Global Scripture Access 2022

According to SIL's Ethnologue, 7.36 billion people use the world’s 7,388 known languages. However, language user statistics tend to lag behind actual population statistics. The global population is expected to reach 8 billion by November 2022. For statistical agreement, percentages used here are based on the Ethnologue number.

7,388 known living languages, including 386 sign languages

People with and without Scripture

For simplicity, each language is counted only once and assigned to a single region with all users attached to that location.

Scripture access by region

The numbers on the map refer to languages where work is already being requested or is likely to be needed.

Need Bible translation to start

The numbers on the map refer to languages where work is already being requested or is likely to be needed.

About these statistics

*Scripture access statistics compiled from data provided through ProgressBible by Wycliffe Alliance and partners. Data is based on the most recently available information about first language users in SIL’s Ethnologue.

7,388 known living languages, including 386 sign languages

* In most cases, the people use another language which already has at least some Scripture. Sometimes, their first language is disappearing from use altogether.

* Numbers are the number of people to whom Bible translation needs are being requested.