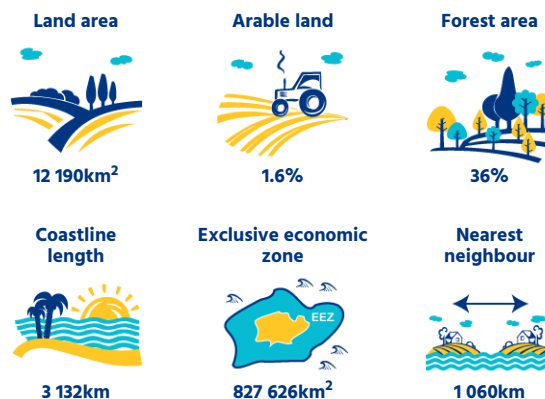




Vanuatu

- > **Capital:** Port Vila (17°44' S, 168°19' E)
- > **International airport(s):** Bauerfield International Airport, Port Vila
- > **Official language(s):** Bislama, English, French
- > **Currency:** Vanuatu Vatu (VUV)
- > **Time:** UTC+11
- > **Region:** Pacific



GEOGRAPHY

Vanuatu forms an archipelago of about 83 small islands of volcanic origin. Located in the South Pacific about 2 000 km East of Queensland in Australia. The distance between its most northern and southern islands is about 1 300 km. Only 14 of the 83 islands have a land area larger than 100 km². The largest islands are Espiritu Santo and Malakula. Only 67 of the 83 islands are inhabited. Most islands are steep on the edges with a rocky shoreline, fringing reefs, unstable soil and little permanent freshwater. Volcanic activity is common, Mount Yasur on the island of Tanna remains active. Earthquakes are a common feature of island life in Vanuatu.

CLIMATE

The climate in Vanuatu is tropical. The rainy season is long, with significant rainfall and hot weather especially from December to April. Cyclones are possible during this time of year. The remainder of the year is cooler and drier. Average monthly temperatures range from 23 to 25 °C. Water temperatures range from 22 °C in the winter to 28 °C in the summer. Annual average rainfall is 2 500 mm with large variations: the northern islands receive over 4 000 mm of rainfall, while the southern extremes of the archipelago receive about 1 500 mm. Cyclones are common during the warm and wet months, although recently cyclones hit outside of the usual season. (World Bank, 2020) Vanuatu is the world's most at-risk country for natural hazards, according to the United Nations University (2020) World Risk Index.

ECONOMY

Vanuatu's economy is centered on agriculture, raising of cattle, tourism and offshore financial services. Agriculture provides employment for more than half of the population. Fishing is also important for domestic consumption. The tropical climate supports a wide range of fruits, vegetables and spices, such as kava, coconut and cocoa. Important export markets include Malaysia, Australia and Japan. Together, agriculture and fishing account for about one quarter of GDP (UNCTAD, 2021). In 2016, Vanuatu launched a citizenship programme, offering the possibility to buy a Vanuatu passport for US\$150 000, which enjoys visa-free travel throughout Europe. With demand from the Chinese market booming, by 2018 passport sales generated about a third of government revenues. Vanuatu's economic growth has recently been driven by tourism and construction. Tourist arrivals in Vanuatu vary from 250 to 350 thousand annually. In 2018, inbound tourism expenditure equalled 37 per cent over GDP. Incorrect syntax for items Still, economic development is constrained by the concentration of exports in relatively few commodities, vulnerability to natural disasters and connectivity issues between islands and main markets.

CULTURE

The density of languages per capita is the highest in the world in Vanuatu, with an average of 2 000 speakers per language. More than 95 per cent of Bislama words are of English origin, whilst the remainder comprises a few dozen words from French, as well as some specific vocabulary inherited from various languages of Vanuatu; though these are essentially limited to flora and fauna. Vanuatu's national anthem, 'Yumi, Yumi, Yumi', is composed in Bislama. 'Yumi' means 'we', derived from the words you and me.

Traditional music in Bislama is popular in rural areas. Musical instruments consist mostly of various types of drums, slit gongs and rattles. Vanuatu was home to an internationally known women's rights activist, Grace Mera Molisa, who became famous for her poetry.

