

BARBADOS

Capital: Bridgetown

GEODATA

Area

431 km²

Population

274,540 (July 2000 est.)

Official language

English

Population growth rate

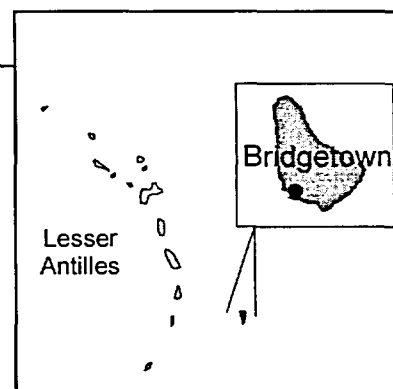
0.55% (2000 est.)

Major religious groups

Anglican (40%), Protestant (27%),
Roman Catholic (4%)

Surrounding countries

St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Constitutional monarchy

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

Billie Miller

National legislature

Upper chamber: Senate

Lower chamber: House of Assembly; multiparty

UN Human Development Index (2000)

Barbados ranks 30th among 174 countries

Canadian official development assistance

\$510,000 (1998–1999)

Leaders

Governor General Clifford Husbands

Prime Minister Owen Arthur

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$2.32 billion US (1999 est.)

Inflation rate

3% (1999)

GDP growth rate

3.2% (1999 est.)

Unemployment rate

9.8% (1999)

GDP per capita

\$7,343 US (1999)

Main exports

Sugar and molasses, rum, other foods and beverages, chemicals, electrical components, clothing

Main imports

Consumer goods, machinery, foodstuffs, construction materials, chemicals, fuel, electrical components

Main exports to Canada

\$10.6 million (1999), including lamps and lighting fittings, rum, magnetic tapes, lingerie, handtools

Main imports from Canada

\$41 million (1999), including potatoes, electrical apparatus, newsprint, furniture, gravel, fish

Canadian Representative

Sandelle Scrimshaw, High Commissioner, The Canadian High Commission

Bishop's Court Hill, St. Michael, Bridgetown, Barbados

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