



Uzbekistan



Introduction to UZBEKISTAN

THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN, a former Soviet state independent since 1991, is one of the world's largest cotton producers. This Central Asian nation, located south of Kazakhstan, possesses most of the region's intricate architectural wealth, mostly inspired by the country's Muslim roots.

The UZBEKISTANI people

Total population:	27,606,007
Children under 15:	7,757,757
Average Life Expectancy:	71.96 years
Per capita annual income:	\$2,600
% children in primary school:	91%
Average years of education:	11 years
Literacy rate:	99.3%
Internet users:	2.469 million
Cell phones in use:	12.734 million
Major/official language(s):	Uzbek, Russian, Tajik

Risk issues impacting children:

- More than half of Uzbek women of childbearing age are anaemic, and infant mortality is high.
- Almost a quarter of children under age three experience stunted growth due to poor nutrition.
- Health care is not a high priority for the Uzbek government.

More about UZBEKISTAN

Capital city:	Tashkent
Type of government:	Republic; Authoritarian presidential rule
Square kilometers:	447,400
General terrain:	Mostly flat-to-rolling sandy desert and dunes; broad, flat irrigated river valleys; valley in the west
Major industries/jobs:	Cotton, gold, natural gas and oil
National motto:	N/A*
Major airport(s):	Tashkent International

Reaching UZBEKISTAN

Currently classified as World A: Unreached

Major religions:

- Muslim - 88%
- Eastern Orthodox - 9%
- Other - 3%

Christian groups:

- Orthodox - 60.9%
- Protestant - 24.2%
- Roman Catholic - 7%
- Other - 4.7%
- Independent - 3.1%

Unreached People Groups:	37 (95.7% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.028
Average annual baptisms:	7,352
Foreign missionaries:	210
Per million:	7.90
National Christian workers/pastors:	50
Per million:	1.88
Number of churches/congregations:	288

Children's ministry in UZBEKISTAN

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Uzbekistan. 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 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
288 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
7,757,757 children for Christ