



Grenada

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Country Report: Grenada

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Table of Contents:

General Country Profile	3
Geography and Population	3
History and Culture	4
Government and Legal System	5
Economy and Employment	6
Physical and Technological Infrastructure	7
National Health Care Profile	8
National Health Care Structure	10
Structure and Policy	10
Health Service Coverage	11
Health Care Expenditures	12
Health Workforce and Infrastructure	12
National Radiology Profile	13
Radiology Workforce and Training and Professional Representation	13
Equipment Inventory, Distribution, Regulation	13
Conclusion	14
References	15

General Country Profile¹

1. Geography and Population

a. Climate and seasonal cycles

Grenada has a tropical climate that is somewhat tempered by the northeast trade winds, and is typically cool during the wet season and hot and humid during the dry season.^{2 3 4}

b. Geographic landmarks

Grenada is an island nation in the Caribbean Sea, the southernmost island in the Antilles archipelago, and has an area of 348.5 square kilometers, roughly twice the size of Washington, D.C. The nation also encompasses several smaller islands to the north of the island of Grenada, including Carriacou and Petite Martinique. Grenada's terrain is volcanic in origin. The island of Grenada has mountains centrally, the highest of which is Mount St. Catherine, which is 840 m in elevation. The country's capital and largest city, St. George's, is located along the coastline in the southwest of the island of Grenada. The country's population is concentrated along the coast, and approximately a third of the country's inhabitants live in the city of St. George's.^{2 3 4}

c. Grenada Population Data^{3 4 5}

Population (2018 data)	113,094	
Population world rank (2020 data)	190	
Population growth (annual percentage, 2020 data)	0.38%	
Percentage of population in rural areas (2020 data)	63.50%	
Population age distribution (2020 data)	<i>0-14 years:</i>	23.2%
	<i>15-24 years:</i>	14.1%
	<i>25-54 years:</i>	40.1%
	<i>55-64 years:</i>	11.7%
	<i>65 years and over:</i>	10.9%
Gross national income per capita (US\$, 2018 data)	9650	
Gross national income per capita rank (2016 data)	83rd	
Life expectancy at birth (years, 2018 data)	72.384	
Life expectancy rank	119th	
Infant mortality rate (deaths/1000 live births, 2020 data)	8.9	
Infant mortality rate rank (2020 data)	141st	
Literacy (2020 data)	98.60%	
Average years of schooling (2020 data)	16.5	
UN Human Development Index (2018 data)	0.772	
UN Human Development Index rank (2018 data)	75th	

2. History and Culture

a. Brief history

Prior to the arrival of European colonists, Grenada was populated by indigenous Arawaks and later by the Island Caribs. The Island Caribs strongly resisted attempts by Europeans to colonize the island, although the French eventually gained control of the island in the 17th century and established sugar plantations using African slaves as labor. After Great Britain's victory over France in the Seven Year's War, Grenada was ceded to Great Britain under the Treaty of Paris in 1763. With the exception of a brief period of French control from 1779 to 1783 during the Anglo-French War, Great Britain maintained control over the island until 1967. Under British rule, the sugar trade gradually gave way to cacao production in the 19th century and nutmeg exportation in the 20th century. Great Britain allowed Grenada to become an autonomous state in 1967, and the nation of Grenada attained full independence in 1974.^{2 6}

Grenada initially chose to remain within the British Commonwealth under the leadership of Eric Gairy, the first Prime Minister of Grenada. However, in 1976, after a contested general election, the New Jewel Movement launched a bloodless coup against Gairy's regime and established the People's Revolutionary Government, a Marxist-Leninist government under Maurice Bishop's leadership. The PRG was short-lived, however, as Bishop was killed and his regime ended after a military coup in 1983. A US-led invasion of Grenada one week later established a peacekeeping force on the island, allowing the formation of a government under the New National Party, led by Herbert Blaize. The New National Party largely controlled the government during the next twenty-five years. During this time, Grenada served as an offshore banking center, and was eventually placed under investigation by the international Financial Action Task Force in 2000, leading to the closure of numerous banks throughout the island. The ensuing economic downturn, as well as the havoc wreaked by Hurricane Ivan in 2004, led to a shift in the balance of power, and in 2008 the New Democratic Party gained control of Grenada's government.^{2 6}

b. Cultural and religious practices

Most of Grenada's population is black, descendants of African slaves who labored on the island's sugar, cacao, and nutmeg plantations. Additional minority groups include descendants of French and British settlers, as well as East Indians, descended from indentured laborers who came to Grenada after the abolition of slavery. Over half of the island is Protestant and one third of the island practices Roman Catholicism. Other prominent religious groups include Rastafarianism and Jehovah's Witnesses.^{2 6}

c. Languages and dialects spoken

English is the official language of Grenada, and is the most commonly spoken language. In addition, French patois is spoken in many rural villages.^{2 6}

