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# 1,100 LEBANESE MEN AND WOMEN REGAIN CITIZENSHIP



Nine Sessions, Forty Laws  
**Assessing the Performance of  
Lebanon's Parliament in 2025**

Evolution of the Lebanese Electorate  
2009-2015:  
**An Increase of 833,000 Voters**

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# A Straw Nation\*

By Jawad N. Adra



This article was published in The Monthly editorial, issue no. 62- September 2007

"I will not marry but a Maronite", said my colleague upon hearing that the number of Maronites is decreasing in Lebanon. "We, Shia'a, are many. Nothing can scare us," another colleague replied.

"Look at A'akkar", a Sunni friend said, "we, too, form a large community".

These spontaneous and "procreative" reactions are self-explanatory.

It is worth noting that a poll conducted by Information International in February 2007 showed a drop in the percentage of Lebanese who support civil marriage from 64.5% in 1999 to 30.2%.

Today, we are witnessing the end of Lebanon as we know it. Demographics give us the proof: a country, which was ruled by Druze and Maronite "zu'ama" in the 19th century and by an arrangement between Sunni and Maronite zu'ama in the 20th century, is now at a crossroads.

Sunni and Shia'a rulers are now bracing themselves for its leadership.

It is true that Shia'a will represent 44.8% and Sunni 36.6% and Maronites less than 6.9% of the total population in 2081 or so, but history shows us that everyone has lost and the same fate awaits the new players.

The power game in the confessional system determines each player's next move.

After Independence in 1943, Maronite zu'ama attracted Christians and naturalized them, while denying "Lebanese Muslims" citizenship. After the Ta'if Accord, the formula was reversed.

In the 1950s, Imam Moussa as-Sadr was "attracted" to Lebanon in coordination with the Shah to counter the strong Sunni leadership supported by Gamal

Abdel-Nasser. After Ta'if, new terminologies were adopted in Lebanon, such as "Ahl al-Sunna" (Sunni people), and new Sunni players and movements were created to counter the strong Shia'a leadership.

Lebanon's "coexistence" (or Ta'ayoush) formula between confessions has been the source of war, and now its architects – the Maronite leaders - have paid and are paying the ultimate price.

Lebanon's cultural diversity could have been richer and more sustainable had it not been for the shortsightedness of its confessional zu'ama and foreign interference. An ageing society, emigration, low productivity, stagnant families... What kind of plans did we set to rescue our country? Schemes by zu'ama and warlords are not the answer.

Two lessons are to be considered: (1) fighting demographics by genocides and displacement is not working. For example, Israel's policy of displacing populations and attracting Jews from overseas is doomed; and (2) confessions are not homogeneous communities, as elections have shown in Matn.

Therefore, cantonization will fail for many reasons, not just demographic.

The only solution for all Lebanese is separation of religion and State; otherwise we would be left with a straw nation.

Lebanon as we know it is over. A new Lebanon is possible.

\* A straw man argument is a misleading or unsound argument based on misrepresentation of an opponent's position. In this context, straw nation means a nation built on fallacies, where each confession blames and attacks the other and alliances are forged on a temporary basis to counter opponents.



# Leader





# **1,100 LEBANESE MEN AND WOMEN REGAIN CITIZENSHIP**

On 26 November 2025, the implementation of Law No. 41 dated 24 November 2015 (specifying the conditions for the restoration of Lebanese nationality) came to an end. Clause stated: “The right to request the restoration of Lebanese nationality, as stipulated in Clause 2 of this law, is forfeited if those concerned do not submit their applications within ten years from the date this law comes into force.” A review of the very small number of people who actually restored their Lebanese nationality shows that the goal of this law was not achieved. Its purpose had been to enable hundreds of thousands of Lebanese descendants to regain their nationality, most of whom were expected to be Christians, since most of the Lebanese diaspora is Christian. This was seen as a possible way to restore some demographic balance after the numbers had shifted in favor of Muslims in recent decades.

## Restoration of Nationality Law: Will It Restore Sectarian Balance?

The demand that descendants of Lebanese emigrants who lost their nationality be allowed to regain it became a major issue for Christian political and religious forces. They viewed it as a tool that could help restore the sectarian balance between Muslims and Christians, a balance that had shifted significantly over the past decades due to the increase in the Muslim population compared that of Christians. Muslims are currently estimated at 64 percent versus 36 percent for Christians, whereas in the 1932 census Christians made up 65 percent and Muslims 35 percent. This demand was fulfilled with the passage of Law No. 41 on 24 November 2015.

### What the Bill Says

The bill consists of a single article stating that any person who meets the specified conditions has the right to request the restoration of Lebanese nationality if his name or the name of one of his male ancestors (father or grandfather) or his male relatives on the paternal side up to the second degree appears in the census records conducted after the proclamation of Greater Lebanon. These include the 1921–1924 resident and emigrant registers, and the 1932 emigrant register (the 1932 census being the first and last full population census in Lebanon). These records are held by the Civil Status Directorate at the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities. Those listed must not have exercised the right to choose Lebanese nationality, and their names must not appear as having explicitly or implicitly chosen the nationality of any state that separated from the Ottoman Empire (Syria, Palestine, etc.).

### Application Procedure

The application, along with supporting documents (mainly old civil status registers), may be submitted either to the Directorate General of Civil Status or through the embassies and consulates via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants. The Directorate General of Civil Status refers the application within two months to the Directorate General of General Security, which prepares its report within a maximum of four months. Afterwards, the Directorate General of Civil Status prepares its own report within four months and submits it to the Minister of Interior and Municipalities, who forwards it within one month to a specialized committee (composed of three members: a judge who serves as chair, the Director General of Civil Status, and the Director General of Emigrants). This committee studies the files referred by the Minister of Interior, makes decisions by majority vote, and sends them back to the minister within three months. The committee's decisions may be appealed before the Court of Appeal. In total, the maximum time for processing an application is fourteen months. Those concerned must submit their applications within ten years from the date the law took effect, meaning the law expires on 24 November 2025.

### Data

The precise number of people eligible under this law, their sectarian and regional distribution, and the number of those actually interested in restoring Lebanese nationality are unknown. However, circulating figures suggest that more than three million people may be eligible. Yet the number of those who actually wish to restore their nationality may not exceed 250 to 300 thousand, the majority of them Christians, especially given the campaigns organized by the Maronite Church and the Maronite Foundation in the World to reach out to them and encourage them to apply.

Looking back at the 1932 census results (Table 1), Lebanon's population at the time was 1,046,154 people, of whom 252,768 were living abroad. The children and grandchildren of these emigrants are the primary group targeted by the law. According to this census, Christians made up 85 percent of emigrants, meaning that the majority of those eligible under the current law are Christians.

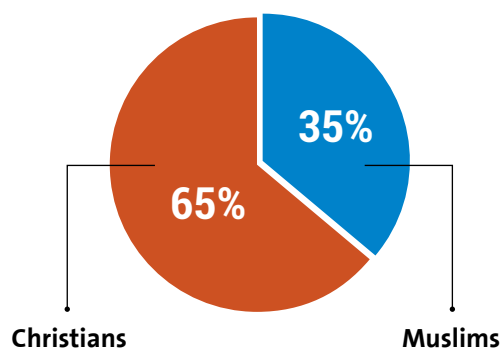
**Table 1: Numbers of Lebanese according to the 1932 census and their distribution by sect and between residents and emigrants.**

Sect	Number of Residents	Emigrated to other countries	Total
Maronite	227,800	123,397	351,197
Greek Orthodox	77,312	56,031	133,343
Greek Catholic	46,709	29,627	76,336
Armenian Orthodox	26,102	1,970	28,072
Armenian Catholic	5,980	454	6,434
Syriac Orthodox	2,723	97	2,820
Syriac Catholic	2,803	312	3,115
Protestant	1,869	2,731	4,600
Chaldean Orthodox and Chaldean Catholic	738	6	744
Other Christian minorities	11,293	1,263	12,556
<b>Total Christians</b>	<b>403,329</b>	<b>215,888</b>	<b>619,217</b>
Sunni	178,100	16,205	194,305
Shia	155,035	11,510	166,545
Druze	53,334	8,750	62,084
<b>Total Muslims</b>	<b>386,469</b>	<b>36,465</b>	<b>422,934</b>
Jewish	3,588	415	4,003
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>793,386</b>	<b>252,768</b>	<b>1,046,154</b>

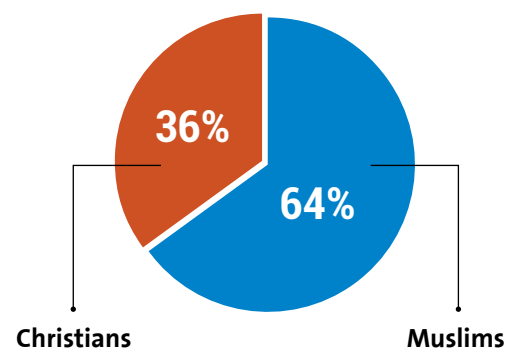
Source: Official census conducted in 1932.

“ Looking back at the 1932 census results, the Christians made up 85 percent of emigrants ”

#### Percentages According to the 1932 Census



#### Current Percentages



## Those who Regained Nationality under Law No. 41/2015.

Law No. 41 on the Restoration of Lebanese Nationality was passed on 24 November 2015. From that date until expiry in November 2025, a total of 523 decrees were issued allowing 943 people to regain their Lebanese nationality. (There are also 92 decrees issued during the presidential vacuum that were not published in the Official Gazette and include the names of 157 people, but these decrees and names are not included in this study.)

### Those who regained their nationality are distributed as follows:

**By sect:** 847 Christians and 96 Muslims, meaning Christians make up 90 percent and Muslims 10 percent.

**By gender:** 625 males (66 percent) and 318 females (34 percent).

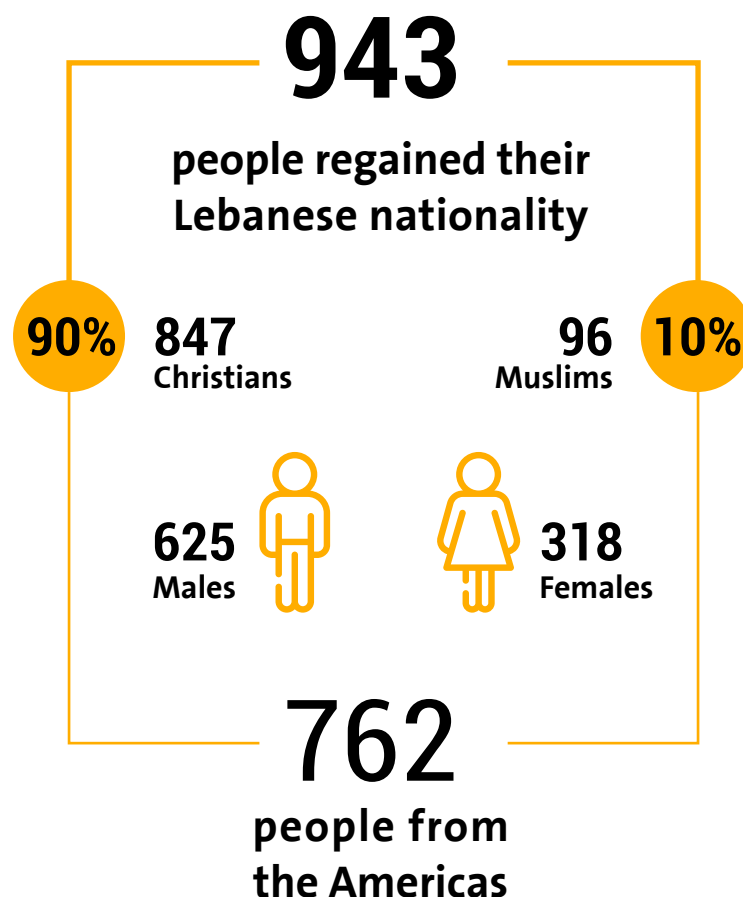
**By place of application:** 38 people submitted their applications in Lebanon, while the majority, 905 people, applied through Lebanese embassies and consulates abroad.

### Law No. 41 on the Restoration of Lebanese Nationality

From **November 24, 2015** until expiry in **November 2025**

A total of 523 decrees were issued allowing 943 people to regain their Lebanese nationality.

(There are also 92 decrees issued during the presidential vacuum that were not published in the Official Gazette and include the names of 157 people, but these decrees and names are not included in this study.)

