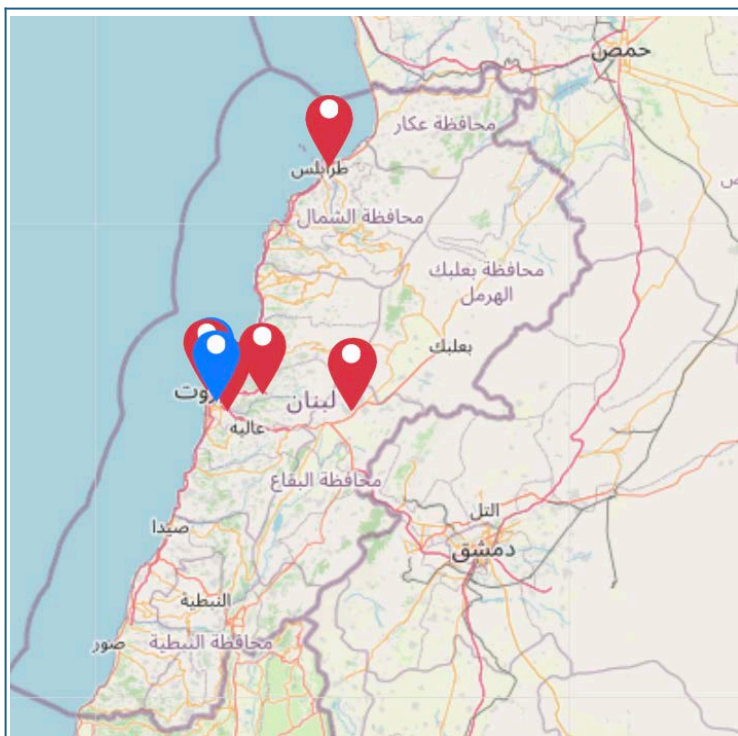


# Lebanon Immigration Detention Data Profile



Quick Facts	
Immigration detainees (2019)	Not Available
Detained minors (2017)	300
International migrants (2019)	1,863,873
New asylum applications (2019)	3,610

## NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/middle-east/lebanon>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

## STATISTICS

### Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Total number of immigration detainees by year	Not Available	2019	Total number of detained minors	300	2017
Number of dedicated long-term immigration detention centres	1	2014	Number of criminal facilities	8	2014
Criminal prison population	6,500	2016	Percentage of foreign prisoners	36	2013
	5,290	2013		38	2006
Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	128	2016			
	108	2013			

### Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	6,800,000	2020	International migrants	1,863,873	2019
	6,006,668	2016		1,997,800	2015
	5,851,000	2015		849,700	2013
	4,300,000	2012			
International migrants as a percentage of the population	34.1	2015	Refugees	916,141	2019
	17.6	2013		949,666	2018
				998,890	2017
				1,012,954	2016
				1,070,854	2015
				1,400,000	2014
Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants	169.16	2016	Total number of new asylum applications	3,610	2019
	205.64	2014		4,393	2016
	30.85	2012		14,538	2014
				2,113	2012
Stateless persons	Not Available	2015			

## DOMESTIC LAW

### LEGAL TRADITION

Legal tradition	Name	Observation Date
	Civil law	

LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Constitutional guarantees?	Yes/No	Constitution and Articles	Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Yes	Lebanese Constitution. Article 8.	1926	1926
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Core pieces of national legislation	Name		Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Law Regulating the Entry and Stay of Foreigners in Lebanon and their Exit from the Country		1962	
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Additional legislation	Name		Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
	Lebanese Criminal Code		1958	2002
	Criminal Procedure Code.		2001	2001
LAWS AND REGULATIONS				
Regulations, standards, guidelines	Name			Year Published
	Decree 17513 of 1964			1964
	Decree No. 2873 of 16 December 1959 regulating the General Security Directorate			1959
	Decree 14310 (11/02/1949) related to Prisons Administration			1949
GROUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE IMMIGRATION-RELATED DETENTION				
Non-immigration-status-related grounds providing for administrative detention in immigration legislation.	Name			Observation Date
	Detention on public order, threats or security grounds			2014
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES				
Does the country provide specific criminal penalties for immigration-related violations?	Fines	Incarceration	Observation Date	
	Yes	Yes	2014	
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES				
Grounds for criminal immigration-related detention/incarceration and maximum potential duration of incarceration	Grounds for Incarceration	Maximum Number of Days of Incarceration		Observation Date
	Unauthorised stay	90		2017
	Unauthorized re-entry	180		2017
	Unauthorized entry	90		2014
LENGTH OF DETENTION				
Maximum length for administrative immigration detention in law.	Number of Days		Observation Date	
	No Limit		2014	

