



Liberia



Background Freed slaves from the US began being settled in what is today Liberia in 1822. By 1847, the Americo-Liberians were able to establish a republic. A military coup in 1980 ushered in a decade of authoritarian rule followed by a civil war. A 2003 peace agreement ended the war, and elections were held in 2005.

Capital name: Monrovia

Government type presidential republic

Area total : 111,369 sq km
land: 96,320 sq km
water: 15,049 sq km

Climate tropical; hot, humid; dry winters with hot days and cool to cold nights; wet, cloudy summers with frequent heavy showers

Natural resources iron ore, timber, diamonds, gold, hydropower

Population total: 5,437,249

Population growth rate 2.32% (2024 est.)

Ethnic groups Kpelle 20.2%, Bassa 13.6%, Grebo 9.9%, Gio 7.9%, Mano 7.2%, Kru 5.5%, Lorma 4.8%, Krahn 4.5%, Kissi, 4.3%, Mandingo 4.2%, Vai 3.8%, Gola 3.8%, Gbandi 2.9%, Mende 1.7%, Sapo 1%, Belle 0.7%, Dey 0.3%, other Liberian ethnic group 0.4%, other African 3%, non-African 0.2% (2022 est.)

Religions Christian 84.9%, Muslim 12%, Traditional 0.5%, other 0.1%, none 2.6% (2022 est.)

Languages English 20% (official) and 27 indigenous languages, including Liberian English variants

Executive branch chief of state: President Joseph BOAKAI (since 22 January 2024)

head of government: President Joseph BOAKAI (since 22 January 2024)

Diplomatic representation in the US chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Isaac Chennoweth YEAH, Sr. (since 15 January 2025)

Diplomatic representation from the US chief of mission: Ambassador Mark TONER (since 7 August 2024)

Economic overview low-income West African economy; food scarcity, especially in rural areas; high poverty and inflation; bad recession prior to COVID-19 due to Ebola crisis; growing government debt; longest continuously operated rubber plantation; large informal economy

Real GDP (purchasing power parity) \$8.882 billion (2023 est.)
\$8.484 billion (2022 est.)
\$8.095 billion (2021 est.)

Real GDP per capita	\$1,600 (2023 est.) \$1,600 (2022 est.) \$1,500 (2021 est.)
Exports	\$1.22 billion (2022 est.) \$1.041 billion (2021 est.) \$731.658 million (2020 est.)
Exports - partners	Switzerland 28%, France 8%, Germany 8%, UK 8%, Poland 6% (2022)
Exports - commodities	gold, ships, iron ore, rubber, refined petroleum (2022)
Imports	\$1.961 billion (2022 est.) \$1.739 billion (2021 est.) \$1.371 billion (2020 est.)
Imports - partners	China 42%, South Korea 23%, Japan 15%, Germany 5%, Brazil 3% (2022)
Imports - commodities	ships, refined petroleum, additive manufacturing machines, centrifuges, rice (2022)