



Kyrgyzstan



Introduction to KYRGYZSTAN

THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC is a small, mountainous nation formed after the Soviet Union disbanded in 1991. Living in this impoverished country tucked between the giants of China and Kazakhstan, many of the Kyrgyz people rely on small-scale agriculture to survive. Historically, the Kyrgyz were a nomadic people.

The KYRGYZSTANI people

Total population:	5,431,747
Children under 15:	1,661,553
Average Life Expectancy:	69.43 years
Per capita annual income:	\$2,200
% children in primary school:	84.5%
Average years of education:	12 years
Literacy rate:	98.7%
Internet users:	850,000
Cell phones in use:	3.394 million
Major/official language(s):	Kyrgyz, Uzbek, Russian, Dungun, others

Risk issues impacting children:

- Communicable diseases like tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS are increasing.
- In rural areas, the practices of bride kidnapping and forced marriage persist.
- Domestic abuse and child neglect are frequently reported.
- Dropout rates are increasing, especially among girls forced into marriage.

More about KYRGYZSTAN

Capital city:	Bishkek
Type of government:	Republic
Square kilometers:	199,951
General terrain:	Peaks, associated valleys, and basins cover nation
Major industries/jobs:	Small machinery, textiles, agriculture
National motto:	N/A*
Major airport(s):	Manas Airport in Bishkek

Reaching KYRGYZSTAN

Currently classified as World A: Unreached

Major religions:

- Muslim - 75%
- Russian Orthodox - 20%
- Other - 5%

Christian groups:

- Orthodox - 68.2%
- Other - 16%
- Independent - 6.4%
- Protestant - 6.1%
- Roman Catholic - 3.3%

Unreached People Groups: 27 (85.1% of pop)

Average annual Christian growth: 0.029

Average annual baptisms: 9,213

Foreign missionaries: 55

Per million: 10.57

National Christian workers/pastors: 150

Per million: 28.83

Number of churches/congregations: 298

Children's ministry in KYRGYZSTAN

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

- Overview:**
- Central Asia faces significant challenges in the spread of the gospel, especially among the predominantly Muslim governments which forbid evangelism and Christian work. These obstacles extend to children. Persecution is a common reality for believers in this region.
 - The mountainous terrain and seemingly endless number of local languages also makes ministry in this area a challenge.
 - A small handful of mission and church leaders see the strategic importance of focus on children and are offering camps, outreach opportunities, and focusing on discipleship and leadership development among the youth.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
298 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
1,661,553 children for Christ