

## ECUADOR

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Ecuador is located on the northwest coast of South America. It is a little smaller than the state of Nevada and has a population of around 13.8 million. It has 3 zones, the coastal plain, the highlands, dominated by Andes mountains, and the east which includes the Amazon rain forest. The rain forest represents about half of the surface area but only 3% of the population.

The economy is based on petroleum production. Ecuador is the world's largest exporter of bananas. Tourism has become such an important industry that Ecuador will be the first foreign country ever to place a Super Bowl ad in today's game. Roman Catholicism is by far the dominant religion. Around 8% of the population is Evangelical.

Prayer needs: In the rural parts of Ecuador, indigenous beliefs and Christianity are sometimes syncretized or blended. There is a need for the jungle churches to mature as they face the onslaught of the Spanish and Quichua cultures.