
Christianity 2010: A View from the *New Atlas of Global Christianity*

This eight-page report is the twenty-sixth in an annual series in the *IBMR*. The series began in 1985, shortly after the publication of the first edition of the *World Christian Encyclopedia* (*WCE*; Oxford Univ. Press, 1982). Its purpose was to present, in summary form on a single page, an annual update of the most significant global and regional statistics presented in the *WCE*. The *WCE* itself was expanded into a second edition in 2001 and was accompanied by an analytic volume, *World Christian Trends* (*WCT*; William Carey Library, 2001). In 2003 an online database, the *World Christian Database* (later published by Brill), was launched, updating most of the statistics in the *WCE* and *WCT*.

In 2009 the team behind these earlier books published the *Atlas of Global Christianity* (Edinburgh Univ. Press, 2009), a visual quick-reference of the changing status of global Christianity over the 100 years since the epoch-making World Missionary Conference held in Edinburgh, Scotland, in June 1910. It is the first scholarly atlas to depict the twentieth-century shift of Christianity to the Global South. It is also the first to map Christian affiliation at the provincial level. The atlas is divided into five major parts.

Part 1 covers the world with maps on world issues and world religions, comparing the global context of 1910 and 2010.

Part 2 focuses on the Christian context, with thematic maps on major Christian traditions, including Anglicans, Independents, Marginals, Orthodox, Protestants, and Roman Catholics, as well as Evangelicals and Pentecostals.

Part 3 depicts Christianity by the United Nations regions (Eastern Africa, Middle Africa, Northern Africa, etc.). Each region (and continent) is described in four pages, including a historical essay, maps, graphs, tables, and charts.

Part 4 views the world by languages, peoples, and cities.

Part 5 focuses on Christian mission by analyzing data on missionaries, finance, Bible translation, media broadcasting, and other forms of evangelization.

A CD with an interactive electronic product is included in the back sleeve. It contains presentation-ready files of all maps, charts, graphs, and tables for classroom use. We present here three two-page spreads adapted from oversize (10 × 14 inches) *Atlas of Global Christianity* pages.

Missionaries Worldwide, 1910–2010

The first two pages offer an overview of the statistics of national workers and foreign missionaries around the world in 2010. For quick comparisons, estimates are made of the numbers of foreign missionaries in 1910. One of the challenges in this appraisal is that traditionally these assessments are confined to specific denominations (Anglican, Catholic, Lutheran, Orthodox, etc.). Rarely are all Christian traditions combined such as they are on these pages. The growth in missionary sending from the Global South is apparent in these pages but lags behind the demographics of church membership.

This report, which is also available as a separate offprint, was prepared by the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, Massachusetts. Todd M. Johnson, David B. Barrett, and Peter F. Crossing compiled this report, with assistance from Gina Bellofatto, Bradley Coon, Darrell Dorr, Chris Guidry, Albert Hickman, Sandra Lee, and Kenneth Ross. More samples from the Atlas of Global Christianity, as well as footnotes for the table "Status of Global Mission," can be found at www.globalchristianity.org.

World Christianity, 1910–2010

The next two pages offer a quick overview of the concentration of Christians around the world in 2010 in the context of the past 100 years. A comparison of the two years 1910 and 2010 is displayed in the line graph, the maps, and the tables. In areas that were strongly Christian in 1910 (Europe, Latin America, Northern America, and Oceania, except for Melanesia) the main trend appears to be secularization, with percentages of Christians decreasing over the 100 years. In Africa and Asia, most regions saw a profound transformation in terms of Christian growth. One can quickly see that the most dramatic changes in the period occurred in Africa as a whole, which was only 9 percent Christian in 1910 but nearly 50 percent Christian by 2010. Middle Africa experienced the greatest change, going from only 1 percent Christian in 1910 to over 80 percent Christian in 2010. In the atlas these demographic changes are put in context in narratives written by Christian scholars from each continent and region.

One interesting observation is that, despite all of these changes within global Christianity, the percentage of the world's population that is Christian has changed little over the 100 years, declining slightly from 34.8 percent in 1910 to 33.2 percent in 2010. Our analysis of future trends, however, shows that the steady decline of Christianity in the Global North is just now being surpassed by the rise of Christianity in the Global South. We project that the world will likely be 33.8 percent Christian by 2025, and 35 percent by 2050.

Personal Contact, 2010

A new area of research is assessing the amount of personal contact between Christians and non-Christians. In simple terms, the question being asked is, What percentage of non-Christians personally know a Christian? Data from our earlier analyses of evangelization were used to provide rough approximations of the answer. The results are startling, in the sense that Christians and non-Christians appear to be living in quite separate worlds. This distance has implications for Christian missions but is also problematic when it comes to dialogue, peace initiatives, environmental and health challenges, and many other areas of human interaction. Our hope is that highlighting the problem will help in planning solutions for the future.

Status of Global Mission, 2010

Finally, regular readers of the January *IBMR* issue will recognize our "Status of Global Mission" table. This year a few findings stand out. Buddhists, experiencing a resurgence in China (line 14), now outrank Chinese folk-religionists in order of size of religions globally. Protestants (line 30) are once again larger than Independents (due mainly to reclassification of some Independents). Based on new data on house churches, we have increased our estimate for the number of congregations in 2025 (line 42). We updated our Christian finance figures (reflecting inflation) for the *Atlas of Global Christianity*, and these appear on lines 51–57. Note that ecclesiastical crime (line 56), at \$32 billion this year, still outranks giving to foreign missions, at \$29 billion (line 57). Finally, our estimate for the unevangelized population continues to increase for the future, as Christian resources are focused mainly on the already evangelized.

Missionaries Worldwide, 1910–2010

Over the past 100 years, as global Christianity has been shifting gradually to the South, the number of foreign missionaries sent from the South has been increasing. In 1910 the vast majority of missionaries were sent from Europe and Northern America to Asia, Africa, and Latin America. In 2010 the sending of foreign missionaries is more even across continents, although Europe and Northern America still have much higher per-capita sending rates than most countries of the Global South.

These pages depict foreign missionaries (those who cross national boundaries), but it should be noted that much of the growth of the missionary movement has been in home missionaries (those who work as missionaries within their own national boundaries). This is especially true with the largest missionary-sending countries in Asia and Africa (India and Nigeria, respectively). Thus, the combined numbers of Southern foreign and home missionaries are sometimes contrasted with only the numbers of Northern foreign missionaries, excluding the large number of home missionaries and other national workers in countries such as the USA and Britain. Note that we have reduced our estimates for the number of missionaries from 468,000 in 2006 to about 400,000 in 2010. This is due to a significant decline in sending from the Global North.

The table on the facing page reveals the significant variations in the number of national workers, missionaries sent, and missionaries received for each UN region. It is particularly instructive to compare workers or missionaries per million of the population (or per million affiliated Christians in the case of missionaries sent). For example, in 2010 Polynesia sends the fewest foreign missionaries of all but three other regions, but the most by far per million affiliated Christians.

Another profound change over time has been the distance that missionaries travel. In 1910 Northern American or European missionaries took lengthy and often hazardous journeys. Today, especially in the Global South, foreign missionaries often work in an adjacent country.

The vocations of missionaries have changed as well. One hundred years ago, large numbers of missionaries were involved in schools, hospitals, and other social projects. By the middle of the twentieth century many of these institutions were handed over to national workers. In the early part of the twenty-first century, Protestant and Independent missionaries are once again increasingly involved in social projects, ranging from microenterprise to schools.

