



Ireland



Introduction to IRELAND

IRELAND has a slightly tumultuous history and radically beautiful landscape. Covering most of an Atlantic island west of Britain – Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom – Ireland broke off from Britain in 1921 after years of guerilla warfare. This nation is modern and developed, though tension still remains with the north.

The IRISH people

Total population:	4,203,200
Children under 15:	878,593
Average Life Expectancy:	78.24 years
Per capita annual income:	\$45,500
% children in primary school:	95.98%
Average years of education:	18 years
Literacy rate:	99%
Internet users:	2.83 million
Cell phones in use:	5.048 million
Major/official language(s):	English, Irish
Risk issues impacting children:	

UNICEF does not currently offer children at risk statistics for this country.

More about IRELAND

Capital city:	Dublin
Type of government:	Republic, Parliamentary Democracy; EU member
Square kilometers:	70,273
General terrain:	Interior plain surrounded by rugged hills and low mountains
Major industries/jobs:	Construction, mining processing, software, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, glass and crystal, tourism
National motto:	"The land of one hundred thousand welcomes"
Major airport(s):	Dublin International Cork International Knock International

Reaching IRELAND

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Christian	- 92.2%
None	- 4.2%
Other	- 2.1%
Unspecified	- 1.5%

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic	- 91.5%
Other	- 4.9%
Anglican	- 2.5%
Protestant	- 0.7%
Independent	- 0.3%

Unreached People Groups:	3 (0.3% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.00075
Average annual baptisms:	48,225
Foreign missionaries:	530
Per million:	127.92
National Christian workers/pastors:	25,000
Per million:	6,033.85
Number of churches/congregations:	3,329

Children's ministry in IRELAND

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Ireland. 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.

- Non-Christian parents can be wary of letting their children participate in evangelical activities. Many adults are Christian only nominally.
- Not all ministries make a point to work together.
- 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
3,329 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
878,593 children for Christ