

# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Capital: Santo Domingo

## GEODATA

### Area

48,734 km<sup>2</sup>

### Population

8.5 million (2000 est.)

### Major language

Spanish (official)

### Population growth rate

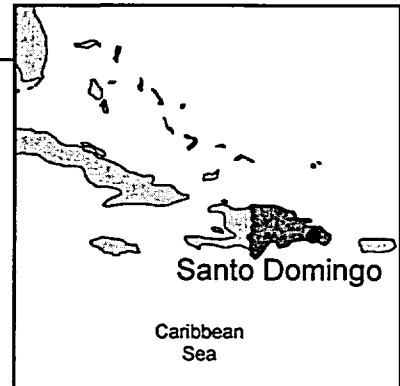
1.64% (2000 est.)

### Major religious group

Roman Catholic (95%)

### Surrounding countries

Haiti, Puerto Rico (U.S.)



## POLITICAL DATA

### Type of government

Republic

### Minister of Industry and Commerce

Ángel Lockward Mella

### National legislature

Upper chamber: Senate

Lower chamber: Chamber of Deputies; multiparty

### UN Human Development Index (2000)

Dominican Republic ranks 87th among 174 countries

### Leader

President Hipólito Mejía Domínguez

### Canadian official development assistance

3.14 million (1998-1999)

### Minister of Foreign Relations

Hugo Tolentino Dipp

## ECONOMIC DATA

### Real GDP

\$19.4 billion US (2000 est.)

### Inflation rate

7.9% (2000 est.)

### GDP growth rate

8% (2000 est.)

### Unemployment rate

13.8% (1999)

### GDP per capita

\$1,196 US (1999)

### Main exports

Ferronickel, sugar, gold, silver, coffee, cocoa, tobacco, meat products

### Main imports

Food products, oil, cotton and cotton fabric, chemicals, pharmaceuticals

### Main exports to Canada

\$95.6 million (2000), including electrical machinery; woven apparel; textile articles; knit apparel; fruit and nuts; headgear; precious stones and metals; optical and medical instruments; vegetables; footwear

### Main imports from Canada

\$81.6 million (2000), including paper and paperboard; fish and seafood; cereals; machinery; electrical machinery; vegetables; vehicles; fertilizers; copper and articles thereof

### Canadian Representative

Bruno Picard, Ambassador, The Canadian Embassy

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