



LEBANON



GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Michel AWN

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)

Ambassador to US

Ambassador Gabriel ISSA

US Ambassador

Ambassador Dorothy SHEA

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

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)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

5.5 million (July 2020 est.)

Population Growth

-6.68% (2020 est.)

Ethnicity

Arab 95%, Armenian 4%, other 1%

Language

Arabic (official), French, English, Armenian

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.)¹

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)

¹ data represent the religious affiliation of the citizen population

