



Saint Kitts and Nevis



Background Carib Indians occupied the islands of the West Indies for hundreds of years before the British and French began settlement in 1623. During the 17th century, Saint Kitts became the premier base for British and French expansion into the Caribbean. The French ceded the territory to the UK in 1713. At the turn of the 18th century, Saint Kitts was the richest British Crown Colony per capita in the Caribbean, a result of the sugar trade. Although small in size and separated by only 3 km (2 mi) of water, Saint Kitts and Nevis were viewed and governed as different states until the late-19th century, when the British forcibly unified them along with the island of Anguilla. In 1967, the island territory of Saint Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla became an associated state of the UK with full internal autonomy. The island of Anguilla rebelled and was allowed to secede in 1971. The remaining islands achieved independence in 1983 as Saint Kitts and Nevis. In 1998, a referendum on Nevis to separate from Saint Kitts fell short of the necessary two-thirds majority.

Capital name: Basseterre

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

Area total : 261 sq km (Saint Kitts 168 sq km; Nevis 93 sq km)

land: 261 sq km

water: 0 sq km

Climate tropical, tempered by constant sea breezes; little seasonal temperature variation; rainy season (May to November)

Natural resources arable land

Population total: 55,133 (2024 est.)

Population growth rate 0.53% (2025 est.)

Ethnic groups African descent 92.5%, mixed 3%, White 2.1%, East Indian 1.5%, other 0.6%, unspecified 0.3% (2001 est.)

Languages English (official)

Executive branch chief of state: King CHARLES III (since 8 September 2022); represented by Governor General Marcella LIBURD (since 1 February 2023)
head of government: Prime Minister Dr. Terrance DREW (since 6 August 2022)

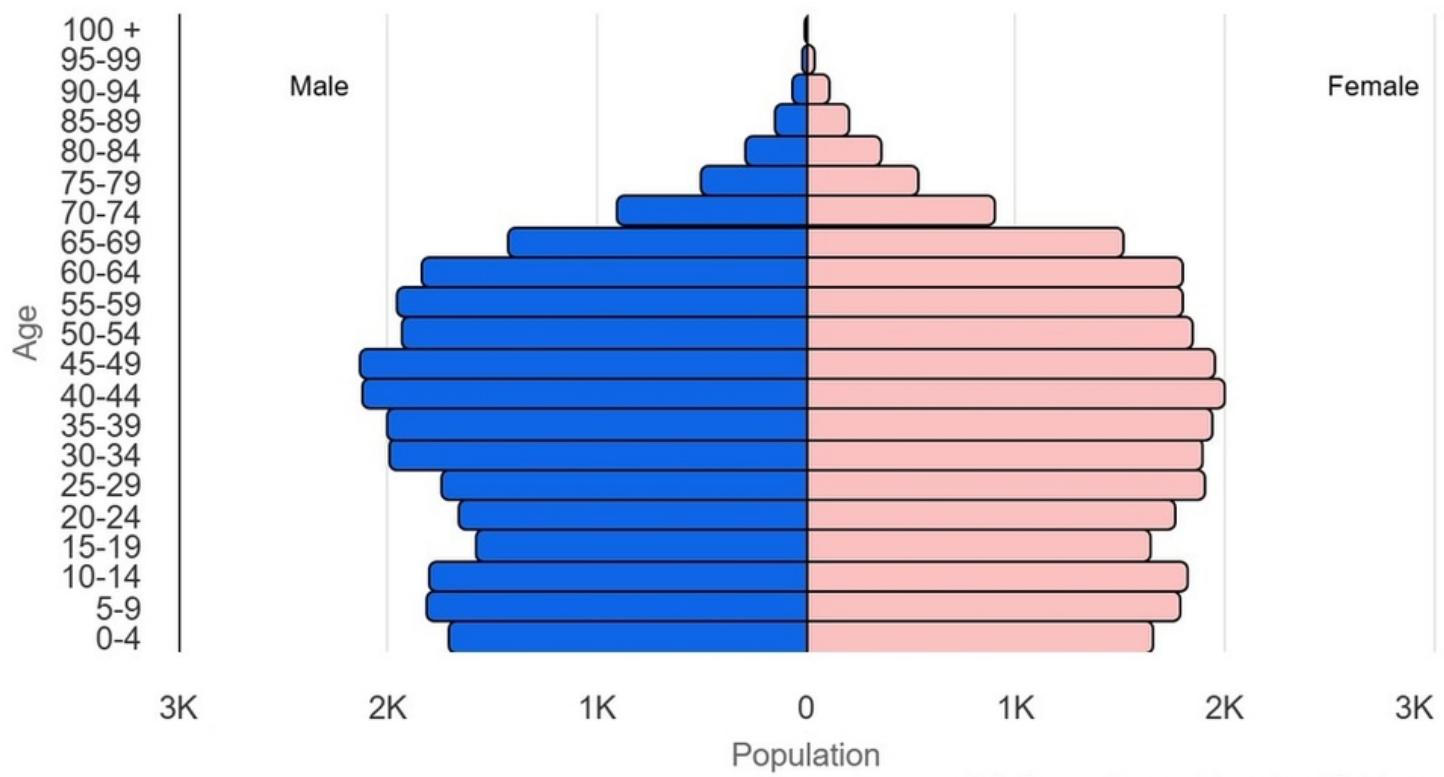
Legislative branch legislature name: National Assembly

Diplomatic representation in the US chief of mission: Ambassador Jacinth HENRY-MARTIN (since 15 September 2023)

Diplomatic representation from the US embassy: the US does not have an embassy in Saint Kitts and Nevis; the US Ambassador to Barbados is accredited to Saint Kitts and Nevis

Economic overview	high-income, tourism-based Caribbean OECS economy; better debt balancing; CARICOM and ECCU member; growing offshore financial and telecommunications hub; environmentally fragile; unique citizenship-driven growth model
Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$1.465 billion (2024 est.) \$1.448 billion (2023 est.) \$1.388 billion (2022 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$31,300 (2024 est.) \$31,000 (2023 est.) \$29,700 (2022 est.)
Exports	\$504.391 million (2024 est.) \$579.568 million (2023 est.) \$542.983 million (2022 est.)
Exports - partners	Malta 49%, USA 21%, Turkey 7%, St. Vincent & the Grenadines 5%, Guyana 3% (2023)
Exports - commodities	ships, measuring instruments, beer, electrical transformers, electrical control boards (2023)
Imports	\$642.934 million (2024 est.) \$669.168 million (2023 est.) \$606.856 million (2022 est.)
Imports - partners	USA 50%, Italy 11%, China 8%, Japan 2%, UK 2% (2023)
Imports - commodities	refined petroleum, ships, cars, jewelry, poultry (2023)

Population Pyramid

Saint Kitts and Nevis (2024)

U.S. Census Bureau, International Database