THE BAHAMAS

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
Queen ELIZABETH II represented by Governor General Cornelius A. SMITH
Head of Government
Prime Minister Hubert MINNIS
Government Type
parliamentary democracy (Parliament) under a constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth realm
Capital
Nassau
Legislature
bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (16 seats) and the House of Assembly (39 seats)
Judiciary
Court of Appeal (consists of the court president and 4 justices, organized in 3-member panels); Supreme Court (consists of the chief justice and a maximum of 11 and a minimum of 2 justices) note: the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (in London) serves as the final court of appeal for The Bahamas
Ambassador to US
Ambassador Sidney Stanley COLLIE
US Ambassador
Ambassador (vacant); Charge d’Affaires Stephanie BOWERS

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
tourism accounts for 50% and financial services 15% of the Bahamas’ GDP; public debt increased in 2017, in large part due to hurricane reconstruction and relief financing
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$12.06 billion (2017 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$32,400 (2017 est.)
Exports
$550 million (2017 est.)
partners: US 63.9%, Namibia 19.3% (2017)
Imports
$3.18 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 83.2% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
332,600 (July 2018 est.)
Population Growth
0.79% (2018 est.)
Ethnicity
black 90.6%, white 4.7%, black and white 2.1%, other 1.9%, unspecified 0.7% (2010 est.)
Language
English (official), Creole (among Haitian immigrants)
Religion
Protestant 69.9%, Roman Catholic 12%, other Christian 13%, other 0.6%, none 1.9%, unspecified 2.6% (2010 est.)
Urbanization
urban population: 83% of total population (2018)
rate of urbanization: 1.13% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

as of September 2019

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 13,880 sq km
Land: 10,010 sq km
Water: 3,870 sq km
Climate
tropical marine; moderated by warm waters of Gulf Stream
Natural Resources
salt, aragonite, timber, arable land

as of September 2019