



## North America :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon (territorial overseas collectivity of France)

### Introduction :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon

#### Background:

First settled by the French in the early 17th century, the islands represent the sole remaining vestige of France's once vast North American possessions.

### Geography :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon

#### Location:

Northern North America, islands in the North Atlantic Ocean, south of Newfoundland (Canada)

#### Geographic coordinates:

46 50 N, 56 20 W

#### Map references:

North America

#### Area:

**total:** 242 sq km

**country comparison to the world:** 214

**land:** 242 sq km

**water:** 0 sq km

**note:** includes eight small islands in the Saint Pierre and the Miquelon groups

#### Area - comparative:

one and half times the size of Washington, DC

#### Land boundaries:

0 km

#### Coastline:

120 km

#### Maritime claims:

**territorial sea:** 12 nm

**exclusive economic zone:** 200 nm

#### Climate:

cold and wet, with considerable mist and fog; spring and autumn are often windy

#### Terrain:

mostly barren rock

#### Elevation extremes:

**lowest point:** Atlantic Ocean 0 m  
**highest point:** Morne de la Grande Montagne 240 m

**Natural resources:**

fish, deepwater ports

**Land use:**

**arable land:** 8.7%  
**permanent crops:** 0%  
**other:** 91.3% (2011)

**Irrigated land:**

NA

**Natural hazards:**

persistent fog throughout the year can be a maritime hazard

**Environment - current issues:**

recent test drilling for oil in waters around Saint Pierre and Miquelon may bring future development that would impact the environment

**Geography - note:**

vegetation scanty

**People and Society :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon**

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**Nationality:**

**noun:** Frenchman(men), Frenchwoman(women)  
**adjective:** French

**Ethnic groups:**

Basques and Bretons (French fishermen)

**Languages:**

French (official)

**Religions:**

Roman Catholic 99%, other 1%

**Population:**

5,716 (July 2014 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 230

**Age structure:**

**0-14 years:** 16.3% (male 481/female 450)  
**15-24 years:** 8.5% (male 249/female 235)  
**25-54 years:** 43.5% (male 1,234/female 1,252)  
**55-64 years:** 17.9% (male 416/female 378)  
**65 years and over:** 17.1% (male 421/female 600) (2014 est.)

**Median age:**

**total:** 44.6 years  
**male:** 44.2 years  
**female:** 45 years (2014 est.)

**Population growth rate:**

-1.02% (2014 est.)  
**country comparison to the world:** 230

**Birth rate:**

7.7 births/1,000 population (2014 est.)  
**country comparison to the world:** 223

**Death rate:**

9.27 deaths/1,000 population (2014 est.)  
**country comparison to the world:** 63

**Net migration rate:**

-8.57 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2014 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 209

**Urbanization:**

**urban population:** 91% of total population (2010)

**rate of urbanization:** 0.1% annual rate of change (2010-15 est.)

**Major urban areas - population:**

SAINT-PIERRE (capital) 5,000 (2009)

**Sex ratio:**

**at birth:** 1.1 male(s)/female

**0-14 years:** 1.07 male(s)/female

**15-24 years:** 1.06 male(s)/female

**25-54 years:** 0.99 male(s)/female

**55-64 years:** 0.96 male(s)/female

**65 years and over:** 0.69 male(s)/female

**total population:** 0.97 male(s)/female (2014 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:**

**total:** 6.95 deaths/1,000 live births

**country comparison to the world:** 162

**male:** 8.07 deaths/1,000 live births

**female:** 5.76 deaths/1,000 live births (2014 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:**

**total population:** 80.26 years

**country comparison to the world:** 31

**male:** 77.95 years

**female:** 82.7 years (2014 est.)

**Total fertility rate:**

1.56 children born/woman (2014 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 184

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:**

NA

**HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS:**

NA

**HIV/AIDS - deaths:**

NA

**Literacy:**

**definition:** age 15 and over can read and write

**total population:** 99%

**male:** 99%

**female:** 99% (1982 est.)

**Government :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon**

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**Country name:**

**conventional long form:** Territorial Collectivity of Saint Pierre and Miquelon

**conventional short form:** Saint Pierre and Miquelon

**local long form:** Departement de Saint-Pierre et Miquelon

**local short form:** Saint-Pierre et Miquelon

**Dependency status:**

self-governing territorial overseas collectivity of France

**Government type:**

parliamentary representative democracy

**Capital:**

**name:** Saint-Pierre

**geographic coordinates:** 46 46 N, 56 11 W

**time difference:** UTC-3 (2 hours ahead of Washington, DC during Standard Time)

**daylight saving time:** +1hr, begins second Sunday in March; ends first Sunday in November

**Administrative divisions:**

none (territorial overseas collectivity of France); note - there are no first-order administrative divisions as defined by the US Government, but there are two communes - Saint Pierre, Miquelon at the second order

