

# PARAGUAY

Capital: Asunción

## GEODATA

### Area

406,752 km<sup>2</sup>

### Major language

Spanish (official)

### Major religious groups

Roman Catholic, Mennonite, other  
Protestant

### Surrounding countries

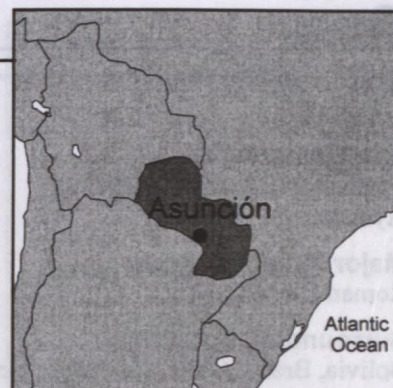
Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil

### 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

### Leader

President Luis Ángel González Macchi

### Canadian official development assistance

\$930,000 (1998–1999)

### 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

c/o The Canadian Embassy to Argentina, 2828 Tagle, 1425 (Casilla de Correo 3898, 1000) Buenos Aires, Argentina

Phone: (011-54-11) 4805-3032, Fax: (011-54-11) 4806-1209, Web site: [dfait-maeci.gc.ca/bairs/](http://dfait-maeci.gc.ca/bairs/)