

# The Lutheran World Federation – 2019 Membership Figures

## Summary

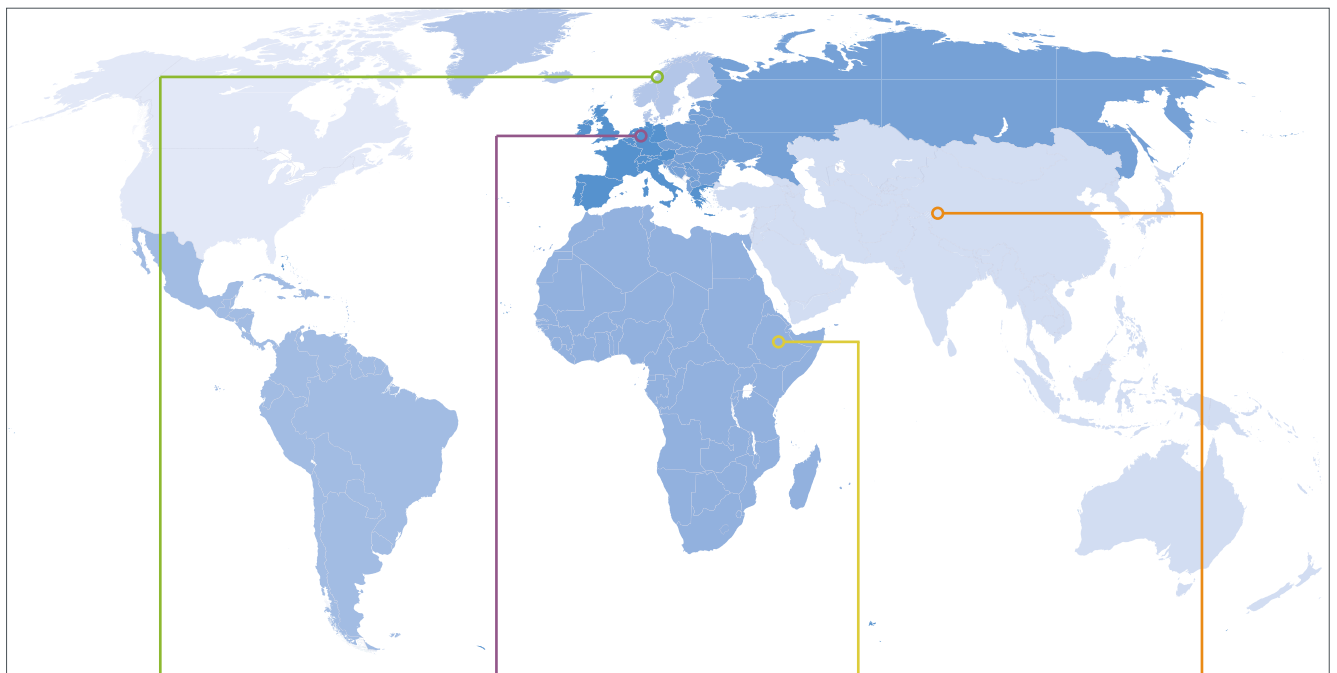
The following figures give the membership of the 148 member churches (M), including two associate members (AM).

### General summary 2019

148 LWF member churches ..... 77,493,989

LWF Regions	LWF Membership
Africa	28,106,430
Asia	12,407,069
Central Eastern Europe	1,153,711
Central Western Europe	13,393,603
Nordic Countries	18,018,410
Latin America & the Caribbean	755,924
North America	3,658,842
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,493,989</b>

### Statistics at a glance



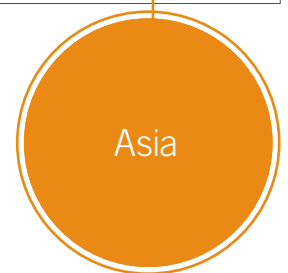
The churches in the Nordic countries have the highest percentage of Lutherans, ranging from 58-75% of the population



With 10.8 million LWF members, Germany is the country with the single largest number of Lutherans.



