



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 Chenoweth 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)