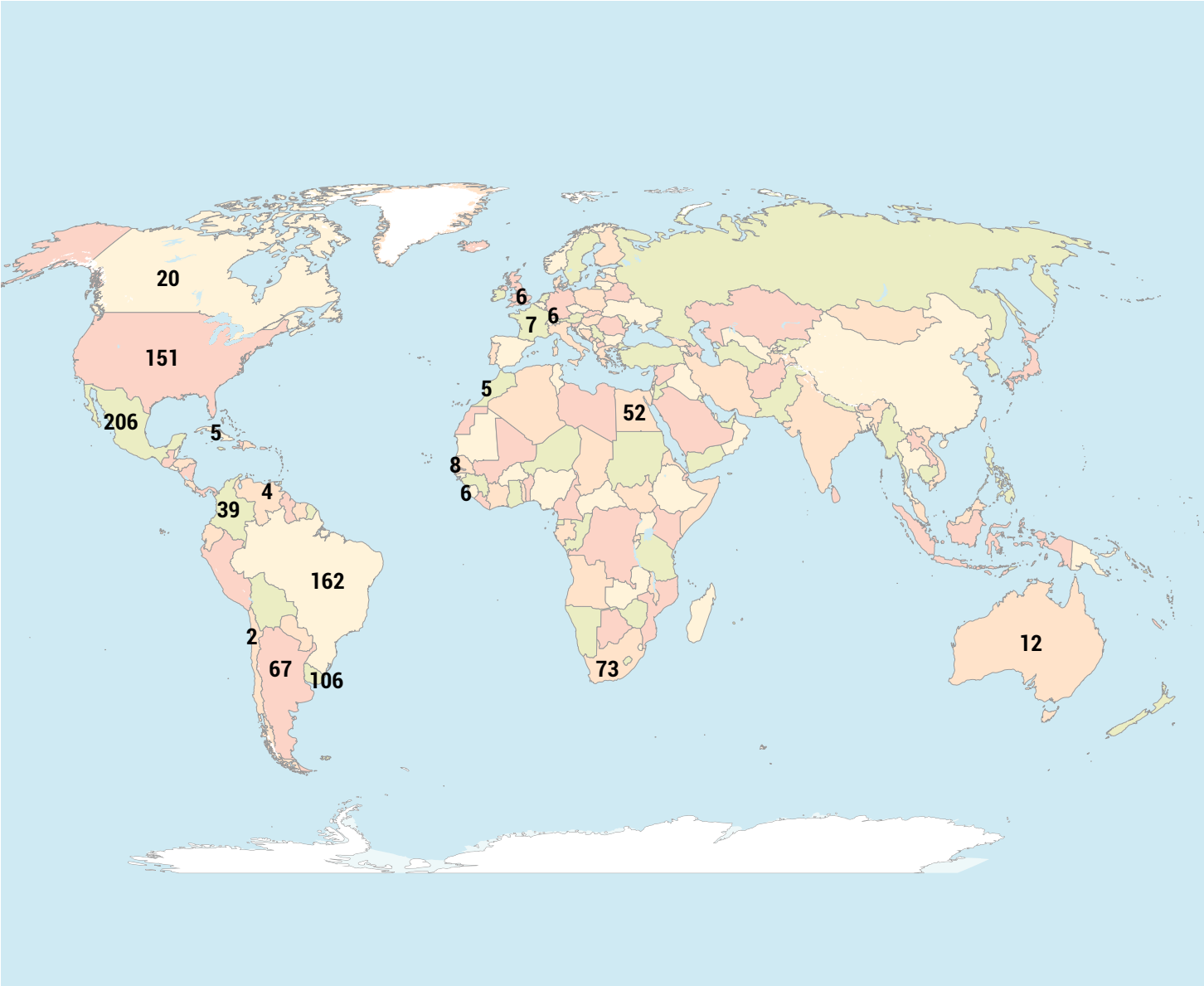




And by current nationality:

Mexican	206
Brazilian	162
American	151
Uruguayan	106
South African	73
Argentinian	67
Egyptian	52
Colombian	39
Australian	12
Canadian	20

Senegalese	8
Moroccan	5
Sierra Leonean	6
French	7
Cuban	5
British	6
Chilean	2
Swiss	6
Venezuelan	4



Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Siham Mikhail Bazi	American	Consulate in New York	June 2017
Juan Yusco Edmond Al-Maoushi	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	June 2017
Miria Khalil Rahhal	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	June 2017
Alfredo and Khalil Rahhal	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	June 2017
Muneera Mohammad Ali Al-Sayyid	American	Consulate in Detroit	June 2017
Washington Baldemar Kmeid and his children Shener, Sheila, Jorge Miguel	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	June 2017
José Carlos Edmond Al-Maoushi	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	June 2017
Lissy Ramzi Al-Sarraf	Cuban	Lebanese Embassy in Cuba	June 2017
Ricardo Nassib Ricardo Al-Khoury	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	June 2017
Elias Anthony James Qassouf	American	—	June 2017
Diego Rodrigo Nassib Ricardo Al-Khoury	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	June 2017
James Joseph Elias Qassouf and his children Abitail, Jacqueline, Maryam, James, Amina	American	—	June 2017
Nazih Mikhail Khazaqa	American	Consulate in New York	May 2017
Sonia Clara José Sokkar	Argentine	—	May 2017
Concepción Ojeina Al-Sha'lan	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	May 2017
Julio Suleiman Roufai and his children Maria-José-Maria Florencia	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	May 2017
Ricardo Fernando Fouad Al-Shamlani	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	May 2017
Ricardo William Andraous	Brazilian	Consulate in São Paulo	May 2017
Andrea Macedo Hamilton Abdo and her siblings Alan Macedo, Marcela Macedo, Luciana Macedo Abdo	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	29 March 2019
Sergio Luci José Mkrazel	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	29 March 2019
Ricardo Victor Juan Carlos Salameh and his children Joaquín Darío, Silvia Patricia, Mariana, Juan Pablo	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	29 March 2019
Daoud Hamad Salloum and his daughter Alan Xavier	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	29 March 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Adelaide Antonio Ibrahim	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	29 March 2019
Jorge Ramon Nassim Elias Abou Shabke and his children Mariana Harissa, Jorge Alberto, Nassim Elias	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	29 March 2019
Marie Nazira Joseph John Abou Shabke	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	29 March 2019
Genevieve Jerji Al-Brens Antonius Abou Shabke	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	29 March 2019
Maria Ester Jirjis Mikhail Jirjis	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	30 April 2019
Janette Elias Ayoub	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	30 April 2019
Peter John Salloum	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	30 April 2019
Lucy George David Baroud	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	30 April 2019
José Neto Miguel Qadri	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	30 April 2019
Daniel David Najib Leesha	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	30 April 2019
Felipe De Jesús Luis Oueida	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 April 2019
David Joseph Nasri Pierre Jacques Fakhoury	French	Lebanese Embassy in Kinshasa	30 April 2019
Anthony Kevin Desmond and Thomas Al-Qai'i and his children Adam Saad, Judy Lynn	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	30 April 2019
Gerald Joseph Nohra	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	30 April 2019
Naeem José Federico Massoud and his son Naeem Saeed	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	30 April 2019
José Andraous Nasr and his son Andrés	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Bogotá	30 April 2019
Desmod Thomas Maroun Al-Kaai and his children Gary Anthony and Lee Ann Josephine	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	30 April 2019
Wadih Naeem Al-Ammar and his children Anwar Alexis and Melissa Adriana	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 April 2019
Joseph Emil Amin Kansou and his children Joseph Rafic, Robert Amin, Jacqueline Attieh	American	Directorate General of Personal Status	30 April 2019
Jamal Ali Siyaj and his adult daughters Susan, Catherine, Rachel, Lisa, Jessica	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	30 April 2019
Oscar Miguel Shadiac, his father Bishara, and his children Karim Francisco and Ana Cristina	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	30 April 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Sarah Ibrahim Khalil Shibl Badawi	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	3 May 2019
Paul Elie Khalil Jabbour	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	3 May 2019
Rita Ibrahim Khalil Ibrahim Shibl Badawi	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	3 May 2019
Youssef Boulos Sassin and his children Nardeen and Freddy	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	3 May 2019
Marise Michel Wardini	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Cairo	3 May 2019
Majdi Elias Najib Shimali	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	17 May 2019
Luis Fernando Naïf Qari	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	17 May 2019
Aileen Ann Raymond Thomas Mansour	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	17 May 2019
Elizabeth Marie Raymond Thomas Mansour	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	17 May 2019
Juan Manuel Omar Julio Zeitoun	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	17 May 2019
Gabriel Martini Gabriel José Saliba and his minor children Azuthina, Clementina, Alfonso	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	17 May 2019
Michael Junior Michael Khoury and his daughter Josephine Michel	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	17 May 2019
Juan José Tanios El-Hawa and his children Juan José and Jamal	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	17 May 2019
Hussein Mahmoud Karim and his children Mohammad, Samir, Radwan	Senegalese	Directorate General of Personal Status	17 May 2019
Elias Tawfiq Saadeh and his adult children Elias, Philippe, Edouard Saadeh, Michel Arz Saadeh	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	17 May 2019
Pierre Jean Alberts Antonius Abou Shabkeh and his adult children Duvon Jean and Justin Jared	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	17 May 2019
Ibrahim Elias Classi and his children Gabriel and Isabella	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	17 May 2019
Jorge Jorge Rahhal and his children Ahmed and Saúl	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	17 May 2019
Mohammad Riyad Badr Al-Din and his children Fahd, Mohammad Amin, Karim, Riad	Moroccan	Lebanese Embassy in Morocco	17 May 2019
Freddy Mounir Shimali	French	Directorate General of Personal Status	17 May 2019



Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Peter Daniel Norman Rahhal	American	Lebanese Embassy in Washington	17 May 2019
Wilson David Neto Luciano Al-Ashqar	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	17 May 2019
Joanne Marie Norman Sawaya	Canadian	Lebanese Consulate General in Montreal	17 May 2019
Leonard Habib Nakhleh Ayoub	Canadian	Lebanese Consulate General in Montreal	17 May 2019
Angela Ann Victor Malik and her siblings George Salim and Georgina Kay Malik	Australian	Lebanese Consulate General in Sydney	17 May 2019
Khalil Alan Abdel Halim Zain	French	Lebanese Embassy in Germany	17 May 2019
Mauro Khalil and his son Michel	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	17 May 2019
Jorge César Faroun Shaoul	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	17 May 2019
Avenir Melhem Ibrahim Srouf and his adult children Antonio Gabriel and Claudio Edouard	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	17 May 2019
Sonia Joe Robert Ghalmieh	American	Lebanese Embassy in Washington	17 May 2019
Raúl Henrique Issa Fares	Chilean	Lebanese Embassy in Santiago	17 May 2019
Alexander Elias Klass and his children Daniela and Philippe Elias	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	17 May 2019
Joyce Marie Milad Mansour	American	Lebanese Embassy in Paris	17 May 2019
George Raif Zelof	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	17 May 2019
Leonardo Enrique George Zelof	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	17 May 2019
Susana Anabella Nehme Chahoud and her sister Rosa Anahí Nehme Chhoud	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	17 May 2019
Samir Wadih Kari and his son Carlos Eduardo	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	17 May 2017
Alexandre Melhem Al-Bawwab	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	17 May 2019
John Daoud Raymond Thomas Mansour	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	17 May 2019
Elias Antonio Elias Al-Ammion and his children Elias Antonio, Maria Gabriela, Maria Alejandra	Mexican	Lebanese Consulate General in Mexico	17 May 2019
Leandro Tavares Dario Nassif Wahbeh	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	17 May 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Guillermo Tobías Younes	Mexican	Lebanese Consulate General in Mexico	17 May 2019
Marie Antoine Saab	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	21 June 2019
Roberto Edmond Khoury	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	21 June 2019
Manal Amin Al-Reis	Egyptian	Lebanese Embassy in Egypt	21 June 2014
Gloria Estela Klelio Mahfoud	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	21 June 2019
Miguel Ángel Nassib Ricardo Khoury	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	21 June 2019
Darren Anthony John Patrick Joseph	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	21 June 2019
Hassan Jacinto Delgado Abdullah	Cuban	Directorate General of Personal Status	21 June 2019
Grant Anthony Terrence Joseph	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	21 June 2019
Arsenio Abd El-Rassoul Moussa	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	21 June 2019
Richard Joseph George Daniel Barbari	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	21 June 2019
Adba Fouad Al-Musharrafieh	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	21 June 2019
Fabiano Tanous José Bishara	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	21 June 2019
George Bishara Haddad and his brother Karam Bishara Haddad	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	21 June 2019
Salim Rizk Gilson Qarouni and his children, adult Gilson and minor Khalil	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	21 June 2019
Jesus Rogelio Ghalloub Al-Maqdisi and his children Jesus Raúl, Maria Teresa, Patricia Eugenia, Marta Maria, Ana Cristina, Jorge Rafael, Amira and Marcela Karima	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	21 June 2019
Nicole Renée Edouard Joseph	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	21 June 2019
Alberto Enrique Alberto Nader	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	21 June 2019
Karim Antoine Saab	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	21 June 2019
Marie Joseph Badih John Rizk	Australian	Lebanese Embassy in Australia	21 June 2019
Jonathan Scott Joseph Bou Zeid	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	21 June 2019
Paulo Daniel Eduardo Farah	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	21 June 2016

