Overview – (Côte d'Ivoire) Ivory Coast
(source: http://countrywatch.altavista.com)

{PRIVATE}Largest Cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Estimated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abidjan</td>
<td>1,929,079</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baoke</td>
<td>329,850</td>
<td>1988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daloa</td>
<td>121,842</td>
<td>1988</td>
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</table>

People
Côte d'Ivoire has more than 60 ethnic groups, usually classified into five principal divisions: Akan (east and center, including Lagoon peoples of the southeast), Krou (southwest), Southern Mande (west), Northern Mande (northwest), and Senoufo/Lobi (north center and northeast). The Baoules, in the Akan division, probably comprise the largest single subgroup with 23 percent of the population. They are based in the central region around Bouake and Yamoussoukro. The Betes in the Krou division comprise 18 percent, the Senoufos in the north with fifteen percent, and the Malinkes with 11 percent. Most of the principal divisions have a significant presence in neighboring countries.

Of the more than five million non-Ivorian Africans living in Côte d'Ivoire, one-third to one-half are from Burkina Faso; the rest are from Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, Benin, Senegal, Liberia, and Mauritania. The non-African expatriate community includes roughly 20,000 French and 100,000 Lebanese.

The population of Côte d'Ivoire (1999 estimate) is 15,818,068. The overall population density is 48 persons per sq km (124 per sq mi). Sixty percent of the population is Muslim, 12 percent is Christian (mainly Roman Catholic), and 18 percent follow indigenous religions. Christianity dominates in the south and the center of the country. Islam is predominant in the north and northeast. Animism is still present throughout the country. Sects are recent phenomena. French is the official national language, but Dioula and 73 other languages are spoken. An estimated 48.5 percent of the population age 15 and over are literate.

History
Little is known of the early history of Côte d'Ivoire, although it is thought that a Neolithic culture existed there. France made its initial contact with Côte d'Ivoire in 1637, when missionaries landed at Assinie near the Gold Coast (now Ghana) border. Early contacts were limited to a few missionaries because of the inhospitable coastline and settlers' fear of the inhabitants.

In the 18th century, two related ethnic groups invaded the area, the Agnis, who occupied the southeast, and the Baoules, who settled in the central section. In 1843-44, Admiral Bouet-Williaumez signed treaties with the kings of the Grand Bassam and Assinie regions, placing their territories under a French protectorate. French explorers, missionaries, trading companies, and soldiers gradually extended the area under French control inland from the lagoon region.

Côte d'Ivoire officially became a French colony in 1893. Captain Binger, who had explored the Gold Coast frontier, was named the first governor. He negotiated boundary treaties with Liberia and the United Kingdom (for the Gold Coast), and later started the campaign against Almany Samory, a Malinke chief who fought against the French until 1898.

From 1904 to 1958, Côte d'Ivoire was a constituent unit of the Federation of French West Africa. It was a colony and an overseas territory under the French Third Republic. Until the period following World War II, governmental affairs in French West Africa were administered from Paris. France's policy in
West Africa was reflected mainly in its philosophy of "association," meaning that all Africans in Côte d'Ivoire were officially French "subjects" without rights to representation in Africa or France.

During World War II, the Vichy regime remained in control until 1943, when members of General Charles De Gaulle's provisional government assumed control of all French West Africa. The Brazzaville conference in 1944, the first Constituent Assembly of the Fourth Republic in 1946, and France’s gratitude for African loyalty during World War II, led to far-reaching governmental reforms in 1946. French citizenship was granted to all African "subjects," the right to organize politically was recognized, and various forms of forced labor were abolished.

A turning point in relations with France was reached with the 1956 Overseas Reform Act (Loi Cadre), which transferred a number of powers from Paris to elected territorial governments in French West Africa and also removed remaining voting inequalities.

In December 1958, Côte d'Ivoire became an autonomous republic within the French community as a result of a referendum providing community status to all members of the old Federation of French West Africa except Guinea, which had voted against association. Côte d'Ivoire became independent on 7 August 1960 and permitted its community membership to lapse.