The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus with over 10 million members is the largest LWF member church.



There are 55 member churches in Asia.

# 2019 World Lutheran Membership Details

- (M) Member Church
- (AM) Associate Member Church
- (R) Recognized Church, Congregation or Recognized Council

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
<b>Africa</b>		
<b>Angola</b> .....		<b>49'500</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Angola (M) .....	49,500	
<b>Botswana</b> .....		<b>26'023</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Botswana (M) .....	26,023	
<b>Cameroon</b> .....		<b>507,276</b>
Church of the Lutheran Brethren of Cameroon (M) .....	157,276	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cameroon (M) .....	350,000	
<b>Central African Republic</b> .....		<b>120,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic (M) .....	120,000	
<b>Congo, Democratic Republic</b> .....		<b>112,900</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Congo (M) .....	112,900	
<b>Congo, Republic</b> .....		<b>3,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Congo (M) .....	3,000	
<b>Eritrea</b> .....		<b>11,000</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea (M) .....	11,000	
<b>Ethiopia</b> .....		<b>10,404,128</b>
The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY) (M) .....	10,404,128	
<b>Ghana</b> .....		<b>22,750</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana (M) .....	22,750	
<b>Kenya</b> .....		<b>121,500</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (M) .....	100,000	
Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	21,500	
<b>Liberia</b> .....		<b>112,000</b>
Lutheran Church in Liberia (M) .....	112,000	
<b>Madagascar</b> .....		<b>4,000,000</b>
Malagasy Lutheran Church (M) .....	4,000,000	
<b>Malawi</b> .....		<b>110,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi (M) .....	110,000	

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
<b>Mozambique</b> .....		<b>12,606</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mozambique (M) .....	12,606	
<b>Namibia</b> .....		<b>1,278,022</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN-GELC) (M).....	4,500	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia (ELCRN) (M) .....	420,000	
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN) (M) .....	853,522	
<b>Nigeria</b> .....		<b>2,321,000</b>
The Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN) (M).....	2,200,000	
The Lutheran Church of Nigeria (M) .....	121,000	
<b>Rwanda</b> .....		<b>7,200</b>
Lutheran Church of Rwanda (M) .....	7,200	
<b>Senegal</b> .....		<b>7,100</b>
The Lutheran Church of Senegal (M).....	7,100	
<b>Sierra Leone</b> .....		<b>6,110</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone (M).....	6,110	
<b>South Africa</b> .....		<b>643,181</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (Cape Church) (M) .....	3,381	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (ELCSA) (M).....	580,000	
North-Eastern Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (NELCSA) (M) .....	9,800	
<i>(until 2019: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (N-T))</i>		
Moravian Church in South Africa (M) .....	50,000	
<b>Tanzania</b> .....		<b>7,916,253</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (M) .....	7,916,253	
<b>Zambia</b> .....		<b>5,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia (M) .....	5,000	
<b>Zimbabwe</b> .....		<b>309,881</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (M) .....	309,881	
<b>Asia</b>		
<b>Australia</b> .....		<b>30,026</b>
Lutheran Church of Australia (AM) .....	30,026	
<i>(see New Zealand)</i>		
<b>Bangladesh</b> .....		<b>18,065</b>
Bangladesh Lutheran Church (M) .....	6,270	
Bangladesh Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	11,795	

