

COSTA RICA

Capital: San José

GEODATA

Area

51,100 km²

Major language

Spanish (official)

Major religious group

Roman Catholic (85%)

Surrounding countries

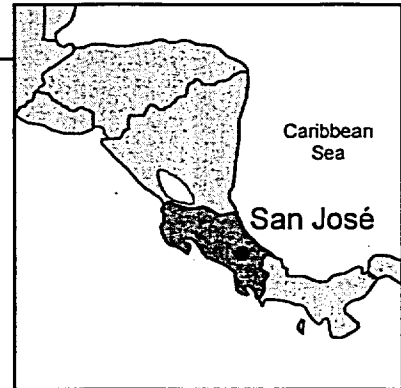
Nicaragua, Panama

Population

4 million (2000 est.)

Population growth rate

2.6% (1990-1999 est.)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

National legislature

Single chamber: Legislative Assembly; multiparty

Leader

President Miguel Ángel Rodríguez Echeverría

Minister of Foreign Relations

Roberto Rojas López

Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry

Tomás Dueñas

UN Human Development Index (2000)

Costa Rica ranks 48th among 174 countries

Canadian official development assistance

\$7.7 million (1998-1999)

ECONOMIC DATA

Real GDP

\$15.9 billion US (2000 est.)

Inflation rate

11% (2000 est.)

GDP growth rate

3% (2000 est.)

Unemployment rate

5.2% (2000 est.)

GDP per capita

\$2,172 US (1999)

Main exports

Coffee, bananas, sugar, textiles, electronic components

Main imports

Industrial raw materials, consumer products, capital equipment, oil

Main exports to Canada

\$182.9 million (2000), including fruit and nuts; electrical machinery; spices; coffee and tea; machinery; woven apparel; sugars; preserved food; knit apparel; rubber and rubber products; live trees and plants

Main imports from Canada

\$86.0 million (2000), including paper and paperboard; cereals; fertilizers; machinery; electrical machinery; plastics; milled products, malt and starches; furniture and bedding; chemical products; toys; sports equipment

Canadian Representative

Denis Thibault, Ambassador, The Canadian Embassy
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