Côte d'Ivoire's contemporary political history is closely associated with the career of Félix Houphouët-Boigny, president of the republic and leader of the Parti Démocratique de la Côte d'Ivoire (PDCI). He was one of the founders of the Rassemblement Démocratique Africain (RDA), the leading pre-independence inter-territorial political party in the French West African territories (except Mauritania).

Houphouët-Boigny first came to political prominence in 1944 as founder of the Syndicat Agricole Africain, an organization that won improved conditions for African farmers and formed a nucleus for the PDCI. After World War II, he was elected by a narrow margin to the first Constituent Assembly. Representing Côte d'Ivoire in the French National Assembly from 1946 to 1959, he devoted much of his effort to inter-territorial political organization and further amelioration of labor conditions.

After his 13-year of service in the French National Assembly, including almost three years as a minister in the French government, he became Côte d'Ivoire's first prime minister in April 1959. The following year he was elected Côte d'Ivoire's first president.

In May 1959, Houphouët-Boigny reinforced his position as a dominant figure in West Africa by leading Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Upper Volta (Burkina), and Dahomey (Benin) into the Council of the Entente, a regional organization promoting economic development. He maintained that the only true road to African solidarity is through step-by-step economic and political cooperation, recognizing the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other African states.

Following from his service in the French National Assembly, Houphouët-Boigny was a close ally of the socialists under François Mitterrand. He married these socialist roots to his authoritarian rule, creating what has been described as a paternalistic autocracy. He both recognizing the needs of the poor and built great, passionate monuments hallmarked by the building of the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace (modeled on the one in Rome) in his hometown of Yamoussoukro.

Until 1990, Houphouët's Parti Démocratique de la Côte d'Ivoire (Democratic Party of Côte d'Ivoire or PDCI) was the sole permitted party in the country. In 1990, Houphouët liberalized the political system and called for multi-party elections. Opposition parties, independent newspapers, and independent trades unions were legalized. Several dozen parties formed following Houphouët's announcement, including the Front Populaire Ivoirienne (Ivorian Popular Front or FPI), the largest of the opposition parties. The opposition won ten seats in the National Assembly out of a possible 175, and Houphouët was re-elected. Despite some accusations of irregularities, all participating political parties accepted the final results.
In 1993, Houphouet died and was replaced by his constitutional successor, National Assembly President Henri Konan Bédié. The constitution called for Bédié to serve out the rest of Houphouet's term, which ended in October 1995.

In the first months of his rule, Bédié filled top government posts, including the media and the judiciary, with his associates. He was also elected chairman of the PDCI. Bédié eliminated voices of dissent by bringing charges against journalists that had criticized the government. The parliament adopted electoral reforms in late 1994, which made candidates for the presidency or parliament who were not of direct Ivorian descent ineligible. This measure effectively eliminated Ouattara, Bédié's primary opponent, from challenging Bedie in the presidential elections. Mass demonstrations protested the new electoral code, but Ouattara stated he would respect the code. Only two candidates were deemed eligible by the electoral commission, specifically, Bédié and Francis Wodié of the Parti Ivorienne du Travail (Ivorian Labor Party or PIT). This same issue would come back to haunt Bédié, however, and would ultimately cost Cote d'Ivoire its political stability.

The primary opposition parties, the "Front Populaire Ivorienne" (Ivorian Popular Front or FPI) and the "Rassemblement des Républicains" (Republican Rally or RdR), boycotted the presidential election of Oct. 22, 1995 because of Ouattara's disqualification and the absence of an independent electoral commission (among other grievances). Their "active boycott" produced violent demonstrations and hundreds of arrests (with a number of those arrested not tried for two and one-half years). The boycott also resulted in the operation of only one of sixty polling stations in the opposition dominated Centre-Ouest region. Bédié won the election with 95.2 percent of the vote to Francis Wodié's (PIT) 3.8 percent.

