

Religious Persuasions from Around the Globe

According to a report published by the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, 34.4% of the global population could be Christian by 2050. The faith is then projected to reach 3.3 Billion.

From 2000 to 2022, the global Christian population increased by 1.18% annually, with Charismatics including Pentecostals seeing the highest annual growth rate (1.88%), followed by Evangelicals (1.79%), Independents (1.65%), Protestants (1.58%), Roman Catholics (0.93%), Unaffiliated Christians (0.82%) and Orthodox Christians (0.53%).

In 2050, Roman Catholics are projected to remain the most populous Christian tradition (1.5 billion), followed by Charismatics including Pentecostals (1 billion), Protestants (881 million), evangelicals (620 million), independents (616 million), Orthodox (307 million) and unaffiliated (131 million).

Annual Christian population growth rates from 2000 to the present have been highest in Africa (2.76%), followed by Asia (1.62%), Latin American (1.03%), Oceania (0.92%), Northern America (0.29%) and Europe (0.04%). Overall, the Global South's Christian population has increased by an annual percentage rate of 1.8% during this time period, compared to a rate of 0.12% for the Global North.

From 2000 to the present, the global Muslim population increased at the highest annual rate of all faith traditions at 1.87%, increasing by 697.8 million adherents to 2,007,352,000 (mid-year 2023 projection). The global Sikh population increased at the next highest annual rate (1.56%), followed by Hindus (1.2%), Christians (1.18%), Ethno-Religionists (1.16%), Buddhists (0.77%), Jews (0.7%), Agnostics (0.61%), Non-Religionists (0.56%), Chinese Folk-Religionists (0.34%), Atheists (0.29%) and New-Religionists (0.26%).



Persuasion	Mid-2023 Study	Projected by 2025	Projected by 2050
Religionists	7,147,900,000	7,291,508,000	8,846,157,000
Christians	2,604,381,000	2,662,979,000	3,342,878,000
Muslims	2,007,352,000	2,070,970,000	2,817,253,000
Hindus	1,090,304,000	1,105,393,000	1,228,708,000
Buddhists	535,545,000	538,380,000	548,803,000
Chinese Folk-Religionists	458,580,000	456,032,000	397,718,000
Ethno-Religionists	288,866,000	291,909,000	319,713,000
New Religionists	66,488,000	66,566,000	64,489,000
Sikhs	28,756,000	30,079,000	42,180,000
Jews	15,210,000	15,389,000	17,412,000
Non-Religionists	897,412,000	900,481,000	863,335,000
Agnostics	748,054,000	750,408,000	711,566,000
Atheists	149,358,000	150,073,000	151,770,000