

SURINAME

Capital: Paramaribo

GEODATA

Area
163,265 km²

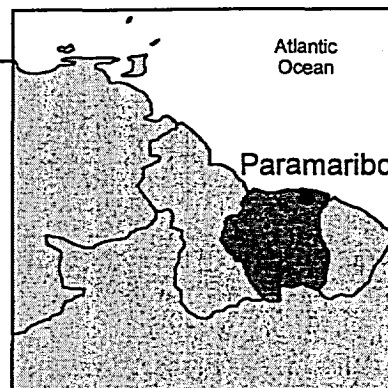
Major language
Dutch (official)

Major religious groups
Hindu (27.4%), Protestant (25.2%),
Roman Catholic (22.8%),
Muslim (19.6%)

Surrounding countries
Brazil, Guyana, French Guiana (France)

Population
431,300 (1999 est.)

Population growth rate
0.3% (1990–1999 average)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government
Republic

National legislature
Single chamber: National Assembly; multiparty

Leader
President Runaldo Ronald Venetiaan

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Maria Levens

Minister of Trade and Industry
Jacques Tjong Tjin Joe

UN Human Development Index (2000)
Suriname ranks 67th among 174 countries

Canadian official development assistance
\$240,000 (1998–1999)

ECONOMIC DATA

Real GDP
\$909.6 million US (1999 est.)

GDP growth rate
-0.8% (1999)

GDP per capita
\$848 US (1999 est.)

Main exports
Alumina, aluminum, crude oil, lumber, shrimp and fish, rice, bananas

Main imports
Capital equipment, petroleum, foodstuffs, cotton, consumer goods

Main exports to Canada
\$54.6 million (2000), including precious stones and metals; fish and seafood; electrical machinery; fruit and nuts; spices; coffee and tea; live animals; optical and medical instruments; wood; leather articles, saddlery and travel goods; toys and sports equipment; knit apparel

Main imports from Canada
\$5.8 million (2000), including electrical machinery; machinery; meat; vegetables; dairy products; eggs; honey; books, newspapers and manuscripts; preserved food; wood; fish and seafood

Canadian Representative

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