3. Government and Legal System

a. Executive branch

Grenada is a constitutional monarchy under the British crown, with the British monarch serving as the chief of state, although true executive power is retained by the prime minister. The prime minister is appointed by the ruling party.^{2 6}

b. Legislative branch

The legislative branch is composed of a bicameral parliament, consisting of a 13-seat Senate and a 15-seat House of Representatives. The Senate seats are determined based on which national party wins the national election; 10 seats are appointed by the prime minister and 3 seats are appointed by the leader of the opposition party. In Grenada, there are two primary political parties, the New National Party and the New Democratic Party. Members of the House of Representatives are directly elected by regional constituencies.²

c. Judicial branch

In Grenada, judicial matters are decided at the supranational level. At the highest level, judicial matters are decided by the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, which is a superior court for the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, an inter-governmental organization.^{2 7}

d. Worldwide Governance Indicators

Based on the World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators, over the past decade, Grenada has generally ranked around the 60th percentile for most governance indicators. Although Grenada's political stability improved to the 85th percentile in 2018, government effectiveness and regulatory quality fell to approximately the 40th percentile. The drop in government effectiveness may be related to Grenada's ongoing reliance on offshore banking and its crippling external debt; in 2017, Grenada ranked ninth among countries with the highest external government debt payments.^{8 9}

1. Voice and Accountability	
Year	Percentile Rank
2008	72.1
2013	70.9
2018	65.5

4. Regulatory Quality	
Year	Percentile Rank
2008	60.7
2013	60.2
2018	40.4

2. Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism	
Year	Percentile Rank
2008	57.7
2013	61.1
2018	85.2

5. Rule of Law	
Year	Percentile Rank
2008	57.2
2013	57.8
2018	62.5

3. Government Effectiveness	
Year	Percentile Rank
2008	61.2
2013	61.6
2018	43.8

6. Control of Corruption	
Year	Percentile Rank
2008	65.5
2013	67.8
2018	66.8

4. Economy and Employment

a. Major industries

Grenada's main industries are agriculture and tourism. Major agricultural export crops include cocoa, nutmeg, bananas, mace, and lime juice. Other products include citrus, avocados, vegetables, and fish. Significant tourist revenue is generated through cruise ships stopping at Grenada's harbors, although air travel is increasing as a result of improvements to airport infrastructure. Other important industries include food and beverages, textiles, construction, and call-center operations. Additionally, the country relies significantly on revenue generated by St. George's University, a private international university best known for its medical school. Grenada's main trading partners are the United States and the surrounding Caribbean island nations, as well as China and Japan.^{2 6}

b. Source and amounts of international aid

In 2018, Grenada received \$30.7 million US dollars in net official development assistance/aid. Since 2013, most of Grenada's official development assistance originated from multilateral international institutions, most prominently the World Bank's International Development Association, Regional Development Banks, and the International Monetary Fund. Additionally, Grenada receives international aid from several foreign governments, most prominently Germany and Japan.^{10 3}

c. GDP data⁸

GDP by end use (2017 data)	
Household consumption	63%
Government consumption	12%
Investment in fixed capital	20%
Investment in inventories	-0.10%
Exports of goods and services	60%
Imports of goods and services	-55%

GDP by sector of origin (2017 data)	
Agriculture	6.80%
Industry	15.50%
Services	77.70%

d. Unemployment, inflation, and ease of doing business

Unfortunately, Grenada has a high unemployment rate, as high as 24% in 2017, ranking 195th in the world at the time.² However, in recent years inflation has been relatively low; inflation was 0.9% in 2017, when Grenada was ranked 45th in the world.² In 2019, Grenada's Ease of Doing Business Index was 53.4, placing the nation 146th in the world.¹¹

e. Country classification

Grenada is classified as an Upper-Middle-Income Economy by the World Bank (GNI per capita of \$3,996 to \$12,375 USD), based on its GNI per capita of \$9,650 in 2018.¹²

