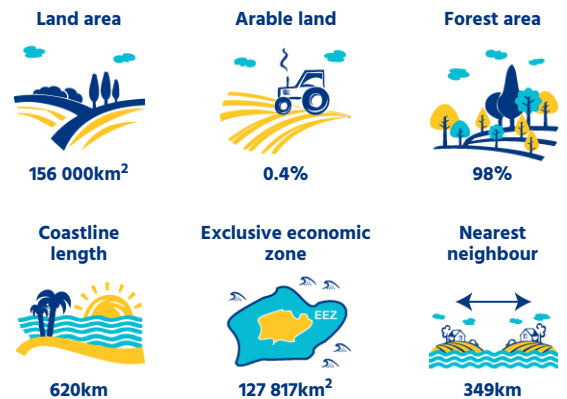




## Suriname

- > **Capital:** Paramaribo (5°50'N 55°10'W)
- > **International airport(s):** Johan Adolf Pengel International Airport
- > **Official language(s):** Dutch
- > **Currency:** Surinamese Dollar
- > **Time:** UTC -3
- > **Region:** Caribbean



### GEOGRAPHY

Suriname is situated on the northern Atlantic coast of South America. Lying just north of the equator, its territory is dominated by sparsely populated, dense rain forests in the south and interior. The northern lowland coastal areas by contrast are largely cultivated and host the majority of inhabitants, centered around the capital of Paramaribo. The Bakhuis and Van Asch Van Wijck mountain ranges run through the interior, with Julianatop (1 286 m) as their highest point.

### CLIMATE

Suriname has a tropical, wet climate with little intra-annual variation due to its proximity to the equator. Average monthly temperatures range from 25°C in February to 27°C in October, though high humidity levels can cause temperatures to feel even warmer. The country has wet seasons from April to July and December to February, with intervening dry seasons. (World Bank, 2020)

### ECONOMY

Suriname has an economy concentrated on mining and natural resource extraction, particularly bauxite, which makes up a large portion of GDP and exports. Agriculture, especially products like rice and bananas, also make up a significant portion of the economy, as well as aquaculture products such as shrimp. In 2019, 8 per cent of the labor force was engaged in agriculture, 23 per cent in industry, mostly the processing of bauxite into aluminum, and 69 per cent in the services sector (ILO, 2020a). Despite this high employment share in services and Suriname's natural features, tourism remains a nascent industry with inbound tourism expenditure accounting for only 1.6 per cent of GDP in 2019 (UNWTO, 2021). Remittances are another important income source, flowing mainly from the Netherlands, the United States of America and French Guiana. In 2019, top destinations for exports included Switzerland, China Hong Kong SAR, the United Arab Emirates, Belgium and Guyana (UNCTAD, 2021).

### CULTURE

Suriname is culturally diverse, incorporating elements of Dutch, Indian, African, Chinese, Indonesian, and indigenous cultures. It is well-known for its kaseko music, an evolution of the Afro-Surinamese call-and-response kawina genre.

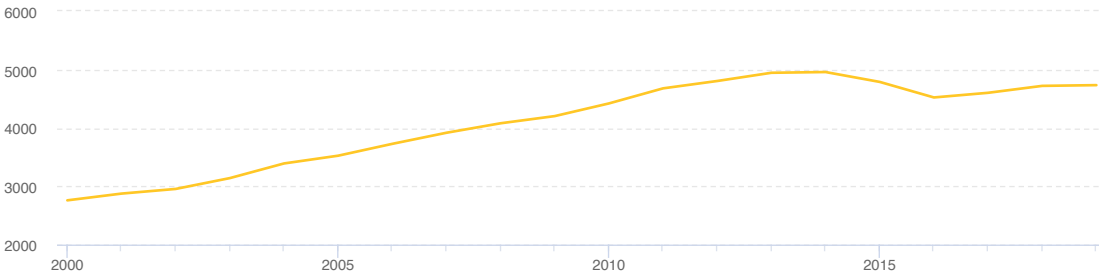
Its cuisine is similarly diverse as its culture, combining native flora, such as cassava, with imported dishes such as roti. Chicken, rice, cassava, and spiced fish (bakkeljauw) are common elements of Surinamese cuisine.

Football, cricket, and especially swimming are all popular in Suriname. Suriname has won two Olympic medals in swimming, including one gold, in 1988 and 1992.

