

The Lutheran World Federation – 2015 Membership Figures

Summary

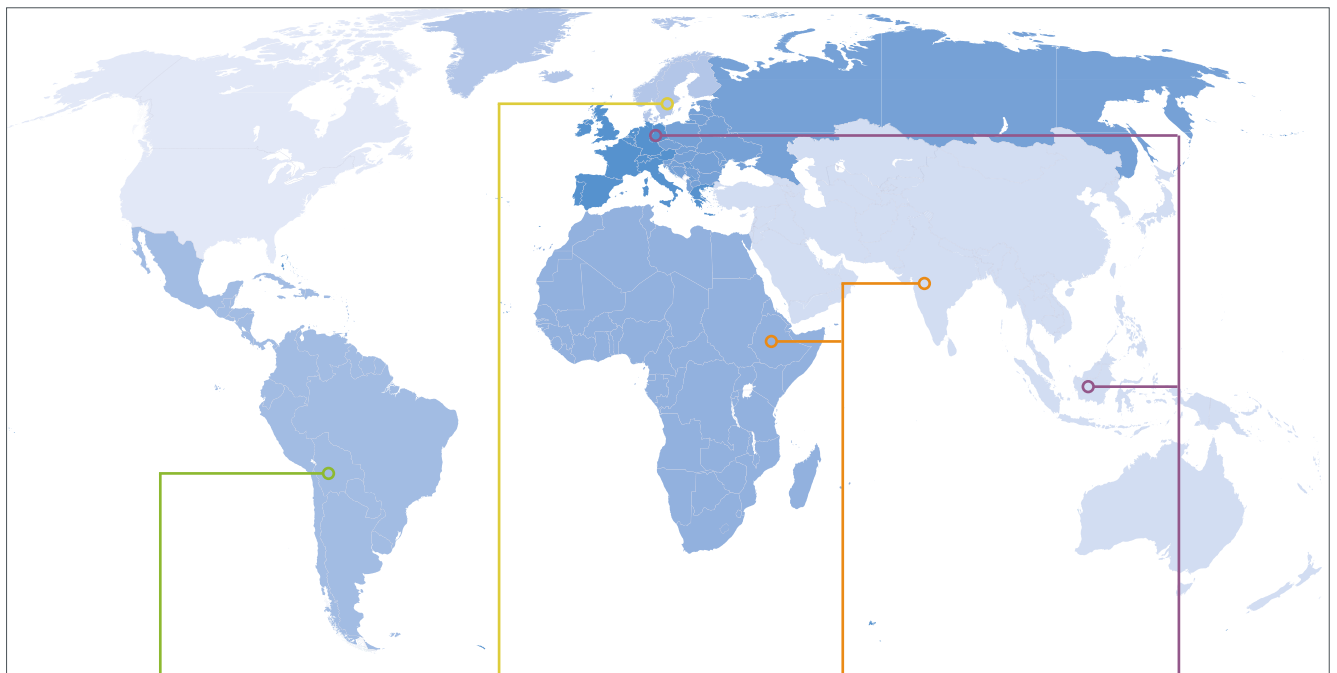
The following figures give the membership of the 143 member churches (M) and two associate members (AM).

General summary 2015

145 LWF member churches.....74,261,862

Continent	LWF Membership
Africa	23,073,980
Asia	11,835,834
Europe	34,688,040
Latin America & the Caribbean	784,215
North America	3,879,793
Total	74,261,862

Statistics at a glance



The German-Speaking Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Bolivia with 150 members is the smallest recognized congregation in the LWF communion.



The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus with 7.9 million members is the biggest LWF member church.



These countries are home to the fastest growing Lutheran churches. In India, LWF membership increased by 1.7 million. Statistics from Ethiopia show an increase of half a million LWF members.



The two countries have 12 different LWF member churches.

2015 World Lutheran Membership Details

(M) Member Church

(AM) Associate Member Church

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
Africa		
Angola		49,500
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Angola (M)	49,500	
Botswana		18,800
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana (M)	18,800	
Cameroon		507,276
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Cameroon (M)	157,276	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cameroon (M)	350,000	
Central African Republic		120,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic (M)	120,000	
Congo, Democratic Republic		122,055
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Congo (M)	122,055	
Congo, Republic		3,612
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Congo (M)	3,612	
Eritrea		11,000
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea (M)	11,000	
Ethiopia		7,886,595
The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (M)	7,886,595	
Ghana		22,750
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana (M)	22,750	
Kenya		144,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (M)	100,000	
Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	44,000	
Liberia		70,000
Lutheran Church in Liberia (M)	70,000	
Madagascar		3,000,000
Malagasy Lutheran Church (M)	3,000,000	
Malawi		102,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi (M)	102,000	

