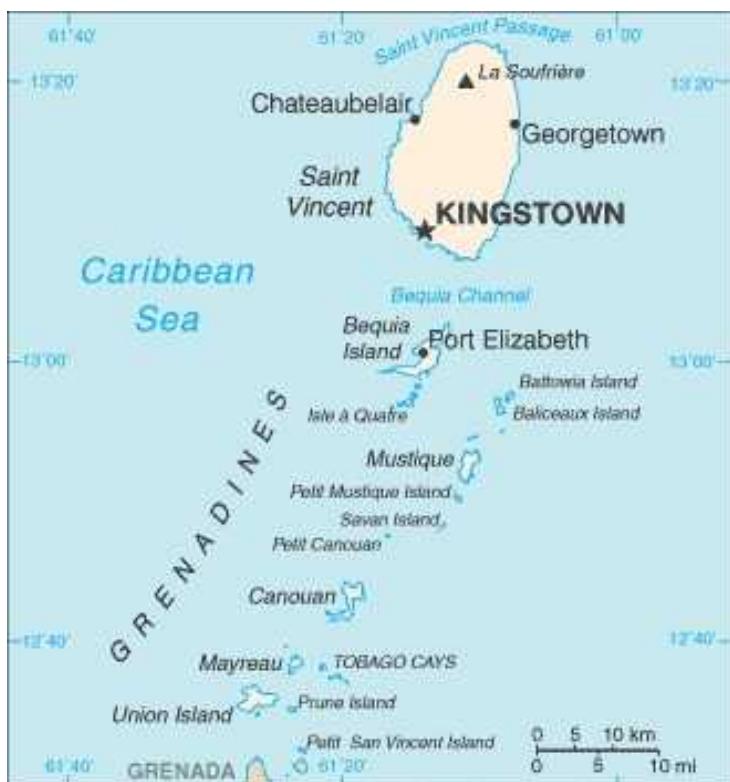




Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



Background Resistance from native Caribs prevented colonization on Saint Vincent until 1719. France and England disputed the island for most of the 18th century, but it was ceded to England in 1783. The British prized Saint Vincent because of its fertile soil, which allowed for thriving slave-run plantations of sugar, coffee, indigo, tobacco, cotton, and cocoa. In 1834, the British abolished slavery. Immigration of indentured servants eased the ensuing labor shortage, as did subsequent immigrant waves from Portugal and East India. Conditions remained harsh for both former slaves and immigrant agricultural workers, however, as depressed world sugar prices kept the economy stagnant until the early 1900s. The economy then went into a period of decline, with many landowners abandoning their estates and leaving the land to be cultivated by liberated slaves.

Between 1960 and 1962, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was a separate administrative unit of the Federation of the West Indies. Autonomy was granted in 1969 and independence in 1979. In 2021, the eruption of the La Soufrière volcano in the north of Saint Vincent destroyed much of Saint Vincent's most productive agricultural lands. Unlike most of its tourism-dependent neighbors, the Vincentian economy is primarily agricultural.

Capital name: Kingstown

Government type parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth realm

Area total : 389 sq km (Saint Vincent 344 sq km)
land: 389 sq km
water: 0 sq km

Climate tropical; little seasonal temperature variation; rainy season (May to November)

Natural resources hydropower, arable land

Population total: 100,647 (2024 est.)

Population growth rate -0.15% (2024 est.)

Ethnic groups African descent 71.2%, mixed 23%, Indigenous 3%, East Indian/Indian 1.1%, European 1.5%, other 0.2% (2012 est.)

Religions Protestant 75% (Pentecostal 27.6%, Anglican 13.9%, Seventh Day Adventist 11.6%, Baptist 8.9%, Methodist 8.7%, Evangelical 3.8%, Salvation Army 0.3%, Presbyterian/Congregational 0.3%), Roman Catholic 6.3%, Rastafarian 1.1%, Jehovah's Witness 0.8%, other 4.7%, none 7.5%, unspecified 4.7% (2012 est.)

Languages English, Vincentian Creole English, French patois

Executive branch	chief of state: King CHARLES III (since 8 September 2022); represented by Governor General Susan DOUGAN (since 1 August 2019) head of government: Prime Minister Godwin FRIDAY (since 28 November 2025)
Legislative branch	legislature name: House of Assembly
Diplomatic representation in the US	chief of mission: Ambassador Lou-Anne Gaylene GILCHRIST (since 18 January 2017)
Diplomatic representation from the US	embassy: the US does not have an embassy in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; the US Ambassador to Barbados is accredited to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Economic overview	upper middle-income Caribbean island economy; key agriculture and tourism sectors; environmentally fragile; diversifying economy across services, science and knowledge, and creative industries; CARICOM member and US Caribbean Basin Initiative beneficiary
Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$1.883 billion (2024 est.) \$1.809 billion (2023 est.) \$1.718 billion (2022 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$18,700 (2024 est.) \$17,900 (2023 est.) \$16,800 (2022 est.)
Exports	\$425.182 million (2024 est.) \$345.098 million (2023 est.) \$278.292 million (2022 est.)
Exports - partners	Croatia 16%, Barbados 14%, USA 10%, St. Lucia 10%, St. Kitts & Nevis 8% (2023)
Exports - commodities	ships, wheat flours, animal food, shellfish, construction vehicles (2023)
Imports	\$641.179 million (2024 est.) \$588.865 million (2023 est.) \$540.833 million (2022 est.)
Imports - partners	USA 37%, Italy 7%, Trinidad & Tobago 7%, China 6%, UK 6% (2023)
Imports - commodities	ships, refined petroleum, wheat, coal, poultry (2023)

Population Pyramid

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2024)