



# Djibouti



## Introduction to DJIBOUTI

THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI, a small country tucked between Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea on Africa's northeast coast, tends to be stable and open to outsiders. The former French territory still holds close ties to the France since its independence in 1977. Most Djiboutians live in the capital city, though there is a significant rural population, most of whom are nomadic herdsman.

## The DJIBOUTIAN people

<b>Total population:</b>	516,055
<b>Children under 15:</b>	223,478
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	43.37 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$3,700
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	45.3%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	4 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	67.9%
<b>Internet users:</b>	13,000
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	44,100
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	

French  
Arabic  
Somali  
Afar

## Risk issues impacting children:

- Polio and HIV/AIDS are continued risks to children.
- Girls are at risk for female genital mutilation.
- School enrollment rates can be low, and there are gender disparities girls must deal with.

## More about DJIBOUTI

<b>Capital city:</b>	Djibouti
<b>Type of government:</b>	Republic
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	23,200
<b>General terrain:</b>	Coastal plain and plateau separated by central mountains
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Construction, agricultural processing
<b>National motto:</b>	"Unity, Equality, Peace"
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Djibouti-Ambouli

## Reaching DJIBOUTI

Currently classified as World A: Unreached

### Major religions:

Muslim - 94%  
Christian - 6%

### Christian groups:

Orthodox - 68.1%  
Roman Catholic - 30%  
Protestant - 1.5%  
Independent - 0.4%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	6 (98.1% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.048
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	340
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	80
<b>Per million:</b>	99.48
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	50
<b>Per million:</b>	62.17
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	36

## Children's ministry in DJIBOUTI

**Overview:** • Djibouti is almost exclusively Muslim, though there is a very small Christian minority

- There is a great need to reach out to Muslim children and families.
- Conversion to Christianity is discouraged. In some countries, converts may be rejected by their families and communities, or face arrest or execution.
- A few leaders have been mobilized and trained by organizations to conduct some children's ministry. Though there is some training available for children's leaders, there are far fewer workers than there are children to be reached.
- In tribal areas, organized, consistent children's ministry can be difficult to establish due to nomadic lifestyles and the diversity of languages spoken.

## Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in  
**36** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**223,478** children for Christ