

Venezuela

(Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)





Federal presidential republic

Ranks 7th in the world's list of nations with the most number of species

Capital and largest city – Caracas

Area: 916 445

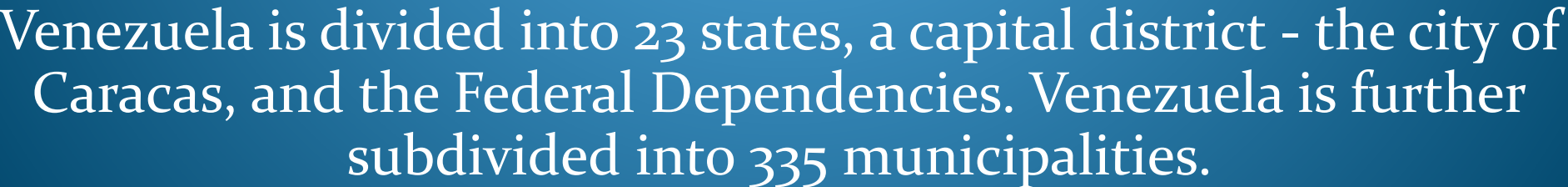
Population: 33,221,865

Flag



Coat of Arms





Venezuela is divided into 23 states, a capital district - the city of Caracas, and the Federal Dependencies. Venezuela is further subdivided into 335 municipalities.

Colonization

- 1522 - colonized by Spain
- 1811 - became one of the first Spanish-American colonies to declare independence
- until 1821 - Venezuela was a department of the federal republic of Gran Colombia
- 1830 - gained full independence as a separate country.



Venezuela and oil



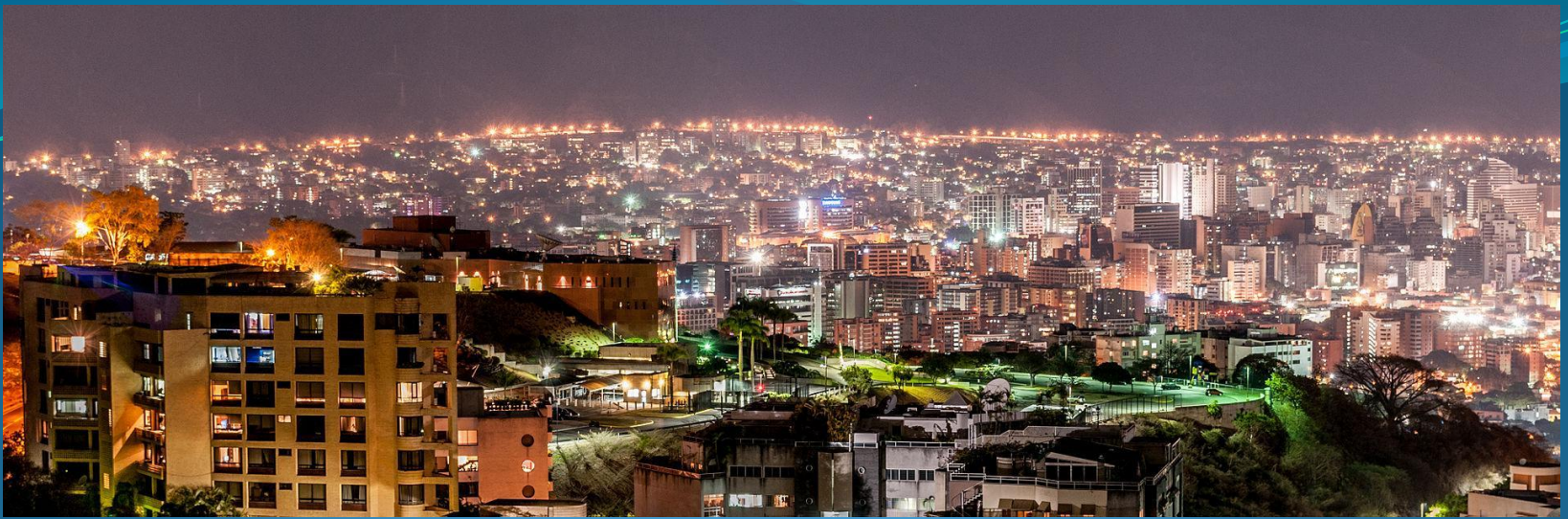
Venezuela has the world's largest oil reserves and has been one of the world's leading exporters of oil. Previously an underdeveloped exporter of agricultural commodities such as coffee and cocoa quickly came to dominate exports and government revenues.



Caracas



Businesses that are located in the city include service companies, banks, and malls, among others. Caracas is Venezuela's cultural capital, with many restaurants, theaters, museums, and shopping centers.



News



March 12, 2006 – on the flag of Venezuela appeared eighth star, symbolizing the joining of eastern Guayana region in the early XIX century- the “ Star of Bolivar.”