Up until the December 1999 coup, the remaining 26 seats in the National Assembly were divided fairly equally between the only two other parties of national scope. The "Rassemblement des Républicains" (RdR) held 14 seats, and "Front Populaire Ivorienne" (FPI) held 12. The FPI is the oldest opposition party, strongest in the territory of its Bete tribe leader, Laurent Gbagbo. It is a moderate socialist party, more concerned with democratic reform than radical economic change. Members of the PDCI's reformist wing formed the non-ideological RdR in September 1994. They had hoped that former Prime Minister Alassane Ouattara would run and prevail in the 1995 presidential election (but he was disqualified from standing in the election by subsequent legislation requiring five-year residency). The RdR is strongest in the Muslim north. Few of the 80 or so other political parties have made much of an impact on the political scene.

The government underwent extensive reorganization in August 1996. Several government officials connected with the unrest prior to the elections, as well as allegedly involved in an attempted coup in 1995, were removed.

In early 1997, student protests, initially prompted by the late payment of student grants, and the revival of the banned Federation of Scholars and Students of Côte d'Ivoire (FESCI) drew a violent response from government forces. Bédié, however, soon released three students arrested during the protests and granted amnesty to all student activists. In April 1997, the university was closed after it sustained considerable damage from student demonstrations. It was reopened for classes at the end of May, although the residence halls remained closed. FESCI initiated a boycott of classes in response to the closing of the university, retracting only after the government lifted its ban of the organization in September 1997.

In August 1997, Bédié proposed the establishment of a Senate and other legislation to allow the president of the Senate to succeed the president as head of state in the event of the death of the president. Other legislation to make presidential candidate eligibility requirements part of the constitution was also proposed. These requirements were somewhat relaxed compared to those of the previous elections. Opposition parties welcomed further electoral reforms, including increased proportional representation and the establishment of an election control and arbitration commission, which would include opposition members and international observers.

The new Bédié government received criticism from Amnesty International for the alleged repression of
opposition groups. This criticism was in response to the detention of many opposition members connected with the boycott of the elections and pre-election unrest, and the death of several opposition activists while in custody. Bédié received additional criticism for the arrest of several journalists connected to the opposition. On Dec. 24, 1999, military leaders upset with the Bédié administration overthrew the government. General Guei, leader of the coup d'état, installed the National Council for Public Salvation, including a government of the FPI and the RDR.

**Economy**

Côte 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 to weather conditions. Despite attempts by the government to diversify the economy, it is still largely dependent on agriculture and related activities, which engage roughly 51% of the population. After several years of lagging performance, the Ivorian economy began a comeback in 1994, due to improved prices for cocoa and coffee, growth in nontraditional primary exports such as pineapples and rubber, limited trade and banking liberalization, offshore oil and gas discoveries, and generous external financing and debt rescheduling by multilateral lenders and France. The 50% devaluation of Franc Zone currencies on 12 January 1994 caused a one-time jump in the inflation rate to 26% in 1994, but the rate fell to 2.5% in 1996 and 4.7% in 1997. Moreover, government adherence to donor-mandated reforms led to a jump in growth rates—6.8% in GDP in 1996, 6% in 1997 and 5.7% in 1998. 

**Gross Domestic Product** Real GDP in Côte d'Ivoire increased by 28.0% between 1994 and 1998, an average annual compound growth rate of 6.4%, while the population increased by 14.0%, which was an annual compound growth rate of 3.3%. This resulted in an increase in real GDP per capita from $1,301 to $1,481 over the same period.

**Agriculture**

The agriculture sector in Côte d'Ivoire contributes 27.3% of the GDP and employs an estimated 51.1% of the labor force. The key primary food crops produced are bananas, cocoa beans, coconuts, green coffee, maize, rice, soybeans and sugar cane. The primary meat products are beef, chicken, game, goat, mutton and pork. The largest (in value terms) agricultural exports in 1997 were cocoa beans, coffee, fish, bananas and cotton lint. The total value of agricultural exports in 1997 was $2.2 billion, while the total value of agricultural imports in 1997 was $549.9 million.

