St. Lucia

- **Capital:** Castries (14°1′ N 60°59′ W)
- **International airport(s):** Hewanorra International Airport (UVF) in Vieux Fort and George F. L. Charles Airport (SLU) in Castries
- **Official language(s):** English
- **Currency:** East Caribbean dollar (XCD)
- **Time:** UTC -4
- **Region:** Caribbean

**GEOGRAPHY**

Saint Lucia is located in the eastern Caribbean Sea section of the Lesser Antilles, lying northeast of Saint Vincent, northwest of Barbados and south of Martinique. Saint Lucia is a mountainous volcanic island, with a land area of 617 km² of which about two thirds is covered by forest. At 950 m, Mount Gimie is the highest point on the island. Two other mountains called the Pitons are famous landmarks in Saint Lucia. Saint Lucia also consists of many small islands such as the Maria Islands in the southeast. About one third of the population lives in the capital city, Castries. More generally, the population tends to be concentrated along the coastline.

**CLIMATE**

Saint Lucia has a tropical rainforest climate moderated by northeast trade winds. There are two distinct seasons, with the dry season lasting from December to May, followed by a wet season for the rest of the year with November as the wettest month. Since Saint Lucia is close to the Equator, winter and summer temperatures do not fluctuate much. Monthly average temperatures range from 25 to 27 °C. The average annual rainfall on the island is below 2500 mm, somewhat lower on the coast and higher in the mountain rainforests. (World Bank, 2020)

**ECONOMY**

Saint Lucia is attractive to foreign businesses and investments in banking and the tourism sector. The educated workforce and improvements in infrastructure, including roads, water supply, sewerage, communications and ports contribute to a positive investment environment. Manufacturing makes a relatively small contribution to GDP, but is diverse. St. Lucia is currently trying to revitalise its banana industry. In addition, Saint Lucia exports beer, jewellery, automobiles and petroleum products. The main export destinations are the United States of America, United Kingdom and Trinidad and Tobago. The service sector accounts for most of the country's GDP, with agriculture playing a smaller role compared with many other SIDS. Trade, restaurants and hotels contributing about 30 per cent of the country's GDP (UNCTAD, 2021). All in all, travel and tourism are vital to the economy with 1.2 million tourist arrivals in 2019 and an inbound tourism expenditure of 46 per cent over GDP (UNWTO, 2021). Peak tourism seasons is the dry season when cruise ships visit the ports of Saint Lucia.

**CULTURE**

Traditional cultural festivals include La Rose and La Marguerite, with their origins in secret societies representing local fraternal societies, a Saint Lucian equivalent of Freemasonry. The biggest festival of the year is the Saint Lucia Jazz Festival, which is held in early May. A popular folk dance, the Kwadril, can be seen during festivities.

Saint Lucia boasts a high number of Nobel laureates relative to its population: Sir Arthur Lewis won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1979 and the poet Derek Walcott in Literature in 1992.
ECONOMIC TRENDS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>1750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GDP per capita
US$11,611

Productive Capacity Index
2018 33.8
2019

Economic and environmental vulnerability index
2018 32
2019

Consumer Price Index growth
2019 -0.3%

Unemployment rate
2019 Total 15.3%
Female 17%, Male 13.8%

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

Public debt as % of GDP
2018 74.5%
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>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>1 267</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median time in port (days)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average age of vessels</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average size (GT) of vessels</td>
<td>32 633</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Container port throughput

| 2019 | 31 875 TEU |

Bilateral connectivity index, 2019
Top 5 partners

Trinidad and Tobago
Barbados
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
United States of America
Dominican Republic

Liner shipping connectivity index
Maximum China Q1 2006=100

St. Lucia
POPULATION

Total population
Thousands of people, share of urban population

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>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult literacy rate (15+ years, both sexes %)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender inequality index</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Life expectancy at birth
2019
76 years

Population density
2019
300 persons per km²

Dependency ratio
2019
Child: 25.4
Old-age: 14.0

Age structure by gender, 2019
Percentage of total population
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>64</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise imports</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>662</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>598</td>
<td>28.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services exports</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>370</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>1103</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services imports</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>19.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trade openness
Goods and services

Export concentration index

Food import dependency
Average 2015-2019

56% of GDP
0.16
10.81

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

Merchandise exports by product group, 2019

Services exports by category, 2019

St. Lucia
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

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>2019</td>
<td>..</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Number of subscriptions per 100 people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exports: 6.6%
Imports: 4.6%
Exports: ..%
Imports: ..%

51%
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/e3adb2406c2e452b81c3654e276f65ca_0]
- Exclusive economic zone: Sea Around Us (2016) [http://www.seaaroundus.org/]
- Forest area: World Bank (2021) [https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ER.LND.PTLD.ZS]
- Life expectancy at birth: World Bank [https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.LE00.IN]
- 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/eb260e9ca14674b391b85e4874990_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]
- 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/]

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).