



Lebanon



Background	After World War I, France acquired a mandate over the northern portion of the former Ottoman Empire province of Syria. From it the French demarcated the region of Lebanon in 1920 and granted this area independence in 1943. Lebanon's borders with Syria and Israel remain unresolved.
Capital	name: Beirut
Government type	parliamentary democratic republic
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
Population	total: 5,364,482
Population growth rate	0.61% (2024 est.)
Ethnic groups	Arab 95%, Armenian 4%, other 1%
Religions	Muslim 67.8% (31.9% Sunni, 31.2% Shia, smaller percentages of Alawites and Ismailis), Christian 32.4% (Maronite Catholics are the largest Christian group), Druze 4.5%, very small numbers of Jews, Baha'is, Buddhists, and Hindus (2020 est.)
Languages	Arabic (official), French, English, Armenian
Executive branch	chief of state: President Joseph AOUN (since 9 January 2025) head of government: Prime Minister Najib MIQATI (since 20 September 2021)
Diplomatic representation in the US	chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Waïl HACHEM, Counselor (since 15 March 2021)
Diplomatic representation from the US	chief of mission: Ambassador Lisa A. JOHNSON (since 6 February 2025)
Economic overview	lower middle-income Middle Eastern economy; hyperinflation and sharp poverty increases; banks have ceased lending; economic contraction, destroyed infrastructure, and reduced consumer demand resulting from Israel-Hezbollah conflict

Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$65.818 billion (2023 est.) \$65.917 billion (2022 est.) \$66.329 billion (2021 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$12,300 (2023 est.) \$11,500 (2022 est.) \$11,600 (2021 est.)
Exports	\$11.77 billion (2023 est.) \$12.445 billion (2022 est.) \$9.684 billion (2021 est.)
Exports - partners	UAE 22%, Syria 8%, Egypt 5%, US 5%, Turkey 4% (2022)
Exports - commodities	diamonds, plastics, jewelry, gold, scrap iron (2022)
Imports	\$23.313 billion (2023 est.) \$24.536 billion (2022 est.) \$17.667 billion (2021 est.)
Imports - partners	China 14%, Turkey 13%, Greece 9%, UAE 7%, Italy 5% (2022)
Imports - commodities	refined petroleum, cars, gold, broadcasting equipment, diamonds (2022)