



Rwanda



Introduction to RWANDA

THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA is recovering after a horrific genocide ravaged the small, central African nation in the 1990s. Though the country has stabilized substantially since then, due to political reforms and international aid, Rwandans remain poor. Rwanda is Africa's most densely populated nation, and most citizens live off subsistence agriculture. The country's forests are also home to the world's few remaining mountain gorillas.

The RWANDAN people

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Total population: | 10,473,282 |
| Children under 15: | 4,412,679 |
| Average Life Expectancy: | 50.52 years |
| Per capita annual income: | \$900 |
| % children in primary school: | 93.6% |
| Average years of education: | 9 years |
| Literacy rate: | 70.4% |
| Internet users: | 300,000 |
| Cell phones in use: | 1.323 million |
| Major/official language(s): | Kinyarwanda, French, English, Swahili |

Risk issues impacting children:

- About 100,000 children are orphans.
- Close to half of all children under the age of 5 suffer from chronic malnutrition, and many suffer from water-borne illnesses.
- Over half of all households are either food-insecure or vulnerable.

More about RWANDA

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|-------------------------------|--|
| Capital city: | Kigali |
| Type of government: | Republic; Multiparty Presidential system |
| Square kilometers: | 26,338 |
| General terrain: | Mostly grassy uplands and hills |
| Major industries/jobs: | Coffee, tea, cement, soap, furniture |
| National motto: | "Unity, Work, Patriotism" |
| Major airport(s): | Gregoire Kayibanda in Kigali |

Reaching RWANDA

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Christian | - 93.6% |
| Muslim | - 4.6% |
| None | - 1.7% |
| Indigenous | - 0.1% |

Christian groups:

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Roman Catholic | - 52.8% |
| Protestant | - 23.2% |
| Anglican | - 13.1% |
| Other | - 9.9% |
| Independent | - 1% |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Unreached People Groups: | 3 (0.2% of pop) |
| Average annual Christian growth: | 0.112 |
| Average annual baptisms: | 306,705 |
| Foreign missionaries: | 1,300 |
| Per million: | 140.79 |
| National Christian workers/pastors: | 4,000 |
| Per million: | 433.19 |
| Number of churches/congregations: | 7,614 |

Children's ministry in RWANDA

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Rwanda. The following information regards general children's ministry in East Africa, and may not all be applicable to this nation.

- Overview:** • The vast number of children in the region presents both an opportunity and a challenge. There is still the need for many more workers to become involved as there are many serious challenges facing ministry to children.
- In tribal areas, organized, consistent children's ministry can be difficult due to nomadic lifestyles and language diversity.
 - As more church leaders see the importance of teaching children, there is more need for quality resources and training materials. Some larger churches place a high value on ministry to children, and outside ministry are very common.
 - Overall, children are still generally seen as unimportant to families and the church.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
7,614 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
4,412,679 children for Christ