

# COSTA RICA

Capital: San José

## GEODATA

**Area**

51,100 km<sup>2</sup>

**Official language**

Spanish

**Major religious group**

Roman Catholic (85%)

**Surrounding countries**

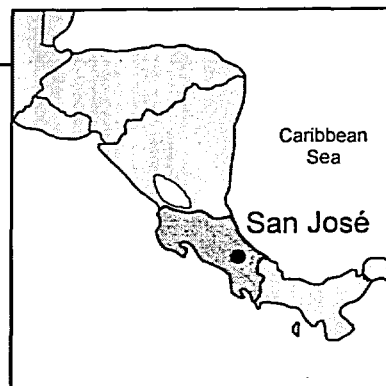
Nicaragua, Panama

**Population**

3.71 million (July 2000 est.)

**Population growth rate**

1.69% (2000 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

**GDP**

\$11.3 billion US (1999)

**GDP growth rate**

8.3% (1999)

**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**

\$175.6 million (1999), including bananas, fresh fruit, coffee, woven apparel, electrical machinery, preserved food

**Main imports from Canada**

\$68.7 million (1999), including paper and paperboard, woven apparel, malt and starches, electrical machinery, vegetables

**Canadian Representative**

Denis Thibault, Ambassador, The Canadian Embassy

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