5. Physical and Technological Infrastructure

a. Telecommunication

Grenada has an acceptable island-wide telephone system as well as interisland VHF and UHF radiotelephone links. Connections to the international telecommunications network include the East Caribbean Fiber System, Southern Caribbean Fiber, and CARCIP submarine cables. Grenada's population uses mobile cellular to a far greater degree than fixed telephone lines, with twenty-nine fixed telephone line subscriptions and 101 mobile cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants. According to a 2016 estimate, there were 62,123 internet users in Grenada, representing 55.9% of the population.^{13 2}

b. Electricity

Grenada's electrical grid encompasses the country's three main inhabited islands, and is served by a single electrical utility, Grenada Electricity Services Limited, which has an exclusive license to generate and distribute electricity for the nation. The nation's electricity capacity is sufficient to meet the nation's demand, with a total installed capacity of 48.59 megawatts and a peak demand of 30.2 megawatts. 92.3% of the population is electrified (92.3% of urban areas and 92.3% of rural areas). The country is nearly completely reliant on imported fossil fuels for energy generation. As of 2017, 96% of Grenada's electricity was generated by fossil fuel, primarily sourced from diesel, with only 4% generated by renewable sources.^{2 14}

c. Transportation

Grenada has three airports, all of which have paved runways. Maurice Bishop International Airport, the country's largest, has a runway length of 2,744 meters. The nation has 1,127 kilometers of roadways, 80% of which are paved.² According to 2014 data, Grenada had 122 motor vehicles per 1000 inhabitants.¹⁵ Bus service links the country's larger towns and villages. The country's major seaport is Saint George's, which has a harbor capable of docking large oceangoing vessels including container ships and cruise liners.⁶

d. Water and sanitation

Grenada's water resources are primarily in the form of permanent streams and rivers which course throughout the island, as well as groundwater resources along the main island's northwest coast. The country has a plentiful freshwater supply. In 2014, 14.1 million cubic meters of water was withdrawn for use, 85% of which was used by municipalities and 15% by agriculture; total withdrawals represented only 7% of the available water supply. As of 2012, 97% of the nation's total population had access to improved drinking water sources, representing 99% of the urban population and 95% of the rural population. The National Water and Sewerage Authority (NAWASA) is responsible for the management of the drinking water supply and sewer system.¹⁶ As of 2017, 94% of Grenada's population had access to improved sanitation services.¹⁷

National Health Care Profile

1. Overall health of the country

Life expectancy	72.4 (2018 data) ³
General population mortality rate	8 deaths per 1000 people each year (2018 data) ²
Under-five mortality rate	15 deaths per 1000 live births (2018 data) ¹⁸
Infant mortality rate	14 deaths per 1000 live births (2018 data) ¹⁸
Maternal mortality rate	25 per 100000 live births (2015 data) ¹⁹

2. Greatest threats to public health

Chronic non-communicable diseases, particularly cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease, are the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in Grenada. As Grenada has entered the middle-income threshold, the disease burden has shifted from communicable disease to noncommunicable diseases.¹⁹

3. Burden of diseases in the country (morbidity and mortality causing issues)

According to 2004 data from the World Health Organization, the greatest contributors to years lost due to ill health, disability, or death included non-communicable diseases (particularly cancer, neuropsychiatric disorders, and cardiovascular disease). Other major contributors included injury and communicable disease (particularly perinatal conditions).¹⁹

4. Maternal and perinatal issues (2004 data)¹⁹

	DALYs per 100000 people	Death rates per 100000 people
Maternal conditions	169	0.5
Perinatal conditions	1,053	25.1
Prematurity and low birth weight	268	7.2

	Birth asphyxia and birth trauma	376	6.3
	Neonatal infections and other conditions	409	11.6

5. Nutritional deficiencies (2004 data)¹⁹

		DALYs per 100000 people	Death rates per 100000 people
Nutritional deficiencies		313	12.8
	Protein-energy malnutrition	99	6.8
	Iron-deficiency anemia	214	6.0

