



# Uruguay



## Introduction to URUGUAY

THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY sits wedged between Brazil and Argentina on South America's southeastern coast. A strong nation until its peso failed at the turn of the 21st century, Uruguay has spent the last decade rebuilding. Fortunately, it has the educated work force and progressive labor laws to do it.

## The URURGUAYAN people

<b>Total population:</b>	3,494,382
<b>Children under 15:</b>	783,195
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	76.35 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$12,400
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	97.51%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	15 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	98%
<b>Internet users:</b>	1.34 million
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	3.508 million
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	

Spanish  
Portunol  
Brazilerio

### Risk issues impacting children:

- A percentage of children live in poverty.
- Many students drop out of school before graduating, many to begin work at a young age.

## More about URUGUAY

<b>Capital city:</b>	Montevideo
<b>Type of government:</b>	Constitutional Republic
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	176,215
<b>General terrain:</b>	Mostly rolling plains and low hills; fertile coastal lowland
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Food processing, electrical machinery, transportation equipment, petroleum products, textiles, chemicals, beverages
<b>National motto:</b>	"Liberty or Death"
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Aeropuerto Carrasco in Montevideo

## Reaching URUGUAY

Currently classified as World C: Christian

### Major religions:

- Christians - 81.4%
- Atheist or agnostic - 17.2%
- Other - 1.1%
- Jewish - 0.3%

### Christian groups:

- Roman Catholic - 82.4%
- Independent - 5.6%
- Other - 5.2%
- Protestant - 5.1%
- Orthodox - 1.7%
- Anglican - 0.1%

**Unreached People Groups:** 1 (0.5% of pop)

**Average annual Christian growth:** 0.013

**Average annual baptisms:** 18,057

**Foreign missionaries:** 3,200

**Per million:** 962.20

**National Christian workers/pastors:** 2,200

**Per million:** 661.51

**Number of churches/congregations:** 1,991

## Children's ministry in URUGUAY

*Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Uruguay. 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  
**1,991** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**783,195** children for Christ