

SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS



INTRODUCTION

Carib Indians occupied the islands of the West Indies for hundreds of years before the British and French began settlement in 1623. At one time united with Anguilla, the islands achieved independence in 1983 as Saint Kitts and Nevis but remain a UK Commonwealth realm.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II
represented by Governor General Samuel W.T. SEATON

Head of Government

Prime Minister Timothy HARRIS

Government Type

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

Capital

Basseterre

Legislature

unicameral National Assembly (14 or 15 seats,
depending on inclusion of attorney general)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 261 sq km
Land: 261 sq km
Water: 0 sq km

Climate

tropical, tempered by constant sea breezes;
little seasonal temperature variation; rainy
season (May to November)

Natural Resources

arable land

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

high-income, tourism-based Caribbean island economy; better
debt balancing; CARICOM member; growing offshore financial
hub; environmentally fragile; unique citizenship-driven growth
model; increased telecommunications focus

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$1.24 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$23,300 (2020 est.)

Industries - tourism, cotton, salt, copra, clothing, footwear,
beverages

Agricultural products - coconuts, tropical fruit, roots/tubers nes,
vegetables, sweet potatoes, pulses nes, watermelons,
carrots/turnips, eggs, tomatoes

Exports \$57.4 million (2017 est.)

low-voltage protection equipment, broadcasting equipment,
measuring instruments, electric motor parts, electrical
transformers (2019)

partners: US 69%, Germany 8%, Italy 5% (2019)

Imports \$335.3 million (2017 est.)

refined petroleum, jewelry, ships, cars, poultry meats, cement
(2019)

partners: US 59%, Peru 6%, Germany 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

54,150 (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

0.64% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

African origin 92.5%,
mixed 3%, White 2.1%,
East Indian 1.5%, other 0.6%, unspecified 0.3% (2001 est.)

Language

English (official)

Religion

Protestant 75.6% (includes Anglican 16.6%, Methodist 15.8%,
Pentecostal 10.8%, Church of God 7.4%, Baptist 5.4%, Seventh
Day Adventist 5.4%, Wesleyan Holiness 5.3%, Moravian 4.8%,
Evangelical 2.1%, Brethren 1.7%, Presbyterian 0.3%), Roman
Catholic 5.9%, Hindu 1.8%, Jehovah's Witness 1.4%, Rastafarian
1.3%, other 5%, none 8.8%, unspecified 0.1% (2011 est.)