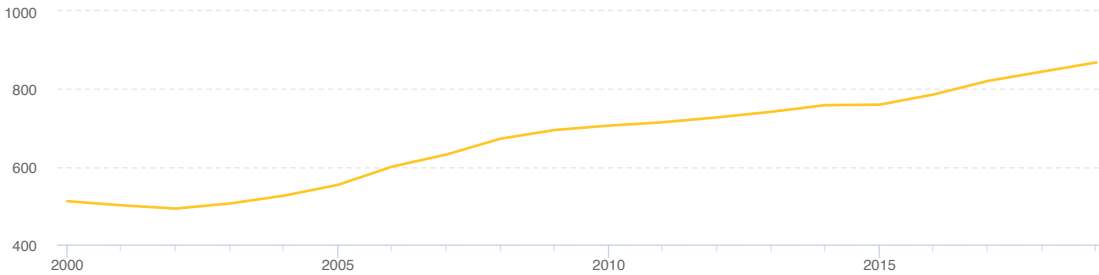
Vanuatu cuisine incorporates fish, root vegetables, vegetables and many fruits, such as papayas, pineapples, mangoes, plantains and sweet potatoes. Coconut milk flavors many dishes. Most island families grow food in their gardens throughout the year.

Cricket is very popular in Vanuatu with about 8 000 registered cricketers. In 1988, Vanuatu became a member of FIFA and the Oceania Football Confederation. Vanuatu also has a successful Women's Beach-Volleyball team. Vanuatu first participated in the Olympic Games in 1988 in Seoul, South Korea, in track and field and boxing.

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Gross domestic product

US dollars at constant prices (2015) in millions



GDP per capita
2019



US\$3 023

Productive Capacity Index
2018



29.4

Economic and environmental vulnerability index
2019



39

Consumer Price Index growth
2019



2.3%

Unemployment rate
2010



Total 1.8%
Female 1.6%, Male 2.1%

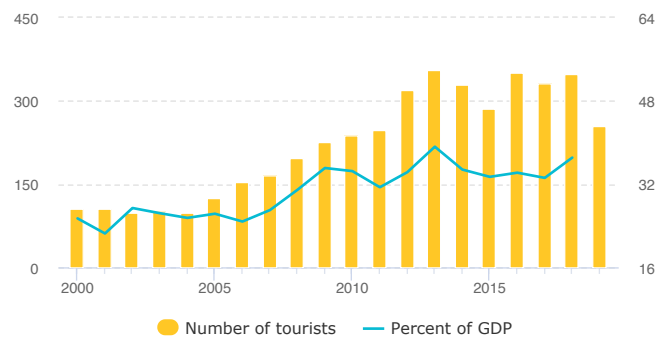
Main economic sectors, 2019
Percentage of GDP



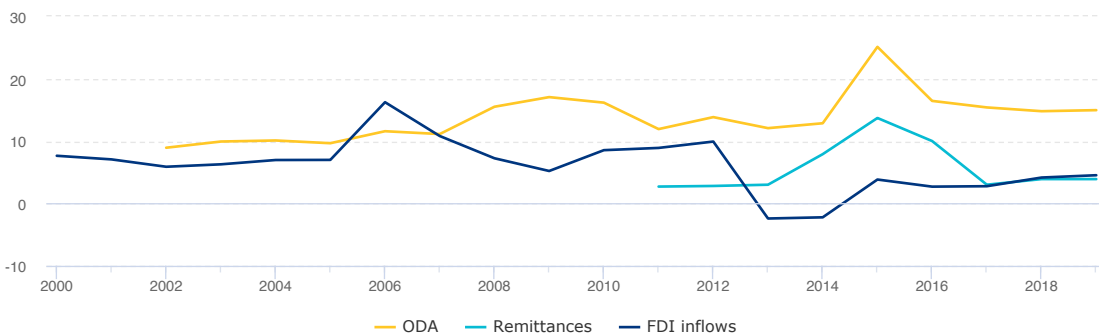
- Services
- Industry
- Agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing

Tourist arrivals

Thousands of tourists, percentage of GDP



External financial resources
Percentage of GDP



Public debt as % of GDP

2018



20.3%

MARITIME TRANSPORT

Fleet size

Number of ships

Ship type	2011	2019
Total fleet	1 407	1 407
Oil tankers	264	266
Bulk carriers	311	333
General cargo	161	77
Container ships	52	49
Other types of ships	619	682

Port performance

Ranked by 2019 data within SIDS group

Indicators	2019	SIDS Ranking
Number of port calls	251	26
Median time in port (days)	0.9	24
Average age of vessels	18	11
Average size (GT) of vessels	51 822	3

