



# Philippines



## Introduction to PHILIPPINES

THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES is made up of over 7,000 islands forming a tropical Pacific archipelago off China's southeastern coast. Systematically colonized by other countries for much of its history, a fact reflected by the globally-influenced local culture, the Philippines have been independent since 1946. The Philippines is home to a number of flourishing cities, though poverty continues to be a problem on many islands.

## The PHILIPPINE people

<b>Total population:</b>	97,976,603
<b>Children under 15:</b>	34,517,728
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	71.09 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$3,300
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	91.28%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	12 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	92.6%
<b>Internet users:</b>	5.618 million
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	68.102 million
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	Filipino, English, Tagalog and other dialects
<b>Risk issues impacting children:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Exploitative labor, sexual abuse, drug abuse and poverty are all still present in the Philippines.</li> <li>-Some communities have less sanitary conditions and lack clean water.</li> </ul>

## More about PHILIPPINES

<b>Capital city:</b>	Manila
<b>Type of government:</b>	Republic
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	300,000
<b>General terrain:</b>	Mostly mountains with narrow to extensive coastal lowlands
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Product assembly, chemicals, agriculture
<b>National motto:</b>	"For God, People, Nature and Country"
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Ninoy Aquino International

## Reaching PHILIPPINES

Currently classified as World C: Christian

### Major religions:

Christian	- 92.5%
Muslim	- 5%
Other/none	- 2.5%

### Christian groups:

Roman Catholic	- 72%
Independent	- 16.4%
Protestant	- 7.3%
Other	- 4.2%
Anglican	- 0.2%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	21 (6.6% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.024
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	1,897,560
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	10,000
<b>Per million:</b>	118.25
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	50,000
<b>Per million:</b>	591
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	81,227

## Children's ministry in PHILIPPINES

**Overview:** • The geography of the Philippines, which is made up of over 7,000 islands, is a major hurdle in attempting to reach all children in the nation.

- Children's ministry leaders have a heart for reaching children. Outreach ministry and outside organizations have a notable presence in the country.
- There are some opportunities for training of children's leaders, but many churches remain under-resourced as finances and volunteers are slim.

## Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in  
**81,227** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**34,517,728** children for Christ