nuclear weapons – 300 (France is one of the five internationally-recognised nuclear powers. The others are: China, Russia, UK and US)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **FRANCE**

Official Development Assistance – Gave 0.5% of its GDP in 2010

Human rights

- ✓ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
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 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. France contributed 6.1% of the budget in 2011
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84bn. France contributes 7.5% of this budget and 1391 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
 - Permanent member of the UN Security Council. This means that France plays a key role in: setting up peacekeeping missions, selecting the UN Secretary-General, and endorsing applications for membership of the UN
 - Member of the General Assembly
 - Member of European Union and Euro zone
 - Member of G8 and G20
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The UN Matters

Country profile: **FRANCE**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

For peacekeeping contributions, additional deductions are made to poor countries, and the five permanent members of the Security Council are asked to pay more, to reflect their role in authorising missions. The top five contributors are: US (27.1%), Japan (12.5%), UK (8.146%) Germany (8.01%) and France (7.5%).

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **INDIA**

Name	Republic of India
Capital city	New Delhi
Government	
• Head of State/govt.	– President Pratibha Patil is head of state – she was elected in 2007 and is serving the first of two potential 5-year terms; (election scheduled for July 2012). In practice most powers are held by a Council of Ministers, which is headed by the Prime Minister – normally the leader of the victorious political party. The current Prime Minister is Manmohan Singh, leader of the Congress Party and first non-Hindu to occupy the office. He is a Sikh and has been in post since May 2004
• Type	– The world's most populous democracy is a parliamentary republic which consists of many states, like the US.
Languages	Hindi 41%, Bengali 8.1%, Telugu 7.2%, Marathi 7%, Tamil 5.9%, Urdu 5%, Gujarati 4.5%, Kannada 3.7%, Malayalam 3.2%, Oriya 3.2%, Punjabi 2.8%, Assamese 1.3%, Maithili 1.2%, other 5.9%. English has the status of 'subsidiary official language'
Religions	Hindu 80.5%, Muslim 13.4%, Christian 2.3%, Sikh 1.9%, other 1.8%, unspecified 0.1% (2001 est.)
Ethnic groups	Indo-Aryan 72%, Dravidian 25% and other 3% (2000 est.)
Population	
• Total	– 1.189 billion (2011 est.) – ranked 2nd in the world
• Birth rate	– 20.97 (per 1,000)
• Death rate	– 7.48 (per 1,000)
• Net migration	– -0.05% (per 1,000)
• Below the poverty line	– 25% (2007 est.)
Economy	
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	– \$4.06 trillion (2010 est.)
• GDP per capita	– \$3,500 (2010 est.)
• Economy	– Emerging market
• Unemployment	– 10% (2010 est.)
• National debt	– 50.6% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	
• Life expectancy	– 65.4 years (2011 est.)
• Literacy rate	– 61% (2001 est.)
• Infant mortality	– 47.57 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	
• Electricity	– 6th largest producer/consumer in the world
• Oil	– 24th largest producer/5th largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas	– 18th largest producer/12th largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear	– 2.34% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **INDIA**

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$41.2 billion (2.8% of GDP in 2009)
 - Number of troops – 1.3 million (ranked 3rd in the world)
 - Nuclear weapons – 80-100 (India is not one of the internationally-recognised nuclear powers but its weapons are now generally accepted, except by its neighbour Pakistan)
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Official Development Assistance

- Received \$2.5 billion (equal to 0.18% of GDP) in 2009 and gave \$517 million (equal to 0.04% of GDP) in 2009
-

Human rights

- Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
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 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
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 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Indian contribution is set at 0.534% for 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. India contributes 0.1% of this budget and 8,115 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012). Historically, India has been one of the largest troop contributors, participating in 40 missions with nearly 100,000 troops
 - India is currently serving the second year of a two-year elected term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council
 - Member of the General Assembly and Human Rights Council (elected)
 - Member of the G20 and G77
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **INDIA**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **IRAN**

