

40 Least Reached Places

Less than 5% Christian and more than 10 million in population

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iC	name	Pop	AGR	Den	C%
IN	Uttar Pradesh	199.6	1.8%	828	3.1%
IN	Maharashtra	112.4	1.5%	365	2.0%
CN	Guangdong	104.3	2.0%	529	4.5%
IN	Bihar	103.8	2.3%	1,102	5.2%
PK	Punjab	101.0	...	491	3.0%
CN	Shandong	95.8	0.6%	624	5.1%
IN	West Bengal	91.3	1.3%	1,028	2.5%
CN	Sichuan	80.4	-0.2%	164	3.2%
IN	Madhya Pradesh	72.6	1.9%	235	2.2%
IN	Rajasthan	68.5	2.0%	200	1.3%
CN	Hunan	65.7	0.4%	312	4.0%
IN	Karnataka	61.1	1.5%	318	4.0%
IN	Gujarat	60.4	1.8%	307	2.1%
CN	Hubei	57.2	-0.4%	305	4.7%
IN	Andhra Pradesh	49.4	-4.2%	179	3.0%
BD	Dhaka	47.4	2.0%	1,523	1.0%
CN	Guangxi	46.0	0.5%	208	2.0%
PK	Sindh	42.4	...	300	1.8%
IN	Odisha (Orissa)	42.0	1.3%	269	3.9%
ID	Jawa Timur	37.5	0.7%	784	4.0%
IN	Telangana	35.3	...	307	n.a.
BD	Chittagong	28.4	1.6%	841	0.7%
PK	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	28.0	...	375	0.3%
IN	Punjab	27.7	1.3%	550	2.2%
CN	Gansu	25.6	0.2%	69	4.9%
IN	Chhattisgarh	25.5	2.1%	188	2.5%
IN	Haryana	25.4	1.8%	573	1.1%
CN	Xinjiang	21.8	1.7%	13	4.1%
CN	Beijing	19.6	3.8%	1,166	4.5%
BD	Rajshahi	18.5	-4.8%	101	0.6%
IN	Delhi	16.8	1.9%	11,320	4.6%
BD	Rangpur	15.8	1.6%	967	0.6%
BD	Khulna	15.7	0.6%	704	0.6%
TR	İstanbul	13.7	2.8%	2,618	0.2%
JP	Tochigi	13.2	20.7%	2,051	1.5%
CN	Tianjin	12.9	2.8%	1,144	3.8%
IN	Jammu and Kashmir	12.5	2.1%	56	1.3%
IR	Tehran	12.2	1.2%	889	0.5%
ID	Banten	10.6	2.8%	1,100	n.a.
IN	Uttarakhand	10.1	-24.4%	188	0.6%

The original definition of unreached did not have any statistical measure. One way many “measure” unreached-ness is less than 5% Christian (of any tradition) and/or less than 2% Evangelical. In this list, we simply use “less than 5% Christian” because we don’t reliably have the % Evangelical for every province in the world.

In all, there are 825 provinces estimated to be less than 5% Christian. Over 2.7 billion people, or nearly a third of the world’s total population, live in these 825.

About 1.9 billion people live in just 40 of these provinces, each having more than 10 million in population. These 40 provinces are home to 1.87 billion non-Christians, or just shy of 40% of all non-Christians in the world (that is, those who would confess to being something other than Christian—Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, etc).

There are two ways to make the world vastly “more Christian” (e.g. to increase the % Christian of the world): tackling over 750 provinces with smaller populations, or making a difference in these 40. An additional benefit to the latter: these 40 are very influential: making a difference here would have a significant spillover effect.

These 40 are, not too surprisingly, similar to the 70--after all, they are the most populous (as the 70 were) and places low in % Christian would often be low in % evangelized. I believe engaging these places (these 40, and the Top 70 in general) is incredibly important to the remaining task. In many of these places there’s quite a bit of work being done already. Nevertheless, it seems clear to me (by the low % Christian in these places) that an incredible amount remains to be done.

iC, based on 2-letter FIPS code. **Name**, of the province, as generally given by the country. **Population**, from the national census after but nearest 2010, and figures are rounded to nearest tenth of a million. **AGR**, annual growth rate, between census population from 2000 and 2010. **Den**, density, or population divided by total square kilometers of area for the province; over 1,000/sq. km. generally indicates urbanization. **%C**, percent Christian, of all traditions, based on *Operation World*, *World Christian Database*, and national researchers.

