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Geography & Travel Countries of the World What is Liberia and where is it located? Who were the original inhabitants of Liberia? How did Liberia become an independent country? What is the significance of the Americo-Liberians in the country's history? What are the main languages spoken in Liberia? How did Liberia's geography affect its development? What role does agriculture play in Liberia's economy? What was the impact of Liberia's civil wars on the country? What are some cultural traditions unique to Liberia? What steps is Liberia taking towards economic recovery and growth? Liberia, country along the coast of western Africa. Liberias terrain ranges from the low and sandy coastal plains to rolling hills and dissected plateau further inland. The country is home to a lush rainforest containing a rich diversity of flora and fauna.Liberia is the only Black state in Africa never subjected to colonial rule and is Africas oldest republic. It was established on land acquired for people who formerly had been enslaved in the United States by the American Colonization Society, which founded a colony at Cape Mesurado in 1821. In 1824 the territory was named Liberia, and its main settlement was named Monrovia, which is the present-day capital. Liberian independence was proclaimed in 1847, and its boundaries were expanded. The country enjoyed relative stability until a rebellion in 1989 escalated into a destructive civil war in the 1990s that did not fully cease until 2003. The countrys first post-conflict elections, held in 2005, were noteworthy for the election of Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to the presidency, as she was the first woman to be elected head of state in Africa. Audio File: National anthem of Liberia Head Of State And Government: President: Joseph Boakai Capital: Monrovia Population: (2025 est.) 5,655,000 Form Of Government: multiparty republic with two legislative bodies (Liberian Senate [30]; House of Representatives [73]) Official Language: English Official Religion: none Official Name: Republic of Liberia Total Area (Sq Km): 97,036 Total Area (Sq Mi): 37,466 Monetary Unit: Liberian dollar (L$) Urban-Rural Population: Urban: (2024) 54.1% Rural: (2024) 45.9% Life Expectancy At Birth: Male: (2022) 63.2 years Female: (2022) 67.8 years Literacy: Percentage Of Population Age 15 And Over Literate: Male: (2017) 63% Female: (2017) 34% Gni Per Capita (U.S.$): (2023) 710 Liberia is bounded by Sierra Leone to the northwest, Guinea to the north, Cte dIvoire to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to the south and west. Mount NimbaMount Nimba, the highest peak of the Nimba Range, which extends along the GuineaCte d'IvoireLiberia border in western Africa.The four physiographic regions of Liberia parallel the coast. The coastal plains are about 350 miles (560 km) long and extend as far as 25 miles (40 km) inland. They are low and sandy, with miles of beaches interspersed with bar-enclosed lagoons, mangrove swamps, and a few rocky promontoriesthe highest being Cape Mount (about 1,000 feet [305 meters] in elevation) in the northwest, Cape Mesurado in Monrovia, and Cape Palmas in the southeast. Parallel to the coastal plains is a region of rolling hills some 20 miles (32 km) wide with an average maximum elevation of about 300 feet (90 meters); a few hills rise as high as 500 feet (150 meters). It is a region suitable for agriculture and forestry. Behind the rolling hills, most of the countrys interior is a dissected plateau with scattered low mountains ranging from 600 to 1,000 feet (180 to 305 meters) in elevation; some mountains rise to 2,000 feet (600 meters). A striking feature of the mountainous northern highlands along the Guinea frontier is Mount Nimba. The Mano and Morro rivers in the northwest and the Cavalla in the east and southeast are major rivers and form sections of Liberias boundaries. Other major rivers are the Lofa in the north and, moving southward, the St. Paul, St. John, and Cestos, all of which parallel each other and flow perpendicular to the coast. The Farmington River is a source of hydroelectric power. Waterfalls, rapids, rocks, and sandbanks occur frequently in upstream sections of most rivers, inhibiting river traffic, and limiting navigation inland to short distances. During the rainy season there is often severe flooding in the coastal plains. Which Country Is Larger? Quiz Liberia forms part of the West African Shield, a rock formation 2.7 to 3.4 billion years old, composed of granite, schist, and gneiss. In Liberia the shield has been intensely folded and faulted and is interspersed with iron-bearing formations known as itabirites. Along the coast lie beds of sandstone, with occasional crystalline-rock outcrops. Monrovia stands on such an outcropping, a ridge of diabase (a dark-colored, fine-grained rock). Four types of soil are found in Liberia. Latosols of low to medium fertility occur in rolling hill country and cover about three-fourths of the total land surface. Shallow, coarse lithosols, in the hilly and rugged terrain, cover about one-eighth of the land. Infertile regosols, or sandy soils, are found along the coastal plains. Highly fertile alluvial soils represent a small percentage of the land area and are utilized largely for agriculture. The climate, especially on the coast, is warm and humid year-round, dominated by a dry season from November to April and by a rainy season from May to October. The dusty and dry harmattan (desert winds) blow from the Sahara to the coast in December, bringing relief from the high relative humidity. Deforestation and drought in the Sahel have affected the climate, lengthening the dry season by almost a month in some areas. Mean annual temperatures range between 65 F (18 C) in the northern highlands to 80 F (27 C) along the coast. Rainfall is irregular, and the rainy season varies in intensity and begins earlier at the coast than in the interior. The greatest amount of rainfall, 205 inches (5,200 mm), occurs at Cape Mount and diminishes inland to about 70 inches (1,800 mm) on the central plateau. The interior has hot but pleasant days and cool nights during the dry season. palm treesA grove of palm trees, Liberia.Liberia has year-round evergreen vegetation. Many treessuch as red ironwood, camwood, whismore, teak, and mahoganyare valuable, but occur with other species, preventing easy harvest. Other trees of value are rubber, cacao, coffee, and the raffia palm. A pygmy hippopotamus in LiberiaA rare pygmy hippopotamus (Hexaprotodon liberiensis, also known as Choeropsis liberiensis) in Liberia. Pygmy hippos are about the size of a domestic pig. The International Union for Conservation of Nature has classified the pygmy hippo as endangered since 2006.Liberias rainforest used to abound with animals such as monkeys, chimpanzees, small antelopes, pygmy hippopotamuses, and anteaters. However, these animals, along with the already threatened elephants, bush cows (short-horned buffalo), and leopards, were hunted for food during the civil war; their populations are recovering. There are many reptiles, including three types of crocodiles and at least eight poisonous snakes. There are several unique species of bats and birds, and scorpions, lizards, and fishes are numerous. Sapo National Park, established in 1983 in the countrys southeast, was expanded in 2003 to encompass an area of some 700 square miles (1,800 square km). The 2000s saw an expansion of protected regions in Liberia, with new and enlarged wildlife reserves at Gola National Forest, the Wonegizi National Forest Reserve, and Lake Piso, and ecotourism was seen as a potential growth industry for the country. Located on the West African coast, Liberia covers an area of 111,369 sq. km. Four physiographic regions run nearly parallel to the Atlantic coast of the country. As observed on Liberia's physical map, the elevation of the land gradually increases with distance from the coast. The coastal plains are around 560 km long and 40 km wide and feature sandy beaches, lagoons, mangrove swamps, and some rocky outcrops. Next is the region of rolling hills about 32 km wide and an average elevation of 90 m. Beyond that is a dissected plateau with scattered mountains. Finally, there is a mountainous highland region to the north hosting the country's highest point, the 1,440 m high Mount Wuteve, which has been marked on the map by an upright yellow triangle. The lowest point of the country is the Atlantic Ocean at 0m. The country's major rivers include the Mano River in the northwest and the Cavalla River in the southeast. The Cavalla is the longest river in the nation at 320 mi (515 km). 15th-century Portuguese navigators named itfor the cavalla (or horse mackerel) found at its mouth. Additional rivers of note are the Lofa, St. Paul, St. John and Cestos River, all of which flow into theAtlantic. Liberia is divided into 15 counties which are subdivided into 90 and further into clans. In alphabetical order, the 15 counties are Bomi, Bong, Gbarpolu, Grand Bassa, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Gedeh, Grand Kru, Lofa, Margibi, Maryland, Montserrado, Nimba, River Cess, River Gee, and Sinoe. With an area of 11,551 sq. km, Nimba is the largest country and Montserrado is the most populous one. The national capital of Monrovia is located in Montserrado. Liberia is a country in West Africa. It is located in the Northern and Western Hemispheres. The three countries of Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Ivory Coast bound Liberia to the northwest, north, and east respectively. The Atlantic Ocean borders Liberia to the south-southwest. Liberia Bordering Countries: Guinea, Cote D'Ivoire, Sierra Leone. Regional Maps: Map of Africa This page was last updated on February 24, 2021 The Republic of Liberia is a country on the west coast of Africa, bordered by Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Ivory Coast. Africa's oldest republic, Liberia had its beginnings predating the American Civil War. Liberia, which means "Land of the Free," was founded as an independent nation for free-born and formerly enslaved African Americans. It currently has a population of more than 3.5 million. Liberia has recently been afflicted by two civil wars, the Liberian Civil War (1989-96), and the Second Liberian Civil War (1999-2003), that have displaced hundreds of thousands of its citizens and destroyed the Liberian economy. Democratic elections in 2005 brought hope of a new era with the first woman ever elected to a national presidency in Africa.GeographyLiberia is situated in Western Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean. Liberia has three main geographic regions: A narrow, sandy strip of coastal lagoons and mangrove swamps, inland rolling hills covered with tropical forest, and plateaus that rise to low mountains in the northeast along the border with Guinea.The climate is tropical: Winters are dry with hot days and cool to cold nights. Summers are wet and cloudy with frequent heavy showers.The wet season is from May to September.HistoryThe history of Liberia as a political entity begins with the arrival of African American settlers, or the Americo-Liberians, as they came to be known, who established a colony of "free men of color" on its shore in 1822 under the auspices of the American Colonization Society. The historical roots from which a majority of present-day Liberians derive their identity, however, are found in the varied traditions of the several tribal groups of indigenous Africans whom the settlers confronted in their struggle to gain a foothold in Africa and, later, extend their control into the interior.On July 26, 1847, the Americo-Liberians declared the independence of the Republic of Liberia. The settlers regarded the continent from which their forefathers had been taken as slaves as a "Promised Land," but they did not become reintegrated into an African society. Once in Africa, they referred to themselves as "Americans" and were recognized as such by tribal Africans and by British colonial authorities in neighboring Sierra Leone. The symbols of their stateits flag, motto, and sealand the form of government that they chose reflected their American background and diaspora experience. The religious practices, social customs, and cultural standards of the Americo-Liberians had their roots in the antebellum American South. These ideals strongly colored the attitudes of the settlers toward the indigenous African people. The new nation, as they perceived it, was coextensive with the settler community and with those Africans who were assimilated into it. Because of mutual mistrust and hostility between the "Americans" along the coast and the "Natives" of the interior, a recurrent theme in the country's subsequent history, therefore, was the usually successful attempt of the Americo-Liberian minority to dominate people whom they considered uncivilized and inferior. They named the land "Liberia," which in European languages and Latin means "Land of the Free."The founding of Liberia was privately sponsored by American religious and philanthropic groups, but the colony enjoyed the support and unofficial cooperation of the United States government. Liberias government, modeled after that of the United States, was democratic in structure, if not always in substance. After 1877, the True Whig Party monopolized political power in the country, and competition for office was usually contained within the party, whose nomination virtually ensured election. Two problems confronting successive administrations were pressure from neighboring colonial powers, Britain and France, and the threat of financial insolvency, both of which challenged the countrys sovereignty. Liberia retained its independence during the Scramble for Africa,[3] but lost its claim to extensive territories that were annexed by Britain and France. Economic development was retarded by the decline of markets for Liberian goods in the late nineteenth century and by indebtedness from a series of loans whose payments drained the economy.Significant mid-twentieth century eventsTwo events were of particular importance in releasing Liberia from its self-imposed isolation. The first was the grant in 1926 of a large concession to the American-owned Firestone Plantation Company; a move that became a first step in the modernization of the Liberian economy. The second occurred during World War II, when the United States began providing technical and economic assistance that enabled Liberia to make economic progress and introduce social change.PoliticsThe Americo-Liberians had little in common with the tribal communities living inland. Since modernization and educational development of the country tended to be only in the capital city where the Americo-Liberians people lived, over time the indigenous peoples were left behind politically and felt cheated out of their share of the country's wealth. It was not until the mid nineteenth century that any indigenous Liberians occupied a position in the executive branch of the Liberian government. During the administration of