Name	Islamic Republic of Iran
Capital city	Tehran
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of State/govt. – Ali Khamenei, Supreme Leader of Iran since 1989, is head of state. The Leader is elected by the Assembly of Experts – a body consisting of 86 Islamic scholars. His predecessor served until death. The President of Iran is elected by popular vote. The position has far fewer powers than the Supreme Leader. The current President is Mahmoud Ahmedinejad (since 2005), now serving the second of two 5-year terms• Type – Islamic Republic with an elected Parliament. Acts of Parliament must be approved by Islamic law experts. Sharia law is observed
Languages	Persian 53%, Azeri Turkic and Turkic dialects 18%, Kurdish 10%, Gilaki and Mazandarani 7%, Luri 6%, Balochi 2%, Arabic 2%, other 2% (2008 est.)
Religions	Muslim 98% (Shia 89%, Sunni 9%), others include Baha'i, Christian, Jewish, Hindu and Zoroastrian
Ethnic groups	Persian 61%, Azeri 16%, Kurd 10%, Lur 6%, Arab 2%, Baloch 2%, Turkmen and Turkic tribes 2%
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total – 77 million (2011 est.)• Birth rate – 18.55 (per 1,000)• Death rate – 5.94 (per 1,000)• Net migration – -0.13 (per 1,000)• Below the poverty line – 18% (2007 est.)
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – \$818.7 billion (2010 est.)• GDP per capita – \$10,600 (2010 est.)• Economy – Significant level of government regulation• Unemployment – 13.2% (2010 est.)• National debt – 16.3% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life expectancy – 73 years (2011 est.)• Literacy rate – 77% (2002 est.)• Infant mortality – 42.26 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **IRAN**

Energy and resources

- Electricity – 19th largest producer/18th largest consumer in the world
 - Oil – 5th largest producer/14th largest consumer in the world
 - Natural gas – 5th largest producer/14th largest consumer in the world
 - Alternative/nuclear – 2% hydro. Until 2011, none from nuclear energy. In late 2011, the Bushehr nuclear power plant was connected to the power grid.
-

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$7 billion (ranked 25th in the world, 1.8% of GDP in 2008)
 - Number of troops – 523,000 (ranked 9th in the world)
 - Nuclear weapons – Iran's nuclear programme has been the source of much international tension as other countries suspect it is developing nuclear weapons. Iran denies this.
-

Official Development Assistance

- Received \$93 million in 2009
-

Human rights

- ✗ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - ✗ UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
 - ✗ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Iranian contribution towards this budget is set at 0.23% for 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. Iran contributes 0.046% of this budget and two out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
 - Member of the General Assembly
 - Member of G77 and Non-Aligned Movement
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **IRAN**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

For peacekeeping contributions, additional deductions are made to poor countries, and the five permanent members of the Security Council are asked to pay more, to reflect their role in authorising missions. The top five contributors are: US (27.1%), Japan (12.5%), UK (8.146%) Germany (8.01%) and France (7.5%).

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- UN Millennium Development Goals: www.un.org/millenniumgoals
- UN Peacekeeping: www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/
- The World Bank: www.worldbank.org/
- Global Policy Forum: www.globalpolicy.org
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute: www.sipri.org
- The Economist – world in figures: www.economist.com
- Global Humanitarian Assistance: www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org
- UNA-UK website: www.una.org.uk
- Issues of New World magazine: www.una.org.uk/new_world
- Other UNA-UK publications: <http://una.org.uk/reports.html>

Resources

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- The Human Rights Council: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/

The UN Matters

Country profile: **ISRAEL**

Name	State of Israel
Capital city	Jerusalem
Government	
• Head of State/govt.	– The President of Israel is head of state, a largely ceremonial role with power resting with the Prime Minister (Shimon Peres has been President since 15 July 2007). The President can serve a single 7-year term and is elected by the Israeli Parliament, the Knesset. After conferring with party leaders, the President nominates an MP to become prime minister. The current Prime Minister is Binyamin Netanyahu, who took office in March 2009. He is leader of the Likud Party and has previously served as prime minister (1996-9).
• Type	– Parliamentary democracy. Elections are held every four years
Languages	Hebrew, Arabic, English (most common foreign language)
Religions	Jewish 75.6%, Muslim 16.9%, Christian 2%, Druze 1.7%, other 3.8%
Ethnic groups	Jewish 76.4% (Israel-born 67.1%, Europe/America-born 22.6%, Africa-born 5.9%, Asia-born 4.2%), non-Jewish 23.6% (mostly Arab)
Population	
• Total	– 7 million (2010 est.)
• Birth rate	– 19.24 (per 1,000)
• Death rate	– 5.47 (per 1,000)
• Net migration	– 2.08 (per 1,000)
• Below the poverty line	– 23.6% (2007 est.)
Economy	
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	– \$219.4 billion (2010 est.)
• GDP per capita	– \$29,800 (2010 est.)
• Economy	– Technologically-advanced market economy
• Unemployment	– 6.7% (2010 est.)
• National debt	– 74.6% (2010 est.)
Human development	
• Life expectancy	– 81.6 years (2011 est.)
• Literacy rate	– 97.1% (2004 est.)
• Infant mortality	– 4.12 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	
• Electricity	– 46th largest producer/48th largest consumer in the world
• Oil	– 97th largest producer/52nd largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas	– 60th largest producer/69th largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear	– 4.84% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **ISRAEL**

