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The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050

Global Christianity

The Global Religious Landscape

Orthodox Christianity in the 21st Century

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Being Christian in Western Europe

WORLD CHRISTIAN POPULATION (2010)

2,168,330,000

PERCENTAGE OF WORLD'S POPULATION THAT IS CHRISTIAN

31.4%

MEDIAN AGE OF CHRISTIANS

30

For More Information

UN Population Data by Religion

Christian Population by Percentage Worldwide



Overview

As of 2010, there were 2.2 billion Christians around the world, or about one-in-three (31%) people worldwide. This makes Christianity the world's largest religion. The world's Christian population is expected to grow to 2.9 billion in 2050. Nearly one-in-three people worldwide (31%) are expected to be Christian at mid-century, the same share as in 2010.

About a quarter of the global Christian population as of 2010 was in Europe (26%), a quarter in Latin America and the Caribbean (25%) and a quarter in sub-Saharan Africa (24%). Significant numbers of Christians also live in Asia and the Pacific (13%) and North America (12%). Less than 1% live in the Middle East-North Africa region, where Christianity began. The regional distribution of Christians is forecast to change considerably by 2050. Europe is no longer projected to have a plurality of the world's Christians; in fact, only about 16% of the world's Christians are expected to be living in Europe as of 2050.

About half of all Christians were Catholic as of 2010. An estimated 37% of Christians belonged to the Protestant faith, broadly defined to include Anglicans as well as members of independent and nondenominational churches. The Orthodox Communion, including the Greek and Russian Orthodox, made up 12% of Christians. Other Christian groups, which made up the remaining 1%, include the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons), Christian Scientists and Jehovah's Witnesses.

Explore population characteristics and survey results for Christians using [Topics & Questions](#) or the [Data Explorer](#).

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