



Cote d'Ivoire



Introduction to COTE D'IVOIRE

THE REPUBLIC OF COTE D'IVOIRE, located in West Africa, kept close ties with France after it gained independence from the nation in 1960. It remained stable until its first coup in 1999; foreign troops still patrol the nation in order to maintain peace. Despite the recent coup, Côte d'Ivoire has grown into modernity during its years of peace with help from its continued relationship with France.

The IVOIRIAN people

Total population:	20,617,068
Children under 15:	8,361,989
Average Life Expectancy:	55.45 years
Per capita annual income:	\$1,700
% children in primary school:	N/A*
Average years of education:	N/A*
Literacy rate:	48.7%
Internet users:	660,000
Cell phones in use:	10.449 million
Major/official language(s):	French, Dioula, Indigenous

Risk issues impacting children:

- Côte d'Ivoire's infant and under-5 mortality rates are among the highest in the world, and rising.
- Malaria, measles and respiratory infections are deadly threats to children. Acute malnutrition is increasing.
- Almost a million children, most of them in the north, do not attend school at all.
- Some 3,000 children are being used as soldiers. Sexual abuse, exploitation and violence against children have become increasingly common.

More about COTE D'IVOIRE

Capital city:	Yamoussokro
Type of government:	Republic; Multiparty presidential regime
Square kilometers:	322,463
General terrain:	Mostly flat to undulating plains, mountains in northwest
Major industries/jobs:	Agriculture, food stuffs, oil
National motto:	"Unity, Discipline, Labour"
Major airport(s):	Abdijan

Reaching COTE D'IVOIRE

Currently classified as World B: Somewhat Reached

Major religions:

Muslim	- 38.6%
Christian	- 32.8%
Indigenous	- 11.9%
None	- 16.7%

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic	- 44.7%
Protestant	- 27.3%
Independent	- 24%
Other	- 3.4%
Orthodox	- 0.6%

Unreached People Groups:	34 (28.1% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.093
Average annual baptisms:	277,078
Foreign missionaries:	1,800
Per million:	96.85
National Christian workers/pastors:	8,000
Per million:	430.46
Number of churches/congregations:	8,823

Children's ministry in COTE D'IVOIRE

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Cote d'Ivoire. The following information regards general children's ministry in West Africa, and may not all be applicable to this nation.

- Overview:** • Children's ministry has been growing in some regions of West Africa, with many pastors coming to understand the importance of ministry to children as part of a church's role. These churches are giving some space, resources and priority to work with children. In outlying areas and villages, a strategic focus on children is less common.
- Some nations in the region have strong Muslim or indigenous religious influences which present significant challenge to reaching and discipling children.
 - Lack of resources continues to slow children's ministry.
 - A substantial number of outside teams do ministry to children.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
8,823 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
8,361,989 children for Christ