6. Malignant neoplasms (2004 data)¹⁹

		DALYs per 100000 people	Death rates per 100000 people
Malignant neoplasms		2136	186.5
	Mouth and oropharynx	132	11.8
	Esophageal cancer	88	8.5
	Stomach cancer	200	20.2
	Colon/rectum cancer	154	15.0
	Liver cancer	2	0.4
	Pancreas cancer	43	4.6
	Trachea, bronchus, lung	141	12.7
	Skin cancer	4	0.5
	Breast cancer	225	17.1
	Cervical cancer	92	8.8
	Endometrial cancer	106	8.9
	Ovarian cancer	37	3.3
	Prostate cancer	120	25.0
	Bladder cancer	3	0.4
	Lymphoma and myeloma	159	6.9
	Leukemia	226	9.8

7. Cardiovascular conditions (2004 data)¹⁹

		DALYs per 100000 people	Death rates per 100000 people
Cardiovascular diseases		4065	426.0

	Rheumatic heart disease	80	1.8
	Hypertension	435	67.5
	Ischemic heart disease	946	106.9
	Cerebrovascular disease	1183	119.3
	Inflammatory heart disease	103	9.3

8. Trauma (2004 data)¹⁹

		DALYs per 100000 people	Death rates per 100000 people
	Unintentional injuries	1315	38.6
	Road traffic accidents	228	3.7
	Poisonings	97	5.8
	Falls	138	4.5
	Fires	13	1.4
	Drownings	308	11.3
	Other	532	12.0
	Intentional injuries	312	8.3
	Self-inflicted injuries	69	3.6
	Violence	236	4.7
	War	7	N/A

9. Health trends (new and/or current campaigns for public health)

The government of Grenada is currently implementing policies and working to address several aspects of public health, particularly social determinants of health, sustainable development, mental health, adolescent health, and reproductive health, through the Health Sector Strategic Plan 2015-24. Grenada has also collaborated with the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization through its Biennial Work Program, which aims to promote overall health improvement. Other nongovernmental programs include the Cuba-Venezuela Eye Mission, Children's Health Organization Relief and Educational Services (CHORES), and the Rotary Club Annual Eye Program. St. George's University also sponsors a number of health programs, including training programs for nurses, doctors, and other health care workers.¹⁹

National Health Care Structure

1. Structure and Policy

a. Number, distribution, and classification of health care facilities within the country

According to Grenada's Ministry of Health, there are thirty-six public health stations in the country, consisting of thirty medical stations providing basic care and six health centers.²⁰ Public health facilities are situated throughout Grenada so that every

household is within a three-mile radius of the nearest health center. There are also four private health facilities in the country.²¹

b. Patient referral system

There is no formal system for managing referrals in the country of Grenada, which is typically handled through handwritten notes or phone calls.²¹

c. Bodies/organizations providing health care

The government is the largest provider of health care for the country, offering the vast majority of the country's health services, which includes the 198-bed General Hospital. St. Augustine Hospital in St. George's is the country's largest private hospital, with a total of 12 beds. Additional organizations providing health care include the Grenada Planned Parenthood Association.²¹

d. Quality, affordability of care, and payment system

Health care in Grenada is universal, and government financing for health care is supplemented by minimal fees for services in public health facilities. Currently, the only private organizations offer health insurance in Grenada, although the Ministry of Health is considering the creation of a national health insurance program.²² Additionally, medical fees for employment-related injuries are covered through social security (National Insurance Scheme). Private health care in Grenada is unaffordable for most citizens. However, as is common in many countries, there is a perceived difference between quality of care in private and public health care facilities in Grenada, with long waiting times noted among public health centers. Private health care centers, on the other hand, often report underutilization. However, because the private health care sector is largely unregulated, there is little known regarding the quality of care in private health centers.²¹

2. Health Service Coverage

a. Preventative and therapeutic health coverage and distribution

Most preventative and therapeutic health services are provided through the public sector's six health districts. Additional health coverage is provided through the country's four private hospitals.¹⁹

b. Delivering health care to the people of the country

In the public health system, there are six health districts. Each health district has one health center which serves as a hub for between four and eight medical stations, and together these medical facilities are able to provide certain specialized services such as pediatrics, dentistry, and psychiatry. The country has three main public referral centers: the General Hospital in St George's, the Princess Alice Hospital in St. Andrews, and Princess Royal Hospital on the island of Carriacou. In addition, Mt. Gay Hospital serves as the country's public mental health facility.¹⁹

c. Private sector in the country

The country's four private hospitals (St. Augustine Hospital near St. Georges, Grenville Medical Services in St. Andrews, Old Trafford Medical Center in St. Georges, and Marryshow's Hospital in St. George's) provide much of the country's private health services. Twenty-four private doctors are listed in the Grenada yellow pages. The private sector provides the majority of the country's diagnostic imaging, including CT and radiography. The private sector also handles much of its own laboratory testing.²¹

