DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Danilo MEDINA Sanchez
Head of Government
President Danilo MEDINA Sanchez
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
Santo Domingo
Legislature
bicameral National Congress or Congreso Nacional consists of the Senate or Senado (32 seats) and the House of Representatives or Camara de Diputados (190 seats)
Judiciary
Supreme Court of Justice or Suprema Corte de Justicia (consists of a minimum of 16 magistrates); Constitutional Court or Tribunal Constitucional (consists of 13 judges)
Ambassador to US
Ambassador Jose Tomas PEREZ Vazquez
US Ambassador
Ambassador Robin BERNESTEIN

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 48,670 sq km
Land: 48,320 sq km
Water: 350 sq km
Climate
tropical maritime; little seasonal temperature variation; seasonal variation in rainfall
Natural Resources
nickel, bauxite, gold, silver, arable land

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
for most of its history the Dominican Republic was primarily an exporter of sugar, coffee, and tobacco, but over the last two decades, the country has been one of the fastest growing economies in Latin America, as a result of the positive push from tourism, construction, and the Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$173 billion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$17,000 (2017 est.)
Exports
$10.12 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 50.3%, Haiti 9.1%, Canada 8.2%, India 5.6% (2017)
Imports
$17.7 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 41.4%, China 13.9%, Mexico 4.5%, Brazil 4.3% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
10.3 million (July 2018 est.)
Population Growth
0.99% (2018 est.)
Ethnicity
mixed 70.4% (mestizo/indio 58%, mulatto 12.4%), black 15.8%, white 13.5%, other 0.3%
note: the term "indio" in the Dominican Republic is not associated with people of indigenous ancestry but people of mixed ancestry or skin color between light and dark (2014 est.)
Language
Spanish (official)
Religion
Roman Catholic 95%, other 5%
Urbanization
urban population: 81.1% of total population (2018)
rate of urbanization: 2.06% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)
Literacy
93.8% (2016 est.)

as of February 2019