

BAHAMAS

Capital: Nassau

GEODATA

Area
13,939 km²

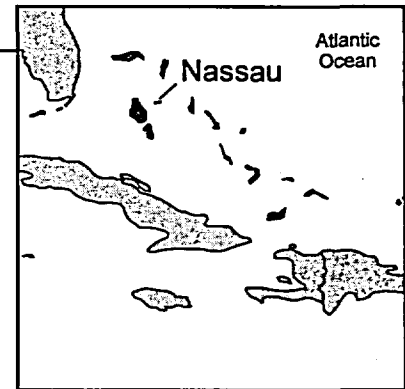
Population
300,000 (1999 est.)

Major language
English (official)

Population growth rate
1.7% (1990-1999 est.)

Major religious groups
Baptist (32%), Anglican (20%),
Roman Catholic (19%)

Surrounding countries
Cuba, Haiti, United States



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government
Constitutional monarchy

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Janet G. Bostwick

National legislature
Upper chamber: Senate
Lower chamber: House of Assembly; multiparty

UN Human Development Index (2000)
Bahamas ranks 33rd among 174 countries

Leaders
Governor General Sir Orville Turnquest
Prime Minister Hubert A. Ingraham

ECONOMIC DATA

Real GDP
\$4.8 billion US (2000 est.)

Inflation rate
1.9% (2000 est.)

GDP growth rate
4.5% (2000 est.)

Unemployment rate
9% (1998 est.)

GDP per capita
\$11,790 US (1999)

Main exports
Crayfish, salt, other fisheries products, rum, citrus fruit, aragonite, pharmaceuticals, refined petroleum products, cement

Main imports
Machinery and transport equipment, food, beverages, tobacco, manufactured goods, crude oil, vehicles, electronics

Main exports to Canada
\$14 million (2000), including fish and seafood; organic chemicals; precious stones and metals; beverages; salt, sulphur, earth and stone; base metals; products of animal origin; fruit and nuts; aircraft and parts thereof

Main imports from Canada
\$25.9 million (2000), including electrical machinery; furniture and bedding; dairy products; eggs; honey; milled products, malt and starches; salt, sulphur, earth and stone; machinery; preserved food; iron and steel products; tobacco

Canadian Representative

John Robinson, High Commissioner, The Canadian High Commission to the Bahamas
c/o The Canadian High Commission to Jamaica, 3 West Kings House Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica
Phone: (876) 926-1500, Fax: (876) 511-3495, Web site: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/latinamerica/bahamas-e.asp/