



Trinidad and Tobago



Background	First colonized by the Spanish, Trinidad and Tobago came under British control in the early 19th century. The emancipation of enslaved people in 1834 disrupted the twin islands' sugar industry. Contract workers arriving from India between 1845 and 1917 augmented the labor force, which boosted sugar production as well as the cocoa industry. The discovery of oil on Trinidad in 1910 added another important export that remains the country's dominant industry. Trinidad and Tobago attained independence in 1962. The country is one of the most prosperous in the Caribbean, thanks largely to petroleum and natural gas production and processing. The government is struggling to reverse a surge in violent crime.
Capital	name: Port of Spain
Government type	parliamentary republic
Area	total : 5,128 sq km land: 5,128 sq km water: 0 sq km
Climate	tropical; rainy season (June to December)
Natural resources	petroleum, natural gas, asphalt
Population	total: 1,408,966 (2024 est.)
Population growth rate	0.1% (2024 est.)
Ethnic groups	East Indian 35.4%, African descent 34.2%, mixed - other 15.3%, mixed - African/East Indian 7.7%, other 1.3%, unspecified 6.2% (2011 est.)
Religions	Protestant 32.1% (Pentecostal/Evangelical/Full Gospel 12%, Baptist 6.9%, Anglican 5.7%, Seventh Day Adventist 4.1%, Presbyterian/Congregational 2.5%, other Protestant 0.9%), Roman Catholic 21.6%, Hindu 18.2%, Muslim 5%, Jehovah's Witness 1.5%, other 8.4%, none 2.2%, unspecified 11.1% (2011 est.)
Languages	English (official), Trinidadian Creole English, Tobagonian Creole English, Caribbean Hindustani (a dialect of Hindi), Trinidadian Creole French, Spanish, Chinese
Executive branch	chief of state: President Christine KANGALOO (since 20 March 2023) head of government: Prime Minister Kamla Susheila PERSAD-BISSESSAR (since 1 May 2025)
Legislative branch	legislature name: Parliament
Diplomatic representation in the US	chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Venessa RAMHIT-RAMROOP (since 4 June 2025)
Diplomatic representation from the US	chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Jenifer NEIDHART de ORTIZ (since January 2025)

Economic overview	high-income Caribbean economy; major hydrocarbon exporter; key tourism and finance sectors; high inflation and growing public debt; long foreign currency access delays; large foreign reserves and sovereign wealth fund
Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$43.362 billion (2024 est.) \$42.658 billion (2023 est.) \$42.058 billion (2022 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$31,700 (2024 est.) \$31,200 (2023 est.) \$30,800 (2022 est.)
Exports	\$11.087 billion (2024 est.) \$11.545 billion (2023 est.) \$17.584 billion (2022 est.)
Exports - partners	USA 28%, China 7%, Guyana 5%, Chile 5%, Netherlands 5% (2023)
Exports - commodities	natural gas, alcohols, ammonia, crude petroleum, iron reductions (2023)
Imports	\$10.19 billion (2024 est.) \$9.219 billion (2023 est.) \$10.968 billion (2022 est.)
Imports - partners	USA 29%, Guyana 27%, China 8%, Brazil 4%, Canada 3% (2023)
Imports - commodities	railway cargo containers, refined petroleum, cars, iron ore, excavation machinery (2023)

Population Pyramid**Trinidad and Tobago (2024)**