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Chapter 1

238

1.1 238.guide

Texified version of data for Trinidad and Tobago.

Texified using wfact from

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Trinidad and Tobago

1.2 238.guide/Trinidad and Tobago

Trinidad and Tobago

Geography (Trinidad and Tobago)
 People (Trinidad and Tobago)
 Government (Trinidad and Tobago)
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 Economy (Trinidad and Tobago)
 Economy (Trinidad and Tobago 2. usage)
 Communications (Trinidad and Tobago)
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1.3 238.guide/Geography (Trinidad and Tobago)

Geography (Trinidad and Tobago)

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Location:

in the extreme southeastern Caribbean Sea, 11 km off the coast of Venezuela

Map references:

Central America and the Caribbean, South America, Standard Time Zones of
 the
 World

Area:

total area:

5,130 km²

land area:

5,130 km²

comparative area:

slightly smaller than Delaware

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline: 362 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone:

24 nm

continental shelf:

200 nm or the outer edge of continental margin

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

none

Climate:

tropical; rainy season (June to December)

Terrain:

mostly plains with some hills and low mountains

Natural resources:

petroleum, natural gas, asphalt

Land use:

arable land:

14%

permanent crops:

17%
 meadows and pastures:
 2%
 forest and woodland:
 44%
 other:
 23%
 Irrigated land:
 220 km² (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 outside usual path of hurricanes and other tropical storms

1.4 238.guide/People (Trinidad and Tobago)

People (Trinidad and Tobago)

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Population:
 1,313,738 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 1.1% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 20.08 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 6.31 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 -2.74 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 16.9 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 70.53 years
 male:
 67.91 years
 female: 73.22 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 2.35 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Trinidadian(s), Tobagonian(s)
 adjective:
 Trinidadian, Tobagonian
 Ethnic divisions:
 black 43%, East Indian 40%, mixed 14%, white 1%, Chinese 1%, other 1%
 Religions:
 Roman Catholic 32.2%, Hindu 24.3%, Anglican 14.4%, other Protestant 14%,
 Muslim 6%, none or unknown 9.1%
 Languages:
 English (official), Hindi, French, Spanish
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1980)
 total population:
 95%

male:
 97%
 female:
 93%
 Labor force:
 463,900
 by occupation:
 construction and utilities 18.1%, manufacturing, mining, and quarrying
 14.8%, agriculture 10.9%, other 56.2% (1985 est.)

1.5 238.guide/Government (Trinidad and Tobago)

Government (Trinidad and Tobago)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
 conventional short form:
 Trinidad and Tobago
 Digraph:
 TD
 Type:
 parliamentary democracy
 Capital:
 Port-of-Spain
 Administrative divisions:
 8 counties, 3 municipalities*, and 1 ward**; Arima*, Caroni, Mayaro, Nariva ↔
 ,, Port-of-Spain*,,
 Saint Andrew, Saint David, Saint George, Saint Patrick, San
 Fernando*, Tobago**, Victoria, Independence:
 31 August 1962 (from UK)
 Constitution:
 31 August 1976
 Legal system:
 based on English common law; judicial review of legislative acts in the
 Supreme Court; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction
 National holiday: Independence Day, 31 August (1962)
 Political parties and leaders:
 People's National Movement (PNM), Patrick MANNING; United National Congress
 (UNC), Basdeo PANDAY; National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR), Carson
 CHARLES; Movement for Social Transformation (MOTION), David ABDULLAH;
 National Joint Action Committee (NJAC), Makandal DAAGA
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal
 Elections:
 House of Representatives:
 last held 16 December 1991 (next to be held by December 1996); results - ↔
 PNM
 32%, UNC 13%, NAR 2%; seats - (36 total) PNM 21, UNC 13, NAR 2
 Executive branch:
 president, prime minister, Cabinet
 Legislative branch:

bicameral Parliament consists of an upper house or Senate and a lower house or House of Representatives

Judicial branch:

Court of Appeal, Supreme Court

Leaders:

Chief of State:

President Noor Mohammed HASSANALI (since 18 March 1987)

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Patrick Augustus Mervyn MANNING (since 17 December 1991)

Member of:

ACP, C, CARICOM, CCC, CDB, ECLAC, FAO, G-24, G-77, GATT, IADB, IBRD, ICAO, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ISO, ITU, LAES, LORCS, NAM, OAS, OPANAL, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO

Diplomatic representation in US:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Corinne BAPTISTE

chancery:

