

**MISSIONS ATLAS PROJECT  
CARIBBEAN  
SAINT LUCIA**

**Snapshots Section**

**Country Name:** Saint Lucia

**Country Founded in:** 22 February 1979

**Population:** 160,267

**Government Type:** Parliamentary Democracy, a Commonwealth nation

**Geography/location in the world:** north of Trinidad and Tobago, between the Caribbean Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean

**Number of people groups:** 7

**Picture of flag:**



**Religion Snapshot:**

Major Religion: Roman Catholic (67.5%)

All religions and % for each:

Roman Catholic (67.5%)

Protestant Christianity (23.3%)

Seventh Day Adventist (8.5%), Pentecostal (5.7%), Anglican (2%),

Baptist (0.4%), Other Evangelical (1.6%), Independent/other (5.1%)

Jehovah's Witness (0.4%)

Rastafarian (2.1%)

Spiritist (1.7%)

Hindu (0.90%)

Islamic (0.50%)

Baha'i (0.20%)

Other (0.40%)

Non-religious (3%)

**Government interaction with religion:** the constitution of Saint Lucia provides for the freedom of religion and its practice and the government advocates and protects this right.

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/st.html>

<http://flagspot.net/flags/lc.html>

<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,...LCA,4562d94e2,48d5cc096e,0.html>

<http://www.religiousintelligence.co.uk/country/?CountryID=22>

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2008/108538.htm>

## Country Profile

### Basic Facts

**Country Name:** Saint Lucia

#### Demographics:

It is estimated that the population of Saint Lucia is composed of 160,267 people. Most live in rural areas. 28% of the population is currently living in an urban setting. The population is growing at an annual rate of 0.416% which is helped by immigration. There are approximately 4.14 immigrants for every 1,000 people in the island nation.

About 15.1 children are birthed for every 1,000 people in the population and 1.84 children are born to each woman. However, for every 1,000 children that are born, about 13.43 die in infancy. On average, more females die in infancy than males. Slightly more males are born than females. Overall, there are 6.8 deaths for every 1,000 people.

Those children which survive infancy can be expected to live about 76.45 years. Women, on average, live about 6 years longer than the men on the island and can be expected to live 79.27 years!

The median age of persons in Saint Lucia is 29.8 years. About 24.4% of the population is under the age of 15 and there are slightly more males than females in this age group. 66.4% of the population is between the ages of 15 and 64 years of age. Those over 65 years of age compose 9.2% of the total population. When considering gender, there are slightly more females than males that are over the age of 15.

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/st.html>

<http://www.stats.gov.lc>

#### Language:

The official language of the nation of Saint Lucia is English. This is the language that is used for business, education, trade, and political affairs. English was first introduced into the area in the 1600s, but did not become influential until England acquired the island in the early 1800s.

A dialect of French patois, known as Saint Lucian Creole French or *Kweyol*, is the only other major language that is spoken on the island. The first successful nation to colonize the island of Saint Lucia was France and even though ownership of the island changed hands over 14 times, the influence of the French is seen through this language. This dialect is very similar to the dialect found on the island of Dominica.

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/north-central-america/st-lucia?profile=all>

[http://www.ethnologue.com/show\\_country.asp?name=LC](http://www.ethnologue.com/show_country.asp?name=LC)

#### Society/Culture:

Like many other island nations in the Caribbean, Saint Lucia has had a long history and heritage in Amerindian, European, and African influence. Since this nation has only just gained its independence, the world watches as the unique blend of these cultures continues to produce a society which is Saint Lucian.

Most of the population live in rural areas and commute to the place of their employment which is usually in the two major cities of Castries or Vieux Fort. Reflecting its colonial history, these two cities do have an element of colonial architecture. The majority of the homes and buildings are now made of cinderblock as oppose to the traditional wooden homes. Those who are wealthy tend to live in the northern part of the island near the capital city while the poor tend to live in the south near Vieux Fort.

There is a major difference in the standard of living between those who are rich and those who are poor as the middle class is very small. In addition, race and the language that is primarily spoken affects the status an individual has in Saint Lucian culture. These three factors, in turn, affect the gender roles in this culture.

While Saint Lucian culture tends to lean toward an ideal of patriarchal family organization there are many families which have resorted to the matriarchal family organization due to the lack of a male figure in the home. Regardless, there are still some jobs which are gender based. For example, fishing is considered a male occupation while women are employed in factories.

An individual's socio-economic status impacts their view on marriage. For the most part, a legal union through marriage is the ideal sought after in Saint Lucia and this ideal has been adopted by those of the high and middle class. However, there is a part of the middle class, along with the poor, which value a "friending" relationship over marriage until the individual is middle aged. Nevertheless, a father is responsible for meeting the provisional needs of his child.

<http://www.everyculture.com/No-Sa/Saint-Lucia.htm>

There is a certain amount of healthcare which is provided for by the government which is funded through taxes. However, the system is undergoing reform in order to raise its quality of healthcare. The more difficult cases that require major medical attention have to be airlifted to surrounding islands. There are a number of private health centers on the island.

In total, this island nation boasts 9 healthcare facilities, 4 of which are located in the district of Castries. There are two hospitals known as Victoria's Hospital and St. Jude's Hospital which provide general services from pharmaceutical to emergency aid. Two other hospitals, Soufriere and Dennery, are district hospitals which limit their healthcare services to primary care and emergencies.

<http://www.stlucia.gov.lc/agencies/health/healthreform/Health%20Sector%20Reform%20White%20Paper%20final.pdf>

<http://www.stluciauhc.org>

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/saint-lucia.aspx>

[http://www.stlucia.gov.lc/agencies/ministry\\_of\\_health.htm](http://www.stlucia.gov.lc/agencies/ministry_of_health.htm)

Like most other nations, Saint Lucia's education system is divided into three parts: primary, secondary and tertiary. Primary and secondary levels of education are mandatory for all children and are funded by the government. Overall, about 6.6% of the government's total revenue is spent on education. Each student is expected to attend some sort of schooling for about 14 years.

The primary level of education is divided into three sections: infant (5-7 years of age), junior primary (8-11 years of age) and senior primary (12-14 years of age). Once a child is 12 years old, they have the opportunity to go to a secondary school until they are of the age of 16.

After a student has finished their primary and secondary levels of education, the equivalent of a high school diploma in the United States, they are free to enroll in a technical institution, a community college, or a university. Which school depends on the level of success the student attained in during the secondary years. The tertiary level of education is not funded by the government and is not compulsory.

