

Status of Global Mission, 2012, in the Context of AD 1800–2025

	1800	1900	1970	mid-2000	Trend % p.a.	24-hour change	mid-2012	2025
GLOBAL POPULATION								
1. Total population	903,650,000	1,619,625,000	3,696,189,000	6,122,770,000	1.18	229,000	7,052,132,000	8,002,979,000
2. Urban dwellers (urbanites)	36,146,000	232,695,000	1,342,451,000	2,849,489,000	2.02	200,000	3,620,811,000	4,549,674,000
3. Rural dwellers	867,504,000	1,386,930,000	2,353,738,000	3,273,281,000	0.39	29,000	3,431,321,000	3,453,305,000
4. Adult population (over 15s)	619,000,000	1,073,646,000	2,312,042,000	4,272,601,000	1.61	228,000	5,175,954,000	6,087,748,000
5. Literates	123,800,000	296,153,000	1,476,151,000	3,275,110,000	2.17	252,000	4,238,241,000	5,131,500,000
6. Nonliterates	495,200,000	777,493,000	835,891,000	997,491,000	-0.51	-24,000	937,713,000	956,248,000
WORLDWIDE EXPANSION OF CITIES								
7. Megacities (over 1 million population)	1	20	161	402	1.92	–	505	650
8. Urban poor	18 million	100 million	650 million	1,400 million	3.10	172,000	2,020 million	3,000 million
9. Urban slum dwellers	3 million	20 million	260 million	700 million	3.35	96,000	1,040 million	1,600 million
GLOBAL POPULATION BY RELIGION								
10. Christians (total all kinds) (=World C)	204,980,000	558,131,000	1,229,238,000	1,991,602,000	1.30	83,000	2,325,507,000	2,727,153,000
11. Muslims	90,500,000	199,818,000	577,039,000	1,279,859,000	1.79	78,000	1,583,783,000	1,951,389,000
12. Hindus	108,000,000	202,973,000	463,215,000	821,948,000	1.39	37,000	969,602,000	1,108,202,000
13. Nonreligious (agnostics)	300,000	3,029,000	542,632,000	666,060,000	-0.06	-1,100	661,288,000	636,826,000
14. Buddhists	69,400,000	126,956,000	235,095,000	418,963,000	1.03	13,400	473,818,000	546,590,000
15. Chinese folk-religionists	310,000,000	380,174,000	228,822,000	434,638,000	0.60	7,700	467,216,000	479,302,000
16. Ethnoreligionists	92,000,000	117,437,000	168,801,000	234,664,000	1.00	7,300	264,552,000	256,530,000
17. Atheists	10,000	226,000	165,506,000	140,001,000	-0.20	-800	136,642,000	132,342,000
18. New-Religionists (Neoreligionists)	0	5,986,000	39,382,000	61,321,000	0.25	400	63,220,000	64,108,000
19. Sikhs	1,800,000	2,962,000	10,678,000	20,542,000	1.51	1,000	24,585,000	29,326,000
20. Jews	9,000,000	12,292,000	15,045,000	13,744,000	0.69	300	14,921,000	16,004,000
21. Non-Christians (=Worlds A and B)	698,670,000	1,061,494,000	2,466,951,000	4,131,168,000	1.13	146,000	4,726,625,000	5,275,826,000
GLOBAL CHRISTIANITY								
22. Total Christians as % of world (=World C)	22.7	34.5	33.3	32.5	0.11	–	33.0	34.1
23. Affiliated Christians (church members)	195,680,000	521,683,000	1,119,824,000	1,886,698,000	1.33	80,000	2,209,645,000	2,607,894,000
24. Church attenders	180,100,000	469,303,000	885,777,000	1,359,420,000	1.04	44,000	1,539,066,000	1,760,568,000
25. Evangelicals	25,000,000	71,728,000	95,106,000	228,231,000	2.25	18,000	298,016,000	393,478,000
26. Great Commission Christians	21,000,000	77,924,000	276,680,000	603,989,000	1.20	23,000	697,089,000	837,687,000
27. Pentecostals/Charismatics/Neocharismatics	10,000	981,000	62,634,000	460,108,000	2.41	40,000	612,314,000	828,427,000
28. Christian martyrs per year (10-year average)	2,500	34,400	377,000	160,000	-3.84	270	100,000	150,000
MEMBERSHIP BY 6 ECCLESIASTICAL MEGABLOCKS								
29. Roman Catholics	106,430,000	266,566,000	664,987,000	1,043,333,000	1.09	35,000	1,187,637,000	1,323,199,000
30. Protestants	30,980,000	103,028,000	208,304,000	353,401,000	1.71	20,000	432,896,000	532,301,000
31. Independents	400,000	7,931,000	84,622,000	271,426,000	2.35	23,000	358,611,000	496,164,000
32. Orthodox	55,220,000	115,855,000	144,497,000	257,109,000	0.62	5,000	276,891,000	291,712,000
33. Anglicans	11,910,000	30,578,000	47,408,000	74,892,000	1.52	4,000	89,716,000	112,983,000
34. Marginal Christians	40,000	928,000	11,121,000	29,009,000	1.97	2,000	36,679,000	50,821,000
MEMBERSHIP BY 6 CONTINENTS, 21 UN REGIONS								
35. Africa (5 regions)	4,330,000	8,736,000	115,879,000	357,109,000	2.61	35,000	486,695,000	681,825,000
36. Asia (4 regions)	8,350,000	20,774,000	91,330,000	274,792,000	2.26	22,000	359,373,000	484,433,000