Container port throughput

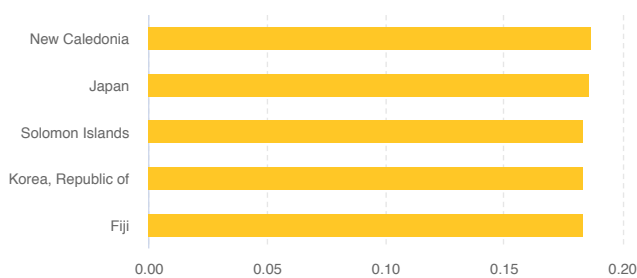
2019



77 436 TEU

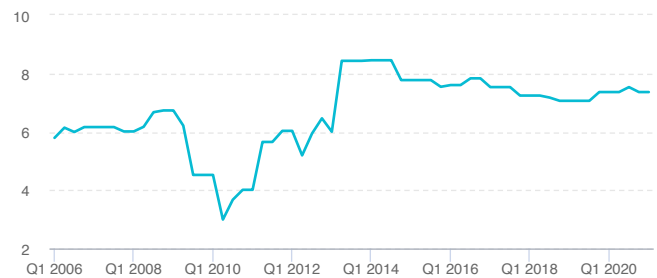
Bilateral connectivity index, 2019

Top 5 partners



Liner shipping connectivity index

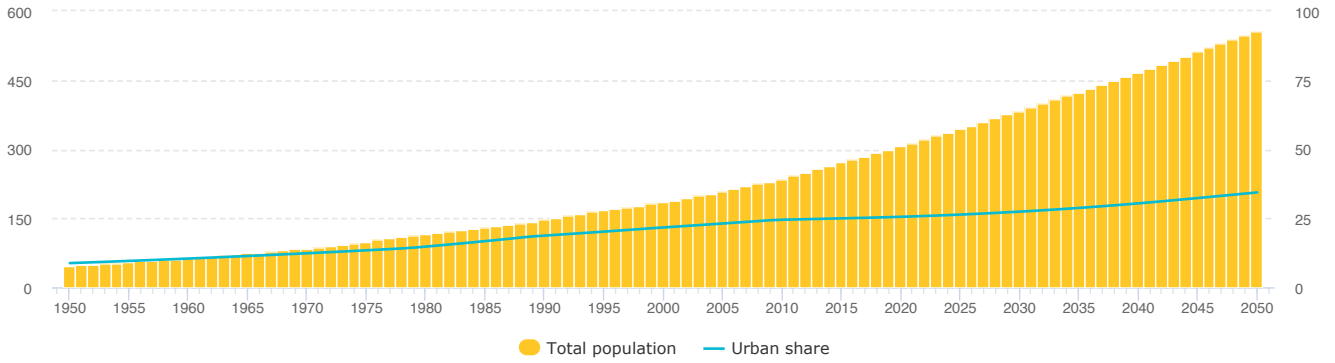
Maximum China Q1 2006=100



POPULATION

Total population

Thousands of people, share of urban population



Population development indicators

Indicators	Period	Value
Poverty headcount (% of population)	2010	13.2
Human development index	2018	0.6
Human assets index	2020	77
Adult literacy rate (15+ years, both sexes %)
Gender inequality index

