

Thematic Section 05

Countries of Origin of Third-Country Nationals





Learning Objectives

Unit 5.2 – Egypt

By the completion of the module on Egypt, trainees will be able to:

- Know about the human geography of Egypt (population, fertility, labor force, immigration), its comparison with the EU and its countries 1. Geography - Demography
- Learn about the critical growth indicators and indicators of development Egypt (Gross Domestic Product - GDP , per capita GDP - per capita income , Corruption - Corruption Perception Index , Poverty , Debt of Egypt as a percentage of GDP , Export-Import)
- Get to know Egypt's major World Heritage Sites such as The Ancient Monastery of Saint Mina (Abu Mena), Islamic Cairo, Ancient Memphis and its Necropolis - The Pyramids of Giza to Dasour and The Ancient Thebes and Its Necropolis.
- To delve deeper into History, International Relations, and the changes of his system in various historical periods. Learn the beginning of Egyptian history in 3100 BC.
- Get to know the cultural and social events of Egypt and the main religious groups in the country
- Learn and delve deeper into contemporary Egypt's security issues.



Keywords

Fertility Indicators, labor force as a percentage of total population, Gross Domestic Product - GDP, GDP per capita - per capita income, Corruption - Corruption Perception Index , Poverty, Debt of Egypt as a percentage of GDP, trade balance.



Educational material

Summary / Remember:



Bibliography / Sources / Useful Links

Training Methodologies

METHODOLOGY	UNITS				
	5.1				
Brainstorming	x				
Roundtable	x				
Lecture (mini lesson)	x				
Work in Pairs					
Case Study					
Debate	x				
Demonstration					
Travelling					
Individual Practice					
Panel Discussion					
Discussion Group					
Dialogue Group	x				
Problem Solving					
Creating Maps / Charts / Matrixes	x				
Project	x				
Quiz / Test	x				
Role Playing	x				
Dramatization	x				
Story	x				
Diary					
Analysis					
Sparing – Partner					
Pyramid					
Reporting	x				
Presentation	x				
Questionnaire					
Overview of the material	x				
Action Plan					
Guided Fantasy					
Associations					
Mentorship					
E-Learning					
Game	x				
Double Grouping					

Section 5.2 - Egypt

Geography - Demography

Egypt, officially known as Arab Republic of Egypt, is a state located in northeastern Africa and partly in the Sinai Peninsula, which forms the passage to Southwest Asia, thus becoming Egypt a transcontinental country and to be considered as a major power in North Africa, the Mediterranean Sea in the Islamic world and the Red Sea. It covers an area of 1,001,450 sq. Km. Egypt northeast borders with the Gaza Strip and Israel, in the west with Libya and in south with Sudan. It lies south of the Mediterranean and west of the Red Sea .

Egypt is one of the most populous countries in Africa and the Middle East with 98,101,011 inhabitants.

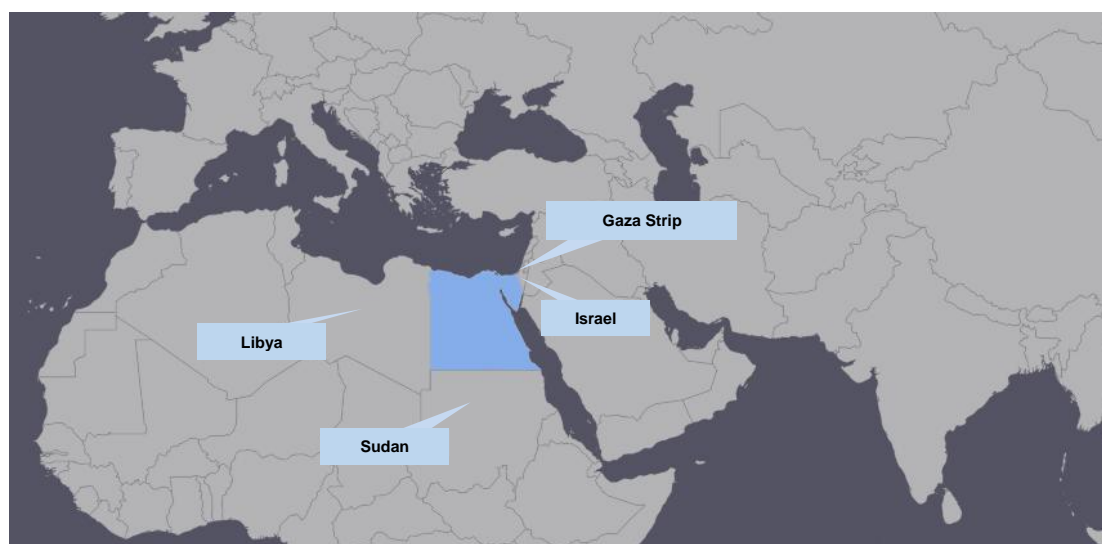


Figure 1 - Egypt and neighboring States

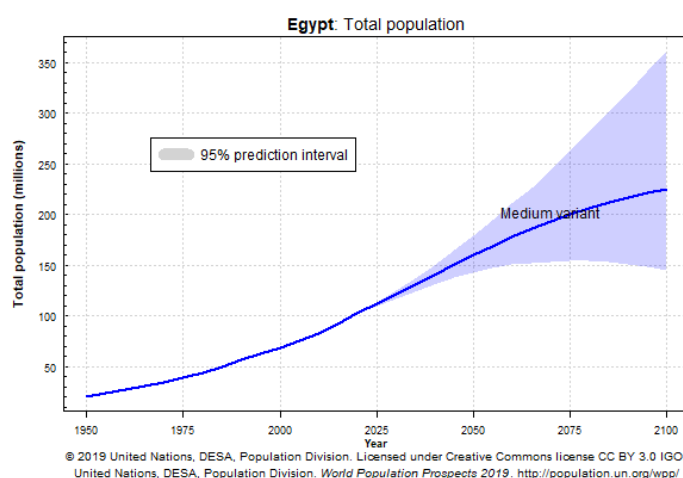


Figure 2 - Egypt Population & Forecasts

By 2060 the birth rate is expected to increase. The number of births is projected to slightly decline from the present year on and death rate is projected to increase from 2025.

