



Burkina Faso



Introduction to BURKINA FASO

BURKINA FASO is one of the world's poorest countries, with few natural resources and a high population density. Most citizens rely on subsistence farming. Despite its extreme poverty, Burkina Faso is one of the most politically stable countries in West Africa.

The BURKINABE people

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| Total population: | 15,746,232 |
| Children under 15: | 7,268,309 |
| Average Life Expectancy: | 52.95 years |
| Per capita annual income: | \$1,200 |
| % children in primary school: | 58.1% |
| Average years of education: | 5 years |
| Literacy rate: | 21.80% |
| Internet users: | 140,000 |
| Cell phones in use: | 2.553 million |
| Major/official language(s): | |

French

Tribal languages

Risk issues impacting children:

- More than 44% of children suffer delayed or stunted growth due to malnutrition.
- School enrollment is low.
- Many girls are still subjected to genital mutilation, a practice that causes lifelong damage.

More about BURKINA FASO

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| Capital city: | Ouagadougou |
| Type of government: | Parliamentary Republic |
| Square kilometers: | 274,200 |
| General terrain: | Mostly flat or undulating plains, with some hills in the west |
| Major industries/jobs: | Cotton, agriculture, cigarettes, textiles, gold |
| National motto: | "Unity, Progress, Justice" |
| Major airport(s): | |
| | Aéroport International d'Ouagadougou |
| | Aéroport International Borgo |

Reaching BURKINA FASO

Currently classified as World B: Somewhat Reached

Major religions:

- Muslim - 50%
- Indigenous - 40%
- Christian - 10%

Christian groups:

- Roman Catholic - 55.5%
- Protestant - 42.1%
- Independent - 2.1%
- Other - 0.3%

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Unreached People Groups: | 28 (19% of pop) |
| Average annual Christian growth: | 0.127 |
| Average annual baptisms: | 221,506 |
| Foreign missionaries: | 1,100 |
| Per million: | 78.95 |
| National Christian workers/pastors: | 6,000 |
| Per million: | 430.62 |
| Number of churches/congregations: | 5,140 |

Children's ministry in BURKINA FASO

Overview: • Children's ministry in Burkina Faso is burgeoning.

Many churches are starting Sunday Schools, and leaders are beginning to see the importance of quality ministry to children. However, there are still many churches with no children's ministry at all, or that lack committed teachers.

- Some parents and churches still do not see children as able to develop spiritually or truly understand the gospel.
- There are a number of outside ministries that train children's workers and work with children directly in Burkina Faso.
- In addition, private schools are available for children, and many of them are Christian. Despite there being a large Muslim population, many children are sent to these schools.
- Finances and access to quality resources are a struggle for many ministries in the nation.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
5,140 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
7,268,309 children for Christ