BAHAMAS

Capital: Nassau

GEODATA

Area 13,939 km²

Major language English (official)

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

Surrounding countries Cuba, Haiti, United States

POLITICAL DATA

Type of government Constitutional monarchy

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

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

ECONOMIC DATA

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

GDP growth rate 4.5% (2000 est.)

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

Main exports

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

Inflation rate

9% (1998 est.)

1.9% (2000 est.)

Unemployment rate

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

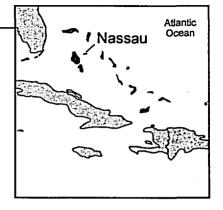
\$25.9 million (2000), including electrical machinery; furniture and bedding; dairy products; eggs; honey; milled products, malt and starches; salt, sulphur, earth and stone; machinery; preserved food; iron and steel products; tobacco

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/

Population 300,000 (1999 est.)

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



Minister of Foreign Affairs Janet G. Bostwick

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