There is only one community college in Saint Lucia called Sir Arthur Lewis Community College. After this, a student may enroll in a technical school to further his/her education. In addition, the only university on the island is the University of the West Indies. The majority of these tertiary level schools are located in the Castries administrative division of Saint Lucia.

<http://countrystudies.us/caribbean-islands/70.htm>

<http://www.education.gov.lc>

<http://www.stats.gov.lc/index20.htm>

The cuisine of Saint Lucia reflects the influences the nation received from European, African, and Amerindian people groups. Like other Amerindian groups, many foods on the island include heavy vegetables like plantains and sweet potatoes. French influence is found in the use of various spices which include pepper and African influence is found in the use of saltfish in many meals.

Most meals are not spicy, but a type of pepper sauce named *capsicum* is usually present at the table in order to make a dish spicier. Fish is a main staple in the kitchen as it is a primary source of protein. Other meats like poultry and beef are saved for special occasions such as a weddings, birthdays, or holidays.

One favorite food found on the island is called *accras*. It is made by making balls out of salted codfish, pepper, and other mixed herbs which is then battered and fried. A favorite dessert on the island is referred to as *Boudin* and is a type of black pudding. It is made with sweet potato, herbs and blood sausage and is usually served for holidays and special events.

<http://www.stlucia1979.com/page10.htm>

<http://www.caribbeanchoice.com/recipes/countryrecipe.asp?country=Saint%20Lucia>

<http://www.definitivecaribbean.com/guide/StLucia.aspx?group=4>

Though Saint Lucia does not have an established music industry, music and dance is still very much a part of every day life and an integral part of Saint Lucian culture. From calypso to hip-

hop, music heard in Saint Lucia reflects all the music of the Caribbean while also reflecting the country's multi-cultural heritage.

Most forms of folk music are played by *chak-chak* bands which are composed of a stringed instrument, which would include a fiddle, a cuatro, or a banjo (*bwa poye/skround banjo*) and a rattle like instrument called a *chak-chak*. Other instruments such as drums may be added to these bands.

One type of folk music which is indigenous to Saint Lucia is called the *Jwé* and is usually played at informal social events such as parties. This type of music encourages the audience's participation verbally or through dance which may involve a couple or a group of people which dance in a circle. Lyrics revolve around social and political issues, but some avoid this type of music as it can sometimes be vulgar.

A more formal type of folk music indigenous to Saint Lucia is the *Kwadril* which is usually performed at private parties. A band which plays this music is composed of a number of four-stringed instruments, the *chak-chak*, and the bones. Dances for this type of music do not allow for much freedom of expression as most dances are choreographed beforehand. The controlled movements of the dance reflect the higher class.

A musical tradition that is still in practice on the island nation of Saint Lucia is called *La Rose and La Marguerite*. At one time in the history of Saint Lucia, different villages were established by different colonial powers. Villages meet once a week, except during Lent, and continue the tradition. At these meetings, both groups sing and dance a type of waltz called the *omans*.

*La Rose* represents the English history of a village and members of the village which participate meet on Saturdays. This music involves much participation with rhythm and movement. Instruments like the tambourine and a wooden trumpet known as a *baha* are played.

*La Marguerite*, on the other hand represents the French history of the village and members of the village which participate meet on Sundays. Music that is played in these meetings focuses on the melody of the tune and dances are much more controlled than that of *La Rose*.

<http://www.stluciamusicawards.org/awards>  
<http://www.definitivecaribbean.com/guide/StLucia.aspx?group=5>  
[http://www.choiseulstlucia.com/ARTS%20&%20CRAFT/wowo\\_band.html](http://www.choiseulstlucia.com/ARTS%20&%20CRAFT/wowo_band.html)  
[http://en.allexperts.com/e/m/mu/music\\_of\\_saint\\_lucia.htm](http://en.allexperts.com/e/m/mu/music_of_saint_lucia.htm)

Saint Lucian literature really had its start with a man named Derek Alton Walcott. Born in Castries, he helped to start the St. Lucia Arts Guild in 1950 and, with the help of his brother Roderick, the guild has allowed the country a venue to develop literary works including theatre. Derek is also the holder of a Nobel Prize in literature in 1990 for his poetic work entitled *Omeros*. His literary works focus on the culture which he grew up in, influenced by Africans and Europeans.

[http://nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/literature/laureates/1992/walcott-bio.html](http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature/laureates/1992/walcott-bio.html)  
[http://www.visitslu.com/about\\_sluc/great\\_stlucians/literature.html](http://www.visitslu.com/about_sluc/great_stlucians/literature.html)

Like music, art is a central aspect of the Saint Lucian culture which can be seen even when taking a stroll. The “creative center” of the island nation is found in the town of Choiseul, but many art galleries are also found in the capital city of Castries.

The most renowned artist in Saint Lucia is Dustan Saint Omer, who is also responsible for designing the flag of Saint Lucia. Internationally known, his work primarily focuses on his Catholic background. His family is known to be one of the most creative and artistic in Saint Lucia. Many of his paintings and other works are in galleries all over the country including Castries.

Another artist which is also internationally known is Llewellyn Xavier who has received the *Order of the British Empire* award for his work and contribution to art. The environment of the earth is a theme which is carried out in his artwork. He primarily focuses on using watercolor in his art.

<http://www.llewellynxavier.com/artist.html>

<http://www.jean-baptiste.com/stluciasilk/WELCOME.html>

<http://stluciasiar.com/content/archives/1167>

[http://books.google.com/books?id=RgDjp0WVNPUC&pg=PA96&lpg=PA96&dq=Saint+Omer+family+Saint+Lucia&source=bl&ots=wCiToX5wmD&sig=agunayXWMC0w6buvDaUPggUZA9A&hl=en&ei=xK27Sp30LqGEtgen7nFDQ&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=3#v=onepage&q=Saint%20Omer%20family%20Saint%20Lucia&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=RgDjp0WVNPUC&pg=PA96&lpg=PA96&dq=Saint+Omer+family+Saint+Lucia&source=bl&ots=wCiToX5wmD&sig=agunayXWMC0w6buvDaUPggUZA9A&hl=en&ei=xK27Sp30LqGEtgen7nFDQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=3#v=onepage&q=Saint%20Omer%20family%20Saint%20Lucia&f=false)

Art, food, music, and dance are all incorporated into the many festivals and holidays that people celebrate in Saint Lucia. Carnival is the most well known of the festivals and usually takes place in July. Originally, this festival was instituted by the Catholic Church as a celebratory time right before lent. The reasons for celebration have since changed to become a celebration of the culture of Saint Lucia. Festivities include food, dances, various Calypso and music competitions, and parades.