President William V.S.Tubman (1944-1971), his "Unification policy" created a direction for indigenous Liberians and the Americo-Liberian minority to come together, but it failed to bring any changes to the status quo of governance. By keeping the indigenous population from access to education and all but minimal participation in the political process, control and domination by the Americo-Liberians was maintained. The state of inequality that had long existed between Americo-Liberian citizens and the indigenous citizens sowed the seeds of discontent, unrest, and war. On April 12, 1980, a successful military coup was staged by a group of noncommissioned officers of tribal origins led by Master Sergeant Samuel Kanyon Doe, a member of the Krahn tribe. The President of nine years William R. Tolbert, Jr. was executed in his mansion. Calling themselves the Peoples Redemption Council, Doe and his associates seized control of the government and brought an end to Liberias "first republic."Doe made strong ties with the United States in the early 1980s, receiving more than $500 million for pushing the Soviet Union out of the country, and allowing exclusive rights to use Liberia's ports and land (including allowing the CIA to use Liberian territory to spy on Libya). Doe used authoritarian policies, banning newspapers, outlawing opposition parties, and holding staged elections.In late 1989, a civil war began and in September 1990, Doe was ousted and killed by the forces of faction leader Yormie Johnson and members of the Gio tribe. As a condition for the end of the conflict, interim president Amos Sawyer resigned in 1994, handing power to the Liberia Council of State. Prominent warlord Charles Taylor was elected as President in 1997. Taylor's brutal regime targeted several leading opposition and political activists. In 1998, the government sought to assassinate child rights activist Kimmie Weeks for a report he had published on its involvement in the training of child soldiers, which forced him into exile. Taylor's autocratic and dysfunctional government led to a new rebellion in 1999. More than 200,000 people are estimated to have been killed in the civil wars. The conflict intensified in mid-2003, when the fighting moved closer to Monrovia. As the power of the government shrank, and with increasing international and American pressure for him to resign, Taylor accepted an asylum offer by Nigeria, but vowed: "God willing, I will be back."The country was governed by a transitional government from 2003 until democratic elections were held in 2005. The run-off of the November 8, 2005 elections between soccer legend George Weah and former finance minister Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was won by Johnson-Sirleaf. Sirleaf became the first female elected head of state in African history.Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf presidencyDaughter of the first indigenous Liberian to be elected to the national legislature, Jahmale Carney Johnson, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was born in rural Liberia. Widely celebrated for being the first elected female head of state in Africa, Johnson-Sirleafs election focused much international attention on Liberia. A former Citibank and World Bank employee, Johnson-Sirleafs impressive career also includes heading the U.N. Development Program for Africa.[4] Owing to the complexion inherited from her maternal Grandfather, a German who married a rural market woman, Johnson-Sirleaf has often been thought to be a member of the Americo-Liberian elite, although she is quite proud of her indigenous Liberian roots. Long involved in her countrys fight for peace and justice she was jailed twice during the Doe administration. Jailed once for eight months, she narrowly escaped with her life before going into exile. Delivering a message of hope and reconciliation in her inauguration speech, President Johnson-Sirleaf, with her credentials as an economist, seeks to enlist the help of the international community in rebuilding Liberias economy and infrastructure. Since her inauguration she has been working to have Liberias external debt of $3.5 billion canceled, and is inviting international investment. She has extended a special invitation to the Nigerian business community to participate in business opportunities in Liberia, in part as thanks for Nigerias help in securing Liberias peace. Exiled Liberians are also investing in their homeland and participating in Liberia's rebuilding efforts.In addition to focusing her early efforts to restore basic services like water and electricity to the capital of Monrovia, President Johnson-Sirleaf has established a Truth and Reconciliation Commission[5] to address crimes committed during the later stages of Liberia's long civil war. She is also working to re-establish Liberia's food independence. President Johnson-Sirleaf also tackled head-on the greatest looming threat to Liberia's peace and stability early in her presidency by requesting that Nigeria extradite Liberia's most infamous war criminal and war profiteer, Charles Taylor.In 2006, President Johnson-Sirleaf was awarded the Africa Prize for the Eradication of Hunger Award. As a recipient she was recognized for her efforts to provide her countrymen and women with a new ability to become self-sustaining. President Johnson-Sirleaf is known particularly for her micro-loan projects for rural women, funding for schools and scholarships for children, even while exiled from her country. President Sirleaf has expressed great concern that the improvements for the basic needs of her people can be quickly accomplished so that people can believe that democracy will bring a positive change for all. Liberia is depending on international aid support and the assistance of a large United Nations peacekeeping force to make a new beginning.EconomyLiberia has an abundance of natural resources. Iron ore, timber, diamonds, gold, and hydro-power are some of the resources that once represented this nation's wealth. Before the first civil war in 1989, there had been a great deal of foreign investment in Liberia's mineral and natural resources. Prior to 1990 Liberia also exported rubber, timber, coffee, and diamonds.In 2001, the UN Security Council imposed sanctions on timber, diamonds, and arms exports as a measure to reduce the revenues of the Liberian government being used to fuel conflict in the region. In 2006 President Sirleaf appealed for these sanctions to be removed by the UN in order to restore national revenues for rebuilding the infrastructure of Liberia. Once there is proper accountability for the collection and allotment of government revenues, these sanctions will likely be lifted. The long civil war has destroyed most of the country's infrastructure and Liberia is dependent on foreign aid. Since hostilities within Liberia have ended, the administration of President Sirleaf is focused on building credibility with the international community and gaining support for redevelopment. It will take time to rebuild commerce, justice, and security infrastructure, as well as the health care and educational systems. The country currently has an approximate 85 percent unemployment rate, the worst in the world.DemographicsThe population of over 3 million comprises 16 indigenous ethnic groups and various foreign minorities. The Kpelle in central and western Liberia is the largest ethnic group. Americo-Liberians make up an estimated 5 percent of the population. There is also a sizable number of Lebanese, Indians, and other West African nationals who make up a significant part of Liberia's business community. A few whites (estimated at 18,000 in 1999; probably fewer now) reside in the country. Political upheavals and civil war have brought about a steep decline in living standards.ReligionThere is a broad spectrum of faiths and religious beliefs in Liberia. Ancient traditional indigenous religions, Christianity, and Islam are all practiced. About 40 percent of the population practice Christianity or Christian beliefs blended with traditional indigenous religion. Another 40 percent practice only the indigenous religions and about 20 percent are Muslim. There is also a small Bahai community in Liberia.The largest Christian denomination is Methodist. Foreign missionary groups include Baptists, Catholics, and the Jehovah's Witnesses. Islam was introduced initially through Mandingo traders who came via countries of the Sahara region as early as the 1700s.There is no official state religion, however societal attitudes, especially in the capital, reflect favor toward Christian culture. At public government functions, events begin and end with prayer and hymns, usually in Christian form, although sometimes Muslim prayer and hymns are used. Islamic leaders have complained of discrimination in the workplace with regards to opportunities for advancement and basic employment. Ethnic tensions are mostly along the lines of religious differences and mainly between Muslim and non-Muslim groups particularly the Lormas and Mandingos.One area of concern for indigenous religions is the practice of ritualistic killings where particular body parts are removed for rituals from a person or a group who are thought to be powerful. There are a couple of small ethnic groups for which this is a common practice.EducationCuttington University College was established by the Episcopal Church of the USA (ECUSA) in 1889; its campus is currently located in Suacoco, Bong County (120 miles north of Monrovia).[6]According to statistics published by UNESCO for the years 1999-2000 (the most recent available for Liberia as of 2005), 61 percent of primary-school age and 18 percent (estimated) children were enrolled in school. The average literacy rate for Liberia is only about 40 percent. Educational infrastructure was all but destroyed by the civil wars and as of 2006 is still in the process of being rebuilt to a basic level of service.CultureWith the majority of Liberia's population being indigenous peoples with diverse languages, customs, and religion, there is a mix of these tribal ethnicities, though it is prominent mostly in the rural areas. Western customs are more common in the cities but both traditional African music and western modern music are popular in the urban areas. Traditional crafts such as wood carved masks and wood figurines are sought after items by visitors and tourists.Traditional music is performed for casual and special occasions such as weddings, engagements, or when loved ones have passed on to the spiritual world. Christian music came to Liberia through Christian missionaries and is sung in the style of mixing west African rhythms with American harmonies.Notes Error on call to template:cite web: Parameters url and title must be specified. The World Factbook. Central Intelligence Agency (2011). 2.0 2.1 2.2 2.3 Error on call to template:cite web: Parameters url and title must be specified. International Monetary Fund. BBC World News Service, Africa and Europe (1800-1914). Retrieved June 12, 2007. United Nations Development Programme, Africa. Retrieved June 12, 2007. Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Links to Articles on the TRC. Retrieved June 12, 2007. Cuttington College, Liberia, West Africa, What's New at Cuttington College. Retrieved June 12, 2007. Baker, Jill, Geographica, Mynah, 2005. ISBN 174166036X"Liberia", Encyclopedia Britannica online.Dukele, Abdoulaye W. October 20, 2006. "President Sirleaf Receiving the Africa Prize for the Eradication of Hunger Award", The Perspective. Retrieved June 12, 2007.International Religious Freedom Report, 2003. "Liberia", US Department of State. Retrieved June 12, 2007.Country Studies Series, 1985, ""Liberia, A Country Study", GlobalSecurity.org. Retrieved June 12, 2007.Encyclopedia of the Nations: Africa: Liberia. Thomas Gale. 2006. "Liberia Religions", Encyclopedia of the Nations. Retrieved June 12, 2007.Flomo, J. Patrick. August 19, 2006. "Religion and Power in Liberia." The Perspective. Retrieved June 12, 2007. All links retrieved October 25, 2022.Liberia officially the Republic of Liberia, is a country in West Africa. It is bordered by Sierra Leone on the west, Guinea on the north and Ivory Coast on the east. Liberia's coastline is composed of mostly mangrove forests while the more sparsely populated inland consists of forests that open to a plateau of drier grasslands.The country possesses 40% of the remaining Upper Guinean rainforest. Liberia has a hot equatorial climate, with significant rainfall during the May to October rainy season and harsh harmattan winds the remainder of the year.Liberia covers an area of 111,369 km2 (43,000 sq mi) and is home to about 3.7 million people. English is the official language, while over 30 indigenous languages are spoken within the country.Along with Ethiopia, Liberia is one of the two modern countries in Sub-Saharan Africa without roots in the European colonization of Africa. Beginning in 1820, the region was colonized by freed American slaves with the help of the American Colonization Society, a private organization that believed ex-slaves would have greater freedom and equality in Africa. Slaves freed from slave ships were also sent there instead of being repatriated to their countries of origin. In 1847, these colonists founded the Republic of Liberia, establishing a government modeled on that of the United States and naming the capital city Monrovia after James Monroe, the fifth president of the United States and a prominent supporter of the colonization. The colonists, known as Americo-Liberians, led the political and economic sectors of the country.The country began to modernize in the 1940s following investment by the United States during World War II and economic liberalization under President William Tubman. Liberia was a founding member of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity. A military coup overthrew the Americo-Liberian leadership in 1980, marking the beginning of political and economic instability and two successive civil wars that left approximately 250,000 people dead and devastated the country's economy. A 2003 peace deal led to democratic elections in 2005. Today, Liberia is recovering from the lingering effects of the civil war and related economic dislocation, with about 85% of the population living below the international poverty line.Counties and districtsLiberia is divided into 15 counties, which are subdivided into districts, and further subdivided into clans. The oldest counties are Grand Bassa and Montserrado, both founded in 1839 prior to Liberian independence. Gbarpolu is the newest county, created in 2001. Nimba is the largest of the counties in size at 4,460 square miles (11,551 km2), while Montserrado is the smallest at 737 square miles (1,909 km2). Montserrado is also the most populous county with 1,144,806 residents as of the 2008 census.The fifteen counties are administered by superintendents appointed by the president. The Constitution calls for the election of mayors and various chiefs at the county and local level, but these elections have not taken place since 1985 due to