**Independence:**

none (territorial collectivity of France; has been under French control since 1763)

**National holiday:**

Fete de la Federation, 14 July (1789)

**Constitution:**

4 October 1958 (French Constitution) (2013)

**Legal system:**

French civil law

**Suffrage:**

18 years of age; universal

**Executive branch:**

**chief of state:** President Francois HOLLANDE (since 15 May 2012); represented by Prefect Patrice LATRON (since 16 November 2011)

**head of government:** President of the Territorial Council Stephane ARTANO (since 21 February 2007)

**cabinet:** NA

(For more information visit the [World Leaders website](#) )

**elections:** French president elected by popular vote for a five-year term; election last held on 6 May 2012 (next to be held in 2017); prefect appointed by the French president on the advice of the French Ministry of Interior; president of the Territorial Council elected by the members of the council

**Legislative branch:**

unicameral Territorial Council or Conseil Territorial (19 seats, 15 from Saint Pierre and 4 from Miquelon; members elected by popular vote to serve six-year terms)

**elections:** elections last held on 18 March 2012 (next to be held in March 2018)

**election results:** percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - NA

**note:** Saint Pierre and Miquelon elect one member to the French Senate; elections last held on 21 September 2008 (next to be held in September 2014); results - percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - UMP 1; Saint Pierre and Miquelon also elects one member to the French National Assembly; elections last held on 17 June 2012 (next to be held by June 2017); results - percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - PRG 1

**Judicial branch:**

**highest court(s):** Superior Tribunal of Appeals or Tribunal Superieur d'Appel (composition NA)

**judge selection and term of office:** judge selection and tenure NA

**subordinate courts:** NA

**Political parties and leaders:**

Archipelago Tomorrow or AD (affiliated with UDF/RPR list)

Cap sur l'Avenir (affiliated with PRG)

Left Radical Party or PRG

Rassemblement pour la Republique or RPR (now UMP)

Saint Pierre and Miquelon 2000/Avenir Miquelon or SPM 2000/AM

Socialist Party or PS

Union pour la Democratie Francaise or UDF

**Political pressure groups and leaders:**

NA

**International organization participation:**

UPU, WFTU (NGOs)

**Diplomatic representation in the US:**

none (territorial overseas collectivity of France)

**Diplomatic representation from the US:**

none (territorial overseas collectivity of France)

**Flag description:**

a yellow three-masted sailing ship facing the hoist side rides on a blue background with scattered, white, wavy lines under the ship; a continuous black-over-white wavy line divides the ship from the white wavy lines; on the hoist side, a vertical band is divided into three parts: the top part (called ikkurina) is red with a green diagonal cross extending to the corners overlaid by a white cross dividing the rectangle into four sections; the middle part has a white background with an ermine pattern; the third part has a red background with two stylized yellow lions outlined in black, one above the other; these three heraldic arms represent settlement by colonists from the Basque Country (top), Brittany, and Normandy; the blue on the main portion of the flag symbolizes the Atlantic Ocean and the stylized ship represents the Grande Hermine in which Jacques Cartier "discovered" the islands in 1536

*note:* the flag of France used for official occasions

**National symbol(s):**

16th-century sailing ship

**National anthem:**

*note:* as a collectivity of France, "La Marseillaise" is official (see France)

**Economy :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon**

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**Economy - overview:**

The inhabitants have traditionally earned their livelihood by fishing and by servicing fishing fleets operating off the coast of Newfoundland. The economy has been declining, however, because of disputes with Canada over fishing quotas and a steady decline in the number of ships stopping at Saint Pierre. In 1992, an arbitration panel awarded the islands an exclusive economic zone of 12,348 sq km to settle a longstanding territorial dispute with Canada, although it represents only 25% of what France had sought. France heavily subsidizes the islands to the great betterment of living standards. The government hopes an expansion of tourism will boost economic prospects. Fish farming, crab fishing, and agriculture are being developed to diversify the local economy. Recent test drilling for oil may pave the way for development of the energy sector.

**GDP (purchasing power parity):**

\$215.3 million (2006 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 219

*note:* supplemented by annual payments from France of about \$60 million

**GDP (official exchange rate):**

\$215.3 million (2006 est.)

