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Chapter 1

206

1.1 206.guide

Texified version of data for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock
Neuhäuselerstr. 12
D-66459 Kirkel
Germany

Tel.: 06849 / 6134
INTERNET: leibrock@fsinfo.cs.uni-sb.de
fach5@cipsol.cs.uni-sb.de

Project Gutenberg

P. O. Box 2782

Champaign, IL 61825

When all other email fails try our Michael S. Hart, Executive Director:

hart@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu (internet) hart@uiucvmd (bitnet)

We would prefer to send you this information by email (Internet, Bitnet, Compuserve, ATTMAIL or MCImail).

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

1.2 206.guide/Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Geography (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)
People (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)
Government (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)
Government (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2. usage)
Economy (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)
Communications (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)
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1.3 206.guide/Geography (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

Geography (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

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Location:

in the eastern Caribbean Sea about three-fourths of the way between Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago

Map references:

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

Area:

total area:

340 km²

land area:

340 km²

comparative area:

slightly less than twice the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries:

0 km

Coastline:

84 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone:

24 nm

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

none

Climate:

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

Terrain:

volcanic, mountainous; Soufriere volcano on the island of Saint Vincent

Natural resources:

negligible

Land use:

arable land:

38%

permanent crops:

12%
 meadows and pastures:
 6%
 forest and woodland:
 41%
 other:
 3%
 Irrigated land:
 10 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 subject to hurricanes; Soufriere volcano is a constant threat
 Note:
 some islands of the Grenadines group are administered by Grenada

1.4 206.guide/People (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

People (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

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Population:
 114,562 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 0.76% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 20.86 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 5.39 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 -7.92 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 18.3 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population: 71.72 years
 male:
 70.21 years
 female:
 73.28 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 2.16 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Saint Vincentian(s) or Vincentian(s)
 adjective:
 Saint Vincentian or Vincentian
 Ethnic divisions:
 black African descent, white, East Indian, Carib Indian
 Religions:
 Anglican, Methodist, Roman Catholic, Seventh-Day Adventist
 Languages:
 English, French patois
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over having ever attended school (1970)
 total population:

96%
 male:
 96%
 female:
 96%
 Labor force:
 67,000 (1984 est.)
 by occupation:
 NA

1.5 206.guide/Government (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

Government (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 none
 conventional short form:
 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
 Digraph:
 VC
 Type:
 constitutional monarchy
 Capital:
 Kingstown
 Administrative divisions:
 6 parishes; Charlotte, Grenadines, Saint Andrew, Saint David, Saint George,
 Saint Patrick
 Independence:
 27 October 1979 (from UK)
 Constitution:
 27 October 1979
 Legal system:
 based on English common law
 National holiday: Independence Day, 27 October (1979)
 Political parties and leaders:
 New Democratic Party (NDP), James (Son) MITCHELL; Saint Vincent Labor Party
 (SVLP), Stanley JOHN; United People's Movement (UPM), Adrian SAUNDERS;
 Movement for National Unity (MNU), Ralph GONSALVES; National Reform Party
 (NRP), Joel MIGUEL
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal
 Elections:
 House of Assembly:
 last held 16 May 1989 (next to be held NA July 1994); results - percent of
 vote by party NA; seats - (21 total; 15 elected representatives and 6
 appointed senators) NDP 15
 Executive branch:
 British monarch, governor general, prime minister, Cabinet
 Legislative branch:
 unicameral House of Assembly
 Judicial branch:

Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court
 Leaders:
 Chief of State:
 Queen ELIZABETH II (since 6 February 1952), represented by Governor General
 David JACK (since 29 September 1989)
 Head of Government:
 Prime Minister James F. MITCHELL (since 30 July 1984)
 Member of:
 ACP, C, CARICOM, CDB, ECLAC, FAO, G-77, IBRD, ICAO, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IMF,
 IMO, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU, LORCS, OAS, OECS, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU,
 WCL, WFTU, WHO
 Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Kingsley LAYNE
 chancery:
 1717 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 102, Washington, DC 20036
 telephone:
 NA
 US diplomatic representation:
 no official presence since the Ambassador resides in Bridgetown (Barbados)