**ECONOMIC TRENDS**

**Gross domestic product**

US dollars at constant prices (2015) in millions



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



**US\$6 360**

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



**31.5**

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



**44**

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



**19.1%**

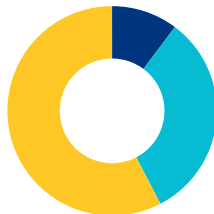
**Unemployment rate**  
**2016**



**Total 7.9%**  
**Female 11.1%, Male 5.7%**

**Main economic sectors, 2019**

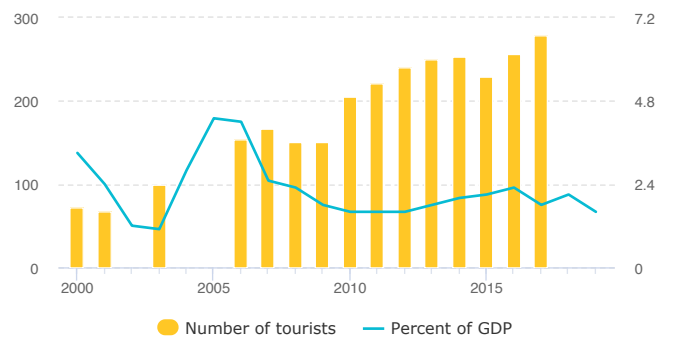
Percentage of GDP



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

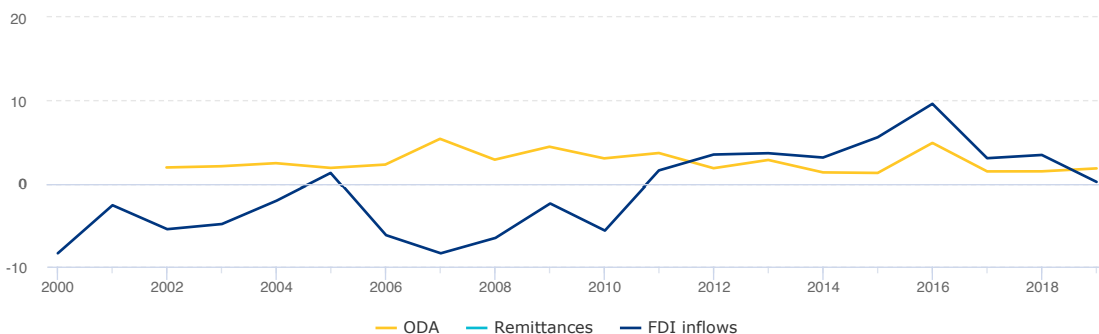
**Tourist arrivals**

Thousands of tourists, percentage of GDP



**External financial resources**

Percentage of GDP



**Public debt as % of GDP**

**2018**



**5.3%**

## 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	843	17
Median time in port (days)	1	8
Average age of vessels	15	21
Average size (GT) of vessels	8 334	27

