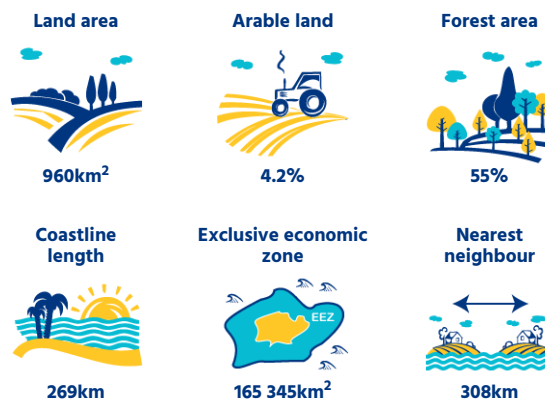




## Sao Tome and Principe

- > **Capital:** São Tomé (0°20' N 6°44' E)
- > **International airport(s):** São Tomé International Airport
- > **Official language(s):** Portuguese and regional languages: Forro, Angolar and Príncipe
- > **Currency:** Dobra (STN)
- > **Time:** UTC +0
- > **Region:** Atlantic and Indian Ocean



### GEOGRAPHY

São Tomé and Príncipe lies in the Gulf of Guinea, west from the coast of Central Africa with the Equator immediately south of São Tomé. The country consists of two archipelagos surrounding the two main islands, São Tomé and Príncipe, that lie about 140 km apart. It is the smallest Portuguese-speaking country and the second-smallest African sovereign state. Pico de São Tomé is the highest point of mountainous São Tomé, which peaks at 2 024 m. São Tomé is also the larger of the two main islands: about 50 km long and 30 km wide, while Príncipe is less than half this size. The Pico Cão Grande (Great Dog Peak) is a famous volcanic landmark in southern São Tomé.

### CLIMATE

The climate of São Tomé and Príncipe is tropical at sea level with hot and humid weather and average temperatures of 22 to 25 °C. The temperature rarely rises beyond 32 °C. The rainy season lasts from October to May. The rainy season is interrupted by a short drier period called 'Gravanito' from December to January. In higher inland the average temperature is 20 °C and nights are generally cool. Average annual rainfall in São Tomé and Príncipe is typically 2 100 mm but varies from 5 000 mm on the southwestern slopes to 1 000 mm in the northern lowlands. (World Bank, 2020)

### ECONOMY

São Tomé and Príncipe is a lower middle income, developing, small island state with some economic vulnerabilities. Its economy is largely based on plantations. The main crop is cocoa, representing about 95 per cent of agricultural exports. According to items attribute is mandatory, other export crops include coffee, copra and palm kernels. Domestic food production is inadequate to meet local consumption, so most of the food consumed in the country is imported. Agriculture, fishing and processing of local agricultural products and production of some basic goods are the main economic activities. As a response to major difficulties in the economy in the 1980s and 1990s, many economic reforms have been carried out. The potential for tourism is high on the scenic islands, and many projects aim at improving the infrastructure to support growth in this sector. In 2019, inbound tourism expenditure reached 10 per cent over GDP. Sao Tome and Principe exports mostly to the Netherlands, Belgium and Singapore (UNCTAD, 2021).

### CULTURE

Music is an important part of the local culture. São Toméans play ússua and socopé music, while Príncipe is home to music called dêxa beat. Tchiloli is a popular musical dance performance to tell a story. The danço-Congo is another musical performance that combines music, dance and theatre.

