



# Fiji



## Introduction to FIJI

THE REPUBLIC OF THE FIJI ISLANDS is a nation comprised of over 300 islands in the South Pacific. Independent since 1970, the peaceful pace of the islands has been disrupted by political instability in the past few years. Though still a popular travel destination, security is stiffening as the government increases its power over the Fijian people.

## The FIJIAN people

<b>Total population:</b>	944,720
<b>Children under 15:</b>	286,654
<b>Average Life Expectancy:</b>	70.73 years
<b>Per capita annual income:</b>	\$3,800
<b>% children in primary school:</b>	91.24%
<b>Average years of education:</b>	13 years
<b>Literacy rate:</b>	93.7%
<b>Internet users:</b>	103,000
<b>Cell phones in use:</b>	600,000
<b>Major/official language(s):</b>	English

### Risk issues impacting children:

UNICEF does not currently offer children at risk statistics specific to this country. Below is children at risk information regarding many nations in this region, and all statements may not be directly applicable to this nation.

- Poverty forces many children to drop out of school because their parents can't afford school fees.
- Poverty, illiteracy, sexual exploitation of children and the prevalence of unsafe sex practices all contribute to difficult conditions for children, and create an environment ripe for contagious disease.
- High suicide rates, drug and alcohol addiction deteriorate many families.

## More about FIJI

<b>Capital city:</b>	Suva
<b>Type of government:</b>	Republic
<b>Square kilometers:</b>	18,274
<b>General terrain:</b>	Mostly mountains of volcanic origin
<b>Major industries/jobs:</b>	Tourism, sugar, clothing, copra, gold, silver, lumber, small cottage industries
<b>National motto:</b>	"Fear God and honour the Queen"
<b>Major airport(s):</b>	Nadi International, Nausori

## Reaching FIJI

Currently classified as World B: Somewhat Reached

### Major religions:

Christian	- 64.5%
Hindu	- 27.9%
Muslim	- 6.3%
None	- 0.7%
Sikh	- 0.3%
Other or unspecified	- 0.3%

### Christian groups:

Protestant	- 62.3%
Roman Catholic	- 17.6%
Anglican	- 1.9%
Independent	- 8.3%
Other	- 9.9%

<b>Unreached People Groups:</b>	4 (8.8% of pop)
<b>Average annual Christian growth:</b>	0.016
<b>Average annual baptisms:</b>	6,307
<b>Foreign missionaries:</b>	630
<b>Per million:</b>	760.83
<b>National Christian workers/pastors:</b>	2,000
<b>Per million:</b>	2,415.33
<b>Number of churches/congregations:</b>	2,244

## Children's ministry in FIJI

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

- Overview:**
- Most inhabitants of the Pacific Islands are Christian and have some kind of established church.
  - Though larger, more populated islands are better resourced, thousands live in locales that are difficult to supply with training materials and resources. Many remote islands remain isolated to outside influence.
  - Animism and traditional religions still influence Christianity on some islands.

## Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in  
**2,244** congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling  
**286,654** children for Christ