Life expectancy at birth
2019



70 years

Population density
2019



25 persons per km²

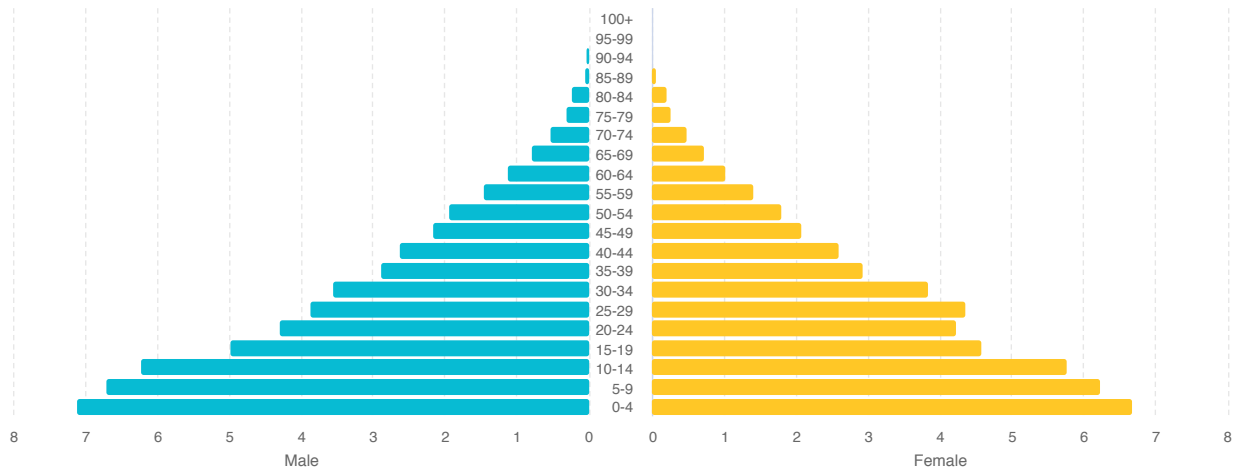
Dependency ratio
2019



Child: 67.1
Old-age: 6.3

Age structure by gender, 2019

Percentage of total population



INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Merchandise and services trade

US dollars in millions

Indicators	2005	2010	2015	2019	2019 (% of GDP)
Merchandise exports	38	49	39	58	6.4
Merchandise imports	149	285	367	333	36.7
Services exports	139	277	283	0	0
Services imports	74	125	171	0	0

**Trade openness
Goods and
services**

2018



55% of GDP

**Export
concentration
index**

2019



0.24

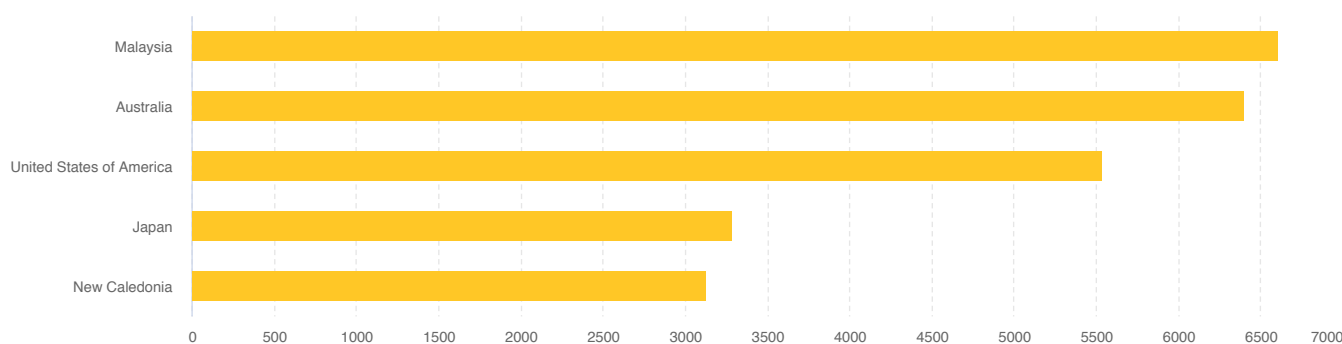
**Food import
dependency
Average
2015-2019**



