



Bolivia



Introduction to BOLIVIA

THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF BOLIVIA, one of the only two landlocked countries in South America, is also the continent's least-developed and boasts the highest altitudes. Over 60 percent of the population can claim some sort of indigenous heritage – more than any other South American country.

The BOLIVIAN people

Total population:	9,775,246
Children under 15:	3,469,054
Average Life Expectancy:	66.89 years
Per capita annual income:	\$4,500
% children in primary school:	93.67%
Average years of education:	N/A*
Literacy rate:	86.7%
Internet users:	1 million
Cell phones in use:	4.83 million
Major/official language(s):	Spanish, Quechua, Aymara
Risk issues impacting children:	

- Floods have displaced families and decreased sanitation and access to clean water, on top of the already large segments of the population that lack access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation.
- Many children begin work at a young age. More than a quarter of Bolivian children are undernourished.

More about BOLIVIA

Capital city:	La Paz
Type of government:	Republic (recent constitutional changes defines it as a "Social Unitarian State")
Square kilometers:	1,098,581
General terrain:	Rugged Andes Mountains with a highland plateau (Altiplano), hills, lowland plains of the Amazon Basin
Major industries/jobs:	Mining, smelting, petroleum, food and beverages, tobacco, handicrafts, clothing
National motto:	"Unity is strength"
Major airport(s):	El Alto in La Paz, Viru-Viru International in Santa Cruz

Reaching BOLIVIA

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Christian

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic - 69.6%

Protestant - 13.2%

Other - 11.8%

Independent - 5.4%

Unreached People Groups:	1 (negligible% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.017
Average annual baptisms:	228,946
Foreign missionaries:	4,400
Per million:	479.20
National Christian workers/pastors:	3,000
Per million:	326.73
Number of churches/congregations:	8,708

Children's ministry in BOLIVIA

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Bolivia. The following information regards general children's ministry in the South America, and may not all be applicable to this nation.

- Overview:** • The nations of this region are predominately Christian, mostly of Roman Catholic background. There is also a steadily growing, active Protestant minority.
- There is a strong missionary presence in South America, with much of the outreach focused on children.
 - In some areas (usually the more developed), churches have access to resources and have some sort of ministry for children in the community.
 - Rural churches often have little or no access to resources or training for its children's ministry leaders.
 - Even though the evangelical church is growing, some young churches do not recognize the potential of children's ministry.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
8,708 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
3,469,054 children for Christ