



# Montserrat



**Background** English and Irish colonists from St. Kitts first settled on Montserrat in 1632; the first African slaves arrived three decades later. The British and French fought for possession of the island for most of the 18th century, but it finally was confirmed as a British possession in 1783. The island's sugar plantation economy was converted to small farm landholdings in the mid-19th century. The Soufrière Hills Volcano erupted in 1995, devastating much of the island; two thirds of the population fled abroad. Montserrat has endured volcanic activity since, with the last eruption occurring in 2013.

**Capital** name: Plymouth

**Government type** parliamentary democracy; self-governing overseas territory of the UK

**Area**  
total : 102 sq km  
land: 102 sq km  
water: 0 sq km

**Climate** tropical; little daily or seasonal temperature variation

**Natural resources** NEGL

**Population** total: 5,468 (2024 est.)

**Population growth rate** 0.55% (2025 est.)

**Ethnic groups** African/Black 86.2%, mixed 4.8%, Hispanic/Spanish 3%, Caucasian/White 2.7%, East Indian/Indian 1.6%, other 1.8% (2018 est.)

**Religions** Protestant 71.4% (includes Anglican 17.7%, Pentecostal/Full Gospel 16.1%, Seventh Day Adventist 15%, Methodist 13.9%, Church of God 6.7%, other Protestant 2%), Roman Catholic 11.4%, Rastafarian 1.4%, Hindu 1.2%, Jehovah's Witness 1%, Muslim 0.4%, other/not stated 5.1%, none 7.9% (2018 est.)

**Languages** English

**Executive branch** chief of state: King CHARLES III (since 8 September 2022); represented by Governor Sarah TUCKER (since 6 April 2023)

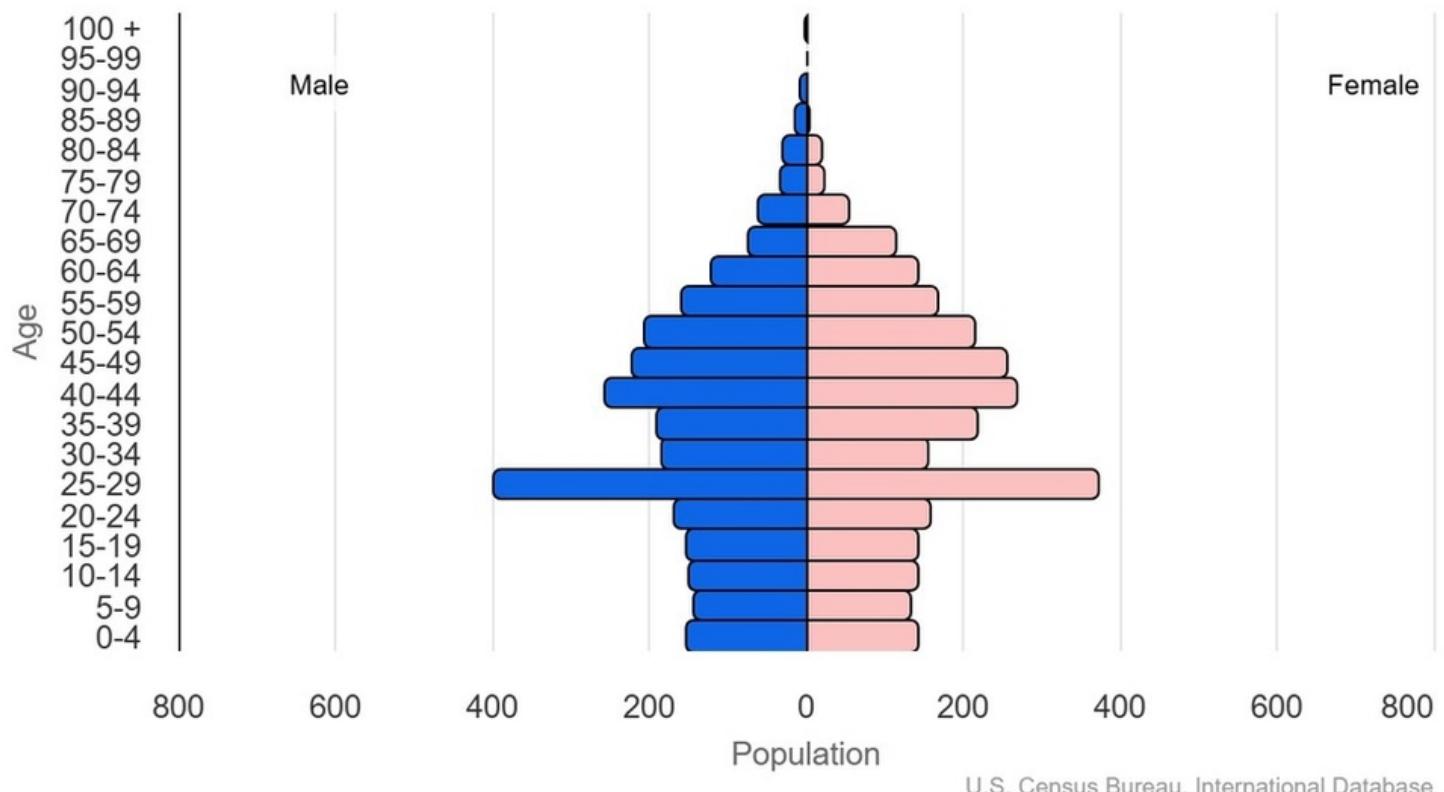
head of government: Premier Easton TAYLOR-FARRELL (since 19 November 2019)

**Legislative branch** legislature name: Legislative Assembly

**Diplomatic representation from the US** embassy: none (overseas territory of the UK); alternate contact is the US Embassy in Barbados [1] (246) 227-4000; US Embassy Bridgetown, Wildey Business Park, St. Michael BB 14006, Barbados, WI

<b>Economic overview</b>	formerly high-income economy; volcanic activity destroyed much of original infrastructure and economy; new capital and port is being developed; key geothermal and solar power generation; key music recording operations
<b>Real GDP (purchasing power parity)</b>	\$89.254 million (2024 est.) \$86.875 million (2023 est.) \$80.972 million (2022 est.)
<b>Real GDP per capita</b>	\$19,300 (2024 est.) \$18,200 (2023 est.) \$16,200 (2022 est.)
<b>Exports - partners</b>	USA 25%, Antigua & Barbuda 13%, Guyana 13%, Egypt 12%, France 10% (2023)
<b>Exports - commodities</b>	gravel and crushed stone, sand (2023)
<b>Imports</b>	\$15.3 million (2021 est.) \$39.44 million (2017 est.) \$36.1 million (2016 est.)
<b>Imports - partners</b>	USA 62%, Antigua & Barbuda 6%, UK 5%, Belgium 4%, Trinidad & Tobago 3% (2023)
<b>Imports - commodities</b>	refined petroleum, electric generating sets, cars, stone processing machines, x-ray equipment (2023)

## Population Pyramid

**Montserrat (2024)**

U.S. Census Bureau, International Database