



Kiribati



Introduction to KIRIBATI

THE REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI, a former British colony, was the site of much Japan-US fighting in World War II. Independent since 1979, these South Pacific islands are spread across millions of square kilometers of ocean. Much of life remains untouched by Western influence, though modern amenities are slowly making their way to the islands.

The I-KIRIBATI people

Total population:	112,850
Children under 15:	42,387
Average Life Expectancy:	63.22 years
Per capita annual income:	\$5,300
% children in primary school:	N/A*
Average years of education:	12 years
Literacy rate:	N/A*
Internet users:	2,000
Cell phones in use:	1,000

Major/official language(s): Kiribati, 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 are all prevalent, and create an environment ripe for contagious disease.
- High suicide rates, drug and alcohol addiction deteriorate many families.

More about KIRIBATI

Capital city:	Tarawa
Type of government:	Republic
Square kilometers:	811
General terrain:	Mostly low-lying coral atolls surrounded by extensive reefs
Major industries/jobs:	Fishing, handicrafts, copra, taro, breadfruit, sweet potatoes, vegetables
National motto:	"Health, Peace, and Prosperity"
Major airport(s):	Christmas Island Airport, Bonriki International on Tarawa

Reaching KIRIBATI

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

- Christian - 92%
- Other - 8%

Christian groups:

- Roman Catholic - 53.4%
- Protestant - 41.9%
- Other - 3.4%
- Independent - 1.1%
- Anglican - 0.2%

Unreached People Groups: 0 (0% of pop)

Average annual Christian growth: 0.014

Average annual baptisms: 2,069

Foreign missionaries: 55
Per million: 597.81

National Christian workers/pastors: 500
Per million: 5,434.61

Number of churches/congregations: 235

Children's ministry in KIRIBATI

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Kiribati. 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.

- Most nations and territories in the Pacific Islands are spread across thousands of kilometers. Therefore, it is difficult to uncover all pockets of children who still need Jesus.
- 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
235 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
42,387 children for Christ