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
David Frederic Saud and his children Hassan Engelhardt and Saeed Herman	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Bogotá	21 June 2016
Michael Peter Joseph Assad and his children Monica Ann, Marie Ann, Peter Michael, Genevieve Marie, and Cecilia John	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	21 June 2016
Ruben Garcia and his children Andrea, Ruben, and Gonzalo	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	21 June 2019
Alan John Kamel Khoury and his children Kate Derek and Lara Jane	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	21 June 2019
Feliciano Manuel Manuel Abdullah and his son Salvador	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	21 June 2019
Gerard Michael James Joseph Solomon Shallita and his brother Desmond George James Joseph Solomon Shallita and his children Gerard Michael Lloyd Daniel, James Desmond, and Shannon Kate	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	21 June 2019
Ramon Omar Gennaro Amado Tarabey and his son Ariel Sebastian Tarabey, and Ramon Omar's siblings Imelda Del Carmen and Marcelino Fabian Tarabey	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	21 June 2019
Lawrence Elias Anthony Felix Al-Shimali and his sisters Vanessa Ann Anthony Felix Al-Shimali and Karen Victoria Anthony Felix Al-Shimali	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	21 June 2019
Pablo Lucie Omar Orlando Saadeh and his sister Florencia Isabel Saadeh	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	21 June 2019
Mounir Salim Youssef Estephan and his children Rafiq and Rami Raouf	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	21 June 2019
Raúl Edison Carlos César Osta and his siblings Gabriel Carlos César Osta, Carlos Alfredo Carlos César Osta, Gretel Maria Carlos César Osta, and Javier Ernesto Carlos César Osta	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	21 June 2019
Armando José Armando Awad and Felipe Alfredo Felipe Awad	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	21 June 2019
Ángel Fabián Federico Saud and his son Gonzalo Farid	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	21 June 2019
Aileen Javier Ernesto Osta and her siblings Milay Javier Ernesto Osta and Khalil Javier Ernesto Osta	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	21 June 2019
Lilian José Antonio Osta and her sister Dinora José Antonio Osta	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	21 June 2019
George Salim Nehme and his children Joelle, Joe, Joanna, and Melissa	Canadian	Lebanese Consulate General in Montreal	21 June 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Daniel Newton Daher	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	21 June 2019
Samuel Nasrallah Habib Nassour	American	Directorate General of Personal Status	21 June 2019
Marie Louise Elias Abboud	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	21 June 2019
Sharif Nassar Iliya	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	21 June 2019
Jorge Antonio Miguel Berge	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	21 June 2019
Ali Jacinto Delgado Rizk	Mexican	Directorate General of Personal Status	21 June 2019
Diane Susan Nicolas Nassim Chamas	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Los Angeles	21 June 2019
Wahib Stefano Federico Saoud	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	21 June 2019
Simon Morris Semaan Martinus	American	Directorate General of Personal Status	21 June 2019
Antoine Edgar Saab	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	21 June 2019
Richard Anthony Youssef Joseph and his children Mark Anthony, Gavin John, and Lauren Ann	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	21 June 2019
Carlos Cesar Najib Youssef Osta and his son Gustavo Amilcar and Gustavo's sons Bruno and Dimas	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	21 June 2019
Ludi Jamile Raúl Edison Osta and her brothers Matias Najib Raúl Edison Osta and Pablo Cesar Raúl Edison Osta	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	21 June 2019
Sharon Ann Romeo Aboud and her siblings Morning Mary Damian Anthony Zane Andrew Aboud	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	21 June 2019
Antonio Antonio Mansour Jr. and his brother Alexander Mansour	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	21 June 2019
Lucy Gerardo Louis El Amyouni and her children Christopher and Marlene Christian	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	21 June 2019
Maria Teresa Abdel Fattah Amir	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	24 June 2019
Nassim Elias Elias Abu Shabkeh and his daughter Salima Del Carmen	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	24 June 2019
Miguel Sassine Bargy and his daughter Gabriela	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	24 June 2019
Alejandro Hassib Nassib Abou Mourad and his daughter Leslie Miria	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	24 June 2019



Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Colin Michael Rizk Rizk and his children Christian Peter Sebastian John his minor son Oliver Michael and his brother Peter Reginald Rizk Rizk	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	24 June 2019
Haidar Moussa Haidar and his children Kevin and Sarah	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	24 June 2019
Elias José Nassim Elias Abu Shabkeh and his children Miguel Elias and Alejandro Elias	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	24 June 2019
Pedro George Hanna Nader and his children Alexander George and Giselle Antunes	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	24 June 2019
Elias Neto Fouad Samara and his children Gabriel Stephanie and Lara	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	24 June 2019
Richard Joe Philip Joseph and his children Gabriella Marie, Stephanie Nicole, and Julia Michelle	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	24 June 2019
Roberto Sassine Al Barji and his children Cecilia Rosa Margarita and Roberto	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	24 June 2019
Julio Cesar Julio Najib Trabey and his children Maria Gladys Orlando Najib	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	24 June 2019
Jorge Gerges Garcia	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	24 June 2019
Roxana Sandra José Raad	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	24 June 2019
Bishara Issa Al Haddad	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	24 June 2019
Andrea Aparecida Vicente Al Sisi	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	24 June 2019
Leonardo Nassib Ricardo Al Khoury	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	24 June 2019
Rita George Sassin	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	24 June 2019
Paul George Sassin	Egyptian	Lebanese Consulate General in Alexandria	24 June 2019
Gibran Tawfiq Majdalani	Egyptian	Egyptian Embassy in Greece	24 June 2019
Andrew James Joseph Anthony	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	24 June 2019
Michael Anthony Michael Herbert Richa	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	24 June 2019
Felipe José Michel Issa	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	24 June 2019
Habib Habib El Bacha'iani	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	24 June 2019
Ibrahim Michel Al Nems	Brazilian	Consulate	24 June 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Khalil Heikal Paulo Eduardo Abou Chaya	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in São Paulo	24 June 2019
Marius Saba Jose Tanous	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	24 June 2019
Denise John Genest	Canadian	Lebanese Consulate General in Montreal	24 June 2019
Antoine Michel Elias Haddad	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Michel Antoine Haddad	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Nadia Elias Aboud	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Nabil Elias Aboud	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Josephine Elias Aboud	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Amilcar Elieto Osvaldo Mejir	Argentine	Embassy in Argentina	2 July 2019
Jean Pierre George El Khabbaz	French	Embassy in France	2 July 2019
Samir Youssef Estphan	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Shereen Samir Estphan	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Samuel Clem George	American	Embassy in Washington	2 July 2019
Pablo Manuel Jarjoura	Argentine	Embassy in Argentina	2 July 2019
Anna Cristina Philip Aboud	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	2 July 2019
Nelson Philip Aboud	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	2 July 2019
Gustavo Adolfo Maroun	Colombian	Embassy in Bogotá	2 July 2019
Rose Samir Estephan	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Steven Christopher George	American	Embassy in Washington	2 July 2019
Marie Eskandar Salman	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Karim Antoine Khalil Antoine	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Lamia Amin El Reiss	Egyptian	Embassy in Egypt	2 July 2019
Pedro Luciano Al Achkar	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	2 July 2019
George Boulos Sassin	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	2 July 2019
Maria Heloisa Elias Fares Abdallah	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	2 July 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Marc Sami Farha	Swiss	Embassy in Bern	2 July 2019
Tawfic Hammoud Kamah	American	Directorate General of Personal Status in Lebanon	2 July 2019
Ana Virginia Juan Quiroz	Argentine	Embassy in Argentina	2 July 2019
Rosana Miguel Cadri	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	2 July 2019
Alfred Sam Farha his father Alfred Sami and his children Milis William and Lucy Raffaella	Swiss	Lebanese Embassy in Bern	2 July 2019
Rafic Khair Massoud Youssef and his children Rola and Ramez and Mr. Qasid Khair Massoud Youssef and his children Hanna Paul Rita	Egyptian	Embassy in Cairo	2 July 2019
George Joseph Karim and his children Steven George David Thomas Christina Marie	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	2 July 2019
Alberto Tadio Fayad Bahiri and his children Alberto and Federico	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Bogotá	2 July 2019
Khaled Antoine Abou Talea and his children Rami and Regina	Egyptian	Lebanese Embassy in Cairo	2 July 2019
Carlos Emilio Jorge Qantar and his daughters Elio Nora and Maria Yasmin	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	2 July 2019
Tarek Paulo Miguel Saade and his sister Jihan Paulo Miguel Saade	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	2 July 2019
Marc David Khalil William Joseph Lahoud and his brothers Danny Patrick Khalil William Joseph Lahoud Russell John Khalil William Joseph Lahoud Brian William Khalil William Joseph Lahoud and Marc's sons Robert Anthony and Matthew William	South African	Embassy in South Africa	2 July 2019
Marcelo Nassif El Reiss	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	16 July 2019
Nada Antonius Hanna Lahoud	American	Consulate General in Detroit	16 July 2019
Elizabeth Eskandar Habib	American	Consulate General in Detroit	16 July 2019
Greg Michael Alfred Haboush	American	Consulate General in Detroit	16 July 2019
Adonis Cesar Hatem Nakhle	French	Lebanese Embassy in Paris	16 July 2019
Alejandro Qassem Khair El Din	Argentine	Embassy in Argentina	16 July 2019
Peter Anthony Maurice Khoury	Canadian	Consulate General in Montreal	16 July 2019
Luciano Wilson Al Achkar	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	16 July 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Jacinto Mohammed Narciso Demkado	Cuban	Directorate General of Personal Status in Beirut	16 July 2019
Rachid Salim Jorge José Abi Shabaka	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	16 July 2019
Timothy Antoine Saade	American	Consulate General in Los Angeles	16 July 2019
Steven Anthony Jean Salloum	American	Consulate General in New York	16 July 2019
Antonio Roberto Adeeb El Shaqra	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	16 July 2019
George Toufic Majdalani	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	16 July 2019
Mona Toufic Majdalani	Egyptian	Consulate General in Alexandria	16 July 2019
Ivan Nassim Mathias (Matouk)	Brazilian	Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	16 July 2019
Joseph Roger Chebli	American	Consulate General in New York	16 July 2019
Alejandro Jmir Coria Alejandro Khair El Din	Argentine	Embassy in Argentina	16 July 2019
Oscar Edmond Beshara	Colombian	Embassy in Colombia	16 July 2019
Rose Mary Chafika Jean Salloum	American	Consulate General in New York	16 July 2019
David Gabriel Jean Salloum	American	Consulate General in New York	16 July 2019
Marie Louise Richard Tamer	American	Consulate General in New York	16 July 2019
Nader Hassan Baz	American	Consulate General in Detroit	16 July 2019
Joseph Louis Abou Akar and his children Rebecca and Louis	American	Directorate General of Personal Status in Beirut	16 July 2019
Christopher Robin Peter Assad Saade and his children Christopher Adoni and Laura Ann	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	16 July 2019
Ruben Georges Garcia and his daughter Margarita	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	16 July 2019
Julio Najib José María Tarbey and his sister Cyntia Ines José María Tarbey	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	16 July 2019
Jorge José Jorge Abi Shabaka and his children Anna Karima and José Jorge	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	16 July 2019
Erol Anthony Melhem Recha and his son Tamam	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	16 July 2019
Hector Ruben Garcia and his children Gabriela and Alejandro	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	16 July 2019
Jamil Junior Jamil Salloum	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	30 July 2019
Maria Belén Roberto Chidiac	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	30 July 2019



Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Maria Isabel Roberto Chidiac	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	30 July 2019
Habib Abdallah Damerji and his son Mohammed	British	Directorate General of Personal Status in Beirut	30 July 2019
Gustavo Antonio Roberto El Shaqra	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	30 July 2019
Anthony Edward Harvey Anthony Campbell	American	Embassy in Washington	30 July 2019
Jorge Juan Nicolas Moussa and his daughter Jessica	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
José Assad Jorge Rahal and his son Gibran	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Juan Felipe Alberto Nader	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	30 July 2019
Lucy Felipe Enrique Zeidan and her children Maria Angelica and Jessica and Tania and Lucy Omar	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Norma Helen Toufic El Hajj and her sisters Nadia Jane Toufic El Hajj and Sharon Sue Toufic El Hajj and Laura Ann Toufic El Hajj	American	Consulate General in Detroit	30 July 2019
Richard Njeil son of Khalil Asad Njeil Abu Hassan known as Charles Njeil	American	Consulate General in Los Angeles	30 July 2019
Judith Patricia Alfredo Khattar	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	30 July 2019
Emilio Gabriel José Carlos Herrero	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Jonathan Abi John Albert	American	Lebanese Embassy in Washington	30 July 2019
Diane Marie Joseph Younes and her brother Daniel Younes	American	Consulate General in Detroit	30 July 2019
Rodrigo Alves Sergio Faddoul	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	30 July 2019
Christopher George Nicolas Ronald Barbara	Canadian	Lebanese Embassy in Ottawa	30 July 2019
Haseeb Andrés Haseeb Abou Mourad	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Leila Ibrahim Rogero Mansour	Brazilian	Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	30 July 2019
Mario Ramón Zaarour and his daughter Ivonne	Mexican	Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Luis Alfredo Jesús Rouhana and his children Lucie Carlos and Pedro Hazael	Mexican	Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Federico Raúl José Aldo Younes	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	30 July 2019
Ángel Christian Patricio Haseeb Abou Mourad	Mexican	Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Jorge Ibrahim Najjar	Argentine	Embassy in Argentina	30 July 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
José Ricardo Elias Bou Nemer	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	30 July 2019
Jorge Abraham Abraham El Haddad and his children Jorge Abraham and Samir	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Paula Juan Enrique Francis	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Lawrence Luke Alberts Antonius Abi Shabka and his children Bianca Lee and Dean Luke	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	30 July 2019
Lauren Magdalena Henry Hanna Francis	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Maria Teresa Elizabeth Henry Hanna Francis	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Nevia Patricia José Raúl Atallah and her brother Raúl Marcel Atallah	Brazilian	Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	30 July 2019
Julio César Khalil Haddad	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	30 July 2019
Wadih Emil Shukri and his children Rami, Mina, and Andrew	Egyptian	Lebanese Embassy in Egypt	30 July 2019
José Jorge José Jorge Fakher	Uruguayan	Lebanese Embassy in Uruguay	30 July 2019
Malik Paul Massaad	American	Lebanese Embassy in Washington	30 July 2019
Antonio Hykel Elias Hykel Yacoub Sobrinho	Brazilian	Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	30 July 2019
Karina Liliana Elias Alberto Saoud	Colombian	Embassy in Colombia	30 July 2019
Ivonne Theresa Emil Shellhoub	Colombian	Embassy in Colombia	30 July 2019
Leila Mohammad El Hajj Atweh Naameh	Brazilian	Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	30 July 2019
José Edouard Henry Hanna Francis and his daughter Carla Valerie	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
José Manuel Manuel de Jesús Lahoud and his adult children Manuel Gibran, Nimer, Jamileh	Mexican	Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Graciela Patricia Henry Hanna Francis	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Maria Adela Alfredo Jammé	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	30 July 2019
Every Salvador Badir	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Daniela Gabriel Ricardo Naameh	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	30 July 2019
Omar Wilson Al Naqour	Brazilian	Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	30 July 2019
George Peter Jirjis Khoury	American	Consulate General in Detroit	30 July 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Paolo Shafiq Federico Saoud and his children Judith Beatriz, Jamileh Paula, Yazid Fares, Amira Susana	Colombian	Embassy in Colombia	30 July 2019
Felipe Jesús Pedro Guerra and his children Jesús, Shadia, Gibran, Majat Youssef	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
María Elena Elias Saliba	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	30 July 2019
Jawad George Yared Shoueiri	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	30 July 2019
Adela Guillermo Badro Francis	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
George William John Lotfi	Canadian	Consulate General in Montreal	30 July 2019
Tom Georges Elias Daher	Canadian	Directorate General of Personal Status in Beirut	30 July 2019
Ali Mohammad Moussa and his children Alan Louis and Alex Abbas	American	Consulate General in Detroit	30 July 2019
Louis Antonio Jr. Louis Antonio Nader	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	30 July 2019
Daniel Elias El Sidaoui	Canadian	Consulate General in Montreal	30 July 2019
Nabihah Abraham Al Haddad	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Richard James Mohieddine	American	Consulate General in Detroit	30 July 2019
Salvador Salvador Bdeir	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Oscar Alfonso Emile Nehme	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	30 July 2019
Gibran Jorge Abraham Al Haddad	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
John Patrick Jamil Joseph and his son Chad Jamesy	South African	Lebanese Embassy in South Africa	30 July 2019
Olga Yolanda Jorge Rahal	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Youssef Salim Nehme and his son Sam	Canadian	Consulate General in Montreal	30 July 2019
Elias Salim Nehme and his sons Christopher and Rodolfo	Canadian	Consulate General in Montreal	30 July 2019
Maria Alice Nelson El Zein	Brazilian	Consulate General in São Paulo	30 July 2019
Xavier Bernard Marie François Jacques Faraj and his son Cédric Jacques Henri Marie	French	Lebanese Embassy in France	30 July 2019
Gregory Tawfik Haddad and Antonio José Haddad	Venezuelan	Lebanese Embassy in Venezuela	30 July 2019
Nora Ibrahim Kosbato and her siblings Aida Nilda, Hilda Marta, Orlando Rubén	Argentine	Lebanese Embassy in Argentina	30 July 2019

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Fouad Elias Federico and his sons Samir Elias and Habib Youssef	Colombian	Lebanese Embassy in Colombia	30 July 2019
Mario Alberto José Alberto Salem and his children Mario Alberto, Carlos Eduardo, David Alejandro, and Francis Mariana	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Maria del Carmen Emilio Najib Bou Hassan	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico	30 July 2019
Jane Marie George Khoury and her sister Denise Sharifa Khoury	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	10 March 2020
James George Abou Rizk and his children Charles Thomas and Alia	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	10 March 2020
Jibrin John Joseph Suleiman and his children Christopher and Stephanie Marie Suleiman	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	10 March 2020
Miguel Miguel Saeed and his son Alejandro	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico City	10 March 2020
Edward George Georges Fares and his son Daniel	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	10 March 2020
Richard John Peter Khoury	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	10 March 2020
Samir Abdullah Charles Maroun Taweel	Brazilian	Lebanese Consulate General in Rio de Janeiro	10 March 2020
Joseph Donald Joseph Abbas	American	Lebanese Consulate General in New York	10 March 2020
Michael Junior Nakhleh Khoury and his son Andrew James	American	Lebanese Consulate General in Detroit	13 March 2020
Ojinbo Alberto Najib Abi Zeid	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico City	13 March 2020
Manuel Najib Abi Zeid	Mexican	Lebanese Embassy in Mexico City	13 March 2020
Jennifer Lynn Anthony Vincent Zaany and her brother Anthony Vincent Junior Zaany	American	Consulate General of Lebanon in Los Angeles	3 April 2020
Chad Edward Vincent Joseph	South African	Embassy of Lebanon in Pretoria	23 April 2020
Adir Amin Hanoush	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	23 April 2020
Carmen Beatriz Francis Karam and her siblings Juan Sebastian, Rodolfo Andrés, Fernando Javier, José Miguel, Eduardo Martin, Francis Roberto and Julio Diego Karam	Uruguayan	Embassy of Lebanon in Montevideo	10 July 2020
José Luis de Jesús Guillermo Badawi and his children Ramzi and Gilda Maria	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	10 July 2020
Pablo Estefan Domit Karam and his sisters Maria Ital and Carmen Amparo Karam	Uruguayan	Embassy of Lebanon in Montevideo	10 July 2020



Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Luisa Newton Daher	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 July 2020
Eduardo Newton Daher	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 July 2020
Susan Angel John Bou Akl	American	Embassy of Lebanon in Washington	30 July 2020
Samir Sadem Marib Faoul Abilis and his son Artur	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 July 2020
Antonio Bernardo Guillermo Badawi and his children Antonio and Desiree	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	30 July 2020
Mario Enrique Elias Karam and his siblings Silvia Olga and Luis Humberto Karam	Uruguayan	Embassy of Lebanon in Montevideo	30 July 2020
Gerardo Moussa Hanna Al Andari and his children Lilian, Lorena, Elvira Gerardo and Roberto	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	14 August 2020
Harold John Mansi and his daughters Catherine Elizabeth and Stephanie Margaret	American	Embassy of Lebanon in Washington	14 August 2020
Sarah Elizabeth Robert Saadallah	American	Consulate General of Lebanon in Los Angeles	14 August 2020
José Carlos Antonio Octavio José Herrero	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	30 November 2020
Stephanie Karen Marcio Ibrahim	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 November 2020
Gabriela João Paulo Assad Selim	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 November 2020
Artur Wilson Naimeh	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 November 2020
Edgar Selim Edgar Al Haddad	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 November 2020
João Paulo Assad Jamil Assad Selim	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 November 2020
Michel Ahmad Alfonso Abi Zeid	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	30 November 2020
Maria Dolores Gabriel José Khoury	Ecuadorian	Embassy of Lebanon in Bogotá	30 November 2020
Luisa Maria Mauricio Zakhia and her sister Leticia Rassi Zakhia	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Rio de Janeiro	30 November 2020
Ricardo Gabriel Tannouri and his son Henrique	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 November 2020
Octavio Fernando Octavio José Herrero and his son Fernando	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	30 November 2020

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Manuel Marcial Octavio José Herrero and his daughter Monserrat	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	30 November 2020
Gabriel Georges Fadel Tannouri and his daughter Christine	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	30 November 2020
Hussein José Shamout and his daughters Tamara and Nadia	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	30 November 2020
Alfredo Juan Alfredo Jorge Abou Halloun and his children Alfredo Selim, Alejandra Karina and Adrian Marcelo	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	30 November 2020
Luis Fernando Assad Lahoud and his children Fernando and Débora de Lourdes	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	19 December 2021
Mariza Miranda Odier Bishara Taameh	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Rio de Janeiro	19 December 2021
Steven Philip Stanley Brax	Australian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Melbourne	19 December 2021
Carlos Eduardo Edwar Estefan	Colombian	Embassy of Lebanon in Bogotá	19 December 2021
Julian James Tabsh and his children Maria Ofelia, Eliana Patricia, Gibran Khalil and Jalila Maria	Costa Rican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	19 December 2021
Emilio Georges El Haddad and his children Carmen del Socorro, Lizbet Yolanda and Yesenia Angelica	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	19 December 2021
Tarek Hassan Yehya and his daughter Hamida	Senegalese	Embassy of Lebanon in Dakar	19 December 2021
Farouk Hassan Yehya	Senegalese	Embassy of Lebanon in Dakar	19 December 2021
Roger Mitchell Mitchell Fares	American	Consulate General of Lebanon in New York	19 December 2021
Nadia José Shamout	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	19 December 2021
Miguel Antonio Miguel Abraham and his children Antonio and Raúl Adrián	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	19 December 2021
Rosenaide Waldemar Abrahao	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	22 December 2021
Alan Edward Adeeb Rassi	Canadian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Los Angeles	22 December 2021
Santiago Santiago Yamin and his child born out of wedlock Dalal	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	22 December 2021
Leila José Shamout	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	26 December 2021
Urias Rafael de Paulo Habeq and his daughter Stephanie	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	26 December 2021

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Amin Antonio Amin Zeidan	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	26 December 2021
Rosa María Youssef Fakhri	Venezuelan	Embassy of Lebanon in Caracas	26 December 2021
César Augusto Alberto Estefan	Colombian	Embassy of Lebanon in Bogotá	26 December 2021
Miguel Égide Mansour Khoury	Colombian	Embassy of Lebanon in Bogotá	19 February 2021
Ricardo Nelson Eduardo Maalouf	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	19 February 2021
Jamil Nezzé Anwar Tarbay and his brothers Eduardo Anwar and Guillermo Tarbay	Uruguayan	Embassy of Lebanon in Montevideo	19 February 2021
Irma Dalal Manuel Al Kweik and her siblings Maria Rosa, Susana Beatriz, Julio César and Estela Gladys Al Kweik	Uruguayan	Embassy of Lebanon in Montevideo	19 February 2021
Carlos Antonio José Carlos Antonio Herrero	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	19 February 2021
Luis Claudio Ghandour Najib Baz	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	5 March 2021
Isabel Aparecida Manes Al Barbarie	Brazilian	Embassy of Lebanon in Brasília	5 March 2021
Amadeo Luis João Jaara	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	5 March 2021
José Jamil José Abraão Ghadiyeh and his children Raquel and Ariel	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	5 March 2021
Flavio Henrique Valdocer Francisco Alves	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	5 March 2021
Octavio José Marcial Herrero and his daughter Margarita Mariana	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	5 March 2021
Gilberto Selim Jr Gilberto Selim Maalouf	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	5 March 2021
José Sadi José Sadi Fayad	Colombian	Embassy of Lebanon in Bogotá	5 March 2021
John Louis Bou Akl	American	Embassy of Lebanon in Washington	5 March 2021
Jamil Nehme Hammoud and his son Fouad	Sierra Leonean	Directorate General of Personal Status — Ministry of Interior and Municipalities	5 March 2021
Maria das Graças Habib Bishara	Brazilian	Embassy of Lebanon in Brasília	12 March 2021
Maria de los Ángeles Miguel Al Shamlati	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	12 March 2021
Adriana Bossinger Joseph Naaman	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Rio de Janeiro	12 March 2021

