



# JAMAICA Quick Facts

#### **GENERAL**

Official name Jamaica

**Total Area** 10,991 sq km (4,244 sq. miles)

Capital city Kingston

**Climate** Consistently warm and tropical

Avg. annual

temperature: 82°F (28°C)

Rainy seasons: May-June & September-October

**Dry seasons:** July-August & December-April

Avg. rainfall 78 inches annually

Time zone Standard time zone: UTC/GMT -5 hours

Time zone Eastern Standard Time

abbreviation: - (EST)



#### **PEOPLE**

**Population** 

Languages

**Ethnic groups** 

2, 709, 300 (2011)

English, Creole (Jamaican Patois)

African 90.9%, East Indian 1.3%, Chinese 0.2%, White 0.2%, mixed 7.3%, other 0.1%.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

Roadways 22,121 km

Inland transport The country has a well-integrated transportation

system consisting of public and private buses,

taxes and minibuses.

Main airports

3 International Norman Manley Int'l (NMIA) – Kingston

Donald Sangster Int'l - Montego Bay

Ian Fleming Int'l - Ocho Rios

4 Domestic Tinson Pen Aerodrome – Kingston

Negril Aerodrome - Negril

Ken Jones Aerodrome - Port Antonio

Marlboro Airport - Manchester

Seaports/terminals 14

#### **HEALTH**

No. of hospitals 39

Public 22

Private 17

## ECONOMY/LABOUR

Labour force 1,256,000 (2012, July)

Total unemployed labour force 161,300 (2012, July)

Unemployment rate 12.8% (2012, June)

Unemployment, youth ages 15-24: 28.7%

Inflation rate 6.0% (2011)

Third of Tate

GDP 14.71 US\$ billion (2011)
GDP per capita 5,431 US\$ (2011)

GDP – composition by sector:

Agriculture: 5.8%

Industry: 29.5% Services: 64.7%

Exchange Rates (Oct 2012)

90.64 JMD

**CAN** 90.18 JMD

GBP 140.96 JMD







#### **GOVERNMENT**

Type Constitutional parliamentary democracy.

Independence August 6, 1962

Branches Executive – Governor General (representing Queen

Elizabeth II, chief of state), prime minister, cabinet. Legislative – Bicameral Parliament (21 appointed

Senators, 63 elected Representatives).

Judicial - Court of Appeal and courts of original

jurisdiction.

Political parties People's National Party (PNP), Jamaica Labour Party

(JLP), National Democratic Movement (NDM), New

Nation Coalition (NNC)



#### **TELECOMUNICATIONS**

Cellular teledensity 108.12% (2011)

Internet country code .jm

Internet hosts 3,099 (2010)

Internet users 1.581 million (55.1% total population) (2011)

No. of cellular phones 3.103 million (2010)

International country code 876

International connectivity CFX-1 cable connects directly to Boca Raton,

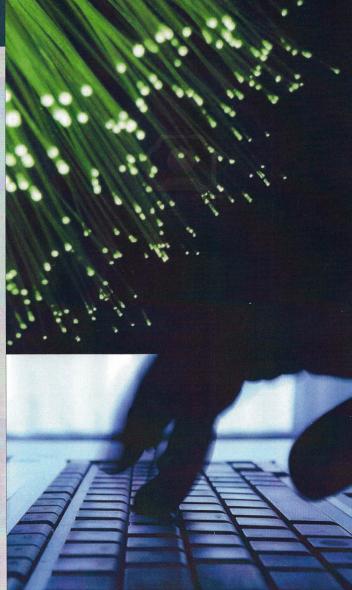
USA. Fibralink cable, connects to the ARCOS via the Dominican Republic, which terminates in Miami Beach, USA. East-West cable connects to the Caribbean-Bermuda US, in the

BVI, and terminates in New Jersey, USA.

Broadcast media Privately-owned Radio Jamaica Limited and its

subsidiaries operate multiple television stations, subscription cable services, and radio stations; 2 other privately-owned television stations broadcast; roughly 70 radio stations

(2007)



#### **EDUCATION**

TERTIARY Institutions	147
Community and business colleges	5
Teachers' colleges	8
Universities	16
	145
Private tertiary institutions	
Tertiary institution enrolment 2010/11	68,993
No. of tertiary institution graduates 2009—11	15,030
SECONDARY Institutions	428
All Age (grades 7-9)	159
Primary & Junior High (Grades 7-9)	87
Secondary High	148
Technical High	14
Agricultural High	2
Independent Secondary (Private	. 18
	260 271
Secondary school enrolment 2010/11	260,371
PRIMARY Institutions	954
Primary	547
All Age	159
Primary & Junior High	87
Special Schools	29
Preparatory	132





### **DID YOU KNOW...**

- Jamaica has emerged as the leading contact centre location in the English-speaking Caribbean
- Scotiabank's Jamaican facility won the 2012 Best Mid-sized Contact
   Centre in the Americas from Contact Center World
- Jamaica's Team Xormis are 2010 winners of the "Interoperability Award" at the Microsoft Imagine Cup
- Jamaica's e-learning project aims to transform education through technology across the school system
- Jamaica ranked 6th out of 151 countries in the 2012 Happy Planet Index

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