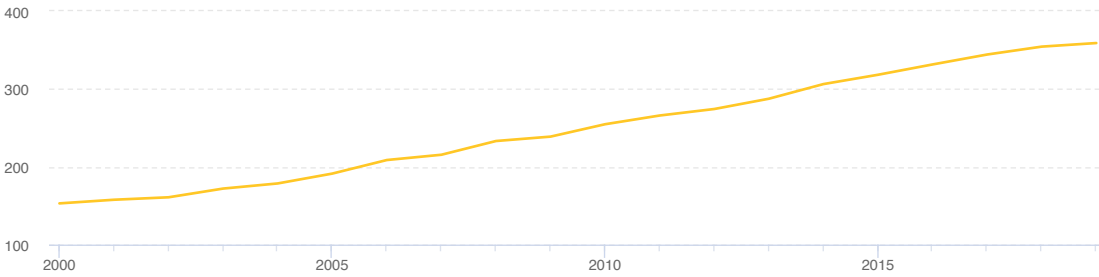
Tropical fruits, for instance, avocado, bananas and pineapple, play a large role in the local diet. People also eat fish and other seafood, beans, maize and cooked banana, often with hot spices. Coffee is also used as a spice or seasoning.

Football is the most popular sport in São Tomé and Príncipe. The first local football association was established in 1931, with a national federation following only two years after independence.

**ECONOMIC TRENDS**

**Gross domestic product**

US dollars at constant prices (2015) in millions



**GDP per capita**  
**2019**



**US\$1 961**

**Productive Capacity Index**  
**2018**



**26.7**

**Economic and environmental vulnerability index**  
**2019**



**30**

**Consumer Price Index growth**  
**2019**



**6.5%**

**Unemployment rate**  
**2012**



**Total 13.6%**  
**Female 24.5%, Male 11.1%**

**Main economic sectors, 2019**

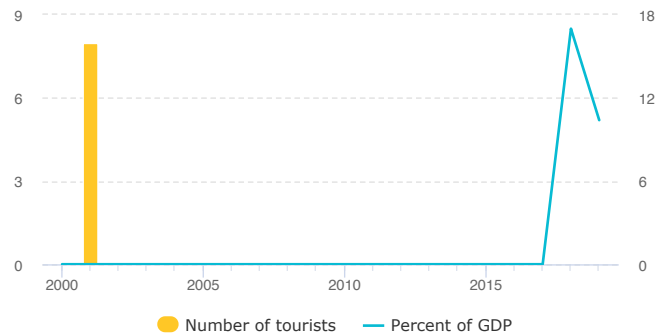
Percentage of GDP



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

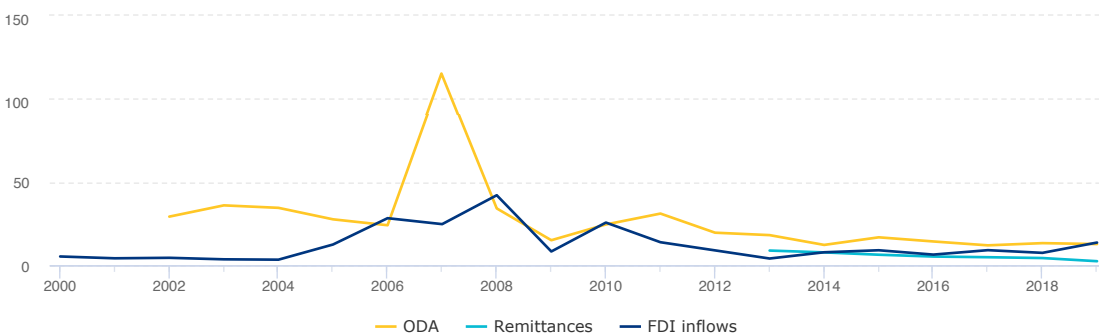
**Tourist arrivals**

Thousands of tourists, percentage of GDP



**External financial resources**

Percentage of GDP



**Public debt as % of GDP**

**2018**



**114.3%**

**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	0	36
Median time in port (days)	0	31
Average age of vessels	0	36
Average size (GT) of vessels	0	36

