Timor-Leste

Capital: Dili (8°55’ S, 125°56’ E)
International airport(s): Presidente Nicolau Lobato International Airport, Dili
Official language(s): Tetum, Portuguese
Currency: United States dollar (US$)
Time: UTC +9
Region: Pacific

GEOGRAPHY

Timor-Leste lies 400 km north of Australia, across the Timor Sea, and belongs to the Lesser Sunda Islands. It comprises the eastern half of Timor Island (which it shares with Indonesia), the separate enclave of Oecusse, situated in West Timor and the small offshore islands of Atauro and Jaco. Timor-Leste is extremely rocky, with mountains rising to over 2 000 m. Tatamailau, sometimes also referred to as Mount Ramelau, is the highest peak in Timor-Leste, measuring 2 986 m. Almost half of Timor-Leste’s land area has a slope of 40 degrees or more. There are some highland plains, important for agriculture, to the west of Baucau and around Lospalos and Maliana.

CLIMATE

Timor-Leste has a tropical climate with a dry season from May to November, and a wet season for the remainder of the year. Average monthly temperatures are high and vary between 24-27 °C throughout the year. In the mountains at higher elevations, temperatures are much cooler. Generally, the total annual rainfall is between 1 200 and 1 400 mm. There is little or no rain for almost eight months of the year, and a wet season which lasts from December to March. (World Bank, 2020) Tropical cyclones can hit Timor-Leste between January and mid-April in their early stages and therefore, usually, with moderate intensity. The sea in Timor-Leste is warm throughout the year. Water temperatures range from 27 °C in July and August to 30 °C in November and December.

ECONOMY

Timor-Leste’s economy is mostly dependent on the extraction of oil reserves from the Timor Sea. Oil, gas and other mineral fuels and lubricants account for about 35 per cent of exports and mining contributes nearly 40 per cent to GDP. Coffee exports and tourism provide additional income. Developing agriculture and fishing are also seen as important for future growth, though currently they only account for 10 per cent of GDP. The main export destinations are Singapore, Indonesia and the United States of America. (UNCTAD, 2021) According to items attribute is mandatory, agriculture and services provide most of the employment opportunities in Timor-Leste. Much of the population still live below the poverty line and unemployment is high.

CULTURE

The tradition of poetry is very strong in Timor-Leste. Craftsmanship is also important. The nation’s music is affected by Portuguese and Indonesian influences with the guitar being a central instrument. Children usually learn traditional dancing at school.

The country has a strong culture of hospitality and is famous for its rich and dark coffee grown organically on the hills. A typical meal includes rice, meat or fish, often with beans, corn and seasonal vegetables. Spices and herbs grown in the country bring the food its local flavour. Tropical fruits are a natural part of the diet, and sometimes coconut milk is used to soften the extremely hot chili paste.

The most popular sport in Timor-Leste is football. Cycling, martial arts, weightlifting and badminton are also quite popular. Timor-Leste participated for the first time in the Olympic Summer Games in 2004 and in the Winter Games in 2014.
ECONOMIC TRENDS

Gross domestic product
US dollars at constant prices (2015) in millions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GDP per capita
2019

US$1,561

Productive Capacity Index
2018

Economic and environmental vulnerability index
2019

Consumer Price Index growth
2019

Unemployment rate
2016

PCI
29.3

Economic and environmental vulnerability index
40

Consumer Price Index growth
0.5%

Unemployment rate
Total 4.7%
Female 6.3%, Male 3.3%

Main economic sectors, 2019
Percentage of GDP

Tourist arrivals
Thousands of tourists, percentage of GDP

External financial resources
Percentage of GDP

Public debt as % of GDP
2018

74.5%

Timor-Leste
# MARITIME TRANSPORT

## Fleet size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ship type</th>
<th>Total fleet</th>
<th>Oil tankers</th>
<th>Bulk carriers</th>
<th>General cargo</th>
<th>Container ships</th>
<th>Other types of ships</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1,407</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,407</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>682</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Port performance

Table: 2019 data within SIDS group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>SIDS Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of port calls</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median time in port (days)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average age of vessels</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average size (GT) of vessels</td>
<td>4,538</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Container port throughput

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>53,289 TEU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Bilateral connectivity index, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>0.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Liner shipping connectivity index

Graph: Maximum China Q1 2006=100

Timor-Leste
POPULATION

Total population
Thousands of people, share of urban population

Population development indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poverty headcount (% of population)</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human development index</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human assets index</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult literacy rate (15+ years, both sexes %)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender inequality index</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Life expectancy at birth 2019: 70 years
Population density 2019: 87 persons per km²
Dependency ratio 2019:
Child: 63.8
Old-age: 7.3

Age structure by gender, 2019
Percentage of total population

Timor-Leste
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INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Merchandise and services trade
US dollars in millions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2019 (% of GDP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise exports</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise imports</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>29.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services exports</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services imports</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1035</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>22.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trade openness
Goods and services
2019
22% of GDP

Export concentration index
2019
0.53

Food import dependency
Average 2015-2019
22.36

Top 5 partners in merchandise trade, 2019
Exports in millions US dollars

Merchandise exports by product group, 2019

Services exports by category, 2019

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Timor-Leste
### Environment

#### CO₂ emissions per capita

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kg per capita</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### CO₂ emissions per GDP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kg per 2010 US$ of GDP</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Renewable energy share in total energy consumption, 2017

- **Renewable energy**: 30%
- **Non-renewable energy**: 70%

#### Material footprint per capita

2016: ..kg

#### Terrestrial protected area

2018: 13.1%

#### Marine protected area

2018: 1.37%

#### Disasters indicators

Data not available

### Information and Communications Technology

#### Trade in ICT goods

- **2017**: Exports: 0.3%, Imports: 3.9%
- **2019**: Exports: 1.4%, Imports: 0.4%

#### Trade in ICT services

- **2017**: Exports: 0.3%, Imports: 3.9%
- **2019**: Exports: 1.4%, Imports: 0.4%

#### Share of internet users

- **2017**: 27%

#### Fixed broadband vs Mobile broadband subscriptions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subscriptions</th>
<th>Number of subscriptions per 100 people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fixed</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sources
Source of data: UNCTAD (2021) except indicators listed below.

- Adult literacy rate: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2021)
- Distance to nearest neighbour: [NO_PRINTED_FORM] (Package “cshapes,” 2016) https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/cshapes/cshapes.pdf
- Economic losses due to disasters: United Nations (2021) https://www.sdg.org/datasets/e3adb2406c2e452b81c3654e276fc5ca_0
- Material footprint: UNEP (2021) https://environmentlive.unep.org/indicator/index/12_2_1
- Number of people affected by disasters: United Nations (2021) https://www.sdg.pro/datasets/bbeb260e9ca14674b391b8f1e487490_0

References

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