



Faeroe Islands

Faeroe Islands

Europe

Geography

Area 1,399 sq km. Archipelago of 18 rugged islands between Iceland and Scotland, 16 of which are inhabited.

Population	Ann Gr	Density
2010	50,152	0.63%
2020	53,293	0.61%
2030	56,078	0.45%

Capital Torshavn 20,300. **Urbanites** 40.3%. **Pop under 15 yrs** 22.4%. **Life expectancy** 79.3 yrs.

Peoples

Faeroese 97%.
Danish 2.6%.
Other 0.4%.
Literacy 99%. **Official languages** Faeroese, which is of the Scandinavian family; Danish. Both have Bibles.

Economy

The fishing industry (along with fish farming) accounts for 50% of the GDP and for almost all exports. There remains hope, although dwindling, of exploitable oil reserves, which would help diversify the economy.

Politics

A self-governing region of Denmark. The parliamentary democracy is usually represented by coalition governments, and since it is not part of the EU, all trade is governed by special treaties.

Religion

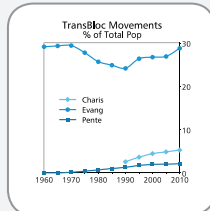
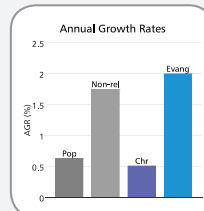
Complete freedom of religion, although the Lutheran Church is recognized as the national church and is supported by a state-levied tax.

Religions	Pop %	Population	Ann Gr
Christian	90.59	45,433	0.5%
Non-religious	9.28	4,654	1.8%
Other	0.08	40	10.6%
Baha'i	0.05	25	0.6%

Christians	Denoms	Pop %	Affiliates	Ann Gr
Protestant	8	87.58	44,000	0.4%
Independent	1	0.96	<500	1.8%
Catholic	1	0.34	<200	2.5%
Marginal	1	0.31	<200	2.9%
Unaffiliated		1.40	1,000	0.0%

Churches	MegaBloc	Congs	Members	Affiliates
Lutheran Church	P	56	24,286	37,400
Christian Brethren	P	30	3,160	4,930
Pentecostal Church	P	8	680	1,047
House churches	I	10	287	480
Other denominations[7]		11	533	872
Total Christians[11]		115	28,946	44,729

TransBloc	Pop %	Population	Ann Gr
Evangelicals			
Evangelicals	28.8	14,430	2.0%
Renewalists			
Charismatics	5.2	2,632	2.3%
Pentecostals	2.1	1,047	1.5%



Challenges for Prayer

1 **Wisdom in government is needed** as large numbers of Islanders hope for a more independent future. Pray that God would give the leaders wisdom to oversee increasing autonomy from Denmark. Also pray that God would give them courage to make strong decisions in managing the shrinking fishing industry and the still-speculative oil industry – both having great

environmental and social repercussions.

2 The Faeroese need revival. From the Lutheran Church (with many nominals as well as a solid evangelical contingent) to the Pentecostals and charismatics, local Christian leaders all agree that these islands are starting to see a fresh move of the Holy Spirit. The Lutheran Church has declined, but its recent independence from Danish Lutheranism sees an emerging evangelicalism, such as the growing Pietist Home Mission with 35 prayer houses and up to 5,000 affiliates. Pray for the Spirit to make the Faeroes truly Christian – and not just in name only.

3 Evangelicals are many, 29% of the population, in contrast to the mother country of Denmark. In particular, the Brethren churches make a significant impact as missionaries, both at home and abroad. The Faeroe Islands send a proportionately large number of missionaries – around 100 in more than 20 countries; pray that this may continue. Pray for the Spirit to continue impacting the Church in the Faeroe Islands; pray that Christians will be wise in engaging the postmodern and secular attitudes that increasingly challenge the primacy of the Bible and Christian tradition.

4 Christian resources are plentiful for this small population – two Bible translations (and one modern paraphrased NT being prepared), Christian Radio (Radio Lindin), Iktus Christian TV, online Bible in Faeroese, a Christian magazine and two bookstores. Pray that these may together have a strong impact on discipling the islands.