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
<b>Hong Kong, China</b> .....		<b>47,490</b>
Hong Kong and Macau Lutheran Church (M) .....	2,341	
The Chinese Rhenish Church Hong Kong Synod (M) .....	14,000	
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong (M) .....	18,864	
Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong (M).....	12,285	
<b>India</b> .....		<b>4,386,957</b>
Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	3,000,000	
Arcot Lutheran Church (M) .....	40,000	
Christ Lutheran Church (M) .....	6,260	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh (M) .....	25,000	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Himalayan States (M) .....	40,064	
Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church (M).....	14,978	
Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chotanagpur and Assam (M) .....	616,827	
India Evangelical Lutheran Church (M).....	130,000	
Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church (M).....	150,000	
Northern Evangelical Lutheran Church (M).....	105,818	
South Andhra Lutheran Church (M) .....	90,000	
The Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	168,010	
<b>Indonesia</b> .....		<b>5,705,589</b>
Batak Christian Community Church (GPKB) (M) .....	35,874	
Christian Communion of Indonesia Church in Nias (Gereja AMIN) (M).....	25,762	
Christian Protestant Angkola Church (GKPA) (M) .....	29,579	
Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia (GKPI) (M).....	262,894	
Communion of Protestant Christian Church (ONKP) (M) .....	48,413	
Indonesian Christian Lutheran Church (GKLI) (M).....	20,865	
Pakpak Dairi Christian Protestant Church (GKPPD) (M) .....	40,000	
Protestant Christian Batak Church (HKBP) (M).....	4,133,000	
Protestant Christian Church in Mentawai (GKPM) (M).....	12,078	
Simalungun Protestant Christian Church (GKPS) (M) .....	227,690	
The Indonesian Christian Church (HKI) (M) .....	310,000	
The Protestant Christian Church (BNKP) (M) .....	538,806	
The United Protestant Church (GPP) (M).....	20,628	
<b>Japan</b> .....		<b>25,366</b>
Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church (M).....	22,000	
Japan Lutheran Church (AM).....	766	
Kinki Evangelical Lutheran Church (M).....	2,600	
<b>Jordan</b>		
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (M) (see <i>Palestinian Territories</i> )		
<b>Korea, Republic</b> .....		<b>2,271</b>
Lutheran Church in Korea (M) .....	2,271	
<b>Malaysia</b> .....		<b>110,017</b>
Basel Christian Church of Malaysia (M) .....	64,300	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malaysia (M).....	4,250	
Lutheran Church in Malaysia (M) .....	6,736	

<b>Church</b>	<b>Individual Churches</b>	<b>National Total</b>
The Protestant Church in Sabah (M) .....	34,731	
<b>Myanmar</b> .....		<b>42,586</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Myanmar (Lutheran Bethlehem Church) (M).....	3,347	
Lutheran Church of Myanmar (M) .....	2,000	
Myanmar Lutheran Church (M).....	3,750	
The Mara Evangelical Church (M).....	33,489	
<b>Nepal</b> .....		<b>1,270</b>
Nepal Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	1,270	
<b>New Zealand</b> .....		<b>1,130</b>
Lutheran Church of New Zealand .....	1,130	
<i>(District of the Lutheran Church of Australia)</i>		
<b>Palestinian Territories</b> .....		<b>2,500</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (M) .....	2,500	
<i>(see Jordan)</i>		
<b>Papua New Guinea</b> .....		<b>1,949,869</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea (M) .....	1,800,000	
Gutnius Lutheran Church – Papua New Guinea (M) .....	149,869	
<b>Philippines</b> .....		<b>58,000</b>
Lutheran Church in the Philippines (M) .....	58,000	
<b>Singapore</b> .....		<b>2,847</b>
Lutheran Church in Singapore (M) .....	2,847	
<b>Sri Lanka</b> .....		<b>5,324</b>
Lanka Lutheran Church (M).....	5,324	
<b>Taiwan</b> .....		<b>13,766</b>
Taiwan Lutheran Church (M).....	11,422	
The Lutheran Church of Taiwan (Republic of China) (M).....	1,758	
The Lutheran Church of the Republic of China (M) .....	586	
<b>Thailand</b> .....		<b>5,126</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Thailand (M) .....	5,126	

## Central Eastern Europe

### Azerbaijan

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) *(see Russian Federation)*

### Belarus

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) *(see Russian Federation)*

**Croatia** .....

Evangelical Church in the Republic of Croatia (M).....