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
Mozambique		12,606
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mozambique (M)	12,606	
Namibia		1,196,832
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN-GELC) (M)	4,434	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia (ELCRN) (M)	420,000	
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN) (M)	772,398	
Nigeria		2,321,000
The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (M)	2,200,000	
The Lutheran Church of Nigeria (M)	121,000	
Rwanda		6,372
Lutheran Church of Rwanda (M)	6,372	
Senegal		4,053
The Lutheran Church of Senegal (M)	4,053	
Sierra Leone		3,663
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone (M)	3,663	
South Africa		643,650
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (M)	580,000	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (Cape Church) (M)	3,994	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (N-T) (M)	9,656	
Moravian Church in South Africa (M)	50,000	
Tanzania		6,531,336
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (M)	6,531,336	
Zambia		4,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia (M)	4,000	
Zimbabwe		292,880
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (M)	292,880	
Asia		
Australia		60,000
Lutheran Church of Australia (AM)	60,000	
Bangladesh		16,000
Bangladesh Lutheran Church (M)	6,000	
Bangladesh Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	10,000	
Georgia		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) (<i>see Russian Federation</i>)		
Hong Kong, China		45,330
Hong Kong and Macau Lutheran Church (M)	2,201	

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
The Chinese Rhenish Church Hong Kong Synod (M)	13,500	
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong (M)	18,351	
Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong (M)	11,278	
India		4,042,543
Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	3,000,000	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh (M)	20,000	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Himalayan States (M)	27,345	
Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	13,280	
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam (M)	382,790	
India Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	125,000	
Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	175,000	
Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	87,541	
South Andhra Lutheran Church (M)	60,000	
Arcot Lutheran Church (M)	40,000	
The Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	111,587	
Indonesia		6,046,321
Batak Christian Community Church (M)	25,000	
Christian Communion of Indonesia Church in Nias (Gereja AMIN) (M)	18,500	
Christian Protestant Angkola Church (GKPA) (M)	29,455	
Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia (M)	258,914	
Communion of Protestant Christian Church	63,274	
Indonesian Christian Lutheran Church (M)	17,305	
Pakpak Dairi Christian Protestant Church (M)	39,428	
Protestant Christian Batak Church (M)	4,500,000	
Protestant Christian Church in Mentawai (M)	50,000	
Simalungun Protestant Christian Church (M)	220,586	
The Indonesian Christian Church (M)	355,000	
The Protestant Christian Church (M)	456,802	
The United Protestant Church (M)	12,057	
Israel		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (M) (<i>see Jordan and Palestinian Territories</i>)		
Japan		27,138
Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	22,000	
Japan Lutheran Church (AM)	2,381	
Kinki Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	2,757	
Jordan		3,000
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (M)	3,000	
<i>(see Israel and Palestinian Territories)</i>		
Kazakhstan		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) (<i>see Russian Federation</i>)		
Korea, Republic		4,824
Lutheran Church in Korea (M)	4,824	

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
Kyrgyzstan		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) <i>(see Russian Federation)</i>		
Malaysia		127,967
Basel Christian Church of Malaysia (M)	63,000	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malaysia (M)	4,145	
Lutheran Church in Malaysia (M)	8,822	
The Protestant Church in Sabah (M)	52,000	
Myanmar		30,582
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Myanmar (Lutheran Bethlehem Church) (M)	3,025	
Lutheran Church of Myanmar (M)	2,000	
Myanmar Lutheran Church (M)	3,127	
The Mara Evangelical Church (M)	22,430	
Nepal		1,196
Nepal Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	1,196	
New Zealand		1,130
Lutheran Church of New Zealand (C)	1,130	
<i>(District of the Lutheran Church of Australia)</i>		
Palestinian Territories		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (M) <i>(see Israel and Jordan)</i>		
Papua New Guinea		1,349,869
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea (M)	1,200,000	
Gutnius Lutheran Church - Papua New Guinea (M)	149,869	
Philippines		55,000
Lutheran Church in the Philippines (M)	55,000	
Singapore		2,964
Lutheran Church in Singapore (M)	2,964	
Sri Lanka		5,324
Lanka Lutheran Church (M)	5,324	
Taiwan		13,010
Taiwan Lutheran Church (M)	10,481	
The Lutheran Church of Taiwan (Republic of China) (M)	1,949	
The Lutheran Church of the Republic of China	580	
Thailand		4,766
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thailand (M)	4,766	
Uzbekistan		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) <i>(see Russian Federation)</i>		

