

Questions from the pew about Lutherans in the world



Just how many Lutherans are there in the world and where do they live? According to the Lutheran World Federation the Lutheran network is 69.5 million strong, spanning 5 continents.

	All Lutherans	LWF Members	Other Churches
Africa	14,133,572	14,079,022	54,550
Asia	7,391,102	7,229,661	161,441
Europe	38,635,572	38,594,553	41,019
Latin America	1,116,913	842,096	274,817
North America	8,250,658	5,182,002	3,068,656
Total	69,527,817	65,927,334	3,600,483

*The Lutheran World Federation 2004 Membership Figures
(includes 138 LWF member churches, 11 recognized congregations and 1 recognized council and 3,600,484 Lutherans outside LWF constituency)*

How many countries have over 500,000 Lutherans?

According to the Lutheran World Federation there are 17.

Germany	13,103,946
USA	7,975,094
Sweden	7,220,694
Finland	4,586,414
Denmark	4,499,628
Indonesia	4,304,284
Ethiopia	4,164,066
Norway	3,945,080
Madagascar	3,000,000
Tanzania	3,000,000
Netherlands	2,530,000
India	1,814,395
Nigeria	1,340,000
Papua New Guinea	953,072
Namibia	946,782
Brazil	934,638
South Africa	726,355



More questions from the pew about Lutherans in the world

Where is the Lutheran Church growing the fastest? According to the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Lutheran churches in Africa once again recorded a membership increase of almost 1.1 million in 2004 which accounts for a rise of 8.2 percent, pushing the total in that region to 14,133,572 members.

Did you know...?

As of October 1, 2004, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) had 307 missionaries serving in 51 countries. The Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the ELCA is serving also as the president of the LWF, a global communion of Christian churches in the Lutheran tradition. Founded in 1947 in Lund, Sweden, the LWF now has 138 member churches in 77 countries all over the world representing nearly 66 million Christians.