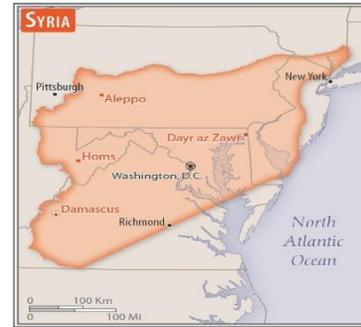




# SYRIA



## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

President Bashar al-ASAD

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Imad Muhammad Prime

Minister Hussein ARNOUS

### Government Type

presidential republic; highly authoritarian regime

### Capital

Damascus

### Legislature

unicameral People's Assembly (250 seats)

### Judiciary

Court of Cassation (organized into civil, criminal, religious, and military divisions, each with 3 judges); Supreme Constitutional Court (consists of 7 members)

### Ambassador to US

(vacant)

### US Ambassador

(vacant); note – Czechia serves as a protecting power for US interests in Syria

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 187,437 sq km

Land: 185,887 sq km

Water: 1,500 sq km

### Climate

mostly desert; hot, dry, sunny summers (June to August) and mild, rainy winters (December to February) along coast; cold weather with snow or sleet periodically in Damascus

### Natural Resources

petroleum, phosphates, chrome and manganese ores, asphalt, iron ore, rock salt, marble, gypsum, hydropower

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

Syria's economy has deeply deteriorated amid the ongoing conflict that began in 2011, declining by more than 70% from 2010 to 2017.

### GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$50.28 billion (2017 est.)

### GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$2,900 (2017 est.)

### Exports

\$1.85 billion (2017 est.)

partners: Lebanon 31.5%, Iraq 10.3%, Jordan 8.8%, China 7.8%, Turkey 7.5%, Spain 7.3% (2017)

### Imports

\$6.279 billion (2017 est.)

partners: Russia 32.4%, Turkey 16.7%, China 9.5% (2017)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

19,398,448 (July 2020 est.)

### Population Growth

4.25% (2020 est.)

### Ethnicity

Arab ~50%, Alawite ~15%,

Kurd ~10%, Levantine

~10%, other ~15% (includes Druze, Ismaili, Imami, Nusairi, Assyrian, Turkoman, Armenian)

### Language

Arabic (official), Kurdish, Armenian, Aramaic, Circassian, French, English

### Religion

Muslim 87% (official; includes Sunni 74% and Alawi, Ismaili, and Shia 13%), Christian 10% (includes Orthodox, Uniate, and Nestorian), Druze 3%, Jewish (few remaining in Damascus and Aleppo)

### Urbanization

urban population: 55.5% of total population (2020)

rate of urbanization: 1.43% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

### Literacy

86.4% (2015)