Missionary scatter plot quadrants, 2010

Quadrant meanings

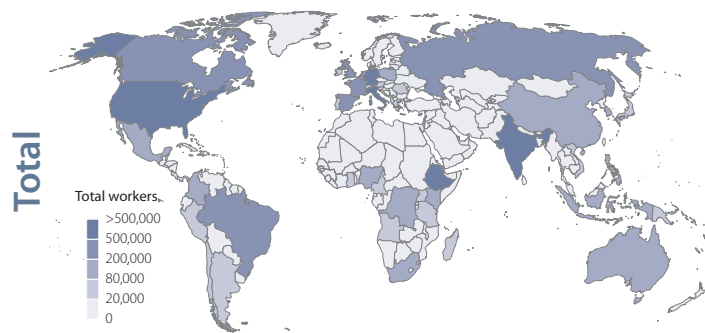
The axes represent the total global missionaries sent (per million affiliated Christians) and the total global missionaries received (per million population).

- i These regions send more missionaries per million affiliated Christians, and receive fewer missionaries per million population, than the global average.
- ii These regions send more missionaries per million affiliated Christians, and receive more missionaries per million population, than the global average.
- iii These regions send fewer missionaries per million affiliated Christians, and receive fewer missionaries per million population, than the global average.
- iv These regions send fewer missionaries per million affiliated Christians, and receive more missionaries per million population, than the global average.

► Sending and receiving of missionaries by UN regions/continents

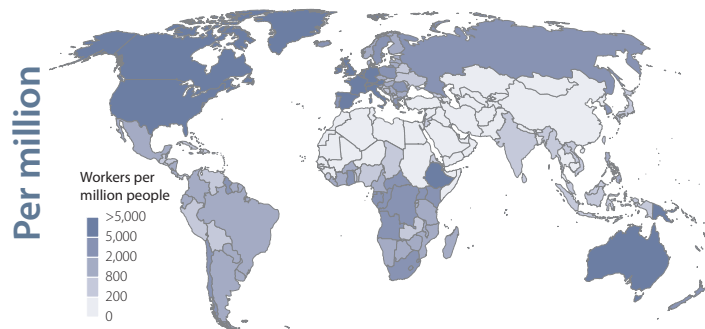
The graph to the right shows sending and receiving for all UN regions and continents. Missionaries received is per million population, suggesting the potential impact on the entire population of the region of service. Missionaries sent is per million affiliated Christians, indicating the strength of mission sending by the Christian community. Both axes use a logarithmic scale because the data values vary by several orders of magnitude. Lines plotted at the average values of these variables separate the data points into four quadrants, described more fully above. Note that only one region, Eastern Asia, appears in quadrant i (above-average sending and below-average receiving). In quadrant ii (above-average sending and receiving) one primarily finds the Global North. In the past, these regions would have been in quadrant i, but all the regions of the Global North have become strong receiving regions. In quadrant iii, both missionary sending and receiving are below the global average. This is where most Asian regions reside, largely due to their enormous non-Christian populations. Quadrant iv contains the other traditional mission fields of the twentieth century: Latin America and Africa. These regions still receive large numbers of missionaries but are gradually moving toward quadrant ii as they send more of their own missionaries.

National workers



▲ National workers (total)

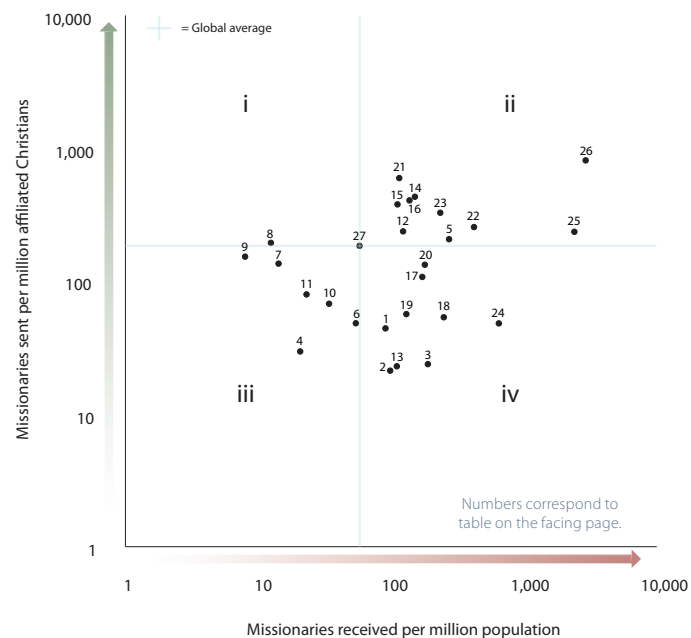
Numbers of national Christian workers, although still relatively large, are declining in most European countries. Brazil has large numbers, and so do India and China, where Christianity is growing more rapidly. India, in fact, has as many national Christian workers as Germany; only the USA has more.



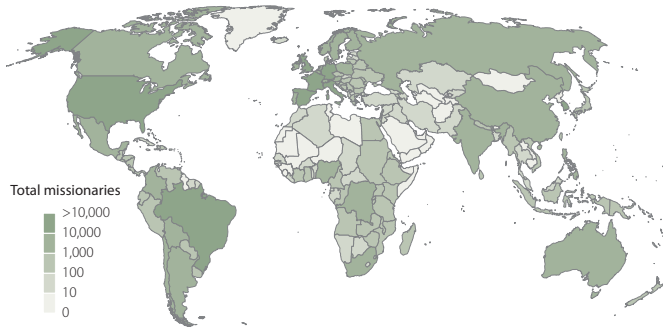
National workers (per million population)

European and Northern American countries have the highest saturation of national workers among their populations. The rise of Christianity in Africa over the past century has been accompanied by a rapid rise of national leadership, but often leadership training is lacking.

Foreign missionaries sent and received by UN region, 2010



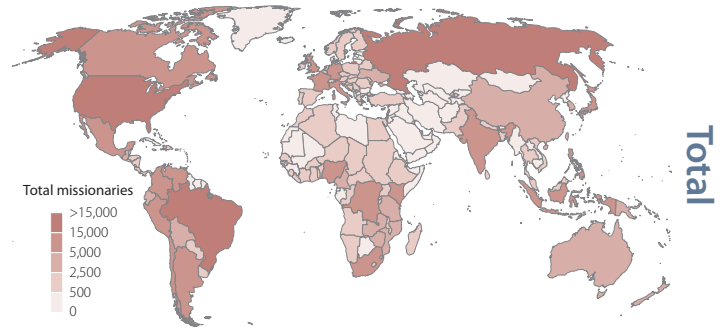
Missionaries sent



▲ *Missionaries sent (total)*

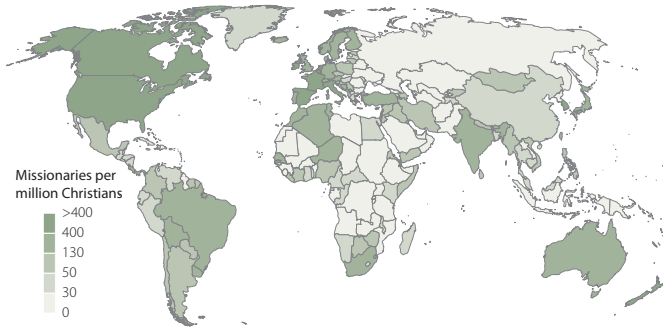
Northern America and Europe continue to send the bulk of cross-cultural missionaries today (over 65%). This is due largely to the financial strength of these Christian-majority countries. Brazil is an exception; most of its missionaries are Roman Catholics working in Latin America, the USA, and Europe.

Missionaries received



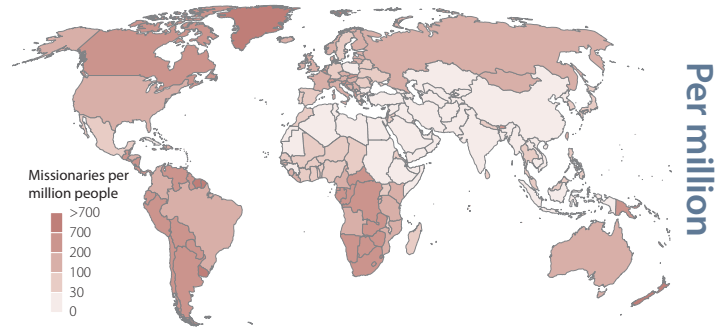
▲ *Missionaries received (total)*

This map shows that the countries with the most Christians also receive the largest numbers of missionaries. This makes some sense if one considers that invitations are a major factor in missionary sending. Sponsorships are also more likely where the Christian population is large.



