

## PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

**South Africa**

## General Information

- Population: about 53 million.
- The South African Constitution began with the words: "In humble submission to Almighty God who controls the destinies of nations..."
- South Africa is ranked as an upper-middle income economy by the World Bank, and is considered to be a newly industrialized country.
- Its economy is the largest and most developed in Africa and the 28th-largest in the world.
- In terms of purchasing power parity, South Africa has the fifth-highest per capita income in Africa, although poverty and inequality remain widespread, with about a quarter of the population unemployed and living on less than US\$1.25 a day.
- According to Pew Research, leaders in the Global South are more conservative than those in the Global North. For instance, leaders in the Global South are more likely than those in the Global North to read the Bible literally (58% vs. 40%). More evangelical leaders in the Global South than in the Global North take the position that abortion is always wrong (59% vs. 41%).

## Challenges

- Christians accounted for 79.8% of the population. This includes Zion Christian (11.1%), Pentecostal (Charismatic) (8.2%), Roman Catholic (7.1%), Methodist (6.8%), Dutch Reformed 7%, Anglican (3.8%).
- There are an estimated 200,000 indigenous traditional healers in South Africa, and up to 60% of South Africans consult these healers.
- These healers use a combination of ancestral spiritual beliefs and a belief in the spiritual and medicinal properties of local fauna and flora, commonly known as muti, to facilitate healing in clients. Many peoples have syncretic religious practices combining Christian and indigenous influences.

## Pray

- South Africa is still the most important missionary sending nation in the Southern Hemisphere.
- The South African churches continue to form the main missionary sending base for all of Africa.
- South Africa is one of the most important bases for Gospel radio broadcasts, for Bible translation and Gospel literature production in Africa. - See more at:

## Reference

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South\\_Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa)
- <http://www.reformationsa.org/index.php/history/61-battleforsa#sthash.WxVrDQu8.dpuf>