Geography

Area: 342,000 sq km

West of Democratic Republic of Congo (Congo-Zaire), with which it is often confused. Around 60% of the country is covered with tropical rainforest, which is declining from deforestation. Grasslands and bush in the central and southwest, forest in the north.

Population: 3,758,678   **Annual Growth**: 1.93%
Capital: Brazzaville   **Urbanites:** 62.1%

Peoples

People Groups: 77 (4% unreached)
Official language: French, Trade languages Lingala, Munukutu-ba (Kongo Creole)   **Languages:** 66 All languages

Religion

Largest Religion: Christian 3,372,286 (89.72%)
Christians: *listed above*   **Evangelicals:** 598,234 (15.9%)

Specific prayer needs listed on back.

Republic of Congo Specific Prayer Needs

Church life is a complex mix of physical need and spiritual diversity. Catholics, African Initiated Churches, mainline Protestants, Western cults, conservative evangelicals and Pentecostal/charismatics all vie for the faith of the people. Thankfully, relations are improving among denominations with strong evangelical values. But poverty and instability not only interrupt and undermine long-term ministry, but they also cause many Christian leaders to leave for other lands. Pray for a greater commitment to biblical unity and for long-term stability in which to build stronger leadership and ministry.

Training for Christian leaders is a point for concern. Pray for full restoration of this strategic ministry. UWM has a four-year residential school and a TEE programme. The Salvation Army runs a Bible college. CMA has a Bible school in Brazzaville and a facility in Pointe-Noire that includes a Bible school and TEE centre. The Evangelical Church of the Congo has a Seminary and Bible Institute; the Haggai Institute is active in training leaders as is MANI. Beyond theology, biblical leadership and management principles also need to be instilled.