



Nicaragua



Introduction to NICARAGUA

THE REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA, Central America's poorest country, is slowly rebuilding its infrastructure and economy after a civil war in the 1980s and recent hurricanes. The country, with coastlines on both the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean, is currently run by the socialist Sandinista party.

The NICARAGUAN people

Total population:	5,891,199
Children under 15:	1,990,296
Average Life Expectancy:	71.5 years
Per capita annual income:	\$2,900
% children in primary school:	96.02%
Average years of education:	11 years
Literacy rate:	67.5%
Internet users:	185,000
Cell phones in use:	3.039 million

Major/official language(s): Spanish

Risk issues impacting children:

- Either no or limited access to health services, high rates of malnutrition, and limited health education (especially regarding HIV/AIDS) has led to many health problems for children.
- Many Indigenous or Afro-Nicaraguan children are not in school.

More about NICARAGUA

Capital city:	Managua
Type of government:	Republic
Square kilometers:	130,370
General terrain:	Extensive Atlantic coastal plains rising to central interior mountains; narrow Pacific coastal plain interrupted by volcanoes
Major industries/jobs:	Food processing, chemicals, machinery and metal products, textiles, clothing, petroleum refining and distribution, beverages
National motto:	"In God we trust"
Major airport(s):	Managua International Airport

Reaching NICARAGUA

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Christian	- 80.1%
Moravian	- 1.6%
Jehovah's Witness	- 0.9%
Other	- 1.7%
None	- 15.7%

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic	- 80.2%
Protestant	- 12.3%
Independent	- 7.3%
Anglican	- 0.2%

Unreached People Groups:	1 (negligible% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.023
Average annual baptisms:	93,594
Foreign missionaries:	2,100
Per million:	384.44
National Christian workers/pastors:	3,000
Per million:	549.20
Number of churches/congregations:	5,595

Children's ministry in NICARAGUA

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Nicaragua. The following information regards general children's ministry in Central 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 many Central American countries, with much of the outreach focused on children. A variety of children's work already exists, with a strong emphasis on Sunday School and Bible memorization.
 - Children's workers in the outlying areas frequently struggle with lack of teachers, lack of space, and lack of materials.
 - Ongoing violence in some regions of Central America can hinder the growth of work with children.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
5,595 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
1,990,296 children for Christ