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)

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.)

as of December 2021