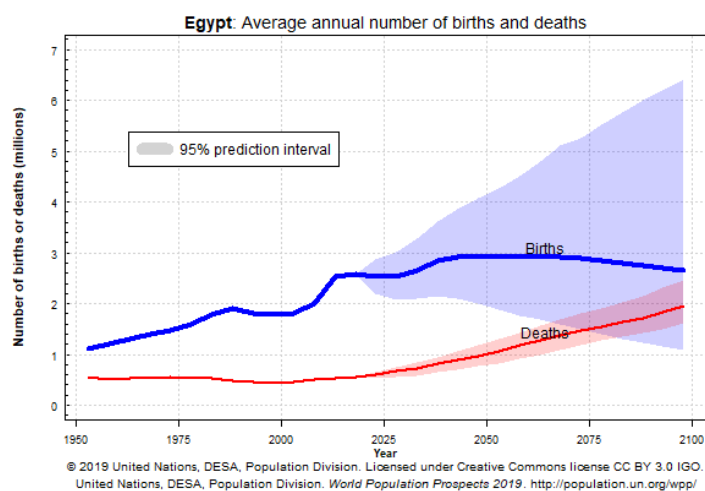
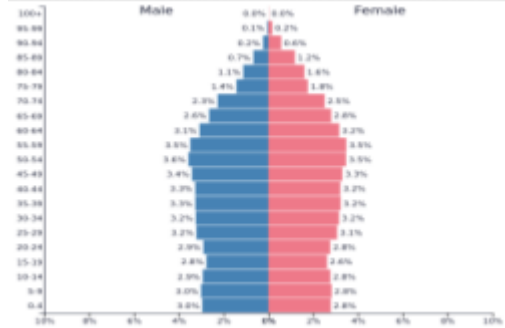
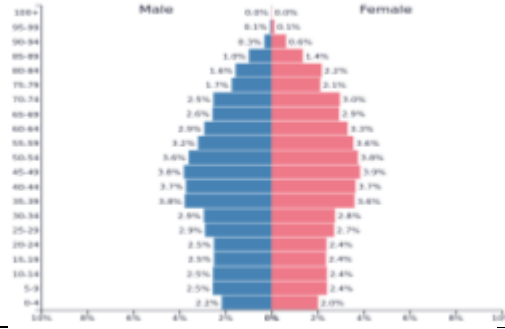
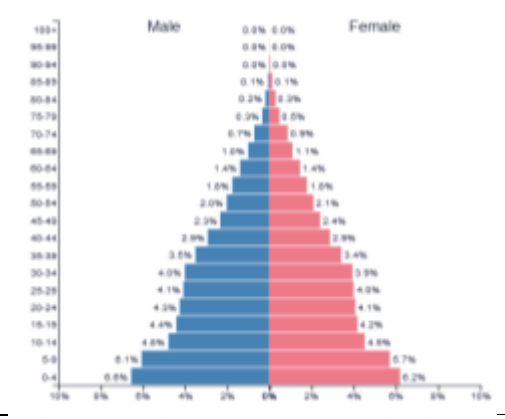
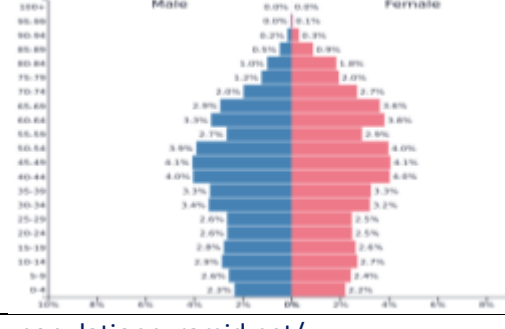


Figure 3 - Average Annual Number of Births and Deaths

Source: <https://population.un.org/wpp/Graphs/DemographicProfiles/Line/818>

Food for thought	Observe the pyramids of the ages of the Countries: Belgium, Greece, Egypt, Romania for the year (2013). What differentiates Egypt compared with three (3) European Countries? Why is the European population aging ?
Belgium	
Greece	
Egypt	
Romania	
Source: https://www.populationpyramid.net/	

Question - Why is Europe's population aging ?

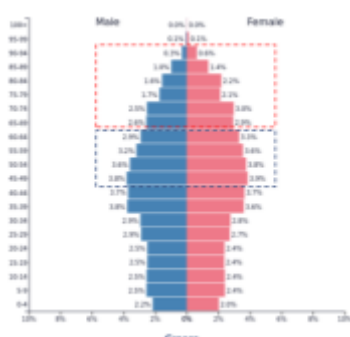
During the 1960s **net immigration (*) (that is the difference between the entry of migrants and the exit in one area over a given period)** was balanced. Since 1992 and mainly after 2007, the migrant population entering the EU has begun to contribute to the population growth of the Member States.

The relative proportion of the European population to the world will decrease from 15% today to 5% by 2050. Why? Because Europe is getting older.¹

Economic and social factors as well as scientific achievements that increase life expectancy have led to an aging population. Indications: *low fertility rates, retirement of baby boomers, low birth rate due to rising cost of living, difficulty for female workers to find work-life balance, reduced marriages and increased divorces, contraception, pregnancy in old age etc.*

But mainly the aging of the European population is the result of three (3) demographic trends:

- *low value of the fertility index,*
- *decline in fertility and*
- *increase in life expectancy*

Trends	Value	Outcome
Fertility rate (average number of children per woman)	1.57 children per woman (2011)	The minimum value of the index is 2.1 to stabilize the population without immigrant volumes. The Minimum Value is called 'replacement index'
Decline in fertility		The decline in fertility has two implications: (1) increases the participation of adults aged 45-65 in the age pyramid (2) the retirement of baby boomers (born after 2WW) increases the proportion of older people supported by descending number of employees
Life expectancy ²	Greece: 81.59 Belgium: 81.29 Romania: 74.96 Egypt : 71.32	Significant increase in the number of people between 80 to 90 years old (pensioners for many decades)

¹ EU policies (p. 222)

² <https://www.populationpyramid.net/hnp/life-expectancy-at-birth-total-years/2015/>

What is the Egyptian fertility rate?

The fertility rate is about 3.5 which is higher than the EU counterpart. The fertility rate combined with shorter life expectancy and population growth, contributes to an increase in the Egyptian age groups (25-45) capable of employment.