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Jacob William Jacob Jourishi	American	Embassy of Lebanon in Washington	12 March 2021
Alberto Youssef Scaff	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	12 March 2021
Ismail Zrir Obeid	Brazilian	Embassy of Lebanon in Brasília	12 March 2021
Anis Ghattas Jr. Anis Ghattas Mitri	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	12 March 2021
Vilma George Khoury Boulos	Brazilian	Embassy of Lebanon in Brasília	12 March 2021
Emilio Emilio Haddad and his children Christian Miguel and Willy Amin	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	12 March 2021
Jihan George Tarad	Egyptian	Embassy of Lebanon in Cairo	12 March 2021
Camila Rosa Vander Tenori	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Rio de Janeiro	23 April 2021
Paula Marie Francis Mansour	American	Directorate General of Personal Status – Ministry of Interior and Municipalities	23 April 2021
Antonio Abrahao Antonio Abrahao Karam	American	Embassy of Lebanon in Washington	23 April 2021
Derek Hayden David Alexander Abdenour	South African	Embassy of Lebanon in Pretoria	23 April 2021
James Joseph James Azzani	American	Embassy of Lebanon in Washington	23 April 2021
Alexander Michel Antonio Michel Abilio	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Rio de Janeiro	23 April 2021
Ashley Elizabeth Dave Anthony Saliba	American	Consulate General of Lebanon in Los Angeles	23 April 2021
Anthony John Alfredo Romella	American	Consulate General of Lebanon in Detroit	23 April 2021
Andrea Gabriella Miguel Mouawad	Chilean	Embassy of Lebanon in Santiago	23 April 2021
Raafat Elias Shmali and his adult daughter Mariam	Egyptian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Alexandria	23 April 2021
John Milan Joseph Shamoun	American	Directorate General of Personal Status – Ministry of Interior and Municipalities	28 February 2021
Elmir Wahbeh José Mansour	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	28 February 2021
Maria del Carmen Juan Nicola	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	28 February 2021
Lazaro Douglas Raúl Basil Estephan	Cuban	Embassy of Lebanon in Havana	28 February 2021

Name and Family	Current Nationality	Place of Submission	Date of Nationality Restoration
Adel George Hijaz	American	Embassy of Lebanon in Washington	28 February 2021
Luis Felipe Henry Daoud	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	28 February 2021
Eileen Milton Salibi	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in São Paulo	28 February 2021
Eduardo Eduardo Machado Matar and his sister Fernanda Machado Matar Rocha	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Rio de Janeiro	28 February 2021
Fouad Mohammad Al Aridi and his children Janslier Bonesinia and Chandler Bonesinia and Rolander Bonesinia	Brazilian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Rio de Janeiro	15 March 2022
Enrique Enrique Al Maoushi	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	15 March 2022
Fernando Enrique Al Maoushi	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	15 March 2022
Habib Habib Al Bishalani and his daughter Sharbel	Mexican	Embassy of Lebanon in Mexico City	15 March 2022
Richard Lotfallah Lotfi	Canadian	Consulate General of Lebanon in Montreal	16 March 2022

Source: The Official Gazette.

## Naturalized Citizens by Sect:

### Maronites and Druze Among the Least Numerous

The issuance of Naturalization Decree No. 5247 on 20 June 1994 granted Lebanese nationality to 202,520 people, distributed among the legally recognized Lebanese sects. Despite their large population, Maronites and Druze received the smallest share relative to their numbers.

- Maronites: 2,725
- Druze: 4,337
- The largest number were Sunni Muslims, totaling 118,295, which represents 58.5% of all naturalized citizens.

### Breakdown by Muslim sect:

- Sunni: 118,295
- Shiite: 28,425
- Alawite: 7,954
- Druze: 4,337

**Total Muslims: 159,011**

- Armenian Catholics: 2,526
- Syriac Catholics: 1,313
- Chaldeans: 1,141
- Latins: 1,135
- Protestants: 535
- Other Christian sects: 1,243

**Total Christians: 43,516**

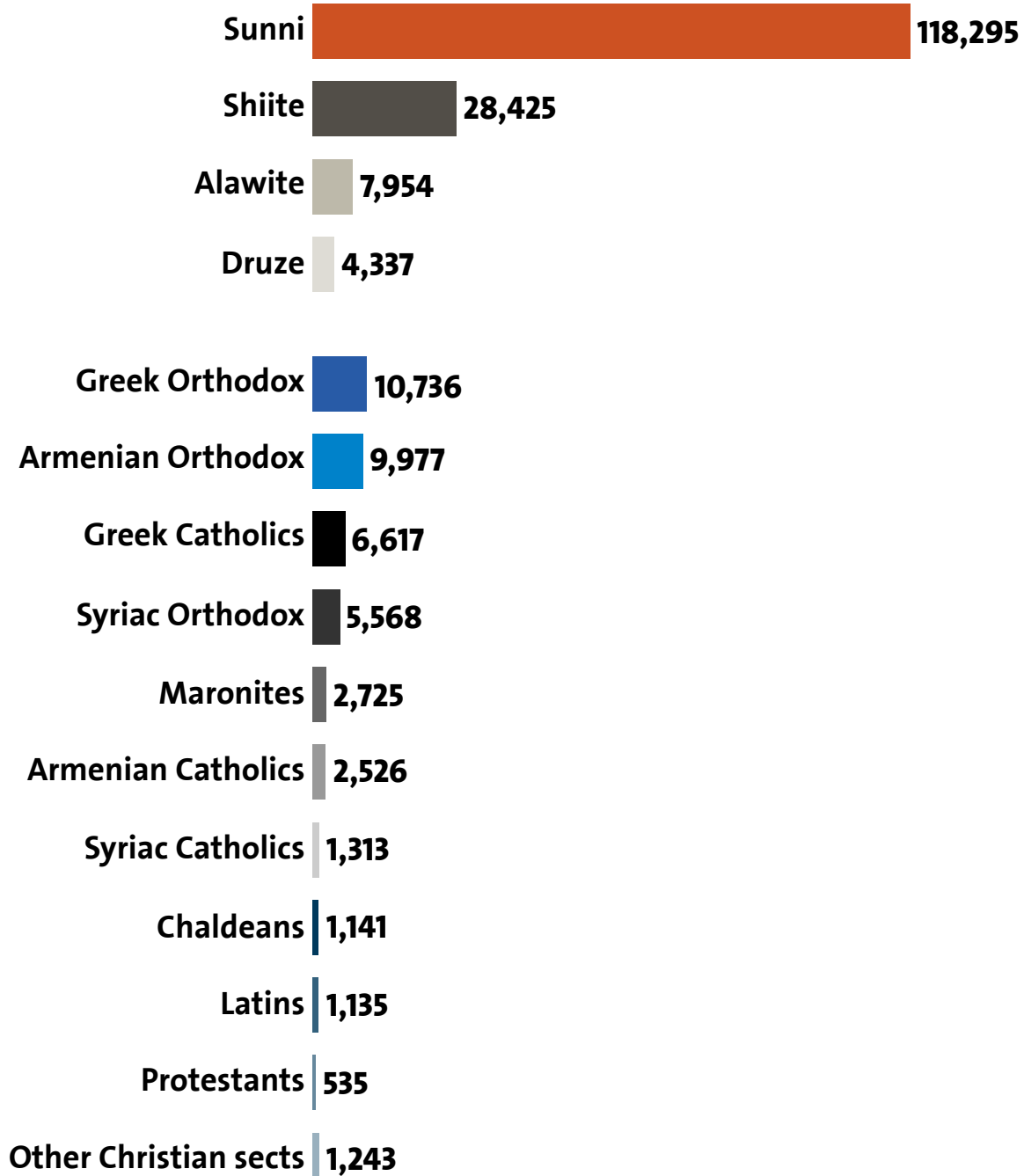
### Breakdown by Christian sect:

- Greek Orthodox: 10,736
- Armenian Orthodox: 9,977
- Greek Catholics: 6,617
- Syriac Orthodox: 5,568
- Maronites: 2,725

## Naturalized Citizens by Sect

Total of naturalized **Muslims** 159,011 people

Total of naturalized **Christians** 43,516 people





## Naturalization Decree: 413 New Lebanese Citizens

The Ministry of Interior and Municipalities published the most recent naturalization decree, No. 2942, dated 11 May 2018, granting Lebanese nationality to 413 individuals. Among the notable new citizens were Iyad Allawi, former Prime Minister of Iraq, and several Syrian personalities. Some naturalized individuals with British or American citizenship were originally Syrian or Palestinian. A notable number of French nationals (47 people) were also naturalized, with uncommon names even in France.

### Distribution by nationality:

More than half of the new naturalized citizens (52%) were Palestinian or Syrian, totaling 215 out of 413:

- Palestinian: 111
- Syrian: 104
- French: 47
- American: 20
- Jordanian: 18
- British: 15
- Canadian: 13
- Iraqi: 13
- Italian: 8
- Swedish: 6
- Greek: 6
- Swiss: 5
- Argentine: 4
- Indian: 4
- German: 3
- Egyptian: 3
- Armenian: 2
- Russian: 2
- Unregistered: 11
- Under review: 10

One person each from: Saudi Arabia, Iran, Tunisia, Yemen, Sudan, Chile, Philippines, Colombia

### Distribution by sect:

The majority of the newly naturalized were Christians, totaling 238 (57%), compared to 175 Muslims (43%).

EVOLUTION OF THE LEBANESE  
ELECTORATE 2009-2015:

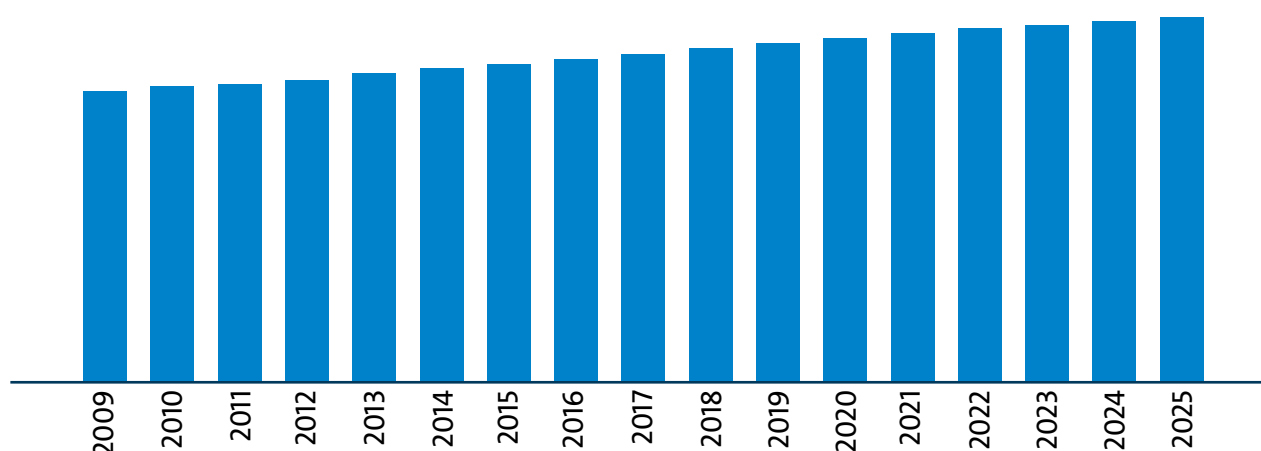
**AN INCREASE OF  
833,000 VOTERS**

The number of registered Lebanese voters increased between 2009 and 2025 from 3,258,633 voters to 4,091,764 voters, an increase of 833,131 voters, representing 25.5 percent, with an average annual increase of 52,070 voters, or 1.59 percent, as shown in Table 1 below. The highest growth rate was recorded in 2013 at 2.36 percent, while the lowest rate was recorded in 2011 at 0.7 percent.

