Country Profile: Suriname

Country Profile (PDF)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Suriname 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps	CBL	1:50,000	1980 – 1981	232

Thematic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
The World 1:30,000,000 Scale Topographic Map Series 1145 (NGA)	DMA	1:30,000,000		2

Global Census Archive: GIS Census Data

East View Geospatial has an ongoing effort to add GIS census data to our Global Census Archive program. Please contact us for the status and availability of Suriname census resources.

Global Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military City Plans	VTU GSh	Varies	1944 – 2003	3,021
Soviet Military 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:100,000	1947 – 1999	24,897
Soviet Military 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:200,000	1949 – 2009	17,799
Soviet Military 1:500,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:500,000	1953 – 1998	3,093
Soviet Military 1:1,000,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:1,000,000	1948 – 1994	1,089

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
NGA Nautical Charts POD Certified (All Scales)	NGA	Varies	1943 – 2013	4,517

Aeronautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Joint Operations Graphic (JOG 1501A) 1:250,000 – Aeronautical	DMA	1:250,000	1958 – 2007	6,380
Tactical Pilotage Chart (TPC) 1:500,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:500,000	1967 – 2006	618
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC) 1:1,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:1,000,000	1969 – 2001	248
Jet Navigation Chart (JNC) 1:2,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:2,000,000	1971 – 1999	117
Global Navigation and Planning Chart (GNC) 1:5,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:5,000,000	1981 – 1999	27

Note: East View Geospatial is continuously sourcing new resources that may not yet be listed in Global Explorer. Please contact us if you have geodata needs beyond what is listed above and we will be happy to discuss available off-the-shelf and custom solutions.

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Historical Country Mapping Information

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Country Profile (PDF)

Topographic

Formerly a Dutch colony, Suriname became independent in 1975. Systematic mapping of the colony began after World War II, following the acquisition of air photo cover of the area north of the 4° parallel flown by **KLM Aerocarto** in 1947. The present topographic mapping authority is the **Centraal Bureau Luchtkartering (CBL)**, Paramaribo, established in 1948.

From 1949, the first topographic sheets were published at the scale of 1:40,000. These covered only the northern half of the country, and were based on controlled photo-mosaics constructed from the **KLM** photography, which was also at this scale. Initially these mainly monochrome maps were on a stereographic projection, Bessel ellipsoid. A 1:100,000 scale series was also initiated and this was extended to the south of the country following acquisition of aerial photography of this area in the late 1950s. This series was printed in monochrome for the north and in three colors for the area south of the 4° parallel. A series of derived 1:200,000 scale maps was published between 1960 and 1966.

In the 1960s, it was decided to undertake a new primary triangulation network and re-mapping program. The 1:40,000 scale series was, therefore, terminated. The new triangulation and levelling were completed over the period 1968-78. New photography was also flown at scales of 1:30,000 in the flatter areas and 1:55,000 in the mountains and a new series of 1:50,000 scale maps was issued, beginning in 1978. They cover over half of the country, mainly in the north, and are on a modified Transverse Mercator projection, International (Hayford) ellipsoid.

Soviet military topographic mapping exists at the following scales: 1:1,000,000 (4 sheets, complete coverage, published 1966-1984) and 1:500,000 (8 sheets, complete coverage, published 1967-1987). These products are available in print, digital raster and digital vector GIS formats from **East View Geospatial**.

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Geological/Scientific

Geological mapping has been undertaken by the **Geologische Mijnbouwkundige Dienst (GMD)**, Parimaribo, established in 1943. The basic scale adopted for geological mapping was 1:100,000, with maps produced primarily for internal use, although a number of monographic maps at scales of 1:100,000 and 1:200,000 have been published as part of the *Mededelingen* series of **GMD**. A series of five 1:100,000 scale geological sheets covering the northeast of the country was also published in the 1950s. Aeromagnetic maps were prepared in 1960-65 by the **Aero Service Corporation** at scales ranging from 1:40,000 to 1:500,000. The best modern geological synthesis is provided by the 1:500,000 scale map published in 1977 and described in *Contributions to the geology of Suriname*.

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Soil

Soil mapping was pioneered in the 1950s by **J.J. van der Eyck**, and in 1958 the **Dienst Bodemkartering (DBK)** was established. A small reconnaissance soil map was published in 1963, and this was followed by reconnaissance soil surveys of north Suriname with sheets published at scales of 1:500,000; 1:200,000 and 1:100,000. The 1:200,000 scale maps extend the cover southwards to the 4° parallel.

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Vegetation/Forestry

A *Reconnaissance map of the Surinam lowland ecosystems* at a scale of 1:200,000 was published in 1978 in The Netherlands. It is in seven sheets plus a legend sheet, and is printed in 10 colors. It covers the coastal plain and savanna belt, and incorporates vegetation, soil and land use data.

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Atlas

In 1988, the *Suriname planatlas* was published by the **National Planning Office of Suriname, Stichting Plan-bureau Suriname (SPS)** with the technical assistance of the **Organization of American States (OAS)**, Washington, DC. This is similar in concept to a national atlas and contains 25 plates of maps, many at the scale of 1:1,500,000 or 1:1,000,000 for the north, covering themes of physical geography, population, transport and economic activities and resources. The texts are in Dutch and English.

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Tourist/Reference

The capital city, Paramaribo, was mapped by **CBL** in the late 1950s at 1:1,000 scale and in 1963, a six-sheet map at 1:5,000 and a single sheet at 1:12,500 were issued. Currently, maps of Paramaribo at scales of 1:25,000; 1:10,000; 1:12,500 and 1:5,000 are published by **CBL**. A city street map was published in 1978 by the commercial publisher **VACO NV**. Tourist maps of the country have been published by **Uitgeverij HEBRI International (HEBRI)** and by **International Travel Maps (ITM)**.

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www.geospatial.com | geospatial@eastview.com