



Guyana



Background Originally a Dutch colony in the 17th century, by 1815 Guyana had become a British possession. Guyana achieved independence from the UK in 1966, and since then primarily socialist-oriented governments have ruled the country. Guyana is the only English-speaking country in South America and shares cultural and historical bonds with the Anglophone Caribbean.

Capital name: Georgetown

Government type parliamentary republic

Area total : 214,969 sq km
land: 196,849 sq km
water: 18,120 sq km

Climate tropical; hot, humid, moderated by northeast trade winds; two rainy seasons (May to August, November to January)

Natural resources bauxite, gold, diamonds, hardwood timber, shrimp, fish

Population total: 794,099 (2024 est.)

Population growth rate 0.32% (2024 est.)

Ethnic groups East Indian 39.8%, African descent 29.3%, mixed 19.9%, Indigenous 10.5%, other 0.5% (includes Portuguese, Chinese, White) (2012 est.)

Religions Protestant 34.8% (Pentecostal 22.8%, Seventh Day Adventist 5.4%, Anglican 5.2%, Methodist 1.4%), Hindu 24.8%, other Christian 20.8%, Roman Catholic 7.1%, Muslim 6.8%, Jehovah's Witness 1.3%, Rastafarian 0.5%, other 0.9%, none 3.1% (2012 est.)

Languages English (official), Guyanese Creole, Amerindian languages (including Caribbean and Arawak languages), Indian languages (including Caribbean Hindustani, a dialect of Hindi), Chinese (2014 est.)

Executive branch chief of state: President Mohammed Irfaan ALI (since 2 August 2020)
head of government: President Mohammed Irfaan ALI (since 2 August 2020)

Diplomatic representation in the US chief of mission: Ambassador Samuel Archibald HINDS (since 7 July 2021)

Diplomatic representation from the US	chief of mission: Ambassador Nicole THERIOT (since 14 October 2023)
Economic overview	small, hydrocarbon-driven South American export economy; major forest coverage being leveraged in carbon credit offsets to encourage preservation; strengthening financial sector; large bauxite and gold resources
Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$40.752 billion (2023 est.) \$30.457 billion (2022 est.) \$18.647 billion (2021 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$49,300 (2023 est.) \$37,100 (2022 est.) \$22,900 (2021 est.)
Exports	\$11.536 billion (2022 est.) \$4.64 billion (2021 est.) \$2.799 billion (2020 est.)
Exports - partners	USA 20%, Trinidad & Tobago 11%, Netherlands 10%, Singapore 10%, Germany 7% (2023)
Exports - commodities	crude petroleum, railway cargo containers, gold, ships, rice (2023)
Imports	\$7.067 billion (2022 est.) \$6.611 billion (2021 est.) \$3.756 billion (2020 est.)
Imports - partners	USA 28%, China 13%, Trinidad & Tobago 11%, Brazil 5%, Bahamas, The 4% (2023)
Imports - commodities	refined petroleum, ships, construction vehicles, excavation machinery, cars (2023)

Population Pyramid

