



PRAY FOR EAST ASIA

Pray for Indonesia

Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

— Isaiah 56:1

Country Profile

About Indonesia

Bhinneka Tunggal Ika means diversity in unity in Bahasa Indonesia - an apt description for the Indonesian archipelago, which is made up of 416 ethnic groups with 719 languages. Although Islam is the main religion and Indonesia is home to the largest Muslim population in the world, Indonesia is a secular nation. Religious freedom is guaranteed under the five principles known as *Pancasila*. Indonesia recognizes six religions: Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Catholicism and Protestantism. The majority of Christians in Indonesia are Protestant. Christian communities are spread out unevenly, but most are in the eastern parts of Indonesia.

Strong investments and exports have enabled Indonesia, Southeast Asia's largest economy, to enjoy 5-6 % economic growth in the last few years. Indonesia is an attractive market for foreign investments, mainly due to policy reforms of the government. However, liberalization of trade and markets not only brings in foreign funds, but also more foreign workers and professionals that compete for jobs. Despite economic growth, more than 10% of Indonesians still live below the poverty line, and about 40% remain vulnerable of falling into poverty.

Under Jokowi, Indonesia is undergoing rapid development. Massive construction of infrastructure is everywhere. The government is fulfilling its commitment to rural developments and the development of maritime economies. Despite the strong economic growth, Indonesia is struggling to support these rapid developments.

OMF in Indonesia

OMF began its ministry in 1952 in West Borneo amongst the Chinese. In partnership with other organizations, OMF helped establish various ministries such as student, medical, literature, music and radio work, and also bible colleges in many parts of Indonesia. In 1985, the Indonesian Home Council was established. The Home Council partners with churches in sending out Indonesian workers overseas.

While the church continues to grow and cross-cultural outreach is expanding, the Indonesian Home Council has not had many new members in the last few years. Many workers are urgently needed to reach out, train and establish partnerships with churches.



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Population

- **Total:** 261 million
 - **Javanese:** 40%
 - **Sundanese:** 15%
 - **Malay:** 4%
 - **Batak:** 4%
 - **Others:** 37%
 - *(projections based on 2010 Badan Pusat Statistik)*

Religions

- **Muslim:** 87%
- **Christian:** 10%
- **Hindu:** 2%
- **Others:** 1%

Lord, thank you for building your church in Indonesia. Amidst the rapid changes taking place in this country, we pray for wisdom and understanding on how to utilize the limited resources to reach out to the churches which are so spread out geographically. Please provide more workers, specifically volunteers, to support the various mobilization ministries.