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Togo

HDI RANK: **147** POPULATION: **6,145** GNI PER CAPITA: **350**

LIFE EXPECTANCY: **55**

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Main languages: French (official), Éwé, Kabyé.

Main religions: traditional religions (33%), Roman Catholic (28%), Sunni Islam (14%), Protestant (10%), other Christian denominations (10%).

Main minority groups: Éwé 1.3 million (21%), Ouatchi (Gbe) 366,000 (5.8%), Mina (Gen) 201,000 (3.2%), Fon 36,000 (0.6%), Adja 152,000 (2.4%), Moba 190,000 (3%), Konkomba 50,000 (0.8%), Tem (Kotokoli) 204,000 (3.2%), Ntcham (Bassari) 100,000 (1.6%), Hausa 9,600 (0.2%).

[Note: Percentages for religion come (via US CIRF 2007) from the Demographic Research Unit of the University of Lomé, 2004. Statistics for Ewe and Kabye come from the US State Department background note on Togo, 2008. Statistics on some ethnic groups come from Ethnologue, 1991: Ouatchi, Mina, Fon, Lama. Moba, Konkomba, Tem and Hausa. The figure for Ntcham comes from Ethnologue, 1993; for Adja, 2002. Total population est. of 6.3 million (from 2006) is taken from the 2008 U.S. State Department background note on Togo and is used to calculate percentages from numbers and vice-versa].

There are between 20 and 40 different ethnic groups in Togo, depending on differing classifications. No group has a numerical majority. A northern group, the Kabyé, has dominated the country's politics, and is the second largest group in Togo (after the Éwé), with some 12 per cent of the population. Northern Togo, where Kabyé are concentrated, is more ethnically diverse than the south. Other northern groups include the Moba, Kotokoli, Bassari, Hausa and Konkomba. One of Togo's most homogeneous ethnic groups, Moba inhabit rich agricultural lands in north Dapaong area and speak a dialect influenced by the More language of the Mossi of Burkina Faso. Konkomba are related to Moba and live in northern Togo and Ghana in the Oti River basin, a tributary of the Volta, north of Bassari. They live in clans organized into patrilineages and age sets, with no central structure. Traditionally, they are herders, fishers and subsistence farmers. Bassari, who belong to the Kotokoli ethnic cluster, live north-west of Sokode in West central, Bassari, Kabou, Kalanga and adjacent areas, and in neighbouring Ghana. They call themselves Bi-Tchambe, which means metalworkers, their pre-colonial occupation. Not to be confused with the Bassari along the Guinea-Senegal border, Bassari of Togo live among large numbers of non-Bassari. There are only small numbers of Hausa in Togo, but they form an important mercantile and religious group. They have been the prime transmitters of Islam in Togo.

Éwé ([../5348/togo/w.html](http://minorityrights.org/country/togo/)) and related Ouatchi, Mina, Fon and Adja ethnic groups are concentrated in the south (see separate entry).

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