

TYRE PROFILE

1. LOCATION AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Tyre city is located in the district of Tyre a city in the Southern Governorate of Lebanon (one of the eight governorates). It is around 80 kilometres away from Beirut. Tyre is characterized by a moderate climate, and its average annual rainfall is 600-700 mm.

Tyre is a coastal peninsula surrounded by the sea on three sides to the west, north and the south. Additionally the city is the centre of the district

The city goes into the sea and includes an archaeological and historical sites and a Roman Stadium with an area of around 400 acres (400 dunums).

2. POPULATION

The total population of Tyre is around 50,000. Around 1500 people were displaced to other parts of the country, such as Beirut and Sidon. Additionally, Around 4500 migrated to countries such as Germany, America, Africa, and the Gulf States (Table 1).

Table 1: Distribution of Population

Population	Number	In Percent
Residents	44,500	89
Displaced	1,000	2
Migrants	4,500	9
Total	50,000	100

There are 44,500 residents during winter in Tyre. The number of inhabitants rises to around 46,000 people during the summer. The number of registered voters is around 27,000 voters.

2.1 Age Groups

The distribution of the population by age groups in Tyre is as follows: 46 % are less than 21 years, 48% are between 21 - 64 years, and 6 percent are 65 years and older (Table 2).

Table 2: Distribution of Population by Age Groups

Age Group	Number	In Percent
Under 21	23000	46
Between 21-65	24250	48%
Above 65	2750	6
Total	50 000	100

2.2 Labour Force

Labour force participation in Tyre is 45% of the total resident population.

The distribution of the labour force by economic activity in Tyre is as follows:

- Shops and financial sector (60%).
- Liberal professions and crafts (20%)
- Fishing (10%)
- Other activities, including education and health sectors (10%)

Active women work in the health and educational sectors, in addition to some who occupy positions in the commercial shops of the city. Additionally, many of the young people are engaged in commercial, financial, fishing and sectors.

Unemployment in Tyre is around 10 %.

3. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

3.1 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Tyre lies on a total area of about 65000 dunums all of which are considered arable land, and 5 % of which are cultivated (See table 3). The rest of the land is mainly used for residential and construction purposes.

Table 3: Land use

Land use	Area (in dunums)
Outlying area of the village	65000
Area of arable land	65000
Cultivated areas	3250

The most common cultivated products in Tyre are olives, grains, citrus fruits, fruits and vegetables. The crops are mainly traded in neighbouring villages, Saida and Beirut

The production of agro-foods in Tyre is limited to sesame oil (tahine) and sweets.

The agricultural and fishing sectors in Tyre face a number of problems:

- High prices of fertilizers and agricultural drugs.
- Use of illegal nets for fishing.
- Importing fish from abroad, and the monopoly of the fish market and wholesale.
- Presence of wastes and pollutants in the sea.
- High price of fuel.

3.2 CRAFTS , TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS

There are several crafts, trade and industrial activities in Tyre, mainly in vehicles, trucks, agricultural vehicles, blacksmithing, aluminium, carpentry, tiles, stones, concrete stones, bakery, sweets and patisseries and plastic hoses. Additionally, there are many touristic businesses and restaurants. In addition to the industrial city, a large number of professionals and artisans most notably tailors and manufacturers of sieves and upholstery are present in the city.

3.3 LIVESTOCK

The city of Tyre being a peninsula makes use of the wealth of fish present in its sea.

4. EDUCATION

100 % of school children had primary education. The students are enrolled in 17 private and public schools in the city.

5. HEALTH STATUS

Tyre health facilities are provided by 4 hospitals: one public and three private (Hiram, Jabal Amel and the Lebanese Italian Hospitals) that are present in the city.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Tyre experiences several environmental problems, these problems can be identified as follow by: its reliance on Rais Al Ain and Al Tayba project for the provision of water, which does not cover the needs of the inhabitants, whose number has doubled after the massive number of people who were displaced to the city from different regions of the south.

Additionally, there is a lack of wastewater management and the absence of a public sewage networks. Solid wastes are usually collected in Ras Al Ain and then burned without treatments to the hazards emitted and with no considerations to the environments.

Additionally, the village faces improper pollution management and the inability to control pollutants from neighbouring villages such as the burning of wastes odours and hazards emitted by Al Rashidiyi Camp. This highly affects the touristic areas in the city.

7. RELATIONSHIPS WITH NEARBY VILLAGES AND THE ROLE OF THE IMMIGRANTS

Tyre has built trade and touristic relationships with the neighbouring villages and businesses. The city has built itself as a commercial centre and a touristic attraction for most of the people in the South. The diversity of the population of the city helped in the development of Tyre's touristic activity. Additionally, there is a high rate of inter-marriages between Tyre and its neighbouring villages and towns.

8. INSTITUTIONS AND SERVICES

Tyre is governed by a municipal council which was founded in 1920, and is currently administrated by 21 members elected by the locals of the area. The council is assisted by several committees composed of locals from the village. There are also 3 contracted employees working in the municipality. The municipal council owns a permanent headquarters.

Additionally, Tyre has around 45 local institutions, cooperative, clubs and youth gatherings dealing with social matters in the village, such as Al Risala, Al Tadamon and Al Salam gatherings.