war and financial constraints. In 2008, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of allowing the president to appoint mayors until the country could afford to hold municipal elections.GeographyLiberia is situated in West Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean to the country's southwest. It lies between latitudes 4 and 9N, and longitudes 7 and 12W.The landscape is characterized by mostly flat to rolling coastal plains that contain mangroves and swamps, which rise to a rolling plateau and low mountains in the northeast. Tropical rainforests cover the hills, while elephant grass and semi-deciduous forests make up the dominant vegetation in the northern sections. The equatorial climate is hot year-round with heavy rainfall from May to October with a short interlude in mid-July to August. During the winter months of November to March, dry dust-laden harmattan winds blow inland, causing many problems for residents.Liberia's watershed tends to move in a southwestern pattern towards the sea as new rains move down the forested plateau off the inland mountain range of Guine Forestire, in Guinea. Cape Mount near the border with Sierra Leone receives the most precipitation in the nation. The country's main northwestern boundary is traversed by the Mano River while its southeast limits are bounded by the Cavalla River. Liberia's three largest rivers are St. Paul exiting near Monrovia, the river St. John at Buchanan and the Cestos River, all of which flow into the Atlantic. The Cavalla is the longest river in the nation at 320 miles (515 km).The highest point wholly within Liberia is Mount Wuteve at 4,724 feet (1,440 m) above sea level in the northwestern Liberia range of the West Africa Mountains and the Guinea Highlands. However, Mount Nimba near Yekepa, is higher at 5,748 feet (1,752 m) above sea level but is not wholly within Liberia as Nimba shares a border with Guinea and Cte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) and is their tallest mountain as well.Some key events in Liberia's history:14th-16th Centuries - Decline of the Mali and then the Songhai empires, compounded with inland desertification, sees increased settlement in coastal areas.15th-17th Centuries - Portuguese, Dutch, and British establish trading posts along the coast.1816 - American Colonization Society (ACS) is formed with the aim of resettling former slaves in Africa. It believes "repatriation" is preferable to having emancipated slaves remain in the US.1822 - ACS begins sending freed slaves voluntarily to establish a colony. 1847 - Constitution modelled on that of the US is drawn up, and Liberia becomes independent. It is politically dominated by the newly-settled incomers.1917 - Liberia declares war on Germany, giving the Allies a base in West Africa.1926 - Rubber production becomes backbone of Liberia's economy after Firestone Tyre and Rubber Company opens rubber plantation on land granted by government.1936 - Forced-labour practices abolished.1943 - William Tubman elected president.1951 - Women and indigenous property owners vote in the presidential election for the first time.1958 - Racial discrimination outlawed.1971 - Tubman dies and is succeeded by William Tolbert Jr.1980 - Master Sergeant Samuel Doe carries out a military coup, ousting and publicly executing President Tolbert and 13 aides. Doe assumes full powers.1984 - Doe's regime allows return of political parties following pressure from the United States and other creditors.1985 - Doe wins presidential election.1989-97 - First Liberian civil war. 1989 - National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) led by Charles Taylor begins an uprising against the government.1990 - Doe is executed by a splinter group of the NPFL.1996 - Peace agreement between the rival factions. Some 200,000 people are killed in the civil war. 1997 - Charles Taylor wins presidential election. He sets up a totalitarian regime, supporting rebel groups in Guinea and Sierra Leone. In return, both countries start backing anti-Taylor dissidents.1999-2003 - Second Liberian civil war.1999 - An anti-Charles Taylor rebel group backed by Guinea, invades northern Liberia.2003 - Second rebel group invades southern Liberia. Major fighting for the capital, Monrovia which is besieged for two months. Taylor goes into exile. Interim government and rebels sign peace accord. Some 50,000 people die in the war, which sees the widespread use of child soldiers.2005 - Ellen Johnson Sirleaf becomes the first woman to be elected as an African head of state.2007 - Charles Taylor goers on trial at The Hague, accused of instigating atrocities in Sierra Leone.2012 - Energy companies report discovery of oil off the coasts of Liberia and Sierra Leone. 2012 - Charles Taylor is found guilty of war crimes for aiding and directing rebels in Sierra Leone. He is sentenced to 50 years in jail, to be served in Britain. 2013-2016 - Outbreak of Ebola virus in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone, killing 11,300 people, almost half in Liberia. 2017 - George Weah wins presidential election, marking first peaceful transfer of power in decades.Visit the Definitions and Notes page to view a description of each topic.comparison ranking: total 104comparison rankings: total 121; female 121; male 120comparison ranking: total 207comparison ranking: total 12comparison ranking: total population 217comparison ranking: total 109comparison ranking: total 155comparison ranking: Education expenditure (% GDP) 178comparison rankings: services 206; industry 105; agriculture 6comparison ranking: total 192comparison ranking: total subscriptions 199comparison ranking: total subscriptions 156comparison ranking: total 178comparison ranking: total 5 Written byCaitriona Maria The most interesting facts about Liberia, from Africas oldest republic to pygmy hippos known as water cows. Interesting facts about Liberia include the pygmy hippo (Shutterstock) Official name: Republic of LiberiaCapital city: MonroviaPopulation: 5,437,249Area: 111,369 sq kmMajor languages: English, various regional languagesTime zone: UTC 0 (GMT) 1. Liberia is a country located in West Africa on the North Atlantic Ocean bordering Guinea, Cote dIvoire and Sierra Leone. 2. Liberia is the only Black state in Africa that has never been subjected to colonial rule. 3. Liberia is also Africas oldest republic, established on land acquired for freed US slaves by the American Colonization Society in 1821. A map of Liberia (Shutterstock) 4. The first European to visit what would become Liberia was Portuguese sailor Pedro de Sintra who reached the Liberian coast in 1461. 5. The area was known as the Grain Coast or Pepper Coast to Europeans because the valuable grain of Melegueta pepper was the principal item of trade in the region. 6. The territory was named Liberia in 1824 and Liberian independence was officially proclaimed in 1847. The Liberian cabinet in the 1880s (Library of Congress, Washington DC) 7. From 1989 to 2003, a ruthless civil war killed 250,000 people,while thousands more were mutilated and raped, often by armies of drugged child soldiers led by warlords. 8. In 2012, former Liberian leader Charles Taylor was convicted of war crimes and sentenced to 50 years in jail. His crimes included terrorism, rape, murder and the use of child soldiers by rebel groups in Sierra Leone. 9. Liberias Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was the first woman to be elected head of state of an African country. She was Liberias president from 2006 to 2018. 10. Johnson Sirleaf won the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize for her work as part of a non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for womens rights to full participation in peace-building work. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Shutterstock) 11. From 2013 to 2016, there was a deadly outbreak of the Ebola virus in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone. Around 11,300 people died, mainly in Liberia. 12. Liberias name comes from the Latin word liber meaning free as the country was created as a homeland for liberated African-American slaves. 13. The countrys capital city, Monrovia, was named after James Monroe, the fifth president of the USA and supporter of the colonisation of Liberia by freed slaves. Monrovia (Shutterstock) 14. Monrovia is one of two national capitals named after an American president, the other being Washington DC in the USA. 15. Approximately, one in ten of the worlds ships are registered in Liberia and fly its flag in order to avoid taxes and stricter employment regulations. The practice is known as flag of convenience. Only Panama has more ships registered under its flag. 16. Liberias flag is modelled on the USAs. A single star symbolises Liberias freedom and status as the first independent state in Africa. The 11 stripes represent the number of men who signed the Liberian Declaration of Independence. The flag of Liberia (Shutterstock) 17. Liberia is one of the worlds hungriest countries, considered to be suffering from serious levels of hunger. 18. Liberia has one of the youngest populations in the world with the median age of its citizens just 18 years. 19. Liberia is one of 27 countries that doesnt have any UNESCO World Heritage Sites. However, it does have two properties on the Tentative List (properties intended to be submitted for nomination). 20. Former professional footballer George Weah became Liberias president in 2018. Weah played for Paris Saint-Germain, AC Milan and Chelsea before entering politics in the early 2000s and served as president until 2024. President George Weah signs footballs for EU Council President Donald Tusk (Shutterstock) 21. Liberia only has one national park, the Sapo National Park. Lonely Planet says it is one of West Africas best national parks and contains some of West Africas last remaining primary rainforest. 22. The endangered pygmy hippopotamus, or pygmy hippo, can be found in Sapo National Park. Liberians call it a water cow. 23. The worlds largest rubber plantation is located in Liberia. The Firestone Rubber Plantation, a subsidiary of tyre-maker Bridgestone, has operated in Liberia since 1926. 24. Liberia is emerging as one of Africas leading surf destinations. The fishing village of Robertsport, with beautiful beaches and excellent waves, is at the centre of the developing surfing community. 25. Liberia is one of only three countries that doesnt use the metric system of measurement. The other two are Myanmar and the USA. 26. Liberia is one of the poorest countries in the world. When measured by GDP per capita based on purchasing power parity (PPP), it was ranked eighth-poorest in 2024. Every effort has been made to verify these facts about Liberia. However, if you find an error or have any questions, please contact us. Country in West AfricaThis article is about the country in Africa. For other uses, see Liberia (disambiguation).Republic of Liberia Flag Coat of arms Motto:"The Love of Liberty Brought Us Here"Anthem:"All Hail, Liberia, Hail!"Show globeShow map of AfricaCapitaland largest cityMonrovia619N 1048W / 6.317N 10.800W / 6.317; -10.800OfficiallanguagesEnglishReligion (2018)[2]85.1% Christianity76.3% Protestantism7.2% Catholicism1.6% other Christian12.2% Islam1.4% no religion1.3% otherDemonym(s)LiberianGovernmentUnitary presidential republicPresident Joseph BoakaiVice President Jeremiah KoungHouse Speaker Richard KoonChief Justice Sie-A-Nyene YuohLegislatureLegislature of LiberiaUpper houseSenateLower houseHouse of RepresentativesFormation and Independence from American Colonization SocietyAmerican Colonization Society settlement January 7, 1822Independence declared July 26, 1847Republic of Maryland annexed March 18, 1857Current constitution January 6, 1986Area Total43,000[1]sqmi (111,370km2) (102nd)Water(%)13.514Population2024 estimate 5,437,249[3] (120th)Density92.0/sqmi (35.5/km2) (180th)GDP(PPP)2023estimateTotal $9.718 billion[4] (167th)Per capita $1,789[4] (184th)GDP(nominal)2023estimateTotal $4.347 billion[4] (171st)Per capita $800[4] (180th)Gini(2016)35.3[5]medium inequalityHDI(2022)0.487[6]low(177th)CurrencyUnited States dollar (USD)Liberian dollar (LRD)[7]Time zoneUTC (GMT)Date formatmm/dd/yyyyCalling code+231ISO 3166 codeLRInternet TLD.lrWebsitewww.emansion.gov.lr Executive mansionLiberia,[a] officially the Republic of Liberia, is a country on the West African coast. It is bordered by Sierra Leone to its northwest, Guinea to its north, Ivory Coast to its east, and the Atlantic Ocean to its south and southwest. It has a population of around 5.5million and covers an area of 43,000 square miles (111,369km2). The official language is English. Over 20 indigenous languages are spoken, reflecting the country's ethnic and cultural diversity. The capital and largest city is Monrovia.Liberia began in the early 19th century as a project of the American Colonization Society (ACS), which believed that black people would face better chances for freedom and prosperity in Africa than in the United States.[8] Between 1822 and the outbreak of the American Civil War in 1861, more than 15,000 freed and free-born African Americans, along with 3,198 Afro-Caribbeans, relocated to Liberia.[9] Gradually developing an Americo-Liberian identity,[10][11] the settlers carried their culture and tradition with them while colonizing the indigenous population. Led by the Americo-Liberians, Liberia declared independence on July 26, 1847, which the U.S. did not recognize until February 5, 1862.Liberia was the first African republic to proclaim its independence and is Africa's first and oldest modern republic. Along with Ethiopia, it was one of the two African countries to maintain its sovereignty and independence during the European colonial Scramble for Africa. Early 20th century Liberia saw large investment in rubber production by Firestone Tire and Rubber company. These investments led to large-scale changes in Liberias economy, work force, and climate.[12][13] During World WarII, Liberia supported the U.S. war effort against Nazi Germany and in turn received considerable American investment in infrastructure, which aided the country's wealth and development.[14] President William Tubman encouraged economic and political changes that heightened the country's prosperity and international profile; Liberia was a founding member of the League of Nations, United Nations, and the Organisation of African Unity.The Americo-Liberian settlers did not relate well to the indigenous peoples they encountered. Colonial settlements were raided by the Kru and Grebo from their inland chiefdoms. Americo-Liberians formed into a small elite that held disproportionate political power, while indigenous Africans were excluded from birthright citizenship in their own land until 1904.