



Belgium



Introduction to BELGIUM

THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM is a modern Western European nation lying between France and the Netherlands. Tension exists between the Flemish in the north, where separation from the rest of Belgium is frequently suggested. The Belgian people are known for their progressive social policies.

The BELGIAN people

Total population:	10,414,336
Children under 15:	1,679,676
Average Life Expectancy:	79.22 years
Per capita annual income:	\$37,500
% children in primary school:	98.07%
Average years of education:	16 years
Literacy rate:	99%
Internet users:	7.292 million
Cell phones in use:	11.822 million
Major/official language(s):	Dutch, French, German
Risk issues impacting children:	UNICEF does not currently offer children at risk statistics for this country.

More about BELGIUM

Capital city:	Brussels
Type of government:	Federal Parliamentary Democracy under Constitutional Monarchy; EU member
Square kilometers:	30,528
General terrain:	Flat coastal plain, central rolling hills, rugged mountains in southeast
Major industries/jobs:	Engineering, motor vehicle assembly, scientific instruments, metals and metal products, chemicals, processed foods
National motto:	"Unity gives strength"
Major airport(s):	Brussels International in Zaventem Antwerp Deume International Brussels South in Chaleroi

Reaching BELGIUM

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Roman Catholic - 75%
Other - 25%

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic - 87.7%
Other - 10.6%
Protestant - 1.1%
Orthodox - 0.3%
Independent - 0.3%
Anglican - 0.1%

Unreached People Groups:	10 (3.5% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.0019
Average annual baptisms:	59,214
Foreign missionaries:	2,700
Per million:	259.66
National Christian workers/pastors:	55,000
Per million:	5,289.45
Number of churches/congregations:	5,271

Children's ministry in BELGIUM

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

Overview: • There is a strong history and emphasis on children's ministry within the churches of Western Europe. A lot of curriculum and program development is in place and widely accessible in most languages.

- However, very few children's ministries focus on reaching out to non-Christians in what are now mostly post-Christian nations. Many adults are Christian only nominally.
- As the continent continues to diversify, many marginalized groups of children remain unreached, such as the growing population of Muslims and various refugee groups.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
5,271 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
1,679,676 children for Christ