

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT - 2020 DATA

South Asian Peoples *Highlights*

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INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD



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Dear Partners,

In Revelation 7:9, the Apostle John describes a vision of a great multitude from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. The IMB exists to serve Southern Baptists as we work together to usher in this beautiful picture of heaven.

Join us in praising God for the significant impact your IMB missionaries are making in getting the gospel to the nations. And please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to reach the unreached today.

Our vision and mission

Our vision is a multitude from every nation, tribe, people and language knowing and worshiping our Lord Jesus Christ. (Rev. 7:9-10)

Our mission is to serve Southern Baptists in carrying out the Great Commission to make disciples of all nations.

STRATEGIC ANCHORS

+ Advance the missionary task among unreached peoples and places

+ Advance relationships with Southern Baptists and global partners

+ Advance efficiency and effectiveness of global operations

Six Components of the Missionary Task



South Asian Peoples

Highlights



17,772
NEW CHURCHES
PLANTED



338,907

HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS



292,524

OPPORTUNITIES TO RESPOND



100,566

NEW BELIEVERS



76,904

BAPTISMS



109,075

LEADERSHIP TRAININGS



216

NEW ENGAGEMENTS

South Asian Peoples



POPULATION 1,833,338,168

34,765

DYING DAILY WITHOUT CHRIST

Approximate numbers calculated using IMB global population and evangelical Christian estimates, excluding the United States.

It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.

— Romans 15:20

South Asian Peoples

Stories from the field



> Entry

When the COVID-19 lockdown started, many Muslims in our area were out of work and in need of food. Southern Baptists generously provided food for those in need. Local evangelists then had the joy of going house-to-house in Muslim communities providing food and sharing the gospel. Now, there are dozens of Muslim homes where these evangelists continue to be welcomed, as they share the gospel and make disciples.

📢 Evangelism

After hearing the gospel for the first time, Padma* asked the women who had shared with her, “How can I believe in God?” Her decision to follow Christ soon led to her being kicked out of her home and her husband threatening to abandon her. Perseverance in the face of persecution, and continued focus on sharing the gospel, led to three family members including her husband, coming to faith. Their home is now a light for the gospel in their community.

South Asian Peoples

Stories from the field



Discipleship

In 2019, lay believers experienced the joy of walking in obedience to the Lord by sharing the gospel boldly and broadly among hundreds of villages in this South Asian country. The Lord opened many hearts and a few thousand professed faith in Christ. However, the baptism numbers were incongruent with the reported new believers. Many were not able to come to church buildings but did gather in homes for prayer. After months of being coached in simple biblical discipleship patterns, these same lay believers began implementing basic discipleship in small groups throughout many villages. Consequently, in the last three months of 2019, the baptism numbers increased. In the first six months of 2020, despite limitations due to COVID-19, an additional 574 new believers have chosen baptism!

Healthy Church Formation

In a state of four million, few believers or churches existed among the largest people group. Starting with one family and a single young man, a new church for the majority people group was formed. The young man has continued to share the gospel and has started three new churches among other groups in the last three years. The church is growing, and new Christians are sharing the gospel in their communities.

South Asian Peoples

Stories from the field



Leadership Development

In the heart of the continent, several independent pastors and faithful laborers are working among unreached peoples and places. As these faithful workers reach new places, the need for pioneer leadership and theological training for new leaders has become evident. Several leadership development training groups have been initiated. These trainings have given leaders confidence in shepherding their churches and equipping them to walk in obedience to the faith. Consistent training sessions have provided opportunity to grow in greater understanding of the extent of God's work among UUPGs and UPGs for continued tracking and coaching.

Exit to Partnership

After ten years of investment, one network of new churches has launched an emphasis to see generations of new church starts in every district of their state. Out of 22 districts, this network now has multiple church starts in each district and multiple generations of church starts in 19. They are actively engaging every formerly unengaged people group in the district. Not only are people coming to faith and following Jesus, but this network is also equipping pastors with seminary level training to ensure that healthy doctrine is being preached in every church. God is at work as IMB missionaries "exit" this area and refocus efforts in other areas!

2025 Targets



TO ENGAGE UNREACHED PEOPLES AND PLACES

TARGET ONE — Send an additional 500 missionaries

TARGET TWO — Mobilize 500 global missionary partners on IMB teams

TARGET THREE — Engage 75 global cities with comprehensive strategies

TARGET FOUR — Mobilize 75% of Southern Baptist churches to prayerfully and financially support the IMB

TARGET FIVE — Increase giving to the IMB by 6% annually

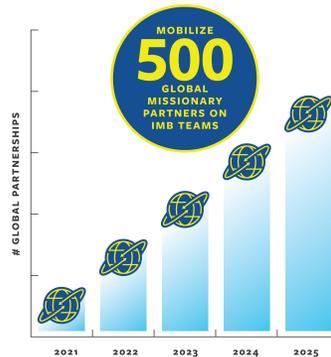
2025 Targets

TO ENGAGE UNREACHED PEOPLES AND PLACES

TARGET ONE



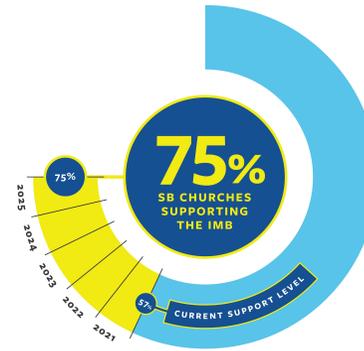
TARGET TWO



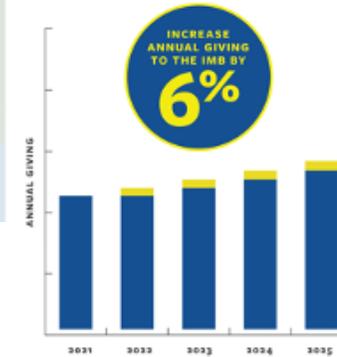
TARGET THREE



TARGET FOUR



TARGET FIVE



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Please Pray

- + Intercede for U.S. churches as a praying people impacting a lost world.
- + Pray for wisdom as missionaries and local believers expand the use of virtual connections in Bible study and leadership training.
- + Ask the Lord to deepen relationships among global Baptist conventions, leading to 500 global missionary partners joining IMB teams.
- + Intercede for mission leaders who daily make strategic decisions about where to send missionaries and resources to see the Kingdom advance.

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Please Pray

- + Pray for the 79.8 million forcibly displaced people worldwide to have opportunities to hear the gospel as they move and resettle.
- + Ask God to bless the 29,713 newly formed groups and churches with spiritual fruitfulness.
- + Pray for the 353,860 participating in ongoing Bible study to grow in knowledge and obedience.
- + Pray for God's wisdom and favor in strategically engaging 75 global cities.



Let's reach the nations together



PRAY



GIVE



GO



SEND

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