Africa is critical for the future of global Christianity. In the next 10 years, Africa will likely grow to have the most Christians of any continent: 700 million.

Major Religions in Africa
Proportions of religions, 1970 and 2015

Major Christian Traditions in Africa
Percentage by tradition, 1970 and 2015

Christians in Africa by Country, 2015


Highest Percentage of Christians, 2015

Fastest Projected Growth of Christians, 2015-2050*

Church sizes, 2015


*Annual growth rate, % per year
**DID YOU KNOW?**

**AGE**

- **0-14**
- **15-59**
- **60+**

Median age for Christians in Sub-Saharan Africa is **19 years**.


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**DYNAMICS OF CHRISTIAN CHANGE**

Demographic factors that shape the sizes of Christian populations are birth and death, immigration and emigration, and religious conversion in and out.

**Annual Christian Change, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>NET CHANGE</th>
<th>LOSS</th>
<th>GAIN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFRICA</td>
<td>17,236,000</td>
<td>9,551,500</td>
<td>26,686,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Africa</td>
<td>8,569,800</td>
<td>3,472,500</td>
<td>12,042,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Africa</td>
<td>4,326,900</td>
<td>2,136,800</td>
<td>6,463,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Africa</td>
<td>21,200</td>
<td>508,000</td>
<td>529,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Africa</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>1,027,000</td>
<td>1,627,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Africa</td>
<td>3,718,100</td>
<td>2,047,200</td>
<td>6,125,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most change, both in Africa and globally, occurs by natural demographic causes (births and deaths). This is why researching religion in conjunction with other factors, like public health, is critical for understanding the religious future of the planet.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) projects that by the year 2050, the population of Africa under age 18 could be greater than 1 billion. Most of them will identify as Muslim or Christian.