

REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA

Capital: San José

GEODATA

Area

51,100 km²

Population

3.23 million (1994)

Population growth

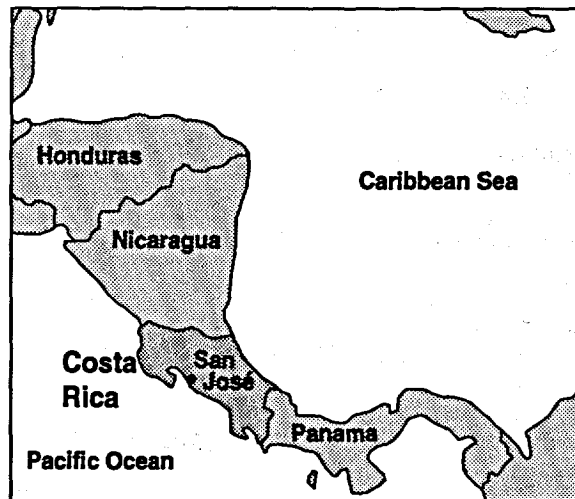
2.5% (1994)

Major languages

Spanish (official), English

Major religion

Roman Catholic (95%)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

Head of state and of government

President José María Figueres Olsen

Minister of Foreign Relations

Fernando Naranjo Villalobos

Democratic institutions

Unicameral legislative assembly

UN Human Development Index

Costa Rica ranks 28th among 174 countries

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE

Ambassador Dan Goodleaf

The Canadian Embassy

Oficentro Ejecutivo La Sabana, Edificio 5, Piso 3

(Apartado Postal 351-1007, Centro Colón)

San José, Costa Rica

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ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$8.2 billion US (1994)

GDP growth rate

4.5% (1994)

GDP per capita

\$2,538 US (1994)

Inflation rate

12% (1994)

Unemployment rate

4.5% (1994 est.)

Main exports

Coffee, bananas, textiles, sugar

Main imports

Raw materials, consumer goods, capital equipment, petroleum

Main exports to Canada

\$163.1 million (1995), including bananas and other fresh fruit, coffee, gold and clothing

Main imports from Canada

\$44.7 million (1995), including wheat and flour, fertilizers, plastics, railway ties and paper products

Canadian overseas development assistance

\$4.78 million (1994-95)

May 1996