



# Ukraine



## Introduction to UKRAINE

UKRAINE spent much of the twentieth century enduring famine, repression and widespread killing under Nazi and Soviet domination until its independence in 1991. 2004 brought the peaceful Orange Revolution, which fought for an end to government corruption and a push towards modernization. The large, fertile nation of Eastern Europe still has an uncertain political future

## The UKRAINIAN people

<b>Total population:</b>	45,700,395
<b>Children under 15:</b>	6,304,874
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	68.25 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$7,400
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	89.35%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	14 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	99.4%
<b>Internet users:</b>	10.354 million
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	55.695 million
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	Ukrainian, Russian, Romanina, Polish, Hungarian-speaking minorities

### Risk issues impacting children:

- Many low-income children have poor nutrition and no access to primary health care.
- The number of children living on the streets has risen steadily over the past decade, creating urgent problems in human trafficking for forced prostitution, forced labor and sexual exploitation.
- Domestic violence is a serious problem.

## More about UKRAINE

<b>Capital city:</b>	Kiev
<b>Type of government:</b>	Republic
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	603,550
<b>General terrain:</b>	Fertile plains and plateaus, mountains in west and in the Crimean Peninsula
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Farming, food processing, machinery and transport equipment, chemicals, coal
<b>National motto:</b>	N/A*
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Kiev Boryspil International, Odessa International

## Reaching UKRAINE

Currently classified as World C: Christian

### Major religions:

- Christian - 96.1%
- Other - 3.2%
- Jewish - 0.6%

### Christian groups:

- Orthodox - 71.2%
- Roman Catholic - 13.4%
- Other - 10.7%
- Protestant - 3.4%
- Independent - 1.4%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	22 (1.2% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.0036
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	577,532
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	4,400
<b>Per million:</b>	93.78
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	6,000
<b>Per million:</b>	127.88
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	19,520

## Children's ministry in UKRAINE

**Overview:** • Because the evangelical church is still very young, children's ministry in the Ukraine is a fairly new concept. Very few churches include children's outreach programs as part of their overall ministry, though 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  
**19,520** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**6,304,874** children for Christ