Antigua and Barbuda

Capital: Saint John’s (Antigua) (17°07’N, 61°05’W)
International airport(s): St. Johns, Antigua
Official language(s): English
Currency: Eastern Caribbean Dollar
Time: UTC -4
Region: Caribbean

GEOGRAPHY

Known as the ‘Land of 365 Beaches’, Antigua (pronounced An-tee’ga) and Barbuda is a twin-island country, located in the eastern Caribbean, at the southern end of the Leeward Islands chain. Antigua is about 23 km long and 18 km wide, encompassing 280 km², including the capital city, Saint John’s. The highest point on Antigua is Mount Obama (402 m), known as Boggy Peak until 2009. Barbuda is a flat coral island with an area of only 161 km². The nation also includes the small (1.6 km²) uninhabited island of Redonda, which is now a nature preserve.

CLIMATE

With a tropical maritime climate, there is little variation in seasonal temperatures, and steady south-easterly breezes. The hurricane season is from June to September. The islands receive a mean annual rainfall of some 2 500 mm, with October and November being the wettest months. With no rivers or springs, droughts are not uncommon. There is generally low humidity year around. Average monthly temperatures range between 25 to 27 °C. (World Bank, 2020) The country is fourth on the list of most at-risk countries according to the United Nations University (2020) World Risk Index.

ECONOMY

Agriculture, once the mainstay of the economy, has been largely supplanted by tourism. Sugarcane was once the dominant crop on Antigua but is now insignificant. Today, fruit and vegetables, including citrus fruits, mangoes and eggplants are cultivated on the islands. Manufacturing plays a small role in the economy; most activity involves processing agricultural products and making clothing and textiles and concrete blocks. Manufactured exports mainly consist of iron, steel and shipping equipment. Shipping trade has also become important, and the country possesses one of the most important freight hubs in the Caribbean. Services account for almost three quarters of GDP. (UNCTAD, 2021) Tourism and financial services have turned the country into one of the more prosperous in the Caribbean. The contribution of travel and tourism to the economy is significant with over 1 million annual tourist arrivals each year from 2017 to 2019, and the inbound tourism expenditure reaching almost 45 per cent over GDP in 2019 (UNWTO, 2021).

CULTURE

The national dish is fungie (pronounced ‘foon-jee’) made from cornmeal and pepper pot.

The nation’s abundant coral reefs attract many snorkelers and scuba divers. Cricket is the favourite sport in Antigua and Barbuda, which has produced some of the greatest names in cricket, like Sir Vivian Richards, Andy Roberts and Riche Richardson. Other popular sports on the island include sport fishing, windsurfing and kite-surfing. While English is the official language, many people speak Antiguan Creole.

The Antigua and Barbuda Carnival is often organised as a ten-day festival featuring colourful costumes, beauty pageants, talent shows, and music. Steel drum music is an important part of the Carnival, and Antigua and Barbuda is home to many Caribbean steel bands. Soca is another typical type of music featured that grafts the slower beat of soul music onto the fast tempo of calypso. Reggae is also very popular and has been part of the Antigua and Barbudan music scene for a long time.
### ECONOMIC TRENDS

#### Gross domestic product
US dollars at constant prices (2015) in millions


- 750
- 1000
- 1250
- 1500
- 1750

#### GDP per capita
2019

- US$17,113

#### Productive Capacity Index
2018 2019

- 0.0

#### Economic and environmental vulnerability index
2019

- 32

#### Consumer Price Index growth
2019 2001

- 1.1%
- Total 8.4%
  - Female 8.8%, Male 8%

#### Unemployment rate
2001

- Total 8.4%
  - Female 8.8%, Male 8%

#### Main economic sectors, 2019
Percentage of GDP

- Services
- Industry
- Agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing

#### Tourist arrivals
Thousands of tourists, percentage of GDP

#### External financial resources
Percentage of GDP

- ODA
- Remittances
- FDI inflows

#### Public debt as % of GDP
2018

- 89.5%
MARITIME TRANSPORT

Fleet size
Number of ships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ship type</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total fleet</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil tankers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulk carriers</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General cargo</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Container ships</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other types of ships</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Port performance
Ranked by 2019 data within SIDS group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>SIDS Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of port calls</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median time in port (days)</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average age of vessels</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average size (GT) of vessels</td>
<td>39 734</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bilateral connectivity index, 2019
Top 5 partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saint Kitts and Nevis</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinidad and Tobago</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Lucia</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Liner shipping connectivity index
Maximum China Q1 2006=100

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Q1 2006</th>
<th>Q1 2008</th>
<th>Q1 2010</th>
<th>Q1 2012</th>
<th>Q1 2014</th>
<th>Q1 2016</th>
<th>Q1 2018</th>
<th>Q1 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**POPULATION**

**Total population**
Thousands of people, share of urban population

![Population development indicators chart](chart)

**Population development indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poverty headcount (% of population)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human development index</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human assets index</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult literacy rate (15+ years, both sexes %)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender inequality index</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Life expectancy at birth**
2019
77 years

**Population density**
2019
221 persons per km²

**Dependency ratio**
2019
Child: 31.8
Old-age: 13.1

**Age structure by gender, 2019**
Percentage of total population

![Age structure by gender chart](chart)
INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Merchandise and services trade
US dollars in millions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2019 (% of GDP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise exports</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise imports</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>42.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services exports</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>1157</td>
<td>69.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services imports</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>31.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trade openness
Goods and services
2019

Export concentration index
2019

Food import dependency
Average 2015-2019

66% of GDP

0.47

10.40

Top 5 partners in merchandise trade, 2019
Exports in millions US dollars

- Poland
- Cameroon
- United States of America
- Germany
- Bahamas

Merchandise exports by product group, 2019

Services exports by category, 2019

Agricultural raw materials
All food items
Fuels
Manufactured goods
Ores, metals, precious stones and non-monetary gold

Financial, insurance, business, intellectual property
Telecommunications, computer, and information services
Transport
Travel
Other
ENVIRONMENT

**CO₂ emissions per capita**  
Kg per capita

- 2000: 2  
- 2005: 4  
- 2010: 6  
- 2015: 8

**CO₂ emissions per GDP**  
Kg per 2010 US$ of GDP

- 2000: 0  
- 2005: 0.2  
- 2010: 0.4  
- 2015: 0.6

**Renewable energy share in total energy consumption, 2017**  
Percentage of total energy consumption

- Renewable energy: 76%  
- Non-renewable energy: 24%

**Material footprint per capita**  
26.6kg

**Terrestrial protected area**  
18.6%

**Marine protected area**  
0.18%

**Disasters indicators**  
Data not available

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

**Trade in ICT goods**  
2019

- Exports: 0.7%  
- Imports: 3.6%

**Trade in ICT services**  
..%

**Share of internet users**  
2017

- 76%

**Fixed broadband vs Mobile broadband subscriptions**  
Number of subscriptions per 100 people

- Fixed
- Mobile

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Antigua and Barbuda

References

- UNEP (2021). 12.2.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP. Available at [https://environmentlive.unep.org/indicator/index/t2_2_1](https://environmentlive.unep.org/indicator/index/t2_2_1) (accessed 13 January 2021).