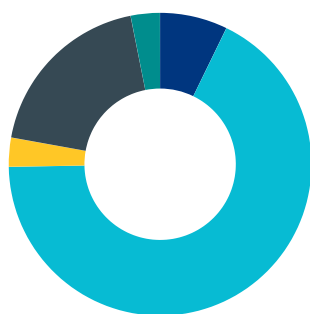
9.34

Top 5 partners in merchandise trade, 2019

Exports in millions US dollars

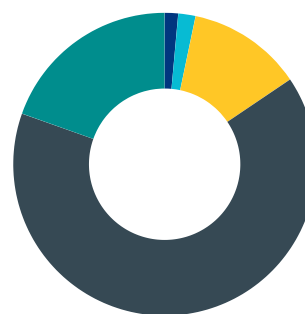


Merchandise exports by product group, 2019



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

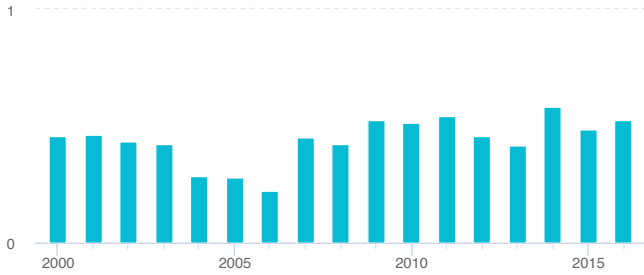
Services exports by category, 2019



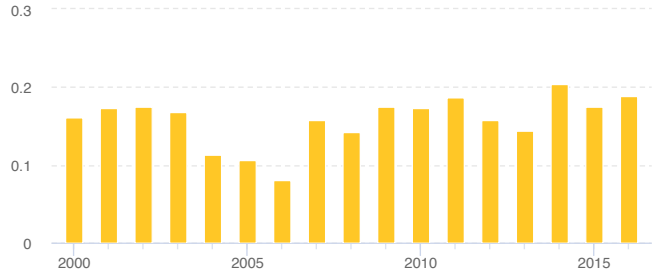
- Financial, insurance, business, intellectual property
- Telecommunications, computer, and information services
- Transport
- Travel
- Other

ENVIRONMENT

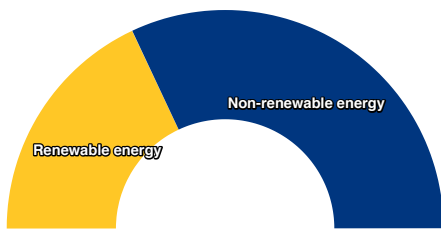
CO₂ emissions per capita
Kg per capita



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
2016



Terrestrial protected area
2018



Marine protected area
2018



Disasters indicators

Data not available

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

Trade in ICT goods
2011



Exports: 0.0%
Imports: 3.1%

Trade in ICT services
2013



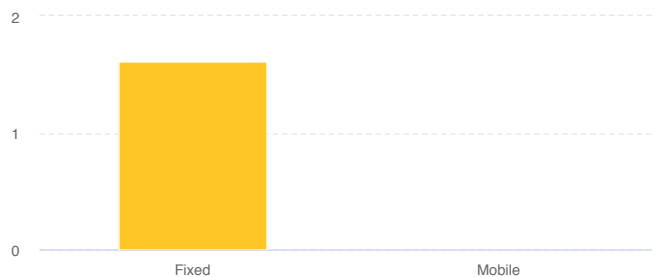
Exports: 0.5%
Imports: 7.7%

Share of internet users
2017



26%

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



Sources

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

- Adult literacy rate: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2021)
- Arable land: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/AG.LND.ARBL.ZS>
- CO₂ emissions per capita: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC>
- CO₂ emissions per GDP: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.KD.GD>
- 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/e3adb2406c2e452b81c3654e276fc5ca_0
- Exclusive economic zone: Sea Around Us (2016) <http://www.seararoundus.org/>
- Fixed broadband/mobile subscriptions: ITU (2019). World telecommunication/ICT indicators database. Available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx> (accessed 28 May 2020).
- Forest area: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/AG.LND.FRST.ZS>
- Gender inequality index: UNDP (2020). Gender inequality index (GII), <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/gender-inequality-index-gii>
- Human assets index: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2021) <http://data.uis.unesco.org/>
- Human development index: UNDP (2021) <http://hdr.undp.org/en/data#>
- Life expectancy at birth: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.LE00.IN>
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- 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/1beb260e9ca14674b391b815e4874990_0
- ODA: OECD (2021) <https://stats.oecd.org>
- Percentage of population in low elevated coastal zones: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.POP.EL5M.ZS>
- Poverty headcount ratio: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.DDAY>
- Renewable energy share in total energy consumption: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.KD.GD>
- Share of internet users: ITU (2019). World telecommunication/ICT indicators database. Available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx> (accessed 28 May 2020).
- Terrestrial protected area: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ER.LND.PTLD.ZS>
- Tourism: UNWTO (2020) Compendium of Tourism Statistics dataset [Electronic], UNWTO, Madrid, data updated on 21/09/2020.
- Unemployment rate, total/female/male: ILO (2020) https://www.ilo.org/shinyapps/bulkexplorer2/?lang=en&segment=indicator&id=SDG_0852_SEX_AGE_RT_A
- World risk index: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft (2020): <https://weltrisikobericht.de/download/1386/>

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- ITU (2019). World telecommunication/ICT indicators database. Available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx> (accessed 28 May 2020).
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- UNCTAD (2021). UNCTADStat. Available at <https://unctadstat.unctad.org/EN/Index.html> (accessed 11 January 2021).
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- UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2021). Available at <http://uis.unesco.org/> (accessed 15 March 2021).
- United Nations (2021). Global SDG Indicators Database. Available at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/> (accessed 2 April 2021).
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