

GUYANA









INTRODUCTION

Originally a Dutch colony in the 17th century, by 1815 Guyana had become a British possession. Guyana achieved independence from the UK in 1966, and since then has been ruled mostly by socialist-oriented governments. Guyana is the only English-speaking country in South America and shares cultural and historical bonds with the Anglophone Caribbean.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Mohammed Irfaan ALI

Head of Government

President Mohammed Irfaan ALI

Government Type

parliamentary republic

Capital

Georgetown

Legislature

unicameral National Assembly (65 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 214,969 sq km Land: 196,849 sq km Water: 18,120 sq km

Climate

tropical; hot, humid, moderated by northeast trade winds; two rainy seasons (May to August, November to January)

Natural Resources

bauxite, gold, diamonds, hardwood timber, shrimp, fish

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

small South American export economy; COVID-19 disruptions and commodity price drops; high emigration and remittances; widespread poverty; recently discovered oil and gas reserves; formalizing financial sector; large bauxite and gold resources

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$14.69 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$18,700 (2020 est.)
Industries - bauxite, sugar, rice milling, timber, textiles, gold mining Agricultural products - rice, sugarcane, coconuts, pumpkins, squash, gourds, milk, eggplants, green chillies/peppers, poultry
Exports \$1.439 billion (2017 est.)

ships, gold, shipping containers, excavation machinery, aluminum ores, rice (2019)

partners: Trinidad and Tobago 31%, Canada 11%, Portugal 11%, Ghana 8%, Norway 6%, UAE 5% (2019)

Imports \$1.626 billion (2017 est.)

ships, refined petroleum, excavation machinery, shipping containers, aircraft (2019)

partners: US 26%, Trinidad and Tobago 16%, Singapore 18%, Liberia 11%, China 5%, Norway 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

787,970 (July 2021 est.)

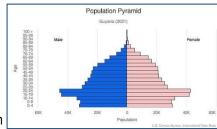
Population Growth

0.19% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

East Indian 39.8%, African

descent 29.3%, mixed 19.9%, Amerindian 10.5%, other 0.5% (2012 est.)



Language

English (official), Guyanese Creole, Amerindian languages, Indian languages, Chinese (2014 est.)

Religion

Protestant 34.8%, Hindu 24.8%, Roman Catholic 7.1%, Muslim 6.8%, Jehovah's Witness 1.3%, Rastafarian 0.5%, other Christian 20.8%, other 0.9%, none 3.1% (2012 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 26.9% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 1.01% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)