

Lebanon



KEY CONTACTS

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Government

Chief of State: President Michel AUN

Head of Government: Prime Minister Saad HARIRI

Government Type: Parliamentary Republic

Capital: Beirut

Legislature: Unicameral National Assembly or Majlis al-Nuwab in Arabic or Assemblée Nationale in French (128 seats)

Judiciary: Court of Cassation or Supreme Court (organized into 8 chambers, each with a presiding judge and 2 associate judges); Constitutional Council (consists of 10 members)

Geography

Area

Total: 10,400 sq km

Land: 10,230 sq km

Water: 170 sq km

Climate: Mediterranean; mild to cool, wet winters with hot, dry summers; the Lebanon Mountains experience heavy winter snows

Natural Resources: Limestone, iron ore, salt, water-surplus state in a water-deficit region, arable land

People & Society

Population: 5.5 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth: 6.68% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity: Arab 95%, Armenian 4%, other 1% (2018 est.)

Language: Arabic (official), French, English, Armenian communication") 94.4% (understand spoken language) (2009 est.)

Religion: Muslim 61.1% (30.6% Sunni, 30.5% Shia, smaller percentages of Alawites and Ismailis), Christian 33.7% (Maronite Catholics are the largest

Christian group), Druze 5.2%, very small numbers of Jews, Baha'is, Buddhists, and Hindus (2018 est.)

Urbanization:

Urban Population: 88.9% of total population (2020)

Rate of Urbanization: 0.75% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

Literacy: 95.1% (2018)

Italian presence: 2436

Economy

Economic Overview: Has a free-market economy and a strong laissez-faire commercial tradition; the economy is service-oriented; main growth sectors include banking and tourism; the Syria conflict cut off one of Lebanon's major markets and a transport corridor through the Levant

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity):

\$88.25 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity):

\$19,600 (2017 est.)

Exports

\$3.524 billion (2017 est.)

Partners: China 13%, UAE 9.9%, South Africa 7.5%, Saudi Arabia 6.5%, Syria 6.5%, Iraq 5.8%, Turkey 4.6% (2017)

Imports

\$18.34 billion (2017 est.)

Partners: China 10.2%, Italy 8.9%, Greece 7%, Germany 6.6%, US 6.3%, Turkey 4.5%, Egypt 4.2% (2017)

