

BAHAMAS AND UNESCO KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

I. COUNTRY PROFILE

Political system

- Parliamentary democracy under a constitutional monarchy. It is a Commonwealth realm. Governor General appointed by the monarch on the advice of the Prime Minister; following legislative elections, the leader of the majority party or majority coalition usually appointed Prime Minister by the Governor General; the Prime Minister recommends the Deputy Prime Minister; Cabinet appointed by Governor General on recommendation of Prime Minister.
- Head of State: Queen ELIZABETH II (since 6 February 1952); represented by Governor General Sir Cornelius A. Smith (since 28 June 2019).
- Head of government: Prime Minister. Mr Philip Davis (since 17 September 2021).
- Minister of Foreign Affairs: Mr Fred Mitchell (since September 2021).

Statistical figures (source: UNDP Human Development Report 2020)

- Total population (million): 0.4
- Human Development Index: 0.814 / 58^e rank
- Life expectancy at birth (years): 73.9
- Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2017 PPP\$): 33,747
- Internet users (% of population): 80.5%
- Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tonnes): 4.7
(Map of Bahamas at the last page)

Education (source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics)

- Expected years of schooling (years): 12.8
- Compulsory education (years): 12 (from age 5 to 16)
- Net enrolment ratio in primary education (%): -
- Government expenditure on education (% of GDP): 2.5%

II. COOPERATION WITH UNESCO

1. **Membership in UNESCO:** 23 April 1981

2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** No (Last mandate 2001-2009)

3. **Membership on Intergovernmental Committees, Commissions:** 1

- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

4. **DG's visits to the country:** None

5. **Former Director-General's visits to the country:** None

6. **Permanent Delegation to UNESCO**

- Ambassador (Non-Resident) H.E. Ms Cynthia Vera Hope Strachan, Permanent Delegate (since 11 November 2021)
- Previous Permanent Delegate: H.E. Mr Desmond Edwards, Non-Resident Permanent Delegate (2021-2021)

7. **UNESCO Office:** No

The UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean, located in Kingston, Jamaica, covers 20 Countries and Territories in the English and Dutch-Speaking Caribbean. Ms Saadia Sanchez-

Vegas (D-1, Venezuela) has been Director and Representative since 1 September 2020.

8. Bahamas National Commission for UNESCO

- Establishment: January 1991
- Secretary-General Ms Deidre L. Bevans (since January 2018)

9. Personalities linked to the UNESCO activities (*Goodwill Ambassadors, Special Envoys, Chairpersons of Committees, etc*): None

10. UNESCO Chairs and UNITWIN Networks

UNESCO Chairs: None

UNITWIN Networks: None

11. Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) : None

12. Category 2 Institutes and Centres: None

13. Biosphere Reserves: None

14. UNESCO Global Geopark Network: None

15. World Heritage

Sites inscribed on the World Heritage List: None

Tentative List: 2

- Historic Lighthouses of The Bahamas (09/11/2015)
- The Inagua National Park (09/11/2015)

16. Intangible Heritage Lists: None

17. Memory of the World Register: 2

- 2009: Farquharson's Journal;
- 2009: Registry of Slaves of the British Caribbean 1817-1834 (submitted by Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom)

18. Memory of the World Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (MOWLAC): None

19. Creative Cities Network: 1

- Nassau, Crafts and Folk Art

20. UNESCO's standard-setting instruments

Ratified conventions:

Universal Copyright Convention, with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and Resolution concerning Article XI. Geneva, 6 September 1952.	13/07/1976	Notification of succession
Universal Copyright Convention as revised on 24 July 1971, with Appendix Declaration relating to Article XVII and Resolution concerning Article XI. Paris, 24 July 1971.	27/09/1976	Accession

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. Ramsar, 2 February 1971.*	07/02/1997	Ratification
Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Paris, 14 November 1970.	09/10/1997	Ratification
International Convention against Doping in Sport. Paris, 19 October 2005	12/10/2006	Ratification
Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. Paris, 16 November 1972.	15/05/2014	Ratification
Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Paris, 17 October 2003.	15/05/2014	Ratification
Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Paris, 20 October 2005	29/12/2014	Ratification

21. Anniversaries with which UNESCO is associated in 2018-2019: None

22. Participation Programme: No request submitted.

23. UNESCO Fellowships Programme: No fellowships awarded since 2010.

24. Non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO: None

25. Payment of assessed membership fees (as at November 2021):

- Assessment rate for 2021: 0.023%

26. Representation within the Secretariat (as at November 2021):

The Bahamas is non-represented in the Secretariat, with 1 professional staff member on non-geographical post (min 2, max 4).

1 International Professional Staff at Headquarters (**Non-Geographical Posts**):

27. Map of Bahamas