1.6 206.guide/Government (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2. usage)

Government (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2. usage)

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Flag:
 three vertical bands of blue (hoist side), gold (double width), and green;
 the gold band bears three green diamonds arranged in a V pattern

1.7 206.guide/Economy (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

Economy (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

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Overview:
 Agriculture, dominated by banana production, is the most important sector ←
 of
 the economy. The services sector, based mostly on a growing tourist
 industry, is also important. The economy continues to have a high
 unemployment rate of 35%-40% because of an overdependence on the
 weather-plagued banana crop as a major export earner. Government progress
 toward diversifying into new industries has been relatively unsuccessful.
 National product:
 GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$171 million (1992 est.)
 National product real growth rate:
 3% (1992 est.)
 National product per capita:

\$1,500 (1992 est.)
 Inflation rate (consumer prices):
 2.3% (1991 est.)
 Unemployment rate:
 35%-40% (1992 est.)
 Budget:
 revenues \$62 million; expenditures \$67 million, including capital
 expenditures of \$21 million (FY90 est.)
 Exports:
 \$65.7 million (f.o.b., 1991)
 commodities:
 bananas, eddoes and dasheen (taro), arrowroot starch, tennis racquets
 partners:
 UK 43%, CARICOM 37%, US 15%
 Imports:
 \$110.7 million (f.o.b., 1991)
 commodities:
 foodstuffs, machinery and equipment, chemicals and fertilizers, minerals ←
 and
 fuels
 partners:
 US 42%, CARICOM 19%, UK 15%
 External debt:
 \$50.9 million (1989)
 Industrial production:
 growth rate 0% (1989); accounts for 14% of GDP
 Electricity:
 16,600 kW capacity; 64 million kWh produced, 555 kWh per capita (1992)
 Industries:
 food processing, cement, furniture, clothing, starch
 Agriculture:
 accounts for 15% of GDP and 60% of labor force; provides bulk of exports;
 products - bananas, coconuts, sweet potatoes, spices; small numbers of
 cattle, sheep, hogs, goats; small fish catch used locally
 Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-87), \$11 million; Western (non-US)
 countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$81 million
 Currency:
 1 EC dollar (EC\$) = 100 cents
 Exchange rates:
 East Caribbean dollars (EC\$) per US\$1 - 2.70 (fixed rate since 1976)
 Fiscal year:
 calendar year

1.8 206.guide/Communications (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

Communications (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

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Highways:
 1,000 km total; 300 km paved; 400 km improved; 300 km unimproved (est.)
 Ports:
 Kingstown

Merchant marine:

407 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 3,388,427 GRT/5,511,325 DWT; ←
 includes
 3 passenger, 2 passenger-cargo, 222 cargo, 22 container, 19 roll-on/roll- ←
 off
 cargo, 14 refrigerated cargo, 24 oil tanker, 7 chemical tanker, 4 liquefied
 gas, 73 bulk, 13 combination bulk, 2 vehicle carrier, 1 livestock carrier, ←
 1
 specialized tanker; note - China owns 3 ships; a flag of convenience
 registry

Airports:

total:
 6
 usable:
 6
 with permanent-surface runways:
 5
 with runways over 3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
 0
 with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
 1

Telecommunications:

islandwide fully automatic telephone system; 6,500 telephones; VHF/UHF
 interisland links from Saint Vincent to Barbados and the Grenadines; new ←
 SHF
 links to Grenada and Saint Lucia; broadcast stations - 2 AM, no FM, 1 TV
 (cable)

1.9 206.guide/Defense Forces (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

Defense Forces (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

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Branches:

Royal Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force, Coast Guard

Manpower availability:

NA

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$NA, NA% of GDP