Another festival that is held to commemorate St. Lucian culture is called *Kwéyòl*, which signifies a Creole Day. These festivities last for a week and focus on traditional aspects of the culture of Saint Lucia through storytelling, costume contests, and emphasis on art work.

Like most other nations, Saint Lucians remember and celebrate milestones in their history. For example, Emancipation Day which is celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August commemorates the day that slavery was abolished on the island. Another example would be Independence Day, which is celebrated on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February, and commemorates Saint Lucia’s attainment of Independence from England.

<http://www.stlucia.org/activity/calendar.asp>

[http://www.qppstudio.net/publicholidays2009/saint\\_lucia.htm](http://www.qppstudio.net/publicholidays2009/saint_lucia.htm)

General:

<http://www.everyculture.com/No-Sa/Saint-Lucia.html>

[http://www.visitslu.com/about\\_slu/facts/symbols.html](http://www.visitslu.com/about_slu/facts/symbols.html)

<http://www.geographia.com/st-lucia/lcul01.htm>

[http://books.google.com/books?id=RgDjp0WVNPUC&pg=PA102&dq=Chak+chak+bands&lr=&as\\_brr=3#v=onepage&q=chak%20chak&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=RgDjp0WVNPUC&pg=PA102&dq=Chak+chak+bands&lr=&as_brr=3#v=onepage&q=chak%20chak&f=false)

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2344.htm>  
<http://www.definitivecaribbean.com/guide/StLucia.aspx?group=4>

## **Government:**

The governmental system of Saint Lucia is highly influenced by England as it is part of the British Commonwealth of Nations and functions as a parliamentary democracy. The land is administratively divided into 11 quarters and the city of Castries is the nation's capitol. Like other nations, the government is divided into three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial.

### *The Executive Branch*

The executive branch is headed by the chief of state. As Saint Lucia is part of the British Commonwealth of Nations, Queen Elizabeth II is currently the chief of state. She is represented by Governor General Came Pearlette Louisy, who has served in this capacity since 1997.

The appointment of the Prime Minister, who also serves as head of government, is decided upon by the Governor General. This occurs after legislative elections because the leader of the majority party is usually appointed to the position of Prime Minister.

Currently, this role is being maintained by Prime Minister Stephenson King of the United Workers Party (UWP). On the advice of the Prime Minister, the Governor General then decides on the members of the Cabinet which will help the Prime Minister oversee all aspects of the government.

### *The Legislative Branch*

The legislative branch of Saint Lucia is composed of a bicameral Parliament which includes a Senate and a House of Assembly. Elections are held every 5 years and all those over the age of 18 have the right to vote for representative purposes. The House of Assembly is composed of 17 seats and all members are elected by popular vote.

The Senate holds 11 seats and all are appointed by the Governor General. However, 6 seats are appointed after consulting with the Prime Minister and 3 are chosen after meeting with the opposition leader in the House of Assembly. The leader of the opposition is currently Dr. Kennedy D. Anthony of the Saint Lucia Labor Party (SLP). The last two seats are appointed after the Governor General has met with various constituency groups which include religious and social groups.

### *The Judicial Branch*

The judicial system is composed of a High Court and a Court of Appeals. The High Court hears various cases. All appeals are heard by the Court of Appeals. The judicial branch of St. Lucia is part of the larger Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court which is made up of a total of 9 member states. Currently, three of the Supreme Court judges live in Saint Lucia. The headquarters of the



Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court is located in the capital city of Castries, St. Lucia. This system also functions under the Caribbean Court of Justice.

<http://www.eccourts.org>

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/north-central-america/st-lucia?profile=all>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/st.html>

<http://www.caribbeancourtsofjustice.org/about.htm>

<http://www.stlucia.gov.lc>

[http://www.visitslu.com/about\\_slu/facts/gov.html](http://www.visitslu.com/about_slu/facts/gov.html)

### **Economy:**

Currency is found in the form of East Caribbean dollars (XCD) and \$2.70 XCD is the equivalent of \$1 United States Dollar (USD). Most places do take the USD and Saint Lucia is well known for their tourism industry. The following data is represented using USD.

In any given year, the island nation of Saint Lucia is able to purchase about \$1.778 billion and the economy is growing at a rate of 1.7% a year. While 80 % of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is made possible through the service sector of the economy, another 15% is provided for by industry and 5% provided for by the agricultural sector.

The inflation rate is currently set at 1.9% a year. About \$146.7 million is budgeted to be spent annually while the budgeted revenue is estimated to be \$141.2 million a year. National debt is approximately \$257 million. Some attribute this to the global recession which has lowered revenue in the tourism sector. In addition, due to some hurricanes, the agricultural sector is still rebounding.

The labor force is composed of 79,700 persons with 20% of these currently unemployed. Those that are able to work earn about \$11,100 each year. About 21.7% of the labor force works in the agricultural sector, 24.7% work in some area of industry, and another 53.6% are employed in the service sector of the economy.

In all about \$288 million is exported to other countries and about 41% of this is the exporting of bananas. Other exported items include clothing and produce. About 28.8% of all exports are exported to the United Kingdom with 23.5% exported to the United States. Other export partners include Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad and Tobago.

About \$791 million in goods are imported to Saint Lucia annually and 44% of this is made up of various foods and manufactured goods. Chemicals and transportations equipment are key imports. Brazil is Saint Lucia's main import partner and accounts for 68.6% of all imports made to Saint Lucia. Another 11.8% is imported from the United States and the rest is usually imported from Trinidad and Tobago.

<http://www.geographia.com/st-lucia/lctips01.htm>

<http://www.stats.gov.lc>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/st.html>

### **Literacy:**

When literacy is defined as those who are over the age of 15 who have attended school for the purposes of learning how to read and write, about 90.1% of the nation is considered to be literate. There is a slight gender difference which favors women in reference to literacy.

In order to obtain this high literacy rate, the government of Saint Lucia has put literacy programs in place for the communities. The first phase of the program was launched in 1984 with the intent of eradicating illiteracy by the year 2000. While the rate of literacy is not at 100%, the government and its people have come a long way in terms of their literacy rate which was at 54% in 1994!