1708 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036

telephone:

(202) 467-6490

1.6 238.guide/Government (Trinidad and Tobago 2. usage)

Government (Trinidad and Tobago 2. usage)

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consulate general:

New York

US diplomatic representation:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Sally G. COWAL

embassy:

15 Queen's Park West, Port-of-Spain

mailing address:

P. O. Box 752, Port-of-Spain

telephone:

(809) 622-6372 through 6376, 6176

FAX:

(809) 628-5462

Flag:

red with a white-edged black diagonal band from the upper hoist side

1.7 238.guide/Economy (Trinidad and Tobago)

Economy (Trinidad and Tobago)

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Overview:

Trinidad and Tobago's petroleum-based economy has begun to emerge from a lengthy depression in the last few years. The economy fell sharply through most of the 1980s, largely because of the decline in oil prices. This sector

accounts for 80% of export earnings and almost 20% of GDP. The government, in response to the oil revenue loss, pursued a series of austerity measures that pushed the unemployment rate as high as 22% in 1988. The economy showed

signs of recovery in 1990 and 1991, however, helped along by rising oil prices. Agriculture employs only about 11% of the labor force and produces about 3% of GDP. Since this sector is small, it has been unable to absorb the large numbers of the unemployed. The government currently seeks to diversify its export base.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$5 billion (1991)

National product real growth rate:

2.6% (1991)

National product per capita:

\$3,800 (1991)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

3.8% (1991)

Unemployment rate:

18.5% (1991)

Budget:

revenues \$1.6 billion; expenditures \$1.6 billion, including capital expenditures of \$158 million (1993 est.)

Exports:

\$2.2 billion (f.o.b., 1991)

commodities:

includes reexports - petroleum and petroleum products 82%, steel products 9%, fertilizer, sugar, cocoa, coffee, citrus (1988)

partners:

US 49%, CARICOM 12%

Imports:

\$1.7 billion (c.i.f., 1991)

commodities:

raw materials and intermediate goods 48%, capital goods 29%, consumer goods 23% (1991)

partners:

US 39%, Venezuela 14%, UK 7%, CARICOM 5% (1991)

External debt:

\$2.4 billion (1991)

Industrial production:

growth rate 2.3%, excluding oil refining (1986); accounts for 40% of GDP, including petroleum

Electricity:

1,176,000 kW capacity; 3,480 million kWh produced, 2,680 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:

petroleum, chemicals, tourism, food processing, cement, beverage, cotton textiles

Agriculture: accounts for 3% of GDP; highly subsidized sector; major crops - cocoa,

sugarcane; sugarcane acreage is being shifted into rice, citrus, coffee, vegetables; poultry sector most important source of animal protein; must import large share of food needs

Illicit drugs:
 transshipment point for South American drugs destined for the US

1.8 238.guide/Economy (Trinidad and Tobago 2. usage)

Economy (Trinidad and Tobago 2. usage)
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Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-89), \$373 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$518 million
 Currency:
 1 Trinidad and Tobago dollar (TT\$) = 100 cents
 Exchange rates:
 Trinidad and Tobago dollars (TT\$) per US\$1 - 4.2500 (fixed rate since 1989)
 Fiscal year:
 calendar year

1.9 238.guide/Communications (Trinidad and Tobago)

Communications (Trinidad and Tobago)
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Railroads:
 minimal agricultural railroad system near San Fernando
 Highways:
 8,000 km total; 4,000 km paved, 1,000 km improved earth, 3,000 km ↔
 unimproved
 earth
 Pipelines:
 crude oil 1,032 km, petroleum products 19 km, natural gas 904 km
 Ports:
 Port-of-Spain, Pointe-a-Pierre, Scarborough
 Merchant marine:
 2 cargo ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 12,507 GRT/21,923 DWT
 Airports:
 total:
 6
 usable:
 5
 with permanent-surface runways:
 2
 with runways over 3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
 2
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
 1

Telecommunications:

excellent international service via tropospheric scatter links to Barbados and Guyana; good local service; 109,000 telephones; broadcast stations - 2 AM, 4 FM, 5 TV; 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT earth station

1.10 238.guide/Defense Forces (Trinidad and Tobago)

Defense Forces (Trinidad and Tobago)

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Branches:

Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force (including Ground Forces, Coast Guard, ←
and

Air Wing), Trinidad and Tobago Police Service

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 351,183; fit for military service 253,084 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$59 million, 1-2% of GDP (1989 est.)