**Energy**

Côte d'Ivoire is a net energy importer. The main import is oil. In 1997 oil imports amounted to an estimated 40,000 bpd of oil. The primary domestic energy resources are oil, natural gas and hydroelectric power. Offshore petroleum reserves were first discovered in the 1970's. During the twenty–year period from 1970 to 1990, over 100 wells were drilled offshore Côte d'Ivoire, and several commercial oil and gas fields were discovered. Two fields, Espoir and Belier, began production in the late 1970's. Espoir, which was operated by Phillips Petroleum, was in production until 1988, when it was shut down due to high operating costs. Production from Espoir averaged 10,000 barrels per day (bbl/d). Production from the Belier field peaked at nearly 20,000 bbl/d in the mid 1980's, but it has since declined to less than 5,000 bbl/d. U.S.-based United Meridian Corporation (UMC) discovered the Lion and Panthere fields on Block CI-11 in 1994. Production from Lion (oil) and Panthere (gas and condensates) began in mid-1995, and averaged 28,000 bbl/d in 1996. UMC is the operator and it holds a 28 % interest in Block CI-11. UMC partners in the block are Petroleoires de la Côte d'Ivoire (Petroci), the national oil company of Côte d'Ivoire, Yukong Ltd. of South Korea and Seagull Energy Corporation. It was announced in September 1997, that Petroci had reached an agreement with Daewoo of South Korea on purchasing a 10 % interest in Block CI-11.

In September 1996, the GOC revised its code concerning hydrocarbon development. The code includes a plan to recover up to 75% of deep-water recovery costs, new tax incentives, and a 48-hour customs turnaround for imports of equipment. Mohammed Lamine Fadika, Minister of Mines and Petroleum Resources, stated that it is Côte d'Ivoire's goal to boost oil production to 100,000 bbl/d by 2000. Plans to restructure Petroci were issued in November 1997 by the GOC. The plans call for Petroci to be restructured into a state-owned holding company with three subsidiaries, which will be open to private
investors. The new entities -- Petroci-Holding, Petroci-Exploration/Production, Petroci-Gaz, and Petroci-Industries/Services -- would be operational from November 1997, and majority ownership of the three subsidiaries would remain with the state.

Natural gas reserves in Côte d’Ivoire, first discovered in the 1980’s, have begun to be developed and utilized. UMC and its partners are currently producing gas from the Panthere field on Block CI-11. The gas is transported to a site near Abidjan via pipeline. Currently the gas is used primarily to generate electricity. UMC announced in April 1997 that it had signed a ten-year take-or-pay agreement to supply 170 billion cubic feet (bcf) of gas for electricity generation. Under a take-or-pay agreement the buyer agrees to pay a certain price for a specified amount of gas, whether they actually use (take) the gas or not. The gas would be supplied from fields operated by UMC located offshore eastern Côte d’Ivoire in Block CI-01 (Kudu, Eland and Ibex fields) and Block CI-02 (Gazelle field). The contract calls for initial deliveries, to begin in early 1999, of 30 million cubic feet per day (mmcf/d) for the first two years increasing to 50 mmcf/d for the remainder of the contract. UMC also plans to construct a LPG extraction plant near Abidjan. The facility will produce 1,200 bbl/d of LPG from 100 mmcf/d of natural gas feedstock from the production on Block CI-11 and CI-01. Design and engineering of the plant began in 1997.

Apache and its partners also announced the signing of a ten-year take-or-pay contract in April 1997. The gas will be supplied from the Foxtrot field, which has estimated reserves of nearly 600 bcf. The cost of developing the Foxtrot field is $80-$90 million with production expected to begin by October 1998. The scheduling and amount of gas delivered under the contract is the same as the other take-or-pay agreement. Apache’s partners on the field are Electricité de France (EDF), Petroci and Saur – Bouygues (SAUR).

