

Sudan: administrative divisions and their centres (updated 2016)

This information paper lists the states of Sudan and their administrative centres as agreed between PCGN and the US BGN¹ in November 2016. It incorporates the two new states created in Darfur by means of a January 2012 decree; and includes the state of West Kordofan, which was reinstated in 2013, having been dissolved in 2005 (its area was subsumed into North Kordofan and South Kordofan). Sudan currently has 18 states at first-order administrative level (ADM1).

Although both Arabic and English are the official working languages of Sudan, PCGN policy is to use the official Roman-script or English language forms of toponyms. The spellings of Sudanese geographical names may not be consistent. BGN and PCGN take official spellings from the most authoritative source. This has entailed some changes to the recommended spellings provided in the 2011 version of this paper. Note the spellings Sennar and Ed Daein.

As stated in the 2011 version of this paper, the forms East Darfur, North Darfur, North Kordofan, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur and West Kordofan are now preferred, in accordance with the prevailing nomenclature used in official Sudanese English language sources. Although the English forms Eastern Darfur, Northern Darfur, Northern Kordofan, Southern Darfur, Southern Kordofan, Western Darfur and Western Kordofan are sometimes seen. The name Northern State remains unchanged.

| State name (ADM1) | Approximate centre | Administrative centre (PPLA) | Position of centre |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Blue Nile | 11° 09' N 034° 06' E | Ed Damazin | 11° 48' 05" N 034° 21' 24" E |
| Central Darfur | 12° 23' N 023° 18' E | Zalingei | 12° 54' 33" N 023° 28' 14" E |
| East Darfur | 11° 10' N 026° 30' E | Ed Daein ² | 11° 28' 02" N 026° 07' 54" E |
| Gedaref ³ | 14° 15' N 035° 15' E | Gedaref | 14° 02' 09" N 035° 23' 04" E |
| Gezira ⁴ | 14° 36' N 033° 21' E | Wad Medani | 14° 23' 32" N 033° 31' 41" E |
| Kassala | 15° 54' N 035° 39' E | Kassala | 15° 27' 31" N 036° 23' 23" E |
| Khartoum | 15° 48' N 033° 00' E | Khartoum | 15° 35' 17" N 032° 32' 03" E |
| Northern | 19° 18' N 029° 30' E | Dongola | 19° 10' 54" N 030° 28' 37" E |
| North Darfur | 16° 00' N 025° 30' E | El Fasher | 13° 36' 59" N 025° 21' 23" E |
| North Kordofan | 14° 41' N 029° 56' E | El Obeid | 13° 10' 55" N 030° 13' 19" E |
| Red Sea | 19° 58' N 035° 40' E | Port Sudan | 19° 36' 56" N 037° 12' 11" E |
| River Nile | 19° 00' N 033° 12' E | Ed Damer | 17° 35' 56" N 033° 58' 19" E |
| Sennar ⁵ | 13° 00' N 034° 00' E | Singa | 13° 08' 54" N 033° 55' 52" E |
| South Darfur | 11° 30' N 024° 40' E | Nyala | 12° 02' 56" N 024° 52' 50" E |
| South Kordofan | 11° 16' N 030° 50' E | Kadugli | 11° 00' 40" N 029° 43' 06" E |
| West Darfur | 13° 25' N 022° 40' E | El Geneina | 13° 26' 34" N 022° 26' 56" E |
| West Kordofan | 11° 50' N 028° 19' E | El Fula | 11° 42' 43" N 028° 20' 46" E |
| White Nile | 13° 30' N 032° 24' E | Rabak | 13° 11' 17" N 032° 44' 37" E |

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¹ United States Board on Geographic Names

² Previous recommended spelling: Ed Da'ain

³ The spellings Al Gedaref and El Gedaref may also be encountered for both the ADM1 and the PPLA.

⁴ The spellings Al Gazira, El Gazira, El Gezira and Al Jazira may be encountered.

⁵ Previously Sinnar