

PARAGUAY

Capital: Asunción

GEODATA

Area

406,752 km²

Major language

Spanish (official)

Major religious groups

Roman Catholic, Mennonite, other Protestant

Surrounding countries

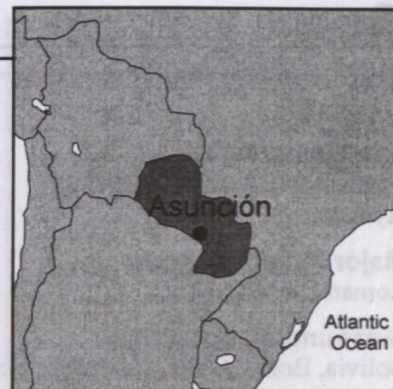
Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil

Population

5.5 million (2000 est.)

Population growth rate

2.4% (1990-1999 average)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

Minister of Industry and Commerce

Euclides Acevedo

National legislature

Upper chamber: Senate

Lower chamber: Chamber of Deputies; multiparty

UN Human Development Index (2000)

Paraguay ranks 81st among 174 countries

Canadian official development assistance

\$930,000 (1998-1999)

Leader

President Luis Ángel González Macchi

Minister of Foreign Affairs

José Antonio Moreno Ruffinelli

ECONOMIC DATA

Real GDP

\$7.4 billion US (2000 est.)

Inflation rate

9% (2000 est.)

GDP growth rate

-0.5% (2000 est.)

Unemployment rate

14% (1999)

GDP per capita

\$1,404 US (1999)

Main exports

Soybeans, feed, cotton, meat, edible oils

Main imports

Road vehicles, consumer goods, tobacco, petroleum products, electrical machinery

Main exports to Canada

\$1.5 million (2000), including wood; sugars; tools and cutlery; electrical machinery; spices, coffee and tea; grains, seed and fruit; products of animal origin; perfumery and cosmetics; machinery; live animals; leather articles, saddlery and travel goods, etc.

Main imports from Canada

\$6.5 million (2000), including toys; sports equipment; tobacco; machinery; electrical machinery; manufactured thread and fabric; furniture and bedding; lace and tapestries; knitted and crocheted fabrics

Canadian Representative

Jean-Paul Hubert, Ambassador, The Canadian Embassy to Paraguay

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