Missionaries sent (per million affiliated Christians)

This map reveals the rise of missionary sending in the Global South. It is interesting to note that many countries with very low Christian populations (such as Japan, Algeria, and Mongolia) still send missionaries from their countries, while others with large Christian populations, such as many in Eastern Europe, send virtually none.



▲ *Missionaries received (per million population)*

Missionaries today are sent from everywhere and are received everywhere. But from the standpoint of evangelizing non-Christians, one can see a problem: countries with largely Christian populations receive relatively more missionaries than countries with Christian-minority populations.

Missionaries sent and received, 1910

	Population		Missionaries			
	Population	Christians	Sent	p.m.c.*	Received	p.m.**
1 Africa	124,228,000	11,663,000	350	30	8,500	68
2 Eastern Africa	33,030,000	5,266,000	50	9	2,000	61
3 Middle Africa	19,443,000	207,000	30	145	1,300	67
4 Northern Africa	32,002,000	3,107,000	20	6	850	27
5 Southern Africa	6,819,000	2,526,000	200	79	3,450	506
6 Western Africa	32,933,000	557,000	50	90	900	27
7 Asia	1,028,265,000	25,123,000	300	12	26,800	26
8 Eastern Asia	556,096,000	2,288,000	100	44	12,600	23
9 South-central Asia	345,121,000	5,182,000	100	19	11,900	34
10 South-eastern Asia	94,104,000	10,124,000	50	5	1,200	13
11 Western Asia	32,944,000	7,529,000	50	7	1,100	33
12 Europe	427,154,000	403,687,000	39,950	99	2,120	5
13 Eastern Europe	178,184,000	159,695,000	2,500	16	1,320	7
14 Northern Europe	61,474,000	60,326,000	18,000	298	400	7
15 Southern Europe	76,940,000	74,532,000	8,000	107	200	3
16 Western Europe	110,556,000	109,134,000	11,450	105	200	2
17 Latin America	78,269,000	74,477,000	400	5	22,000	281
18 Caribbean	8,172,000	7,986,000	100	13	1,850	226
19 Central America	20,777,000	20,566,000	100	5	8,600	414
20 South America	49,320,000	45,925,000	200	4	11,550	234
21 Northern America	94,689,000	91,429,000	20,400	223	1,430	15
22 Oceania	7,192,000	5,650,000	600	106	1,050	146
23 Australia/New Zealand	5,375,000	5,206,000	200	38	300	56
24 Melanesia	1,596,000	245,000	100	408	450	282
25 Micronesia	89,400	68,600	100	1,458	100	1,119
26 Polynesia	131,000	130,000	200	1,538	200	1,527
27 Global total	1,759,797,000	612,028,000	62,000	101	62,000	35

*p.m.c. = per million affiliated Christians; not shown in table **p.m. = per million population

Missionaries sent and received and national workers, 2010

	Population		National workers		Missionaries			
	Population	Christians	Total	p.m.**	Sent	p.m.c.*	Received	p.m.**
1 Africa	1,032,012,000	494,668,000	1,680,000	1,628	20,700	44	93,700	91
2 Eastern Africa	332,107,000	214,842,000	929,000	2,798	4,400	21	32,700	99
3 Middle Africa	129,583,000	105,830,000	289,000	2,232	2,400	24	24,500	189
4 Northern Africa	206,295,000	17,492,000	20,200	98	510	30	4,300	21
5 Southern Africa	56,592,000	46,419,000	209,000	3,700	8,300	207	15,500	273
6 Western Africa	307,436,000	110,084,000	232,000	756	5,200	48	16,700	54
7 Asia	4,166,308,000	352,239,000	1,481,000	355	47,100	135	59,200	14
8 Eastern Asia	1,562,575,000	140,012,000	404,000	259	26,900	194	19,500	12
9 South-central Asia	1,777,378,000	69,213,000	734,000	413	10,500	153	14,200	8
10 South-eastern Asia	594,216,000	129,700,000	310,000	522	8,600	68	20,300	34
11 Western Asia	232,139,000	13,315,000	33,000	142	1,000	79	5,400	23
12 Europe	730,478,000	585,739,000	4,038,000	5,528	132,800	237	90,000	123
13 Eastern Europe	290,755,000	246,495,000	777,000	2,672	5,500	23	32,100	110
14 Northern Europe	98,352,000	79,610,000	580,000	5,897	29,300	431	14,900	151
15 Southern Europe	152,913,000	125,796,000	1,154,000	7,549	47,100	378	17,100	112
16 Western Europe	188,457,000	133,838,000	1,527,000	8,101	50,700	405	25,900	138
17 Latin America	593,696,000	548,958,000	839,000	1,414	58,400	107	102,000	172
18 Caribbean	42,300,000	35,379,000	41,000	970	1,800	53	10,500	249
19 Central America	153,657,000	147,257,000	251,000	1,636	8,200	56	20,000	130
20 South America	397,739,000	366,322,000	547,000	1,375	48,400	133	71,400	180
21 Northern America	348,575,000	283,002,000	3,763,000	10,794	135,000	596	40,200	115
22 Oceania	35,491,000	27,848,000	199,000	5,602	6,000	255	14,900	421
23 Australia/New Zealand	25,647,000	18,816,000	146,000	5,674	5,000	327	6,000	235
24 Melanesia	8,589,000	7,847,000	42,600	4,960	340	48	5,600	647
25 Micronesia	575,000	532,000	2,000	3,434	120	235	1,400	2,399
26 Polynesia	680,000	653,000	8,700	12,835	520	810	2,000	2,917
27 Global total	6,906,560,000	2,292,454,000	12,000,000	1,737	400,000	184	400,000	58

World Christianity, 1910–2010

The map to the right depicts the percentage of Christians in each province or state in 2010. Presenting the data in this way reveals patterns that are obscured in a country-level depiction. For example, the percentages of Christians among the total populations of Egypt and Sudan are comparable. Depicting these data only on the country level, however, would mask both (1) the strong variation in Christian percentages among provinces within each country and (2) the fact that Sudan has a much greater inter-province variation than does Egypt. Similarly, India has a far lower percentage of Christians than does France. Individual provinces in India, however, have larger percentages of Christians than most of, or even any province in, France.

