



Solomon Islands



Introduction to SOLOMON ISLANDS

THE SOLOMON ISLANDS, a Pacific island chain extending east from Papua New Guinea, saw an abundance of fighting during World War II. A reputation for violence, crime and ethnic warfare has long been attached to the Solomon Islands. In recent years, international assistance has been attempting to help restore national order.

The SOLOMON ISLANDER people

Total population:	595,613
Children under 15:	235,002
Average Life Expectancy:	73.69 years
Per capita annual income:	\$2,700
% children in primary school:	61.62%
Average years of education:	8 years
Literacy rate:	N/A*
Internet users:	10,000
Cell phones in use:	14,000

Major/official language(s): Melanesian pidgin, English, 120 indigenous languages

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 SOLOMON ISLANDS

Capital city:	Honiara
Type of government:	Parliamentary Democracy and a Commonwealth realm
Square kilometers:	28,896
General terrain:	Mostly mountainous and low coral atolls
Major industries/jobs:	Fish (tuna), mining, timber, cocoa beans, coconuts, palm kernels, cattle
National motto:	"To lead is to serve"
Major airport(s):	Henderson Airport in Honiara

Reaching SOLOMON ISLANDS

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Christian	- 97.1%
Other	- 2.4%
Unspecified	- 0.3%
None	- 0.2%

Christian groups:

Protestant	- 44.5%
Anglican	- 35.7%
Roman Catholic	- 17.2%
Independent	- 2.7%

Unreached People Groups: 0 (0% of pop)

Average annual Christian growth: 0.034

Average annual baptisms: 14,136

Foreign missionaries: 530

Per million: 1,121.89

National Christian workers/pastors: 1,200

Per million: 2,540.12

Number of churches/congregations: 2,670

Children's ministry in SOLOMON ISLANDS

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Solomon Islands. 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
2,670 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
235,002 children for Christ