



# Portugal



## Introduction to PORTUGAL

THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC, hugged by Spain and bordering the Atlantic Ocean to the west and south, was once a great colonial power. Its global status has decreased in the past century, but it remains a highly developed nation. Portugal's economy has faltered in the last decade, partly due to a poorly developed educational system.

## The PORTUGUESE people

<b>Total population:</b>	10,707,924
<b>Children under 15:</b>	1,747,088
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	78.21 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$22,200
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	98.88%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	15 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	93.3%
<b>Internet users:</b>	4.476 million
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	14.91 million
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	

Portuguese  
Mirandese

## Risk issues impacting children:

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

## More about PORTUGAL

<b>Capital city:</b>	Lisbon
<b>Type of government:</b>	Republic; Parliamentary Democracy; member of EU
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	92,391
<b>General terrain:</b>	Mountainous in north and rolling plains in south
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Textiles, clothing, footwear, wood and cork, paper, chemicals, ship construction, auto parts manufacturing
<b>National motto:</b>	N/A*
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Lisbon International Faro International Francisco Sa Carneiro in Porto

## Reaching PORTUGAL

Currently classified as World C: Christian

### Major religions:

Christian	- 86.7%
Unknown	- 9%
None	- 3.9%
Other	- 0.3%

### Christian groups:

Roman Catholic	- 79.4%
Other	- 16.9%
Independent	- 2.3%
Protestant	- 1.3%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	4 (0.1% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.0053
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	111,540
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	790
<b>Per million:</b>	75.04
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	14,000
<b>Per million:</b>	1,329.76
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	6,661

## Children's ministry in PORTUGAL

*Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Portugal. 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 most 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  
**6,661** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**1,747,088** children for Christ