**Container port throughput**

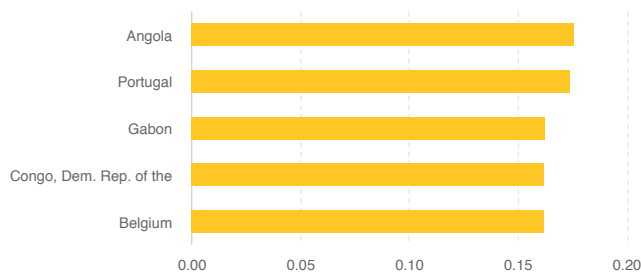
2019



**49 553 TEU**

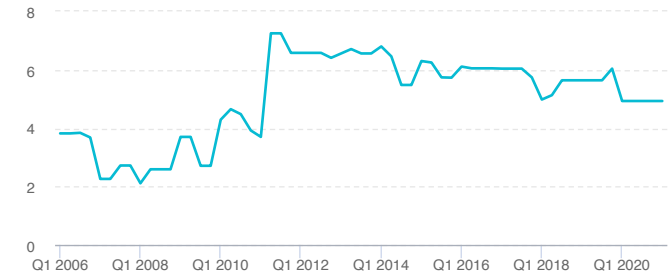
**Bilateral connectivity index, 2019**

Top 5 partners



**Liner shipping connectivity index**

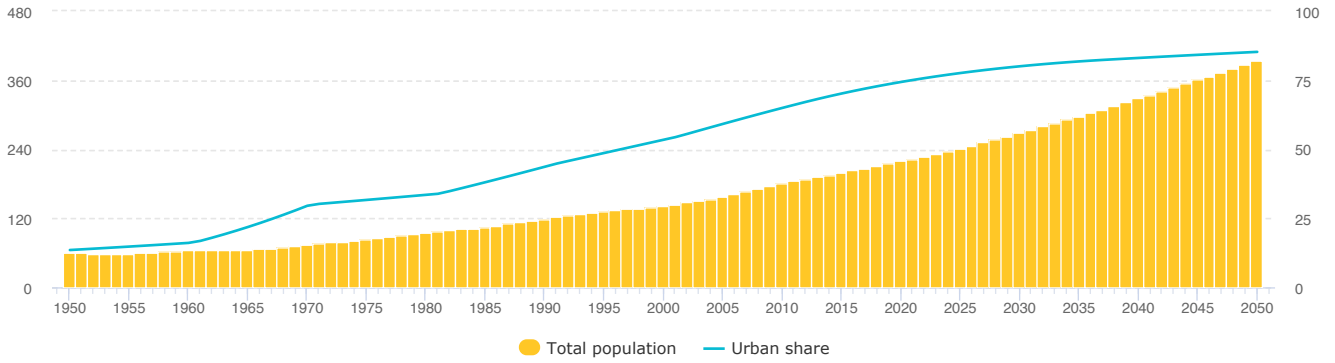
Maximum China Q1 2006=100



**POPULATION**

**Total population**

Thousands of people, share of urban population



**Population development indicators**

Indicators	Period	Value
Poverty headcount (% of population)	2017	35.6
Human development index	2018	0.6
Human assets index	2020	88
Adult literacy rate (15+ years, both sexes %)	..	..
Gender inequality index	2019	0.5