**Table 1. Evolution of the Number of Lebanese Voters Between 2009 and 2025.**

Year	Number of Voters	Increase	Growth Rate
2009	3,258,633	-	-
2010	3,310,959	52,326	1.60%
2011	3,334,676	23,717	0.7%
2012	3,378,966	44,290	1.32%
2013	3,458,884	79,918	2.36%
2014	3,514,588	55,704	1.6%
2015	3,567,503	52,915	1.5%
2016	3,624,886	57,383	1.6%
2017	3,682,158	57,272	1.5%
2018	3,746,490	64,332	1.74%
2019	3,803,558	57,068	1.5%
2020	3,861,137	57,579	1.5%
2021	3,908,199	47,062	1.2%
2022	3,967,507	59,308	1.5%
2023	4,002,028	34,521	0.87%
2024	4,050,659	48,631	1.2%
2025	4,091,764	41,105	1.01%

Source: *Information International*, based on data from the Central Administration of Statistics.



## Number of Voters by District

Between 2009 and 2025, the number of voters by district recorded increases at varying rates depending on the sectarian composition of the majority of voters in each district. The increase was higher in districts with a Muslim majority and lower in districts with a Christian majority, as shown in Table 2.

The highest growth rates were recorded in the districts of Akkar (44.3 percent), Baalbek (40.2 percent), Tyre (38.6 percent), Bint Jbeil (38.2 percent), Nabatieh (37.3 percent), and Tripoli (34.7 percent). The lowest rates were recorded in the districts of Batroun (7.3 percent), Metn (7.3 percent), Keserwan (8.6 percent), Koura (9.5 percent), and Bsharri (10.4 percent).

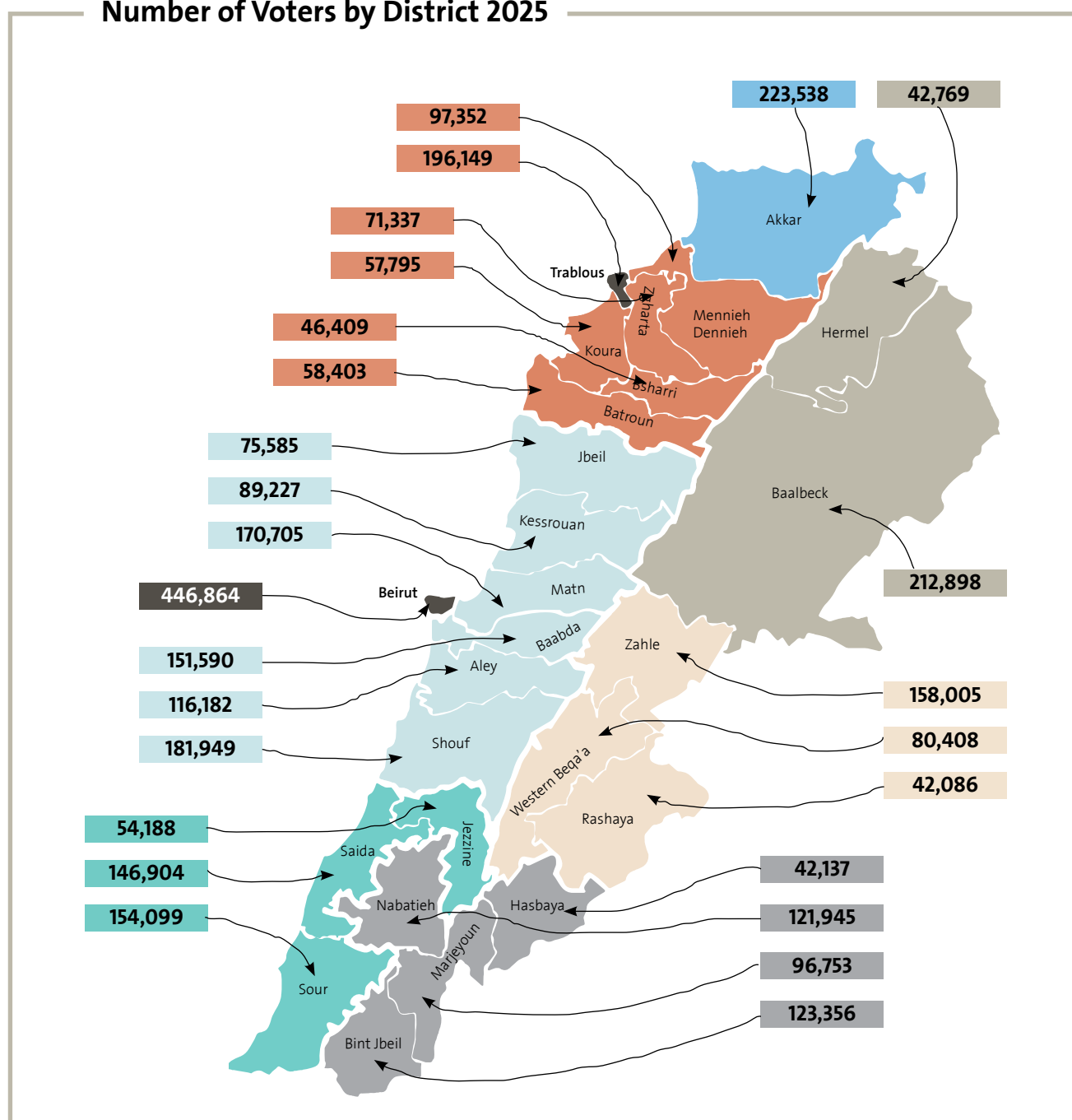
**Table 2. Evolution of the Number of Voters Between 2009 and 2025 by District.**

District	Voters 2009	Voters 2025	Increase	Growth Rate
Akkar	223,538	322,702	99,164	44.3%
Tripoli	196,149	264,332	68,183	34.7%
Koura	57,795	63,282	5,487	9.5%
Batroun	58,403	62,667	4,264	7.3%
Bsharri	46,409	51,259	4,850	10.4%
Zgharta	71,337	83,207	11,870	16.6%
Minieh-Danniyeh	97,352	130,131	32,779	33.6%
<b>Total North</b>	<b>527,445</b>	<b>654,878</b>	<b>127,433</b>	<b>24%</b>
Baalbek	212,898	298,517	85,619	40.2%
Hermel	42,769	59,772	17,003	39.7%
<b>Total Baalbek-Hermel</b>	<b>255,667</b>	<b>358,289</b>	<b>102,622</b>	<b>40.1%</b>
Zahle	158,005	187,703	29,698	18.8%
West Bekaa	80,408	106,057	25,649	32%
Rachaya	42,086	53,933	11,847	28.1%
<b>Total Bekaa</b>	<b>280,499</b>	<b>347,693</b>	<b>67,194</b>	<b>24%</b>
Jbeil	75,585	87,180	11,595	15.3%
Keserwan	89,227	96,959	7,729	8.6%
Metn	170,705	183,274	12,569	7.3%
Baabda	151,590	174,568	22,978	15.2%
Aley	116,182	137,169	20,987	18%
Chouf	181,949	218,149	36,200	20%
<b>Total Mount Lebanon</b>	<b>785,238</b>	<b>897,296</b>	<b>112,058</b>	<b>14.2%</b>
Beirut	446,864	514,788	67,924	15.2%
Tyre	154,099	213,657	59,558	38.6%
Sidon	146,904	198,064	51,160	34.8%
Jezzine	54,188	63,262	9,074	16.7%
<b>Total South</b>	<b>355,191</b>	<b>474,983</b>	<b>119,792</b>	<b>33.7%</b>

District	Voters 2009	Voters 2025	Increase	Growth Rate
Nabatieh	121,945	167,466	45,521	37.3%
Marjeyoun	96,753	129,929	33,176	34.3%
Bint Jbeil	123,356	170,548	47,192	38.2%
Hasbaya	42,137	53,192	11,055	26.2%
<b>Total Nabatieh</b>	<b>384,191</b>	<b>521,135</b>	<b>136,944</b>	<b>35.6%</b>
<b>Total Lebanon</b>	<b>3,258,633</b>	<b>4,091,764</b>	<b>833,131</b>	<b>25.5%</b>

Source: *Information International*, based on data from the Central Administration of Statistics.

### Number of Voters by District 2025

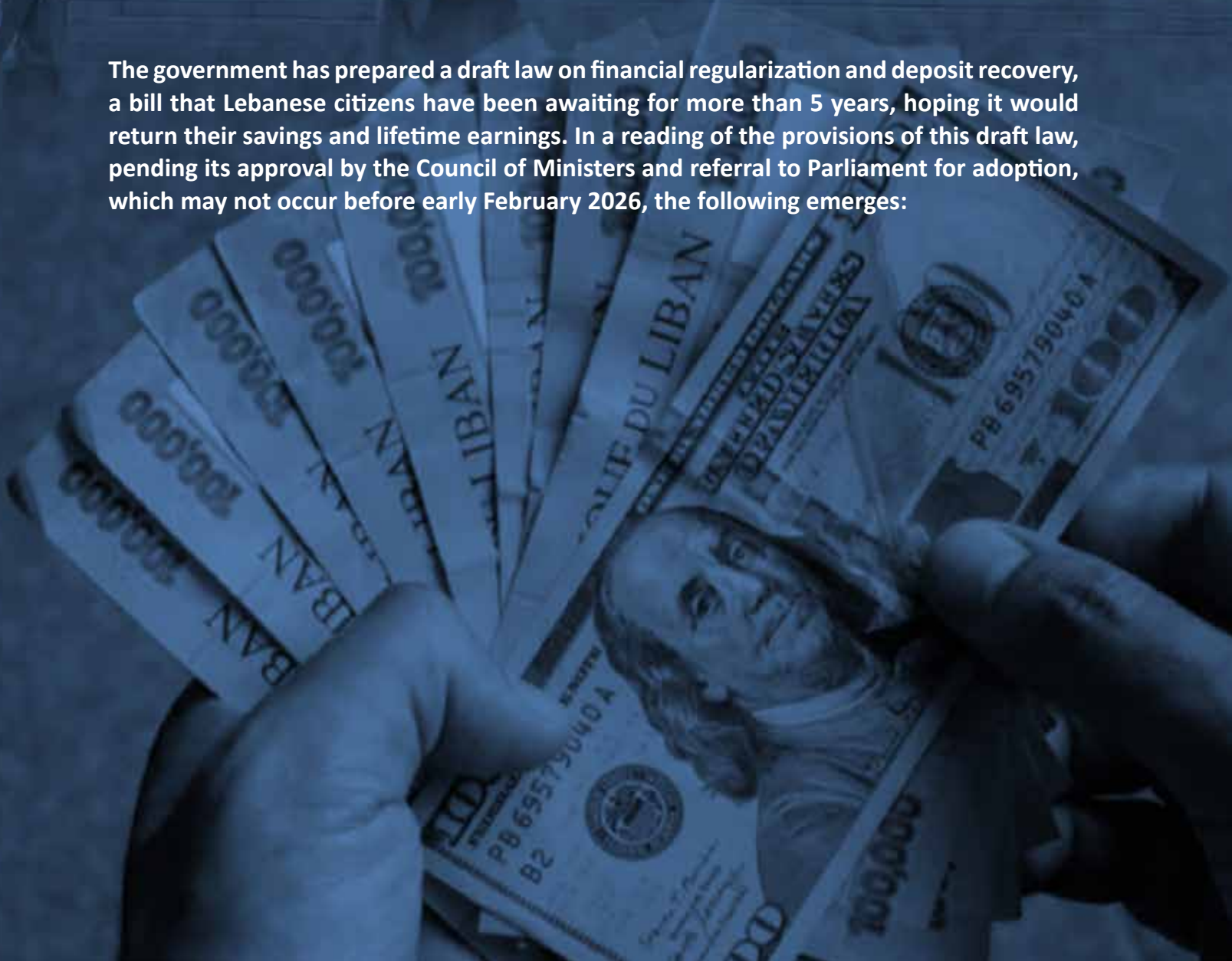




# **A LONG ROAD TO DEPOSITS**

## **GOVERNMENT PLAN NEGLECTS LEBANESE POUND ACCOUNTS AND DELAYS DOLLAR RECOVERY**

The government has prepared a draft law on financial regularization and deposit recovery, a bill that Lebanese citizens have been awaiting for more than 5 years, hoping it would return their savings and lifetime earnings. In a reading of the provisions of this draft law, pending its approval by the Council of Ministers and referral to Parliament for adoption, which may not occur before early February 2026, the following emerges:





## 1. Deposits in Lebanese Pounds

The draft law neglects addressing deposits in Lebanese pounds, which are also the savings of Lebanese citizens and are no less valuable than their savings in foreign currencies. If anything, Lebanese Pound savings should have priority, as they belong to citizens who trusted the national currency as a way of saving money and believed the official assurances that the pound was doing well. The bill also ignores end of service indemnity funds at the National Social Security Fund, estimated at about LBP 12,000 billion, which were equivalent to USD 8 billion and have now fallen to about USD 134 million, thus eroding end of service compensation.

The value of deposits in Lebanese pounds, excluding public sector deposits, stood at LBP 68,790 billion, about USD 46 billion, at the start of the crisis in September 2019. This amount has since risen to LBP 74,625 billion, but its value in dollars has fallen to USD 833 million, a loss of 98 percent of its value. This is a major loss suffered by depositors who trusted the Lebanese pound, which is the responsibility of Banque du Liban. Therefore, compensation for the collapse of the pound should take priority.

## 2. Deposits in Foreign Currencies

The value of foreign currency deposits in September 2019 amounted to about LBP 185,719 billion, or roughly USD 123 billion. Due to withdrawals, this has declined to USD 87 billion today. The government's draft law proposes returning these funds according to a phased plan.

There are 927,363 depositors, of whom 788,260 have individual accounts not exceeding USD 100,000, including some who hold no more than USD 5,000. These depositors will recover their deposits in full over a period of 4 years.

The remaining depositors, numbering about 140,000, will recover USD 100,000 over 4 years. The remaining amounts will be recovered through bonds over a period ranging between 10 and 20 years, as outlined below.



### Deposits in Lebanese Pounds

December  
2025

**74,625**  
LBP billion

**833**  
USD million

September  
2019

**68,790**  
LBP billion

**46**  
USD billion

### Deposits in Foreign Currencies

December  
2025

**87**  
USD billion

September  
2019

**123**  
USD billion

### 3. Cost of deposit recovery

Based on the above, the cost of returning deposits over 4 years is estimated at USD 16 to 20 billion, of which Banque du Liban will bear 60 percent and the banks 40 percent.

### 4. Method of repayment

#### Medium deposits exceeding USD 100,000 and up to USD 1 million

- USD 100,000 to be paid in US dollars on a monthly or quarterly basis, at the account holder's choice, over 4 years. The funds will be deposited into free accounts usable through checks, bank transfers, or credit cards, within one month of this law entering into force.
- The remaining balance will be repaid through asset backed securities, Category A, to be issued by Banque du Liban, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter Five of this law.

#### Large deposits exceeding USD 1 million and up to USD 5 million

- USD 100,000 to be paid in US dollars on a monthly or quarterly basis, at the account holder's choice, over 4 years, and deposited into free accounts usable through checks, bank transfers, or credit cards, within one month of the law entering into force.
- The remaining balance will be repaid through asset backed securities, Category B, to be issued by Banque du Liban, in accordance with Chapter Five of this law.

#### Very large deposits exceeding USD 5 million

- USD 100,000 to be paid in US dollars on a monthly or quarterly basis, at the account holder's choice, over 4 years, and deposited into free accounts usable through checks, bank transfers, or credit cards, within one month of the law entering into force.
- The remaining balance will be repaid through asset backed securities, Category C, to be issued by Banque du Liban, in accordance with Chapter Five of this law.



**927,363**  
Depositors

**788,260**  
Depositors

**Less than**  
**100,000**  
USD

**140,000**  
Depositors

**More than**  
**100,000**  
USD

including some who hold  
no more than USD 5,000



**Medium Deposits**

**1,000,000 - 100,000**  
USD



**Large Deposits**

**5,000,000 - 1,000,000**  
USD



**Very Large Deposits**

**More than 5,000,000**  
USD

## Bond category, maturity, and repayment mechanism:

### Category A

#### Maturity: 10 years

Starting from the fifth year from the date this law enters into force, Banque du Liban will pay no less than 2 percent of the nominal value of these certificates annually to their holders. The remaining balance will be repaid at maturity.

### Category B

#### Maturity: 15 years

Starting from the fifth year from the date this law enters into force, Banque du Liban will pay no less than 2 percent of the nominal value of these certificates annually to their holders. The remaining balance will be repaid at maturity.

### Category C

#### Maturity: 20 years

Starting from the fifth year from the date this law enters into force, Banque du Liban will pay no less than 2 percent of the nominal value of these certificates annually to their holders. The remaining balance will be repaid at maturity.

## 5. Irregular assets

The law adopts the term “irregular operations or assets,” defined as illegal or abnormal banking operations or accounts that created or generated abnormal or unusual risks and or returns. These include:

- 1- Bank transfers abroad exceeding USD 100,000 carried out after 17 April 2019 by major shareholders in banks, as defined in Article 1 of Law No. 23 on the Reformation and Reorganization of Banks in Lebanon dated 14 August 2025, as well as chairpersons and members of boards of directors, general managers, deputy general managers, executive managers, their spouses, children, agents, representatives, or any legal entity directly or indirectly controlled by the aforementioned persons.
- 2- All bank transfers abroad, including those by politically exposed persons as defined by the Financial Action Task Force, exceeding USD 100,000 and carried out after 17 October 2019 without a commercial, industrial, educational, or health justification.
- 3- Accounts whose holders received prepaid interest as a result of financial engineering operations and or any interest paid starting from 2016. This applies only to the portion exceeding USD 100,000 of the remaining balance, provided that the total recovered interest does not exceed the account balance on the date the law enters into force.
- 4- Accounts exceeding USD 100,000 that saw an increase in total balances between 17 October 2019 and the date this law enters into force through conversion from Lebanese pounds to banking US dollars at a rate lower than the market rate, including rates between LBP 1,507 and LBP 1,515 per US dollar, or through the purchase of local dollar bank checks.
- 5- Loans and commercial facilities exceeding USD 500,000 that were repaid in Lebanese pounds at a rate lower than the market rate, including rates between LBP 1,507 and LBP 1,515 per US dollar, between 17 October 2019 and the date this law enters into force.
- 6- Excessive bonuses and profit shares distributed to shareholders and senior bank employees, as determined by independent assessors.
- 7- Accounts suspected of having inaccurate beneficial ownership information and or accounts suspected regarding the source of their funds, particularly those suspected of containing illicit funds, pursuant to Article 1 of Law No. 44 on Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing dated 24 November 2015, as follows:
  - a. For the purpose of applying this provision, the highest balance of the account since its opening shall be considered.
  - b. Banks operating in Lebanon shall conduct enhanced reviews of their account records and are responsible for reporting suspected accounts to the Special Investigation Commission established at Banque du Liban.

These assets will not be repaid. Instead, they will receive fines of up to 30 percent. In the event of non payment, the Ministry of Finance will issue collection orders for the value of the fine.

This draft law represents the first serious and concrete attempt to recover deposits. However, its main flaw is that it neglects the revaluation of deposits in Lebanese pounds and the need to compensate holders of these deposits whose value has been eroded. It also extends the repayment of other deposits over 20 years, which is a very long period, especially for elderly depositors who may pass away without ever receiving their funds.





# NINE SESSIONS, FORTY LAWS:

## ASSESSING THE PERFORMANCE OF LEBANON'S PARLIAMENT IN 2025

During 2025, the Lebanese Parliament held 9 sessions, including 6 legislative sessions during which 39 laws were passed. This level of productivity is considered weak for a parliament in the final year of its term. However, it was the first year of a new presidential term following a vacancy that lasted around 2 years and 2 months.



## Non-Legislative Sessions of Parliament

**Parliament held 3 non-legislative sessions as follows:**

- A session on 9 January 2025 during which General Joseph Aoun was elected as the new President of the Republic. In the first round, Aoun received 79 votes, and he won in the second round with 99 votes.
- A session on 26 February 2024 to discuss the ministerial statement of the new government and grant it confidence. The government received the confidence of 95 MPs, while 12 MPs voted against and 4 abstained.
- A session on 16 July 2025 to discuss the government, during which confidence in the government was renewed by a majority of 69 votes, with opposition from 9 MPs from the Free Patriotic Movement and 4 abstentions, while 46 MPs were absent.

## Legislative Sessions of Parliament

**Parliament held 6 legislative sessions during which 40 laws were passed.**

**Session of 24 April, during which 10 laws were passed:**

- Law No. 1 dated 24 April 2025 amending Article 7(e) and (f) of the Banking Secrecy Law of 1956 and Article 150 of the Code of Money and Credit dated 1 August 1963, as amended by Law No. 306 of 2022.
- Law No. 2 dated 9 May 2025 establishing special economic zones for technological industries.
- Law No. 3 dated 9 May 2025 amending the provisions of Articles 1, 2, and 12 of the Labor Law issued on 23 September 1946 to include flexible work.
- Law No. 4 dated 9 May 2025 authorizing the Lebanese University to hold examinations to fill vacant positions in the administrative staff across its various units. Some articles of this law were annulled by the Constitutional Council.
- Law No. 5 dated 15 May 2025 amending certain provisions of the law in force by virtue of Law No. 2 dated 3 April 2025, which aims to amend laws related to regulating the teaching body in private schools and organizing the school budget.
- Law No. 6 dated 15 May 2015 authorizing the government to subscribe to an increase in the capital of the International Finance Corporation (IFC).
- Law No. 7 dated 16 May 2025 regularizing the status of inspectors in the General Directorate of General Security. This law was annulled by the Constitutional Council pursuant to Decision No. 12 of 2025 dated 13 June 2025.
- Law No. 8 dated 16 May 2025 regularizing the status of retired officers in the General Directorate of General Security. This law was annulled by the Constitutional Council pursuant to Decision No. 13 of 2025 dated 13 June 2025.
- Law No. 9 dated 16 May 2025 regularizing the status of officers in the Internal Security Forces. This law was annulled by the Constitutional Council pursuant to Decision No. 10 of 2025 dated 10 June 2025.
- A law amending certain provisions of Articles 4, 5, and 6 of the Code of Money and Credit and establishing the Central Bank, allowing the issuance of banknotes in new denominations.



### **Session of 15 May, during which 3 laws was passed:**

- Law No. 10 dated 28 May 2025 tightening and increasing the penalties stipulated in Law No. 71 dated 27 October 2016 criminalizing the firing of gunshots into the air.
- Law No. 11 dated 5 June 2025 on leases of non-residential premises.
- Law No. 12 dated 5 June 2025 amending certain provisions of laws related to regulating the teaching body in private schools and organizing the school budget.

### **Session of 30 June 2025, during which 10 laws were passed:**

- Law No. 13 dated 11 July 2021 aiming to amend and repeal certain articles of the law issued by Decree No. 56 dated 11 March 2025, the General Budget for the year 2025.
- Law No. 14 dated 11 July 2025 approving the conclusion of a loan agreement between the Lebanese Republic and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to implement the Renewable Energy and Energy System Enhancement Project in Lebanon, valued at USD 250 million.
- Law No. 15 dated 11 July 2025 opening an additional appropriation in the 2025 budget amounting to LBP 1,500 billion for the Judges' Mutual Fund.
- Law No. 16 dated 11 July 2025 opening an additional appropriation in the 2025 budget amounting to LBP 1,320 billion to grant a contribution to the Mutual Fund of the teaching staff of the Lebanese University to cover social and health assistance.
- Law No. 17 dated 11 July 2025 approving a loan agreement between the Lebanese Republic and the World Bank to implement the Green Agriculture Project for economic recovery, valued at USD 200 million.
- Law No. 18 dated 11 July 2025 opening an additional appropriation in the 2025 budget amounting to LBP 15,965 billion to grant a monthly financial allowance to active military personnel of LBP 14 million per month and to retirees of LBP 12 million per month, effective from 1 July 2025.
- Law No. 19 dated 11 July 2025 regulating the profession of radiologic sciences in Lebanon.
- Law No. 20 dated 11 July 2025 authorizing the government to accede to the Madrid Agreement Protocol concerning the international registration of trademarks.
- Law No. 21 dated 11 July 2025 aiming to activate municipalities.
- Law No. 22 dated 11 July 2025 granting those affected by Israeli attacks on Lebanon certain exemptions from taxes and fees, suspending legal deadlines related to tax rights and obligations, and addressing the status of destroyed real estate units or parts thereof.

### **Session of 31 July 2025, during which 3 laws were passed:**

- Law No. 23 dated 14 August 2025 on reforming and reorganizing banks in Lebanon.
- Law No. 24 dated 14 August 2025 amending certain provisions of Law No. 11 issued on 5 June 2025 concerning leases of non-residential premises.
- Law No. 25 dated 14 August 2025 amending certain provisions of Law No. 73 dated 23 April 2009 and its amendments regarding the determination of conditions for granting administrative allowances to directors of public schools.