3. Health Care Expenditures

a. Per capita costs (% of GDP)

According to the Ministry of Health, per capita total health expenditures are \$691.²² According to the World Health Organization, total expenditure on health as a percentage of GDP was 6.1%.¹⁹

b. Out-of-pocket costs for private care

In 2014, private expenditure on health in Grenada as a percentage of total health expenditure was 54%.¹⁹

c. Public health care system finance

In 2014, general government expenditure on health as a percentage of total government expenditure was 9.2%.¹⁹ The Government of Grenada funds hospital services through its annual budgetary allocation of Revenue and Expenditure.²³ In addition to taxation, the government funds the health system through minimal fees for services in public health facilities.²²

4. Health Workforce and Infrastructure

a. Number of hospital beds

A 2012 report assessed the number of hospital beds in Grenada, and noted that there were 304 hospital beds in Grenada, 292 of which were public and 12 of which were private.²¹ According to the World Health Organization, in 2017 there were 35.7 hospital beds per 10000 people in Grenada.¹⁹

b. Number of health care providers (nurses, midwives, physicians, and pharmacists)

In 2017, there were 14.1 doctors and 62.8 nurses per 10000 people in Grenada. In 2016, there were 6.8 pharmacists per 10000 people in Grenada.¹⁹ Unfortunately, data is not available for midwives in Grenada.

c. Sectors/ministries that affect health care

The government is the primary provider of health care in Grenada, and health care is primarily managed by the Ministry of Health, which creates and implements health care policies and enforces health care regulations. The Ministry of Health also

collects health statistics and oversees health expenditures, healthcare-related inventory, and the health workforce. In addition, the Ministry of Finance handles budget review and disburses funds for the public health system, and the Department of Human Resource Management approves public sector staffing. The private sector also plays a significant role in health care, both in the provision of health services and the provision of health insurance.²⁰

National Radiology Profile

1. Radiology Workforce and Training and Professional Representation

a. Number and distribution

Information not available

b. Roles of radiologists, technologists, radiation oncologists, radiation therapists, radiology nurses, physicists, radiation safety officers, radiology educators, and imaging device engineers

Information not available

c. Level of education/training, number and distribution

Information not available

d. Professional society and leadership

The Grenada Medical Association represents physicians in the country of Grenada.²¹ Radiologic technologists are represented by the Grenada Allied Health Professionals Council.²⁴ The Grenada Medical and Dental Council oversees medical education in Grenada.²⁵

2. Equipment Inventory, Distribution, Regulation

a. Available imaging equipment and distribution

According to data from the WHO, there is 1 MRI machine in Grenada, which is only available in the private sector (representing a density of 9 per 1,000,000 population). Additionally, there are 2 CT units in Grenada (representing a density of 19 per 1,000,000 population), both within the private sector. There is a single mammography unit in Grenada as well. There is no available data on nuclear medicine equipment on the island.²⁶

b. Most common types of exams and frequency

Information not available

c. Local manufacturers

Information not available

d. Sources of equipment and maintaining methods (contrast, injector...)

The Biomedical Engineering Department of the Grenada General Hospital keeps an inventory of all medical equipment for the island, including radiologic equipment.¹⁹

- e. Body to regulate quality of medical equipment (medical imaging equipment)

The Grenada Ministry of Health regulates the quality of medical equipment, including imaging equipment.²⁷

Conclusion

Over the past two decades, Grenada has crossed the threshold from a low-income to a middle-income nation, the burden of disease has shifted from communicable to non-communicable illnesses. With these shifting trends in the nation's epidemiology, the country will need to come to terms with a new healthcare paradigm. Although there is a dearth of resources with regard to imaging services in the country of Grenada, it is clear that imaging services in the public sector are limited to radiography and ultrasound, as cross-sectional modalities are only available in the private sector. In order to improve access to imaging for the country's population, the nation will need to invest in cross-sectional imaging tools that are more widely available to the public. To better determine imaging resource needs, more data will need to be obtained regarding medical practitioners in the imaging sector, as well as the various types of imaging exams that are ordered and performed throughout the nation.

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