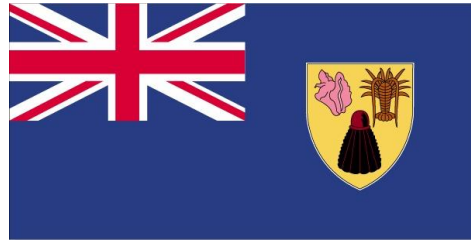


TURKS AND CAICOS



INTRODUCTION

The islands were part of the UK's Jamaican colony until 1962, when they assumed the status of a separate crown colony upon Jamaica's independence. The governor of The Bahamas oversaw affairs from 1965 to 1973. With Bahamian independence, the islands received a separate governor in 1973. Although independence was agreed upon for 1982, the policy was reversed and the islands remain a British Overseas Territory.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II
represented by Governor Nigel DAKIN

Head of Government

Premier Washington MISICK

Government Type

Overseas Territory of the UK with limited self-government; parliamentary democracy

Capital

Grand Turk (Cockburn Town)

Legislature

unicameral House of Assembly (19 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 948 sq km
Land: 948 sq km
Water: 0 sq km

Climate

tropical; marine; moderated by trade winds;
sunny and relatively dry

Natural Resources

spiny lobster, conch

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

British Caribbean island territorial economy; GDP and its tourism industry hit hard by COVID-19 disruptions; major biodiversity locale; US dollar user; fossil fuel dependent; negative trade balance; increasing unemployment

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$820 million (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$21,100 (2020 est.)

Industries - tourism, offshore financial services

Agricultural products - corn, beans, cassava (manioc, tapioca), citrus fruits, fish

Exports \$24.77 million (2008 est.)

plastic building materials, stone processing machinery, iron structures, crustaceans, integrated circuits (2019)

partners: France 31%, US 16%, Zambia 13%, Singapore 9%, Republic of the Congo 8% (2019)

Imports \$591.3 million (2008 est.)

refined petroleum, cars, jewelry, furniture, soybeans (2019)
partners: US 76% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

57,200 (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

1.91% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Black 87.6%, White 7.9%, mixed 2.5%, East Indian 1.3%, other 0.7% (2006 est.)

Language

English (official)

Religion

Protestant 72.8%, Roman Catholic 11.4%, Jehovah's Witness 1.8%, other 14% (2006 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 93.8% of total population (2021)
rate of urbanization: 1.46% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

