



# Macedonia



## Introduction to MACEDONIA

THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, despite its storied, ancient history, has only existed in its modern state since 1991 when it gained independence from Yugoslavia. Located just north of Greece, the European nation remains underdeveloped and unemployment is high, partly due to past disputes with Greece and ethnic tensions among minority groups.

## The MACEDONIAN people

<b>Total population:</b>	2,066,718
<b>Children under 15:</b>	397,408
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	74.68 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$9,100
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	88.68%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	12 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	96.1%
<b>Internet users:</b>	847,900
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	2.502 million
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	Macedonian, Albanian, Turkish

## Risk issues impacting children:

- Juveniles are treated as adults in the justice system.
- Poverty rates are higher for Roma children.
- Though official statistics don't reflect it, domestic violence is a problem.
- Many feel their access to health care is inadequate.

## More about MACEDONIA

<b>Capital city:</b>	Skopje
<b>Type of government:</b>	Parliamentary Democracy
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	25,713
<b>General terrain:</b>	Mountainous with deep valleys and large lakes
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Food processing, beverages, textiles, chemicals, iron, steel, cement, energy, pharmaceuticals
<b>National motto:</b>	N/A*
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Alexander the Great International in Skopje St. Paul the Apostle Airport in Ohrid

## Reaching MACEDONIA

Currently classified as World C: Christian

### Major religions:

- Macedonian Orthodox - 64.7%
- Muslim - 33.3%
- Other and unspecified - 2%

### Christian groups:

- Orthodox - 97.9%
- Roman Catholic - 1.6%
- Protestant - 0.3%
- Other - 0.2%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	6 (5.3% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.0088
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	17,357
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	160
<b>Per million:</b>	78.68
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	300
<b>Per million:</b>	147.52
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	1,212

## Children's ministry in MACEDONIA

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

- Overview:**
- Some Eastern European countries still face political restrictions that can limit the reach of children's ministry, or halt the gospel from reaching unreached children.
  - Most European countries are historic homes to Christianity, especially the Orthodox Church. Children's leaders in many areas, especially areas that are more developed, have access to resources and a vision to reach children.
  - Significant regions remain isolated from Evangelical Christianity.
  - The church in post-Soviet countries is very young and in need of training and vision to reach and disciple its children.

## Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in  
**1,212** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**397,408** children for Christ