



Suriname



Introduction to SURINAME

THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME is South America's smallest country – and its most uniquely diverse. The population's ancestral heritage stems from former slaves, Southeast Asian and Indian indentured servants, European colonists, and various indigenous people groups. The majority of the nation, situated on the continent's Caribbean coast, is covered by dense jungle.

The SURINAMESE people

Total population:	481,267
Children under 15:	130,638
Average Life Expectancy:	73.73 years
Per capita annual income:	\$8,900
% children in primary school:	85.56%
Average years of education:	12 years
Literacy rate:	89.6%
Internet users:	50,000
Cell phones in use:	416,000
Major/official language(s):	
	Dutch
	English

Risk issues impacting children:

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

More about SURINAME

Capital city:	Paramaribo
Type of government:	Constitutional Democracy
Square kilometers:	163,820
General terrain:	Mostly rolling hills; narrow coastal plain with swamps
Major industries/jobs:	Bauxite and gold mining, alumina production; oil, lumber, food processing, fishing, rice
National motto:	"Justice, Piety, Loyalty"
Major airport(s):	Paramaribo

Reaching SURINAME

Currently classified as World B: Somewhat reached

Major religions:

Christian	- 48%
Hindu	- 27.4%
Muslim	- 19.6%
Indigenous beliefs	- 5%

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic	- 48.1%
Protestant	- 40.2%
Other	- 9.4%
Independent	- 1.9%
Anglican	- 0.4%

Unreached People Groups:	1 (negligible% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.018
Average annual baptisms:	6,740
Foreign missionaries:	420
Per million:	928.24
National Christian workers/pastors:	300
Per million:	663.03
Number of churches/congregations:	278

Children's ministry in SURINAME

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Suriname. The following information regards general children's ministry in 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.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
278 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
130,638 children for Christ