### Container port throughput

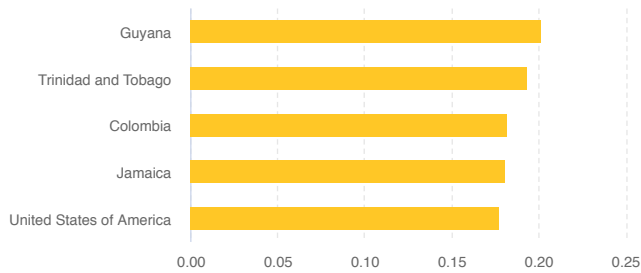
2019



110 659 TEU

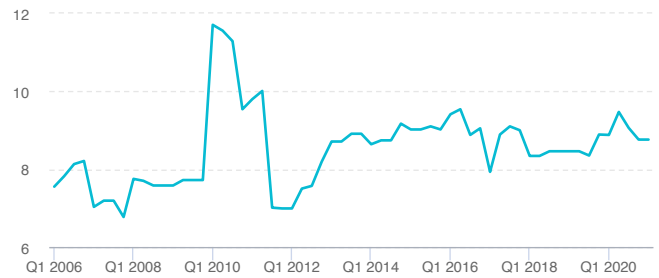
### Bilateral connectivity index, 2019

Top 5 partners



### Liner shipping connectivity index

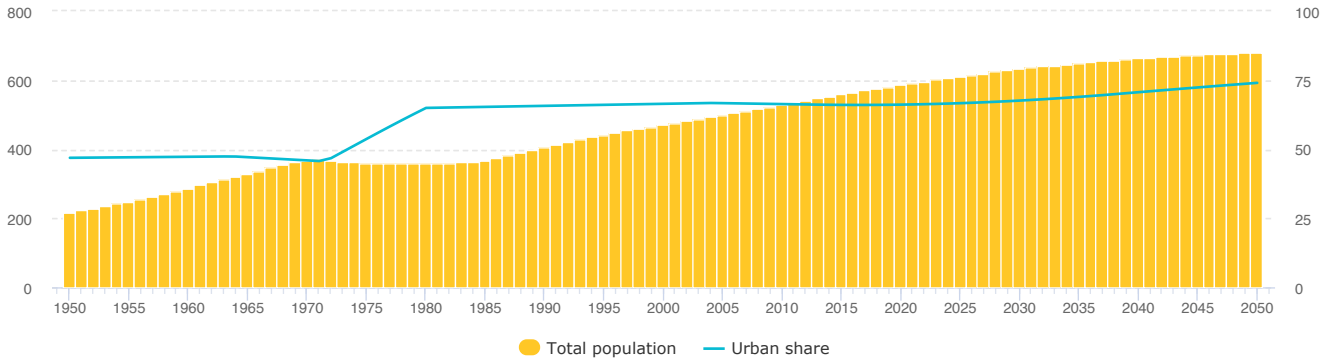
Maximum China Q1 2006=100



**POPULATION**

**Total population**

Thousands of people, share of urban population



**Population development indicators**

Indicators	Period	Value
Poverty headcount (% of population)	..	..
Human development index	2018	0.7
Human assets index	2020	91
Adult literacy rate (15+ years, both sexes %)	..	..
Gender inequality index	2019	0.4

**Life expectancy at birth**

2019



72 years

**Population density**

2019



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

**Dependency ratio**

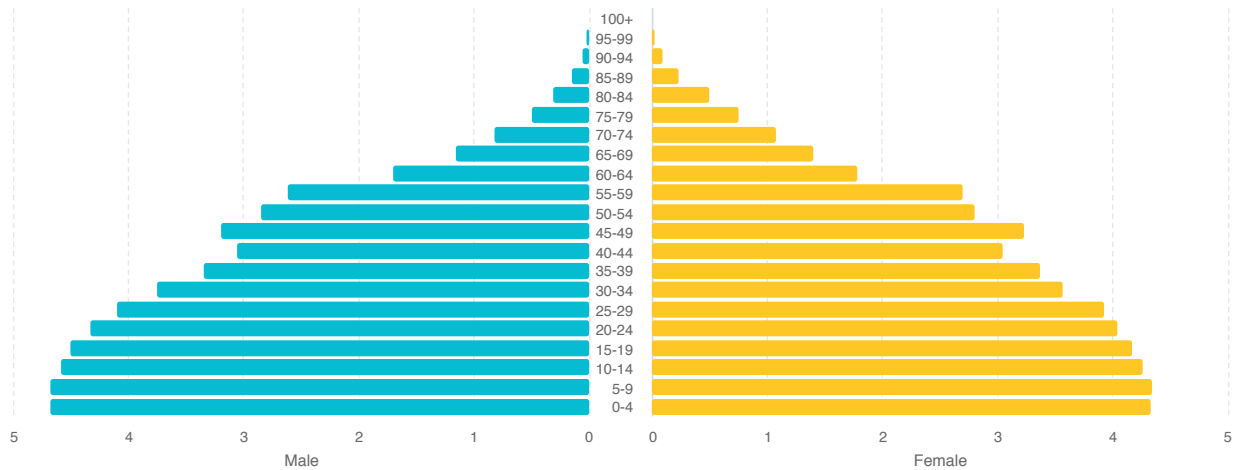
2019



Child: 40.7  
Old-age: 10.6

**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	997	2 026	1 652	2 127	57.5
Merchandise imports	1 050	1 398	2 028	1 702	46
Services exports	204	241	177	127	3.4
Services imports	352	259	709	729	19.7

