



# SURINAME



## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

President Desire Delano BOUTERSE

### Head of Government

President Desire Delano BOUTERSE

### Government Type

presidential republic

### Capital

Paramaribo

### Legislature

unicameral National Assembly or Nationale Assemblée (51 seats)

### Judiciary

High Court of Justice of Suriname (consists of the court president, vice president, and 4 judges); note - appeals beyond the High Court are referred to the Caribbean Court of Justice

### Ambassador to US

Ambassador Niermala Sakoentala  
BADRISING

### US Ambassador

Ambassador Edwin "Ned" Richard NOLAN, Jr.

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 163,820 sq km  
Land: 156,000 sq km  
Water: 7,820 sq km

### Climate

tropical; moderated by trade winds

### Natural Resources

timber, hydropower, fish, kaolin, shrimp, bauxite, gold, small amounts of nickel, copper, platinum, and iron ore

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

Suriname's economy is dominated by the mining industry, with exports of oil and gold accounting for approximately 85% of exports and 27% of government revenues; alumina exports ceased in 2015, putting severe pressure on Suriname's finances, and causing a significant depreciation of its currency

### GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$8.508 billion (2017 est.)

### GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$14,600 (2017 est.)

### Exports

\$1.976 billion (2017 est.)  
partners: Switzerland 38%, Hong Kong 21.9%, Belgium 10.1%, UAE 7.2%, Guyana 6.1% (2017)

### Imports

\$1.57 billion (2017 est.)  
partners: US 30.6%, Netherlands 14.8%, Trinidad and Tobago 11.4%, China 7.6% (2017)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

591,900 (July 2017 est.)

### Population Growth

1.02% (2017 est.)

### Ethnicity

Hindustani 27.4%, Maroon 21.7%, Creole 15.7%, Javanese 13.7%, mixed 13.4%, other 7.6%, unspecified 0.6% (2012 est.)

### Language

Dutch (official), English, Sranang Tongo, Caribbean Hindustani, Javanese

### Religion

Protestant 23.6%, Hindu 22.3%, Roman Catholic 21.6%, Muslim 13.8%, other Christian 3.2%, Winti 1.8%, Jehovah's Witness 1.2%, other 1.7%, none 7.5%, unspecified 3.2%

### Urbanization

urban population: 66.1% of total population (2018)  
rate of urbanization: 0.9% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

### Literacy

95.6% (2016 est.)

