



# Argentina



## Introduction to ARGENTINA

THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC is a nation of geographical complexity and colorful culture. Traditions reflect diverse influences grown from a history of Spanish, Italian and other European settlers mixing with indigenous peoples. Argentina, stretching from the southern tip of South America deep into the continent's interior, is continuing to recover from a severe economic crisis in the early 21st century.

## The ARGENTINE people

<b>Total population:</b>	40,913,584
<b>Children under 15:</b>	10,491,737
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	76.56 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$14,200
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	98.51%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	15 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	97.2%
<b>Internet users:</b>	11.212 million
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	46.509 million
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	Spanish, Italian, English, German, French

### Risk issues impacting children:

- Many students repeat grades or drop out of secondary school.
- A percentage of children live in families that make less than \$1 per day.

## More about ARGENTINA

<b>Capital city:</b>	Buenos Aires
<b>Type of government:</b>	Republic
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	2,780,400
<b>General terrain:</b>	Rich plains of the Pampas in northern half, flat to rolling plateau of Patagonia in south, rugged Andes along western border
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Food processing, motor vehicles, consumer durables, textiles, chemicals and petrochemicals, printing, metallurgy, steel, livestock
<b>National motto:</b>	"In Union and Liberty"
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Aeropuerto Internacional Ministro Pistarini, Buenos Aires, Cordoba, Tucuman, San Juan

## Reaching ARGENTINA

Currently classified as World C: Christian

### Major religions:

- Christian - 94%
- Other - 4%
- Jewish - 2%

### Christian groups:

- Roman Catholic - 85.5%
- Protestant - 6.4%
- Independent - 4.7%
- Other - 1.8%
- Orthodox - 1.3%
- Anglican - 0.2%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	1 (0.5% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.021
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	604,896
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	12,700
<b>Per million:</b>	327.81
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	24,000
<b>Per million:</b>	619.49
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	24,228

## Children's ministry in ARGENTINA

- Overview:**
- Argentina is a predominantly Christian nation, mostly of Roman Catholic background. There is also a steadily growing, active Protestant minority.
  - While several church and parachurch organizations are working to address the spiritual and social needs of the children in this country, most of the church leadership has yet to see the value of ministry to children. As a result, efforts towards training and equipping leaders face many challenges, and children's ministry workers are seldom given the encouragement and support they need.
  - Furthermore, there is need for more Spanish materials that are culturally relevant to the children in this nation.

## Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in  
**24,228** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**10,491,737** children for Christ