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$14 billion (6.3% of GDP in 2009)
 - Number of troops – 176,500 (3rd largest troop numbers per capita)
 - Nuclear weapons – Israel is widely believed to have some 80 nuclear warheads, but it has never officially said this is the case
-

Official Development Assistance

- Gives \$139.22 million in aid and receives approximately \$2-3 billion a year in military and economic aid from the US
-

Human rights

- ✗ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
 - ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - ✗ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (signed but not implemented)
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Israeli contribution towards this budget is set at 0.384% for 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. Israel contributes 0.384% of this budget and zero out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
 - Three UN peacekeeping missions operate in or around Israel: since 1948, peacekeepers have been stationed in the region following hostilities after the creation of the state of Israel; since 1974, peacekeepers have also maintained the ceasefire between Israel and Syria; and since 1978, peacekeepers have monitored Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon
 - Israel is part of the Western European & Others regional group, after its membership of the Asia-Pacific group was blocked by Arab countries
 - It has never been elected to the UN Security Council or the Human Rights Council, both of which have been accused of bias for and against the country
 - Member of the General Assembly
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **ISRAEL**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

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- The Human Rights Council: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/

The UN Matters

Country profile: **JAPAN**

Name	Japan
Capital city	Tokyo
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of State/govt. – Emperor Akihito is the ceremonial head of state. The government is led by Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, who has been in office since September 2011 (the position has a renewable 4-year term). The Prime Minister is appointed by the Emperor after being chosen by the Parliament from its membership• Type – Parliamentary multi-party democracy
Languages	More than 99% of the population speaks Japanese
Religions	Shintoism 83.9%, Buddhism 71.4%, Christianity 2%, other 7.8% (total exceeds 100% because many people are both Shinto and Buddhist)
Ethnic groups	Japanese 98.5%, Koreans 0.5%, Chinese 0.4%, other 0.6%
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total – 126 million (2011 est.)• Birth rate – 7.31 (per 1,000)• Death rate – 10.09 (per 1,000)• Net migration – 0 (per 1,000)• Below the poverty line – 15.7% (2007 est.)
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – \$4.31 trillion (2010 est.)• GDP per capita – \$34,000 (2010 est.)• Economy – Third largest economy in the world• Unemployment – 5% (2010 est.)• National debt – 199.7% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life expectancy – 83.4 years (2011 est.)• Literacy rate – 99% (2002 est.)• Infant mortality – 2.78 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electricity – 4th largest producer/consumer in the world• Oil – 48th largest producer/4th largest consumer in the world• Natural gas – 53rd largest producer/6th largest consumer in the world• Alternative/nuclear – 17.59% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Following the 2011 Fukushima nuclear plant disaster, Japan announced that it would review its nuclear policy

The UN Matters

Country profile: **JAPAN**

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$54 billion (1% of GDP in 2009)
 - Number of troops – 230,300
 - Nuclear weapons – None. The only state to have suffered a nuclear attack, Japan has a strict non-nuclear weapons policy
-

- Official Development Assistance** – Gave 0.2% of GDP in 2010
-

Human rights

- ✓ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
 - ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (signed but not implemented)
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Japanese contribution towards this budget is set at 12.5% for 2012. It is the second-largest contributor after the US
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. Japan contributes 12.53% of this budget (again, it is the second-largest contributor after the US) and 260 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
 - Member of the General Assembly
 - Member of the G8 and G20
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: JAPAN

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

For peacekeeping contributions, additional deductions are made to poor countries, and the five permanent members of the Security Council are asked to pay more, to reflect their role in authorising missions. The top five contributors are: US (27.1%), Japan (12.5%), UK (8.146%) Germany (8.01%) and France (7.5%).