<http://stluciastar.com/content/archives/6930>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/st.html>

[http://www.unesco.org/education/wef/countryreports/saint\\_lucia/rapport\\_3.html](http://www.unesco.org/education/wef/countryreports/saint_lucia/rapport_3.html)

### **Land/Geography:**

About 3.5 times the size of the Washington D.C., capital of the United States, Saint Lucia has a total area of 382 sq mi and 10 sq mi are composed of water. As this is an island nation, Saint Lucia does not share a land border with any other nation. It is located between the nations of Grenada and Martinique. Saint Lucia enjoys about 98 miles of coastline.

The landscape of Saint Lucia is dominated by a central mountain chain which steeply meets the sea at the coast of the island nation. Although the highest point is found near the center of the nation, Mount Gimie at 3,113.76 feet above sea level, Saint Lucia is most well known for its two mountains Gros Piton and Petit Piton which are located on the southwestern coast.

Saint Lucia is well known for its sandy beaches which are scattered with volcanic sediments. As the country's center is dominated by a mountainous ridge, all the rivers on the island flow from the center and out to sea. Major rivers in Saint Lucia would include the Dennery, Fond, Piaye, Doree, Canaries, Roseau, and Marquis rivers.

The island is littered with fertile valleys and the mountains are covered in tropical rainforest. These forests include ferns alongside hardwood trees which are broad-leaved. The jasmine and hibiscus flowers are scattered around the interior along with fruit trees like mangoes and passion fruit.

The rainforests of Saint Lucia make a great habitat for the many animals that live there. Many snakes, like the Saint Lucia Lancehead, are found nowhere else in the world. Others species that would fit this category would include the wandering spider and the Saint Lucia Oriole. One endangered species found on the island which is endemic to Saint Lucia is the Saint Lucia Black Finch. These birds are usually found in the jungles of the country. Hummingbirds and parrots can also be found there.

The natural hazards which come from living in Saint Lucia are some amount of volcanic activity and the hurricanes that hit the island occasionally. The storms usually occur in the rainy season which begins in June and ends in November. Up to 40 inches of rain can fall on Saint Lucia in any given year!

After the rainy season, the climate gets cooler as trade winds from the northeast moderate the temperature. Depending on where one is located on the island the temperature can vary by almost 20 degrees Fahrenheit. Usually the temperature is between 70 degrees Fahrenheit and the upper 90s degrees Fahrenheit.

Environmental conservation is of importance to the people of Saint Lucia and they have signed a variety of international agreements including the Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, the Law of the Sea and the Ozone Layer Protection agreement. Currently, most of the environmental issues are being addressed in the northern part of the island which includes soil erosion and deforestation.

<http://www.mapsofworld.com/country-profile/saint-lucia-information-geography-history.html>

<http://www.dancingdogdesigns.com/StLucia/fandf/index.html>

<http://Intreasures.com/sl.html>

[http://books.google.com/books?id=jTMY7Fp01zcC&pg=PA545&lpg=PA545&dq=Saint+Lucia+plants&source=bl&ots=bVY75wZgcf&sig=wdtjYDcIx99IS63NcuixEKJR3zA&hl=en&ei=C6a7StTiEomCtgfLr\\_mfDQ&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=2#v=onepage&q=&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=jTMY7Fp01zcC&pg=PA545&lpg=PA545&dq=Saint+Lucia+plants&source=bl&ots=bVY75wZgcf&sig=wdtjYDcIx99IS63NcuixEKJR3zA&hl=en&ei=C6a7StTiEomCtgfLr_mfDQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=2#v=onepage&q=&f=false)

<http://countrystudies.us/caribbean-islands/68.htm>

<http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/namerica/caribb/lc.htm>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/st.html>

<http://www.atlapedia.com/online/countries/stlucia.htm>

[http://books.google.com/books?id=RgDjp0WVNPUC&pg=PA102&dq=Chak+chak+bands&lr=&as\\_brr=3#v=onepage&q=chak%20chak&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=RgDjp0WVNPUC&pg=PA102&dq=Chak+chak+bands&lr=&as_brr=3#v=onepage&q=chak%20chak&f=false)

<http://stlucia-guide.info/weather>

## History

While the European discovery of Saint Lucia did not occur until the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the island-nation of Saint Lucia has been inhabited since 500 BC. The first people to inhabit the island were known as the *Ciboneys* and originally came from an Amerindian group who had traveled from Venezuela. These were a hunting and gathering people.

About 700 years later, around 200 AD, the *Arawaks* came from the northeastern part of South America and introduced agriculture to the area. They are known for their thatched-roof homes which are made using a technique still used today in some villages. This Amerindian group named the island *Iouanaloa* which, roughly translated, means “there where the Iguana is found” or simply Land of the Iguana.

After another 700 years, around 800AD, the fierce and cannibalistic *Caribs*, also known as *Kalinago*, invaded the island. All males that were on the island were killed and the women were kept to be Carib wives. This warrior group renamed the island *Hewanorra* and were led by leaders called *caquices*. This group retained control of the island until European discovery.

In reference to European discovery, there is still some debate as to who was the first to discover the island of Saint Lucia. At one time, most thought that it was Columbus who discovered the isle. However, at the time of European discovery, he was sailing around the island of Martinique. Most now hold the view that his Cartographer, Juan de la Cosa, was the first to discover Saint Lucia.

The island was first put on a map by Juan de la Cosa in 1500 which he named *El Falcon*. As legend has it, the island was named by a number of Maroon Frenchmen who landed on the island on December 13<sup>th</sup> of 1502. The name of Saint Lucia was given as it was that saint's day on the calendar used by the Catholic Church. By 1511, the island was formally known as Saint Lucia in memory of the Catholic saint who died in Sicily in 304 AD.

[http://www.iexplore.co.uk/travel\\_guides/St.+Lucia/History](http://www.iexplore.co.uk/travel_guides/St.+Lucia/History)  
<http://www.slucia.com/visions/2005/history.html>

While the Spanish were the first to discover Saint Lucia, the first attempt to settle the island was by a French pirate named Francois de Clerc (also known as "Peg-Leg Le Clerc" because of his wooden leg) in the 1550s. The island became the base for many pirates for the rest of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The first settlement on Saint Lucia was on Pigeon Island.

The next European presence came in the form of the Dutch who built a fort on the southwestern part of the island in 1600. Five years later, by accident, the British would attempt a settlement in Saint Lucia. A ship named the *Olive Branch* was steered off course on the way to Guyana and wrecked on the shore of Saint Lucia. Those from the ship bought huts from the natives. Five weeks later a fight ensued between the Caribs and the English. Only 19 survived the fight and ended up fleeing to the sea in an open canoe made by the Caribs.