[15][16]In 1980, political tensions from the rule of William Tolbert resulted in amilitary coup, marking the end of Americo-Liberian rule and the seizure of power of Liberia's first indigenous leader, Samuel Doe. Establishing a dictatorial regime, Doe was assassinated in 1990 in the context of the First Liberian Civil War which ran from 1989 until 1997 with the election of rebel leader Charles Taylor as president. In 1998, the Second Liberian Civil War erupted against his own dictatorship, and Taylor was overthrown by the end of the war in 2003. The two wars resulted in the deaths of 250,000 people (about 8% of the population) and the displacement of many more, with Liberia's economy shrinking by 90%.[17] A peace agreement in 2003 led to democratic elections in 2005. The country has remained relatively stable since then.Mining in Liberia has been a significant economic driver since the 1960s, though it largely stopped during the Liberian civil wars. Since the end of the civil wars, mining activity increased with emphasis on industrial mining. Mining has also led to concerns about environmental degradation and environmental destruction such as deforestation, water pollution, and air pollution. Industrial miners' poor wages, working conditions, and living conditions have sparked protests from the beginning of the Liberian mining industry continuing to today.[18][19][20][21]Main article: History of LiberiaThe presence of Oldowan artifacts in West Africa was confirmed by Michael Omolewa, attesting to the presence of ancient humans.[22]Undated Acheulean (ESA) artifacts are well documented across West Africa. The emerging chronometric record of the Middle Stone Age (MSA) indicates that core and flake technologies have been present in West Africa since at least the Chibanian (~780126 thousand years ago or ka) in northern, open Sahelian zones, and that they persisted until the Terminal Pleistocene/Holocene boundary (~12ka) in both northern and southern zones of West Africa. This makes them the youngest examples of such MSA technology anywhere in Africa. The presence of MSA populations in forests remains an open question. Technological differences may correlate with various ecological zones. Later Stone Age (LSA) populations evidence significant technological diversification, including both microlithic and macrolithic traditions.[23]The record shows that aceramic and ceramic LSA assemblages in West Africa overlap chronologically, and that changing densities of microlithic industries from the coast to the north are geographically structured. These features may represent social networks or some form of cultural diffusion allied to changing ecological conditions.[23]Microlithic industries with ceramics became common by the Mid-Holocene, coupled with an apparent intensification of wild food exploitation. Between ~43.5ka, these societies gradually transformed into food producers, possibly through contact with northern pastoralists and agriculturalists, as the environment became more arid. Hunter-gatherers have survived in the more forested parts of West Africa until much later, attesting to the strength of ecological boundaries in this region.[23]A European map of West Africa and the Grain Coast, 1736. It has the archaic mapping designation of Negroland.The Pepper Coast, also known as the Grain Coast, has been inhabited by indigenous peoples of Africa at least as far back as the 12th century. Mande-speaking people expanded from the north and east, forcing many smaller ethnic groups southward toward the Atlantic Ocean. The Dei, Bassa, Kru, Gola, and Kissi were some of the earliest documented peoples in the area.[24]This influx of these groups was compounded by the decline of the Mali Empire in 1375 and the Songhai Empire in 1591. As inland regions underwent desertification, inhabitants moved to the wetter coast. These new inhabitants brought skills such as cotton spinning, cloth weaving, iron smelting, rice and sorghum cultivation, and social and political institutions from the Mali and Songhai empires.[24] Shortly after the Mane conquered the region, the Vai people of the former Mali Empire immigrated into the Grand Cape Mount County region. The ethnic Kru opposed the influx of Vai, forming an alliance with the Mane to stop further influx of Vai.[25]People along the coast built canoes and traded with other West Africans from Cap-Vert to the Gold Coast.Main article: Colony of LiberiaBetween 1461 and the late 17th century, Portuguese, Dutch, and British traders had contacts and trading posts in the region. The Portuguese named the area Costa da Pimenta ("Pepper Coast") but it later came to be known as the Grain Coast, due to the abundance of melegueta pepper grains.[26] The traders would barter commodities and goods with local people.[27]In the United States, there was a movement to settle African Americans, both free-born and formerly enslaved, in Africa. This was partially because they faced racial discrimination in the form of political disenfranchisement and the denial of civil, religious, and social rights.[28] It was also partially because slave owners and politicians feared uprisings and rebellions of enslaved peoples. They believed these uprising would be motivated by a desire to achieve the freedoms experienced by formerly enslaved peoples, specifically freedom from violence and reunions with separated family.[29]Formed in 1816, the American Colonization Society (ACS) was made up mostly of Quakers and slaveholders. Quakers believed black people would face better chances for freedom in Africa than in the U.S.[8][30] While slaveholders opposed freedom for enslaved people, some viewed "repatriation" of free people of color as a way to avoid slave rebellions.[8]In 1822, the American Colonization Society began sending free people of color to the Pepper Coast voluntarily to establish a colony. Mortality from tropical diseases was highof the 4,571 emigrants who arrived in Liberia between 1820 and 1843, only 1,819 survived.[31][32] By 1867, the ACS (and state-related chapters) had assisted in the migration of more than 13,000 people of color from the United States and the Caribbean to Liberia.[33] These free African Americans and their descendants married within their community and came to identify as Americo-Liberians. Many were of mixed race and educated in American culture; they did not identify with the indigenous natives of the tribes they encountered. They developed an ethnic group that had a cultural tradition infused with American notions of political republicanism and Protestant Christianity.[34]According to historian Henryatta Ballah, indigenous Liberian cosmology was centralized around the existence of a supreme being and its worship through specific deities and ancestral spirits that they believed acted as intermediaries between themselves and the supreme being. Certain pieces of land were considered to be part of the spiritual land and were central to Indigenous Liberians resistance to their loss of land through colonization. Americo-Liberians and the American Colonization Society sought to eradicate all forms of Indigenous religious practices as a form of forced assimilation and to aid in their acquisition of land and political power. The term witchcraft was used to describe all Indigenous cosmologies in Liberia and many missionaries described these religious practices as the most barbaric practices of all native tribes. These ideas about Indigenous Liberian cosmologies drove large-scale assimilation in the country beginning in the 1820s and continuing for decades.[35]Map of Liberia Colony in the 1830s, created by the ACS, and also showing Mississippi Colony and other state-sponsored coloniesThe ACS, supported by prominent American politicians such as Abraham Lincoln, Henry Clay, and James Monroe, believed "repatriation" was preferable to having emancipated slaves remain in the United States.[30] Similar state-based organizations established colonies in Mississippi-in-Africa, Kentucky in Africa, and the Republic of Maryland, which Liberia later annexed. Lincoln in 1862 described Liberia as only "in a certain sense...a success", and proposed instead that free people of color be assisted to emigrate to Chiriqu, today part of Panama.[36]The Americo-Liberian settlers did not relate well to the indigenous peoples they encountered, especially those in communities of the more isolated "bush". The colonial settlements were raided by the Kru and Grebo from their inland chiefdoms. Encounters with tribal Africans in the bush often became violent. Believing themselves different from and culturally and educationally superior to the indigenous peoples, the Americo-Liberians developed as an elite minority that created and held on to political power. The Americo-Liberian settlers adopted clothing such as hoop skirts and tailcoats and generally viewed themselves as culturally and socially superior to indigenous Africans.[37] Indigenous tribesmen did not enjoy birthright citizenship in their own land until 1904.[16] Residence of Joseph Jenkins Roberts, first President of Liberia, between 1848 and 1852On July 26, 1847, the settlers issued a Declaration of Independence and promulgated a constitution. Based on the political principles of the United States Constitution, it established the independent Republic of Liberia.[38][39] On August 24, Liberia adopted its 11-striped national flag.[40] The United Kingdom was the first country to recognize Liberia's independence.[41] The United States did not recognize Liberia until 1862, after the Southern states, which had strong political power in the American government, declared their secession and the formation of the Confederacy.[42][43][44]The leadership of the new nation consisted largely of the Americo-Liberians, who at the beginning established political and economic dominance in the coastal areas that the ACS had purchased; they maintained relations with the United States and contacts in developing these areas and the resulting trade. Their passage of the 1865 Ports of Entry Act prohibited foreign commerce with the inland tribes, ostensibly to "encourage the growth of civilized values" before such trade was allowed in the region.[38] African Americans depart for Liberia, 1896. The ACS sent its last emigrants to Liberia in 1904.By 1877, the True Whig Party was the country's most powerful political entity.[45] It was made up primarily of Americo-Liberians, who maintained social, economic and political dominance well into the 20th century, repeating patterns of European colonists in other nations in Africa. Competition for office was usually contained within the party; a party nomination virtually ensured election.[46]Pressure from the United Kingdom, which controlled Sierra Leone to the northwest, and France, with its interests in the north and east, led to a loss of Liberia's claims to extensive territories.[47] Both Sierra Leone and the Ivory Coast annexed territories.[47] Liberia struggled to attract investment to develop infrastructure and a larger, industrial economy.There was a decline in the production of Liberian goods in the late 19th century, and the government struggled financially, resulting in indebtedness on a series of international loans.[48] On July 16, 1892, Martha Ann Erskine Ricks met Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle and presented her with a handmade quilt, Liberia's first diplomatic gift. Born into slavery in Tennessee, Ricks said, "I had heard it often, from the time I was a child, how good the Queen had been to my peopleto slavesand how she wanted us to be free."[41]Charles D. B. King, 17th President of Liberia (19201930), with his entourage on the steps of the Peace Palace, The Hague (the Netherlands), 1927.Further information: Liberia in World War I and Liberia in World War IIIn the early 1900s, Liberias export trade and merchant class largely collapsed. After the partition of Africa between the European powers in the 1800s, American businesses abandoned trade with Liberia and turned to Latin

America for tropical commodities. This abrupt change coupled with Liberias weak trading links between Britain and France caused Liberia to sink into economic insignificance.[49] Despite this, some trade relations remained between Liberia and Germany, largely due to Germanys lack of tropical colonies.[12]At the beginning of the 20th century Germany was the only major country with an interest in Liberian trade. By 1914, Germany owned one of the two banks in Liberia as these trade routes strengthened. At the beginning of the first World War, the British Navy cut off German trade with Liberia, effectively severing all Liberian trade. In 1917, Liberia declared war on Germany following the U.S. in the hopes of receiving financial aid from the Allied Powers, specifically the United States.[12] The German bombing of Monrovia was the only battle in which Liberia was directly involved in World War I.[50] Subsequently, it was one of 32 nations to take part in the Versailles Peace Conference in 1919, which ended the war and established the League of Nations; Liberia was among the few African and non-Western nations to participate in the conference and the founding of the league.[51]Though aid from the United States was promised to Liberia in the amount of $5 million, congress refused to sanction an official loan after the end of the first World War. When this aid did not come and trade continued to dwindle, Liberia was forced to borrow from the Bank of British West Africa, furthering its debt from the $800,000 it owed in 1904. These financial difficulties helped pave the way for multinational foreign investment companies, specifically those interested in rubber, to make their way into Liberia in the 1920s.[12]In the early 1920s, the British Empire controlled 67 percent of rubber output. As a result of the depression of 1921-1922, rubber prices fell. In order to protect British plantations, the British Empire placed export duties on rubber. In response, Firestone Tire and Rubber Company looked to begin a rubber plantation in Liberia. Liberias precarious financial situation and tensions with European powers following the first World War put them at risk for a losing conflict with the United Kingdom and France. Because of this, Liberia agreed to a 99 year lease on one million acres of land in exchange for Firestones aid in the liquidation of Liberias indebtedness. This eased tensions with the European banks to whom Liberia owed money and allowed Liberia to focus economically on infrastructure and defense. Despite this exchange, Liberia and its peoples were hesitant about the agreement due to Firestones proposed extensive involvement in the Liberian economy and government. Regardless of opposition, Liberia was unable to separate Firestones involvement in the Countrys financial and governmental sectors due to the companys financial aid and Lierias debt. Liberia eventually agreed to Firestones terms at the urging of the United States government. The onset of the 1929 depression in the United States caused an extreme drop in the price of rubber, significantly lowering rubber plantations expected revenue. In light of this, Liberia sought to relieve itself of its repayment obligations to Firestone. Firestone was not responsive to the Librarian's requests, and in December 1932 Liberia unilaterally suspended repayment. Work on the plantation was suspended, and Firestone called on the U.S. government to send a warship to Monrovia. The dispute was settled in 1935, with Firestone advancing $650,000 to Liberia and gaining exemption from the export tax and from personal income tax on its expatriate employees for the rest of the time it took to repay the loan.