Côte d’Ivoire is poised to become a regional gas exporter. Negotiations between Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana to adopt a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on the sale of gas began in the summer of 1997. Côte d’Ivoire and Nigeria are competing to supply 30 mmcf/d of gas to the Takoradi power station. If successful in its bid, Côte d’Ivoire will supply gas from the Kudu, Ibex and Eland fields to Takoradi. Ghanaian mining concern Ashanti Goldfields also has expressed interest in purchasing gas from Côte d’Ivoire. It has held talks with Petroci concerning this matter, but no decision has been made. In September 1996, the GOC announced that it had awarded a contract to Samsung of South Korea to construct a gas cylinder manufacturing plant. Partners in the joint-venture with Samsung are Petroci and the neighboring countries of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. Samsung plans to produce 350,000 bottles of Ivorian offshore gas annually, with 120,000 being consumed domestically. The remaining production is destined for Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

Côte d’Ivoire currently has installed electric generation capacity of 1.2 gigawatts split roughly 75/25 between hydroelectric and thermal facilities. A recent World Bank report stated that only 25 % of the population currently has access to electricity. Since its privatization in 1990, the Companie Electricite Ivoirienne (CIE) has handled the management and distribution of electricity in Côte d’Ivoire. SAUR and EDF are the joint-owners of CIE.

SAUR and EDF began the joint-development of the CIPREL project in 1993. CIPREL was one of the first independent power producer (IPP) projects undertaken in sub-Saharan Africa. CIPREL, which is gas fired, has a current generating capacity of 100 megawatts (MW). When completed CIPREL will have a total capacity of 250-300 MW.

In July 1996, the GOC announced it was seeking bids for a third thermal power plant that will be located near Abidjan. The plant, Vridi III, would be a 300-450 MW gas-fired plant built on the BOT financing scheme. Vridi III will be completed in phases of 100-150 MW. In June 1997, it was announced that the Swiss-based Asea Brown Boveri (ABB) had won the bid. ABB’s plan calls for a 420 MW facility, with operation of the first phase beginning in early 1999. Construction of the plant began in the last quarter of 1997.

Metals

The Government of Cote d’Ivoire actively encouraged the responsible development of the country’s mineral resources and the variety of mineral resources in Côte d’Ivoire was noteworthy. The state mining company, Société pour le Développement Minier (SODEMI) had documented numerous mineral deposits, including bauxite, brick clay, ilmenite, iron ore, manganese, lateritic nickel, rutile, glass sand,

Côte d'Ivoire’s mineral industry was a modest factor in determining the nation’s gross domestic product. However, the country’s Birimian greenstones have attracted considerable attention from international gold exploration companies.

The Société des Mines d'Ity, a joint venture of LaSource Group of France (40%) and SODEMI (60%), operated the open pit Ity gold mine, 90 kilometers (km) southwest of Man in the west of the country. The Government initiated privatization of its interests in the company during 1996. However, unexpected lower ore grades, crusher-related problems, and problems with artisanal miners reduced output at Ity during the year.

The Société des Mines d'Afema (Somiaf) operated the Afema Mine, a three-pit heap-leach operation, 120 km east of Abidjan. Eden Roc Mineral Corp. of Canada held 68% of Somiaf, and SODEMI held the remaining 32%. Gold production at Afema decreased in 1996 to 622 kilograms (kg) from 766 kg in 1995 (The Northern Miner, 1997). The decreased output was attributed to heavy rainfall adversely affecting pit and heap-leach operations and continued agglomeration problems. Production was expected to rebound in 1997 because Somiaf was doubling the capacity of the absorption-desorption recovery plant and it reportedly had solved the agglomeration problems.

A number of international companies were engaged in exploration for gold on exploration permits in Côte d'Ivoire including: Anmercosa, the local subsidiary of Anglo American Corp. of South Africa; Cie. Minière d'Afrique, the local subsidiary of LaSource Group of France; Cluff Mining Ltd. of the United Kingdom; Eden Roc; Equigold NL of Australia; GATRO-CI, the local subsidiary of Gencor Ltd. of South Africa; Goldivoire; Leo Shield Resources Ltd. of Australia; Oxford Resources Inc. of Canada; Pan African Resources Corp.-Côte d'Ivoire, a subsidiary of Golden Star Resources Ltd. of Canada; Randgold Resources of the United Kingdom, a Jersey subsidiary of Randgold & Exploration of South Africa; Stanley Mining Services Ltd. of Australia; Trillion Resources Ltd. of Canada; Western Mining Corp. of Australia; and Winslow Gold Corp. of Canada. Artisanal gold activity exists in Côte d'Ivoire, but production was clandestine and unreported.

