



São Tomé & Príncipe



Introduction to SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE, two islands situated in the Gulf of Guinea off Africa's western coast, has an economy based on coffee and cocoa production and a culture tinted with Portuguese influence. Independent since 1975, the nation's citizens remain poor, though the economy is growing due to newly-discovered oil resources.

The SÃO TOMÉAN people

Total population:	212,679
Children under 15:	99,663
Average Life Expectancy:	68.32 years
Per capita annual income:	\$1,300
% children in primary school:	97.1%
Average years of education:	10 years
Literacy rate:	84.9%
Internet users:	24,800
Cell phones in use:	49,000
Major/official language(s):	Portuguese

Risk issues impacting children:

UNICEF does not currently offer children at risk statistics for this country.

More about SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE

Capital city:	São Tomé
Type of government:	Republic
Square kilometers:	964
General terrain:	Volcanic, mountainous
Major industries/jobs:	Construction, textiles, soap
National motto:	N/A*
Major airport(s):	São Tomé

Reaching SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Christian	- 77.5%
Other/none	- 22.5%

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic	- 85.9%
Other	- 7.1%
Protestant	- 2.9%
Independent	- 0.6%

Unreached People Groups: 0 (0% of pop)

Average annual Christian growth: 0.048

Average annual baptisms: 3,330

Foreign missionaries: 110
Per million: 720.74

National Christian workers/pastors: 20
Per million: 131.04

Number of churches/congregations: 45

Children's ministry in SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE

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

Overview: • Children's ministry has been growing in some regions of West Africa, with many pastors coming to understand the importance of ministry to children as part of a church's role. These churches are giving some space, resources and priority to work with children. In outlying areas and villages, a strategic focus on children is less common.

- Some nations in the region have strong Muslim or indigenous religious influences which present significant challenge to reaching and discipling children.
- Lack of finances, resources, and training continue to slow the growth of children's ministry in this area.
- A substantial number of outside teams do ministry to children.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
45 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
99,663 children for Christ