**CHECHEN REPUBLIC**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Chechnya, officially the Chechen Republic, is a federal subject (a republic) of Russia.

- **Capital:** Grozny
- **Language:** Russian, Chechen
- **Population:** 1,413,446 (April 2018 est.)
- **Ethnic groups:** Chechens 95.3%, Russians 1.9%, Kumyks 1%, Ingush 0.1%
- **Religion:** Muslim 95%, Russian Orthodox (2010 est.)

![Map of Chechnya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chechnya)

**EDUCATION**

According to the Russian law on education, the right to education is guaranteed to every person regardless of their place of residence.

In practice, according to an article in the online newspaper Meduza, schools tend to refuse children without the proper registration. This is not only a problem for children of migrants, but also for children of any Russian citizen who wants to send their children to a school which is not in the direct area of where they officially (temporarily or permanently) live.

Children who officially live close to a school are placed first. After that, other children who live somewhere else or who cannot show their registration can get a placement in this school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Level</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>e.g. child care / nursery school</td>
<td>0–3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.g. Kindergarten</td>
<td>3–6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary level</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>e.g. Elementary school</td>
<td>6–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Level</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>e.g. Middle School</td>
<td>10–15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.g. High School</td>
<td>15–18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.g. College, University, Professional School, etc.</td>
<td>From 18</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**HEALTH CARE and PENSION**

Health care:

According to the law, the state provides citizens with health care irrespective of their place of residence. Officially, health care is free for Russian citizens. All citizens have a compulsory medical insurance and in exchange they receive access to a range of medical care. Depending on the registered residential address, a certain clinic is assigned, which in turn will refer to connected institutions for specialist or other types of care.

In Russia, state-owned medical facilities give both free medical care and some fee-based care. Private hospitals are fee-based only. In addition to the compulsory insurance, which working and non-working Russians all are included in, Russians can choose to have a complementary insurance, which covers some fee-based treatment in some state hospitals. A lot of private hospitals accept private insurance.

**ECONOMY**

Chechnya is characterized by agriculture. About 70% of the Chechen population is engaged in agriculture. The agricultural area on the territory of the republic covers 1,200,000 hectares, during the Soviet Union 30–40% of the area was cultivated, today almost 80% is farmed. In the republic, for example, cereals, fruit and vegetables are cultivated and livestock are raised. As a result of the war, almost all agricultural products were imported until recently, but a large share has since been produced in Chechnya again.

Chechnya, however, is of greater economic importance, mainly because of its oil reserves of around 30 million tons. In the past tanks were built in the underground heavy machinery factory “Red Hammer” in Chechnya. In the Chechen wars since 1994 all enterprises of Chechnya were destroyed. Various food processing industries have been rebuilt in recent years.

In 2014, 82 percent of Chechnya’s national budget was financed from Russia.

**Current history:**

- Independence movement with the impending dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 was led by ex-Soviet Air Force general and new Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev. This movement was opposed by Boris Yeltsin’s Russian Federation. In the ensuing decade, the territory was locked in an ongoing struggle between various factions, usually fighting unconventionally and forging the position held by the several successive Russian governments through the current administration:
  - The First Chechen War took place from 1994 to 1996, when Russian forces attempted to regain control over Chechnya, which had declared independence in November 1991.
  - The War of Dagestan began on August 7, 1999, during which the Islamic International Brigade (IIPB) began an unsuccessful incursion into the neighboring Russian republic of Dagestan in favor of the Shura of Dagestan which sought independence from Russia. In September, a series of apartment bombs that killed around 300 people in several Russian cities, including Moscow, were blamed on the Chechen separatists. In response to the bombings, a prolonged air campaign of retaliatory strikes against the Ichkerian regime and a ground offensive that began in October 1999 marked the beginning of the Second Chechen War. Much better organized and planned than the first Chechen War, the Russian military took control over most regions. After the re-capture of Grozny in February 2000, the Ichkerian regime fell apart.

**SOURCES**