

THAILAND PRAYER UPDATE

Issue 3

April 2012



National Data

as of January 2012

Population
63,878,255

Total Christians
372,251

Thai Christians
220,633

Tribal Christians
151,618

Total Number of Churches
4,244

Thai Churches
2,886

Tribal Churches
1,358

Average Thai Church Size
76 members

Average Tribal Church Size
112 members

Annual Growth Rate of Church in
Thailand
5.22%

Annual Growth Rate of Thai Christians
4.22% (1)

Annual Growth Rate of Tribal Christians
8.0% (1)

What is a Church*?

A church is three or more Christian believers meeting together on a



Languages in Thailand

Dear Fellow Christian,

This email's focus is on the worship languages used in the churches of Thailand. To find out what groups of people make up the Body of Christ in Thailand we ask pastors the language used in their church's worship service. From this information we can determine what percentage of the Church in Thailand uses a particular language. It is not an exact representation because many churches have members from different language groups and as a result use Thai as the common language in worship services.

The following table shows the top ten worship languages used in Thailand. It also shows the percentage of the Christians in Thailand that uses that language and the average church size of that language group.

| Worship Language | Percentage of Christians in Thailand | Average Members per Church |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Thai * | 59.27% | 76 |
| Karen, Sgaw | 19.11% | 132 |
| Lahu | 7.80% | 111 |

regular basis to worship God and is not a cell group of a larger church body.

*only Protestant churches

How we count Christians?

Of course God is the final judge. For our purposes we count Christians as anyone who is a member of a church. No matter if it is a large city church or a small house church.

Note: You are receiving this email because of your love and interest for the country of Thailand. The purpose of this email is to provide you with information to know how to pray specifically for this nation and to help you make informed ministry plans. We encourage you to share this email with members of your church, your small group, your social media network and among your Christian friends so they too can pray.

Please [click here](#) to email us your prayer requests, comments and updates

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| | | |
|------------|-------|-----|
| Akha | 6.41% | 126 |
| Hmong | 2.40% | 91 |
| Lisu | 1.90% | 107 |
| Lawa | 1.08% | 168 |
| Karen, Pao | 0.87% | 91 |
| Iu Mien | 0.69% | 65 |
| Khmu | 0.31% | 99 |

(*) Some of these are tribal churches but use Thai in their worship service.

As you can see from this list, after Thai, the nine remaining groups are the hill tribes people, primarily living in the North and the Western parts of Thailand. Even though they make up less than two percent of the population of Thailand, they make up more than 40% of the Christians.

Over twelve percent of the tribal people in Thailand are Christians whereas only 0.31% of the Thai speaking people are Christians. (1)

Pray that more Christians from the tribal groups in Thailand would get a vision to reach out and become missionaries to their fellow citizens in the unreached parts of the country.

So you can pray more specifically for the peoples of Thailand we have added a language layer to the [Christian Presence Map](#). This layer can be turned on or off by clicking the "Languages" button on the right top corner of the screen. By default the language layer is turned off. (You can also turn on or off the "Christian Presence" layer.) Click inside of each colored shape to find out what languages are spoken in a given area.

Note: To get to the map enter <http://e-star.ws/ws/index.php/en/christian-map-of-thailand> in your browser's address bar or just click on the above link and it will take you there automatically.

For God's Glory,

Dwight Martin
Research Coordinator
Thailand Evangelism & Church Growth Committee

(1) Visser, Marten, [Conversion Growth of Protestant Churches in Thailand](#). Uitgeverij Boekencentrum, Zoetermeer (The Netherlands), 2008.



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This message was sent for the sole purpose of testing a draft message.