INTRODUCTION
The Danes secured control over the southern Virgin Islands of Saint Thomas, Saint John, and Saint Croix during the 17th and early 18th centuries. In 1917, the US purchased the Danish holdings, which had been in economic decline.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Joseph R. BIDEN Jr.
Head of Government
Governor Albert BRYAN, Jr.
Government Type
unincorporated organized territory of the US with local self-government; republican form of territorial government with separate executive, legislative, and judicial branches
Capital
Charlotte Amalie
Legislature
unicameral Legislature of the Virgin Islands (15 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 1,910 sq km
Land: 346 sq km
Water: 1,564 sq km
Climate
subtropical, tempered by easterly trade winds, relatively low humidity, little seasonal temperature variation; rainy season September to November
Natural Resources
pleasant climate, beaches foster tourism

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
high-income, tourism-based American territorial economy; severe COVID-19 economic disruptions; major rum distillery; high public debt; sluggish reopening of large oil refinery; environmentally susceptible to hurricanes; many informal industries
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $3.872 billion (2016 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $37,000 (2016 est.)
Industries – tourism, watch assembly, rum distilling, construction, pharmaceuticals, electronics
Agricultural products – fruit, vegetables, sorghum; Senepol cattle
Exports $1.81 billion (2016 est.)
refined petroleum, jewelry, recreational boats, watches, rum (2019)
partners: Haiti 14%, Guadeloupe 7%, Malaysia 7%, Martinique 7%, Barbados 7%, British Virgin Islands 5% (2019)
Imports $2.49 billion (2016 est.)
refined petroleum, crude petroleum, rubber piping, jewelry, beer (2019)
partners: India 18%, Algeria 14%, South Korea 9%, Argentina 9%, Sweden 7%, Brazil 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
105,410 (2022 est.)
Population Growth
-0.45% (2022 est.)
Ethnicity
Black 76%, White 15.6%, Asian 1.4%, other 4.9%, mixed 2.1% (2010 est.)
Language
English 71.6%, Spanish or Spanish Creole 17.2%, French or French Creole 8.6%, other 2.5% (2010 est.)
Religion
Protestant 65.5%, Roman Catholic 27.1%, other Christians 2.2%, other 1.5%, none 3.7% (2010 est.)
Urbanization
urban population: 96.1% of total population (2022)
rate of urbanization: -0.11% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)
as of April 2022