

## Cote d'Ivoire



### Introduction Cote d'Ivoire

**Background:** Close ties to France since independence in 1960, the development of cocoa production for export, and foreign investment made Cote d'Ivoire one of the most prosperous of the tropical African states, but did not protect it from political turmoil. In December 1999, a military coup - the first ever in Cote d'Ivoire's history - overthrew the government. Junta leader Robert GUEI blatantly rigged elections held in late 2000 and declared himself the winner. Popular protest forced him to step aside and brought runner-up Laurent GBAGBO into power. Ivorian dissidents and disaffected members of the military launched a failed coup attempt in September 2002. Rebel forces claimed the northern half of the country, and in January 2003 were granted ministerial positions in a unity government under the auspices of the Linas-Marcoussis Peace Accord. President GBAGBO and rebel forces resumed implementation of the peace accord in December 2003 after a three-month stalemate, but issues that sparked the civil war, such as land reform and grounds for citizenship, remain unresolved. The central government has yet to exert control over the northern regions and tensions remain high between GBAGBO and opposition leaders. Several thousand French and West African troops remain in Cote d'Ivoire to maintain peace and facilitate the disarmament, demobilization, and rehabilitation process.

Geography	Cote d'Ivoire
<b>Location:</b>	Western Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean, between Ghana and Liberia
<b>Geographic coordinates:</b>	8 00 N, 5 00 W
<b>Map references:</b>	Africa
<b>Area:</b>	<i>total:</i> 322,460 sq km <i>land:</i> 318,000 sq km <i>water:</i> 4,460 sq km
<b>Area - comparative:</b>	slightly larger than New Mexico
<b>Land boundaries:</b>	<i>total:</i> 3,110 km <i>border countries:</i> Burkina Faso 584 km, Ghana 668 km, Guinea 610 km, Liberia 716 km, Mali 532 km
<b>Coastline:</b>	515 km
<b>Maritime claims:</b>	<i>territorial sea:</i> 12 nm <i>exclusive economic zone:</i> 200 nm <i>continental shelf:</i> 200 nm
<b>Climate:</b>	tropical along coast, semiarid in far north; three seasons - warm and dry (November to March), hot and dry (March to May), hot and wet (June to October)
<b>Terrain:</b>	mostly flat to undulating plains; mountains in northwest
<b>Elevation extremes:</b>	<i>lowest point:</i> Gulf of Guinea 0 m <i>highest point:</i> Mont Nimba 1,752 m
<b>Natural resources:</b>	petroleum, natural gas, diamonds, manganese, iron ore, cobalt, bauxite, copper, gold, nickel, tantalum, silica sand, clay, cocoa beans, coffee, palm oil, hydropower
<b>Land use:</b>	<i>arable land:</i> 10.23% <i>permanent crops:</i> 11.16% <i>other:</i> 78.61% (2005)
<b>Irrigated land:</b>	730 sq km (2003)
<b>Natural hazards:</b>	coast has heavy surf and no natural harbors; during the rainy season torrential flooding is possible
<b>Environment - current issues:</b>	deforestation (most of the country's forests - once the largest in West Africa - have been heavily logged); water pollution from sewage and industrial and agricultural effluents
<b>Environment</b>	<i>party to:</i> Biodiversity, Climate Change, Desertification,

**international agreements:** - Endangered Species, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Marine Dumping, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Tropical Timber 83, Tropical Timber 94, Wetlands  
*signed, but not ratified:* none of the selected agreements

**Geography - note:** most of the inhabitants live along the sandy coastal region; apart from the capital area, the forested interior is sparsely populated

People	Cote d'Ivoire
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**Population:** 17,654,843  
*note:* estimates for this country explicitly take into account the effects of excess mortality due to AIDS; this can result in lower life expectancy, higher infant mortality and death rates, lower population and growth rates, and changes in the distribution of population by age and sex than would otherwise be expected (July 2006 est.)

**Age structure:** 0-14 years: 40.8% (male 3,546,674/female 3,653,990)  
15-64 years: 56.4% (male 5,024,575/female 4,939,677)  
65 years and over: 2.8% (male 238,793/female 251,134) (2006 est.)

