



JAMAICA



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II
represented by Governor General Dr. Patrick L. ALLEN

Head of Government

President Andrew HOLNESS

Government Type

parliamentary democracy (Parliament) under a constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth realm

Capital

Kingston

Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (21 seats) and the House of Representatives (63 seats)

Judiciary

Court of Appeal (consists of president of the court and a minimum of 4 judges; Supreme Court (40 judges organized in specialized divisions); note - appeals beyond Jamaica's highest courts are referred to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (in London)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Audrey Patrice MARKS

US Ambassador

Ambassador (vacant); Charge d'Affaires Eric KHANT

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 10,991 sq km
Land: 10,831 sq km
Water: 160 sq km

Climate

tropical; hot, humid; temperate interior

Natural Resources

bauxite, gypsum, limestone

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

Jamaica derives 70% of its GDP from services, and most of its foreign exchange from tourism, remittances, and bauxite/ alumina exports; it has experienced slow growth due to corruption, red-tape, high debt, and a bloated public sector

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$26.06 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$9,200 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$1.296 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 39.1%, Netherlands 12.3%, Canada 8.4% (2017)

Imports

\$5.151 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 40.6%, Colombia 6.8%, Japan 5.8%, China 5.8%, Trinidad and Tobago 4.7 (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

2.8 million (July 2018 est.)

Population Growth

-0.05% (2018 est.)

Ethnicity

black 92.1%, mixed 6.1%, East Indian 0.8%, other 0.4%, unspecified 0.7% (2011 est.)

Language

English, English patois

Religion

Protestant 64.8%, Roman Catholic 2.2%, Jehovah's Witness 1.9%, Rastafarian 1.1%, other 6.5%, none 21.3%, unspecified 2.3% (2011 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 55.7% of total population (2018)
rate of urbanization: 0.82% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy

88.7% (2015 est.)

