NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State
President Jose Daniel ORTEGA Saavedra

Head of Government
President Jose Daniel ORTEGA Saavedra

Government Type
presidential republic

Capital
Managua

Legislature
unicameral National Assembly or Asamblea Nacional (92 seats)

Judiciary
Supreme Court or Corte Suprema de Justicia (consists of 16 judges organized into administrative, civil, criminal, and constitutional chambers)

Ambassador to US
Ambassador Francisco Obadiah CAMPBELL

US Ambassador
Ambassador Laura Farnsworth DOGU

GEOGRAPHY

Area
Total: 130,370 sq km
Land: 119,990 sq km
Water: 10,380 sq km

Climate
Tropical in lowlands, cooler in highlands

Natural Resources
gold, silver, copper, tungsten, lead, zinc, timber, fish

ECONOMY

Economic Overview
second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, Nicaragua has widespread underemployment and poverty; exports are based on beef, coffee, gold, and textiles

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)
$36.38 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)
$5,800 (2017 est.)

Exports
$3.611 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 44.2%, El Salvador 6.4%, Venezuela 5.5%, Costa Rica 5.5% (2017)

Imports
$6.426 billion (2017 est.)
partners: US 20.8%, China 14.3%, Mexico 11.1%, Costa Rica 7.9%, Guatemala 7%, El Salvador 5.6% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population
6 million (July 2017 est.)

Population Growth
0.98% (2017 est.)

Ethnicity
mestizo (mixed Amerindian and white) 69%, white 17%, black 9%, Amerindian 5%

Language
Spanish (official) 95.3%, Miskito 2.2%, Mestizo of the Caribbean coast 2%, other 0.5%
note: English and indigenous languages found on the Caribbean coast (2005 est.)

Religion
Roman Catholic 50%, Evangelical 33.2%, other 2.9%, unspecified 13.2%, none 0.7% (2017 est.)

Urbanization
urban population: 58.5% of total population (2018)
rate of urbanization: 1.45% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy
82.8% (2015 est.)