The next attempt at settlement was again made by the British in 1638 when land was granted to the Earl of Carlisle, Sir Thomas Warner. Through the commission given to Captain Judlee, about 300 settlers were taken to the island. While more successful than the previous attempt, this settlement only lasted in peace for about 18 months until the Caribs, with help from Caribs on other islands, attacked and demolished the settlement. There were very few survivors.

While the British were discouraged, the French took an interest in the island and claimed it had been granted to a man named Mr. d'Esnambus in 1626. However, it was not until 1643 that the Lieutenant General of Martinique, another French colony, appointed Mr. Rousselan to the position of governor of Saint Lucia.

Interestingly, Governor Rousselan married a Carib woman and retained the island for the French until 1654. The French officially bought the island in 1651. After Mr. Rousselan's death there were leadership changes on the island and by 1659 major disputes started to occur regarding the ownership of the island between the French and the English. A peace agreement was finally reached with the Caribs in 1660.

Tensions rose in 1663 when the Caribs sold the island to some of the persons living on the island of Barbados. The Governor of Barbados, Lord Willoughby, thought that the island was suitable for expansion. War eventually broke out after 1664 when Sir Thomas Warner reclaimed the territory for Britain.

In the next 150 years, the island of Saint Lucia would change hands over 14 times between England and French ownership. International affairs, including the American and French Revolution, would have their impact on this island-nation. In 1814, the island would be given

over to the British and Saint Lucia would remain a British colony until it's independence in 1979.

The nation's first official permanent town was built in 1746 during a time when the French were in control. The town was named Soufriere and is still located on the southwestern coast of the island. The French attempted to turn the island into one that would be profitable and instilled an economy based on sugar cane plantations which were fueled by slavery.

By the time the French Revolution came about, however, the island slaves were crying out for freedom and it was technically granted to them by the French in 1779. The British reinstated the practice once they claimed the island in 1814. Those who were runaway slaves lead a rebellion against the British and, in the end, were allowed to return to Africa. The British abolished slavery on August 1, 1834.

<http://www.geographia.com/st-lucia/lchis01.htm>

<http://www.un.int/stlucia/history.htm>

[http://books.google.com/books?id=36QNAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA329&dq=Saint+Lucia+History&as\\_brr=3](http://books.google.com/books?id=36QNAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA329&dq=Saint+Lucia+History&as_brr=3)

<http://books.google.com/books?id=40MBAAAAQAAJ&pg=PA233&sig=aWLKO5nHfyq1Ow14IhR-qVKgEVk&hl=en#v=onepage&q=&f=false>

The economy of Saint Lucia continued to be agriculturally based and in 1838, Saint Lucia became part of a governmental structure called the Windward Islands. This body consisted of Barbados, Grenada, Saint Vincent, Tobago and Saint Lucia. However, in order to keep up with economical demand, labor was imported from other countries. This system ended in 1917.

A form of representative government was introduced to Saint Lucia in 1924 and a constitution was established. In 1951 universal suffrage was introduced to Saint Lucia and the privilege of voting came along with reaching the age of 21. Then in 1959 the governmental structure of the Windward Islands, was abolished and Saint Lucia began the road to Independence.

By 1960 a new constitution was put in place as Saint Lucia would once again be administered as a separate unit under the British government. In 1967, Saint Lucia became an Associated State in which only foreign affairs and matters of defense were the responsibilities of England. This gave the leaders of Saint Lucia opportunity to govern themselves at a local level and handle domestic affairs.

In 1976, negotiations began to take place regarding the independence of Saint Lucia. Independence was finally gained from England on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February in 1979. The island-nation of Saint Lucia currently functions within the Commonwealth of Nations and the Queen of England is still the chief of state.

[http://www.angelfire.com/folk/the\\_melting\\_pot/History.htm](http://www.angelfire.com/folk/the_melting_pot/History.htm)

<http://countrystudies.us/caribbean-islands/67.htm>

<http://www.un.int/stlucia/history.htm>

Since independence, Saint Lucia has been governed by two major political parties: the Saint Lucia Labor Party (SLP) and the United Workers Party (UWP). The first political party to govern the island after independence was the SLP which continued to govern until 1997. The

only break in this governance was in the election which was won by the UWP in 1982. The SLP has governed the island of Saint Lucia since 1997.

<http://www.historyofnations.net/northamerica/stlucia.html>

For more general information on the history of Saint Lucia:

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/north-central-america/st-lucia?profile=all>  
[http://www.google.com/search?q=Saint+Lucia+History&hl=en&safe=active&rls=com.microsoft:\\*:IE-SearchBox&rlz=117GGLG\\_en&tbs=tl:1&tbo=u&ei=69i7So2cBJqMtge4wP29DQ&sa=X&oi=timeline\\_result&ct=title&resnum=11](http://www.google.com/search?q=Saint+Lucia+History&hl=en&safe=active&rls=com.microsoft:*:IE-SearchBox&rlz=117GGLG_en&tbs=tl:1&tbo=u&ei=69i7So2cBJqMtge4wP29DQ&sa=X&oi=timeline_result&ct=title&resnum=11)  
[http://www.experiencefestival.com/a/History\\_of\\_Saint\\_Lucia\\_-\\_European\\_invasion/id/5132348](http://www.experiencefestival.com/a/History_of_Saint_Lucia_-_European_invasion/id/5132348)  
<http://books.google.com/books?id=F3w0aLXGQwC&pg=PA13&sig=q0bhYjV5cxjCenD6rcE5pO4liMo&hl=en#v=onepage&q=&f=false>

## Christian History

While the island-nation was sighted as early as the mid-1500s, it was not until the mid-1600s that members of the Catholic faith made Saint Lucia their home. The Catholic Church was established in 1719 by France and has, from the nation's inception, been the primary religion in the nation.

With influence arriving from the English, as they started fighting to acquire the land in the 1700s and 1800s, forms of Protestantism were introduced. The main denominations introduced were the Moravian Brethren, the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church, and the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. The right for the freedom to attend the church of one's choosing is highly valued and is advocated by the constitution of Saint Lucia.

<http://www.archdioceseofcastris.org>  
<http://www.prolades.com/cra/regions/caribe/wind-chron.htm>  
[http://books.google.com/books?id=v0VpAAAIAAJ&pg=PA426&dq=Saint+Lucia+church+history&as\\_brr=3#v=onepage&q=&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=v0VpAAAIAAJ&pg=PA426&dq=Saint+Lucia+church+history&as_brr=3#v=onepage&q=&f=false)  
[http://books.google.com/books?id=mZu673jjxAcC&pg=PA67&lpg=PA67&dq=Catholic+Priests+history+Saint+Lucia&source=bl&ots=65vygq54FY&sig=ITlqRIIzjncnzSZmqxgX2YQJ1Q&hl=en&ei=BcHUSsOqO4zkMKTJzZUD&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=8&ved=0CBsQ6AEwBw#v=onepage&q=&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=mZu673jjxAcC&pg=PA67&lpg=PA67&dq=Catholic+Priests+history+Saint+Lucia&source=bl&ots=65vygq54FY&sig=ITlqRIIzjncnzSZmqxgX2YQJ1Q&hl=en&ei=BcHUSsOqO4zkMKTJzZUD&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=8&ved=0CBsQ6AEwBw#v=onepage&q=&f=false)  
[http://www.archive.org/stream/eveofcatholicema03warduoft/eveofcatholicema03warduoft\\_djvu.txt](http://www.archive.org/stream/eveofcatholicema03warduoft/eveofcatholicema03warduoft_djvu.txt)

## Religion

### Non Christian

*Islam:* Like other Caribbean nations, Islam was introduced to the island of Saint Lucia during the time period of indentured labor after the abolition of slavery in the 1830s. Most of the 350 Muslims who live in Saint Lucia today, however, are local converts as oppose to descendants of those who served through indenture.

In total about 0.5% of the total population is considered Muslim and these are served by two local musallahs which are informal places of worship. There are efforts currently being made for

the production of a mosque on the island through an association called the Islamic Association of Saint Lucia.

[http://books.google.com/books?id=au\\_Vk2VYyrkC&pg=PA150&lpq=PA150&dq=Saint+Lucia+indenture&source=bl&ots=r\\_FZEa5OCe&sig=TJIP2kqGOR3BBB7q7EMTZM1ZRtg&hl=en&ei=gGzXSqSsL4XCNdCszckI&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=4&ved=0CBEQ6AEwAw#v=onepage&q=&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=au_Vk2VYyrkC&pg=PA150&lpq=PA150&dq=Saint+Lucia+indenture&source=bl&ots=r_FZEa5OCe&sig=TJIP2kqGOR3BBB7q7EMTZM1ZRtg&hl=en&ei=gGzXSqSsL4XCNdCszckI&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=4&ved=0CBEQ6AEwAw#v=onepage&q=&f=false)  
<http://www.slucia.com/visions/2005/history.html>  
<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2007/90266.htm>

*Hinduism:* Like Islam, Hinduism found its way to Saint Lucia by way of the indentureship system after slavery was abolished in the 1830s. Of those who came from East India, the majority were Hindus. Those who stayed in Saint Lucia after their period of indentureship were persecuted and intermarried with those of the Christian faith. As such many became Christians.

While there are no official temples in Saint Lucia about 1,400, or 0.9% of the total population, practice Hinduism. There is an association called the Sanatan Hindu Association, Inc. which represents the people of this religious affiliation.

<http://stluciasimplybeautiful.com/v1/2009/03/15/492>  
<http://www.indians-abroad.com/hindus.html>

*Baha'i:* While the specific date of the introduction of the Baha'i faith to St. Lucia is unknown, this group is known to do acts of community service in the country and works alongside the school system in providing acts of service. About 0.20% of the total population is part of the Baha'i faith which accounts for 320 persons.

<http://info.bahai.org/article-1-8-1-3.html>

*Jehovah's Witness:* Like the Baha'i faith background, it is unknown as to when the Jehovah's Witness faith was introduced into the area. About 0.4% of the total population belongs to this faith background which accounts for 688 persons. There are 10 congregations who minister to this religious group and about 25 people were newly baptized into this religion in 2007.

[http://www.watchtower.org/e/statistics/worldwide\\_report.htm](http://www.watchtower.org/e/statistics/worldwide_report.htm)

*The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS/Mormons):* The LDS was introduced to Saint Lucia in 1983 after a Saint Lucian joined the Church while visiting England. Missionaries were soon sent to the island-nation and by the end of 1984 a branch of the church was established and about 40 persons were in attendance.

However, the missionaries were asked to leave the area due to a papal visit in 1986 and have since not been allowed to return. Currently, there are 2 congregations that serve 166 members in Saint Lucia and LDS missionaries are petitioning for admittance back into the country.

<http://newsroom.lds.org/ldsnewsroom/eng/contact-us/saint-lucia>

*Rastafarian:* Though this movement began in Jamaica in the mid-1900s, it spread to the island of Saint Lucia before the 1980s. In 2005 the Ministry of Social Transformation supported the



movement by helping to establish a Rastafarian Foundation in Saint Lucia. Currently about 2.1% of the total population is considered to be Rastafarian which represents about 3,365 members.

<http://www.globalexchange.org/countries/americas/jamaica/rasta.html>

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2008/108538.htm>

<http://www.caribbeanetnews.com/2005/08/18/support.shtml>

<http://rastafaritimes.com/rasnews/viewnews.cgi?newsid1251877462,90496,.shtml>

*Other/non-religious:* Those who are non-religious account for about 3% of the population which represents about 4,800 persons. Of this number, about 700 are considered to be agnostic. Of the total population, about 3,400 persons, another 2.1%, practice a form of religion in which animism and spiritism play major roles.

*Catholic/Orthodox:* While Catholics were the first to officially settle the island in the 1600s, the Catholic Church was not formally established until 1719 under the Authority of the Archdiocese of Port-of-Spain. Growth of the church allowed for the establishment of various schools.

The parish of Saint Lucia became a Diocese in 1956 and in 1974 was raised to the status of the Archdiocese of Castries. While there are a number of church buildings, the main Cathedral is the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception which is located in Castries and was built in 1897.

About 67.5% of the total population of Saint Lucia is Roman Catholic which accounts for about 108,180 persons. Archbishop Robert Rivas is the current Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Castries and has held this position since February of 2008.

<http://www.archdioceseofcastries.org/content/view/41>

<http://www.rslonline.com/news/roman-catholic-milestone.xhtml>

<http://www.archdioceseofcastries.org>

<http://www.geographia.com/st-lucia/lcpnts01.htm>

## **Christian/Evangelical**

*Anglican:* Members of the Anglican Church were introduced to the nation of Saint Lucia when the British first arrived and settled the island during the 1700s. However, it was not until 1899 that Saint Lucia was established as part of the Windward Islands Diocese.