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
Europe		
Austria		302,875
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Austria (M)	302,875	
Belarus		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) (<i>see Russian Federation</i>)		
Croatia		3,329
Evangelical Church in the Republic of Croatia (M)	3,329	
Czech Republic		94,299
Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (M)	78,299	
Silesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (M)	16,000	
Denmark (including Greenland)		4,400,754
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark (M)	4,400,754	
Estonia		180,000
Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	180,000	
Finland		4,031,235
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland (M)	4,031,235	
<i>(including ELCF members abroad)</i>		
France		590,000
Malagasy Protestant Church in France (M)	10,000	
Union of Protestant Churches of Alsace and Lorraine (M)	250,000	
United Protestant Church of France (M)	330,000	
Germany		11,784,811
Church of Lippe (Lutheran Section) (M)	28,000	
Evangelical Church in Central Germany* (M)	766,416	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Baden (M).....	2,906	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria* (M).....	2,456,140	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brunswick* (M)	355,470	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Northern Germany* (M).....	2,146,270	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oldenburg (M).....	423,756	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (M).....	2,112,033	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover* (M)	2,714,781	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saxony* (M)	727,880	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Schaumburg-Lippe* (M)	51,159	
Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad (M) (<i>See Latvia</i>)		
* <i>Members of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany (R)</i>		
Greenland		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark (M) (<i>see Denmark</i>)		
Hungary		179,618
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary (M)	179,618	

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
Iceland		242,743
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland (M)	242,743	
Italy		7,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Italy (M)	7,000	
Latvia		271,172
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia (M)	250,000	
Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad (M)..... (see Germany and United States)	21,172	
Liechtenstein		
Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein (M) (see Switzerland)		
Lithuania		20,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania (M)	20,000	
Netherlands		1,969,755
Protestant Church in the Netherlands (M)	1,969,755	
Norway		3,857,463
Church of Norway (M)	3,835,973	
The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Norway (M)	21,490	
Poland		71,000
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland (M)	71,000	
Romania		39,887
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania (M)	12,347	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania (M)	27,540	
Russian Federation		39,050
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M)	24,050	
(see Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)		
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia (M)	15,000	
Serbia		49,000
Slovak Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Serbia (M)	49,000	
Slovak Republic		224,581
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Slovak Republic (M)	224,581	
Slovenia		20,000
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovenia (M)	20,000	
Sweden		6,300,000
Church of Sweden (M)	6,300,000	

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
Switzerland		4,968
Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein (M).....	4,968	
(see <i>Liechtenstein</i>)		
Ukraine		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) (<i>see Russian Federation</i>)		
United Kingdom		1,500
The Lutheran Church in Great Britain (M)	1,500	
Latin America & the Caribbean		
Argentina		38,500
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M)	27,500	
(see <i>Paraguay, Uruguay</i>)		
United Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	11,000	
Bolivia		14,000
Bolivian Evangelical Lutheran Church (M)	14,000	
Brazil		671,389
Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil (M)	671,389	
Chile		4,976
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile (M)	3,000	
Lutheran Church in Chile (M)	1,976	
Colombia		1,701
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (M)	1,701	
Costa Rica		500
Lutheran Costa Rican Church (M)	500	
El Salvador		20,000
Salvadoran Lutheran Church (M)	20,000	
Guatemala		300
Guatemala Lutheran Church (ILUGUA) (M)	300	
Guyana		16,153
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (M)	16,153	
Honduras		1,700
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras (M)	1,700	
Mexico		1,500
Mexican Lutheran Church (M)	1,500	

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
Nicaragua		7,050
The Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope (M)	7,050	
Paraguay		
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M) (<i>see Argentina</i>)		
Peru		496
Peruvian Lutheran Evangelical Church (M)	496	
Suriname		4,000
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname (M)	4,000	
Uruguay		
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M) (<i>see Argentina</i>)		
Venezuela		1,950
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela (M)	1,950	
 North America		
Canada		114,430
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (M)	114,430	
USA		3,765,362
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (M)	3,765,362	
Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad (M) (<i>See Latvia</i>)		
 Recognized churches, council and congregations		
Lutheran Church of Belgium: Arlon and Christian Mission (R)	703	
The Lutheran Church in Ireland (R)	461	
United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany (R).....		
The Lutheran Council of Great Britain (R)	179,300	
German-Speaking Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Bolivia (R)	150	
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Costa Rica (R)	220	
St Martin's Congregation in Colombia (R)	160	
St Matthew's Lutheran Church in Colombia (R)	312	
Evangelical Lutheran Congregation "La Epifania" in Guatemala (R)	190	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ecuador (R)	237	
<i>(including the El Adviento Evangelical Lutheran Church in Quito, and The Savior Church in Guayaquil)</i>		
German-Speaking Evangelical Congregation in Mexico (R)	230	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Peru (R)	200	

These statistics are based on data received by end February 2016.

Compiled by Rita Aufranc (LWF/OCS)