

On Aug. 15, 1914, the Panama Canal was opened for world commerce, dramatically shortening the time ships took to travel between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Construction of this vital waterway, one of the world's engineering wonders, was started in 1880 by France and finished by the U.S. in 1914. Since 1999, it has been operated by the Republic of Panama.

Panama population

(2014)

3.6 million

Panama Canal Zone population

From 1920-1970, when the canal and zone were operated and controlled exclusively by the U.S., the population was included in U.S. censuses.

1920 = 22,858

1970 = 44,198

Panamanians in the U.S.

(2012)

Residents born 103,300 in Panama

Hispanics of Panamanian origin

33,333

183,700

U.S. trade with Panama

(2013)

\$10.6 billion



Exports Imports





U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration U.S. CENSUS BUREAU **census.gov** Sources: 2012 American Community Survey, 2014 International Data Base, 2013 Foreign Trade Statistics, 1920 and 1970 Censuses of Population.