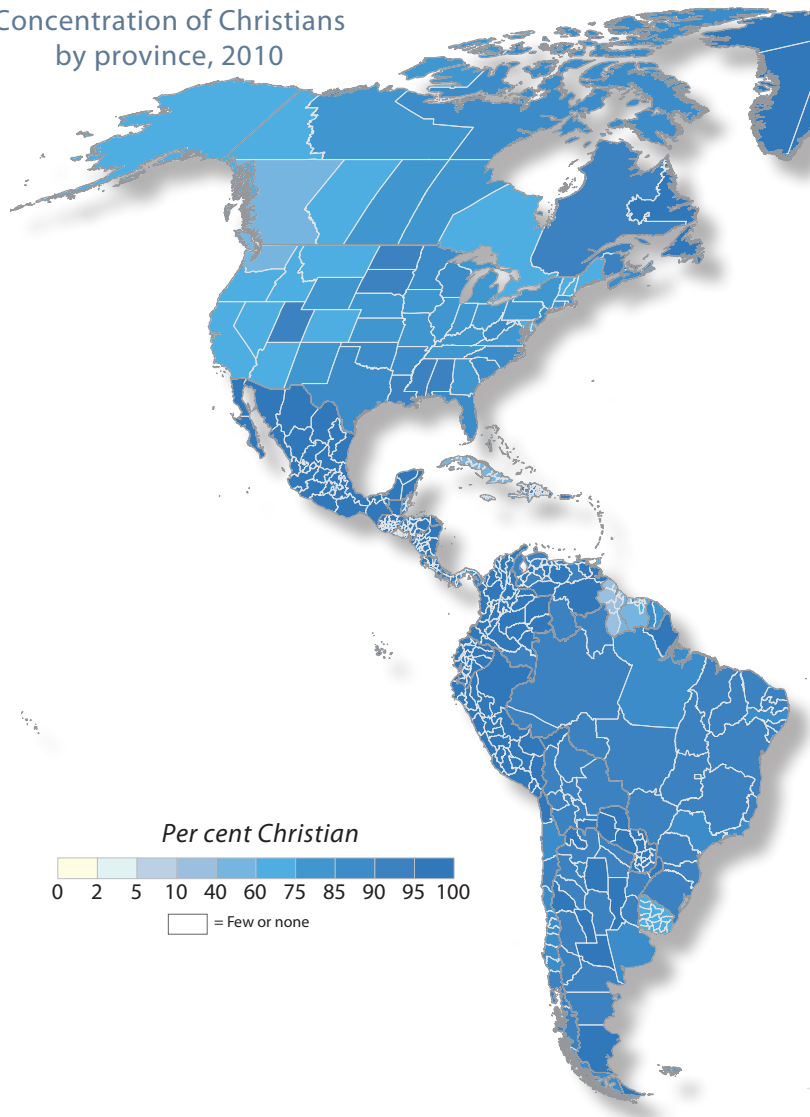
Percentages tell only one part of the story, of course. A significant factor to remember when interpreting the province-level data on the largest map on this page is population per province. For example, a province whose population of two million are all Christians is home to fewer total Christians than a province of 22 million that is only 10% Christian. The map to the right does show the *relative* strength of Christianity in its provincial and national context. This is most useful in comparing the concentration of Christians globally.

The smaller map on this page shows the percentage of Christians in each of the world's countries in 1910. Despite the major global changes in the distribution of Christians over the last century, Christians still represent approximately one-third of the world's population: 34.8% of the global population in 1910, decreasing slightly to 33.2% in 2010. This is because the growth of Christianity in Africa and Asia has been offset by its relative decline (as a percentage of adherents, although usually not in absolute numbers) in most of the rest of the world. Northern America's percentage of Christians, for example, decreased by 15.4 percentage points over the past century, and Europe's decreased by 14.3 percentage points. Africa's, on the other hand, increased by 38.5 percentage points between 1910 and 2010.

In 1910 nine of the ten countries with the most Christians were in the North; the exception was Brazil. The shift of Christianity southward over the following century has left the USA, Russia, and Germany as the only Northern countries on the comparable list for 2010.

Seven countries had no reported Christians in 1910, but in 2010 Christians are present in each of the world's 239 countries. Of the ten countries with the fastest Christian growth between 1910 and 2010, six are in Africa and four in Asia.

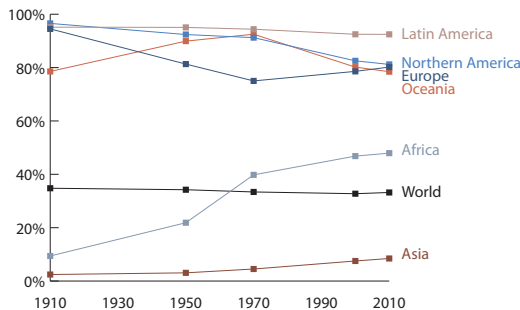
Concentration of Christians by province, 2010



▲ Shift of Christians, 1910–2010

Over the past 100 years Christianity has experienced a profound shift in its ethnic and linguistic composition. In 1910 over 80% of all Christians lived in Europe and Northern America. By 2010 this has fallen to less than 40%, with the majority of Christians located in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

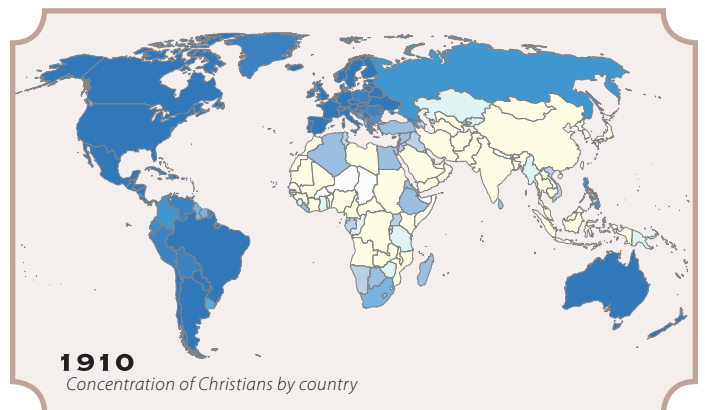
What does it mean for the future of Christianity that its center of gravity continues to move south and east? Three areas can be mentioned briefly here: (1) Southern Christians will move beyond Northern Christianity's recent dominance in theology and ecclesiology by producing their own reflections and by looking back to the earliest Christian centuries, when they were in the majority. (2) The dominant languages of Christianity are shifting south. Already by 1980, Spanish was the leading language of church membership in the world. (3) Christians are in increasingly close contact with Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists. This will potentially intensify both conflict and dialogue.