The headquarters for this diocese is located in Saint Vincent. There are 5 parishes on Saint Lucia. The churches in these parishes serve about 2% of the total population which accounts for 3,200 people. The Archdeacon of Saint Lucia is The Ven. Randolph Evelyn.

<http://stmatthewsparishbiabou.webs.com/windwardislandsdiocese.htm>

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2004/35553.htm>

<http://svgancestry.com/index.php/st-vincent-history>

*Baptists:* The first Baptist presence in Saint Lucia came in the form of a Scotch Baptist named James Thomson in 1834. In 1947 the Baptist Mid-missions organization sent a missionary from



Saint Vincent to survey the island and missionaries were sent to minister to the island in 1948. In addition, Independent Baptists from Trinidad were also sent and ministered in Saint Lucia.

Since then 11 Baptist churches have been built through this ministry. Between the Independent and Fundamental Baptists, these 11 churches minister to about 600 members. This accounts for the Baptist church ministering to 0.4% of the total population.

[http://books.google.com/books?id=gn9WhwicezIC&pg=PA461&dq=Baptist+Saint+Lucia&as\\_brr=3#v=onepage&q=Lucia&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=gn9WhwicezIC&pg=PA461&dq=Baptist+Saint+Lucia&as_brr=3#v=onepage&q=Lucia&f=false)  
<http://www.bmm.org/BMM/WhereWeServe/LatinAmerica/stlucia.htm>

*Church of Christ:* It is unknown as to the exact date when the Church of Christ was introduced to Saint Lucia. This denomination currently has two congregations on the island: one in Castries and the other in Vieux Fort. Together, the two minister to about 330 persons which account for 0.2% of the total population. This church participates in tele-evangelism.

[http://church-of-christ.org/churches/Saint\\_Lucia/Castries\\_S.htm](http://church-of-christ.org/churches/Saint_Lucia/Castries_S.htm)  
<http://www.churchzip.com/countrysummary/ST>

*Methodists:* The Methodist Church was introduced to Saint Lucia in the year of 1809 and mainly focused on erecting primary and secondary schools for the purpose of education. Those who are Methodist in Saint Lucia are part of a circuit, which is a group of one or more congregations that is part of the larger Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas.

Currently, there are at least two congregations: one in Castries and another in Canaries. At least 180 members are a part of the Methodist Church. In total, the Methodist Church ministers to about 0.11% of the total population.

[http://books.google.com/books?id=mZu673jjxAcC&pg=PA67&lpg=PA67&dq=Catholic+Priests+history+Saint+Lucia&source=bl&ots=65vygq54FY&sig=ITiqRIIZjncnzSZmqxsgX2YQJ1Q&hl=en&ei=BcHUSsOqO4zkMKTJzZUD&sa=X&oi=book\\_result&ct=result&resnum=8&ved=0CBsQ6AEwBw#v=onepage&q=&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=mZu673jjxAcC&pg=PA67&lpg=PA67&dq=Catholic+Priests+history+Saint+Lucia&source=bl&ots=65vygq54FY&sig=ITiqRIIZjncnzSZmqxsgX2YQJ1Q&hl=en&ei=BcHUSsOqO4zkMKTJzZUD&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=8&ved=0CBsQ6AEwBw#v=onepage&q=&f=false)  
<http://methchurchslu.org>  
<http://vikratistos.com/slh.html>  
<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,,,LCA,4562d94e2,48d5cc096e,0.html>

*Pentecostals:* Pentecostalism was most likely introduced during the time of the Pentecostal movement in the Caribbean during the early 1900s. Currently, there are 13 churches which serve the people of Saint Lucia. Approximately 5.7% of the total population, accounting for a little over 9,100 people, is a member of a Pentecostal church. These churches are part of the larger Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies International.

<http://www.pawionline.org/stlucia.php>

*Seventh-Day Adventist (SDA:)* The Seventh-Day Adventist denomination began to minister to those in Saint Lucia in the late 1800s and by 1907 there were churches of this denomination in Saint Lucia. These were also affiliated with a larger West Indian Union Conference which included churches from neighboring isles.

This denomination is currently the largest Protestant denomination on Saint Lucia. Many efforts have been made by this denomination to improve the quality of education and many schools on the island of Saint Lucia are operated by them. About 8.5% of the total population, accounting for 16,200 people, is a member of an SDA church. There are at least 6 churches which minister to their members.

<http://www.stluciaadventist.org/Institutions/SDA-Academy/History-of-the-St-Lucia-SDA-Academy.php>  
<http://www.stluciaadventist.org/Articles/Articles/History-of-The-Advent-Movement-In-St-Lucia-1900--1967.php>  
<http://www.stluciaadventist.org/aboutus.php>  
<http://books.google.com/books?id=fFYFLksIywcC&pg=PA168&dq=Adventist+Saint+Lucia#v=onepage&q=&f=false>

*Other/ Independent churches found in the country:* About 1.6% of the population is a member of other denominations not mentioned above which would account for about 2,500 people. These would include the members of the Presbyterian Church, the Church of the Salvation Army, and the Church of Christ.

Another 5.1% of the total population, accounting for more than 8,000 persons, is a member of a church which is not affiliated with any conference or convention, but which is still considered Protestant and Independent in nature.

[http://www.caribbeanonlineyellowpages.com/listings\\_6/6\\_category\\_C\\_3500.html](http://www.caribbeanonlineyellowpages.com/listings_6/6_category_C_3500.html)

General:

<http://www.guidetostlucia.com/aboutstlucia.html>  
<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2008/108538.htm>  
[http://www.thearda.com/internationalData/Countries/Country\\_190\\_2.asp](http://www.thearda.com/internationalData/Countries/Country_190_2.asp)  
<http://www.prolades.com/cra/regions/caribe/wind-chron.htm>

## People Groups

### 16412

#### **British (1,684)**

A British presence has been on the island since England began establishing dominance in the area in the 1700s. Those who are British living in St. Lucia today are the descendants of those who colonized the island. In addition, many British continue to come to the island as the island's culture is heavily influenced by the English culture.

The British living on St. Lucia are primarily Protestant Christian. At least 2% are known to be evangelical Christian. English is their primary language. A variety of ministerial resources are available to them which include the Bible and the *Jesus* film. Radio broadcasts, worship music and other gospel recordings are also available to this people group.

### 47774

#### **Deaf (812)**

The deaf community in St. Lucia is made up of persons who have difficulty, or the inability, to hear and use their hands in a form of communication called sign language. While there is no definitive sign language spoken throughout the country, there is one school which educates those in this group. It is important to note that people in this group are also identified with other people groups. At least 12% are known to be evangelical Christians.

