

Introduction

Guyana is a country located in Northern South America and is culturally part of the Anglophone Caribbean. It is bordered by the North Atlantic Ocean between Suriname, Venezuela, and Brazil. The government system is a republic; the chief of state is the president, and the head of government is the prime minister. Guyana has a largely traditional economic system in which the majority of the population engages in subsistence agriculture, and the allocation of available resources is made on the basis of primitive methods. Guyana is a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).



Location: South America

Capital City: Georgetown (-4 GMT)

Chief of State: President David A. Granger

Head of Govt.: Prime Minister Moses Nagamootoo

Currency: Guyanese dollar (GYD)

Major Languages: <p>English (official), Guyanese Creole, Amerindian languages (including Caribbean and Arawak languages), Indian languages (including Caribbean Hindustani, a dialect of Hindi), Chinese</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Protestant 34.8% (Pentecostal 22.8%, Seventh Day Adventist 5.4%, Anglican 5.2%, Methodist 1.4%), Hindu 24.8%, Roman Catholic 7.1%, Muslim 6.8%, Jehovah's Witness 1.3%, Rastafarian 0.5%, other Christian 20.8%, other 0.9%, none 3.1% (2012 est.)</p>

Calling Code: 592

Voltage: 240

Key Websites

Main Government Page: dpi.gov.gy

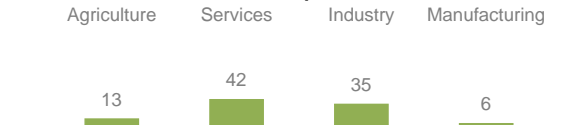
Export Promotion Agency: goinvest.gov.gy

Investment Promotion Agency: goinvest.gov.gy

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	Lower Middle Income
Level of Development:	Developing
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$6.35 billion (2017)
GDP growth (annual %):	2.92% (2017)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$8,162.60 (2017)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US\$):	\$1,589,279,380.40 (2017)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	5.65% (2017)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	\$0.13 billion (2016)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	0.84% (2016)
Labor force, total:	318,670 (2017)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	12.04% (2017)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$2.10 billion (2017)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$1.61 billion (2017)

GDP Composition %



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

Rankings

Index	Rank
Corruption Perceptions Index	91 / 178
Index of Economic Freedom	113 / 179
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	132 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	107 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	122 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	100 / 139

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: D - A high-risk political and economic situation and an often very difficult business environment can have a very significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is very high.

Business Climate rating: C - The business environment is difficult. Corporate financial information is often unavailable and when available often unreliable. Debt collection is unpredictable. The institutional framework has many troublesome weaknesses. Intercompany transactions run major risks in the difficult environments rated C.

Strengths

- Significant investment in infrastructure and telecommunications
- Attractive prospects for investors in mining, hydroelectric power and agriculture
- Exploitation of oil reserves off the coast of Guyana from 2020
- Member of CARICOM (Caribbean Community and Common Market)

Weaknesses

- Reliance on exploitation of gold, bauxite, sugar, rice and timber
- Shortcomings in infrastructure, transport, education and health
- Sensitive to weather events (region strongly affected by hurricanes)
- Territorial dispute with Venezuela
- Reliance on international creditors
- Expansion of the informal economy
- High crime rate linked to drug trafficking against a background of poverty and corruption

U.S. Embassy

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