Falconbridge International (Investments) Ltd. of Canada continued its multiyear drilling program on the Touba-Biankouma nickel prospect. Touba-Biankouma, approximately 500 km northwest of Abidjan, consisted of several lateritic nickel deposits, including the Sipilou deposits. Trillion Resources Ltd. of Canada, a partner in the project (Falconbridge, 60%; Government, 25%; and Trillion, 15%) reported total indicated and inferred resources of approximately 225 million metric tons grading 1.5% nickel and 0.1% cobalt (Trillion Resources Ltd. News Release, 1996/97 Field Program Underway—Touba-Biankouma Nickel Project - Côte d'Ivoire, October 11, 1996). Diamond mining at Tortiya and Séguéla was primarily artisanal.

**Environment**

Because Cote d'Ivoire is dependent economically on a small variety of agricultural products for export, very little attention has been given to the environmental effects of this kind of export-driven production. In particular, most of the country's forests - once the largest in West Africa - have been cleared by the timber industry. In this way, deforestation is a severe problem in Cote d'Ivoire.

**Key Data**

- **Region**: Africa
- **Population**: 15,818,068 (July 1999 Estimate)
- **Area Total**: 322,460 km²
- **Area Land**: 318,000 km²
**Coastline** 515 km
Tropical along coast, semiarid in far north; three seasons- warm and dry

**Climate** (November to March), hot and dry (March to May), hot and wet (June to October).

**Languages**
French (official)
60 native dialects

**Currency**
1 CFAF = 100 centimes

**Holiday** National Day, 7 August

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<th>Boundaries</th>
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<td>Guinea</td>
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<td>Burkina Faso</td>
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<td>Baoule</td>
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<td>Bete</td>
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<td>Senoufou</td>
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<td>Malinke</td>
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<tr>
<th>Religions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>60 %</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Other</td>
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## Chemically Related Trade and Industry – Ivory Coast

### U.S. Trade by Commodity with Ivory Coast
(Millions of Dollars; Total Exports and Imports)

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<td>34</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Beverages And Tobacco</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td><strong>5 Chemicals And Related Products</strong></td>
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<td>6 Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Material</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>7 Machinery And Transport Equipment</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>69</td>
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<td>Elsewhere</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>173</strong></td>
<td><strong>141</strong></td>
<td><strong>151</strong></td>
<td><strong>152</strong></td>
<td><strong>104</strong></td>
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<td><strong>290</strong></td>
<td><strong>226</strong></td>
<td><strong>381</strong></td>
<td><strong>293</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Beverages And Tobacco</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>53</td>
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<td>4 Animal And Vegetable Oils, Fats And Waxes</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Chemicals And Related Products</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Material</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Machinery And Transport Equipment</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Commodities &amp; Transactions Not Classified</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elsewhere</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>214</strong></td>
<td><strong>397</strong></td>
<td><strong>289</strong></td>
<td><strong>418</strong></td>
<td><strong>347</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chemical Industry Overview – Ivory Coast
http://www.mbendi.co.za

Ivory Coast’s chemical industry centres around rubber, although there are also a number of chemical and chemical related companies in the country. There are a number of rubber plantations in the country, and the main chemical export is latex.

A recent government strategy of privatisation has led to the sale of the government holding in the three major companies involved in rubber production to majority private interests. Despite these attempts to bolster the chemicals industry, importation of chemicals still accounts for approximately 15% of the total imports per annum.

