



# Somalia



## Introduction to SOMALIA

SOMALIA, a battered nation on the horn of Africa's northeast coast, is comprised of three semi-independent regions: Somaliland, Puntland and Somalia. Ethnic clashes and human rights abuses have kept the country embroiled in crisis for years. Somaliland is known to be significantly more stable than the others.

## The SOMALI people

<b>Total population:</b>	9,832,017
<b>Children under 15:</b>	4,419,834
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	49.63 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$600
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	N/A*
<b>Average years of education:</b>	N/A*
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	37.8%
<b>Internet users:</b>	102,000
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	627,000

**Major/official language(s):** Somali, Italian, English, Arabic

### Risk issues impacting children:

- Less than 30% of the country safe water access.
- Malnutrition is rampant.
- Net primary school enrollment is estimated at only 13% for boys, and only 7% for girls.
- Clan rivalries have internally displaced 375,000 people, forcing them into tenuous living situations where they face hunger and human rights abuses.

## More about SOMALIA

<b>Capital city:</b>	Mogadishu
<b>Type of government:</b>	No permanent national government; Transitional, Parliamentary Federal government
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	637,657
<b>General terrain:</b>	Mostly flat-to-undulating plains rising to hills in north
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Sugar, textiles, wireless communication
<b>National motto:</b>	N/A*
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Mogadishu, Hargeisa

## Reaching SOMALIA

*Currently classified as World A: Unreached*

### Major religions:

Sunni Muslim

### Christian groups:

Orthodox - 60%

Roman Catholic - 20%

Independent - 20%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	17 (99.3% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.044
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	575
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	55
<b>Per million:</b>	11.71
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	30
<b>Per million:</b>	6.39
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	N/A*

## Children's ministry in SOMALIA

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

- Overview:**
- The nations of North Africa, almost exclusively Muslim, are some of the most unreached and closed countries on the planet.
  - Conversion to Christianity is discouraged. In some countries, converts may be rejected by their families and communities, or face arrest or execution.
  - Nations closed to missionary activity may only have covert children's ministry opportunities.
  - 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.

## Focus for Prayer

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**4,419,834** children for Christ