



Dominican Republic



Introduction to DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, located on the eastern two-thirds of the Caribbean island of Hispaniola, was claimed by Columbus on his first journey in 1492. The country's vibrant culture centers on its cosmopolitan capital, though standards of living are significantly lower in the rural villages that dot the mountainous interior.

The DOMINICAN people

Total population:	9,650,054
Children under 15:	3,031,157
Average Life Expectancy:	73.7 years
Per capita annual income:	\$8,200
% children in primary school:	78.3%
Average years of education:	12 years
Literacy rate:	87%
Internet users:	2.147 million
Cell phones in use:	7.21 million

Major/official language(s): Spanish

Risk issues impacting children:

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

More about DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Capital city:	Santo Domingo
Type of government:	Democratic Republic
Square kilometers:	48,670
General terrain:	Rugged highlands and mountains interspersed with fertile valleys
Major industries/jobs:	Tourism, sugar processing, ferronickel and gold mining, textiles, cement, tobacco
National motto:	"God, Country, Liberty"
Major airport(s):	Aeropuerto Internacional Cibao in Santiago Aeropuerto Internacional Las Américas in Santo Domingo Aeropuerto Internacional Gregorio Luperón in Puerto Plata

Reaching DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Roman Catholic - 95%
Other - 5%

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic - 92.2%
Protestant - 6%
Independent - 1.7%
Anglican - 0.1%

Unreached People Groups:	2 (negligible% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.027
Average annual baptisms:	196,397
Foreign missionaries:	2,100
Per million:	221.76
National Christian workers/pastors:	1,000
Per million:	105.60
Number of churches/congregations:	4,687

Children's ministry in DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Dominican Republic. The following information regards general children's ministry in the Caribbean, 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.

- Though there are many missionaries working in these nations (including those focused on children and families), the local church does not always realize the importance of ministry to children. Therefore, ministry leaders do not always get the organizational support they need to move forward with children's ministry initiatives.
- Those denominations and churches that have recognized the importance and value of including children in ministry often lack of training and resources, especially in poorer, rural areas.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
4,687 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
3,031,157 children for Christ