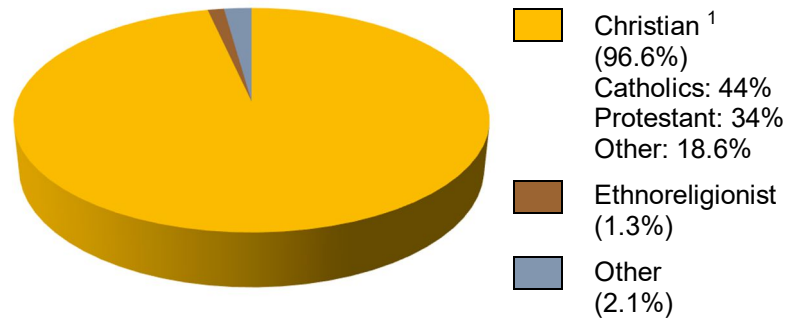
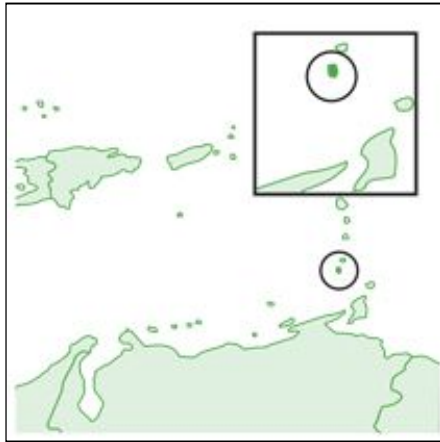


GRENADA



Area²: 344 km ²	Population³: 105,000	Political system: Democracy	Major Language(s): English (official), Grenadian French Creole ⁴
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Legal framework on freedom of religion and actual application

The constitution guarantees the protection of the fundamental rights and freedoms of every person, regardless of race, place of origin, political opinions, colour, creed or sex, subject to respect for the rights and freedoms of others and the public interest.

Nobody can be denied the right to enjoy freedom of conscience, including freedom of thought and of religion, freedom to change one's religion or belief, and freedom to manifest and propagate one's religion or belief, either alone or in community with others, both in public and in private. No one attending a place of education can be required to receive religious instruction or take part in or attend a ceremony or observance that relates to a religion other than their own. For minors aged 18 or under, the consent of his or her guardian is required.

Every religious community has the right to establish and manage its own schools at its own expense.⁵

Matters relating to religious organisations are dealt with through the Religious Affairs Division of the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Religious Affairs.⁶

A number of Christian denominations belong to the Grenada Conference of Churches.⁷

Incidents

In March 2014, the Prime Minister named a Chief Rabbi to serve the country's Jewish community and opened a Jewish Student Centre at St George's University.⁸

In October of the same year, the Pope met in audience with Grenada's Prime Minister and highlighted the contribution of the Catholic Church in the educational, social and charitable fields.⁹

In December 2014 and January 2015, the appointment of an atheist as head of the Senate sparked a debate. In this context, the leaders of the Grenada Conference of Churches were criticised for not opposing the appointment.¹⁰

In October 2015, the government and the opposition accepted a proposal by the Grenada Conference of Churches – Caribbean Jubilee – to seek financial relief for debts incurred as a result of reconstruction following Hurricane Ivan (2004). The Jubilee USA Network was behind the initiative.¹¹

Prospects for freedom of religion

Grenada is a country where religious organisations remain closely connected to social life with no signs of intolerance or religious discrimination. The exercise of religious freedom thus seems robust as evinced by the active participation of various religious confessions, and the respect shown to the cultural and religious heritage of beliefs of African origin.

¹ http://www.thearda.com/internationalData/countries/Country_95_2.asp accessed on 6 May 2016

² <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-19598301> accessed on 6 May 2016.

³ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-19598301> accessed on 6/ May 2016.

⁴ http://www.gov.gd/about_grenada.html accessed on 2 March 2016.

⁵ [http://www.grenadaconsulate.com/uploads/files/grenada_constitution\[1\].pdf](http://www.grenadaconsulate.com/uploads/files/grenada_constitution[1].pdf) accessed on 2 March 2016.

⁶ http://www.gov.gd/ministries/youth_sports.html accessed on 21 March 2016.

⁷ <http://conferenceofchurchesingrenada.jimdo.com/> accessed on 21 March 2016

⁸ <http://lubavitch.com/news/article/2030747/Chabad-Center-Opens-in-Grenada.html> accessed on 21 March 2016.

⁹ <http://www.news.va/es/news/audiencia-al-primer-ministro-de-granada-importante> accessed on 21 March 2016.

¹⁰ http://www.gov.gd/egov/news/2015/jan15/19_01_15/item_1/minister_expresses_concern_religious_leaders_ndc_politician.html accessed on 21 March 2016.

¹¹ Cf. <http://www.jubileeusa.org/home.html>

<https://caribbeandebtnetwork.files.wordpress.com/2015/11/jubilee-caribbean-page-1.jpg> accessed on 21 March 2016.