

THE CUMORAH FOUNDATION

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

June 2020

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 May 2020

New Districts

4. Elbasan Albania - June 28th, 2020

Discontinued Stakes and Districts

1. Irkutsk Russia District

Locations Recently Reached by the Church

(city population rank, most recent population estimate)
precise population data from www.citypopulation.de
*City where a ward or branch previously operated within the past 10
years

Ayia Napa, Cyprus (45th, 3,212)

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

None reported in May 2020

New District Organized in Albania

The Church organized a new district in Albania. The Elbasan Albania District is the Church's second district to be ever organized in Albania following the Tirana Albania District (organized as a district in 1999, reorganized as a stake in 2014). The new district includes six branches—three of which previously pertained to the Tirana Albania Stake (Elbasan, Fier, and Lushnjë). The other three branches in the district, Berat, Korçë, and Pogradec, have



been organized within the past four years and previously pertained to the Adriatic South Mission. With the creation of the new district, all 10 of the most populous cities in Albania have a ward or branch which is part of a stake or district. The Church in Albania has been a significant outlier

among European nations due to steady membership and congregational growth. Today, Albania has the highest percentage of Latter-day Saints in the population of any country in Eastern Europe.

District Discontinued in Russia

The Church recently discontinued the Irkutsk Russia District (organized in 2016). The district had three branches—one of which was a district branch for members who lived far from the Irkutsk and Ulan-Ude Branches. The Church briefly operated a branch in Angarsk that closed in 2018. The Church in Russia has frequently opened and closed districts in many cities. This has appeared due to the ebb and flow of active members and area and mission efforts to conserve or encourage local leadership development.



NEW/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 June 2020. We will continue to update additional country profiles in the coming months, with the goal to release the next edition of the almanac in late 2020/early 2021:

- Albania
- France
- <u>Ireland</u>

- Mongolia
- Netherlands
- Spain

COUNTRY STATISTICAL PROFILES

For the first time, we have published United Kingdom statistical profiles for each of the constituent countries. We are also in the processing of updating the United States state statistical profiles. See below for links to these profiles.

UNITED KINGDOM

- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales

UNITED STATES

- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming