

Australia's relationship with

PUERTO RICO



KEY FACTS

- **Population:** 3,194,000 (2019)
- **Major Cities:** San Juan (capital & largest city) Bayamón, Carolina, Ponce. Puerto Rico is an unincorporated U.S. territory
- **Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** \$100.8 Billion
GDP Growth: 1.5%
- **Key Industries:** Pharmaceuticals, textiles, petrochemicals, and electronics; followed by the service industry, primarily finance, insurance, real estate, and tourism
- **Known for:** Rum, beautiful beaches, nicknamed "The Island of Enchantment", El Yunque National Rain Forest, Historic Old San Juan, home to Ricky Martin, Jennifer Lopez. In 2017, Puerto Rico voted in a nonbinding referendum overwhelmingly (97%) in favour of US statehood.

ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP

- **Two-way trade** (goods & services): US\$142.8 Million
- **Value of Australian exports to Puerto Rico:** US\$1.1 Million
- **Value of Puerto Rico exports to Australia:** US\$141.7 Million
- **% of Puerto Rico exports to Australia:** 0.9%
- **Puerto Rico goods & services exported to Australia:** food flavourings, blood products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE LINKS

- **Sister Cities:** none
- **Representation:** Australia's relationship with Puerto Rico is managed by the Australian Consulate-General in New York
- **Consul-General:** the Hon Nick Greiner AC

POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT

- **Governor:** Gov Pedro Pierluisi Urrutia (New Progressive Party/D), next election 2024
- **2020 Presidential Outcome:** Doesn't cast votes for presidential race
- **Resident Commissioner** (limited representation in House): Jennifer González-Colón (R)*
- **Shadow Senators:** Carlos Romero Barceló (D) and Zoraida Fonalledas (R)
- **Shadow Representatives:** Pedro Rosselló González (D), Luis Fortuño (R), Charles Rodríguez (D), Alfonso Aguilar (R), Iván 'Pudge' Rodríguez (I)

GLOBAL BUSINESS

- **GSK:** Pharmaceutical company in Mariana, Humacao, Puerto Rico
- **P&G:** an American multinational consumer goods corporation. Multiple locations throughout Puerto Rico.
- **Johnson & Johnson:** An American multinational medical devices, pharmaceutical and consumer packaged goods manufacturing company. Multiple locations throughout Puerto Rico.

MAJOR EVENTS

- **San Sebastian Day:** During the 3rd week of January in San Juan
- **Ponce Festival:** During the week leading up to Ash Wednesday, Ponce celebrates Puerto Rico's version of Mardi Gras
- **The San Juan International Billfish Tournament:** During August/September drawing deep-sea anglers and game fishing enthusiasts from around the globe. It's a week-long tag-and-release competition known primarily for the abundance of blue marlin fishing during the day and parties at night.