

PRAYING FOR THE WORLD ONE COUNTRY AT A TIME

“God so loved the world...” shouldn't we?

CROATIA

Information compiled by Julian Olson
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CAPITAL: Zagreb

LOCATION: Western Balkans across the Adriatic Sea from Italy.

Population: 4,270,480. Most of the population lives in the northern half of the country, with approximately a quarter of the populace residing in and around the capital of Zagreb; many of its islands in the Adriatic Sea are sparsely populated. Population growth rate is -0.51 . 90.4% of the population is Croatian, 4.4% Serbian. Croatian is the official language representing 95.6% of the population. Literacy is 99.3%. Unemployment is currently at 12% with 19.5% of the population living below the poverty level.

Economy: Though still one of the wealthiest of the former Yugoslav republics, Croatia's economy suffered during the 1991-95 war. A rebound in tourism and consumer spending has brought some relief. Agriculture and industry represent 30 % of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) with the remaining being services at 70%. Croatia joined the EU on July 1, 2013 and will follow an accession plan to adopt the Euro by 2024. This should result in a more stable economy.

Religion: 86.3% of Croatians are Roman Catholic, 4.4% are Muslim, the balance are other, unspecified and atheist.

Overview: Following the 1991-95 war the Croatian region has become more stable and with its membership in the European Union is looking toward a better future. Border disputes along the Danube River and the Adriatic Sea with Slovenia are still in need of resolution.

Prayers for:

- Improved employment
- Economic growth