

# ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA



## INTRODUCTION

The Siboney were the first people to inhabit the islands in 2400 B.C., but Arawak Indians populated the islands when COLUMBUS landed on his second voyage in 1493. The islands became an independent state within the British Commonwealth of Nations in 1981.

## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II  
represented by Governor General Rodney WILLIAMS

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Gaston BROWNE

### Government Type

parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth realm

### Capital

Saint John's

### Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (17 seats) and the House of Representatives (18 seats)

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 442.6 sq km  
Land: 442.6 sq km  
Water: 0 sq km

### Climate

tropical maritime; little seasonal temperature variation

### Natural Resources

negligible; pleasant climate fosters tourism

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

dual island-tourism and construction-driven economy; emerging "blue economy"; limited water supply and susceptibility to hurricanes limit activity; improving road infrastructure; friendly to foreign direct investment; looking at financial innovation in cryptocurrency and blockchain technologies

**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$1.76 billion (2020)

**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** \$18,000 (2020)

**Industries** - tourism, construction, light manufacturing (clothing, alcohol, household appliances)

**Agricultural products** - tropical fruit, milk, mangoes/guavas, melons, tomatoes, pineapples, lemons, limes, eggplants, onions

**Exports** \$86.7 million (2017 est.)

ships, refined petroleum, precious/semi-precious metal scraps, rice, corn (2019)

**partners:** Poland 37%, Suriname 33%, UAE 8% (2019)

**Imports** \$560 million (2017 est.)

refined petroleum, ships, cars, precious/semi-precious metals, recreational boats (2019)

**partners:** US 39%, Poland 16%, China 7% (2019)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

99,180 (July 2021 est.)

### Population Growth

1.17% (2021 est.)

### Ethnicity

African descent 87.3%, mixed 4.7%, Hispanic 2.7%, White 1.6%, other 2.7%, unspecified 0.9% (2011 est.)

### Language

English (official), Antiguan creole

### Religion

Protestant 68.3%, Roman Catholic 8.2%, other 12.2%, unspecified 5.5%, none 5.9% (2011 est.)

### Urbanization

urban population: 24.4% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 0.87% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

