



THE CUMORAH FOUNDATION

Resources on Church Growth and Missionary Work for
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

July 2019

WELCOME!

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide monthly updates on the growth of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and missionary news stories, and present a synopsis of recently completed educational resources and research. We are a privately funded initiative that provides resources online without cost. The Cumorah Foundation is not authorized or approved by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or any other group.

CHURCH GROWTH DEVELOPMENTS

New Stakes

(provided with chronological ranking and date of creation)

None reported in July 2019

New Districts

17. Issia Cote d'Ivoire – July 21st, 2019

Discontinued Stakes and Districts

5. Puntarenas Costa Rica District

Locations Recently Reached by the Church

(city population rank, most recent population estimate)
precise population data from www.citypopulation.de

- Bonita, Arizona (N/A, N/A)
- Hatillo, Dominican Republic (N/A, N/A)
- Kuntense, Ghana (N/A, N/A)
- Tiruppur, India (56th, 963,173)
- T'Boli, Philippines (N/A, ~91,000)

Locations Recently Closed by the Church

Cities where the only ward or branch was closed; some of these cities may continue to have a dependent unit and/or missionaries assigned.

(city population rank, most recent population estimate)
data from www.citypopulation.de

- Skipton, England, UK (N/A, 15,047)

700 Congregations (Wards and Branches) Milestone Reached in Nigeria

The Church in Nigeria recently reached the milestone of 700 congregations. Thus far in 2019, there has been an increase of more than 50 congregations in Nigeria. Most of these new congregations have been created in cities that already have a Church presence, such as in Benin City and Port Harcourt. The Church reached the milestone of 100 congregations in approximately 1992, 200 congregations in 2001, 300 congregations in 2010, 400 congregations in 2013, 500 congregations in 2016, and 600 congregations in 2017. Currently, the Church in Nigeria has the seventh most wards and branches of any country in the world after the United States, Brazil, Mexico, the Philippines, Peru, and Argentina. The Church in Nigeria will need to organize approximately 50 more wards and branches to overtake Argentina as the country with the sixth most wards and branches.



Despite the large number of congregations, the Church in Nigeria has only one operating temple and one temple announced. In contrast, the Church in the United States has 82 dedicated temples and seven planned temples, the Church in Brazil has seven dedicated temples and four planned temples, the Church in Mexico has 13 dedicated temples and one planned temple, the Church in the Philippines has two dedicated temples and four planned temples, the Church in Peru has two dedicated temples and two planned temples, and the Church in

Argentina has two dedicated temples and two planned temples. There are currently 58 stakes and 18 districts in Nigeria.

Rapid Church Growth in Mozambique

The Church has reported steady, rapid growth in Mozambique for several consecutive years, with signs that growth trends in 2019 appear to be accelerating. The mission president recently reported that as many as three new stakes may be organized in the country within the next year if current growth trends continue. New stakes appear most likely to be organized in Maputo and Beira – the cities in Mozambique where the Church currently operates stakes. The Church organized its first stakes in Maputo and Beira in 2015, followed by the creation of the country's third stake in 2017 in Beira. For more information, click [here](#).



congregation of German speakers, the congregation was closed and members will now attend English-speaking congregations in their respective areas. For more information, click [here](#).

First Ward in Kanye, Botswana Organized

The Kanye 2nd Ward was recently organized from the Kanye 2nd Branch in the Gaborone Botswana Stake. The new ward is the Church's first ward in the city of Kanye, Botswana's eighth most populous city, where the first branch was created in 2011. The Church divided the original Kanye branch in 2016 to create the Kanye 2nd Branch as a result of increases in the number of active members. There are now nine wards and two branches in the stake. Given membership and congregational growth trends, a second stake in Botswana may be forthcoming within the next couple years. The first stake in Botswana was organized in 2012. There remain several medium-sized cities that are unreached by the Church that appear favorable for future outreach, such as Maun and Serowe.



First Branch in Tiruppur, India Organized

The Church in India recently organized its first branch in Tiruppur, India. Tiruppur is inhabited by approximately one million people. The new branch pertains to the Coimbatore India District. Tiruppur is the second city in India within the past 18 months to have had a branch organized where no branch previously operated, the other branch being the Vijayawada Branch. A member group also recently opened in northwestern New Delhi. These developments may signal a change in mission and area policies regarding expansion of the Church into additional areas of India after over a decade of no outreach expansion into more cities.



Sixteenth District Organized in Cote d'Ivoire

The Church organized the Issia Cote d'Ivoire District on July 21st. The new district includes four branches: the Godoua, Issia, Saioua, and Zoukougbeu Branches. The Church has only recently been established in this area of Cote d'Ivoire as the Issia Branch is the oldest branch in the district (organized in 2015) and the Godoua Branch is the newest branch in the district (organized in June 2019). Moreover, the Godoua Branch has reported significant growth, with 77 from the branch recently attending the meeting to organize the new district. There are also plans to organize a second branch in Issia. A member group also recently began to function in Niakia. The new district is the Church's 16th district in the country. In contrast, the Church in Cote d'Ivoire reported only one district in the country 10 years ago.



Only German Ward in the United States Discontinued

The Church discontinued its only German-speaking ward in the United States in July. The ward was originally organized in 1963 to administer German-speaking immigrants from Europe. At its height, the ward had more than 400 members, whereas the ward had a mere 60 members by the time it was discontinued. Due to declining membership and a limited need to hold a separate

UPDATED RESOURCES

REACHING THE NATIONS COUNTRY PROFILES

We continue to update the country profiles for our comprehensive work, *Reaching the Nations: International Church Growth Almanac*. The following country profiles were updated and posted on our website, www.cumorah.com, during July 2019. We will continue to update additional country profiles in the coming months, with the goal to release the next edition of the almanac by 2020:

- [Bangladesh](#)
- [Brunei](#)
- Timor-Leste (East Timor)