37. Europe (including Russia; 4 regions)	171,700,000	368,254,000	466,987,000	547,998,000	0.21	3,000	562,087,000	560,961,000
38. Latin America (3 regions)	14,900,000	60,027,000	262,793,000	477,058,000	1.18	18,000	549,075,000	612,812,000
39. Northern America (1 region)	5,600,000	59,570,000	168,372,000	208,650,000	0.63	4,000	224,930,000	239,752,000
40. Oceania (4 regions)	100,000	4,323,000	14,464,000	21,092,000	1.21	1,000	24,356,000	28,111,000
CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS								
41. Denominations	500	1,600	18,700	34,100	1.95	2.3	43,000	55,000
42. Congregations (worship centers)	150,000	400,000	1,416,000	3,400,000	2.80	360	4,738,000	7,500,000
43. Service agencies	600	1,500	14,100	23,000	1.95	1.5	29,000	36,000
44. Foreign-mission sending agencies	200	600	2,200	4,000	1.71	0.2	4,900	6,000
CONCILIARISM: ONGOING COUNCILS OF CHURCHES								
45. Confessional councils (CWCs, at world level)	20	40	150	310	1.25	–	360	600
46. National councils of churches	0	19	283	598	1.50	–	710	870
CHRISTIAN WORKERS (clergy, laypersons)								
47. Nationals (citizens; all denominations)	900,000	2,100,000	4,600,000	10,900,000	0.98	328	12,249,000	14,000,000
48. Men	800,000	1,900,000	3,100,000	6,540,000	0.92	185	7,302,000	8,000,000
49. Women	100,000	200,000	1,500,000	4,360,000	1.06	143	4,947,000	6,000,000
50. Aliens (foreign missionaries)	25,000	62,000	240,000	420,000	-0.06	-1	417,000	550,000
CHRISTIAN FINANCE (in US\$, per year)								
51. Personal income of church members	40 billion	270 billion	4,100 billion	17,000 billion	5.38	87 billion	31,890 billion	50,000 billion
52. Giving to Christian causes	1 billion	8 billion	70 billion	300 billion	5.47	1.6 billion	569 billion	890 billion
53. Churches' income	950 million	7 billion	50 billion	120 billion	5.44	620 million	227 billion	350 billion
54. Parachurch and institutional income	50 million	1 billion	20 billion	180 billion	5.49	940 million	342 billion	540 billion
55. Cost-effectiveness (cost per baptism)	7,500	17,500	128,000	330,000	7.22	151	762,000	1,470,000
56. Ecclesiastical crime	100,000	300,000	5 million	18 billion	5.87	100 million	35 billion	60 billion
57. Income of global foreign missions	25 million	200 million	3 billion	17 billion	5.54	90 million	32 billion	50 billion
58. Computers in Christian use (numbers)	0	0	1,000	328 million	5.45	93,000	620 million	1,300 million
CHRISTIAN LITERATURE (titles, not copies)								
59. Books about Christianity	75,000	300,000	1,800,000	4,800,000	3.67	700	7,400,000	11,800,000
60. Christian periodicals	800	3,500	23,000	35,000	4.30	7	58,000	100,000
SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION (all sources, per year)								
61. Bibles	500,000	5,452,600	25,000,000	53,700,000	2.91	207,000	75,800,000	110,000,000
62. Scriptures including gospels, selections	1,500,000	20 million	281 million	4,600 million	1.07	14 million	4,960 million	6,000 million
63. Bible density (copies in place)	20 million	108 million	443 million	1,400 million	1.97	96,000	1,770 million	2,280 million
CHRISTIAN BROADCASTING								
64. Total monthly listeners/viewers	0	0	750,000,000	1,830,000,000	1.11	64,000	2,090,000,000	2,400,000,000
CHRISTIAN URBAN MISSION								
65. Non-Christian megacities	1	5	65	226	1.08	–	257	300
66. New non-Christian urban dwellers per day	500	5,200	51,100	119,000	0.21	0.7	122,000	125,000
67. Urban Christians	5,500,000	159,600,000	660,800,000	1,230,131,000	1.62	66,300	1,492,262,000	1,819,232,000
GLOBAL EVANGELISM (per year)								
68. Evangelism-hours	600 million	5 billion	25 billion	165 billion	0.02	450 million	165 billion	300 billion
69. Hearer-hours (offers)	900 million	10 billion	99 billion	938 billion	1.92	3.2 billion	1,178 billion	3,000 billion
70. Disciple-opportunities (offers) per capita	1	6	27	153	0.72	0.5	167	375
WORLD EVANGELIZATION								
71. Unevangelized population (=World A)	674,350,000	880,122,000	1,653,168,000	1,832,151,000	1.01	57,000	2,066,504,000	2,261,675,000
72. Unevangelized as % of world	74.6	54.3	44.7	29.9	-0.17	–	29.3	28.3
73. World evangelization plans since AD 30	160	250	510	1,500	2.84	0.2	2,100	3,000