[12]Firestone was confronted with labor force issues within its Liberia plantations. The Liberian people had, up to that point, largely participated in subsistence agriculture and did not participate in a market economy. This made it difficult for Firestone to develop a wage-labor force. In response, the company attempted to redesign Liberias economic and labor system through impressment, tax systems designed to pry labor out of the traditional economy by creating need for cash income, and forced labor. Because of Firestones existence as the only major employer besides the Liberian government, these exploitative systems existed until they were abolished in the 1970s. However, scholars such as Animesh Ghoshal argue that these colonial structures still exist today in different forms.[12]In 1927, the country's elections again showed the power of the True Whig Party, with electoral proceedings that have been called some of the most rigged ever;[52] the winning candidate was declared to have received votes amounting to more than 15 times the number of eligible voters.[53] (The loser actually received around 60% of the eligible vote.)[53]Soon after, allegations of modern slavery in Liberia led the League of Nations to establish the Christy Commission. Findings included government involvement in widespread "forced or compulsory labour". Minority ethnic groups especially were exploited in a system that enriched well-connected elites.[54] As a result of the report, President Charles D. B. King and Vice President Allen N. Yancy resigned.[55]In the mid-20th century, Liberia gradually began to modernize with American assistance. During World War II, the United States made major infrastructure improvements to support its military efforts in Africa and Europe against Germany. It built the Freeport of Monrovia and Roberts International Airport under the Lend-Lease program before its entry into the Second World War.[56]In 1944, former United States president Harry Truman announced his Open Door policy. This policy, which encouraged foreign investment, gave Liberia an attractive climate for foreign investment and increased involvement of multinational foreign investment in the country. Despite this, Firestone remained and still remains one of the largest influences on the Liberian economy. This influence has raised concerns in regards to the effects of foreign investment on Liberias political and economic policies. Economists such as Elliot Berg have stated that economic growth may be confined to export goods with foreign producers, which removes some of Liberias economic autonomy.[12] In international affairs, it was a founding member of the United Nations, a vocal critic of South African apartheid,[57] a proponent of African independence from European colonial powers, and a supporter of Pan-Africanism. Liberia also helped to fund the Organisation of African Unity.[58]A technical in Monrovia during the Second Liberian Civil WarOn April 12, 1980, a military coup led by Master Sergeant Samuel Doe of the Krahn ethnic group overthrew and killed President William R. Tolbert Jr. Doe and the other plotters later executed most of Tolbert's cabinet and other Americo-Liberian government officials and True Whig Party members on a Monrovia beach.[59] The coup leaders formed the People's Redemption Council (PRC) to govern the country.[59] A strategic Cold War ally of the West, Doe received significant financial backing from the United States while critics condemned the PRC for corruption and political repression.[59]After Liberia adopted a new constitution in 1985, Doe was elected president in subsequent elections that were internationally condemned as fraudulent.[59] On November 12, 1985, a failed coup was launched by Thomas Quiwonkpa, whose soldiers briefly occupied the national radio station.[60] Government repression intensified in response, as Doe's troops responded by executing members of the Gio and Mano ethnic groups in Nimba County.[60]The National Patriotic Front of Liberia, a rebel group led by Charles Taylor, launched an insurrection in December 1989 against Doe's government with the backing of neighboring countries such as Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast. This triggered the First Liberian Civil War.[61] By September 1990, Doe's forces controlled only a small area just outside the capital, and Doe was captured and executed in that month by rebel forces.[62]The rebels soon split into conflicting factions. The Economic Community Monitoring Group under the Economic Community of West African States organized an armed intervention.[63] Between 1989 and 1997, around 60,000 to 80,000 Liberians died, and, by 1996, around 700,000 others had been displaced into refugee camps in neighboring countries.[64] A peace deal between warring parties was reached in 1995, leading to Taylor's election as president in 1997.[62]Under Taylor's leadership, Liberia became a pariah state due to its use of blood diamonds and illegal timber exports to fund the Revolutionary United Front in the Sierra Leone Civil War.[65] The Second Liberian Civil War began in 1999 when Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy, a rebel group based in the northwest of the country, launched an armed insurrection against Taylor.[66]In March 2003, a second rebel group, Movement for Democracy in Liberia, began launching attacks against Taylor from the southeast.[66] Peace talks between the factions began in Accra in June of that year, and Taylor was indicted by the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) for crimes against humanity the same month.[65] By July 2003, the rebels had launched an assault on Monrovia.[67]Under heavy pressure from the international community and the domestic Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace movement,[68]Taylor resigned in August 2003 and went into exile in Nigeria.[69]A peace deal was signed later that month.[70]The United Nations Mission in Liberia began arriving in September 2003 to provide security and monitor the peace accord,[71]and an interim government took power the following October.[72]The subsequent 2005 elections were internationally regarded as the freest and fairest in Liberian history.[73] Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a US-educated economist, former Minister of Finance and future Nobel Peace Prize winner, was elected as the first female president in Africa.[73] Upon her inauguration, Sirleaf requested the extradition of Taylor from Nigeria and transferred him to the SCSL for trial in The Hague.[74][75]In 2006, the government established a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to address the causes and crimes of the civil war.[76] In 2011, July 26 was proclaimed by President Sirleaf as National Independence Day.[77] In October 2011, peace activist Leymah Gbowee received the Nobel Peace Prize in her work of leading a women's peace movement that brought to an end to the Second Liberian Civil War in 2003.[78] In November 2011, President Sirleaf was re-elected for a second six-year term.[79]Following the 2017 Liberian general election, former professional football striker George Weah, considered one of the greatest African players of all time,[80][81] was sworn in as president on January 22, 2018, becoming the fourth youngest serving president in Africa.[82] The inauguration marked Liberia's first fully democratic transition in 74 years.[83] Weah cited fighting corruption, reforming the economy, combating illiteracy, and improving living conditions as the main targets of his presidency.[83] Opposition leader Joseph Boakai defeated Weah in the tightly contested 2023 presidential election.[84] On 22 January 2024, Boakai was sworn in as Liberia's new president.[85]Main article: Geography of LiberiaA map of LiberiaLiberia is situated in West Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean to the country's southwest. It lies between latitudes 4 and 9N, and longitudes 7 and 12W.The landscape is characterized by mostly flat to rolling coastal plains that contain mangroves and swamps, which rise to a rolling plateau and low mountains in the northeast.[86]Tropical rainforests cover the hills, while elephant grass and semi-deciduous forests make up the dominant vegetation in the northern sections.[86]Liberia's watershed tends to move in a southwestern pattern toward the sea as new rains move down the forested plateau off the inland mountain range of Guine Forestire, in Guinea. Cape Mount near the border with Sierra Leone receives the most precipitation in the nation.[86]Liberia's main northwestern boundary is traversed by the Mano River while its southeast limits are bounded by the Cavalla River.[86] Liberia's three largest rivers are St. Paul exiting near Monrovia, the river St. John at Buchanan, and the Cestos River, all of which flow into the Atlantic. The Cavalla is the longest river in the nation at 320 miles (510km).[86]The highest point wholly within Liberia is Mount Wuteve at 4,724 feet (1,440m) above sea level in the northwestern Liberia range of the West Africa Mountains and the Guinea Highlands.[86] Mount Nimba, near Yekepa, is higher at 1,752 metres (5,748ft) above sea level, but is not wholly within Liberia as Nimba is located at the point where Liberia borders both Guinea and Ivory Coast. Nimba is thus the tallest mountain in those countries, as well.[87]See also: Climate change in LiberiaLiberia map of Kppen climate classificationThe equatorial climate, in the south of the country, is hot year-round with heavy rainfall from May to October with a short interlude in mid-July to August.[86] During the winter months of November to March, dry dust-laden harmattan winds blow inland, causing many problems for residents.[86] Climate change in Liberia causes many problems as Liberia is particularly vulnerable to climate change. Like many other countries in Africa, Liberia both faces existing environmental issues, as well as sustainable development challenges.[88] Because of its location in Africa, it is vulnerable to extreme weather, the coastal effects of sea level rise, and changing water systems and water availability.[89] Climate change is expected to severely impact the economy of Liberia, especially agriculture, fisheries, and forestry. Liberia has been an active participant in international and local policy changes related to climate change.[90]Rubber production, along with Liberias large-scale production of palm-oil, has impacted the Countrys climate. Clearing tropical forest to create farmland has led to a loss of biodiversity and the release of large amounts of greenhouse gases. Despite this, fertilizer use has been the main contributor to the carbon footprint of latex, which is a crucial ingredient in rubber production. According to the president of the Rubber Planters Association of Liberia, Wilhelmina G. Mulbah, high prices and lack of availability of fertilizers have led to almost no fertilizer use among small farmers. Because of this, much of the carbon footprint of latex due to fertilizer use can be contributed to rubber plantations. According to a study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, the expanse of rubber production into forestland could lead to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions caused by deforestation and fertilizer use.[91][92]Palm oil production also has impacts on the Liberian climate. Industrial oil palm plantations reduce the amount of land available to surrounding communities for sustenance agriculture. Deforestation has led to a decrease in the availability of bushmeat, impacting household diets and affecting incomes of families who sell bushmeat. Changes in water resource use have decreased water availability for local households and communities, specifically those located near palm oil plantations.[93]Liberias mining industry has also been linked to changes in the Liberian environment and climate. The mining industry and water resources are critically linked, as mining uses substantial amounts of water, and the industry also has major impacts on surface and ground water resources. With renewed interest in Liberias mining sector after the end of their second civil war, there was a reopening of major mines such as the Nimba iron mine. These actions have raised concern over their potential impacts on water quality, human health, and ecosystem health due to waste rocks, water use, and increased sediment load due to high erosion potential of soil. This erosion and runoff have raised further concerns about the discharge of toxic substances, such as cyanides and heavy metals including acid mine drainage (AMD) that can cause long term impairment to watercourses and biodiversity.[94]Communities in Liberia have experienced a significant reduction in forest reserves and access to water since oil palm operations began. This has negatively impacted access to foods such as bushmeat and native plants. The Malaysian corporation, Sime Darby, was fined by the Liberian Environmental Protection Agency for deforestation near rivers, which has impacted food and water access for locals. Rubber production has caused similar land use and food access challenges for local communities. Liberias mining sector has similarly inhibited access to water and arable farmland.[95]Main article: Wildlife of LiberiaFurther information: Environmental issues in LiberiaA Liberian tropical forestForests on the coastline are composed mostly of salt-tolerant mangrove trees, while the more sparsely populated inland has forests opening onto a plateau of drier grasslands. The climate is equatorial, with significant rainfall during the MayOctober rainy season and harsh harmattan winds the remainder of the year. Liberia possesses about forty percent of the remaining Upper Guinean rainforest. It was an important producer of rubber in the early 20th century.[12] Liberian rubber production became a major economic driver in the early 20th century with Firestone Tire and Rubber Companys investment in the Country in the early 1920s. Despite its importance as an export good, Liberias rubber industry has faced criticism for the environmental degradation it causes. The need for land for rubber plantations has led to deforestation, reducing Liberias biodiversity and food access for Liberian peoples. Fertilizer use on rubber plantations has contributed to waterway pollution and an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, causing damage to aquatic ecosystems and health problems for local Liberian communities.[91][12]Four terrestrial ecoregions lie within Liberia's borders: Guinean montane forests, Western Guinean lowland forests, Guinean forestsavanna mosaic, and Guinean mangroves.[96] Loggers and logging truck, early 1960sLiberia is a global biodiversity hotspota significant reservoir of biodiversity that is under threat from humans.[97]Pygmy hippos are among the species illegally hunted for food in Liberia.