

Gaza Strip



Full name: Gaza Strip

Location: Middle East, bordering the

Mediterranean Sea, between Egypt and Israel

Intended seat of government: East Jerusalem

Area: Palestinian Ministry of Information cites 365 sq km (141 sq miles) for Gaza; slightly more than twice the size of Washington, DC

Climate: temperate, mild winters, dry and warm to hot summers

Terrain: flat to rolling, sand- and dune-covered coastal plain

Natural Hazards: droughts

Population: 1,482,405; (3.8 million in the Palestinian territories) (UN, 2006)

Ethnicity: Palestinian Arab and other 99.4%, Jewish 0.6%

Major Language: Arabic

Religion: Muslim (predominantly Sunni) 98.7%, Christian 0.7%, Jewish 0.6%

Life expectancy: 71 years (men), 74 years (women) (UN)

Currency: 1 Jordan dinar = 1,000 fils, 1 new Israeli shekel (NIS) = 100 new agorot