

Tax haven in the Caribbean

The Cayman Islands, the British territory through which Goldman Sachs and other Wall Street banks sold some of the securities implicated in the financial crisis:

At a glance

Population 49,000 (2009)

Per person GDP \$43,800
(2004; ranked 13th in world)

Economy Tourism accounts for about 70 percent of GDP

Financial center With no direct taxation, country thrives as an offshore financial center, with more than 68,000 firms, including banks, insurers and mutual funds registered there; stock exchange opened in 1997

Source: CIA World Factbook

Graphic: Pat Carr

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