**Trade openness  
Goods and services**

2019



65% of GDP

**Export concentration index**

2019



0.78

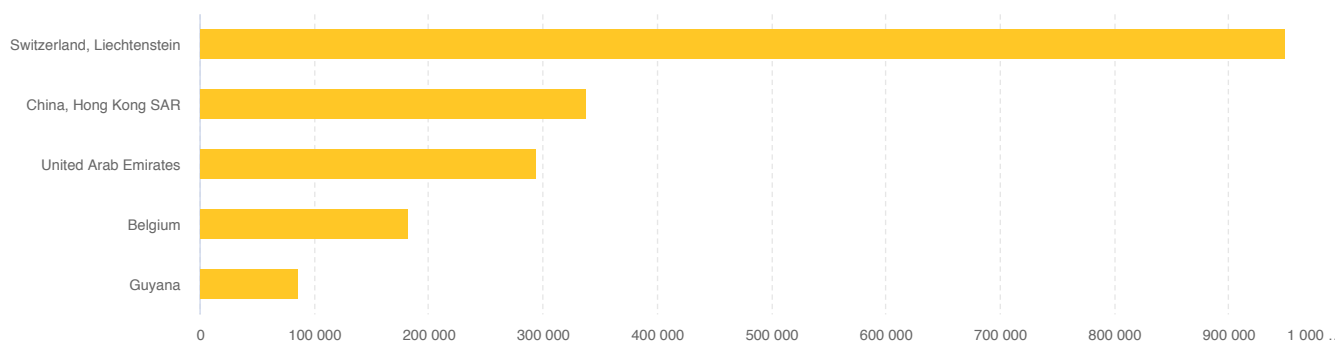
**Food import dependency  
Average 2015-2019**



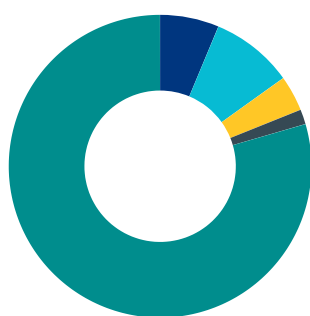
3.94

**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

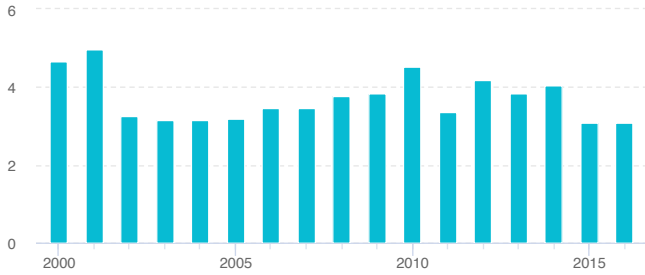
**Services exports by category, 2019**



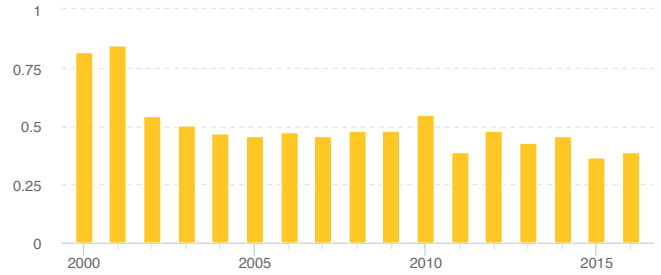
- Financial, insurance, business, intellectual property
- Telecommunications, computer, and information services
- Transport
- Travel
- Other

**ENVIRONMENT**

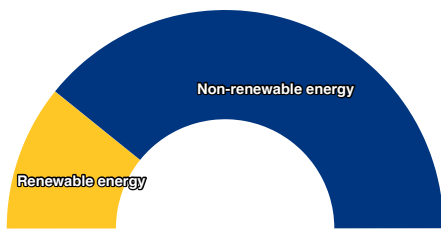
**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita**  
Kg per capita



**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: 0.1%  
Imports: 2.0%

**Trade in ICT services**  
2019



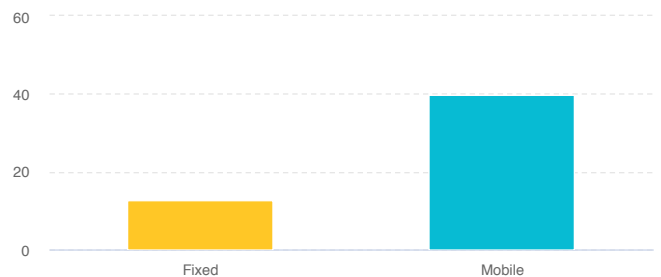
Exports: 6.7%  
Imports: 5.0%

**Share of internet users**  
2017



49%

**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.searoundus.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 (2020b) [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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- Sea Around Us (2016). Tools & Data. Available at <http://www.searoundus.org/data/#/eez/> (accessed 8 November 2020).
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- United Nations (2021). Global SDG Indicators Database. Available at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/> (accessed 2 April 2021).
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