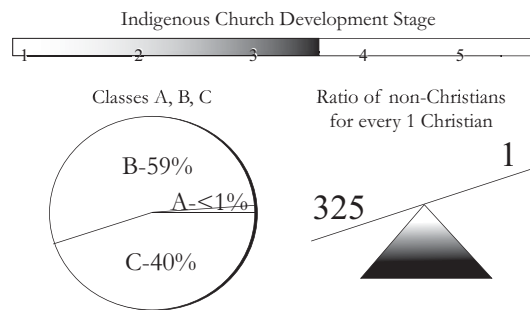




Quick Facts

Population: 130,000,000
 Japan: 125,000,000
 Brazil: 1,400,000
Religion: Buddhism
Believers: 0.307%
Scriptures: Yes- NT, OT
Ministry Tools: JRGT
Engaged: 250+
Adopted: 100+
Church Status: 3
Mission Status: 4
MS Subgroups: 20+



Class A- Are members of a Culturally Relevant Church
 Class B- Have close access to a CRC, but have not yet joined
 Class C- Have no reasonable or close access to a CRC

and among young people, over 60% view Christianity favorably. However, this has not translated into church growth despite the presence of over 3,500 evangelical missionaries in Japan. In fact, this is part of the problem. The gospel has never become Japanese, with strong indigenous leadership and contextualized worship.

How to Pray:

☞ There are 1,733 Japanese towns without a local church. Ask God to raise up Japanese church planters to go to each of them.

☞ 70% of Japanese churches have less than 30 members, and attendance averages 33% on a weekly basis! Pray for revival.

☞ Over 900 universities and colleges are without a Christian fellowship, yet college students are proving to be the most receptive to the gospel. Pray that all 3 million college students would be evangelized.

☞ Japanese society is stratified, and the elite have never been reached. Pray for spiritual breakthrough in every segment of society.

☞ Ask God for the emergence of a truly indigenous Japanese church.

Every year, 1.1 million Japanese die without Christ.

Identity: The Japanese are descendants of immigrants who came to the islands of Japan around the 15th century B.C. from mainland China. They are thought to be more related to the Koreans than the Chinese, though scholars are unsure how to classify their language, which is one of the world's few linguistic isolates.

Lifestyle: The Japanese enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world. Though they have few natural resources, their economy has grown to be the second largest. The Japanese are 80% urbanized and their capital Tokyo is the largest city in the world (35 million people).

Customs: Japanese culture is a curious mix between the ancient and the modern. Sumo wrestling, judo and karate exist side by side with baseball, volleyball, and table tennis. Gardening has developed into an art form for the Japanese, and it is enjoyed as a hobby

by men and women, young and old alike. Traditional ceremonies and festivals are still observed by many Japanese, though a wide cultural gap is emerging with the youngest generation, which has been called the *missi*, or new race.

Religion: Mahayana Buddhism entered Japan from Korea in the 6th century. Since that time it has become intertwined with the Japanese religion of Shintoism, which literally means the "way of the gods." In practice, Shintoism involves the veneration of ancestors, various deities, nature, historic leaders and the emperor. As a result of this syncretism, Buddhism in Japan has splintered into hundreds of sects, some of which are quite large, such as Sokka Gakkai with its 17 million adherents.

Christian Outreach: The Japanese once regarded Christianity as a foreign and destructive influence. But today that is changing. Most Japanese now prefer to have a Christian-style wedding

Japanese (cont.)

50 Least-Evangelized Japanese Districts

District, Population, % Evangelical¹, Unchurched Towns

Chugoku	7,770,000	0.13%	198	Nagasaki	1,550,000	0.03%	60
Gumma	2,000,000	0.13%	36	Iwate	1,430,000	0.06%	39
Yamanashi	880,000	0.13%	40	Saga	885,000	0.06%	36
Hiroshima	2,870,000	0.14%	59	Toyama	1,130,000	0.07%	21
Shiga	1,290,000	0.14%	26	Kogoshima	1,800,000	0.07%	82
Aichi	6,770,000	0.14%	38	Akita	1,220,000	0.08%	51
Hokkaido	5,700,000	0.14%	119	Miyazaki	1,200,000	0.08%	27
Saitama	6,700,000	0.15%	25	Niigata	2,490,000	0.08%	74
Miyagi	2,310,000	0.15%	38	Fukushima	2,140,000	0.09%	51
Tokushima	840,000	0.15%	31	Gifu	2,100,000	0.10%	66
Nara	1,440,000	0.16%	23	Yamagata	1,250,000	0.10%	24
Shizuoka	3,740,000	0.16%	23	Oita	1,250,000	0.10%	39
Tottori	620,000	0.16%	26	Fukui	830,000	0.10%	19
Shikoku	4,220,000	0.17%	114	Yamaguchi	1,550,000	0.10%	31
Chiba	5,780,000	0.17%	27	Kyushu	14,700,000	0.10%	360
Kagawa	1,040,000	0.17%	18	Tochigi	1,985,000	0.11%	20
Okayama	2,000,000	0.18%	46	Kumamoto	1,865,000	0.11%	67
Fukuoka	4,900,000	0.18%	49	Mie	1,845,000	0.11%	46
Kochi	825,000	0.19%	32	Tohoku	9,865,000	0.11%	249
Ehime	1,520,000	0.20%	33	Shimane	775,000	0.12%	46
Kanto	39,160,000	0.20%	150	Ibaraki	2,965,000	0.12%	30
Kanagawa	8,175,000	0.22%	6	Wakayama	1,100,000	0.12%	23
Kinki	22,230,000	0.22%	187	Chubu	21,290,000	0.12%	381
Kyoto	2,550,000	0.24%	22	Ishikawa	1,175,000	0.13%	24
Osaka	8,600,000	0.26%	5	Nagano	2,190,000	0.13%	76

Populations of Unchurched Urban Counties in 18 Cities

District, City, Population totals of unchurched counties

Kinki	Mie	271,000	Kyushu	Miyazaki	143,000	Kinki	Shiga	118,000
Tohoku	Iwate	181,000	Kyushu	Fukuoka	140,000	Kinki	Hyogo	114,000
Kyushu	Saga	180,000	Chubu	Aichi	137,000	Kanto	Ibaraki	112,000
Chugoku	Hiroshima	177,000	Chubu	Niigata	127,000	Chubu	Toyama	105,000
Kyushu	Kumamoto	152,000	Chubu	Gifu	126,000	Kyushu	Kogoshima	101,000
Tohoku	Yamagata	148,000	Chugoku	Okayama	120,000	Kyushu	Nagasaki	100,000

Note: A percentage of 0.20% does not mean twenty percent, but one-fifth of one percent, etc.