



# Netherlands



## Introduction to NETHERLANDS

THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS is a small, vibrant and modern country north of Belgium in Western Europe. The flat, densely populated nation, much of which lies below sea level, is known for its liberal social policies and national embrace of the color orange.

## The DUTCH people

<b>Total population:</b>	16,715,999
<b>Children under 15:</b>	2,902,872
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	79.4 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$40,500
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	98.43%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	16 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	99%
<b>Internet users:</b>	14.273 million
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	19.927 million
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	

Dutch  
Frisian

## Risk issues impacting children:

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

## More about NETHERLANDS

<b>Capital city:</b>	Amsterdam
<b>Type of government:</b>	Constitutional Monarchy; member of EU
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	41,543
<b>General terrain:</b>	Coastal lowlands and reclaimed land, some hills southeast
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Food processing, chemicals, petroleum refining, electrical machinery, construction, fishing
<b>National motto:</b>	"I will preserve"
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Schiphol International in Amsterdam Rotterdam Maastricht Beek in Maastricht

## Reaching NETHERLANDS

Currently classified as World C: Christian

### Major religions:

Christian - 47%  
None - 42%  
Muslim - 5.8%  
Other - 2.2%

### Christian groups:

Roman Catholic - 58.7%  
Protestant - 38.7%  
Independent - 1.5%  
Other 0.9%  
Orthodox - 0.1%  
Anglican - 0.1%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	12 (6.3% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.005
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	83,790
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	2,200
<b>Per million:</b>	134.74
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	45,000
<b>Per million:</b>	2,756.05
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	8,102

## Children's ministry in NETHERLANDS

*Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Netherlands. 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.
- There is a strong missionary presence in Western European nations, some focusing specifically on reaching children.
- 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  
**8,102** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**2,902,872** children for Christ