

Geography

Location: Caribbean, island between the Caribbean Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean, northeast of Venezuela

Map references: Central America and the Caribbean

Area:

total area: 430 sq km

land area: 430 sq km

comparative area: slightly less than 2.5 times the size of Washington, DC

Land boundaries: 0 km

Coastline: 97 km

Maritime claims:

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm

territorial sea: 12 nm

International disputes: none

Climate: tropical; rainy season (June to October)

Terrain: relatively flat; rises gently to central highland region

Natural resources: petroleum, fishing, natural gas

Land use:

arable land: 77%

permanent crops: 0%

meadows and pastures: 9%

forest and woodland: 0%

other: 14%

Irrigated land: NA sq km

Environment:

current issues: pollution of coastal waters from waste disposal by ships; soil erosion; illegal solid waste disposal threatens contamination of aquifers

natural hazards: hurricanes (especially June to October); periodic landslides

international agreements: party to - Climate Change, Endangered Species, Law of the Sea, Marine Dumping, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution; signed, but not ratified - Biodiversity

Note: easternmost Caribbean island