

SOUTH AFRICA

Capital: Pretoria

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Area

1,221,038 km²

Population

43.4 million (2000 est.)

Major languages

Eleven official languages, including English, Afrikaans, Ndebele, Sotho

Population growth rate

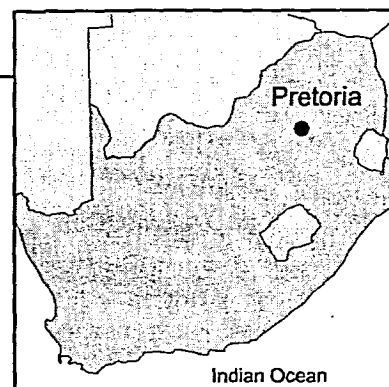
0.5% (2000 est.)

Major religious groups

Christian (68%), Muslim, Hindu, Jewish

Surrounding countries

Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zimbabwe



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

Minister of International Trade

Alec Erwin

National legislature

Upper chamber: National Council

Lower chamber: National Assembly; multiparty

UN Human Development Index (2001)

South Africa ranks 94th among 162 countries

Leader

President Thabo Mbeki

Canadian official development assistance

\$19.14 million (2000-01)

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini-Zuma

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$126.5 billion US (2000)

Inflation rate

5.3% (2000)

GDP growth rate

3.1% (2000)

Unemployment rate

30% (2000 est.)

GDP per capita

\$2,768 US (2000)

Main exports

Metals and metal products, gold, diamonds, machinery

Main imports

Machinery and appliances, mineral products, chemical products

Main exports to Canada

\$508.3 million (2000), including iron and steel, fruit and nuts, precious stones

Main imports from Canada

\$241.9 million (2000), including cereals, machinery, sulphur

Canadian Representative

Lucie Edwards, High Commissioner, The Canadian High Commission to South Africa
1103 Arcadia Street, Hatfield 0083 (Private Bag X13, Hatfield 0028), Pretoria, South Africa
Phone: (011-27-12) 342-6923, Fax: (011-27-12) 342-3837, Web site: <http://www.canada.co.za>

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