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Cyprus

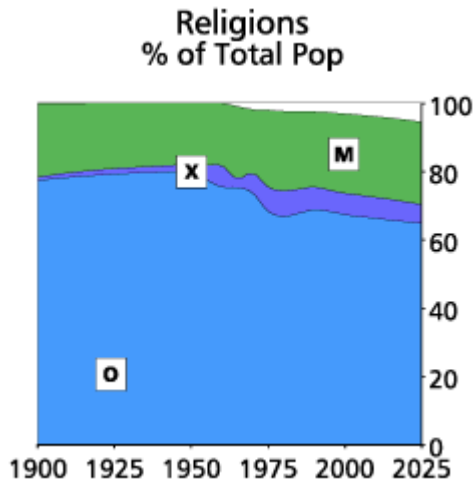
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Cyprus

Republic of Cyprus (South only)

Europe

Geography

Area: 9,251 sq km

Strategic island in northeast Mediterranean Sea. ROC in the south is 64% of the island, TRNC in the north is 36%.

Population: 879,723 **Annual Growth:** 1.02%

Capital: Lefkosia (Nicosia)

Urbanites: 70.3%

HDI Rank: 32 of 182 ([UN Human Development Reports 2009](#))

Peoples

Peoples: 19 (16% unreached) [All peoples](#)
[Unreached Peoples Prayer Card](#)

Pray for the Unreached
Cypriots, Turkish of Cyprus



Country: Cyprus
 People: Cypriots, Turkish
 Population: 188,000
 World Popl: 220,000
 Main Language: Turkish
 Main Religion: Islam
 Status: ■ Least-Reached
 Christ-Followers: Few, less than 2%
 Bible: Complete
 www.operationworld.org
 www.joshuaproject.net

"Declare his glory among the nations" Psalm 96:3

Official language: Greek; Turkish **Languages:** 6 [All languages](#)

Religion

Largest Religion: Christian

Religion	Pop %	Ann Gr	
Christians	637,095	72.42	0.9
Evangelicals	6,616	0.8	3.0

[Prayercast](#)

Challenges for Prayer

More Information

The Operation World [book](#), [CD-ROM](#), and [DVD-ROM](#) provide far more information and fuel for prayer for the people of Cyprus.



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Cyprus

PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for a shattering of bitterness and prejudice between Greek and Turkish Cypriots.
- Pray for Muslims in the north to place their hope not in economic prosperity but in Jesus.
- Pray for discipleship, spiritual maturity, and bold witnesses among ethnic minority believers.

SUMMARY

For thousands of years, the fertile plains and arid mountains of Cyprus have born witness to the rise and fall of numerous empires. Located just south of Turkey, this third-largest island in the Mediterranean Sea has been ruled by no less than eleven world powers over the past three millennia. Cyprus is mentioned numerous times in the Bible, and Barnabas, one of the earliest Christian missionaries, was a native Cypriot. He and the apostle Paul traveled and preached across the island almost 2,000 years ago.

Having gained independence from Britain in 1960, Cyprus struggled to achieve stability, and a 1974 Turkish invasion and occupation of the north has divided the island to this day, creating as many as 230,000 refugees. The Republic of Cyprus, claiming authority over the whole island, is recognized internationally as the official state, while only Turkey recognizes the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, which encompasses one-third of the island. With a greater degree of interaction over the past decade, deep divisions between Greek and Turkish Cypriots have begun to soften. While negotiations for reunification have continued since 2008, a seeming majority of Cypriots approve. Unfortunately, Cyprus also finds itself in dire economic straits, with heavy exposure to bad foreign debt and an economy largely dependent on tourism and financial services - both of which saw significant declines during the recent global financial crisis.

The Orthodox Church is a key element of Greek Cypriot culture and identity. While Cyprus is one of the more religious countries in the European Union, and roughly two-thirds of the population consider themselves Orthodox, those who do attend church are increasingly rural and older. Negative prejudices against Evangelical and other Protestant churches are easing but continue to be a stumbling block to many. The strongest recent advancement of the Gospel has been among minority communities, including Russians, Sri Lankans, Filipinos, and

VIDEO



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QUICK FACTS

Continent: Europe
Capital City: Nicosia
Government: Republic
Population: 1,221,549
Major People Groups: Greek 98.8%, other 1%
Religion: Orthodox Christian 89.1%, Roman Catholic 2.9%, Protestant/Anglican 2%, Muslim 1.8%, Buddhist 1%, other 1.4%, unknown 1.1%, none/atheist 0.6%
Language: Greek, Turkish, English Romanian, Russian, Bulgarian, Arabic, Filipino, Other
GDP Per Capita: \$36,600
Literacy Rate: 99.1%
UNREACHED: 16.7%



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Iranians. While freedom of religion exists, proselytism by these ethnic minorities is closely monitored. Small numbers of Turkish Cypriots, over 99% of whom are Muslim, have become followers of Jesus.

PHOTOS

'We don't turn anyone away' say volunteer doctors

By Peter Stevenson MEMBERS of Volunteer Doctors Cyprus have treated around 350 people at their free clinic in Nicosia since it opened three months ago, while two more, one in Paphos and one in Polis .

Jun 15, 2013 4:02 PM



Our View: Time would be better spent negotiating a c...

SOME 10 days ago, foreign minister Ioannis Kasoulides raised expectations by announcing the possibility of a deal with Turkey for the opening of the fenced off area of Famagusta, for the return of

Jun 15, 2013 4:02 PM

Georghadji: EAC is not even a going concern

By George Psyllides PRIVATE auditors have expressed doubt the electricity authority (EAC)

If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. - John 14:14