**Life expectancy at birth**

2019



70 years

**Population density**

2019



224 persons per km<sup>2</sup>

**Dependency ratio**

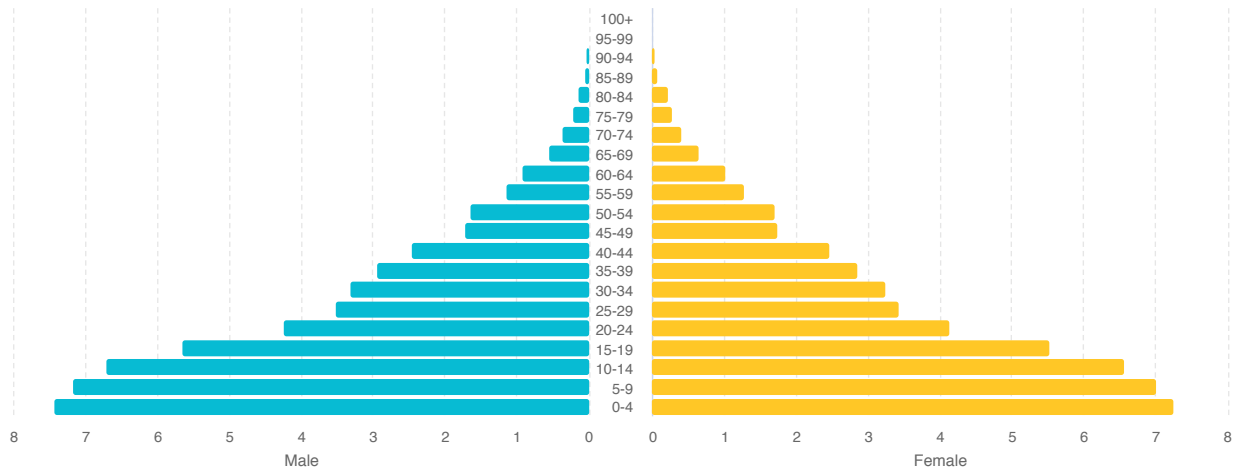
2019



Child: 76.8  
Old-age: 5.4

**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	7	11	11	13	3.1
Merchandise imports	50	112	142	148	35.1
Services exports	9	13	79	56	13.3
Services imports	11	24	67	60	14.2

**Trade openness  
Goods and services**

2019



31% of GDP

**Export concentration index**

2019



0.61

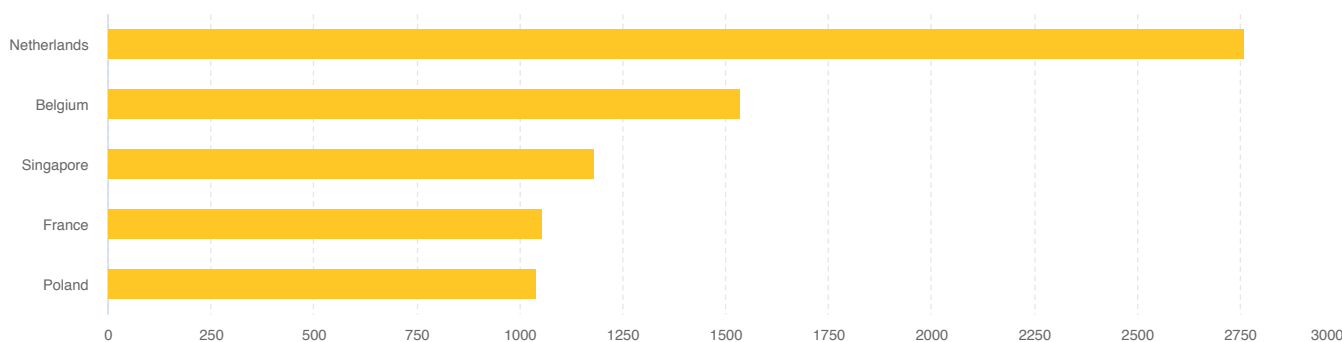
**Food import dependency  
Average 2015-2019**