**Median age:** *total:* 19.2 years  
*male:* 19.4 years  
*female:* 18.9 years (2006 est.)

**Population growth rate:** 2.03% (2006 est.)

**Birth rate:** 35.11 births/1,000 population (2006 est.)

**Death rate:** 14.84 deaths/1,000 population (2006 est.)

**Net migration rate:** 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2006 est.)

**Sex ratio:** *at birth:* 1.03 male(s)/female  
*under 15 years:* 0.97 male(s)/female  
*15-64 years:* 1.02 male(s)/female  
*65 years and over:* 0.95 male(s)/female  
*total population:* 1 male(s)/female (2006 est.)

**Infant mortality rate:** *total:* 89.11 deaths/1,000 live births  
*male:* 105.73 deaths/1,000 live births  
*female:* 71.99 deaths/1,000 live births (2006 est.)

**Life expectancy at birth:** *total population:* 48.82 years  
*male:* 46.24 years  
*female:* 51.48 years (2006 est.)

**Total fertility** 4.5 children born/woman (2006 est.)

**rate:**

**HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate:** 7% (2003 est.)

**HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS:** 570,000 (2003 est.)

**HIV/AIDS - deaths:** 47,000 (2003 est.)

**Major infectious diseases:** *degree of risk:* very high  
*food or waterborne diseases:* bacterial diarrhea, hepatitis A, and typhoid fever  
*vectorborne diseases:* malaria, yellow fever, and others are high risks in some locations  
*water contact:* schistosomiasis (2005)

**Nationality:** *noun:* Ivoirian(s)  
*adjective:* Ivoirian

**Ethnic groups:** Akan 42.1%, Voltaiques or Gur 17.6%, Northern Mandes 16.5%, Krous 11%, Southern Mandes 10%, other 2.8% (includes 130,000 Lebanese and 14,000 French) (1998)

**Religions:** Muslim 35-40%, indigenous 25-40%, Christian 20-30% (2001)  
*note:* the majority of foreigners (migratory workers) are Muslim (70%) and Christian (20%)

**Languages:** French (official), 60 native dialects with Dioula the most widely spoken

**Literacy:** *definition:* age 15 and over can read and write  
*total population:* 50.9%  
*male:* 57.9%  
*female:* 43.6% (2003 est.)

Government	Cote d'Ivoire
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**Country name:** *conventional long form:* Republic of Cote d'Ivoire  
*conventional short form:* Cote d'Ivoire  
*local long form:* Republique de Cote d'Ivoire  
*local short form:* Cote d'Ivoire  
*former:* Ivory Coast

**Government type:** republic; multiparty presidential regime established 1960  
*note:* the government is currently operating under a power-sharing agreement mandated by international mediators

**Capital:** *name:* Yamoussoukro

*geographic coordinates:* 5 19 N, 4 02 W

*time difference:* UTC 0 (5 hours ahead of Washington, DC during Standard Time)

*note:* although Yamoussoukro has been the official capital since 1983, Abidjan remains the commercial and administrative center; the US, like other countries, maintains its Embassy in Abidjan

**Administrative divisions:** 19 regions; Agneby, Bafing, Bas-Sassandra, Denguele, Dix-Huit Montagnes, Fromager, Haut-Sassandra, Lacs, Lagunes, Marahoue, Moyen-Cavally, Moyen-Comoe, N'zi-Comoe, Savanes, Sud-Bandama, Sud-Comoe, Vallee du Bandama, Worodougou, Zanzan

**Independence:** 7 August 1960 (from France)

**National holiday:** Independence Day, 7 August (1960)

**Constitution:** new constitution adopted 4 August 2000

**Legal system:** based on French civil law system and customary law; judicial review in the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations

**Suffrage:** 18 years of age; universal

**Executive branch:** *chief of state:* President Laurent GBAGBO (since 26 October 2000)  
*head of government:* Prime Minister Charles Konan BANNY (since 7 December 2005)  
*cabinet:* Council of Ministers appointed by the president; note - under the current power-sharing agreement Prime Minister BANNY and President GBAGBO share the authority to appoint ministers  
*elections:* president elected by popular vote for a five-year term (no term limits); election last held 26 October 2000 (next to be held by October 2007, after the government postponed elections in 2005 and 2006); prime minister appointed by the president (current Prime Minister BANNY was appointed by African Union mediators as part of the existing power-sharing agreement)  
*election results:* Laurent GBAGBO elected president; percent of vote - Laurent GBAGBO 59.4%, Robert GUEI 32.7%, Francis WODIE 5.7%, other 2.2%

**Legislative branch:** unicameral National Assembly or Assemblée Nationale (225 seats; members are elected in single- and multi-district elections by direct popular vote to serve five-year terms)  
*elections:* elections last held 10 December 2000 with by-elections on 14 January 2001 (next to be held by October

2007, after the government postponed the elections in 2005 and 2006)

*election results:* percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - FPI 96, PDCI-RDA 94, RDR 5, PIT 4, other 2, independents 22, vacant 2

*note:* a Senate is scheduled to be created in the next full election in 2006

**Judicial branch:** Supreme Court or Cour Supreme consists of four chambers: Judicial Chamber for criminal cases, Audit Chamber for financial cases, Constitutional Chamber for judicial review cases, and Administrative Chamber for civil cases; there is no legal limit to the number of members

**Political parties and leaders:** Citizen's Democratic Union or UDCY [Theodore MEL EG]; Democratic Party of Cote d'Ivoire-African Democratic Rally or PDCI-RDA [Henri Konan BEDIE]; Ivorian Popular Front or FPI [Laurent GBAGBO]; Ivorian Worker's Party or PIT [Francis WODIE]; Opposition Movement of the Future or MFA [Anaky KOBENAN]; Rally of the Republicans or RDR [Alassane OUATTARA]; Union for Democracy and Peace in Cote d'Ivoire or UDPCI [Mabri TOIKEUSE]; over 20 smaller parties

**Political pressure groups and leaders:** Federation of University and High School Students of Cote d'Ivoire or FESCI [Serges KOFFI]; Rally of Houphouetists for Democracy and Peace or RHDP [Alphonse DJEDJE MADY]; Young Patriots [Charles BLE GOUDE]

**International organization participation:** ACCT, ACP, AfDB, AU, ECOWAS, Entente, FAO, FZ, G-24, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICCt (signatory), ICRM, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, IFRCS, ILO, IMF, IMO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ITU, ITUC, MIGA, NAM, OIC, OIF, OPCW, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNWTO, UPU, WADB (regional), WAEMU, WCL, WCO, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

**Diplomatic representation in the US:** *chief of mission:* Ambassador Daouda DIABATE  
*chancery:* 3421 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20007  
*telephone:* [1] (202) 797-0300  
*FAX:* [1] (202) 244-3088

**Diplomatic representation from the US:** *chief of mission:* Ambassador Aubrey HOOKS  
*embassy:* Riviera Golf 01, Abidjan  
*mailing address:* B. P. 1866, Abidjan 01  
*telephone:* [225] 20 21 09 79  
*FAX:* [225] 20 22 32 59

**Flag description:** three equal vertical bands of orange (hoist side), white, and green; similar to the flag of Ireland, which is longer and has the colors reversed - green (hoist side), white, and orange;

also similar to the flag of Italy, which is green (hoist side), white, and red; design was based on the flag of France

