Dominica

- **Capital:** Roseau (15°18´N 61°23´W)
- **International airport(s):** Douglas-Charles Airport, Marigot
- **Official language(s):** English
- **Currency:** East Caribbean dollar (XCD)
- **Time:** UTC -4
- **Region:** Caribbean

**GEOGRAPHY**

Dominica is a small island state in the Caribbean Sea, to the south of Guadeloupe and north of Martinique. The highest peak is Morne Diablotins, rising 1 447 m above sea level. Dominica is the youngest island in the Lesser Antilles and is still being formed by geothermal-volcanic activity. It has the world's second-largest hot spring, called Boiling Lake. Dominica is known as 'The Nature Island of the Caribbean', as the mountainous island and its rainforests are home to many rare plants, animals and birds. The Sisserou parrot (also called the imperial amazon) is the island's national bird, lives only in Dominica and is featured on the national ag. Dominica's ag is one of only two national ags that include the colour purple, the other being Nicaragua.

**CLIMATE**

Dominica has a tropical maritime climate with a relatively cool and dry season from January to mid-April and a hot and rainy season from mid-June to mid-November. The average monthly temperature is around 25-26 °C, dropping only a little to 24-25 °C in the period from December to February. The average annual rainfall is 3 200 mm. (World Bank, 2020) However, while some of the western coast can be rather dry (below 2 000 mm annually), heavy rainfalls occur more often inland and on the eastern coast, around 5 000 mm annually - in some places even up to 9 000 mm. The northeastern slopes of Morne Diablotins are among the rainiest places in the world. Dominica is vulnerable to hurricanes, which usually hit between June and October, sometimes causing heavy rains, extensive flooding, landslides, destroying homes and causing damage to agriculture. The country is the third most at-risk country according to the United Nations University (2020) World Risk Index.

**ECONOMY**

Dominica has traditionally been dependent on agriculture, mainly bananas, but is diversifying its economy to make the country an eco-tourism destination. In addition to bananas, its main export products include soap, bay oil, vegetables and revenue stamps. Nearly one third of the labour force works in agriculture. The economy is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and weather conditions. Economic growth relies on increases in tourism, construction, and offshore and other services, in addition to the banana industry.

Tourism has developed more slowly in Dominica than on other Caribbean islands. Cruise ship stopovers have increased with the better availability of modern waterfront facilities in the capital, Roseau. Dominica makes an attractive tourism destination with its mountains, rainforests, lakes and hot springs, waterfalls and related water sport opportunities. In 2019, Dominica attracted over 322 thousand tourist arrivals compared to 199 thousand in 2018. The growth is likely to have increased inbound tourism expenditure over GDP from 21 per cent recorded in 2018. (UNWTO, 2021.)

**CULTURE**

Music and dance are important in the Dominican culture. Creole festival weeks have been organised since 1997, called 'Creole in the Park' and the 'World Creole Music Festival'. Exile One was a famous music group from the 1970s and paved the way for modern Creole music. Dominica's music mixes Haitian, Afro-Cuban, African and European music styles. The second Pirates of the Caribbean film was largely filmed in Dominica as well as parts of the third film in the series.

Dominicans eat often saltfish and baked goods for breakfast or for a fast-food snack throughout the day. Cornmeal porridge is also part of a typical breakfast – made with fine cornmeal or polenta, milk, condensed milk and sugar. Common vegetables include peas, plantains, potatoes, rice, tannias (a root vegetable) and yams. These are often prepared with meat or fish in stews with onions, carrots, garlic, ginger and herbs like thyme. The vegetables and meat are browned to create a rich dark sauce.

Cricket is a popular sport in Dominica. Association football, basketball, netball, rugby and tennis are gaining in popularity as well. In 2014, Dominica participated for the first and only time in the Winter Olympics, competing in cross-country skiing. Dominicans also participate in Track and Field, winning a bronze medal from the 1995 World Championships in the triple jump.
ECONOMIC TRENDS

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

GDP per capita
2019

US$8,111

Productive Capacity Index
2018

Economic and environmental vulnerability index
2019

Consumer Price Index growth
2019

Unemployment rate
2001

Total 11%
Female 9.5%, Male 11.9%

Main economic sectors, 2019
Percentage of GDP

Tourist arrivals
Thousands of tourists, percentage of GDP

External financial resources
Percentage of GDP

Public debt as % of GDP
2018

Dominica
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>1,407</td>
<td>1,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil tankers</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulk carriers</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General cargo</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Container ships</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other types of ships</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>682</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>330</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median time in port (days)</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average age of vessels</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average size (GT) of vessels</td>
<td>34807</td>
<td>8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Container throughput

2019
8,083 TEU

Bilateral connectivity index, 2019
Top 5 partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>0.00</th>
<th>0.05</th>
<th>0.10</th>
<th>0.15</th>
<th>0.20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenada</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Kitts and Nevis</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>British Virgin Islands</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Liner shipping connectivity index
Maximum China Q1 2006=100
**POPULATION**

### Total population

Thousands of people, share of urban population

![Population development indicators graph](image)

#### 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>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human assets index</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>91</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

- **2002**: 77 years

#### Population density

- **2019**: 96 persons per km²

#### Dependency ratio

- **2019**: Child: .., Old-age: ..

### Age structure by gender, 2019

Percentage of total population

No data available
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>42</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise imports</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>50.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services exports</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>25.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services imports</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trade openness
Goods and services
2019
45% of GDP

Export concentration index
2019
0.41

Food import dependency
Average 2015-2019
19.41

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

- Trinidad and Tobago
- Jamaica
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- France
- Guyana

Merchandise exports by product group, 2019

Services exports by category, 2019

Dominica 5 of 7
ENVIROMENT

CO₂ emissions per capita
Kg per capita

CO₂ emissions per GDP
Kg per 2010 US$ of GDP

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

Material footprint per capita

Terrestrial protected area

Marine protected area

Disasters indicators
Data not available

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trade in ICT goods</th>
<th>Trade in ICT services</th>
<th>Share of internet users</th>
<th>Fixed broadband vs Mobile broadband subscriptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Number of subscriptions per 100 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exports: 7.8% Imports: 4.3%</td>
<td>Exports: ..% Imports: ..%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>Fixed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Sources
Source of data: UNCTAD (2021) except indicators listed below.

- Adult literacy rate: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2021)
- Distance to nearest neighbour: [NO_PRINTED_FORM] (Package “cshapes,” 2016) https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/cshapes/index.html
- Economic losses due to disasters: United Nations (2021) https://www.sdg.org/datasets/6a4db249d2e452b8c3654e276fc5ca_0
- Material footprint: UNEP (2021) https://environmentlive.unep.org/indicator/index/12_2_1
- Number of people affected by disasters: United Nations (2021) https://www.sdg.org/datasets/1be260e9ca14674b391b815e4874900_0
- World economic outlook: International Monetary Fund (2021)
- World poverty index: World Bank (2021)
- World travel and tourism contribution: UNWTO (2020)

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/12_2_1 (accessed 13 January 2021).