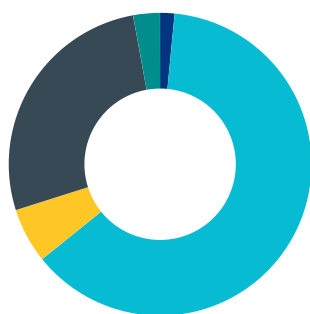
23.14

**Top 5 partners in merchandise trade, 2019**

Exports in millions US dollars

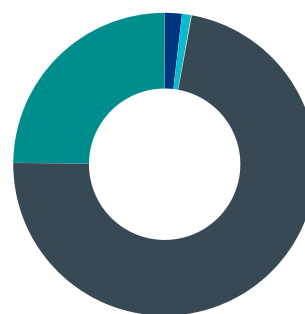


**Merchandise exports by product group, 2019**



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

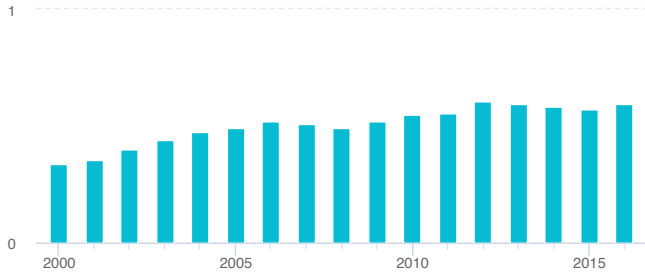
**Services exports by category, 2019**



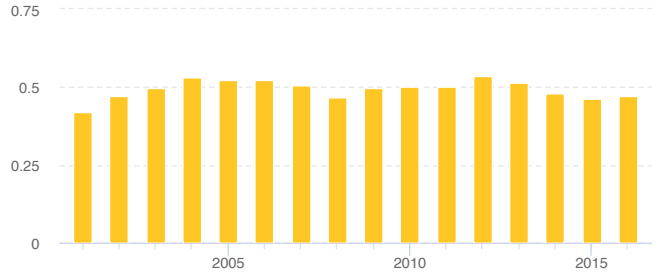
- Financial, insurance, business, intellectual property
- Telecommunications, computer, and information services
- Transport
- Travel
- Other

**ENVIRONMENT**

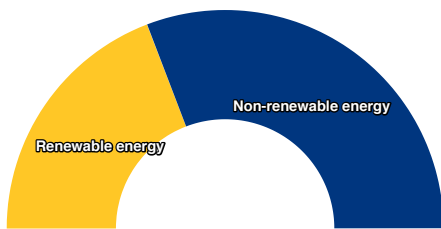
**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita**  
Kg per capita



**CO<sub>2</sub> 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**  
2019



Exports: 0.4%  
Imports: 3.8%

**Trade in ICT services**  
2019



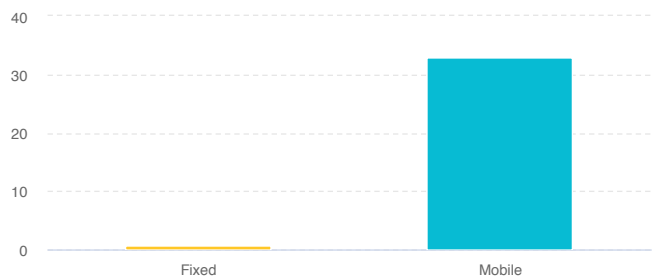
Exports: 0.9%  
Imports: 2.2%

**Share of internet users**  
2017



30%

**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>
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC>
- CO<sub>2</sub> 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](https://www.sdg.org/datasets/e3adb2406c2e452b81c3654e276fc5ca_0)
- Exclusive economic zone: Sea Around Us (2016) <http://www.seaaroundus.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>
- Marine protected area: World Bank (2021) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ER.MRN.PTMR.ZS>
- Material footprint: UNEP (2021) [https://environmentlive.unep.org/indicator/index/12\\_2\\_1](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](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](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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- Sea Around Us (2016). Tools & Data. Available at <http://www.seaaroundus.org/data/#/eez/> (accessed 8 November 2020).
- UNCTAD (2021). UNCTADStat. Available at <https://unctadstat.unctad.org/EN/Index.html> (accessed 11 January 2021).
- UNDP (2020). Gender Inequality Index (GII). Available at <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/gender-inequality-index-gii> (accessed 17 January 2021).
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- 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](https://environmentlive.unep.org/indicator/index/12_2_1) (accessed 13 January 2021).
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