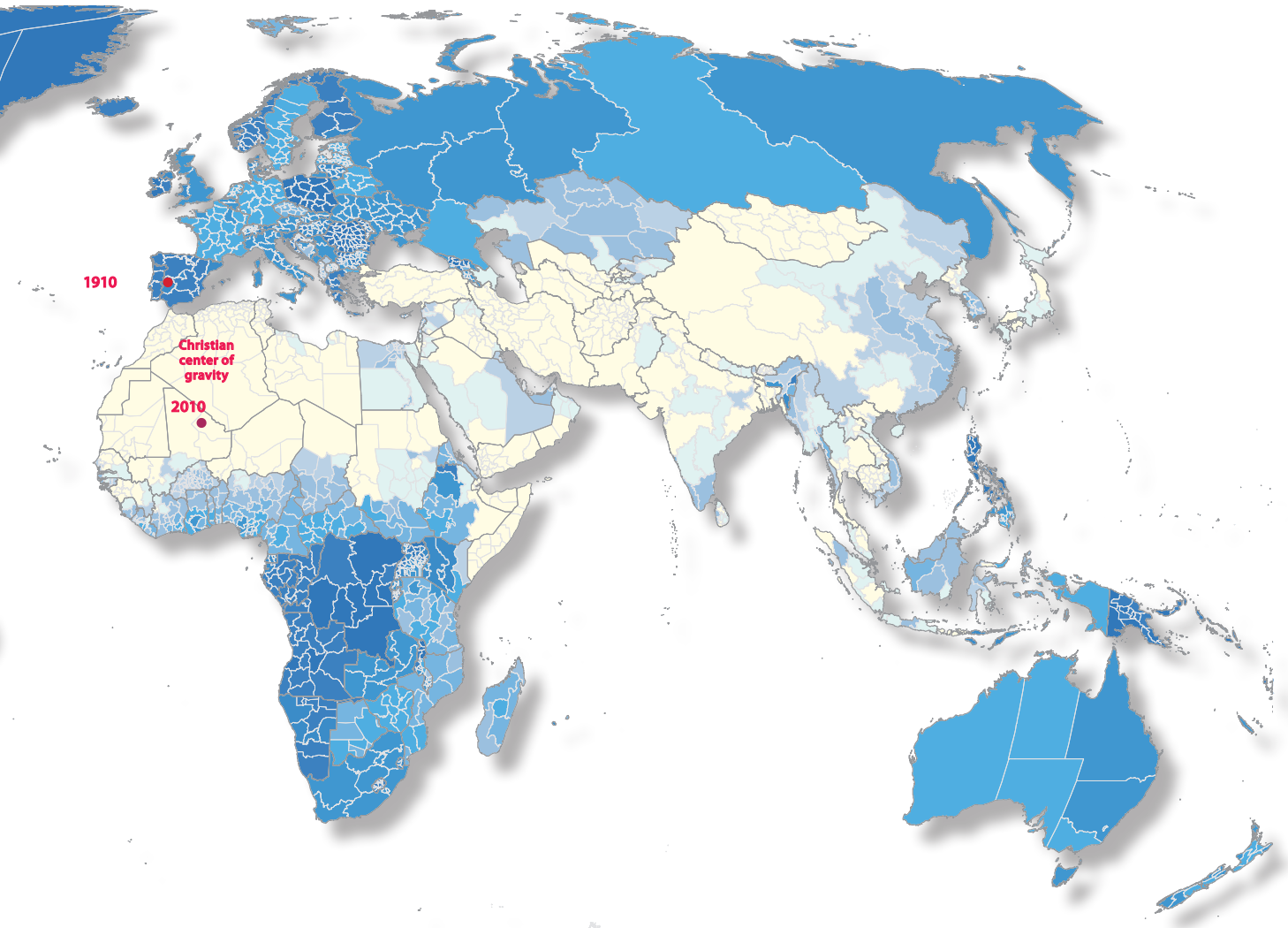


▲ Concentration of Christians by continent, 1910–2010

Although the "World" line on the graph above does not seem to indicate any great change in global Christianity over the past century, the internal demographic make-up of Christianity in fact has changed dramatically.

Latin America, Northern America, and Europe all started out in 1910 at almost 100% Christian, but in 2010 only Latin America retains such a high percentage. Northern America and Europe have dropped to around 80% Christian, and Oceania has returned to that level from its peak toward mid-century. Christianity in Africa had the most drastic change of any continent, growing from a mere 9% Christian in 1910 to almost 50% in 2010. Asia's change, though small in terms of proportion (from 2% Christian in 1910 to just 9% in 2010), still represents strong growth in absolute numbers, especially since 1950. The growth of Christianity in Africa (and, to an extent, Asia) is what held the global Christian percentage steady between 1970 and 2010.

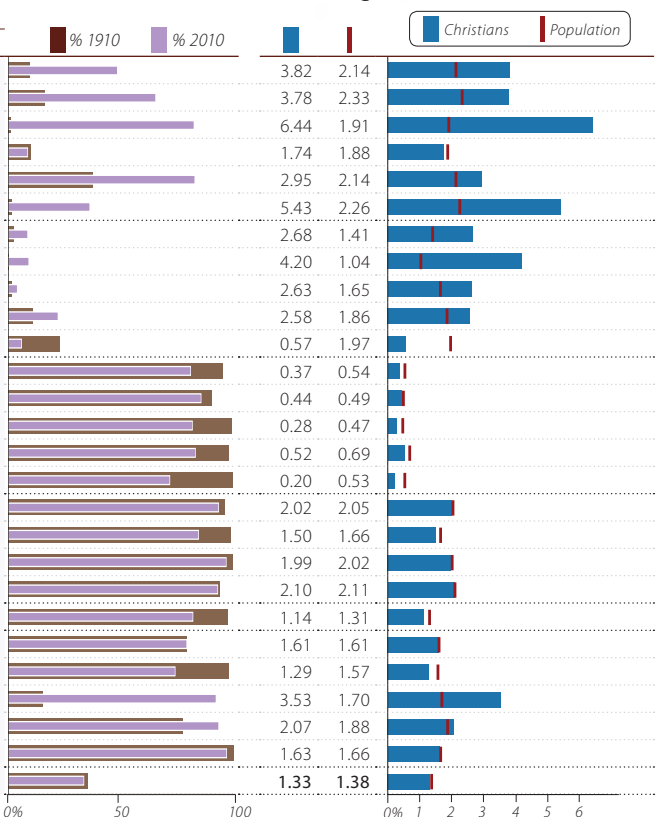




Christians by UN region, 1910 and 2010

	1910			2010		
	Population	Christians	%	Population	Christians	%
Africa	124,228,000	11,663,000	9.4	1,032,012,000	494,668,000	47.9
Eastern Africa	33,030,000	5,266,000	15.9	332,107,000	214,842,000	64.7
Middle Africa	19,443,000	207,000	1.1	129,583,000	105,830,000	81.7
Northern Africa	32,002,000	3,107,000	9.7	206,295,000	17,492,000	8.5
Southern Africa	6,819,000	2,526,000	37.0	56,592,000	46,419,000	82.0
Western Africa	32,933,000	557,000	1.7	307,436,000	110,084,000	35.8
Asia	1,028,265,000	25,123,000	2.4	4,166,308,000	352,239,000	8.5
Eastern Asia	556,096,000	2,288,000	0.4	1,562,575,000	140,012,000	9.0
South-Central Asia	345,121,000	5,182,000	1.5	1,777,378,000	69,213,000	3.9
South-Eastern Asia	94,104,000	10,124,000	10.8	594,216,000	129,700,000	21.8
Western Asia	32,944,000	7,529,000	22.9	232,139,000	13,315,000	5.7
Europe	427,154,000	403,687,000	94.5	730,478,000	585,739,000	80.2
Eastern Europe	178,184,000	159,695,000	89.6	290,755,000	246,495,000	84.8
Northern Europe	61,474,000	60,326,000	98.1	98,352,000	79,610,000	80.9
Southern Europe	76,940,000	74,532,000	96.9	152,913,000	125,796,000	82.3
Western Europe	110,556,000	109,134,000	98.7	188,457,000	133,838,000	71.0
Latin America	78,269,000	74,477,000	95.2	593,696,000	548,958,000	92.5
Caribbean	8,172,000	7,986,000	97.7	42,300,000	35,379,000	83.6
Central America	20,777,000	20,566,000	99.0	153,657,000	147,257,000	95.8
South America	49,320,000	45,925,000	93.1	397,739,000	366,322,000	92.1
Northern America	94,689,000	91,429,000	96.6	348,575,000	283,002,000	81.2
Oceania	7,192,000	5,650,000	78.6	35,491,000	27,848,000	78.5
Australia/New Zealand	5,375,000	5,206,000	96.9	25,647,000	18,816,000	73.4
Melanesia	1,596,000	245,000	15.4	8,589,000	7,847,000	91.4
Micronesia	89,400	68,600	76.7	575,000	532,000	92.5
Polynesia	131,000	130,000	99.2	680,000	653,000	96.0
Global total	1,759,797,000	612,028,000	34.8	6,906,560,000	2,292,454,000	33.2

Christian growth rates*, 1910–2010



*Rate = average annual growth rate, percent per year, between dates specified

Personal Contact Between Christians and Non-Christians

With a global total of over two billion, Christians make up one-third of the world's population. It therefore might be expected that a significant number of non-Christians would have some kind of personal contact with a Christian. This is not the case, however. One reason is immediately obvious: Christians are not evenly distributed globally. Some countries have large Christian majorities, while in others Christians constitute small minorities. Yet within a country, or even a city, adherents of different religions can be isolated from each other in many ways, including geographically, ethnically, socially, and economically.

In order to estimate the number of non-Christians who have personal contact with a Christian, a formula has been developed and applied to each ethnolinguistic people group. Thus, for every non-Christian population in the world, there is an indication of Christian presence and contact. Summing values for each country, region, and continent produces a global total. Although these numbers are estimates, they offer a preliminary assessment of a critical shortfall in Christian mission.

Buddhists, Hindus, and Muslims have relatively little contact with Christians. In each case, 86% or more of these religionists globally do not personally know a Christian. Agnostics and atheists are in closer touch with Christians than other religionists (except in Asia); this is not

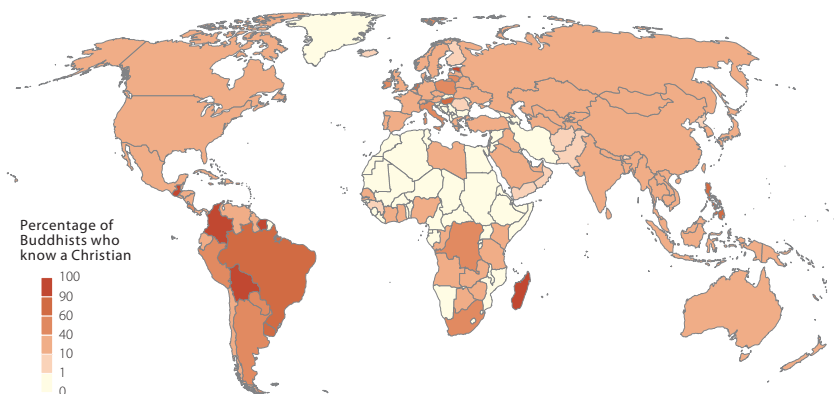
unexpected, since many agnostics and atheists in the West are former Christians reacting against Christianity. It is interesting that ethno-religionists have more contact with Christians as well, likely because ethnoreligionist peoples were a major focus of Christian mission in the twentieth century.

Non-Christians in Asia are more isolated from Christians than in any other continent in the world. At least two factors contribute to this: (1) isolation of Christians in majority Buddhist, Hindu, and Muslim cultures; and (2) relatively fewer Christian missionaries sent to and within Asia than to the rest of the world.

Muslims in Africa have only slightly more contact with Christians than the world average for Muslims. Christians in the Global South face a formidable challenge in their lack of contact with non-Christians, especially Muslims. Additionally, there is a sizable difference between the percentage of Muslims in Europe who know Christians and the corresponding percentage in Northern America. This is likely a reflection of the tendency of European Muslims to isolate themselves (or to be isolated by others) in Muslim communities.

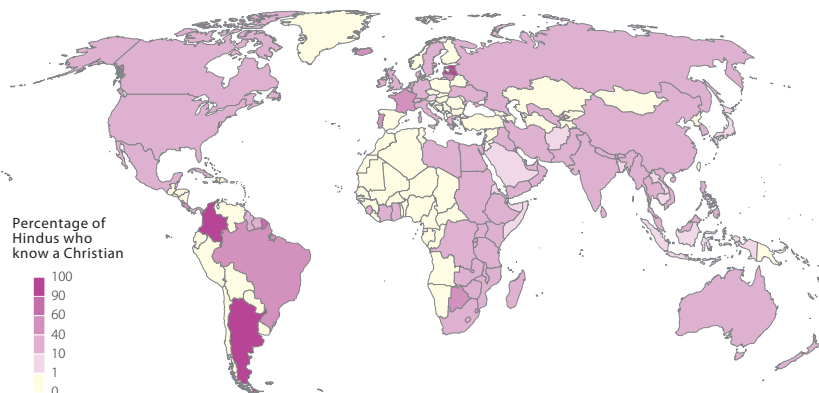
Buddhists who know a Christian, 2010

Countries with high percentages of Buddhists who know Christians tend to have a combination of small Buddhist populations and large Christian populations. It is no surprise to see high percentages in Latin America and parts of Europe, where the Christian population is by far the majority. Countries where few Buddhists know a Christian have either small Buddhist populations, but they also have either small Christian populations (Pakistan and Guinea, for example) or Buddhist populations isolated from the Christian majority (Romania, Iceland). Countries in pale yellow on the map have few or no Buddhists.



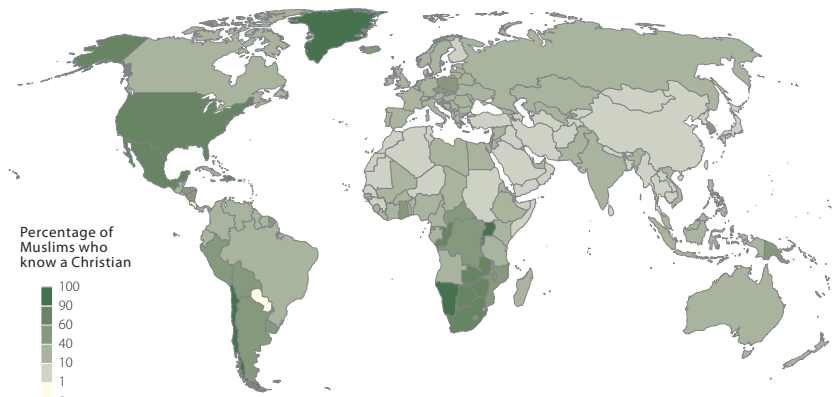
Hindus who know a Christian, 2010

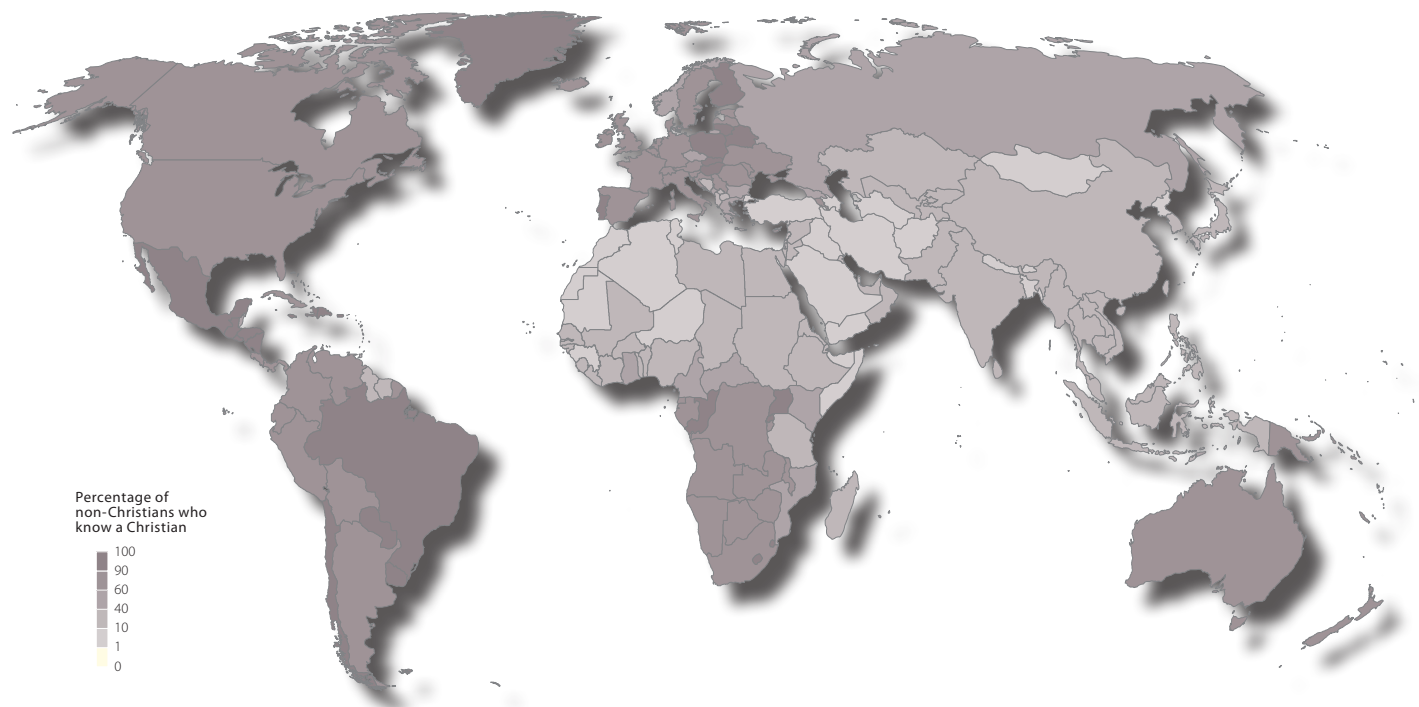
Hindus follow the same pattern as Buddhists: countries with high percentages of Hindus who know Christians have small populations of Hindus and large populations of Christians. Also as with Buddhists, countries where few Hindus know a Christian generally have relatively small Hindu populations (such as Israel and Laos) and either small Christian populations or (in the case of Austria) Hindu populations isolated from the Christian population. Countries shaded pale yellow on the map have few or no Hindus.



