

Luxembourg

Geography

Location: Western Europe, between France and Germany

Area:

total area: 2,586 sq km

land area: 2,586 sq km

Land boundaries: total 359 km, Belgium 148 km, France 73 km, Germany 138 km

Coastline: 0 km (landlocked)

Maritime claims: none; landlocked

Climate: modified continental with mild winters, cool summers

Terrain: mostly gently rolling uplands with broad, shallow valleys; uplands to slightly mountainous in the north; steep slope down to Moselle floodplain in the southeast

Natural resources: iron ore (no longer exploited)

Land use:

arable land: 24%

permanent crops: 1%

meadows and pastures: 20%

forest and woodland: 21%

other: 34%

Environment:

current issues: deforestation; air and water pollution in urban areas

People

Population: 404,660 (July 1995 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 18% (female 35,372; male 36,645)
15-64 years: 68% (female 136,960; male 137,792)
65 years and over: 14% (female 35,774; male 22,117) (July 1995 est.)

Population growth rate: 0.57% (1995 est.)

Birth rate: 12.61 births/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Death rate: 9.42 deaths/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Net migration rate: 2.47 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Infant mortality rate: 6.6 deaths/1,000 live births (1995 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:
total population: 76.95 years
male: 73.31 years
female: 80.75 years (1995 est.)

Total fertility rate: 1.65 children born/woman (1995 est.)

Nationality:
noun: Luxembourger(s)
adjective: Luxembourg

Ethnic divisions: Celtic base (with French and German blend), Portuguese, Italian, and European (guest and worker residents)

Religions: Roman Catholic 97%, Protestant and Jewish 3%

Languages: Luxembourgisch, German, French, English

Literacy: age 15 and over can read and write (1980 est.)

total population: 100%

male: 100%

female: 100%

Government

Names:

conventional long form: Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

conventional short form: Luxembourg

local long form: Grand-Duche de Luxembourg

local short form: Luxembourg

Type: constitutional monarchy

Capital: Luxembourg

Independence: 1839

National holiday: National Day, 23 June (1921) (public celebration of the Grand Duke's birthday)

Constitution: 17 October 1868, occasional revisions

Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

Flag: three equal horizontal bands of red (top), white, and light blue; similar to the flag of the Netherlands, which uses a darker blue and is shorter; design was based on the flag of France

Economy

Overview: The stable, prosperous economy features moderate growth, low inflation, and negligible unemployment.

Industries: banking, iron and steel, food processing, chemicals, metal products, engineering, tires, glass, aluminum

Agriculture: accounts for less than 3% of GDP (including forestry); principal products - barley, oats, potatoes, wheat, fruits, wine grapes; cattle raising widespread

Transportation

Railroads:
total: 271 km

Highways:
total: 5,108 km

Inland waterways: 37 km; Moselle River

Pipelines: petroleum products 48 km

Ports: Mertert

Airports:

total: 2

Defence Forces

Branches: Army, National Gendarmerie