



PRAY FOR EAST ASIA

Pray for Canada

All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

— Matthew 25:32

Country Profile

Canada consists of ten provinces and three territories. It extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific and northward into the Arctic Ocean. Canada is the world's second-largest country by total area. Despite its large size, Canada has a relatively small population of just around 36 million people.

Canada is considered to be one of the world's wealthiest countries. It is among the leading countries with the largest proportion of global GDP. Its GDP annual growth rate averages around 3%, with its economy dominated by the service industry. Unemployment rate in Canada is estimated to be around 6%, and is estimated to decrease further. Its main trading partner is the US.

Canadians are very diverse and multi-cultural. Strong immigration to Canada in recent decades has led to a rise in the number of foreign-born persons and the portion of the population that they represent. Notably, in recent years, the majority of the approximately 1.2 million new immigrants who arrived in Canada, totalling about 62%, were born in Asia, with the most coming from the Philippines.

Canada was founded in 1867 on Christian principles and values, but over the past 50 years deliberate pluralization and secularization has taken its toll. Christianity is criticized in the media and in popular culture. Mainline denominations are declining; evangelical churches are faring somewhat better. Personal faith has become more private. With God's enabling, it seems likely that Christianity will quietly persist in the private lives of a minority of Canadians.

The church's vision for missionary endeavor is waning. The church in Canada is in need of renewal. Within the growing ethnic-minorities, churches are being established and are growing, especially among Canadian Asians, but they need a missionary vision/concern.

Canada is one of the world's most popular destinations for foreign study, business travel, migration and refugees, including many East Asians. There is a huge potential for gospel work in Diaspora Returnee Ministries teams across Canada, engaging and serving Asian guests.

OMF (previously the China Inland Mission) began in Canada in 1888. OMF Canada seeks to inspire and enable Canadian Christians to participate in the intentional evangelization of East Asia's peoples. One challenge it faces is that new members are not joining as quickly as older workers are retiring.



PRAY FOR EAST ASIA

Population

- **Total:** 36 million (from 2016 Census)
- **Breakdown**
 - *(from Operation World 7th Edition, page 193)*
 - **European:** 80%
 - **Asian:** 12%
 - **Indigenous Native people:** 3%
 - **Others:** 5%

Religions

- **Christian:** 72%
- **Evangelical:** 7.7%
- **Non-religious:** 19%
- **Muslim:** 3%
- **Buddhist:** 1%

Lord, we praise you for your work in Canada and for the many faithful followers you have grown there. Please continue to use your people to bless all the nations. We pray that you would bring renewal to the Canadian church for the sake of sharing your good news with people everywhere.