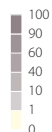
Muslims who know a Christian, 2010

Muslims who know Christians also tend to be found in majority-Christian countries. Unlike the situation for Buddhists and Hindus, however, most countries where the fewest Muslims know Christians have Muslim majorities (such as Afghanistan and Mauritania). Other reasons include geographic isolation of Christians and Muslims (China, Mongolia), small Muslim populations (Aruba), and small populations of both Christians and Muslims (Japan).





Percentage of non-Christians who know a Christian



Non-Christians who know a Christian, 2010

As would be expected, countries where Christianity is the majority religion have high percentages of non-Christians who know or have personal contact with Christians. Latin America, Northern America, Europe, Middle and Southern Africa, and parts of Oceania represent this situation. In many of these countries adherents of different religions often live and work nearby, making it difficult not to interact with one another.

By contrast, in countries where the population has a majority of non-Christians, their contact with Christians generally is fairly low. These countries are located mostly in Africa (Eastern, Northern, Western) and Asia. In addition, most of the countries in which the fewest non-Christians know a Christian have Muslim majorities; exceptions include North Korea (agnostics), Nepal (Hindus), Bhutan (Buddhists), and Mongolia (a mix of religions).

Percentage of non-Christians who know a Christian*

Largest percentages		%	Smallest percentages		%
1	Grenada	100	200	Afghanistan	3
2	Haiti	100	199	Mauritania	6
3	Cape Verde	99	198	Somaliland	6
4	Guatemala	99	197	Algeria	6
5	Lesotho	99	196	Sahara	7
6	French Polynesia	99	195	Somalia	7
7	São Tomé & Príncipe	99	194	Iran	7
8	Poland	99	193	Turkey	7
9	Slovakia	98	192	Yemen	7
10	Channel Islands	98	191	North Korea	7

*Country populations >100,000

Personal contact between Christians and non-Christians, 2010

	Buddhists			Hindus			Muslims			Non-Christians		
	Total	Know Christian	%	Total	Know Christian	%	Total	Know Christian	%	Total	Know Christian	%
Africa	292,000	110,000	37.7	2,891,000	671,000	23.2	417,644,000	83,046,000	19.9	537,344,000	140,027,000	26.1
Eastern Africa	75,800	19,300	25.4	1,577,000	310,000	19.7	72,436,000	26,767,000	37.0	117,265,000	50,431,000	43.0
Middle Africa	5,700	2,300	40.1	105,000	17,100	16.3	12,403,000	2,216,000	17.9	23,753,000	10,226,000	43.1
Northern Africa	22,000	2,600	11.8	7,600	1,200	16.1	182,154,000	21,859,000	12.0	188,803,000	24,248,000	12.8
Southern Africa	159,000	82,000	51.5	1,182,000	339,000	28.7	1,262,000	891,000	70.6	10,173,000	7,772,000	76.4
Western Africa	29,600	3,900	13.2	19,900	3,200	16.3	149,389,000	31,311,000	21.0	197,352,000	47,351,000	24.0
Asia	461,464,000	62,797,000	13.6	941,485,000	123,225,000	13.1	1,082,537,000	110,576,000	10.2	3,814,069,000	489,014,000	12.8
Eastern Asia	276,177,000	38,630,000	14.0	45,700	5,300	11.5	21,775,000	1,128,000	5.2	1,422,563,000	196,166,000	13.8
South-Central Asia	26,764,000	3,590,000	13.4	932,792,000	121,984,000	13.1	637,021,000	62,366,000	9.8	1,708,165,000	204,170,000	12.0
South-Eastern Asia	158,139,000	20,509,000	13.0	7,544,000	980,000	13.0	217,705,000	27,720,000	12.7	464,516,000	67,041,000	14.4
Western Asia	384,000	67,200	17.5	1,103,000	256,000	23.2	206,036,000	19,362,000	9.4	218,824,000	21,637,000	9.9
Europe	1,833,000	549,000	30.0	1,008,000	227,000	22.6	41,082,000	7,436,000	18.1	144,739,000	103,786,000	71.7
Eastern Europe	604,000	123,000	20.4	51,000	17,800	34.8	17,417,000	2,877,000	16.5	44,260,000	27,398,000	61.9
Northern Europe	282,000	93,100	33.0	664,000	133,000	20.1	2,377,000	384,000	16.1	18,742,000	15,097,000	80.6
Southern Europe	116,000	37,400	32.3	30,400	8,300	27.4	10,154,000	1,994,000	19.6	27,117,000	18,631,000	68.7
Western Europe	830,000	295,000	35.6	262,000	68,100	26.0	11,134,000	2,181,000	19.6	54,619,000	42,658,000	78.1
Latin America	800,000	530,000	66.3	780,000	208,000	26.7	1,860,000	895,000	48.1	44,738,000	40,220,000	89.9
Caribbean	14,700	7,700	52.1	385,000	110,000	28.6	125,000	38,300	30.7	6,921,000	5,737,000	82.9
Central America	71,400	22,100	30.9	27,700	7,900	28.4	392,000	233,000	59.5	6,400,000	5,913,000	92.4
South America	714,000	500,000	70.1	367,000	90,100	24.5	1,342,000	623,000	46.5	31,417,000	28,571,000	90.9
Northern America	3,720,000	1,327,000	35.7	1,820,000	402,000	22.1	5,740,000	3,870,000	67.4	65,573,000	51,846,000	79.1
Oceania	627,000	183,000	29.1	524,000	107,000	20.5	582,000	128,000	22.0	7,643,000	5,662,000	74.1
Australia/New Zealand	599,000	171,000	28.6	271,000	50,400	18.6	518,000	115,000	22.1	6,831,000	5,172,000	75.7
Melanesia	15,000	5,300	35.0	253,000	56,800	22.4	63,200	13,200	20.8	742,000	434,000	58.4
Micronesia	12,100	5,400	44.6	0	0	0.0	670	360	53.8	43,000	30,100	69.9
Polynesia	780	580	74.6	100	50	50.2	80	40	50.1	27,000	26,100	96.7
Global total	468,736,000	65,497,000	14.0	948,507,000	124,840,000	13.2	1,549,444,000	205,952,000	13.3	4,614,106,000	830,554,000	18.0