Economy	Cote d'Ivoire
<b>Economy - overview:</b>	<p>Cote d'Ivoire is among the world's largest producers and exporters of coffee, cocoa beans, and palm oil. Consequently, the economy is highly sensitive to fluctuations in international prices for these products and weather conditions. Despite government attempts to diversify the economy, it is still heavily dependent on agriculture and related activities, engaging roughly 68% of the population. Growth was negative in 2000-03 because of the difficulty of meeting the conditions of international donors, continued low prices of key exports, foreign divestment and civil war. Political turmoil has continued to damage the economy since 2004, with a rising risk premium associated with doing business in the country, foreign investment shriveling, transportation costs increasing, French businesses fleeing, and criminal elements that traffic in weapons and diamonds gaining ground. The government will continue to survive financially off of the sale of cocoa, which represents 90% of foreign exchange earnings, but the government will probably lose between 10% and 20% of its cocoa harvest to northern rebels who smuggle the cocoa they control to neighboring countries where cocoa prices are higher. The government remains hopeful that ongoing exploration of Cote d'Ivoire's offshore oil reserves will result in significant production that could boost daily crude output from roughly 33,000 barrels per day (b/d) to more than 200,000 b/d by the end of the decade.</p>
<b>GDP (purchasing power parity):</b>	\$28.47 billion (2006 est.)
<b>GDP (official exchange rate):</b>	\$17.19 billion (2006 est.)
<b>GDP - real growth rate:</b>	1.2% (2006 est.)
<b>GDP - per capita (PPP):</b>	\$1,600 (2006 est.)
<b>GDP - composition by sector:</b>	<p><i>agriculture</i>: 27%  <i>industry</i>: 18.5%  <i>services</i>: 54.5% (2006 est.)</p>
<b>Labor force:</b>	6.738 million (68% agricultural) (2006 est.)

<b>Unemployment rate:</b>	13% in urban areas (1998)
<b>Population below poverty line:</b>	37% (1995)
<b>Household income or consumption by percentage share:</b>	<i>lowest 10%: 3.1%</i> <i>highest 10%: 28.8%</i> (1995)
<b>Distribution of family income - Gini index:</b>	45.2 (1998)
<b>Inflation rate (consumer prices):</b>	3.2% (2006 est.)
<b>Investment (gross fixed):</b>	11.8% of GDP (2006 est.)
<b>Budget:</b>	<i>revenues: \$2.837 billion</i> <i>expenditures: \$3.154 billion; including capital expenditures of \$420 million</i> (2006 est.)
<b>Public debt:</b>	69.4% of GDP (2006 est.)
<b>Agriculture - products:</b>	coffee, cocoa beans, bananas, palm kernels, corn, rice, manioc (tapioca), sweet potatoes, sugar, cotton, rubber; timber
<b>Industries:</b>	foodstuffs, beverages; wood products, oil refining, truck and bus assembly, textiles, fertilizer, building materials, electricity, ship construction and repair
<b>Industrial production growth rate:</b>	15% (1998 est.)
<b>Electricity - production:</b>	4.625 billion kWh (2004)
<b>Electricity - production by source:</b>	<i>fossil fuel: 61.9%</i> <i>hydro: 38.1%</i> <i>nuclear: 0%</i> <i>other: 0%</i> (2001)
<b>Electricity - consumption:</b>	3.202 billion kWh (2004)
<b>Electricity - exports:</b>	1.1 billion kWh (2004)
<b>Electricity - imports:</b>	0 kWh (2004)

**Oil - production:** 32,900 bbl/day (2005 est.)

**Oil - consumption:** 23,000 bbl/day (2004 est.)

**Oil - exports:** NA bbl/day (2001)

**Oil - imports:** NA bbl/day (2001)

**Oil - proved reserves:** 220 million bbl (2006 est.)

**Natural gas - production:** 1.3 billion cu m (2004 est.)

**Natural gas - consumption:** 1.3 billion cu m (2004 est.)

**Natural gas - exports:** 0 cu m (2004 est.)

**Natural gas - imports:** 0 cu m (2004 est.)

**Natural gas - proved reserves:** 28.32 billion cu m (1 January 2005 est.)

**Current account balance:** \$460 million (2006 est.)

**Exports:** \$7.832 billion f.o.b. (2006 est.)

**Exports - commodities:** cocoa, coffee, timber, petroleum, cotton, bananas, pineapples, palm oil, fish

**Exports - partners:** France 18.3%, US 14.1%, Netherlands 11%, Nigeria 8%, Panama 4.4% (2005)

**Imports:** \$5.548 billion f.o.b. (2006 est.)

**Imports - commodities:** fuel, capital equipment, foodstuffs

**Imports - partners:** France 27.7%, Nigeria 24.5%, Singapore 6.6% (2005)

**Reserves of foreign exchange and gold:** \$1.4 billion (2006 est.)

**Debt - external:** \$11.96 billion (2006 est.)

**Economic aid - recipient:** ODA, \$1 billion (1996 est.)

**Currency (code):** Communauté Financière Africaine franc (XOF); note - responsible authority is the Central Bank of the West African States

