

TUNISIA

Capital

Tunis

Ethnic Groups

Arab 98%, European 1%, Jewish and other 1%

Languages

Arabic (official, one of the languages of commerce), French (commerce), Berber (Tamazight); note - despite having no official status, French plays a major role in the country and is spoken by about two thirds of the population

Religions

Muslim (official; Sunni) 99%, other (includes Christian, Jewish, Shia Muslim, and Baha'i) <1%

Population

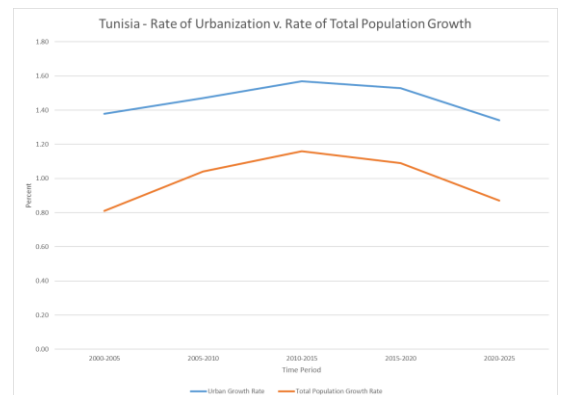
Total: 12 million
Median age: 32.7 years
Population growth rate: 0.63%
Urban: 70.5%
Rural 29.5%

Fertility

Birth rate: 14.05 births/1,000 population
Total fertility rate: 1.96 children born/woman
Sex ratio of population: 0.98 male(s)/female

Mortality

Death rate: 6.38 deaths/1,000 population
Life expectancy at birth: 77.07 years
Maternal mortality rate: 43 deaths/100,000 live births
Infant mortality rate: 11.57 deaths/1,000 live births



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Migration

Net migration rate: -1.33 migrants/1,000 population

Health

Current health expenditure: 6.3% of GDP

Physician density: 1.3 physicians/1,000 population

Adult obesity: 26.9%

Alcohol consumption per capita: 1.51 liters of pure alcohol

Education

Education expenditures: 7.3% of GDP

Literacy: 81.8%

Population Distribution

the overwhelming majority of the population is located in the northern half of the country; the south remains largely underpopulated

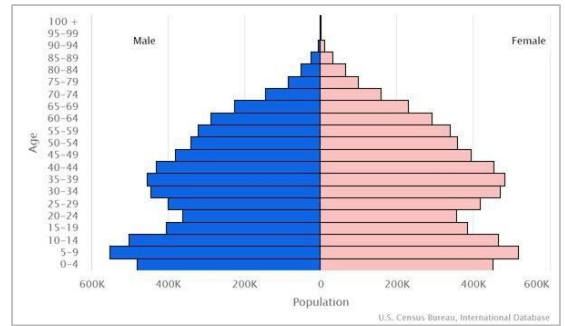
Demographic Profile

The Tunisian Government took steps in the 1960s to decrease population growth and gender inequality in order to improve socioeconomic development. Through its introduction of a national family planning program (the first in Africa) and by raising the legal age of marriage, Tunisia rapidly reduced its total fertility rate from about 7 children per woman in 1960 to 2 in 2022.

. Unlike many of its North African and Middle Eastern neighbors, Tunisia will soon be shifting from being a youth-bulge country to having a transitional age structure, characterized by lower fertility and mortality rates, a slower population growth rate, a rising median age, and a longer average life expectancy.

Currently, the sizable young working-age population is straining Tunisia's labor market and education and health care systems. Persistent high unemployment among Tunisia's growing workforce, particularly its increasing number of university graduates and women, was a key factor in the uprisings that led to the overthrow of the BEN ALI regime in 2011. In the near term, Tunisia's large number of jobless young, working-age adults; deficiencies in primary and secondary education; and the ongoing lack of job creation and skills mismatches could contribute to future unrest. In the longer term, a sustained low fertility rate will shrink future youth cohorts and alleviate demographic pressure on Tunisia's labor market, but employment and education hurdles will still need to be addressed.

Age Structure



Population Distribution

