# COUNTRY X PROFILE

## OVERVIEW

Country X is a landlocked country bordering Country Y and Country Z. The capital of Country X is MC, and the population of the country was 5,000,000 in 2015 when the last census was conducted.

Major languages: English (official), Xxaanna and Yyaanna (working languages)

Major religion: Christian, Animist

Life expectancy: 62 years (men), 64 years (women)

Currency: Xxaan dollar

## Ethnic Groups (2015)

* 70.5% Xxaan
* 7.0% Bbaan
* 21.2% Yyaan
* 1.3% other

## GOVERNMENT

* Unitary parliamentary
* President: Brian C
* Prime Minister: Jeremiah L
* Legislature: National Parliament
* Independence: from Country B on 29 February 1973

## DEMOGRAPHICS

Live Births Per Year 107,000

Deaths Per Year 22,000

Natural Change Per Year 85,000

CBR (per 1000) (Crude Birth Rate) 39.4

CDR (per 1000) (Crude Death Rate) 8.7

TFR (no. children per woman) (Total Fertility Rate) 5.51

IMR (per 1000 births) (Infant Mortality Rate) 42.8

## BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Country X covers a land mass of 190,038 square kilometers with a population of 5,000,000. It is a fertile country with plateaus and a mountain range near the border with Country Z. Country X gained independence from Country B in 1973.

Following de-colonisation of the country in the late 1900’s, a number of parties vied for leadership and Country X’s newly formed government, consisting of an agreement between the leadership of three main provincial areas, including the Xxaanna Independence Movement (XIM).

Many districts felt they were poorly represented by government. Using force, key disenfranchised players from various districts formed an organisation and named themselves the Xxaan Freedom Movement (XFM). The XFM overthrew the government and ruled the country through heavy oppression.

In retaliation, the XIM formed an armed faction to combat the military junta. Civil war erupted between the XIM and the ruling group. A Treaty Agreement was signed by both groups in 1992 with a power sharing arrangement.

## GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Country X is awash with hills and protected from the west by a low mountain range. A number of rivers run through Country X and flow into a large river in which live a large variety of fish. Several villages and a quarter of the farms exist near the river in the southern region.

Due to its geographical location, Country X area experiences a semi-tropical climate, with a dry season and hot and humid conditions for the rest of the year.

During the dry season, Country X prohibits the starting of fires due to dangers. As the country only have fire brigades in the capital and regional cities, uncontrolled fires may have devastating consequences to homes and lives.

## CULTURE

Traditionally, parents and adult relatives have arranged marriages. However in recent times couples have been able to select their own partners if the parents approve of the arrangement. Cohabiting is strongly discouraged, and couples are pressured into marrying within a short period or face rejection from the community.

In Country X there is no law against locals carrying or owning weapons. No licence is required.

Meals are an important time for families and communities to come together and exchange stories. A great deal of preparation goes into each meal. Ceremonial occasions are always accompanied with grand feasts where each family brings food to share.

Christianity is the main established religion in Country X; however, traditional animism continues to be present.

Traditionally in Xxaana culture there is no caste or class system. Instead the country has different tribal/family groups. Some families pass on land through the grandmother’s line (matrilineal) and some through the grandfather’s line (patrilineal).

## POLITICS

Country X is a republic and has a parliamentary system of government. The head of state is a president who is elected by popular vote for a five-year term. There is a unicameral parliament of 30 members, elected for four-year terms. However, Parliament may be dissolved by majority vote of its members before the completion of its term.

Parliamentary representation is based on single-member constituencies. Suffrage is universal for citizens over age 18. The head of government is the Prime Minister, who is elected by Parliament and chooses the cabinet. Each ministry is headed by a cabinet member, who is assisted by a permanent secretary, a career public servant who directs the staff of the ministry.

No military forces are maintained by Country X although a police force of nearly 50,000 includes a border protection unit and a counter insurgency task force. The police also are responsible for fire service, disaster relief, and maritime surveillance.

## LITERACY

Definition: age 15 and over can read and write

Total population: 57.5% (2015 est.)

Male: 61.5%

Female: 53.4%

## RELIGION

Christianity 70%, Animism 22%, Protestant 7%

## LIVING CIRCUMSTANCES

Proportion of the population living in rural areas: 70.4%

Average number of people living in each square km (Population density): 26.31

## MC (Capital)

Population: 2,100,000 (Urban), 400,000 (Greater MC)

## REGIONS

SC (Largest Regional City)

Population:- 400,000 (Urban) - 95,000 (Sub-District) - 110,484 (Greater SC District)

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| **Regions** | **Regional Capital** |
| Central Region | MC |
| Northern Region | SC |
| Western Region | TC |

## ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

The foundations of Country X’s economy are improving, and perceptions of increased transparency and accountability following Country X’s return to democracy after civil unrest have boosted business confidence.

Expansionary fiscal policies, particularly medium to large infrastructure and social expenditure programs, as well as persistently accommodative monetary policy, have supported many years of economic growth since 2014. The Xxaanna Central Bank estimates that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) continues to grow by 2% per annum. This growth is broad based, mainly driven by the transport and storage; financial and insurance; tourism and construction sectors. Public debt is 56 per cent of GDP, most of which is held domestically, and the projected fiscal deficit for 2016 was 2.9 per cent of GDP.

Service sectors such as finance and transport continue to improve, and along with construction, manufacturing, and retail activity, are the main drivers of growth. Agriculture remains Country X’s main source of foreign exchange.

Tea, cotton, and fish continue to be Country X’s strongest merchandise exports. Agriculture is a source of income for the bulk of the population and continues to make a significant contribution to growth.

Country X’s 2016 budget was passed in December 2015, continuing the Government’s main areas of expenditure, particularly in infrastructure, health, education, and agriculture. The Budget lays the groundwork for moderate fiscal consolidation over the next few years. Tax and duty changes are aimed at fuelling consumption and simplifying and broadening the revenue base, most notably through reducing the rate and increasing the coverage of the Value Added Tax.

Economic development has taken place in the central and northern regions of the country, which are linked by a well maintained highway, between SC and the country’s capital MC. The west and southern regions (mountainous areas) remain sparsely populated and economically underdeveloped.

Flooding and landslides can negatively affect economic activity of the country. A major flooding event in March 2019, caused extensive damage in the northern region of Country X, leaving thousands homeless. Another significant rain event in January 2021 caused extensive damage in the regional capital, SC and surrounding areas, and was also followed by subsequent landslides.