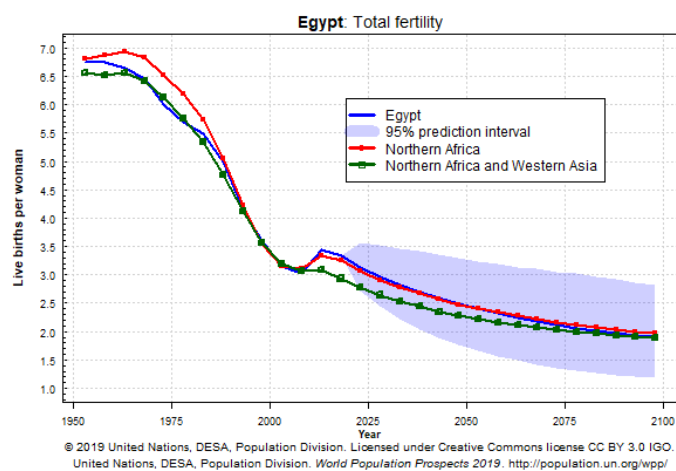
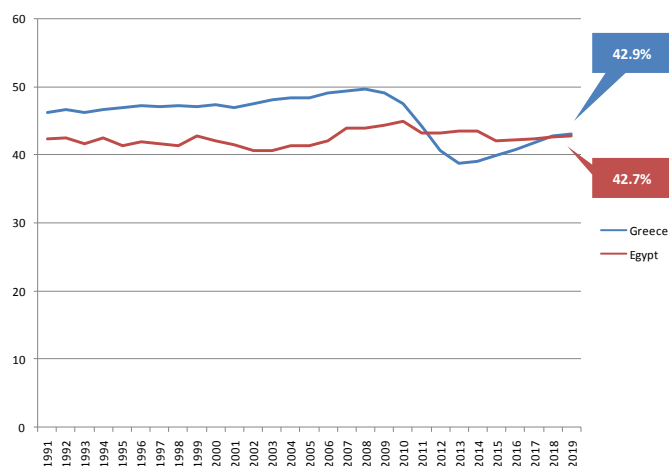


Figure 4 - Egypt Fertility Index

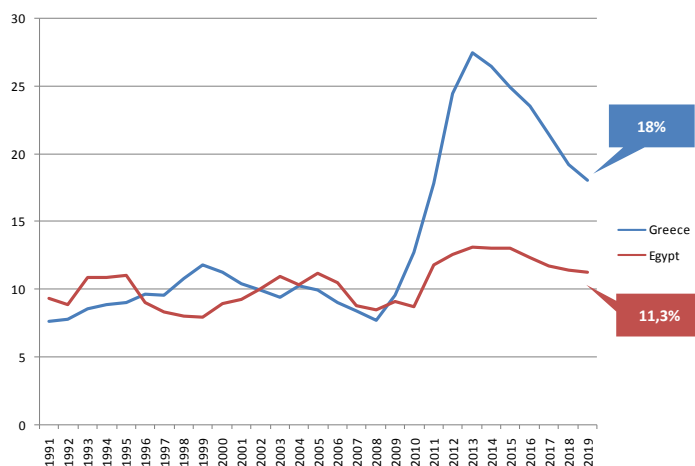
(Source: World Bank: <https://population.un.org/wpp/Graphs/DemographicProfiles/Line/818>)

Workforce-Unemployment

The labor force of the country is 42.7% of the total population.



Unemployment in Egypt is low, compared in correspondence with the Greek and the Romanian, and ranges approximately to 11 % in recent years.

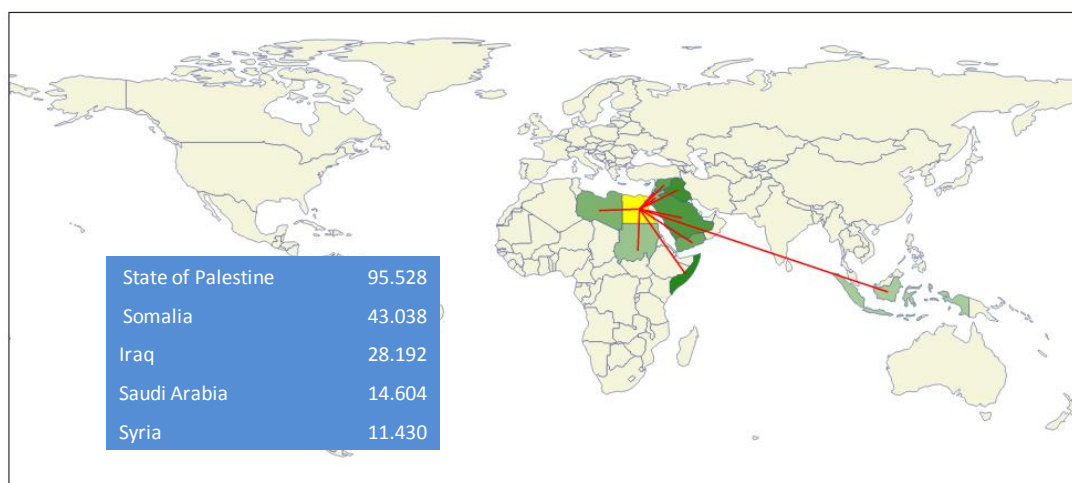


Source:

https://databank.worldbank.org/views/reports/reportwidget.aspx?Report_Name=CountryProfile&Id=b450fd57&tbar=y&dd=y&inf=n&zm=n&country=EGY

Egypt as a destination country

Egypt accepts flows of migrant-refugees due to war, civil strife, environmental factors and persecution from countries such as:



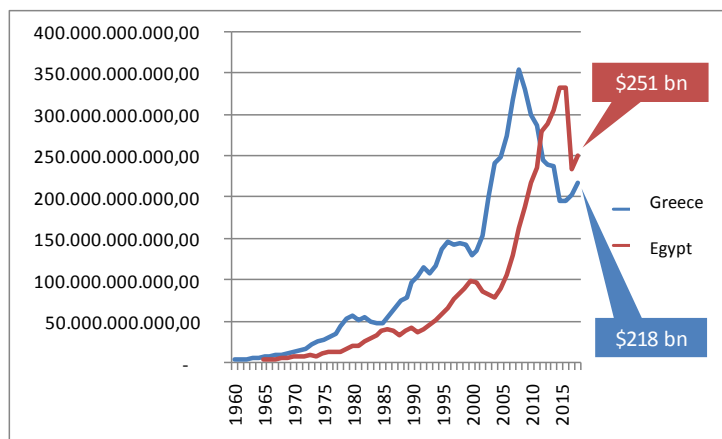
Source: <https://www.populationpyramid.net/migrants-stock-origin/en/egypt/2013/>

Financial Indicators

Gross Domestic Product - GDP

The economy of Egypt, according to the World Bank, located at 45th position in relation to the nominal Gross Domestic Product (<https://countryeconomy.com/countries/egypt>).

GDP has significantly increased from year 2006 onwards and measured approximately to 251 billion dollars in 2018.



Per capita GDP - Per capita income

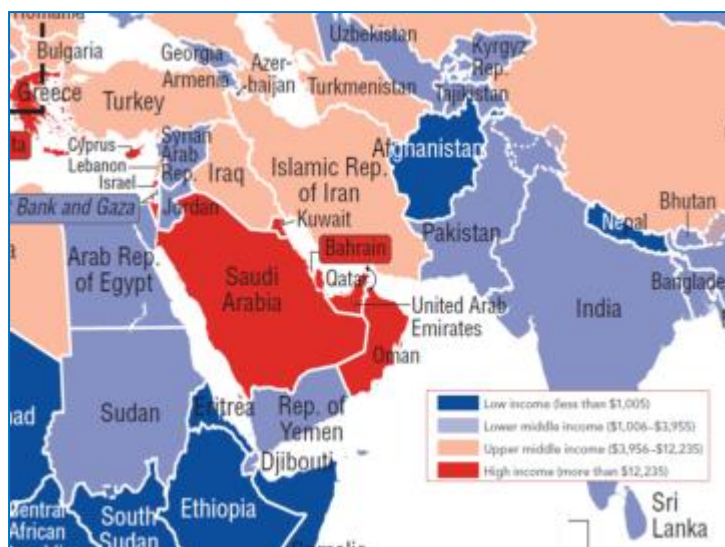
World Bank classifies economies into 4 groups based on income:

- Low
- Low - medium
- High - medium
- High income

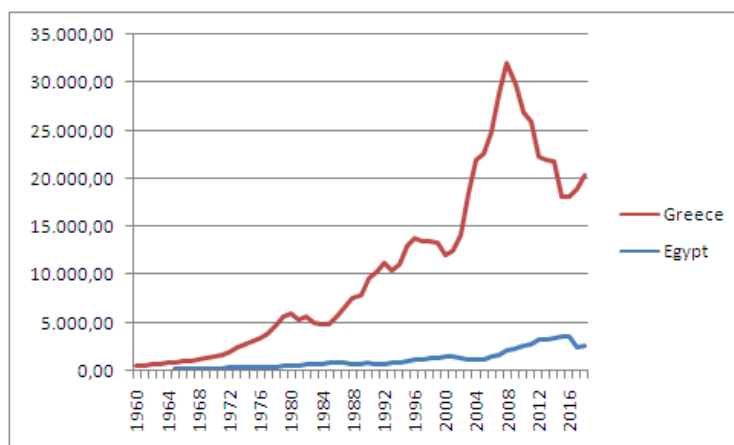
Based on this classification, Egypt belongs to the group of countries in Low - Medium Income with the annual National income per head (Gross National Income - GNI) to be measured in 2018 on an average of \$2,800.00.

(Source: World Bank

https://databank.worldbank.org/views/reports/reportwidget.aspx?Report_Name=CountryProfile&Id=b450fd57&tbar=y&dd=y&inf=n&zm=n&country=EGY)



The above is confirmed by the following diagrams illustrating the GDP per capita of Egypt for year 2018, which amounts to \$2,549 compared to that of Greece amounting to \$20,324.



Debt of Egypt as a percentage of GDP

The debt-to-GDP ratio measured at 92.65 % in year 2009.

(Source: <https://countryeconomy.com/countries/egypt>)

Exports - Imports

According to the Economic Complexity Index, Egypt is the 72nd largest exporter worldwide.

(Source: <https://oec.world/en/rankings/country/eci/>)

More specifically, exports of Egypt amounted in 2017 to 622 million dollars, while imports to 4.4 billion dollars, thus presented a trade deficit of 3.78 billion dollars.

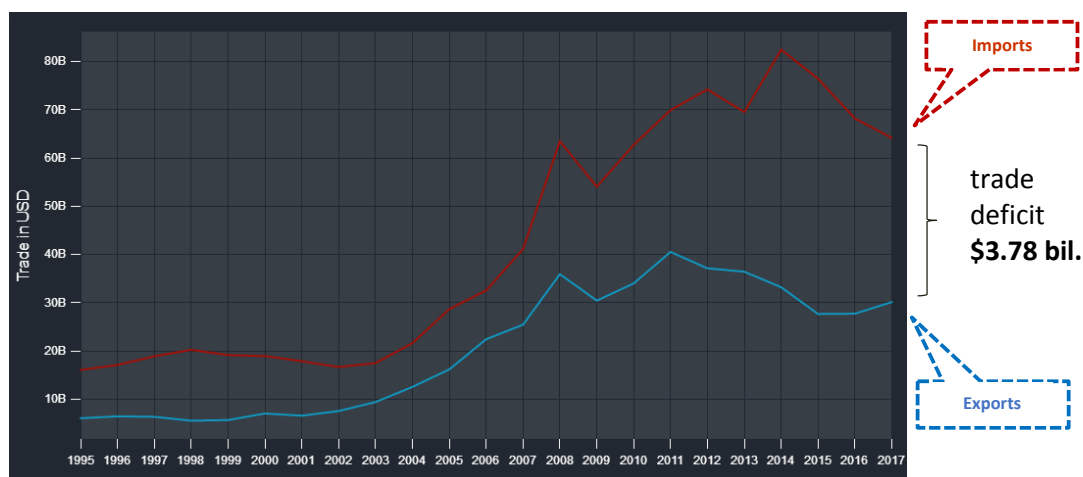


Figure 5 - Trade Balance

Source: World Bank – WITS World Integrated Trading Solution

https://oec.world/en/profile/country/egy/#Trade_Balance

Observing the export profile of Egypt is clear that the biggest portions concern crude oil (16 %) and gold (9.2 %).

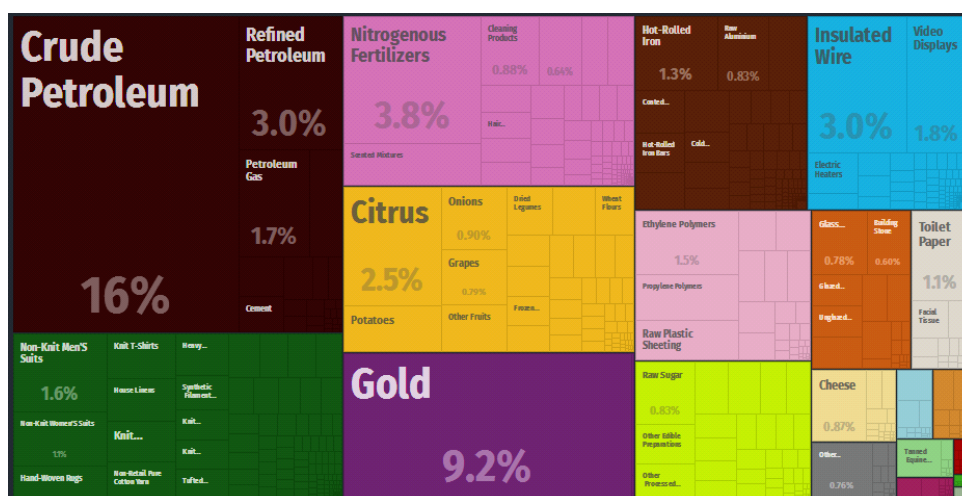


Figure 6 –Exports of Egypt

Source: <https://oec.world/en/profile/country/egy/>

The majority of imports are cereals (6.5 %) and LPG (5.6 %).

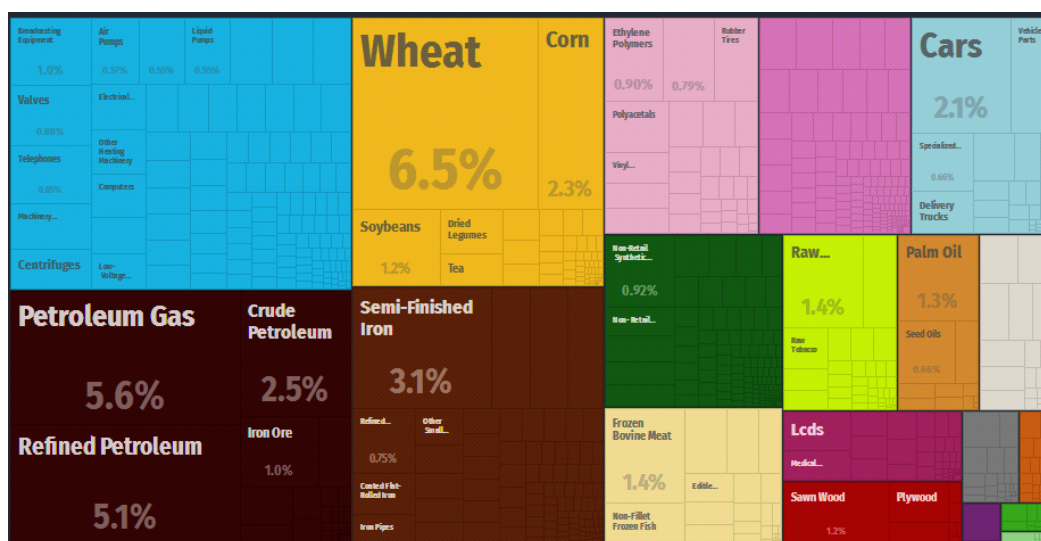
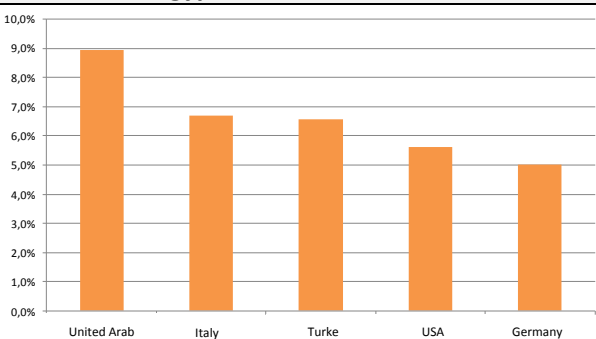
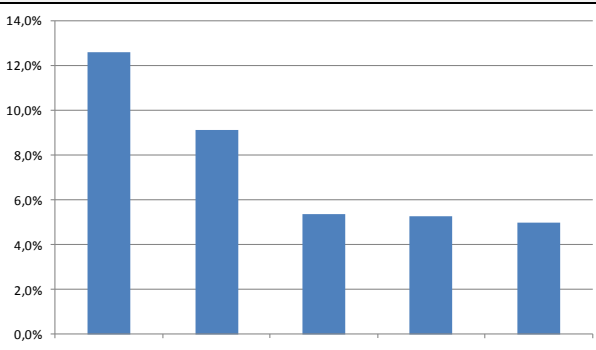


Figure 7 - Imports of Egypt

Source: <https://oec.world/en/profile/country/egy/>

Food for thought	Which do you think are the most important customers of Egypt?												
United Arab Emirates (8.9 %) Italy (6.7 %) Turkey (6.6 %) USA (5.6 %) Germany (5.0 %)	 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Country</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>United Arab Emirates</td> <td>8.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Italy</td> <td>6.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Turkey</td> <td>6.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>USA</td> <td>5.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Germany</td> <td>5.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Country	Percentage	United Arab Emirates	8.9%	Italy	6.7%	Turkey	6.6%	USA	5.6%	Germany	5.0%
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Question	Which are the main suppliers of Egypt?												
China (12.6 %) Russia (9.1 %) Germany (5.4 %) USA (5.3 %) Italy (5.0 %)	 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Country</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>China</td> <td>12.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Russia</td> <td>9.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Germany</td> <td>5.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>USA</td> <td>5.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Italy</td> <td>5.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Country	Percentage	China	12.6%	Russia	9.1%	Germany	5.4%	USA	5.3%	Italy	5.0%
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Growth Indicators

It's worth to mention that besides the growth rate of Egypt, which is justified by the annual increase of GDP index, the extremely low GDP per capita highlights particular and serious problems of development such as:

- poverty
- corruption
- illiteracy
- health care and
- terrorism

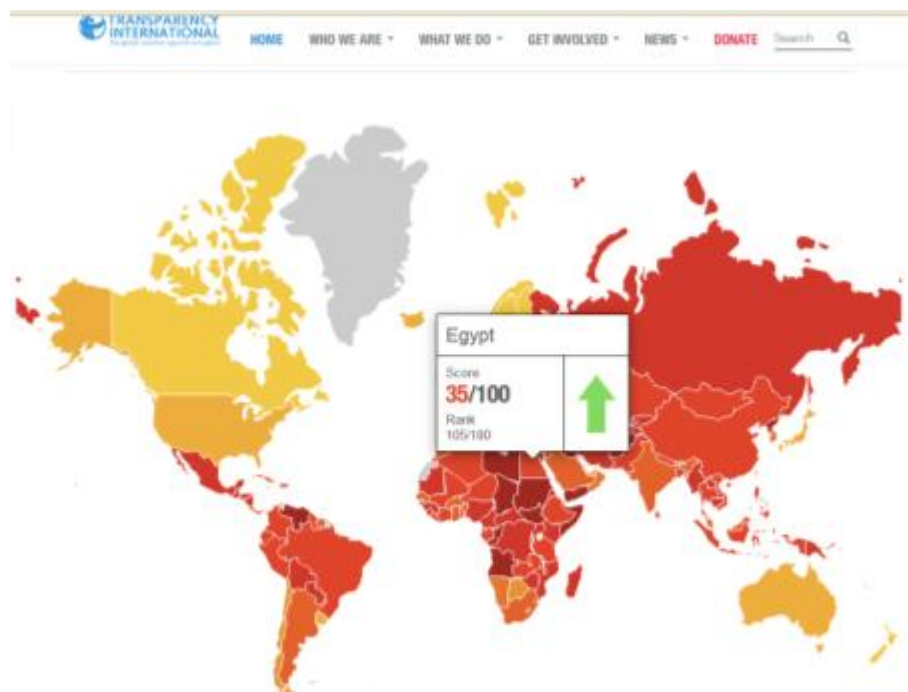
Corruption Perception Index

This indicator ranks 180 countries and regions according to the prevailing perception for the corruption in the public sector, among market experts and professionals.

To define this index, a scale of measurement from 0 to 100 is issued, where 0 is the highest corruption and 100 the country without corruption.

What is noticed in the next map for 2018 is that:

- Egypt notes very low score on the [Corruption Perceptions Index](#), ranking in 105th place among 180 countries rated to 35 out of 100.
- **more than 2/3 of countries scored in 2018 average an index of 43/100, that is a score below the "base" which is 50/100.**

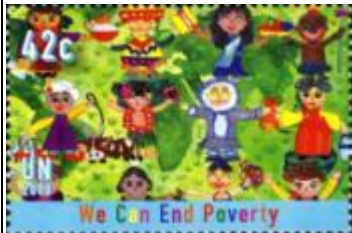


Source: <https://www.transparency.org/cpi2018>

Food for thought	Answer
What does the low average (43/100) of the Corruption Perceptions Index reveal to us?	<p>It shows us that:</p> <p>(a) most states have failed in controlling corruption in the public sector.</p> <p>(b) corruption contributes to a "crisis of democracy" in these countries.</p> <p>(c) despite the fact of the exceptions around the world, data show that most countries do not perform substantial efforts against corruption.</p>

Poverty

Poverty is the number one barrier to a country's development. Indeed, one of the Millennium Development Goals that the UN had adopted is the elimination of poverty (poverty eradication).

Question - Tip	Answer
<p>Do you know what the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are?</p> 	<p>MDGs consist of eight goals with measurable results and clear deadlines aiming to improve the lives of the world's poorest people.</p> <p>To achieve these goals and the mandate of the UN to eradicate poverty, leaders of 189 countries signed the historic declaration of the millennium at the UN summit of 2000.</p> <p>In this regard, the United Nations has developed a number of indicator measurements.</p>

Since poverty is not a one-dimensional phenomenon, that **is to** say, that is **not only defined in terms of income**, other ways of measuring have been developed.

A related method is the "**Multidimensional Poverty**" measurement.

For Egypt, 5.2 % of the population (ie: 5,12 million) is in multidimensional poverty state and 27.8 % lives below the national poverty index³.

Based on the above data, Egypt ranks in the 116th position among 188 countries in the Human Development Index (= 0,560) (UNDP, 2019)⁴.

Furthermore, the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MDI) has three principal dimensions:

- Education
- Health
- Living Standards

The contribution of each to the phenomenon of multidimensional poverty is different. For Egypt, education accounts to 53.2 %, Health 39.8 % and Living Standards 7.0 %. Therefore, the lack of health services, the low living standards or the low participation of young people

³ UN, Multidimensional Poverty Index: developing countries (Table 6), 2019

⁴ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/SYR>

in education are shaping the phenomenon of multidimensional poverty together and with different severity.

In the case of Egypt, multi-dimensional poverty is much greater in rural areas and significantly lower in urban areas. In particular, poor people in rural areas is measured to 54.6 % of the population while their share in urban areas stands to 9.43 % for the period 2014-2015.



Culture

[Culture Heritage Monuments UNESCO:](#)

[The Ancient Monastery of Saint Mina \(Abu Mena\) - \(1979\)](#)

Abu Mena is the name of a city, a Christian worship center, which houses a set of monasteries in Egypt of late antiquity. It is located 45 kilometers southwest of Alexandria. Although very few remains are rescued from the old city, the area was declared in 1979 as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO .



The area has taken its name by Saint Minas of Alexandria, who testified there in the late 3rd or early 4th century AD. The ancient city was only discovered in the early 20th century, from 1905 to 1909 when the basilicas, the baptistry, monasteries, public buildings and residencies came to light.



[Islamic Cairo - \(1979\)](#)

The Islamic Cairo is part of central Cairo, famous for its historic significance of mosques and other Islamic monuments. It is overseen by the Cairo Fortress. Today, Islamic Cairo includes the Ibn Tulun Mosque (the oldest and largest in Cairo), Al-Azar University, the oldest university in the world, the Al-Hakim Mosque, as well as many other famous mosques and buildings.



Ancient Memphis and its Necropolis - The Pyramids of Giza to Dasour - (1979)

The Memphis was the ancient capital of Lower Egypt, and of the Old Kingdom of Egypt from its foundation until 1300 BCE / BC. Its ancient Egyptian name was Inep Hedge ("The White Walls"). The name Memphis is a Greek transcription of the Egyptian name of Pepi A's pyramid, Men-nefer, which became Menfei in Coptic. The official name of Memphis in the Middle Kingdom was "Men-nepheri Pepe Mer", which means "Pepi A's solid and stunning pyramid".

Its ruins are located 19 km south of Cairo, in the west bank of the Nile. If Memphis surrendered to the sand of the desert, the necropolis was largely protected by dunes and other materials. The Pyramids of the Old and Middle Kingdom form a chain on the outskirts of the valley, from Giza to Dasour.

The Giza Pyramids are one of the oldest surviving buildings and are the most famous pyramids in the world. Construction dates back to 2580 BC and are located in the Giza Necropolis. The complex is thought to have been used for the burial of Pharaoh and was constructed by the fourth dynasty of Egypt.



The largest and most famous is the Pyramid of Heopa (or Hufu), while the other two are smaller and are some meters further from the Pyramid of Heopa. It is the oldest of the seven wonders of the ancient world.



[The Ancient Thebes and Its Necropolis - \(1979\)](#)

As Thebes of Egypt (Thive in ancient-greeks transfered) was appointed to the ancient city of Newt in Egyptian (niwt) (H) Town and Newt reset (niwt-rst) (H) South City, located about 800 km south of the Mediterranean, on the east bank of the Nile.



The ancient city was the capital of Wasset, the fourth prefecture of Upper Egypt, though the name Wasset was used to describe the city itself. Thebes became the capital of Egypt during the 11th Dynasty of the Middle Kingdom and the 18th Dynasty of the New Kingdom, though most of Egypt's control and management services were located in Memphis. During the 19th dynasty the headquarters was moved to the Nile Delta. The archaeological remains of Thebes provide considerable testimony to Egyptian civilization in its peak.



The Monuments of Nubia - (1979)

The Nubian pyramids, or nubia, are structures ageing from the 2nd and 1st millennium BC, built by the ancient kingdoms of Kusite, south of Egypt, in Nubia (present-day Sudan). The first one was build by the Karma civilization (2600–1520 BC), the second focused on the city of Napata (1000–300 BC) starting to gain influence by the Egyptian culture, and the last one the city of Meroe (300 BC - 300 AD). There are about 255 pyramids [1] influenced by the culture of Napata and Meroe, which were built as tombs for their rulers. They are different from the Egyptian as they are smaller and more inclined. The pyramids in the regions of Meroe and Napata are recognized as a World Cultural Heritage of UNESCO.



The Monastery of St. Catherine on Mount Sinai - (2002)

The Holy Monastery of St. Catherine in Mount Sinai (or the Holy Monastery of Mount Sinai as it is formally called), is built upon the outskirts of Mount Sinai of the homonymous peninsula. The monastery is also a World Cultural Heritage of UNESCO. According to testimonies, it is considered to be the oldest Christian monastery in the world.



Historically, the earliest evidence of monastic life in the region is from 381-384 AD. Under the Byzantine Emperor Justinian, between 527 and 565, the monastery was erected at the site of Moses' "burning flame". The place is considered to be a sanctuary for Christians, Muslims and Jews.

The convent's library holds the second largest collection of manuscripts and Codes of the early Christian period, after the one in Vatican. The "Sinaitic Code" which was originally placed in the monastery till the end of the 19th century, is now located in the British Museum in London.

The monastery also houses icons, the oldest been since the 5th and 6th century. During this period, Saint John the Sinaite, the so called "of the Scales", was the abbot of the monastery.



[The Valley of the Whales \(Wadi Al-Hitan\) - \(2005\)](#)

The Valley of the Whales (Arabic: Wadi Al) is an archaeological site of paleontological interest in Fayyum, Egypt, behind Mount Gabal Gar Gohanam, about 150 kilometers southwest of Cairo. In 2005, it was designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, as it contains hundreds of whale fossils in their earliest form, the ancient, extinct species. It is an important chain in the evolution of the cetaceans, as it reveals a species of whale that lived as a mammal onshore before evolving into an oceanic marine.



Source: https://el.wikipedia.org/wiki/Κατάλογος_Μνημείων_Παγκόσμιας_Κληρονομιάς

History - Politics

The country known as Egypt has a long and complex, population history. This is partly due to its geographical location at the crossroads of many of the major cultural areas: the Mediterranean, the Middle East, the Sahara and East Africa. In addition, Egypt has undergone many mass invasions throughout its long history, including the Canaanites, Libyans, Nubians, Assyrians, Kushites, Persians, Greeks [10], Romans, Arabs, Ottomans, French and British. The so many conquests over the years have to be explored for the relationship between modern and ancient Egypt.

The environment has played a decisive role in Egyptian history. When the drought forced the first nomadic inhabitants to migrate to the Nile Valley, the fertile plain gave birth to people who made some of the most important achievements in human history and created a culture that would remain unchanged for 3,000 years.

Although considered to be the beginning of Egyptian history in 3100 BC, traces of human activity are traced back to the pre-dynasty period, thousands of years before that date. The Sahara was once a lush, fertile savannah whose nomadic inhabitants chased animals and designed them on rocks (petroglyphs). Archaeologists have discovered that the Nabta Playa shepherds in the Western Desert had been building circular stone calendars as early as 8000 BC.



The demarcation of the eastern border is linked to the creation of the state of Israel in Palestine after World War II. Under the 1949 truce agreements, Egypt specified its administration in a part of Palestine (British mandate) called the Gaza Strip, which had been granted to the Arab-Palestinian state by the UN Partition Plan in 1947, which was never implemented. However, the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Strip were occupied by Israeli forces during the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict.

From May to the end of October 1969, almost on a daily basis Egyptian units clashed with Israeli forces along the Suez Canal. The most important of the Egyptian-Israeli conflicts occurred on July 20. The attack began with the Israeli occupation of the site, after a fierce battle with the Egyptian fortress, while heavy skirmish artillery was taking place, and dozens of fighter jets clashed in the sky over Suez. The final account of the conflict is subjective, as each side has publicized its own data on the wounded and killed.

In 1973, the Egyptians attempted to regain the Sinai Peninsula, but failed. Negotiations followed with US mediation leading to (after interim agreements) the Camp David Agreement (1979) and the definitive withdrawal of Israel from its territories from 1967 to 1982. In 2001-2, tensions were rekindled. Israelis were deployed militarily throughout the occupied territories.

In January 2011, following riots in Algeria and Tunisia, whose president fled to Saudi Arabia, protests erupted in Egypt as well, with an initial request for the resignation of Hosni Mubarak 's government, which lead to his resign declaration. During the following conflicts of people with the police forces 300 and 684 people were killed.

Mubarak was forced to resign on February 11th. The power was transferred to the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces. On March 3, 2011 Assam Shafar was appointed as the new prime minister.

