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# Japan flagJAPAN

**For current updates, video, and giving opportunities related to the 9.0 earthquake, visit the** [Alliance News and Stories](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/?s=Japan) **pages.**

The Alliance has a rich history in Japan and has played a key role in advancing the gospel there. