



Tuvalu



Introduction to TUVALU

TUVALU, an island group of densely-populated atolls in the South Pacific, has been independent since 1978. It relies almost completely on imports to survive, and most citizens work as subsistence farmers and fishermen. The low-laying islands are concerned as global ocean levels continue to rise.

The TUVALUAN people

Total population:	12,373
Children under 15:	3,611
Average Life Expectancy:	69.29 years
Per capita annual income:	\$1,600
% children in primary school:	N/A*
Average years of education:	11 years
Literacy rate:	N/A*
Internet users:	4,200
Cell phones in use:	2,000

Major/official language(s): Tuvaluan, English, Samoan

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 TUVALU

Capital city:	Funafuti
Type of government:	Parliamentary Democracy and a Commonwealth realm
Square kilometers:	26
General terrain:	Low-lying and narrow coral atolls
Major industries/jobs:	Fishing, tourism, copra, coconuts
National motto:	"Tuvalu for the Almighty"
Major airport(s):	Funafuti

Reaching TUVALU

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

Christian	- 98.4%
Baha'i	- 1%
Other	- 0.6%

Christian groups:

Protestant	- 92.5%
Other	- 5.8%
Roman Catholic	- 1.7%

Unreached People Groups:	0 (0% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.012
Average annual baptisms:	86
Foreign missionaries:	10
Per million:	957.76
National Christian workers/pastors:	30
Per million:	2,873.29
Number of churches/congregations:	23

Children's ministry in TUVALU

Specific children's ministry information has not been provided for Tuvalu. 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
23 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
3,611 children for Christ