



Russia



Introduction to RUSSIA

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, stretching massively across Eastern Europe and all of Northern Asia, is by far the largest nation in the world. Russia has a dramatic history, most recently involving the fall of Communism in 1991 in which the Soviet Union was dissolved and the shaky restructuring of the nation began. Despite widespread social problems, Russia maintains a strong global influence and a thriving intellectual history. It is also home to the most billionaires in the world.

The RUSSIAN people

Total population:	140,041,247
Children under 15:	20,739,844
Average Life Expectancy:	66.03 years
Per capita annual income:	\$16,100
% children in primary school:	N/A
Average years of education:	14 years
Literacy rate:	99.4%
Internet users:	45.25 million
Cell phones in use:	187.5 million
Major/official language(s):	Russian

Risk issues impacting children:

- The past decade has seen a large increase in the number of children living on the streets or in institutions.
- Poor nutrition and education plagues poorer communities.
- Many thousands of women and children in Chechnya lack basic social services.

More about RUSSIA

Capital city:	Moscow
Type of government:	Federation
Square kilometers:	17,098,242
General terrain:	Broad plain with low hills west of the Urals, vast coniferous forest and tundra in Siberia, Uplands and mountains along southern border region
Major industries/jobs:	Mining, machine building, defense industries, transportation
National motto:	"God is with us"
Major airport(s):	Domodedovo, Sheremetyevo, and Vnukovo in Moscow; Pulkovo in St. Petersburg; Khrabrovo International in Kaliningrad

Reaching RUSSIA

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Other/none - 68%
Russian Orthodox - 15-20%
Muslim - 10-15%
Other Christian - 2%

Christian groups:

Orthodox - 76.3%
Other - 17.9%
Independent - 2.7%
Roman Catholic - 1.9%
Protestant - 1.2%

Unreached People Groups:	76 (9.1% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.0067
Average annual baptisms:	3,834,015
Foreign missionaries:	20,100
Per million:	139.63
National Christian workers/pastors:	200,000
Per million:	1,389.34
Number of churches/congregations:	16,267

Children's ministry in RUSSIA

Overview: • The evangelical church is still growing in its ministry to children. Most churches include basic children's programs, but may not take these to a level of strong discipleship, or consider programs to children outside their churches.

- A small group of believers exist who are fully committed to reaching children, especially children at risk.
- The church in post-soviet countries is in great need of training and vision to reach and disciple its children. Its children's ministry leaders, though dedicated and passionate, often lack the support of their pastors and congregations to fulfill their mission.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
16,267 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
20,739,844 children for Christ