Other chemical products which are produced in the country are paint, industrial adhesives, and industrial and medical gases. Drinking water is produced, treated and distributed, and there is a local manufacturer of batteries.

The main companies operating in the rubber sector are Compagnie des Caoutchoucs du Pakidie (CCP), Société Africaine de Plantations d’Hévéas (SAPH), and Société des Caouchoucs de Grand-Béréby (SOGB). Eveready Côte d’Ivoire SA manufactures batteries. Sadofoss SA manufactures paint and industrial adhesives. Société de Distribution d’Eau de la Côte d’Ivoire (SODECI) is active in the production, treatment and distribution of drinking water. Société Ivoirienne d’Oxygène et d’Acétylène, 72% owned by Air Liquide France, manufactures industrial and medical gases.

The Côte d’Ivoirean workers are unionised, with the main union being Union Générale des Travailleurs de Côte d’Ivoire (UGTCI), which has 100 000 individual members and 190 affiliated unions.

Higher Education System – Ivory Coast
http://www.unesco.org/ngo/iau

Structure of system
Since 1996, higher education is offered at three separate universities (formerly the Universite Nationale de Cote d'Ivoire), the Universite de Cocody, the Universite d'Abobo-Adjame and the Universite de Bouake as well as at centres universitaires and at institutions providing higher professional training. The Ministry of National Education is responsible for tertiary education. In 1991, the University and the teacher college came under the auspices of a new ministry, the Ministere de l'enseignement superieur, de la recherche et de l'Innovation technologique. The major affiliated institutes/centres with the university are the Ecole Nationale Superieure Agronomique (ENSA), the Centre Ivoirien de Recherche Economique et Sociale (CIPRES), and the Centre Universitaire d'Etudes Francaises. The Ecole Nationale Superieure des Beaux Arts in Abidjan offers programmes for artists.
Main types of higher education institutions in country

Type of institution: UNIVERSITE
Translation: UNIVERSITY

Type of institution: ECOLE NATIONALE SUPERIEURE
Translation: NATIONAL HIGHER SCHOOL

Type of institution: CENTRE UNIVERSITAIRE
Translation: UNIVERSITY CENTRE

Type of institution: INSTITUT SUPERIEUR
Translation: HIGHER INSTITUTE

Type of institution: ECOLE NORMALE SUPERIEURE
Translation: HIGHER TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE

Administrative structure of higher education

Name of body: Ministere de l'Education Nationale

Address:
P.O. Box: 120
City: Abidjan
Postal code: 01
Telephone: 225-22-44-17
Telex: 23377 mineduca abidj
Fax: 225-22-69-08

Name of body: Ministere de l'Enseignement superieur

Address:
City: Abidjan
Postal code: BP V24
Telephone: 225 44-90-00
Telex: 26138
Cable: RECTU-CI ABIDJAN

Academic year
Classes start: October
Classes end: June
Long vacation: from 30 June, to 30 September

Languages of instruction: French
For More Information on Ivory Coast

EIA - Country Information on Cote d'Ivoire
Links to other sites:

- [http://travel.state.gov/cote.html](http://travel.state.gov/cote.html) U.S. State Department's Consular Information Sheet - Cote d'Ivoire
- [http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/citoc.html](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/citoc.html) Library of Congress Country Study on Cote d'Ivoire
- [http://www.census.gov foreign-trade/balance/c7480.html](http://www.census.gov foreign-trade/balance/c7480.html) U.S. Trade with Cote d'Ivoire

The following links are provided solely as a service to our customers, and therefore should not be construed as advocating or reflecting any position of the Energy Information Administration (EIA) or the United States Government. In addition, EIA does not guarantee the content or accuracy of any information presented in linked sites.

Embassy of Cote d'Ivoire
Mbendi Information Service - Cote d'Ivoire's oil and gas industry
Africa New Service: Cote d'Ivoire
Washington Post World Reference: Cote d'Ivoire
Washington Times: Cote d'Ivoire
University of Pennsylvania African Studies: Cote d'Ivoire
International Monetary Fund (IMF): Cote d'Ivoire