INTRODUCTION
Timor was actively involved in Southeast Asian trading networks for centuries and by the 14th century exported aromatic sandalwood, slaves, honey, and wax. By mid 16th century, the Portuguese had colonized the island. It was incorporated into Indonesia in July 1976 as the province of Timor Timur (East Timor). On 20 May 2002, Timor-Leste was internationally recognized as an independent state.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Francisco GUTERRES
Head of Government
Prime Minister Taur Matan RUAK
Government Type
semi-presidential republic
Capital
Dili
Legislature
unicameral National Parliament (65 seats)

GEOPGRAPHY
Area
total: 14,874 sq km
land: 14,874 sq km
water: 0 sq km
Climate
tropical; hot, humid; distinct rainy and dry seasons
Natural Resources
gold, petroleum, natural gas, manganese, marble

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
lower middle-income Southeast Asian economy; government expenditures funded via oil fund drawdowns; endemic corruption undermines growth; foreign aid-dependent; wide-scale poverty, unemployment, and illiteracy
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $4.19 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $3,200 (2020 est.)
Industries - printing, soap manufacturing, handicrafts, woven cloth
Agricultural products - rice, maize, vegetables, coffee, roots/tubers, other meats, cassava, pork, beans, mangoes/guavas
Exports $60 million (2020 est.)
crude petroleum, natural gas, coffee, vegetables, scrap iron (2019)
partners: Singapore 51%, China 20%, Japan 9%, Indonesia 6% (2019)
Imports $850 million (2020 est.)
refined petroleum, cars, cement, delivery trucks, motorcycles (2019)
partners: Indonesia 39%, China 27%, Singapore 10%, Malaysia 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
1.41 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
2.19% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Austronesian (Malayo-Polynesian) (includes Tetun, Mambai, Tokodede, Galoli, Kemak, Baikeno), Melanesian-Papuan (includes Bunak, Fataluku, Bakasai), small Chinese minority
Language
Tetun Prasa 30.6%, Mambai 16.6%, Makasai 10.5%, Tetun Terik 6.1%, Baikenu 5.9%, Kemak 5.8%, Bunak 5.5%, Tokodede 4%, Fataluku 3.5%, Waima’a 1.8%, Galoli 1.4%, Naueti 1.4%, Idate 1.2%, Midiki 1.2%, other 4.5% (2015 est.)
Religion
Roman Catholic 97.6%, Protestant/Evangelical 2%, Muslim 0.2%, other 0.2% (2015 est.)

as of October 2021