LENGTH OF DETENTION				
Maximum length of time in custody prior to issuance of a detention order	Number of Days		Observation Date	
	4		2014	
PROCEDURAL STANDARDS				
Provision of basic procedural standards	Name	In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Right to appeal the lawfulness of detention	Yes	No	2014
	Information to detainees	Yes	No	2014
VULNERABLE PERSONS				
Is the detention of vulnerable persons provided in law? Are they detained in practice?	Name	In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Asylum seekers		Yes	2013
	Refugees		Yes	2013
	Stateless persons		Yes	2013
	Victims of trafficking		Yes	2012
	Accompanied minors		Yes	2010
EXPEDITED REMOVAL AND RE-ENTRY BAN				
Re-entry ban	Name		Observation Date	
	Yes		2014	

**COVID-19 UPDATES**

	Update Status	Observation Date
<p><b>Latest Update</b></p>	<p>While the Lebanese government has so far managed to keep infections down, the pandemic has exposed barriers that refugees face in the country. Despite hosting the highest per capita concentration of refugees worldwide, Lebanon is not party to the 1951 Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol. An estimated 73 percent of Syrian refugees in the country lack legal status, limiting their access to essential services including health care, and rendering them vulnerable to arrest and detention. Detention conditions have repeatedly been flagged by international observers as unacceptable, and in 2019, authorities forcibly deported more than 2,500 people back to Syria. The fact that many refugees have been unable to reside legally in the country has given rise to significant concerns during the crisis. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, any person experiencing symptoms has been required to contact a national health ministry hotline for advice on testing and treatment. Both UNHCR (responsible for Syrian refugees) and UNRWA (responsible for Palestinian refugees), who are responsible for covering refugee health care, have said that they will only cover testing and treatment costs if the refugee has first contacted this hotline and followed instructions. However, many refugees have expressed fears of using the hotline and providing their personal information—largely due to their concern that their illegal status will be reported, and that they will subsequently face detention and deportation. The lack of a “firewall” between health care and immigration authorities during the pandemic, as witnessed in numerous other countries, threatens both refugees’ health—and the health of the wider community. As Human Rights Watch stated on 22 April, “The authorities should proactively reassure refugees that they will not face retribution or stigmatization if they seek testing or treatment for COVID-19.” According to the Access Center for Human Rights, some municipalities (particularly those affiliated to political parties that oppose the presence of Syrian refugees in the country) have also deported Syrians under the pretext of combatting the virus. Amongst those deported have been several families who were removed after purchasing medicines. In one case, a boy in Mount Lebanon Governorate was followed home after purchasing pain relief. Volunteers overseeing movement restrictions raised fears that he may be suffering from the virus, and demanded the municipality deport his family. At least nine refugee camps have also been raided by security forces, searching registration papers and residency permits. As of 29 May, a handful of Syrian refugees in the country had tested positive: 15 cases were detected in the village of Majdal Anjar in Bekaa, close to the Syrian border; 10 Palestinian refugees have also contracted the virus. According to the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor, a circular issued on 1 May stipulated that only Lebanese nationals stranded overseas were permitted to return to Lebanon during the crisis. Meanwhile, Palestinian refugees who usually reside in the country but who were stranded outside were barred from returning. The rights group stated in a press release, “The circular includes heinous racial discrimination against Palestinian refugees holding Lebanese travel documents. The holder of this document should receive similar treatment to the Lebanese citizen in cases of deportation. In addition, preventing Palestinian refugees who only hold Lebanese travel documents from traveling constitutes a flagrant violation of their right to freedom of travel and movement.”</p>	<p>2020</p>
	<p>The GDP has been unable to find any reports indicating whether measures have been taken to safeguard migrants and asylum seekers in detention in Lebanon, in particular at the country’s main immigration detention centre in Beirut. Many migrants and refugees can also end up in prisons for extended periods of time. But there are growing concerns about the impact of the Coronavirus on the country’s large refugee population. Human Rights Watch has reported that 21 municipalities in Lebanon have introduced discriminatory restrictions on Syrian refugees that do not apply to Lebanese residents, as part of their efforts to combat Covid-19. For instance, at least eight municipalities have implemented curfews that restrict the movement of Syrian refugees to certain times. The Brital municipality in Baalbek announced that Syrians are only allowed to move around the municipality between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. and then only to perform necessary tasks. Authorities said that Syrians caught violating the measures could face legal measures and that their identity documentation could be confiscated. Riots have erupted in at least two prisons in Lebanon as prisoners demanded to be released over fears the country’s coronavirus outbreak will spread rapidly among prisons. 25 prisoners sentenced for minor crimes were freed from one of the country’s prisons and the head of the Bar Association in the north said that this could lead to the release of about 200 detainees from Tripoli Prison, meaning 15-20% of its prisoners. Prisoners in several penal institutions throughout the country have begun hunger-strikes requesting the government to release them. On 31 March 2020, Lebanese authorities indicated that there were no cases of Covid-19 within the prison of Roumieh.</p>	<p>2020</p>

