

## Introduction

Aruba is a small island nation in the Caribbean Sea, located 18 miles north off the coast of Venezuela. The terrain is mostly flat with a few hills and has no rivers. Aruba has a parliamentary democracy and is a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The chief of state is the King of Netherlands, and the head of government is the prime minister. Aruba's economy is an open system, and tourism accounts for the majority of economic activity. Aruba is a member of the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT).



**Location:** Caribbean

**Capital City:** Oranjestad (-4 GMT)

**Chief of State:** King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands represented by Governor Alfonso Boekhoudt

**Head of Govt.:** Prime Minister Evelyn Wever-Croes

**Currency:** Aruban or Dutch Guilder (AWG)

**Major Languages:** <p>Papiamentu (official) (a creole language that is a mixture of Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, English, and, to a lesser extent, French, as well as elements of African languages and the language of the Arawak) 69.4%, Spanish 13.7%, English (widely spoken) 7.1%, Dutch (official) 6.1%, Chinese 1.5%, other 1.7%, unspecified 0.4% (2010 est.)</p>

**Primary Religions:** <p>Roman Catholic 75.3%, Protestant 4.9% (includes Methodist 0.9%, Adventist 0.9%, Anglican 0.4%, other Protestant 2.7%), Jehovah's Witness 1.7%, other 12%, none 5.5%, unspecified 0.5% (2010 est.)</p>

**Calling Code:** 297

**Voltage:** 127

## Key Websites

Main Government Page: [overheid.aw](http://overheid.aw)

Commerce Ministry: [arubaeconomicaaffairs.aw](http://arubaeconomicaaffairs.aw)

## Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	High Income
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$3.67 billion (2011)
GDP growth (annual %):	-5.65% (2009)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$35,973.78 (2011)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	4.19% (2011)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	\$0.14 billion (2016)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	-0.48% (2017)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	5.70% (2007)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$2.23 billion (2011)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$1.83 billion (2011)

## GDP Composition %

Agriculture Services Industry Manufacturing



*\*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.*

## Rankings

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KOF Index of Globalization	156 / 185

## U.S. Embassy

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