REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Capital

Brazzaville

Ethnic Groups

Kongo 40.5%, Teke 16.9%, Mbochi 13.1%, foreigner 8.2%, Sangha 5.6%, Mbere/Mbeti/Kele 4.4%, Punu 4.3%, Pygmy 1.6%, Oubanguiens 1.6%, Duma 1.5%, Makaa 1.3%, other and unspecified 1%

Languages

French (official), French Lingala and Monokutuba (lingua franca trade languages), many local languages and dialects (of which Kikongo is the most widespread)

Religions

Roman Catholic 33.1%, Awakening Churches/Christian Revival 22.3%, Protestant 19.9%, Salutiste 2.2%, Muslim 1.6%, Kimbanguiste 1.5%, other 8.1%, none 11.3%
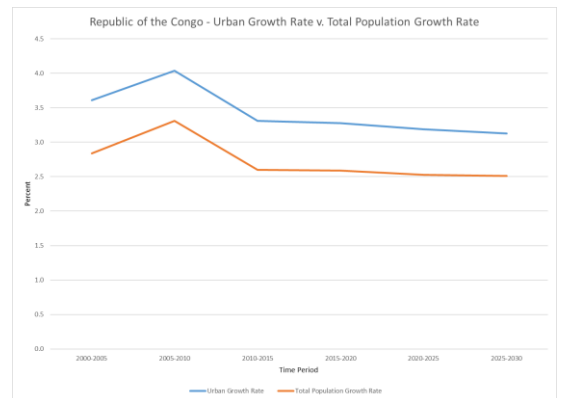

Population

Total: 5.7 million
Median age: 19.5 years
Population growth rate: 2.33%
Urban: 69.2%
Rural 30.8%

Fertility

Birth rate: 31.55 births/1,000 population
Total fertility rate: 4.32 children born/woman
Sex ratio of population: 1 male(s)/female

Mortality

Death rate: 8.23 deaths/1,000 population
Life expectancy at birth: 62.51 years
Maternal mortality rate: 378 deaths/100,000 live births
Infant mortality rate: 46.62 deaths/1,000 live births

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Migration

Net migration rate: 0 migrants/1,000 population

Health

Current health expenditure: 4.5% of GDP
Physician density: 0.1 physicians/1,000 population
Adult obesity: 9.6%
Alcohol consumption per capita: 5.74 liters of pure alcohol

Education

Education expenditures: 4.5% of GDP
Literacy: 80.3%

Population Distribution

the population is primarily located in the south, in and around the capital of Brazzaville

Age Structure

Population Distribution
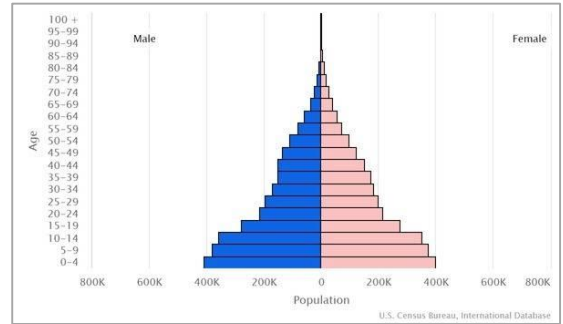

Population per square kilometer

Demographic Profile

The Republic of the Congo is one of the most urbanized countries in Africa, with nearly 70% of Congolese living in urban areas. The population is concentrated in the southwest of the country, mainly in the capital Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire, and along the railway line that connects the two. The tropical jungles in the north of the country are sparsely populated. Most Congolese are Bantu, and most belong to one of four main ethnic groups, the Kongo, Teke, Mbochi, and Sangha, which consist of over 70 subgroups.

The Republic of Congo is in the early stages of a demographic transition, whereby a population shifts from high fertility and mortality rates to low fertility and mortality rates associated with industrialized societies. Its total fertility rate (TFR), the average number of children born per woman, remains high at 4.4 as of 2022. While its TFR has steadily decreased, the progress slowed beginning in about 1995. The slowdown in fertility reduction has delayed the demographic transition and Congo's potential to reap a demographic dividend, the economic boost that can occur when the share of the working-age population is larger than the dependent age groups. The TFR differs significantly between urban and rural areas – 3.7 in urban areas versus 6.5 in rural areas. The TFR also varies among regions. The urban regions of Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire have much lower TFRs than other regions, which are predominantly or completely rural. The gap between desired fertility and actual fertility is also greatest in rural areas.

Although 90% of school-age children are enrolled in primary school, repetition and dropout rates are high and the quality of education is poor. Congolese women with no or little education start having children earlier and have more children in total than those with at least some secondary education.