



SURINAME



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Chandrikapersad SANTOKHI

Head of Government

President Chandrikapersad SANTOKHI

Government Type

presidential republic

Capital

Paramaribo

Legislature

unicameral National Assembly or Nationale Assemblée (51 seats)

Judiciary

High Court of Justice of Suriname (consists of the court president, vice president, and 4 judges); note - appeals beyond the High Court are referred to the Caribbean Court of Justice

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Niermala Sakoentala
BADRISING

US Ambassador

Ambassador Karen Lynn WILLIAMS

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 163,820 sq km
Land: 156,000 sq km
Water: 7,820 sq km

Climate

tropical; moderated by trade winds

Natural Resources

timber, hydropower, fish, kaolin, shrimp, bauxite, gold, small amounts of nickel, copper, platinum, and iron ore

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

economy is dominated by the mining industry, with oil and gold accounting for approximately 85% of exports and 27% of government revenues; alumina exports ceased in 2015, putting severe pressure on Suriname's finances and causing a significant depreciation of its currency

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$8.688 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$14,900 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$2.028 billion (2017 est.)

partners: Switzerland 38%, Hong Kong 21.9%, Belgium 10.1%, UAE 7.2%, Guyana 6.1% (2017)

Imports

\$1.293 billion (2017 est.)

partners: US 30.6%, Netherlands 14.8%, Trinidad and Tobago 11.4%, China 7.6% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

609,570 (July 2020 est.)

Population Growth

0.95% (2020 est.)

Ethnicity

Hindustani 27.4%, Maroon 21.7%, Creole 15.7%, Javanese 13.7%, mixed 13.4%, other 7.6%, unspecified 0.6% (2012 est.)

Language

Dutch (official), English, Sranang Tongo, Caribbean Hindustani, Javanese

Religion

Protestant 23.6%, Hindu 22.3%, Roman Catholic 21.6%, Muslim 13.8%, other Christian 3.2%, Winti 1.8%, Jehovah's Witness 1.2%, other 1.7%, none 7.5%, unspecified 3.2% (2012 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 66.1% of total population (2020)
rate of urbanization: 0.9% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy

94.4% (2018)