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- Other UNA-UK publications: <http://una.org.uk/reports.html>

Resources

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- The Human Rights Council: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/

The UN Matters

Country profile: **NIGERIA**

Name	Federal Republic of Nigeria
Capital city	Abuja
Government	
• Head of State/govt.	– The President is head of state and government. The current President is Goodluck Jonathan, a member of the ruling People's Democratic Party. He was declared winner of an election held in 2011 which triggered violence over alleged vote rigging. He is currently serving the first of two potential four-year terms
• Type	– Federal Republic
Languages	English (official), Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo (Ibo), Fulani, over 500 additional languages
Religions	Muslim 50% (mostly Sunni but significant Shia and Sufi minorities), Christian 40% (15% Protestant, 13% Catholic and 19% other), Hindu, Jewish, Baha'i and indigenous beliefs 10%
Ethnic groups	Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, is composed of more than 250 ethnic groups; the following are the most populous and politically influential: Hausa and Fulani 29%, Yoruba 21%, Igbo (Ibo) 18%, Ijaw 10%, Kanuri 4%, Ibibio 3.5%, Tiv 2.5%
Population	
• Total	– 155 million (2011 est., Africa's largest, 8th largest globally)
• Birth rate	– 35.51 (per 1,000)
• Death rate	– 16.06 (per 1,000)
• Net migration	– -0.1 (per 1,000)
• Below the poverty line	– 70% (2007 est.)
Economy	
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	– \$377.9 billion (2010 est.)
• GDP per capita	– \$2,500 (2010 est.)
• Economy	– Oil-rich export-based economy
• Unemployment	– 4.9% (2007 est.)
• National debt	– 17.8% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	
• Life expectancy	– 51.9 years (2011 est.)
• Literacy rate	– 68% (2003 est.)
• Infant mortality	– 91.54 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	
• Electricity	– 70th largest producer/72nd largest consumer in the world
• Oil	– 10th largest producer/47th largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas	– 28th largest producer/52nd largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear	– 0.35% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **NIGERIA**

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$1.9 billion (0.9% of GDP in 2009)
- Number of troops – 80,000
- Nuclear weapons – None. Since 2009, Africa has been a nuclear-weapons-free zone

Official Development Assistance

- Received \$1.68 billion in 2009. Nigeria also gives aid to poorer countries in Africa

Human rights

- ✓ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Nigerian contribution towards this budget is set at 0.078% for 2012. The UN headquarters in Abuja was bombed in August 2011. Militant group Boko Haram claimed responsibility
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. Nigeria contributes 0.015% of this budget and 5,749 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012).
 - Nigeria completed a two-year elected term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council in 2011.
 - Member of the General Assembly
 - Member of the Human Rights Council (elected)
 - Member of the G77 and Non-Aligned Movement
 - Member of the African Union
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **NIGERIA**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **PAKISTAN**

Name	Islamic Republic of Pakistan
Capital city	Islamabad
Government	
• Head of State/govt.	– The President of Pakistan is the ceremonial head of state, with powers resting with the Prime Minister (normally leader of the largest party in Parliament). The current President, Asif Ali Zardari, and Prime Minister, Yousuf Gilani, both belong to the centre-left Pakistan People's Party
• Type	– Federal republic
Languages	Punjabi 48%, Sindhi 12%, Saraiki (a Punjabi variant) 10%, Pashtu 8%, Urdu (official) 8%, Balochi 3%, Hindko 2%, Brahui 1%, English (official), Burushaski, and other 8%
Religions	Muslim 95% (Sunni 75%, Shia 20%), other (incl. Christian and Hindu) 5%
Ethnic groups	Punjabi 44.68%, Pashtun 15.42%, Sindhi 14.1%, Saraiki 8.38%, Muhajirs 7.57%, Balochi 3.57%, other 6.28%
Population	
• Total	– 187 million (2011 est.)
• Birth rate	– 24.81 (per 1,000)
• Death rate	– 6.92(per 1,000)
• Net migration	– -2.17 (per 1,000)
• Below the poverty line	– 24% (2005-6 est.)
Economy	
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	– \$464.9 billion (2010 est.)
• GDP per capita	– \$2,500 (2010 est.)
• Economy	– Market economy
• Unemployment	– 15.4% (2010 est.)
• National debt	– 50.6% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	
• Life expectancy	– 64.5 years (2011 est.)
• Literacy rate	– 49.9% (2005 est.)
• Infant mortality	– 63.26 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	
• Electricity	– 34th largest producer/38th largest consumer in the world
• Oil	– 56th largest producer/34th largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas	– 23rd largest producer/24th largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear	– 3.71% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **PAKISTAN**