[98] The World Conservation Union estimates that there are fewer than 3,000 pygmy hippos remaining in the wild.[99]Endangered species are hunted for human consumption as bushmeat in Liberia.[98] Species hunted for food in Liberia include elephants, pygmy hippopotamus, chimpanzees, leopards, duikers, and other monkeys.[98] Bushmeat is often exported to neighboring Sierra Leone and Ivory Coast, despite a ban on the cross-border sale of wild animals.[98]Bushmeat is widely eaten in Liberia, and is considered a delicacy.[100] A 2004 public opinion survey found that bushmeat ranked second behind fish amongst residents of the capital Monrovia as a preferred source of protein.[100] Of households where bushmeat was served, 80% of residents said they cooked it "once in a while," while 13% cooked it once a week and 7% cooked bushmeat daily.[100] The survey was conducted during the last civil war, and bushmeat consumption is now believed to be far higher.[100]Trypanosoma brucei gambiense is endemic in some animal hosts here including both domestic and wild.[101] This causes the disease nagana.[101] In pigs here and in Ivory Coast, that includes Tbg group 1. Tbg and its vector Glossina palpalis gambiense are a constant presence in the rainforests here.[101] Much research into Tbg was performed in the 1970s by Mehlitz and by Gibson, both working in Bong Mine with samples from around the country.[101] The West African pariah dog is also a host for Tbg.[101]The Desert Locust (Schistocerca gregaria) is a constant presence here.[102]The Hairy Slit-Faced Bat (Nycteris hispida) suffers from malaria here.[103]According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), about 99.5% of Liberian peoples rely on biomass (firewood, charcoal and palm oil) for their energy needs. This trend poses a threat to biodiversity and forests, since the production of these fuels is done in an unsustainable manner. Much of this fuel is obtained through deforestation or mining, both of which have been shown to have negative impacts on the Liberian environment. This production is largely driven by foreign multinational corporations.[104] Pre-colonial Liberia was largely a self-sufficient society. However, according to scholar Aminesh Ghoshal, colonists and multinational corporations altered Liberian labor and economic systems in order to secure a labor force for commercial activities like mining or plantation agriculture.[12]Illegal logging has increased in Liberia since the end of the Second Civil War in 2003.[97] In 2012, President Sirleaf granted licenses to companies to cut down 58% of all the primary rainforest left in Liberia.[97] After international protests, many of those logging permits were canceled.[97] In September 2014, Liberia and Norway struck an agreement whereby Liberia ceased all logging in exchange for $150 million in development aid.[97]Palm oil production has motivated deforestation of large swaths of Liberian rainforests. Industrial oil palm plantations boast lower levels of plant and animal biodiversity and have lower ecological and social values than the rainforests which they replace. These values include communal space, health, and ecological health. Industrial palm oil production often uses oil palm plants that are not native to Liberia, though native plants have been used in palm oil production, largely by indigenous or small-scale farmers. These changes have impacted the food supply and livelihoods of Liberian communities and households through depleting food sources and abilities of Liberians to acquire and sell natural resources.[105]Liberias mining sector has been criticized by environmental scholars and the Liberian Environmental Protection Agency for its effects on conservation and biodiversity. In contrast to the abundance of mineral wealth in Liberia, water resources are vulnerable to environmental impacts from mining activities. Unless appropriate corrective actions are taken, the mining sector is expected to place further degradation on the countrys undeveloped water resources.[94] Forest areas are used for the deposit of waste rocks from many Liberian mines, especially after the end of the second civil war. Overburden, rocks and tailings are deposited in the surrounding forest areas, especially around major mines such as the Nimba mine. This poses a threat to wildlife and ecological balance in these areas.[104]A large contributor to pollution has been foreign involvement in industrial mining and agriculture industries.[95][91][94]Main article: Administrative divisions of LiberiaA clickable map of Liberia exhibiting its fifteen counties.A view of a lake in Bomi CountyLiberia is divided into fifteen counties, which, in turn, are subdivided into a total of 90 districts and further subdivided into clans. The oldest counties are Grand Bassa and Montserrado, both founded in 1839 prior to Liberian independence. Gbarpolu is the newest county, created in 2001. Nimba is the largest of the counties in size at 11,551km2 (4,460sqmi), while Montserrado is the smallest at 737.069sqmi (1,909.00km2).[106] Montserrado is also the most populous county with 1,144,806 residents as of the 2008 census.[106]The fifteen counties are administered by superintendents appointed by the president. The Constitution calls for the election of various chiefs at the county and local level, but these elections have not taken place since 1985 due to war and financial constraints.[107]Parallel to the administrative divisions of the country are the local and municipal divisions. Liberia currently does not have any constitutional framework or uniform statutes which deal with the creation or revocation of local governments.[108] All existing local governmentscities, townships, and a boroughwere created by specific acts of the Liberian government, and thus the structure and duties/responsibilities of each local government vary greatly from one to the other.[109]Map #CountyCapitalPopulation(2022 Census)[110]Area(mi2)[106]Number ofdistrictsDatecreated1 BomiTubmanburg133,668749sqmi (1,940km2)419842 BongGbarnga467,5023,386sqmi (8,770km2)1219643 GbarpoluBopolu95,9953,740sqmi (9,700km2)620014 Grand BassaBuchanan293,5573,064sqmi (7,940km2)818395 Grand Cape MountRobertsport178,7981,993sqmi (5,160km2)518446 Grand GedehZwedru216,6924,047sqmi (10,480km2)319647 Grand KruBarclayville109,3421,503sqmi (3,890km2)1819848 LofaVoinjama367,3763,854sqmi (9,980km2)619649 MargibiKakata304,9461,010sqmi (2,600km2)4198510 MarylandHarper172,202886sqmi (2,290km2)2185711 MontserradoBensonville1,920,914737sqmi (1,910km2)17183912 NimbaSanniquellie621,8414,459sqmi (11,550km2)6196413 RivercessRiver Cess90,7772,159sqmi (5,590km2)7198514 River GeeFish Town124,6531,974sqmi (5,110km2)6200015 SinoeGreenville150,3583,913sqmi (10,130km2)171843Main article: Politics of LiberiaFormer President Ellen Johnson SirleafThe government of Liberia, modeled on the government of the United States, is a unitary constitutional republic and representative democracy as established by the Constitution. The government has three co-equal branches of government: the executive, headed by the president; the legislative, consisting of the bicameral Legislature of Liberia; and the judicial, consisting of the Supreme Court and several lower courts.[1]The president serves as head of government, head of state, and the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of Liberia.[1] Among the president's other duties are to sign or veto legislative bills, grant pardons, and appoint Cabinet members, judges, and other public officials. Together with the vice president, the president is elected to a six-year term by majority vote in a two-round system and can serve up to two terms in office.[1]The Legislature is composed of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The House, led by a speaker, has 73 members apportioned among the 15 counties on the basis of the national census, with each county receiving a minimum of two members.[1] Each House member represents an electoral district within a county as drawn by the National Elections Commission and is elected by a plurality of the popular vote of their district into a six-year term. The Senate is made up of two senators from each county for a total of 30 senators.[1] Senators serve nine-year terms and are elected at-large by a plurality of the popular vote.[1] The vice president serves as the President of the Senate, with a President pro tempore serving in their absence.[111]Liberia's highest judicial authority is the Supreme Court, made up of five members and headed by the Chief Justice of Liberia. Members are nominated to the court by the president and are confirmed by the Senate, serving until the age of 70. The judiciary is further divided into circuit and speciality courts, magistrate courts, and justices of the peace.[112] The judicial system is a blend of common law, based on Anglo-American law, and customary law.[1] An informal system of traditional courts still exists within the rural areas of the country, with trial by ordeal remaining common despite being officially outlawed.[112]From 1877 to 1980, the government was dominated by the True Whig Party.[113] Today, over 20 political parties are registered in the country, based largely around personalities and ethnic groups.[73] Most parties suffer from poor organizational capacity.[73] The 2005 elections marked the first time that the president's party did not gain a majority of seats in the Legislature.[73] According to 2023 V-Dem Democracy indices Liberia is ranked 65th electoral democracy worldwide and 9th electoral democracy in Africa.[114]Main article: Armed Forces of LiberiaThe Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) have 2,010 active personnel as of 2023, with most of them organized into the 23rd Infantry Brigade, consisting of two infantry battalions, one engineer company, and one military police company. There is also a small National Coast Guard with 60 personnel and several patrol ships.[115] The AFL used to have an Air Wing, but all of its aircraft and facilities have been out of operation since the civil wars. It is in the process of reactivating its Air Wing with help from the Nigerian Air Force.[116] Liberia has deployed peacekeepers to other countries since 2013 as part of UN or ECOWAS missions, with the largest being an infantry unit in Mali, and smaller numbers of personnel in Sudan, Guinea-Bissau, and South Sudan. About 800 of the AFL's 2,000 personnel have been deployed to Mali in several rotations before the UN mission there ended in December 2023.[117] In 2022 the country had a military budget of US$18.7 million.[115]The old military was disbanded after the civil wars and entirely rebuilt, starting in 2005, with assistance and funding from the United States. The military assistance program, which became known as Operation Onward Liberty in 2010, provided training with the goal of making the AFL into an apolitical and professional military. The operation ended in 2016, though the Michigan National Guard still continues to work with the AFL as part of the U.S. National Guard's State Partnership Program.[118][119][120]Further information: Foreign relations of LiberiaPresident Sirleaf with (left to right) British Prime Minister David Cameron, Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos, and United States Secretary of State John Kerry in September 2015After the turmoil following the First and Second Liberian Civil Wars, Liberia's internal stabilization in the 21st century brought a return to cordial relations with neighboring countries and much of the Western world. As in other African countries, China is an important part of the post-conflict reconstruction.[121]In the past, both of Liberia's neighbors, Guinea and Sierra Leone, have accused Liberia of backing rebels in their countries.[122]Further information: Crime in LiberiaThe Liberian National Police is the country's national police force. As of October 2007 it has 844 officers in 33 stations in Montserrado County, which contains Monrovia.[123] The National Police Training Academy is in Paynesville City.[124] A history of corruption among police officers diminishes public trust and operational effectiveness. The internal security is characterized by a general lawlessness coupled with the danger that former combatants in the late civil war might reestablish militias to challenge the civil authorities.[125]Rape and sexual assault are frequent in the post-conflict era in Liberia. Liberia has one of the highest incidences of sexual violence against women in the world. Rape is the most frequently reported crime, accounting for more than one-third of sexual violence cases. Adolescent girls are the most frequently assaulted, and almost 40% of perpetrators are adult men known to victims.[126]Both male and female homosexuality are illegal in Liberia.[127][128] On July 20, 2012, the Liberian senate voted unanimously to enact legislation to prohibit and criminalize same-sex marriages.[129]Further information: Corruption in LiberiaCorruption is endemic at every level of the Liberian government.[130] When President Sirleaf took office in 2006, she announced that corruption was "the major public enemy."[122] In 2014, the US ambassador to Liberia said that corruption there was harming people through "unnecessary costs to products and services that are already difficult for many Liberians to afford".[131]As of 2010, Liberia was one of the most politically corrupt nations in the world.[132] This score represented a significant improvement since 2007, when the country scored 2.1 and ranked 150th of 180 countries.[133] When dealing with public-facing government functionaries, 89% of Liberians say they have had to pay a bribe, the highest national percentage in the world according to the organization's 2010 Global Corruption Barometer.[134]Main article: Economy of LiberiaA proportional representation of Liberian exports. The shipping related categories reflect Liberia's status as an international flag of conveniencethere are 3,500 vessels registered under Liberia's flag, accounting for 11% of ships worldwide.[135][136]Real GDP per capita development, since 1950The Central Bank of Liberia is responsible for printing and maintaining the Liberian dollar, Liberia's primary currency (the United States dollar is also legal tender in Liberia).[137] Liberia is one of the world's poorest countries, with a formal employment rate of 15%.[112] GDP per capita peaked in 1980 at US$496, (~$1,893 in 2024) when it was comparable to Egypt's (at the time).[138] In 2011, the country's nominal GDP was US$1.154 billion, while nominal GDP per capita stood at US$297, the third-lowest in the world.[139] Historically the Liberian economy has depended heavily on foreign aid, foreign direct investment and exports of natural resources such as iron ore, rubber, and timber.[86]Following a peak in growth in 1979, the Liberian economy began a steady decline due to economic mismanagement after the 1980 coup.[140] This decline was accelerated by the outbreak of civil war in 1989; GDP was reduced by an estimated 90% between 1989 and 1995, one of the fastest declines in modern history.