



# Guam

## US Territory of Guam

### Pacific

### Geography

**Area** 541 sq km. Most southerly and largest island of the Marianas Archipelago; 6,000 km west of Hawaii. Also included here (but not as part of Guam itself) are the three tiny US Territories of Johnston Island (2.8 sq km; 1,300 km from Hawaii), Midway Island (5.2 sq km; 2,350 km) and Wake Island (6.5 sq km; 3,700 km).

Population	Ann Gr	Density
2010	179,893	1.31%
2020	201,438	1.09%
2030	220,312	0.82%

There are estimated to be a further 26,000 illegal immigrants. Also included here: Johnston Island, population 1,700; Midway 13; Wake 300.

**Capital** Agana 155,000. **Urbanites** 93.2%. **Pop under 15 yrs** 28%. **Life expectancy** 78.6 yrs.

### Peoples

**Micronesian** 49.2%. Chamorro 45.8%; other Islanders 3.3%, mainly Chuukese.

**Asian** 37.9%. Filipino 31.1%; Korean 3.6%; Japanese 1.7%; Chinese 1.4%.

**Caucasian** 12.9%. Mostly US citizens.

**Literacy** virtually 100%. **Official languages** English and Chamorro. **All languages** 8.

**Indigenous languages** 2. **Languages with Scriptures** 1Bi 1por 1wi.p.

### Economy

One-third of the island is used for US military bases. More than a third of Guamanians are employed by the government or military, a number set to dramatically increase as the US marine base in Okinawa relocates to Guam in 2014. Tourism, a growing industry, is the largest

component of the economy. 25% of the local populace is dependent on welfare assistance.

**Income/person** \$22,661 (50% of continental USA).

### Politics

Spanish rule 1565-1898. A self-governing, unincorporated US Territory since then. Guamanians are US citizens.

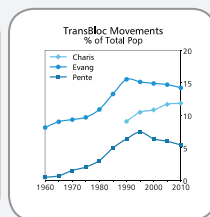
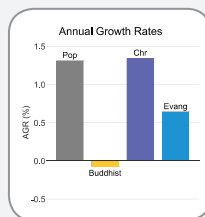
### Religion

Religions	Pop %	Population	Ann Gr
Christian	96.69	173,939	1.3%
Buddhist	1.40	2,519	-0.1%
Baha'i	0.74	1,331	1.0%
Chinese	0.45	810	6.5%
Non-religious	0.40	720	-3.1%
Ethnoreligionist	0.32	576	-0.5%

Christians	Denoms	Pop %	Affiliates	Ann Gr
Protestant	33	14.64	26,000	0.4%
Independent	9	1.28	2,000	2.8%
Anglican	1	0.61	1,000	1.3%
Catholic	1	76.71	138,000	1.0%
Marginal	2	1.47	3,000	0.5%
Unaffiliated		1.98	3,500	32.0%

Churches	MegaBloc	Congs	Members	Affiliates
Catholic Church	C	31	78,857	138,000
Seventh-day Adventist	P	6	2,100	4,200
Assemblies of God	P	8	1,400	2,200
Korean Presbyterians	P	35	1,250	2,125
Latter-day Saints(Mormon)	M	2	958	1,600
Episcopal Church	A	3	730	1,095
Jehovah's Witnesses	M	7	630	1,052
Independent Baptists	P	3	600	1,002
General Baptist Mission	P	4	300	670
Baptist Conv (IMB)	P	2	250	625
Other denominations[34]		105	8,490	17,813
<b>Total Christians[46]</b>		<b>206</b>	<b>95,565</b>	<b>170,382</b>

TransBloc	Pop %	Population	Ann Gr
<b>Evangelicals</b>			
Evangelicals	14.2	25,621	0.6%
<b>Renewalists</b>			
Charismatics	11.9	21,322	1.6%
Pentecostals	5.4	9,751	-0.7%



# Challenges for Prayer

- 1 Guam is the hub of Micronesia**, and as such, the population is multicultural and diverse. There is spiritual and church growth among many of the immigrant communities, including the Chinese, Koreans and Filipinos. Micronesian groups have dozens of churches, although their more isolated villages and their tribal culture present an evangelistic challenge. The continued influence of cultural and animistic traditions holds back their discipleship. Also, with such ethnic and denominational variety, unity is an important issue and a need for prayer.
- 2 The influx of US culture**, with all of its pros and cons, has irrevocably shaped Guam. There is an increasing presence of wealth and tourism, but also gambling, substance abuse and prostitution/sex trafficking. With the American military presence increasing on the island, these issues will only intensify in the future. Pray for biblical righteousness to shape Guam's society and public life.
- 3 The indigenous Chamorro** have a long history of oppression and, more recently, disorientation with the influx of US culture. The majority are nominally Catholic and historically resistant to the gospel. Chamorro worldview is also rooted in animistic traditions. Pray for the emergence of a true Chamorro Christian witness and culture.
- 4 Expatriate missionary work** focuses on church planting among indigenous and immigrant peoples, Bible teaching and development. Major missions are SdA, Korean Presbyterians, LM, CoG(Anderson), CoN, Elim Fellowship. There are three Bible colleges, the main one being Pacific Islands University with about 100 students on site. Practical ministries include addiction recovery centres and vocational training for individuals with disabilities.
- 5 Missionary outreach from Guam is beginning to occur.** The churches have the capacity and desire to send missionaries to the Pacific nations, and the increasing influx of tourists from Japan, Korea and elsewhere makes for witnessing opportunities right at home.
- 6 The Prison Fellowship of Guam** has a ministry to prisoners that is also penetrating the indigenous population in a small but significant way. It has fostered a cooperative unity among evangelical churches (with 85 volunteers), which is sadly lacking elsewhere. Pray for resources to teach and train converts who remain in prison.
- 7 Christian radio.** TWR's transmitting station in Guam broadcasts radio programmes to China, Cambodia and several other nations. Pray for more workers for this ministry.