



Cambodia



Introduction to CAMBODIA

THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA endured decades of occupation and civil war before holding its more recent, relatively peaceful elections. Though it still suffers from corruption and extreme poverty in its rural regions, Cambodia is slowly building its tourism industry and international reputation. This Southeast Asian nation used to be the site of the Khmer empire, whose remnants in the Angkor region are an archeological wonder.

The CAMBODIAN people

Total population:	14,494,293
Children under 15:	4,725,361
Average Life Expectancy:	62.1 years
Per capita annual income:	\$2,000
% children in primary school:	89.4%
Average years of education:	10 years
Literacy rate:	73.6%
Internet users:	74,000
Cell phones in use:	4.237 million
Major/official language(s):	Khmer, French, English

Risk issues impacting children:

- Malnutrition affects most Cambodian children.
- Land mines pose a grave hazard for internally migrating children and youths.
- Cambodia has the highest infant and under-5 mortality rates in the region.

More about CAMBODIA

Capital city:	Phnom Penh
Type of government:	Multiparty Democracy under a Constitutional Monarchy
Square kilometers:	181,035
General terrain:	Mostly low, flat plains; mountains in southwest and north
Major industries/jobs:	Agriculture, tourism, garments, construction, rice milling
National motto:	"Nation, Religion, King"
Major airport(s):	Seam Reap International, Phnom Penh International

Reaching CAMBODIA

Currently classified as World A: Unreached

Major religions:

- Buddhist - 96.4%
- Muslim - 2.1%
- Other - 1.5%

Christian groups:

- Independent - 60%
- Roman Catholic - 20.5%
- Protestant - 17.8%
- Other - 1.7%

Unreached People Groups:	30 (95.2% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.018
Average annual baptisms:	25,641
Foreign missionaries:	320
Per million:	22.93
National Christian workers/pastors:	300
Per million:	21.50
Number of churches/congregations:	540

Children's ministry in CAMBODIA

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

- Overview:** • In some Southeast Asian nations, religious activity is viewed with suspicion or banned altogether.
- Children's leaders in Southeast Asia are passionate.
 - People need training, tools, and empowerment to do effective ministry in this region. Tools need to be portable, as travel is difficult in many areas. Little training is currently available for children's leaders, especially in rural areas.
 - Urban areas tend to be better-resourced and quality training may be available.
 - Most children's workers are women.
 - Parents tend to put the responsibility for a child's spiritual development on the church.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
540 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
4,725,361 children for Christ