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$5.6 billion (2.8% of GDP in 2009)
- Number of troops – 617,000 (ranked 8th in the world)
- Nuclear weapons – 90-110 (Pakistan is not an internationally-recognised nuclear power and although many countries now accept its weapons, there are still fears about the safety of its programme)

Official Development Assistance

- Received \$2.8 billion in 2009 (sixth largest recipient of official humanitarian aid)

Human rights

- ✗ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- ✓ UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (reservations relating to compatibility with Pakistani law)
- ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Pakistani contribution is set at 0.082% for 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. Pakistan contributes 0.016% of this budget and 9,416 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012). Historically, Pakistan has been one of the largest troop contributors to UN peacekeeping, participating in 38 missions over the past 50 years
 - The UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan was established to monitor a ceasefire in Jammu and Kashmir and has maintained a presence in the region since 1971. There are currently 39 troops stationed there.
 - Pakistan is currently serving the second year of a two-year elected term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.
 - Member of General Assembly
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **PAKISTAN**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

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- Other UNA-UK publications: <http://una.org.uk/reports.html>

Resources

- UN website: www.un.org
- The Security Council: www.un.org/sc
- Economic and Social Council: www.un.org/ecosoc
- The Human Rights Council: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/

The UN Matters

Country profile: **RUSSIA**

Name	The Russian Federation
Capital city	Moscow
Government	
• Head of State/govt.	– Vladimir Putin was elected in March 2012 to serve a 6-year term as President. He had previously served four years as Prime Minister, and was president before that. Protests broke out during the recent elections over fears of electoral fraud
• Type	– Federation with a two-chamber Parliament
Languages	Russian (official), numerous minority languages
Religions	Russian Orthodox 15-20%, Muslim 10-15%, other Christian 2% (2006 est.)
Ethnic groups	Russian 79.8%, Tartar 3.8%, Ukrainian 2%, Bashkir 1.2%, Chuvash 1.1%, other or unspecified 12.1% (2002 est.)
Population	
• Total	– 138 million (2011 est.)
• Birth rate	– 11.05 (per 1,000)
• Death rate	– 16.04 (per 1,000)
• Net migration	– 0.29 (per 1,000)
• Below the poverty line	– 13.1% (2009 est.)
Economy	
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	– \$2.223 trillion (2010 est.)
• GDP per capita	– \$15,900 (2010 est.)
• Economy	– Russia has undergone significant changes since the collapse of the Soviet Union, moving towards a market economy
• Unemployment	– 7.5% (2010 est.)
• National debt	– 9% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	
• Life expectancy	– 68.8 years (2011 est.)
• Literacy rate	– 99.4% (2002 est.)
• Infant mortality	– 10.08 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	
• Electricity	– 5th largest producer/consumer in the world
• Oil	– 2nd largest producer/6th largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas	– 2nd largest producer/3rd largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear	– 9.01% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **RUSSIA**

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$58.6 billion (4.3% of GDP in 2009)
 - Number of troops – 1.02 million (ranked 5th in the world)
 - Nuclear weapons – 11,000 (Russia is one of the five internationally-recognised nuclear powers. The others are: China, France, the UK and the US)
-

Official Development Assistance – Spent \$32 million and received \$9.1 million (2009 est.)

Human rights

- ✗ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court (signed but not implemented)
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
 - ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (signed but not implemented)
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. Russia's contribution is set at 1.6% of the budget in 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. Russia contributes 1.97% of this budget and 210 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
 - Permanent member of the UN Security Council. This means that Russia plays a key role in: setting up peacekeeping missions, selecting the UN Secretary-General, and endorsing applications for membership of the UN
 - Member of the General Assembly and Human Rights Council (elected)
 - Member of G8 and G20
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **RUSSIA**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

For peacekeeping contributions, additional deductions are made to poor countries, and the five permanent members of the Security Council are asked to pay more, to reflect their role in authorising missions. The top five contributors are: US (27.1%), Japan (12.5%), UK (8.146%) Germany (8.01%) and France (7.5%).