**GDP - real growth rate:**

NA%

**GDP - per capita (PPP):**

\$34,900 (2006 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 39

**GDP - composition, by sector of origin:**

**agriculture:** 2%

**industry:** 15%

**services:** 83% (2006 est.)

**Agriculture - products:**

vegetables; poultry, cattle, sheep, pigs; fish

**Industries:**

fish processing and supply base for fishing fleets; tourism

**Industrial production growth rate:**

NA%

**Labor force:**

3,194 (2006)

**country comparison to the world:** 225

**Labor force - by occupation:**

**agriculture:** 18%

**industry:** 41%

**services:** 41% (1996)

**Unemployment rate:**

9.9% (2008 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 107

**Population below poverty line:**

NA%

**Household income or consumption by percentage share:**

**lowest 10%:** NA%

**highest 10%:** NA%

**Budget:**

**revenues:** \$70 million

**expenditures:** \$60 million (1996)

**Taxes and other revenues:**

32.5% of GDP

**country comparison to the world:** 76

**Budget surplus (+) or deficit (-):**

4.6% of GDP

**country comparison to the world:** 10

**Fiscal year:**

calendar year

**Inflation rate (consumer prices):**

4.5% (2010)

**country comparison to the world:** 148

8.1% (2005)

**Exports:**

\$6.641 million (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 216

\$5.5 million (2005 est.)

**Exports - commodities:**

fish and fish products, soybeans, animal feed, mollusks and crustaceans, fox and mink pelts

**Imports:**

\$95.35 million (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 213

\$68.2 million (2005 est.)

**Imports - commodities:**

meat, clothing, fuel, electrical equipment, machinery, building materials

**Debt - external:**

\$NA

**Exchange rates:**

euros (EUR) per US dollar -

0.7634 (2013 est.)

0.7752 (2012 est.)

0.755 (2010 est.)

0.7198 (2009 est.)

0.6827 (2008 est.)

## Energy :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon

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### Electricity - production:

53 million kWh (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 205**

### Electricity - consumption:

49.29 million kWh (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 205**

### Electricity - exports:

0 kWh (2012 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 189**

### Electricity - imports:

0 kWh (2012 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 192**

### Electricity - installed generating capacity:

26,600 kW (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 200**

### Electricity - from fossil fuels:

97.7% of total installed capacity (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 59**

### Electricity - from nuclear fuels:

0% of total installed capacity (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 172**

### Electricity - from hydroelectric plants:

0% of total installed capacity (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 194**

### Electricity - from other renewable sources:

2.3% of total installed capacity (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 65**

### Crude oil - production:

0 bbl/day (2012 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 207**

### Crude oil - exports:

0 bbl/day (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 174**

### Crude oil - imports:

0 bbl/day (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 115**

### Crude oil - proved reserves:

0 bbl (1 January 2013 es)

**country comparison to the world: 181**

### Refined petroleum products - production:

0 bbl/day (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 189**

### Refined petroleum products - consumption:

974.1 bbl/day (2011 est.)

**country comparison to the world: 205**

### Refined petroleum products - exports:

0 bbl/day (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 211

**Refined petroleum products - imports:**

584 bbl/day (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 201

**Natural gas - production:**

0 cu m (2011 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 185

**Natural gas - consumption:**

0 cu m (2010 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 189

**Natural gas - exports:**

0 cu m (2011 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 175

**Natural gas - imports:**

0 cu m (2011 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 124

**Natural gas - proved reserves:**

0 cu m (1 January 2013 es)

**country comparison to the world:** 187

**Carbon dioxide emissions from consumption of energy:**

91,430 Mt (2011 est.)

**country comparison to the world:** 205

## Communications :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon

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**Telephones - main lines in use:**

4,800 (2010)

**country comparison to the world:** 211

**Telephone system:**

**general assessment:** adequate

**international:** country code - 508; radiotelephone communication with most countries in the world; satellite earth station - 1 in French domestic satellite system

**Broadcast media:**

2 TV stations with a third repeater station, all part of the French Overseas Network; radio stations on St. Pierre and on Miquelon are part of the French Overseas Network (2007)

**Internet country code:**

.pm

**Internet hosts:**

15 (2012)

**country comparison to the world:** 224

## Transportation :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon

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**Airports:**

2 (2013)

**country comparison to the world:** 209

**Airports - with paved runways:**

**total:** 2

**1,524 to 2,437 m:** 1

**914 to 1,523 m:** 1 (2013)

**Roadways:**



**total:** 117 km  
**country comparison to the world:** 214  
**paved:** 80 km  
**unpaved:** 37 km (2009)

**Ports and terminals:**

**major seaport(s):** Saint-Pierre

**Military :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon**

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**Manpower fit for military service:**

**males age 16-49:** 1,064

**females age 16-49:** 1,069 (2010 est.)

**Manpower reaching militarily significant age annually:**

**male:** 34

**female:** 32 (2010 est.)

**Military - note:**

defense is the responsibility of France

**Transnational Issues :: Saint Pierre and Miquelon**

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**Disputes - international:**

none