**Currency code:** XOF

**Exchange rates:** Communauté Financière Africaine francs (XOF) per US dollar - 522.592 (2006), 527.47 (2005), 528.29 (2004), 581.2 (2003), 696.99 (2002)

**Fiscal year:** calendar year

## Communications Cote d'Ivoire

**Telephones - main lines in use:** 257,900 (2004)

**Telephones - mobile cellular:** 2.19 million (2005)

**Telephone system:** *general assessment:* well developed by African standards but operating well below capacity  
*domestic:* open-wire lines and microwave radio relay; 90% digitalized  
*international:* country code - 225; satellite earth stations - 2 Intelsat (1 Atlantic Ocean and 1 Indian Ocean); 2 submarine cables (June 1999)

**Radio broadcast stations:** AM 2, FM 9, shortwave 3 (1998)

**Radios:** 2.26 million (1997)

**Television broadcast stations:** 14 (1999)

**Televisions:** 1.09 million (2000)

**Internet country code:** .ci

**Internet hosts:** 2,534 (2006)

**Internet Service Providers (ISPs):** 5 (2001)

**Internet users:** 160,000 (2005)

Transportation	Cote d'Ivoire
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**Airports:** 35 (2006)

**Airports - total:** 7  
**with paved runways:** over 3,047 m: 1  
2,438 to 3,047 m: 2  
1,524 to 2,437 m: 4 (2006)

**Airports - total:** 28  
**with unpaved runways:** 1,524 to 2,437 m: 8  
914 to 1,523 m: 15  
under 914 m: 5 (2006)

**Pipelines:** condensate 109 km; gas 240 km; oil 112 km (2006)

**Railways:** total: 660 km  
narrow gauge: 660 km 1.000 meter gauge  
note: an additional 622 km of this railroad extends into Burkina Faso (2005)

**Roadways:** total: 80,000 km  
paved: 6,500 km  
unpaved: 73,500 km  
note: includes intercity and urban roads; another 20,000 km of dirt roads are in poor condition and 150,000 km of dirt roads are impassable (2006)

**Waterways:** 980 km (navigable rivers, canals, and numerous coastal lagoons) (2005)

**Ports and terminals:** Abidjan, Aboisso, Dabou, San-Pedro

Military	Cote d'Ivoire
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**Military branches:** Cote d'Ivoire Defense and Security Forces (FDSC): Army, Navy, Air Force (2006)

**Military service age and obligation:** 18 years of age for compulsory and voluntary military service; conscript service obligation - 18 months (2004)

**Manpower available for military service:** males age 18-49: 3,696,106  
females age 18-49: 3,569,967 (2005 est.)

**Manpower fit for military service:** males age 18-49: 1,973,265  
females age 18-49: 1,911,777 (2005 est.)

**Manpower reaching:** males age 18-49: 189,354  
females age 18-49: 192,600 (2005 est.)

**military service age annually:**

**Military expenditures - dollar figure:** \$246.6 million (2005 est.)

**Military expenditures - percent of GDP:** 1.6% (2005 est.)

Transnational Issues	Cote d'Ivoire
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**Disputes - international:** rebel and ethnic fighting against the central government in 2002 has spilled into neighboring states, driven out foreign cocoa workers from nearby countries, and, in 2004, resulted in 6,000 peacekeepers deployed as part of UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) assisting 4,000 French troops already in-country; the Ivorian Government accuses Burkina Faso and Liberia of supporting Ivorian rebels

**Refugees and internally displaced persons:** *refugees (country of origin):* 39,919 (Liberia)  
*IDPs:* 750,000 (2002 coup; most IDPs are in western regions) (2006)

**Illicit drugs:** illicit producer of cannabis, mostly for local consumption; transshipment point for Southwest and Southeast Asian heroin to Europe and occasionally to the US, and for Latin American cocaine destined for Europe and South Africa; while rampant corruption and inadequate supervision leave the banking system vulnerable to money laundering, the lack of a developed financial system limits the country's utility as a major money-laundering center