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- UN Peacekeeping: www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/
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- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute: www.sipri.org
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The UN Matters

Country profile: **SOUTH AFRICA**

Name	South Africa
Capital cities	Pretoria (administrative capital), Cape Town (legislative capital), Bloemfontein (judicial capital)
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of State/govt. – The President of South Africa is the head of state and government. The president is elected by members of the Parliament and is usually the leader of the party that gains the most seats (which has been the African National Congress since the end of the Apartheid regime in 1994). The current president is Jacob Zuma, who was elected in May 2009• Type – Republic
Languages	IsiZulu 23.82%, IsiXhosa 17.64%, Afrikaans 13.3%, Sepedi 9.39%, English 8.2%, Setswana 8.2%, Sesotho 7.93%, Xitsonga 4.44%, siSwati 2.66%, Tshivenda 2.28%, isiNdebele 1.59%, other 0.5%
Religions	Protestant 36.6% (Zionist Christian 11.1%, Pentecostal/Charismatic 8.2%, Methodist 6.8%, Dutch Reformed 6.7%, Anglican 3.8%), other Christian (non-Catholic) 36%, Catholic 7.1%, Muslim 1.5%, Hindu 1.3%, other 2.3% and unspecified 1.4%. 15.1% claim no religious affiliation (2001 est.)
Ethnic groups	Black African 79%, white 9.6%, coloured 8.9% (term is still used to describe people of mixed origin), Indian/Asian (including Chinese South Africans) 2.5% (2001 est.)
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total – 49 million (2011 est.)• Birth rate – 19.48 (per 1,000)• Death rate – 17.09 (per 1,000)• Net migration – -6.19 (per 1,000)• Below the poverty line – 50% (2000 est.)
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – \$524 billion (2010 est.)• GDP per capita – \$10,700 (2010 est.)• Economy – South Africa is a resource-rich, emerging economy• Unemployment – 24.9% (2010 est.)• National debt – 33.4% (2010 est.)
Human development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life expectancy – 52.8 years (2011 est.)• Literacy rate – 86.4% (2003 est.)• Infant mortality – 43.3 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **SOUTH AFRICA**

Energy and resources

- Electricity – 16th largest producer/17th largest consumer in the world
 - Oil – 42nd largest producer/32nd largest consumer in the world
 - Natural gas – 57th largest producer/58th largest consumer in the world
 - Alternative/nuclear – 2.44% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)
-

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$4.5 billion (1.3% of GDP in 2009)
 - Number of troops – 62,082
 - Nuclear weapons – None. During the 1960s to 1980s, South Africa developed a nuclear programme but dismantled its weapons in the 1990s – the first state to voluntarily do so. Since 2009 the African continent has been a nuclear-weapons-free zone
-

Official Development Assistance

- Received \$1.07 billion and gave \$112 million in 2009
-

Human rights

- ✓ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 - ✗ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (signed but not implemented)
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
 - ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The South African contribution is set at 0.385% for 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. South Africa contributes 0.077% of this budget and 2,067 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012).
 - South Africa is currently serving the 2nd year of a 2-year elected term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council.
 - Member of the General Assembly. In 1974 the General Assembly suspended South Africa from participating in its work, due to international opposition to Apartheid. South Africa was re-admitted to the UN in 1994 following its transition to democracy
 - Member of the G20, G77 and Non Aligned Movement
 - Member of the African Union
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **SOUTH AFRICA**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

For peacekeeping contributions, additional deductions are made to poor countries, and the five permanent members of the Security Council are asked to pay more, to reflect their role in authorising missions. The top five contributors are: US (27.1%), Japan (12.5%), UK (8.146%) Germany (8.01%) and France (7.5%).

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **TURKEY**

Name	Republic of Turkey
Capital city	Ankara
Government	
• Head of State/govt.	– President Abdullah Gül was elected head of state in August 2007. A largely ceremonial role, it is Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan who is head of government. First elected in March 2003, he has been re-elected twice and can serve an unlimited number of 4-year terms
• Type	– Parliamentary republic and multiparty democracy
Languages	– Turkish (official), Kurdish, other minority languages
Major religions	– Muslim 99.8% (mostly Sunni), other 0.2% (mostly Christians & Jews)
Ethnic groups	– Turkish 70-75%, Kurdish 18%, other minorities 7-12% (2008 est.)
Population	
• Total	– 78 million (2011 est.)
• Birth rate	– 17.93 (per 1,000)
• Death rate	– 6.1 (per 1,000)
• Net migration	– 0.51 (per 1,000)
• Below the poverty line	– 17.11% (2008 est.)
Economy	
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	– \$960.5 billion (2010 est.)
• GDP per capita	– \$12,300 (2010 est.)
• Economy	– Emerging economy
• Unemployment	– 12% (2010 est.)
• National debt	– 43% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	
• Life expectancy	– 74 years (2011 est.0)
• Literacy rate	– 87.4% (2004 est.0)
• Infant mortality	– 23.94 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)
Energy and resources	
• Electricity	– 21st largest producer/21st largest consumer in the world
• Oil	– 60th largest producer/27th largest consumer in the world
• Natural gas	– 66th largest producer/25th largest consumer in the world
• Alternative/nuclear	– 5.40% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)
Military/defence	
• Annual military spending	– \$17.5 billion (2.7 % of GDP in 2009)
• Number of troops	– 620,000 (ranked 7th in the world).
• Nuclear weapons	– None