Status of Global Mission, 2010, in Context of 20th and 21st Centuries

	1900	1970	mid-2000	Trend % p.a.	24-hour change	mid-2010	2025
GLOBAL POPULATION							
1. Total population	1,619,625,000	3,698,683,000	6,124,119,000	1.21	229,000	6,906,560,000	8,010,511,000
2. Urban dwellers (urbanites)	232,695,000	1,340,493,000	2,863,922,000	2.03	195,000	3,502,743,000	4,591,901,000
3. Rural dwellers	1,386,930,000	2,358,190,000	3,260,197,000	0.43	34,000	3,403,817,000	3,418,610,000
4. Adult population (over 15s)	1,073,634,000	2,313,632,000	4,273,326,000	1.68	232,000	5,046,399,000	6,079,482,000
5. Literates	296,149,000	1,477,166,000	3,275,665,000	2.29	258,000	4,107,680,000	5,124,532,000
6. Nonliterates	777,485,000	836,466,000	997,661,000	-0.61	-26,000	938,719,000	954,950,000
WORLDWIDE EXPANSION OF CITIES							
7. Megacities (over 1 million population)	20	161	402	2.16	0.03	498	650
8. Urban poor	100 million	650 million	1,400 million	3.10	161,000	1,900 million	3,000 million
9. Urban slum dwellers	20 million	260 million	700 million	3.32	88,000	970 million	1,600 million
GLOBAL POPULATION BY RELIGION							
10. Christians (total all kinds) (=World C)	558,158,000	1,234,969,000	2,004,559,000	1.35	85,000	2,292,454,000	2,708,029,000
11. Muslims	199,705,000	579,875,000	1,293,235,000	1.82	77,000	1,549,444,000	1,962,881,000
12. Hindus	202,973,000	458,845,000	820,425,000	1.46	38,000	948,507,000	1,098,680,000
13. Nonreligious (agnostics)	3,029,000	542,318,000	663,172,000	-0.36	-6,300	639,852,000	625,648,000
14. Buddhists	126,920,000	234,028,000	413,790,000	1.25	16,100	468,736,000	542,372,000
15. Chinese folk-religionists	380,207,000	231,814,000	421,210,000	0.85	10,600	458,316,000	504,695,000
16. Ethnoreligionists	117,527,000	165,687,000	231,708,000	1.21	8,700	261,429,000	267,440,000
17. Atheists	226,000	165,301,000	139,783,000	-0.09	-300	138,532,000	133,320,000
18. New Religionists (Neoreligionists)	5,986,000	39,332,000	61,550,000	0.46	1,000	64,443,000	66,677,000
19. Sikhs	2,962,000	10,677,000	20,970,000	1.61	1,100	24,591,000	29,517,000
20. Jews	12,292,000	15,100,000	13,773,000	0.61	250	14,641,000	15,521,000
21. Non-Christians (=Worlds A and B)	1,061,467,000	2,463,714,000	4,119,560,000	1.14	144,000	4,614,106,000	5,302,482,000
GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY							
22. Total Christians as % of world (=World C)	34.5	33.4	32.7	0.14	0.0	33.2	33.8
23. Affiliated Christians (church members)	521,712,000	1,123,289,000	1,895,509,000	1.38	82,000	2,172,932,000	2,583,129,000
24. Church attenders	469,303,000	885,777,000	1,359,420,000	1.04	43,000	1,507,556,000	1,760,568,000
25. Evangelicals	71,726,000	98,013,000	214,956,000	2.06	15,000	263,464,000	347,822,000
26. Great Commission Christians	77,918,000	276,987,000	610,849,000	1.47	28,000	706,806,000	833,300,000
27. Pentecostals/Charismatics/Neocharismatics	981,000	67,234,000	483,283,000	2.42	41,000	614,010,000	797,091,000
28. Average Christian martyrs per year	34,400	377,000	160,000	1.07	490	178,000	210,000
MEMBERSHIP BY 6 ECCLESIASTICAL MEGABLOCKS							
29. Roman Catholics	266,580,000	665,895,000	1,046,605,000	1.00	32,000	1,155,627,000	1,323,840,000
30. Protestants	103,025,000	210,986,000	355,001,000	1.68	19,000	419,316,000	530,485,000
31. Independents	7,931,000	86,018,000	290,583,000	2.42	24,000	369,156,000	502,211,000
32. Orthodox	115,879,000	144,492,000	256,362,000	0.68	5,000	274,447,000	283,268,000
33. Anglicans	30,571,000	47,409,000	74,849,000	1.49	4,000	86,782,000	109,196,000
34. Marginal Christians	928,000	11,086,000	28,824,000	1.93	2,000	34,912,000	50,862,000
MEMBERSHIP BY 6 CONTINENTS, 21 UN REGIONS							
35. Africa (5 regions)	8,756,000	116,451,000	361,649,000	2.67	34,000	470,601,000	672,703,000
36. Asia (4 regions)	20,781,000	92,391,000	274,626,000	2.40	23,000	347,964,000	475,789,000
37. Europe (including Russia; 4 regions)	368,257,000	467,769,000	549,529,000	0.20	3,000	560,860,000	541,077,000
38. Latin America (3 regions)	60,027,000	263,719,000	478,537,000	1.27	19,000	543,150,000	621,819,000
39. Northern America (1 region)	59,570,000	168,372,000	210,098,000	0.77	5,000	226,885,000	245,245,000
40. Oceania (4 regions)	4,322,000	14,586,000	21,070,000	1.08	1,000	23,471,000	26,495,000
CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS							
41. Denominations	1,900	18,700	33,800	1.95	2.2	41,000	55,000
42. Congregations (worship centers)	400,000	1,440,000	3,500,000	3.32	440	4,850,000	7,500,000
43. Service agencies	1,500	14,100	23,000	1.99	1.5	28,000	36,000
44. Foreign-mission sending agencies	600	2,200	4,000	1.63	0.2	4,700	6,000
CONCILIARISM: ONGOING COUNCILS OF CHURCHES							
45. Confessional councils (CWCs, at world level)	40	150	310	1.51	0.01	360	600
46. National councils of churches	19	283	598	1.50	0.03	690	870
CHRISTIAN WORKERS (clergy, laypersons)							
47. Nationals (citizens; all denominations)	2,100,000	4,600,000	10,900,000	0.97	318	12,000,000	14,000,000
48. Men	1,900,000	3,100,000	6,540,000	0.97	191	7,200,000	8,000,000
49. Women	200,000	1,500,000	4,360,000	0.97	127	4,800,000	6,000,000
50. Aliens (foreign missionaries)	62,000	240,000	420,000	-0.49	-5	400,000	550,000
CHRISTIAN FINANCE (in US\$, per year)							
51. Personal income of church members	270 billion	4,100 billion	17,000 billion	5.42	79 billion	28,820 billion	50,000 billion
52. Giving to Christian causes	8 billion	70 billion	300 billion	5.51	1.4 billion	513 billion	890 billion
53. Churches' income	7 billion	50 billion	120 billion	5.48	560 million	205 billion	360 billion
54. Parachurch and institutional income	1 billion	20 billion	180 billion	5.53	840 million	308 billion	530 billion
55. Cost-effectiveness (cost per baptism)	17,500	128,000	330,000	5.95	96	588,000	1,400,000
56. Ecclesiastical crime	300,000	5,000,000	18 billion	5.91	90 million	32 billion	60 billion
57. Income of global foreign missions	200 million	3 billion	17 billion	5.58	80 million	29 billion	50 billion
58. Computers in Christian use (numbers)	0	1,000	328 million	5.68	89,000	570 million	1,300 million
CHRISTIAN LITERATURE (titles, not copies)							
59. Books about Christianity	300,000	1,800,000	4,800,000	3.66	700	6,879,000	11,800,000
60. Christian periodicals	3,500	23,000	35,000	4.24	6.2	53,000	100,000
SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION (all sources, per year)							
61. Bibles	5,452,600	25 million	53,700,000	2.89	195,000	71,425,000	110 million
62. Scriptures, including gospels, selections	20 million	281 million	4,600 million	1.07	13 million	4,900 million	6,000 million
63. Bible density (copies in place)	108 million	443 million	1,400 million	1.96	91,000	1,700 million	2,280 million
CHRISTIAN BROADCASTING							
64. Total monthly listeners/viewers	0	750,000,000	1,830,000,000	1.14	64,000	2,050,000,000	2,400,000,000
CHRISTIAN URBAN MISSION							
65. Non-Christian megacities	5	65	226	1.64	0.01	266	300
66. New non-Christian urban dwellers per day	5,200	51,100	108,000	0.89	2.9	118,000	134,000
67. Urban Christians	159,600,000	660,800,000	1,247,508,000	1.67	67,300	1,472,098,000	1,826,507,000
GLOBAL EVANGELISM (per year)							
68. Evangelism-hours	5 billion	25 billion	165 billion	-0.34	440 million	159 billion	300 billion
69. Hearer-hours (offers)	10 billion	99 billion	938 billion	1.93	3.1 billion	1,136 billion	3,000 billion
70. Disciple-opportunities (offers) per capita	6	27	153	0.72	0.5	164	375
WORLD EVANGELIZATION							
71. Unevangelized population (=World A)	879,583,000	1,638,499,000	1,828,536,000	1.03	57,000	2,026,696,000	2,297,434,000
72. Unevangelized as % of world	54.3	44.3	29.9	-0.17	0.0	29.3	28.7
73. World evangelization plans since AD 30	250	510	1,500	2.92	0.2	2,000	3,000