[140] Upon the end of the war in 2003, GDP growth began to accelerate, reaching 9.4% in 2007.[141] In 2009, during the Great Recession GDP growth slowed to 4.6%,[141] though a strengthening agricultural sector led by rubber and timber exports increased growth to 5.1% in 2010 and an expected 7.3% in 2011, making the economy one of the 20 fastest-growing in the world.[142][143]Current impediments to growth include a small domestic market, lack of adequate infrastructure, high transportation costs, poor trade links with neighboring countries, and the high dollarization of the economy.[142] Liberia used the United States dollar as its currency from 1943 until 1982 and continues to use the U.S. dollar alongside the Liberian dollar.[144]Following a decrease in inflation beginning in 2003, inflation spiked in 2008 as a result of worldwide food and energy crises,[145] reaching 17.5% before declining to 7.4% in 2009.[141] Liberia's external debt was estimated in 2006 at approximately $4.5 billion, 800% of GDP.[140] As a result of bilateral, multilateral and commercial debt relief from 2007 to 2010, the country's external debt fell to $222.9 million by 2011.[146]While official commodity exports declined during the 1990s as many investors fled the civil war, Liberia's wartime economy featured the exploitation of the region's diamond wealth.[147] The country acted as a major trader in Sierra Leonian blood diamonds, exporting over US$300 million (~$516million in 2023) in diamonds in 1999.[148] This led to a United Nations ban on Liberian diamond exports in 2001, which was lifted in 2007 following Liberia's accession to the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme.[149]In 2003, additional UN sanctions were placed on Liberian timber exports, which had risen from US$5 million in 1997 to over US$100 million in 2002 and were believed to be funding rebels in Sierra Leone.[150][151] These sanctions were lifted in 2006.[152] Due in large part to foreign aid and investment inflow following the end of the war, Liberia maintains a large account deficit, which peaked at nearly 60% in 2008.[142] Liberia gained observer status with the World Trade Organization in 2010 and became an official member in 2016.[153]Liberia has the highest ratio of foreign direct investment to GDP in the world, with US$16 billion (~$23.3billion in 2023) in investment since 2006.[143] Following Sirleaf's inauguration in 2006, Liberia signed several multi-billion-dollar concession agreements in the iron ore and palm oil industries with numerous multinational corporations, including ArcelorMittal, BHP and Sime Darby.[154] Palm oil companies like Sime Darby (Malaysia) and Golden Veroleum (USA) have been accused of destroying livelihoods and displacing local communities, enabled by government concessions.[155] Since 1926 Firestone has operated the world's largest rubber plantation in Harbel, Margibi County. As of 2015, it had more than 8,000 mostly Liberian employees, making it the country's largest private employer.[156][157]In September 2024 the International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced that its executive board approved a financial arrangement of approximately $210 million for Liberia. The approval includes an immediate disbursement of around $8 million. This arrangement is aimed at supporting Liberia's economic recovery and addressing fiscal challenges.[158]Due to its status as a flag of convenience, Liberia has the second-largest maritime registry in the world behind Panama. It has 3,500 vessels registered under its flag, accounting for 11% of ships worldwide.[135][136]This section is an excerpt from Agriculture in Liberia.[edit]Young boy grinding sugar cane near Flumpa, Nimba County, 1968Agriculture in Liberia is a major sector of the country's economy worth 38.8% of GDP, employing more than 70% of the population and providing a valuable export for one of the world's least developed countries (as defined by the UN).[159][160][161][162] Liberia has a climate favourable to farming, vast forests, and an abundance of water, yet low yields mean that over half of foodstuffs are imported, with net agricultural trade at -$73.12 million in 2010.[163] This was dismissed as a "misconception" by Liberia's Minister of Agriculture.[164]The major crops are natural rubber, rice, cassava,[165][166] bananas and palm oil.[166] Timber is also a major export at $100 million annually, although much of this is the product of unsustainable habitat destruction, with Asian corporations criticised for their role.[161] Although agricultural activity occurs in most rural locations, it is particularly concentrated in coastal plains (subsistence crops) and tropical forest (cash crops). The sector is very important for women as they are widely employed in it in comparison to the economy as a whole.[167]Sustenance farming is popular in many areas of Liberia. Communities primarily grow upland rice, cassava, and vegetables, though cane sugar distillation and coal mining provide job opportunity diversification.[95]Traditional farming systems, such as intercropping and agroforestry, could encourage biodiversity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These farming practices are largely used by local or native Liberian farmers. Use of other culturally significant crops such as rice or bitterball have been shown to increase nitrogen fixation in soil, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These changes have been shown to increase the resilience of food production and alleviate reduction in access to wild foods associated with the loss of forests. However, continued acquisition of land by palm oil and rubber plantations reduces household access to land, food, and water.[93]Palm oil production is also a large part of Liberian agriculture and is largely controlled by the Malaysian palm oil company, Sime Darby. In 2009, Liberia granted one of its largest concessions to Sime Darby, despite local and international concern over the environmental impacts this could cause. Liberia, which has one of the highest rates of unemployment in the world, was promised employment of roughly 30,000 by Sime Darby for palm oil production. Palm oil production is expected to increase as global demand for palm oil for food and biofuel increases. Rubber production in Liberia is mostly done through plantations and industrial agriculture. These industries can cause deforestation and have been shown to decrease the amount of land owned by locals according to a study done by the Cornell Land Project. They can also decrease local incomes by taking away the ability of locals to hunt for and trade bushmeat or grow crops to sell.[95]Between 1960 and 1980, iron ore mining was the mainstay of the Liberian economy, contributing to more than 60 percent of export earnings. This came after former United States president Harry S. Truman encouraged foreign investment, leading some foreign companies to invest in Liberias mining sector. During this time, much of the mining done in Liberia was carried out by alluvial mining of small-scale operations, with estimates of over 100,000 artisanal miners in Liberia. However, with the onset of Liberias first civil war, much of the countrys productive infrastructure was destroyed and mining was brought to a virtual halt. The commencement of Liberias second civil war aggravated this trend.[18]After the end of Liberias second civil war, there was a sharp post-conflict increase in mining activities, rapid settlement expansion and increasing forest loss. This increased mining activity and associated forest loss threatens biodiversity, increases pressure on available agricultural land, especially land meant for sustenance agriculture, and increases potential exposure of the Liberian population to pollution from mining activities.[18] Many of these iron and gold ore corporations which are increasingly dominating the Liberian economy are geared to satisfy the needs of the metropolitan economies and not the needs of the Liberian economy. This has led to the formation of economic islands which fail to have any developing effect on the economy as a whole. [237] Despite the stronger economic linkages artisanal mines have to local communities, investment in industrial mining by foreign companies has increased in post-conflict Liberia due to larger taxes and royalty payments received from industrial mines.[20]Liberian mining has also been shown to have negative effects on the Liberian environment. Post conflict mining has contributed to an increase in forest loss and air pollution. Though Liberia does possess environmental management tools such as the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), use of these tools and environmentally protective policy is still lacking. Harnessing of best practices in regards to agriculture and mining and valorizing local knowledge has been shown to be inadequate, meaning pressure on the environment is still heavy. Liberias mining industry also impacts food and water availability for many Liberian peoples, impacting household nutrition and income levels.[18]Mining labor in Liberia has faced criticism from civil society groups and, notably, Joshua Obediah Zaza Arku, Inspector-General of Liberias Mines and Energy Ministry'. Aside from long hours and low wages, resistance movements and unions have been squashed by corporate and government entities, leading to outrage of the Liberian working class. On November 23, 1976, workers at the depleted iron ore mines at Bomi Hills went on strike demanding that, prior to the mines closing, they should be paid two months wage for each year they worked with the company. News reporters on the scene described random arrests and undue violence towards workers on strike. Many other instances of violence against laborers and the working class in Liberia have been recorded.[237] Liberia has seen many protests in its mining sector, mostly over poor working conditions and a perceived apathy towards the Liberian peoples. Some of the protests, such as the March 1, 2024 protest at Kinjor, have resulted in injuries and even deaths of Liberian miners. Protests and resistance continue today over poor working and living conditions.[20]Gold, diamonds, and iron ore form the core minerals of the mining sector with a new Mineral Development Policy and Mining Code being put in place to attract foreign investments.[168] In 2013, the mineral sector accounted for 11% of GDP in the country and the World Bank projected a further increase in the sector by 2017.[169]TelecommunicationsMain article: Communications in LiberiaThere are six major newspapers in Liberia, and 65% of the population has a mobile phone service.Much of Liberia's communications infrastructure was destroyed or plundered during the two civil wars (19891996 and 19992003).[170] With low rates of adult literacy and high poverty rates, television and newspaper use is limited, leaving radio as the predominant means of communicating with the public.[171]The streets of downtown Monrovia, March 2009This section is an excerpt from Transport in Liberia.[edit]Transport in Liberia consists of 243km (151 miles) of railways, 6,580 miles of highways (408 mi paved), seaports, 29 airports (2 paved) and 2 miles of pipeline for oil transportation.[172] Buses and taxis are the main forms of ground transportation in and around Monrovia. Charter boats are also available.[173]Further information: Energy in LiberiaPublic electricity services are provided solely by the state-owned Liberia Electricity Corporation, which operates a small grid almost exclusively in the Greater Monrovia District.[174] The vast majority of electric energy services is provided by small, privately owned generators. At $0.54 per kWh, the cost of electricity in Liberia is among the highest in the world. Total capacity in 2013 was 20 MW, a sharp decline from a peak of 191 MW in 1989 before the wars.[174]The repair and expansion of the Mount Coffee Hydropower Project, with a maximum capacity of 80 MW, was completed in 2018.[175] Construction of three new heavy fuel oil power plants is expected to boost electrical capacity by 38 MW.[176] In 2013, Liberia began importing power from neighboring Ivory Coast and Guinea through the West African Power Pool.[177]Liberia has begun exploration for offshore oil; unproven oil reserves may be in excess of one billion barrels.[178] The government divided its offshore waters into 17 blocks and began auctioning off exploration licenses for the blocks in 2004, with further auctions in 2007 and 2009.[179][180][168] An additional 13 ultra-deep offshore blocks were demarcated in 2011 and planned for auction.[169] Among the companies to have won licenses are Repsol YPF, Chevron Corporation, and Woodside Petroleum.[181]Main article: Demographics of LiberiaSee also: Liberian nationality lawAs of the 2017 national census, Liberia was home to 4,694,608 people.[182] Of those, 1,118,241 lived in Montserrado County, the most populous county in the country and location of the capital Monrovia. The Greater Monrovia District has 970,824 residents.[183] Nimba County is the next most populous county, with 462,026 residents.[183] As revealed in the 2008 census, Monrovia is more than four times more populous than all the county capitals combined.[106]Prior to the 2008 census, the last census had been taken in 1984 and listed the country's population as 2,101,628.[183] The population of Liberia was 1,016,443 in 1962 and increased to 1,503,368 in 1974.[106] As of 2006[update], Liberia had the highest population growth rate in the world (4.50% per annum).[184] In 2010 some 43.5% of Liberians were below the age of 15.[185]vte Largest cities or towns in LiberiaAccording to the 2008 Census[1]RankNameCountyPop.1MonroviaMontserrado1,021,7622GbarngaBong56,9863BuchananGrand Bassa50,2454GantaNimba42,0775KakataMargibi34,6086ZwedruGrand Gedeh25,3497HarbelMargibi25,3098HarperMaryland23,5179PleeboMaryland23,46410FoyaLofa20,569Ethnic groups in LiberiaEthnic groupsPercentKpelle20.3%Bassa13.4%Grebo10.0%Gio8.0%Mano7.9%Kru6.0%Lorma5.1%Kissi4.8%Gola4.4%Krahn4.0%Vai4.0%Mandinka3.2%Gbandi3.0%Mende1.3%Sapo1.2%Belle0.8%Dey0.3%Other Liberian0.6%Other African1.4%Non African0.1%The population includes 16 indigenous ethnic groups and various foreign minorities. Indigenous peoples comprise about 95 percent of the population. The 16 officially recognized ethnic groups include the Kpelle, Bassa, Mano, Gio or Dan, Kru, Grebo, Krahn, Vai, Gola, Mandingo or Mandinka, Mende, Kissi, Gbandi, Loma, Dei or Dewoin, and Belleh.[186] The Americo-Liberians, or Congo people,[b] are a historical community in Liberia.[187]The Kpelle comprise more than 20% of the population and are the largest ethnic group in Liberia, residing mostly in Bong County and adjacent areas in central Liberia.[188] Americo-Liberians, who are descendants of African American and West Indian, mostly Barbadian (Bajan) settlers, make up 2.5%. Congo people, descendants of repatriated Congo and Afro-Caribbean slaves who arrived in 1825, make up an estimated 2.5%.