



Burma (Myanmar)



Introduction to BURMA

THE UNION OF BURMA, recognized by its military leadership and some other countries in the world as Myanmar, sits between China, India and Thailand in Southeast Asia. Run by a strict military junta since 1988, the nation struggles to improve under limited political and social freedoms. The first vote in almost 20 years took place in Burma in 2009; another will likely happen in 2010.

The BURMESE people

Total population:	48,137,741
Children under 15:	12,183,921
Average Life Expectancy:	63.39 years
Per capita annual income:	\$1,200
% children in primary school:	N/A*
Average years of education:	8 years
Literacy rate:	89.9%
Internet users:	108,900
Cell phones in use:	375,800
Major/official language(s):	

Burmese

Ethnic languages

Risk issues impacting children:

- Malaria is rampant, and over a quarter of children lack access to safe drinking water.
- Less than 55% of children finish primary school.
- Minors continue to be recruited by the army or into the "informal economy" of the streets.
- There is widespread malnutrition.

More about BURMA

Capital city:	Rangoon (Yangon)
Type of government:	Military Junta
Square kilometers:	676,578
General terrain:	Central lowland ringed by steep, rugged highlands
Major industries/jobs:	Agricultural processing, wood and wood productions, metals, oil
National motto:	N/A*
Major airport(s):	Yangon International

Reaching BURMA

Currently classified as World B: Somewhat Reached

Major religions:

- Buddhist - 89%
- Christian - 4%
- Muslim - 4%
- Other - 2%
- Animist - 1%

Christian groups:

- Protestant - 68.3%
- Roman Catholic - 15%
- Independent - 14.8%
- Anglican - 1.4%
- Other - 0.4%

Unreached People Groups:	50 (81.8% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.026
Average annual baptisms:	97,031
Foreign missionaries:	210
Per million:	4.38
National Christian workers/pastors:	7,500
Per million:	156.36
Number of churches/congregations:	16,170

Children's ministry in BURMA

Overview: • Religious freedoms are limited in Burma under the rule of the military junta. The majority population is Buddhist, and evangelism is banned.
• Nevertheless, leaders within the Christian church (4% of the population) see the importance of children's ministry, and emphasize preserving the faith through the next generation.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
16,170 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
12,183,921 children for Christ