Methodological notes on the Status of Global Mission, 2012
(referring to numbered lines)

Indented categories form part of, and are included in, unindented categories above them. Definitions of categories are as given and explained in *World Christian Encyclopedia* (1st ed., 1982; 2nd ed., 2001) and *World Christian Trends* (2001), with additional data and explanations as below. The analytical trichotomy of Worlds A, B, C are explained in *WCT*.

Lines 1-4. Demographic totals are as shown in *World Population Prospects: The 2010 Revision* (New York: United Nations, 2011).

10. Widest definition: professing Christians plus crypto-Christians (secret believers), which equals affiliated (church members) plus unaffiliated Christians. World C is the world of all who individually are Christians.

21. Total of all non-Christians (sum of rows 11-20 above, plus adherents of other smaller religions). This is also the same as World A (the unevangelized) plus World B (evangelized non-Christians).

24-27. These categories overlap in varying degrees.

25. Churches, denominations, and individuals who identify themselves as evangelicals by membership in denominations linked to evangelical alliances (e.g. World Evangelical Alliance), or by self-identification in polls.

26. Great Commission Christians are defined as active church members of all traditions who take seriously Christ's Great Commission and his call to mission.

27. Church members involved in the Pentecostal / charismatic / neocharismatic renewal in the Holy Spirit, known collectively as Renewalists. Totals on lines 24-27 overlap with those on lines 29-34.

28. World totals of current long-term trend for all confessions. (See *WCT*, part 4, "Martyrology.") Figures reflect the collapse of Communism but also the expansion of terrorism.

51-57. Defined in *WCT*, part 20, "Finance."

56. Amounts embezzled by top custodians of Christian monies (U.S. dollar equivalents, per year).

58. Total general-purpose computers and word processors owned by churches, agencies, groups, and individual Christians.

68-70. These measures are defined, derived, and analyzed in *WCT*, part 23, "Evangelization."

71-72. Defined as in *WCT*, part 25, "Macroevangelistics."

73. Grand total of all distinct plans and proposals for accomplishing world evangelization made by Christians since A.D. 30. See *WCT*, part 27, "GeoStrategies."

Columns

Trend % p.a. Average annual rate of change, 2000-2012, as a % per year.

24-hour change. Lines 28, 51,52,53,54,56,57, 61,62, 68,69, and 70 (which lines are all expressed as rates per year) show the actual 24-hour change, rather than the 24-hour change in the *rate* per year. e.g. Line 28 shows simply the "number of martyrs per day" instead of showing the "increase per day in the number of martyrs per year". Dashes indicate the calculated figure is small but not meaningful.