On Wednesday, July 3, 2013, as demonstrations against Mohamed Morsi continued, shortly after the 48-hour military ultimatum, Army forces occupied the state television building and restrict the moves of Mohamed Morsi, controlling the perimeter of the Republican Guard, where the President of Egypt was stated and continues to work. The Army ousted President Morsi from his post and suspended the constitution [18], presenting the roadmap drawn up by the Supreme Military Council, which would govern the country until the presidential and parliamentary elections. The Army has conferred the power to the president of the Constitutional Court, Judge Andley Mansour.

Greeks in Egypt. The presence of the Greek element in Egypt has been remarkable over the centuries from antiquity till the 20th century. Today there is still a Greek population in Egypt, mainly concentrated in Alexandria and Cairo.

United Arab Emirates. During the presidency of Gamal Abdel Nasser, in 1958, the United Arab Republic (UAE) was formed in partnership with Syria.



Gamal Abdel Nasser

The union came after a referendum. The new state continued to be a UN member under that name. In 1961 Syria withdrew. Egypt continued to be internationally called by this name. On September 2, 1971, it changed its name to Arab Republic of Egypt.



United Arab Republic

International relations

Constitution

The constitution of Egypt is a semi-presidential democracy with a Head of State the President of the Republic, who determines the foreign and defense policy and directs its internal and economic policy in cooperation with the Prime Minister. From 1981 to February 2011, Hosni Mubarak served in this office. After riots and protests with more than 300 dead, President Mubarak was forced to resign and then served as interim president by military Mohammed Hussein Tantawi on February 11, 2011, who appointed Prime Minister Essam Sharaf. He served as prime minister until November 2011, when Kamal Ganzouri, who served as prime minister from 1996 to 1999, took over. The state has been organized since the beginning of the 3rd millennium BC was based on the idea of pharaoh's deification. The role of religion in the lives of the Egyptians, as well in the lives of the people of Mesopotamia, was crucial. Numerous inscriptions mention Pharaoh as a god, and there are texts that treat him as a human being. However, they did not in any way diminish his divine status, since the gods were presented with human attributes in Egyptian myths. The organization of the state was theocratic in character.

Egypt is divided into 27 provinces, also known as *governments*:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Alexandria</u> ▪ <u>Aswan</u> ▪ <u>Asiut</u> ▪ <u>North Sinai</u> ▪ <u>Garbia</u> ▪ <u>Giza</u> ▪ <u>Damien</u> ▪ <u>Red Sea</u> ▪ <u>Ismailia</u> ▪ <u>Cairo</u> ▪ <u>Caliumbia</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Kafr el Sheikh</u> ▪ <u>None</u> ▪ <u>Luxor</u> ▪ <u>Mathew</u> ▪ <u>Mini</u> ▪ <u>Menus</u> ▪ <u>Benny Sueff</u> ▪ <u>Beira</u> ▪ <u>Dacchelia</u> ▪ <u>New Valley</u> ▪ <u>South Sinai</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Port Side</u> ▪ <u>Shark</u> ▪ <u>Sohag</u> ▪ <u>Suez</u> ▪ <u>Fayoom</u> ▪ <u>10th Ramadan</u> ▪ <u>January 25th</u> ▪ <u>Central Sinai</u> ▪ <u>El Alamein</u> ▪ <u>Wadi el Natrun</u>
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Religion

Religion plays a dominant role in Egyptian society. Deep religious faith is considered an essential and indispensable characteristic of the Egyptian citizen. Egypt is among the five deepest religious states in the world with all Egyptians having an impressive performance of their religious obligations. 85-90% of the population embraces Islam in their overwhelming majority Sunnis though there is also a Shiite minority of 2,000,000 people. 10-15% of the Christian population embraces their overwhelming majority of Coptic Christians who are descendants of the ancient Egyptians who were not Islamized and assimilated by the Arabs. Other sources of the Copts raise the percentage of Christians even further to 23%.

Some independent organizations estimate the number of Christians in Egypt to be 20% of the population. The Copts today, while maintaining the Christian religion deeply rooted in their identity, still speak Arabic. The Copts belong to the Coptic Church which outperforms the Greek Orthodox Church in the number of believers and in its faithful religious performance. Copts have maintained many of their own habits such as circumcision and more. The Copts are distinguished as other Christians in the Middle East and Africa for their dedication to the Gospel principles and for their strong religious faith. Greek Orthodox are estimated to 15,000-30,000 people. There are smaller communities of Armenian Orthodox and other Christians. The Egyptian constitution defines Islam as an official religion but states that Christianity , along with Islam, is a traditional Egyptian religion and thus has the right to display and present its symbols in public buildings, schools, universities, the armed forces and in other places and institutions while teaching religion at school concerns Islam for Muslims and Christianity for Christians. The salaries of the clerics of Islam and the Coptic Orthodox Church are paid by the state, which adopts both Islamic and Christian religious

holidays as holidays. According to the Egyptian Constitution, freedom of religion is permissible only in Islam and Christianity.

Immigration

Egypt between 1998-2012 according to the investigation of Egyptian Labor market panel survey (ELMPS), performs a non-linear correlation between the household resource and the tendency for migration due to the migration cost. Unemployment and informal employment are also incentives for immigration, demonstrating that lack of quality labor, especially in the skilled labor market, is an important factor in the migration flow in Egypt. However, these incentives become effective only to social groups associated with immigrants in the past.

The tendency to migrate is higher among middle-income households in the distribution of wealth in the country. This comes to confirm the hypothesis that immigration incentives are higher among poor households, but that migration costs lead to higher income earners. Labor market outcomes are also an important factor in migration. Unemployed young people are more likely to migrate than those employed in the formal sector. In other words, the survey results show that the lack of prospects for young people in the country is the cause of migratory flows. This is especially the case among young people trained in rural areas that are cut off from opportunities in the formal labor market (World Bank 2014).

Security Status - Violence

Approaching the upcoming presidential election, the specter of violence in Egypt has been increasing in recent years. There are three competing parties:

- groups affiliated with the Islamic State (IS)
- groups linked to Al Qaeda
- emerging groups from the Muslim Brotherhood

These different groups are different in terms of ideology and strategy. The threat of violent extremism is likely to remain a major challenge for Egyptian President Abdul Fattah al-Sisi in his next term.

Source : “The Market of Violence in Egypt”, Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI), (2019)

<https://www.ispionline.it/en/pubblicazione/market-violence-egypt-19870>