**Session of 29 September 2025, during which 7 laws were passed:**

But the minutes of the session were only ratified in the session of 18 December 2025.

**Session of 18 December 2025, during which 7 laws were passed:**

The Law on the Organization of the Judiciary, after being returned by the President with certain remarks.

- A law amending Article 28 of Law No. 80 dated 10 October 2018 concerning sources of funding for integrated solid waste management.
- A law repealing Law No. 394 issued in 2000 by which Lebanon acceded to the Patent Cooperation Treaty concluded in Washington in 1970, and authorizing the government to accede to the same treaty in its new version.
- A law repealing a tax agreement with Sudan aimed at avoiding double taxation and preventing tax evasion on income and capital between Lebanon and Sudan, as Lebanon signed the agreement in 2004 but Sudan did not ratify it.
- A law approving a loan agreement with the World Bank valued at USD 34.5 million for the Financial Management Project.
- A law approving a loan agreement with the World Bank valued at USD 258 million to implement the Greater Beirut Water Supply Project.
- A law approving a loan agreement with the World Bank valued at USD 250 million for the reconstruction of infrastructure destroyed as a result of the war with Israel.



# TEN LEBANESE MUNICIPALITIES DISOLVED SIX MONTHS AFTER ELECTIONS

Municipal elections were held in May 2025 in 1,064 municipalities out of a total of 1,065, with the exception of the municipality of Naameh and Haret el Naameh. However, as a result of disputes among winning members in a number of municipalities, 8 municipalities have so far been dissolved, and there are dozens of paralyzed municipalities that may be dissolved in the coming months.

This situation points to the need to reconsider the Municipalities Law, the voting mechanism, the duties entrusted to municipalities, and how to secure the funds needed to carry out these duties. Lack of funding is a major obstacle to municipal work and a key reason behind failure, inability to perform, and the resignation of municipal councils, in addition, of course, to personal, family, and partisan disputes.





## Municipality Dissolution

According to Article 23 of the Municipalities Law No. 118 issued on 30 June 1977, “a municipal council is deemed dissolved by force of law if it loses at least half of its members or if its election is annulled.” Dissolution takes place by a decision of the Minister of Interior and Municipalities.

## Municipalities that Have Been Dissolved

- Eight municipalities have been dissolved and elections postponed in 2 others, bringing the total to 10 municipalities currently under administrative authority, as follows:
- Decision No. 931 dated 14 July 2025: dissolution of the municipality of Deir Kousheh, Chouf, and assignment of the Qaimaqam of Chouf, in an acting capacity, to run municipal affairs.
- Decision No. 932 dated 14 July 2025: dissolution of the municipality of Al Rawda, Western Bekaa, and assignment of the Qaimaqam of Western Bekaa, in an acting capacity, to run municipal affairs.
- Decision No. 933 dated 14 July 2015: dissolution of the municipality of Batram, Koura, and assignment of the Qaimaqam of Koura, in an acting capacity, to run municipal affairs.
- Decision No. 934 dated 14 July 2022: dissolution of the municipality of Kfarsghab, Zgharta, and assignment of the Qaimaqam of Zgharta, in an acting capacity, to run municipal affairs.
- Decision No. 1242 dated 16 September 2025: dissolution of the municipality of Al Borj, Akkar, and assignment of the Governor of Akkar to run municipal affairs.
- Decision No. 1709 dated 27 November 2025: dissolution of the municipality of Kherbet Daoud and Kufr el Fattouh, Akkar, and assignment of the Secretary General of the Governorate to run municipal affairs.
- Decision No. 1710 dated 27 November 2025: dissolution of the municipality of Al Qaaqour, Metn, and assignment of the Qaimaqam, in an acting capacity, to run municipal affairs.
- Decision No. 1765 dated 4 December 2025: dissolution of the municipality of Aanout, Chouf, and assignment of the head of the principal department in the Chouf Qaimaqamate to run municipal affairs.
- Decision No. 597 dated 3 May 2025: suspension of elections in the municipality of Naameh and Haret el Naameh, and assignment of the Governor of Mount Lebanon to run municipal affairs until the cadastral boundaries of Naameh and Haret el Naameh are delineated in order to establish a separate municipality for each, due to sectarian considerations, as Naameh is predominantly Christian and Haret el Naameh predominantly Sunni Muslim.
- Decision No. 1215 dated 11 September 2025: postponement of elections in the town of Maqraq, Baalbek, following a victory by uncontested election, as the number of winners was 8 while the number of council members is 9, and assignment of the Governor of Baalbek Hermel to run municipal affairs.





**Public Sector**

# **REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS SURGE TO USD 5.5 BILLION IN 2025**

During the 11 months from the beginning of 2025 until the end of November, there was a sharp increase in both the number and value of real estate transactions, reaching about LBP 494,863 billion, roughly USD 5.29 billion, compared with LBP 223,805 billion, roughly USD 2.601 billion, in the same period last year. This represents an increase of LBP 271,058 billion, USD 3,028 billion, or 121 percent.



According to a number of professionals working in the real estate market, this increase is not due to a major rise in buying and selling activity. Rather, part of it results from the closure of the real estate registries in Mount Lebanon for many months, which led to an accumulation of pending transactions.

The number of transactions reached 64,455 compared with 32,399 in 2024, an increase of 101 percent. The table below shows the movement of real estate transactions from January 2015 until November 2025.

Table: Real estate transactions from January to November 2025.

Month	Value of real estate transactions (LBP billion)	Number of transactions
January	41,849	5,476
April	36,036	4,820
May	44,622	6,469
August	41,099	5,823
September	45,885	6,370
October	55,697	6,876
November	45,079	5,896
Total	494,862	64,455

Source: *Information International*, based on the General Directorate of Real Estate Affairs.







## FISAN: A VILLAGE WITH A SHIITE MAJORITY, PREDOMINANTLY FROM THE JAAFAR FAMILY

Fisan is one of the small villages in the Hermel District, located near the Syrian–Lebanese border. The majority of its residents belong to a single family, the Jaafar family.

### Etymology

The origin of the name Fisan is uncertain. It is thought to come from Syriac and may mean “the beautiful summit” or, according to another explanation, “a file” or “a whetstone.” A third interpretation links the name to the meaning “a share” or “a portion of land.”

### Location

Fisan is located in the Hermel District and extends over a very small area that does not exceed 1 hectare, at an altitude of 1500 m above sea level. It lies 163 km from Beirut and can be reached via the Beirut–Chtoura–Zahle–Baalbek–Hermel–Al-Qasr road.

### Number of voters

The number of registered voters reached 660 in the year 2000, of whom 204 cast their ballots. By 2025, the number had risen to 843 voters, representing an increase of 28 percent. The voters are distributed by gender as follows: 420 females and 423 males. All voters belong to the Shiite sect. The main families in the village are the Jaafar family, with 704 voters representing 83 percent of the population, followed by the Nassereddine family with 113 voters, and the Mshiek family with 26 voters.

### Housing

The village has 150 residential units and 13 institutions.

### Local authorities

Fisan was formerly part of the municipality of Al-Qasr, which was established by Decision No. 384/A dated 23 August 1965, and the village was represented by one member in the municipal council. In 2010, pursuant to Decision No. 60 dated 19 February 2010, Fisan was separated from Al-Qasr and established as an independent municipality with a council of 9 members. In the municipal elections of May 2025, all 9 members were elected unopposed, including 8 members from the Jaafar family and 1 member from the Nassereddine family. The village has one mukhtar, Riyad Ali Jaafar, who was elected unopposed in the most recent elections and has remained in office for several decades.

### Economic life

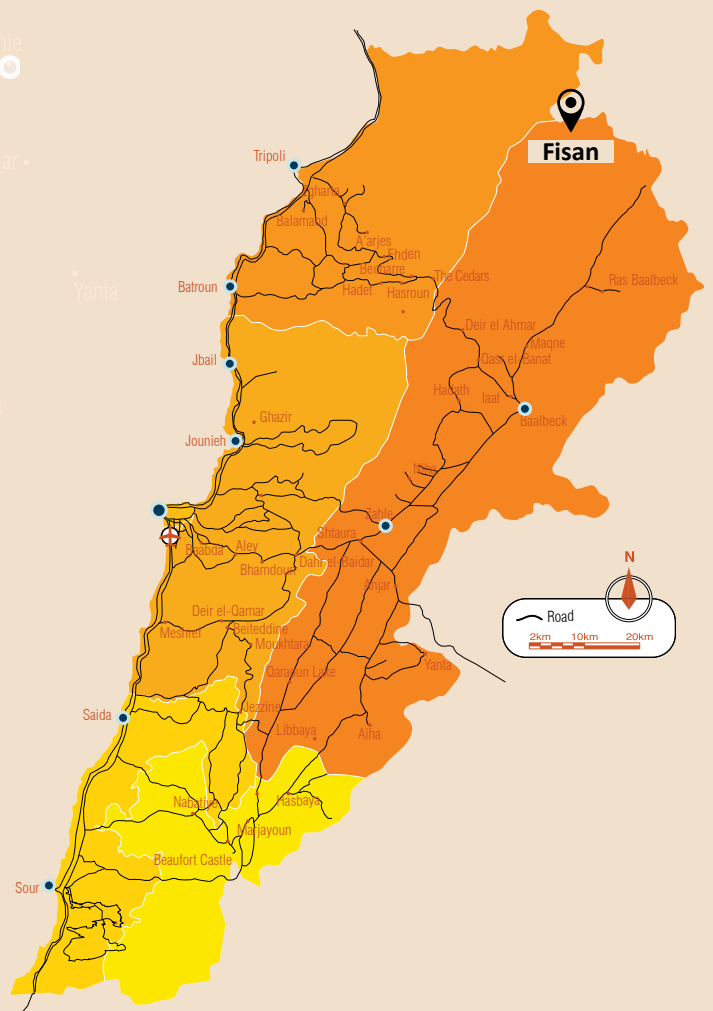
The resident population depends for its livelihood on agriculture and livestock farming, in addition to commercial activities with the neighboring Syrian border regions.

### Educational institutions

Fisan has one public school, the Wadi Fisan Public Intermediate School, which has 30 students and 14 teachers. Some students from the village attend schools in the town of Al-Qasr.

### Village challenges

Like other border areas, the village suffers from neglect, a lack of basic services, and limited employment opportunities. This situation pushes many young people either to migrate to cities or to engage in illegal smuggling activities.



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## THE FISTUQS

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### SUNNI MUSLIMS OF PALESTINIAN ORIGIN

The Fistuqs are among the well known families of Beirut and trace their origins to Palestine. These families migrated at the beginning of the Israeli occupation of Palestine and settled near Beirut International Airport. Some believe that they are of Syrian origin from Aleppo.

#### Etymology

There is no definite origin known for the family name. However, it is possible that the family's ancestor worked in pistachio cultivation or trade and was nicknamed al Fustuqī, and later the name was altered to Fistuq.

#### Family size

The Fistuqs make up a total of 213 individuals. They reside in the city of Beirut in the Mazraa and Port neighborhoods. They are Sunni Muslims.

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## THE NIYAZIS

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### SMALL FAMILIES IN BEIRUT

**The Niyazis are a relatively small Beirut family. However, they are considered large families in several Arab countries, especially Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt.**

#### Etymology

Niyazi is a family of Kurdish origin. The name means “beggar” and is derived from the Persian word *niyāz*, which means “need.” The surname may have been given to these families because they were poor and in need, asking others for help.

#### Number of members

The Niyazis number 14 individuals. They are Sunni Muslims residing in Beirut, in the Dar al Mreisseh area.

# ANAT AND HER HERO BAAL

## THE EMBROIDERY PATTERN LANGUAGE OF THE LEVANT

Recently published by Kutub Publishing House and Nabu Museum, *Anat and Her Hero Baal: The Embroidery Pattern Language of the Levant* presents Heike Weber's exploration of the ancient symbolism embedded in Levantine embroidery. Weber explains why she decided to write this book and investigate the rules and structures of embroidery in the Levant, taking the reader on a journey that begins with Anat (Ishtar–Astarte) and continues to the present day.

Through her work, we discover that the weaving and embroidery found on the dresses of women, men, and children carry symbols that date back to civilizations and religions predating Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The stair symbol, for example, represents the passage from life to death, while the *tree of life* symbolizes fertility associated with Baal, the rainmaker god, and the *net of the goddess* symbolizes the crossing of the line of death and the creation of a line of life through the *cross stitch*, which itself is full of magical and spiritual symbolism.



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