[1][189][bettersourceneeded] These latter two groups established political control in the 19th century which they kept well into the 20th century.The Liberian constitution exercises jus sanguinis, which means it usually restricts its citizenship to "Negroes or persons of Negro descent."[190] That being said, numerous immigrants have come as merchants and become a major part of the business community, including Lebanese, Indians, and other West African nationals. There is a high prevalence of interracial marriage between ethnic Liberians and the Lebanese, resulting in a significant mixed-race population especially in and around Monrovia. A small minority of Liberians who are White Africans of European descent reside in the country.[bettersourceneeded][1]Further information: Languages of LiberiaEnglish is the official language and serves as the lingua franca of Liberia.[191] As of 2022, 27 indigenous languages are spoken in Liberia, but each is a first language for only a small percentage of the population.[192] Liberians also speak a variety of creolized dialects collectively known as Liberian English.[191]Main article: Religion in LiberiaReligion in Liberia (2010)[193]ReligionPercentProtestantism76.3%Islam12.2%Roman Catholicism7.2%Other Christian1.6%Unaffiliated1.4%Other faith1.3%According to the 2008 National Census, 85.6% of the population practiced Christianity, while Muslims represented a minority of 12.2%.[194] A multitude of diverse Protestant confessions such as Lutheran, Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, United Methodist, African Methodist Episcopal (AME) and African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AME Zion) denominations form the bulk of the Christian population, followed by adherents of the Catholic Church and other non-Protestant Christians. Most of these Christian denominations were brought by African-American settlers moving from the United States into Liberia via the American Colonization Society, while some are indigenousespecially Pentecostal and evangelical Protestant ones. Protestantism was originally associated with Black American settlers and their Americo-Liberian descendants, while native peoples initially held to their own animist forms of African traditional religion before largely adopting Christianity. While Christian, many Liberians also participate in traditional, gender-based indigenous religious secret societies, such as Poro for men and Sande for women. The all-female Sande society practices female circumcision.[195]Muslims comprised 12.2% of the population in 2008, largely represented by the Mandingo and Vai ethnic groups. Liberian Muslims are divided between Sunnis, Shias, Ahmadiyyas, Sufis, and non-denominational Muslims.[196]In 2008, 0.5% identified adherence to traditional indigenous religions, while 1.5% claimed no religion. A small number of people were Bah, Hindu, Sikh, or Buddhist.The Liberian constitution provides for freedom of religion, and the government generally respects this right.[195] While separation of church and state is mandated by the Constitution, Liberia is considered a Christian state in practice.[73] Public schools offer biblical studies, though parents may opt their children out. Commerce is prohibited by law on Sunday and major Christian holidays. The government does not require businesses or schools to excuse Muslims for Friday prayers.[195]Main article: Education in LiberiaStudents studying by candlelight in Bong CountyIn 2010, the literacy rate of Liberia was estimated at 60.8% (64.8% for males and 56.8% for females).[197] In some areas primary and secondary education is free and compulsory from the ages of 6 to 16, though enforcement of attendance is lax.[198] In other areas children are required to pay a tuition fee to attend school. On average, children attain 10 years of education (11 for boys and 8 for girls).[1] The country's education sector is hampered by inadequate schools and supplies, as well as a lack of qualified teachers.[199]Higher education is provided by a number of public and private universities. The University of Liberia is the country's largest and oldest university. Located in Monrovia, the university opened in 1862. Today it has six colleges, including a medical school and the nation's only law school, Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law.[200]In 2009, Tubman University in Harper, Maryland County was established as the second public university in Liberia.[201] Since 2006, the government has also opened community colleges in Buchanan, Sanniquellie, and Voinjama.[202][203][204]Due to student protests late in October 2018, newly elected president George Weah abolished tuition fees for undergraduate students in public universities in Liberia.[205]Further information: Health in LiberiaDevelopment of life expectancyHospitals in Liberia include the John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Monrovia and several others. Life expectancy in Liberia is estimated to be 64.4 years in 2020.[206] With a fertility rate of 5.9 births per woman, the maternal mortality rate stood at 990 per 100,000 births in 2010, and 1,072 per 100,000 births in 2017.[207][208] A number of highly communicable diseases are widespread, including tuberculosis, diarrheal diseases and malaria. In 2007, the HIV infection rates stood at 2% of the population aged 1549[209] whereas the incidence of tuberculosis was 420 per 100,000 people in 2008.[210] Approximately 58.2%[211] 66%[212] of women are estimated to have undergone female genital mutilation.Liberia imports 90% of its rice, a staple food, and is extremely vulnerable to food shortages.[213] In 2007, 20.4% of children under the age of five were malnourished.[214] Liberia has a high level of hunger and food insecurity.[215]Approximately 95% of the country's healthcare facilities had been destroyed by the time civil war ended in 2003.[216] In 2009, government expenditure on health care per capita was US$22, (~$30.00 in 2023) [217] accounting for 10.6% of total GDP.[218] In 2008, Liberia had only one doctor and 27 nurses per 100,000 people.[210]In 2014, an outbreak of Ebola virus in Guinea spread to Liberia.[219] As of November17, 2014[update], there were 2,812 confirmed deaths from the ongoing outbreak.[220]Main article: Culture of LiberiaBassa culture. Helmet Mask for Sande Society (Ndoli Jowei), Liberia. 20th century. Brooklyn Museum.The religious practices, social customs, and cultural standards of the Americo-Liberians had their roots in the antebellum American South. The settlers wore top hat and tails and modeled their homes on those of Southern slaveowners.[221] Most Americo-Liberian men were members of the Masonic Order of Liberia, which became heavily involved in the nation's politics.[citation needed]Liberia has a rich history in textile arts and quilting, as the settlers brought with them their sewing and quilting skills. Liberia hosted National Fairs in 1857 and 1858 in which prizes were awarded for various needle arts. One of the most well-known Liberian quilters was Martha Ann Ricks,[222] who presented a quilt featuring the famed Liberian coffee tree to Queen Victoria in 1892. When President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf moved into the Executive Mansion, she reportedly had a Liberian-made quilt installed in her presidential office.[223]A rich literary tradition has existed in Liberia for over a century. Edward Wilmot Blyden, Bai T. Moore, Roland T. Dempster and Wilton G. S. Sankawulo are among Liberia's more prominent authors.[224] Moore's novella Murder in the Cassava Patch is considered Liberia's most celebrated novel.[225]Main article: Mass media in LiberiaFurther information: Polygamy in LiberiaOne-third of married Liberian women between the ages of 1549 are in polygamous marriages.[226] Customary law allows men to have up to four wives.[227]Main article: Liberian cuisineA beachside barbecue at Sinkor, Monrovia, LiberiaLiberian cuisine heavily incorporates rice, the country's staple food. Other ingredients include cassava, fish, bananas, citrus fruit, plantains, coconut, okra and sweet potatoes.[228] Heavy stews spiced with habanero and scotch bonnet chilies are popular and eaten with fufu.[229] Liberia also has a tradition of baking imported from the United States that is unique in West Africa.[230]The most popular sport in Liberia is association football, with former president George Weah being the nation's most famous athlete. He is so far the only African to be named FIFA World Player of the Year.[231][232] The Liberia national football team has reached the Africa Cup of Nations finals twice, in 1996 and 2002.The second most popular sport in Liberia is basketball. The Liberian national basketball team has reached the AfroBasket twice, in 1983 and 2007.In Liberia, the Samuel Kanyon Doe Sports Complex serves as a multi-purpose stadium. It hosts FIFA World Cup qualifying matches in addition to international concerts and national political events.[233]Liberia has not yet completely adopted the International System of Units (abbreviated as the SI, also called the metric system). The Liberian government has begun transitioning away from use of United States customary units to the metric system.[234][bettersourceneeded] This change has been gradual, with government reports concurrently using United States Customary and metric units.[235][236] In 2018, the Liberian Commerce and Industry Minister announced that the Liberian government is committed to adopting the metric system.[237]Liberia portalOutline of LiberiaIndex of Liberia-related articles^ /labri/ ^ So named because many immigrants including those freed from slave ships arrived from ports at the mouth of the Congo River

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ISBN1553692942.Liberia at Wikipedia's sister projectsDefinitions from WiktionaryMedia from CommonsNews from WikinewsQuotations from WikiquoteTexts from WikisourceTextbooks from WikibooksResources from WikiversityTravel information from WikivoyageOfficial website, President official government portalForeign Affairs of LiberiaLiberia profile from ECOWAS Wikimedia Atlas of Liberia Geographic data related to Liberia at OpenStreetMapNews headline links from Al Jazeera.Liberia, Democracy Now!Liberia profile from the BBC News.Liberia Business Facts from Bizpages630N 930W / 6.500N 9.500W / 6.500; -9.500Retrieved from " 2Line of longitudeThis article does not cite any sources. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.Find sources:"7th meridian west"news newspapers books scholar JSTOR (January 2021) (Learn how and when to remove this message)7class=notpageimage| 7th meridian westMap all coordinates using OpenStreetMapDownload coordinates as:KMLGPX (all coordinates)GPX (primary coordinates)GPX (secondary coordinates) The meridian 7 west of Greenwich is a line of longitude that extends from the North Pole across the Arctic Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, Europe, Africa, the Southern Ocean, and Antarctica to the South Pole.The 7th meridian west forms a great circle with the 173rd meridian east.Starting at the North Pole and heading south to the South Pole, the 7th meridian west passes through:Co-ordinatesCountry, territory or seaNotes900N 70W / 90.000N 7.000W / 90.000; -7.000 (Arctic Ocean)Arctic Ocean822N 70W / 82.033N 7.000W / 82.033; -7.000 (Atlantic Ocean)Atlantic Ocean6220N 70W / 62.333N 7.000W / 62.333; -7.000 (Faroe Islands)Faroe IslandsIslands of Eysturoy, Streymoy and Koltur625N 70W / 62.083N 7.000W / 62.083; -7.000 (Atlantic Ocean)Atlantic OceanPassing just west of the island of Sandoy, Faroe Islands (at 6155N 656W / 61.917N 6.933W / 61.917; -6.933 (Sandoy)) Passing just west of the island of Suuroy, Faroe Islands (at 6138N 70W / 61.633N 7.000W / 61.633; -7.000 (Suuroy))5814N 70W / 58.233N 7.000W / 58.233; -7.000 (United Kingdom)United KingdomScotland - Islands of Lewis, Taransay and Harris5745N 70W / 57.750N 7.000W / 57.750; -7.000 (Atlantic Ocean)Atlantic OceanLittle Minch Sea of the Hebrides from about 5755N 70W / 57.917N 7.000W / 57.917; -7.000 (Sea of the Hebrides) passing just west of the island of Tiree, Scotland, United Kingdom (at 5630N 659W / 56.500N 6.983W / 56.500; -6.983 (Tiree)) and into an unnamed part of the ocean from 5630N 70W / 56.500N 7.000W / 56.500; -7.0005516N 70W / 55.267N 7.000W / 55.267; -7.000 (Ireland)IrelandInishowen peninsula5512N 70W / 55.200N 7.000W / 55.200; -7.000 (Lough Foyle)Lough Foyle556N 70W / 55.100N 7.000W / 55.100; -7.000 (United Kingdom)United KingdomNorthern Ireland5424N 70W / 54.400N 7.000W / 54.400; -7.000 (Ireland)Ireland528N 70W / 52.133N 7.000W / 52.133; -7.000 (Atlantic Ocean)Atlantic OceanCeltic Sea an unnamed part of the ocean from 479N 70W / 47.150N 7.000W / 47.150; -7.000 Bay of Biscay from 4450N 70W / 44.833N 7.000W / 44.833; -7.000 (Bay of Biscay)4333N 70W / 43.550N 7.000W / 43.550; -7.000 (Spain)Spain4157N 70W / 41.950N 7.000W / 41.950; -7.000 (Portugal)Portugal4014N 70W / 40.233N 7.000W / 40.233; -7.000 (Spain)SpainFor about 11km407N 70W / 40.117N 7.000W / 40.117; -7.000 (Portugal)Portugal3942N 70W / 39.700N 7.000W / 39.700; -7.000 (Spain)Spain395N 70W / 39.083N 7.000W / 39.083; -7.000 (Portugal)Portugal3858N 70W / 38.967N 7.000W / 38.967; -7.000 (Spain)Spain3812N 70W / 38.200N 7.000W / 38.200; -7.000 (Portugal)Portugal381N 70W / 38.017N 7.000W / 38.017; -7.000 (Spain)Spain3711N 70W / 37.183N 7.000W / 37.183; -7.000 (Atlantic Ocean)Atlantic Ocean3354N 70W / 33.900N 7.000W / 33.900; -7.000 (Morocco)MoroccoPassing just west of Rabat (at 341N 650W / 34.017N 6.833W / 34.017; -6.833 (Rabat))2939N 70W / 29.650N 7.000W / 29.650; -7.000 (Algeria)Algeria2620N 70W / 26.333N 7.000W / 26.333; -7.000 (Mauritania)Mauritania1530N 70W / 15.500N 7.000W / 15.500; -7.000 (Mali)Mali1011N 70W / 10.183N 7.000W / 10.183; -7.000 (Cte d'Ivoire)Ivory Coast434N 70W / 4.567N 7.000W / 4.567; -7.000 (Atlantic Ocean)Atlantic Ocean600S 70W / 60.000S 7.000W / -60.000; -7.000 (Southern Ocean)Southern Ocean7024S 70W / 70.400S 7.000W / -70.400; -7.000 (Antarctica)AntarcticaQueen Maud Land, claimed by Norway6th meridian west8th meridian westRetrieved from " 3The following pages link to 7th meridian west External tools(link counttransclusion countsorted list) See help page for transcluding these entriesShowing 16 items.View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)Guinea (links | edit)Liberia (links | edit)List of satellites in geosynchronous orbit (links | edit)Nilesat 101 (links | edit)7W (links | edit)6th meridian west (links | edit)8th meridian west (links | edit)173rd meridian east (links | edit)Longitude 7 degrees W (redirect page) (links | edit)Category talk:Meridians (geography) (links | edit)7th meridian (links | edit)Talk:7th meridian west (transclusion) (links | edit)User:AlexNewArtBot/ScottishIslandsSearchResult/archive2 (links | edit)User:Tom.Reding/Pages in Category:Astronomy (1/2) (links | edit)User:Tom.Reding/Articles in Category:Astronomy (1/2) (links | edit)User:Rich Farmbrough/temp320 (links | edit)Wikipedia:UK articles with co-ordinates but no image/Eilean Siar (links | edit)View (previous 50 | next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500)Retrieved from " WhatLinksHere/7th_meridian_west"

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