[http://www.ethnologue.com/show\\_country.asp?name=LC](http://www.ethnologue.com/show_country.asp?name=LC)

**000000**

### **East Indian (5,000)**

After slavery was abolished in Saint Lucia in 1834, owners of plantations sought other means of labor which they found through the indentureship system. The first East Indians arrived in Saint Lucia in 1882 from the provinces of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. This system, too, was abolished and almost 3,000 remained as free citizens of Saint Lucia.

Those who are East Indian primarily speak Hindi. While most of the immigrants were Hindus on arrival to Saint Lucia, many intermarried and became Christian. More than 10% are known to be evangelical Christian! There is at least one agency and one church reaching out to this people group and there are a number of ministerial tools available in Hindi. These would include the Bible, the *Jesus* film, and ethnic worship music.

<http://www.slucia.com/visions/2005/history.html>

<http://www.slucia.com/visions/2002/indian.html>

**000000**

### **French (500)**

The French were the first European people to successfully colonize the island. While many intermarried with other people groups, those of French descent still live in Saint Lucia today. The influence of the French is still seen in the role that the French language plays in the Creole which is spoken on the island.

At least 2% of this population is known to be evangelical Christian. Their primary language is French and as such, there are a variety of ministerial resources available to them. These would include the written Scriptures, the *Jesus* film, and worship music.

**16413**

### **Han Chinese, Mandarin (109)**

The Chinese first made their way to Saint Lucia in the 1870s when some were contracted from the Guiana's of South America. Those that are Chinese in Saint Lucia today are the descendants of these immigrants.

Their primary religion is Buddhism, but at least 5% are known to be evangelical Christians. They primarily speak a dialect of Chinese called Mandarin and many resources are available to them

in this language. These would include the Bible, the *Jesus* film, other gospel recordings, and ethnic worship music.

[http://books.google.com/books?id=Y-rU5RvxPw0C&pg=PA18&dq=Chinese+St.+Lucia&lr=&as\\_brr=3#v=onepage&q=Chinese%20St.%20Lucia&f=false](http://books.google.com/books?id=Y-rU5RvxPw0C&pg=PA18&dq=Chinese+St.+Lucia&lr=&as_brr=3#v=onepage&q=Chinese%20St.%20Lucia&f=false)  
<http://www.country-data.com/cgi-bin/query/r-3146.html>

## **16414**

### **Saint Lucian (151,241)**

Also known as Lesser Antillean, those in the Saint Lucian people group are a Creole group which formed from the descendants of intermarriages and unions among the French, British, Native American, and African people. Today, this people group forms the largest group on the island. Traditions among this group are highly dependent upon their individual cultural background.

They mainly practice Roman Catholicism, but a little over 5% of this population is known to be evangelical Christian. They primarily speak a French-based Creole known as Saint Lucian Creole. The Bible and other gospel recordings are available to this people group in their primary language. While the *Jesus* film has not yet been translated into this language, it is available to them in the country's official language of English.

<http://www.geographia.com/st-lucia/lccul01.htm>  
<http://www.everyculture.com/No-Sa/Saint-Lucia.html>

## **16415**

### **West Indian Black (1,733)**

The West Indian Black people are also known as Black Carib or *Garifuna*. When the Europeans came to the Caribbean, many of the Native Americans, known as Caribs, were killed due to disease and warfare. Others fled to St. Vincent and married slaves who had run away from plantations. Their descendants found their way back to Saint Lucia and have a history among the Caribbean Islands for fighting for their territory.

Though this is also a Creole people group, the West Indian Black is different than those who are Saint Lucian in that there is no European background to their ethnicity. People in this group primarily practice Roman Catholicism and it is unknown how many are evangelical Christians.

Another major difference between this Creole group and Saint Lucians is that their primary language is English based Creole known as Virgin Islands Creole. While the written Scripture is available to this people group in their primary language, the *Jesus* film has not yet been translated. It is available to them in the country's primary language of English.

<http://bequiablog.com/index.php?s=leeward>  
[http://www.svgonline.com/carib\\_history.pdf](http://www.svgonline.com/carib_history.pdf)

General:

<http://www.imb.org/globalresearch/downloads.asp>

<http://www.joshuaproject.net/countries.php>

### Missiological Implications

1. Evangelical Christians and churches should develop and train local believers in the better methods of witnessing to and starting churches for Roman Catholics. Over 100,000 live in the Catholic Church and need the plan of salvation.
2. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek ways to evangelize the non-religious (some 4,800) and those who follow traditional religion and spiritism (some 3,500). Again the most promising methods would include training local believers to evangelize their people.
3. Evangelical Christians and churches should pray for and develop means of helping the youth of St. Lucia who are prone to both suicide and criminal activity. Training pastors in this area in ministering to troubled youth would be a benefit to the nation. Another idea would be to open an online website or call hotline for youth to call or chat with someone when dealing with this life or death situation. Setting up a mentor system at the churches would be a great help in guiding the youth towards a godlier path. In addition this may help to lower the death toll with regards to youth in Saint Lucia. Also, keep in mind the families who have already lost members to drugs and the drug cartel. Training ministers how to counsel these hurting families would do wonders for the body of Christ.
4. Evangelical Christians and churches should seek ways to relieve the vast problems of poverty and the great distance between the rich and poor that exist in St. Lucia.
5. Evangelical Christians and churches should emphasize evangelism among the West Indian Black who are also known as Black Carib or *Garifuna*. Almost 2,000 people live in this group and are vastly underevangelized. The *Jesus* film, in their own language, would be of great help.

<http://stluciarstar.com/content/archives/4787>

<http://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/economies/Americas/St-Lucia-POVERTY-AND-WEALTH.html>

[http://www.ethnologue.com/show\\_country.asp?name=LC](http://www.ethnologue.com/show_country.asp?name=LC)

<http://web.worldbank.org/external/projects/main?menuPK=228424&theSitePK=40941&pagePK=64283627&piPK=73230&Projectid=P054939>

<http://www.kisc.meiji.ac.jp/cgi-isc/cgiwrap/~kenjisuz/country.cgi?LG=e&CO=182>

### Pictures

<http://www.planetware.com/pictures/st-lucia-stl.htm>

<http://travel.webshots.com/album/356341529pGMJxZ>

<http://images.google.com/images?hl=en&source=hp&q=St.+Lucia&gbv=2&aq=f&oq=&aqi=g10>

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