

Worldwide Adherents of All Religions by Six Continental Areas, Mid-1995

	Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America	Northern America	Oceania	World	%	Number of countries
Christians	348,176,000	306,762,000	551,892,000	448,006,000	249,277,000	23,840,000	1,927,953,000	33.7	260
<i>Roman Catholics</i>	122,108,000	90,041,000	270,677,000	402,691,000	74,243,000	8,265,000	968,025,000	16.9	249
<i>Protestants</i>	109,726,000	42,836,000	80,000,000	31,684,000	123,257,000	8,364,000	395,867,000	6.9	236
<i>Orthodox</i>	29,645,000	14,881,000	165,795,000	481,000	6,480,000	666,000	217,948,000	3.8	105
<i>Anglicans</i>	25,362,000	707,000	30,625,000	1,153,000	6,819,000	5,864,000	70,530,000	1.2	158
<i>Other Christians</i>	61,335,000	158,297,000	4,795,000	11,997,000	38,478,000	681,000	275,583,000	4.8	118
Atheists	427,000	174,174,000	40,085,000	2,977,000	1,670,000	592,000	219,925,000	3.8	139
Baha'is	1,851,000	3,010,000	93,000	719,000	356,000	75,000	6,104,000	0.1	210
Buddhists	36,000	320,691,000	1,478,000	569,000	920,000	200,000	323,894,000	5.7	92
Chinese folk religionists	12,000	224,828,000	116,000	66,000	98,000	17,000	225,137,000	3.9	60
Confucians	1,000	5,220,000	4,000	2,000	26,000	1,000	5,254,000	0.1	12
Ethnic religionists	72,777,000	36,579,000	1,200,000	1,061,000	47,000	113,000	111,777,000	2.0	104
Hindus	1,535,000	775,252,000	1,522,000	748,000	1,185,000	305,000	780,547,000	13.7	94
Jains	58,000	4,804,000	15,000	4,000	4,000	1,000	4,886,000	0.1	11
Jews	163,000	4,294,000	2,529,000	1,098,000	5,942,000	91,000	14,117,000	0.2	134
Mandaeans	0	44,000	0	0	0	0	44,000	0.0	2
Muslims	300,317,000	760,181,000	31,975,000	1,329,000	5,450,000	382,000	1,099,634,000	19.2	184
New-Religionists	19,000	118,591,000	808,000	913,000	956,000	10,000	121,297,000	2.1	27
Nonreligious	2,573,000	701,175,000	94,330,000	15,551,000	25,050,000	2,870,000	841,549,000	14.7	226
Parsees	1,000	184,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	189,000	0.0	3
Sikhs	36,000	18,130,000	490,000	8,000	490,000	7,000	19,161,000	0.3	21
Shintoists	0	2,840,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	2,844,000	0.0	4
Spiritists	4,000	1,100,000	17,000	8,768,000	300,000	1,000	10,190,000	0.2	30
Other religionists	88,000	98,000	443,000	184,000	1,068,000	42,000	1,923,000	0.0	182
<i>Non-Christians</i>	379,898,000	3,151,195,000	175,107,000	33,999,000	43,564,000	4,709,000	3,788,472,000	66.3	262
Total population	728,074,000	3,457,957,000	726,999,000	482,005,000	292,841,000	28,549,000	5,716,425,000	100.0	262

Continents. These follow current UN demographic practice, which divides the world into the 6 major areas shown above and 21 regions (1994). See United Nations, *World Population Prospects: The 1994 Revision* (1995), with populations of all continents, regions, and countries covering the period 1950-2025. The table above therefore combines its former columns "East Asia" and "South Asia" into one single continental area, "Asia," which also now includes the former U.S.S.R. Central Asian republics. Note also that "Europe" now extends eastward to Vladivostok, the Sea of Japan, and the Bering Strait.

Countries. The last column enumerates sovereign and nonsovereign countries in which each religion or religious grouping has a numerically significant following.

Rows. The list of non-Christian religions is arranged in alphabetical order.

Adherents. As defined and enumerated for each of the world's countries in *World Christian Encyclopedia* (1982), projected to mid-1995, adjusted for recent data.

Christians. Followers of Jesus Christ affiliated with churches (church members, including children: 1,791,227,000) plus persons professing in censuses or polls though not so affiliated.

Other Christians. This term in the above table denotes Catholics (non-Roman), marginal Protestants, crypto-Christians, and adherents of African, Asian, black, and Latin-American indigenous churches.

Atheists. Persons professing atheism, skepticism, disbelief, or irreligion, including antireligious (opposed to all religion).

Buddhists. 56% Mahayana, 38% Theravada (Hinayana), 6% Tantrayana (Lamaism).

Chinese folk religionists. Followers of the traditional Chinese religion (local deities, ancestor veneration, Confucian ethics, Taoism, universism, divination, some Buddhist elements).

Confucians. Non-Chinese followers of Confucius and Confucianism, mostly Koreans in Korea.

Hindus. 70% Vaishnavites, 25% Shaivites, 2% neo-Hindus and reform Hindus.

Jews. Adherents of Judaism. For detailed data on "core" Jewish population see "World Jewish Populations" in the American Jewish Committee's *American Jewish Year Book*.

Muslims. 83% Sunnites, 16% Shi'ites, 1% other schools. Up to 1990 the ethnic Muslims in the former U.S.S.R. who had embraced communism were not included as Muslims in this table. After the collapse of communism in 1990-91, these ethnic Muslims were once again enumerated as Muslims in cases where they have returned to Islamic profession and practice.

New-Religionists. Followers of Asian 20th-century New Religions, New Religious movements, radical new crisis religions, and non-Christian syncretistic mass religions, all founded since 1800 and most since 1945.

Nonreligious. Persons professing no religion, nonbelievers, agnostics, freethinkers, dereligionized secularists indifferent to all religion.

Other religionists. Including 70 minor world religions and a large number of spiritist religions, New Age religions, quasi religions, pseudo religions, parareligions, religious or mystic systems, religious and semireligious brotherhoods of numerous varieties.

Total population. UN medium variant figures for mid-1995, as given in *World Population Prospects: The 1994 Revision* (1995).

Quelle: *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Daten von David B. Barret, zitiert nach : <http://www.adherents.com> ("Worldwide Adherents of All Religions by Six Continental Areas")

Anmerkung:

Preston Hunter, ein Amerikaner in Florida, hat - aus persönlichem Interesse - die wohl umfangreichste Sammlung von statistischen Angaben über Religionen in der ganzen Welt zusammengetragen. Seine Internetseite (<http://www.adherents.com>) ist ein einzigartiges Kompendium dieser Art.

Umfangreiche und detaillierte Erläuterungen zu den einzelnen Bezeichnungen, Begriffen und Quellen machen es sinnvoll und sehr lehrreich, diese Seite genauer durchzusehen.

(⇒ Religionsgemeinschaften, Weltweit, 1999-2005)

(⇒ Religionszugehörigkeiten, USA, Top Twenty, 2001)

(⇒ Religionsgemeinschaften, Deutschland, detailliert, 2003)