<b>Church</b>	<b>Individual Churches</b>	<b>National Total</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b> .....		<b>84,715</b>
Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (M).....	69,715	
Silesian Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession (M).....	15,000	
<b>Estonia</b> .....		<b>180,000</b>
Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	180,000	
<b>Georgia</b>		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Georgia and Southern Caucasus – member of ELCROS ( <i>see Russian Federation</i> )		
<b>Hungary</b> .....		<b>176,000</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary (M) .....	176,000	
<b>Kazakhstan</b>		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic Kazakhstan – member of ELCROS ( <i>see Russian Federation</i> )		
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Kyrgyz Republic – member of ELCROS ( <i>see Russian Federation</i> )		
<b>Latvia</b> .....		<b>270,225</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia (M).....	250,000	
Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad (M).....	20,225	
<b>Lithuania</b> .....		<b>19,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania (M).....	19,000	
<b>Moldova</b>		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) ( <i>see Russian Federation</i> )		
<b>Poland</b> .....		<b>61,270</b>
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland (M) .....	61,270	
<b>Romania</b> .....		<b>38,988</b>
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania (M) .....	11,448	
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania (M) .....	27,540	
<b>Russian Federation</b> .....		<b>34,400</b>
Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Russia and Other States (M) .....	26,400	
( <i>see Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tadjikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan</i> )		
Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Urals, Siberia and the Far East – member of ELCROS		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in European Russia – member of ELCROS		
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia (M) .....	8,000	
<b>Serbia</b> .....		<b>40,000</b>
Slovak Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Serbia (M) .....	40,000	
<b>Slovak Republic</b> .....		<b>225,513</b>
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Slovak Republic (M).....	225,513	
<b>Slovenia</b> .....		<b>20,000</b>
Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovenia (M) .....	20,000	

## Church

## Individual Churches

## National Total

### Tajikistan

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States (M) *(see Russian Federation)*

### Ukraine

German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ukraine – member of ELCROS *(see Russian Federation)*

### Uzbekistan

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Uzbekistan – member of ELCROS *(see Russian Federation)*

## Central Western Europe

**Austria** .....271,296

Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Austria (M) ..... 271,296

**France** ..... 560,000

Malagasy Protestant Church in France (M) ..... 10,000

Union of Protestant Churches of Alsace and Lorraine (M) ..... 250,000

United Protestant Church of France (M) ..... 300,000

**Germany** .....10,814,631

Church of Lippe (Lutheran Section) (M) ..... 26,500

Evangelical Church in Central Germany\* (M) ..... 691,669

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Baden (M) ..... 2,717

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria\* (M) ..... 2,297,528

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Brunswick\* (M) ..... 320,900

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Northern Germany\* (M) ..... 1,939,750

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Oldenburg (M) ..... 397,903

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Württemberg (M) ..... 1,957,088

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hanover\* (M) ..... 2,482,015

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saxony\* (M) ..... 663,525

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Schaumburg-Lippe\* (M) ..... 49,269

\* *Members of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany (R)*

**Italy** .....7,000

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Italy (M) ..... 7,000

### Liechtenstein

Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein (M)  
*(see Switzerland)*

**Netherlands** ..... 1,753,382

Protestant Church in the Netherlands (M) ..... 1,735,382

**Switzerland** .....3,764

Federation of Evangelical Lutheran Churches in Switzerland  
& in the Principality of Liechtenstein (M) ..... 3,794  
*(see Liechtenstein)*

