INTRODUCTION
Close ties to France following independence in 1960, the development of cocoa production for export, and foreign investment all made Cote d’Ivoire one of the most prosperous of the West African states. A military coup in 1999 led to two civil wars and UN troops remain to support a democratic transition process.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
President Alassane Dramane OUATTARA
Head of Government
Prime Minister Patrick ACHI
Government Type
presidential republic
Capital
Yamoussoukro (legislative capital), Abidjan (administrative capital)
Legislature
bicameral Parliament consists of the Senate (99 seats) and the National Assembly (255 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 322,463 sq km
Land: 318,003 sq km
Water: 4,460 sq km
Climate
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)
Natural Resources
petroleum, natural gas, diamonds, manganese, iron ore, cobalt, bauxite, copper, gold, nickel, tantalum, silica sand, clay, cocoa beans, coffee, palm oil, hydropower

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
one of West Africa’s most influential, stable, and rapidly developing economies; poverty declines in urban but increases in rural areas; strong construction sector and increasingly diverse economic portfolio; increasing but manageable public debt; large labor force in agriculture
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $136.5 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $5,200 (2020 est.)
Industries - foodstuffs/beverages, wood products, oil refining, gold mining, truck and bus assembly, textiles, fertilizer, building materials, electricity
Agricultural products - yams, cassava, cocoa, oil palm fruit, sugarcane, rice, plantains, maize, cashew nuts, rubber
Exports $16.33 billion (2018 est.)
cocoa beans, gold, rubber, refined petroleum, crude petroleum (2019)
partners: Netherlands 10%, US 6%, France 6%, Spain 5%, Malaysia 5%, Switzerland 5%, Germany 5%, Vietnam 5% (2019)
Imports $14.25 billion (2018 est.)
crude petroleum, rice, frozen fish, refined petroleum, packaged medicines (2019)
partners: China 18%, Nigeria 13%, France 11% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
28.1 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
2.21% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Akan 28.9%, Voltaique or Gur 16.1%, Northern Mande 14.5%, Kru 8.5%, Southern Mande 6.9%, unspecified 0.9%, non-Ivoirian 24.2% (2014 est.)
Language
French (official), 60 native dialects of which Dioula is the most widely spoken
Religion
Muslim 42.9%, Catholic 17.2%, Evangelical 11.8%, Methodist 1.7%, other Christian 3.2%, animist 3.6%, other religion 0.5%, none 19.1% (2014 est.)