

GUAM







Spain ceded Guam to the US in 1898. Captured by the Japanese in 1941, it was retaken by the US three years later. The military installations on the island are some of the most strategically important US bases in the Pacific, and they constitute the island's most important source of income and economic stability.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Joseph R. BIDEN Jr.

Head of Government

Governor Lourdes LEON GUERRERO

Government Type

organized unincorporated territory of the US with local self-government; republican form of government with separate executive, legislative, and judicial branches

Capital

Hagatna

Legislature

unicameral Legislature of Guam or Liheslaturan Guahan (15 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 544 sq km Land: 544 sq km Water: 0 sq km

Climate

tropical marine; generally warm and humid, moderated by northeast trade winds; dry season (January to June), rainy season (July to December); little seasonal temperature variation

Natural Resources

aquatic wildlife (supporting tourism), fishing (largely undeveloped)

as of October 2021

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

small Pacific island US territorial economy; upper income, tourism-based economy; hard-hit by COVID-19 disruptions; relaunched many industries via vaccination tourism; domestic economy relies on multiple military bases; environmentally fragile economy

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$5.793 billion (2016 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$35,600 (2016 est.)
Industries - defense, tourism, construction, transshipment services, concrete products, printing/publishing, food processing, textiles

Agricultural products - fruits, copra, vegetables, eggs, pork, poultry, beef

Exports \$1.124 billion (2016 est.)

scrap iron, electric batteries, gas turbines, scrap copper, beauty products (2019)

partners: South Korea 31%, Hong Kong 27%, Taiwan 18%, Philippines 7% (2019)

Imports \$2.964 billion (2016 est.)

refined petroleum, trunks/cases, cars, insulated wire, broadcasting equipment (2019)

partners: Singapore 33%, Japan 21%, South Korea 18%, Hong Kong 9%, Malaysia 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

168,800 (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

0.18% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Chamorro 37.3%, Filipino 26.3%, White 7.1%,

Population Pyramid

Guam (2021)

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Chuukese 7%, Korean 2.2%, other Pacific Islander 2%, other Asian 2%, Chinese 1.6%, Palauan 1.6%, Japanese 1.5%, Pohnpeian 1.4%, mixed 9.4%, other 0.6% (2010 est.)

Language

English 43.6%, Filipino 21.2%, Chamorro 17.8%, other Pacific island languages 10%, Asian languages 6.3%, other 1.1% (2010 est.)

Religion

Christian (predominantly Roman Catholic) 94.2%, folk religions 1.5%, Buddhist 1.1%, other 1.6%, unaffiliated 1.7% (2020 est.)