



# Ethiopia



## Introduction to ETHIOPIA

THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA, except for a brief Italian occupation in the mid-20th century, has remained a sovereign state for centuries, even as the rest of Africa experienced colonization. Though its people are mostly poor, Ethiopia has a rich and ancient history, seen in relics and ruins scattered across the nation.

## The ETHIOPIAN people

<b>Total population:</b>	85,237,338
<b>Children under 15:</b>	39,285,671
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	55.41 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$900
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	71.38%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	8 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	42.7%
<b>Internet users:</b>	361,000
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	3.168 million
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	English, Amharic, Oromo, Tigringa, others
<b>Risk issues impacting children:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Over half of all deaths of children under 5 are caused by malnutrition.</li> <li>-12% of all children are orphans, many due to AIDS.</li> </ul>

## More about ETHIOPIA

<b>Capital city:</b>	Addis Ababa
<b>Type of government:</b>	Federal Republic
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	1,104,300
<b>General terrain:</b>	High plateau with central mountain range
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Agriculture, food processing, textiles
<b>National motto:</b>	N/A*
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Bole International in Addis Ababa

## Reaching ETHIOPIA

*Currently classified as World B: Somewhat Reached*

### Major religions:

Christian	- 60.8%
Muslim	- 32.8%
Traditional	- 4.6%
Other	- 1.8%

### Christian groups:

Orthodox	- 74.7%
Protestant	- 24.1%
Roman Catholic	- 0.9%
Independent	- 0.2%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	20 (8.1% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.026
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	1,736,633
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	2,600
<b>Per million:</b>	32.92
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	250,000
<b>Per million:</b>	3,165.12
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	41,000

## Children's ministry in ETHIOPIA

- Overview:** • For years, the church had little or no interest in reaching out to children. Now, some interest is growing, though it is still limited.
- As more church leaders see the importance of teaching children, there is more need for quality resources and training materials.
  - Overall, children are still generally seen as unimportant to families and the church.
  - Many vibrant Christian churches focus on meeting crisis and social needs.

## Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in  
**41,000** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**39,285,671** children for Christ