



# LESOTHO



## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

King LETSIE III

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Thomas Motsoahae THABANE

### Government Type

parliamentary constitutional monarchy

### Capital

Maseru

### Legislature

bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (33 seats) and the National Assembly (120 seats)

### Judiciary

Court of Appeal (consists of the court president, and number of justices set by Parliament); High Court (consists of the chief justice and number of puisne judges set by Parliament)

### Ambassador to US

Ambassador Sankatana Gabriel MAJA

### US Ambassador

Ambassador Rebecca E. GONZALES

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 30,355 sq km

Land: 30,355 sq km

Water: 0 sq km

### Climate

temperate; cool to cold, dry winters; hot, wet summers

### Natural Resources

water, agricultural and grazing land, diamonds, sand, clay, building stone

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

small, mountainous, and completely landlocked by South Africa; depends on a narrow economic base of textile manufacturing, agriculture, remittances, and regional customs revenue

### GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$6.66 billion (2017 est.)

### GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$3,300 (2017 est.)

### Exports

\$1.03 billion (2017 est.)

partners: South Africa 57%, US 33.5% (2017)

### Imports

\$1.83 billion (2017 est.)

partners: South Africa 87.2% (2017)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

2 million (July 2020 est.)

### Population Growth

0.16% (2020 est.)

### Ethnicity

Sotho 99.7%, Europeans, Asians, other 0.3%

### Language

Sesotho (official) (southern Sotho), English (official), Zulu, Xhosa

### Religion

Protestant 47.8% (Pentecostal 23.1%, Lesotho Evangelical 17.3%, Anglican 7.4%), Roman Catholic 39.3%, other Christian 9.1%, non-Christian 1.4%, none 2.3% (2014 est.)

### Urbanization

urban population: 29% of total population (2020)

rate of urbanization: 2.83% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)

### Literacy

79.4% (2015)

