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GLOBAL RELIGIOUS FUTURES
PROJECT

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

The Global Religious Landscape

WORLD POPULATION THAT
BELONGS TO OTHER RELIGIONS
(2010)

58,150,000

PERCENTAGE OF WORLD'S
POPULATION THAT BELONGS TO
OTHER RELIGIONS

0.8%

MEDIAN AGE OF MEMBERS OF
OTHER RELIGIONS

32

For More Information

UN Population Data by Religion

Other Religion Population by Percentage Worldwide



Overview

"Other religions" is a residual category composed of religious groups not classified elsewhere. As of 2010, 0.8% of the world's population belonged to these groups. By 2050, adherents of other religions are expected to decline slightly as a share of the world's population (to 0.7%).

Members of other religions are expected to remain heavily concentrated in the Asia-Pacific region, where 89% resided in 2010 and 79% are projected to reside in 2050. North America's share of the world's "other religions" population is expected to grow from nearly 4% in 2010 to 11% in 2050. The share of the "other religions" population living in sub-Saharan Africa also is expected to increase (from 3% to 6%). In the coming decades, the number of adherents of other religions is expected to decrease in the Asia-Pacific region, while the population belonging to other religions in each other region of the world is projected to grow.

The "other religion" category includes followers of religions that often are not measured separately in censuses and surveys: the Baha'i faith, Jainism, Shintoism, Sikhism, Taoism, Tenrikyo, Wicca, Zoroastrianism and many other religions. Because of a lack of data on these faiths in many countries, the individual religions within this category are not projected separately. Rather, they are combined and treated as a whole. This means the growth trajectories of specific religions in this category could vary greatly.

Explore population characteristics of members of other religions using [Topics & Questions](#) or the [Data Explorer](#).

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