**United Kingdom** ..... 1,500

The Lutheran Church in Great Britain (M) ..... 1,500

Church	Individual Churches	National Total
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b>		
<b>Argentina</b> .....		<b>38,000</b>
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M) .....	27,000	
<i>(see Paraguay, Uruguay)</i>		
United Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) .....	11,000	
<i>(see Uruguay)</i>		
<b>Bolivia</b> .....		<b>8,526</b>
Bolivian Evangelical Lutheran Church (M).....	8,526	
<b>Brazil</b> .....		<b>634,286</b>
Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil (M) .....	634,286	
<b>Chile</b> .....		<b>12,400</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile (M) .....	2,500	
Lutheran Church in Chile (M).....	9,900	
<b>Colombia</b> .....		<b>1,990</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (M) .....	1,990	
<b>Costa Rica</b> .....		<b>500</b>
Lutheran Costa Rican Church (M).....	500	
<b>Cuba</b> .....		<b>1,500</b>
United Evangelical Church in Cuba Lutheran Synod (M) .....	1,500	
<b>El Salvador</b> .....		<b>20,000</b>
Salvadoran Lutheran Church (M) .....	20,000	
<b>Guatemala</b> .....		<b>3,685</b>
Augustinian Lutheran Church of Guatemala (M) .....	2,735	
Guatemala Lutheran Church (M).....	950	
<b>Guyana</b> .....		<b>15,487</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana (M) .....	15,487	
<b>Honduras</b> .....		<b>1,200</b>
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras (M) .....	1,200	
<b>Mexico</b> .....		<b>1,500</b>
Mexican Lutheran Church (M) .....	1,500	
<b>Nicaragua</b> .....		<b>10,500</b>
The Nicaraguan Lutheran Church of Faith and Hope (M) .....	10,500	
<b>Paraguay</b>		
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M) <i>(see Argentina)</i>		
<b>Peru</b> .....		<b>1,200</b>
Lutheran Church of Peru (M) .....	1,200	



<b>Church</b>	<b>Individual Churches</b>	<b>National Total</b>
<b>Suriname</b> .....		<b>4,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Suriname (M) .....	4,000	
<b>Uruguay</b>		
Evangelical Church of the River Plate (M) <i>(see Argentina)</i>		
United Evangelical Lutheran Church (M) <i>(see Argentina)</i>		
<b>Venezuela</b> .....		<b>1,150</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Venezuela (M) .....	1,150	
 <b>Nordic Countries</b>		
<b>Denmark (including Greenland)</b> .....		<b>4,339,511</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark (M) .....	4,339,511	
<b>Finland</b> .....		<b>3,800,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland (M) .....	3,800,000	
<i>(including ELCF members abroad)</i>		
<b>Greenland</b>		
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark (M) <i>(see Denmark)</i>		
<b>Iceland</b> .....		<b>232,591</b>
The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland (M) .....	232,591	
<b>Norway</b> .....		<b>3,746,308</b>
Church of Norway (M) .....	3,724,857	
The Evangelical Lutheran Free Church of Norway (M) .....	21,451	
<b>Sweden</b> .....		<b>5,900,000</b>
Church of Sweden (M) .....	5,900,000	
 <b>North America</b>		
<b>Canada</b> .....		<b>95,000</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (M) .....	95,000	
<b>USA</b> .....		<b>3,563,842</b>
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (M) .....	3,563,842	

## Recognized Churches, Councils and Congregations

Lutheran Church of Belgium: Arlon and Christian Mission (R) .....	703
The Lutheran Church in Ireland (R) .....	461
United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany (R).....	N/A
The Lutheran Council of Great Britain (R) .....	179,300
German-Speaking Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Bolivia (R) .....	150
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Costa Rica (R) .....	220
St Martin's Congregation in Colombia (R) .....	160
St Matthew's Lutheran Church in Colombia (R) .....	312
Evangelical Lutheran Congregation "La Epifania" in Guatemala (R) .....	190
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ecuador (R) .....	237
<i>(including the El Adviento Evangelical Lutheran Church in Quito, and The Savior Church in Guayaquil)</i>	
German-Speaking Evangelical Congregation in Mexico (R) .....	230
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Peru (R) .....	200

*These statistics are based on data received by end April 2020, the European region numbers were updated on 29 July 2020. Compiled by OC.*

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