**INTERNATIONAL LAW**

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

International treaties	Name	Ratification Year
	OPCAT, Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2008
	CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	2005
	CTOCSP, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime	2005
	CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	2000
	CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	1997
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child	1991
	VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations	1975
	ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	1972
	ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	1972
	ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	1971
<b>Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified</b>	10/19	

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification

Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number	Observation Date
	0/6	2017

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Relevant recommendations issued by treaty bodies	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year
	Committee against Torture	§ 55. The State party should refrain from detaining refugees, asylum seekers and irregular migrants for prolonged periods, use detention as a measure of last resort only and for as short a period as possible and promote alternatives to detention.	2017
	Committee on the Rights of the Child	43. The Committee urges the State party to: (e) Continue to implement standard procedures to identify child victims of trafficking among vulnerable populations, such as undocumented migrants, refugees and domestic workers, and ensure that they receive appropriate social services and shelter and are not placed in juvenile detention facilities;	2017
	Committee against Torture	"55. The State party should refrain from detaining refugees, asylum seekers and irregular migrants for prolonged periods, use detention as a measure of last resort only and for as short a period as possible and promote alternatives to detention."	2017
	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	"24. In view of the limited resources available to support refugees, the Committee urges the State party to accelerate the provision of documentation to refugees so that they can seek work and access basic services without fear of being arrested. The Committee also calls on the State party to pursue a rights-based approach in its provision of support to refugees, including by eliminating legal and regulatory provisions that discriminate against them in the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights."	2016
Committee on the Rights of the Child	"72. In light of articles 3 and 22 and other relevant provisions of the Convention, the Committee urges the State party, while taking into account the Committee's general comment No. 6 (2005) on treatment of unaccompanied and separated children outside their country of origin:[...] (c) To ensure that detention of refugee/asylum-seeking children takes place only when necessary, is in their best interests and is for the shortest time possible, and that deportation is in full compliance with international standards and that the best interests of the child is a primary consideration in that regard"	2006	
Regional treaties, regulations, and directives			
Regional legal instruments	Name	Year of Ratification (Treaty) / Transposed (Directive) / Adoption (Regulation)	
	AC, Arab Charter on Human Rights	2011	
Bilateral/Multilateral agreements linked to readmissions			
Bilateral/multilateral agreements linked to readmission	Name	Year in Force	Observation Date
	EU	2006	2006
	Switzerland	2006	2006
	Romania	2004	2004
	Cyprus	2003	2003
Bulgaria	2002	2002	
Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms			
Visits by special procedures of the Human Rights Council	Name	Year of Visit	Observation Date
	Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery	2012	2014

## Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms

	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year	Observation Date
Relevant recommendations by UN Special Procedures	Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery	"As a result of the Kafala system, a migrant domestic worker who leaves her employment without permission from both her employer and the Government, for whatever reason, is immediately classified as an irregular migrant and is subject to arrest, detention and deportation." [...] "There have been reports of migrant domestic workers being detained for years in the detention centre." [...] "The detention centre should be relocated immediately. The Government staff in the centre should also include women as currently all are men."	2012	2012

## Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms

Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	Recommendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
	No	2011	2017
	Yes	2015	2017

## INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

### Governing structures

Federal or centralized governing system	Federal or centralized governing system	Observation Date
	Centralized system	2014

### Governing structures

Centralized or decentralized immigration authority	Centralized or decentralized immigration authority	Observation Date
	Centralized immigration authority	2014

### Institutions responsible for immigration detention

Custodial authority	Agency	Ministry	Ministry Typology	Observation Date
	General Security Office	Ministry of Interior	Internal or Public Security	2013
	General Security	Ministry of Interior	Interior or Home Affairs	2010

### Institutions responsible for immigration detention

Apprehending authorities	Name	Agency	Ministry	Observation Date
	General Security Office	Law enforcement, border control and national security	Ministry of Interior (Home Affairs)	2014



Institutions responsible for immigration detention																
Detention Facility Management	Entity Name		Entity Type		Observation Date											
	General Security Office		Governmental		2013											
	Internal Security Forces		Governmental		2013											
	General Security		Governmental		2010											
	Prison Division of the Lebanese Gendarmerie		Governmental		2010											
	central Prison's Management		Governmental		2010											
	Prison Division of the Lebanese Gendarmerie		Governmental		2010											
	Romieh central Prison's Management		Governmental		2010											
	entral Prison's Management		Governmental		2010											
Central Prison's Management		Governmental		2010												
Institutions responsible for immigration detention																
Formally designated detention estate?	Formally designated immigration detention estate?				Types of officially designated detention centres				Observation Date							
	No								2013							
Institutions responsible for immigration detention																
Types of detention facilities used in practice	Immigration detention centre (Administrative)	Immigration field office (Administrative)	Transit centre (Administrative)	Reception centre (Administrative)	Offshore detention centre (Administrative)	Hospital (Administrative)	Border guard (Administrative)	Police station (Criminal)	National penitentiary (Criminal)	Local prison (Criminal)	Juvenile detention centre (Criminal)	Informal camp (Ad hoc)	Immigration detention centre (Ad hoc)	Surge facility (Ad hoc)	Observation Date	
																2015 2013
Detention monitoring institutions																
Authorized monitoring institutions	Institution				Institution Type				Observation Date							
	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)				International or Regional Bodies (IRBs)				2013							
	Caritas Lebanon				Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)				2013							
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)				International or Regional Bodies (IRBs)				2011								
Detention monitoring institutions																
Do NGOs carry out visits?	Do NGOs regularly carry our visits?				Observation Date											
	Yes				2014											
Detention monitoring institutions																
Do NGOs publish reports on immigration detention?	Do NGOs publish reports on immigration detention?				Observation Date											
	Yes				2013											
Detention monitoring institutions																
Do IRBs publicly report their findings from inspections?	Do IRBs publicly report their findings from detention inspections?				Observation Date											
	No				2013											

## Outsourcing and privatisation

	Name of entity	Type of entity	Detainee transport	Food services	Health care	Social services	Laundry services	Legal counselling	Management	Owner of detention facility	Recreation	Security	Telephone service	Translation services	Observation Date
Detention contractors and other non-state entities	Families	Not for profit													2013
	NGOs	Not for profit													2013

## Foreign sources of funding for detention operations

Does the country receive external sources of funding?	Benefitted from non-state funding sources?	Observation Date
	Yes	2016

## Foreign sources of funding for detention operations

Description of foreign assistance	Description of non-state assistance	Observation Date
	<p>“In 2016, a total of 14 EU-funded projects were implemented to tackle pressing human rights issues relating to detention conditions, the fight against torture and all forms of ill-treatment, access to legal aid and a fair trial, countering violent extremist and the right to vote, amongst others.” (Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon, Press Release, 08 June 2017)</p>	2016

More information about immigration detention in Lebanon is available at the website of the Global Detention Project  
[www.globaldetentionproject.org](http://www.globaldetentionproject.org)

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