The UN Matters

Country profile: **TURKEY**

Official Development Assistance – Received \$1.36 billion (equal to 0.21% of GDP) in 2009 and gave \$707 million (equal to 0.1% of GDP) in 2009

Human rights

- ✗ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- ✓ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The Turkish contribution towards this budget is set at 0.617% for 2012
- The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. Turkey contributes 0.123% of this budget and 505 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
- Turkey last served an elected two-year term on the UN Security Council in 2009-10
- Member of the General Assembly
- Member of the G20
- European Union candidate since 1999

The UN Matters

Country profile: **TURKEY**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

For peacekeeping contributions, additional deductions are made to poor countries, and the five permanent members of the Security Council are asked to pay more, to reflect their role in authorising missions. The top five contributors are: US (27.1%), Japan (12.5%), UK (8.146%) Germany (8.01%) and France (7.5%).

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **UNITED KINGDOM**

Name	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Capital city	London
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of State/govt. – HM Queen Elizabeth II is the British head of state and head of the Commonwealth of Nations. The head of government is Prime Minister David Cameron, who was elected in May 2010 and leads a Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition government• Type – Constitutional monarchy with a dual-chamber Parliament consisting of the elected House of Commons (650 MPs) and the House of Lords (currently 788 Peers)
Languages	English 95%, and recognised regional languages (Ulster Scots, Scottish Gaelic, Welsh, Irish and Cornish)
Religions	Christian (Anglican, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist) 71.6%, Muslim 2.7%, Hindu 1%, other 1.6%, unspecified or none 23.1%
Ethnic groups	White 92.1%, black 2%, Indian 1.8%, Pakistani 1.3%, mixed 1.2%, other 1.6% (2001 est.)
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total – 62 million (2011 est.)• Birth rate – 12.29 (per 1,000)• Death rate – 9.33 (per 1,000)• Net migration – 2.6 (per 1,000)• Below the poverty line – 14% (2006 est.)
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – \$2.173 trillion (2010 est.)• GDP per capita – \$34,800 (2010 est.)• Economy – Third largest economy in Europe• Unemployment – 7.8% (2010 est.)• National debt – 76.1% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life expectancy – 80.2 years (2011 est.)• Literacy rate – 99% (2003 est.)• Infant mortality – 4.62 (per 1,000, 2011 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **UNITED KINGDOM**

Energy and resources

- Electricity – 12th largest producer/consumer in the world
 - Oil – 21st largest producer/15th largest consumer in the world
 - Natural gas – 17th largest producer/8th largest consumer in the world
 - Alternative/nuclear – 9.82% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)
-

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$59 billion (2.7% of GDP in 2009)
 - Number of troops – 197,780
 - Nuclear weapons – 225 (the UK is one of the five internationally-recognised nuclear powers. The others are: China, France, Russia and US)
-

- Official Development Assistance** – Gave 0.57% of GDP in 2010
-

Human rights

- ✓ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
 - ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
 - ✓ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular two-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion. The UK contributed 6.6% of the budget in 2012
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. The UK contributes 8.146% of this budget and 279 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
 - Permanent member of the UN Security Council. This means the UK plays a key role in: setting up peacekeeping missions, selecting the UN Secretary-General, and endorsing applications for membership of the UN
 - Member of the General Assembly
 - Member of the European Union
 - Member of the G8 and G20
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **UNITED KINGDOM**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

UN member state contributions are divided into obligatory and voluntary payments. The former are based on a state's relative ability to pay, with poor countries paying significantly reduced rates. The US, which would pay for over 30% of the UN's core budget according to global income distribution, has negotiated a cap on its payments with the UN. It therefore is supposed to contribute 22% of the budget. Contributions by least-developed countries are capped at 0.01%. The top five contributors are: US (22%), Japan, (12.5%), Germany (8.01%), UK (6.6%) and France (6.1).

For peacekeeping contributions, additional deductions are made to poor countries, and the five permanent members of the Security Council are asked to pay more, to reflect their role in authorising missions. The top five contributors are: US (27.1%), Japan (12.5%), UK (8.146%) Germany (8.01%) and France (7.5%).

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The UN Matters

Country profile: **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Name	United States of America
Capital city	Washington D.C.
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head of State/govt. – President Barack Obama (since January 2009). Elections scheduled for November 2012• Type – Federal republic
Languages	English 82.1%, Spanish 10.7%, other Indo-European 3.8%, Asian and Pacific island 2.7%, other 0.7% (2000 est.)
Religions	Protestant 51.3%, Roman Catholic 23.9%, Mormon 1.7%, other Christian 1.6%, Jewish 1.7%, Buddhist 0.7%, Muslim 0.6%, other or unspecified 2.5%, unaffiliated 12.1%, none 4% (2007 est.)
Ethnic groups	White 79.96%, black 12.85%, Asian 4.43%, Amerindian and Alaska native 0.97%, native Hawaiian and other Pacific islander 0.18%, two or more races 1.61% (2007 est.) Note: the US Census Bureau considers 'Hispanic' to mean any person of Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin who may be of any race or ethnic group (white, black, Asian, etc.); about 15.1% of the total US population is Hispanic
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total – 313 million - ranked 3rd in the world• Birth rate – 13.83 (per 1,000)• Death rate – 8.38 (per 1,000)• Net migration – 4.18 (per 1,000)• Below the poverty line – 15.1% (2010 est.)
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – \$14.66 trillion (2010 est.)• GDP per capita – \$47,200 (2010 est.)• Economy – Largest economy in the world• Unemployment – 9.6% (2010 est.)• National debt – 62.9% of GDP (2010 est.)
Human development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life expectancy – 78.5 years (2011 est.)• Literacy rate – 99% (2009 est.)• Infant mortality – 8 (per 1,000, 2009 est.)

The UN Matters

Country profile: **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Energy and resources

- Electricity – Largest producer/consumer in the world
 - Oil – 3rd largest producer/largest consumer in the world
 - Natural gas – Largest producer/consumer in the world
 - Alternative/nuclear – 11.85% of total of energy usage (2009 est.)
-

Military/defence

- Annual military spending – \$698 billion – 43% of global total (4.7% of GDP in 2009)
 - Number of troops – 1.58 million (ranked 2nd in the world)
 - Nuclear weapons – 8,500 warheads – 41% of global total (the US is one of the five internationally-recognised nuclear powers. The others are: China, France, Russia and the UK)
-

- Official Development Assistance** – Gave 0.39% GDP in 2010
-

Human rights

- ✗ Rome Statute on the International Criminal Court
 - ✓ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
 - ✗ Intl Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (signed but not implemented)
 - ✓ Intl Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (signed but not implemented)
 - ✓ UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
 - ✗ UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (signed but not implemented)
 - ✗ UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (signed but not implemented)
 - ✗ Intl Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families
-

UN and other international relations

- The UN's regular 2-year budget is currently \$5.16 billion.
 - The US contribution is 22% (the US contribution is not based on GDP, which would increase the percentage, but is capped at 22%)
 - The UN's peacekeeping budget for July 2011 to June 2012 is \$7.84 billion. The US contributes 27.1% of this budget and 126 out of a total 98,639 uniformed personnel (January 2012)
 - Permanent member of the UN Security Council. This means the US plays a key role in: setting up peacekeeping missions, selecting the UN Secretary-General, and endorsing applications for membership of the UN
 - Member of the General Assembly and Human Rights Council (elected)
 - Member of the G8 and G20
-

The UN Matters

Country profile: **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Note on country contributions to the UN's budget

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- Global Policy Forum: www.globalpolicy.org
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute: www.sipri.org
- The Economist – world in figures: www.economist.com
- Global Humanitarian Assistance: www.globalhumanitarianassistance.org
- UNA-UK website: www.una.org.uk
- Issues of New World magazine: www.una.org.uk/new_world
- Other UNA-UK publications: <http://una.org.uk/reports.html>

Resources

- UN website: www.un.org
- The Security Council: www.un.org/sc
- Economic and Social Council: www.un.org/ecosoc
- The Human Rights Council: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/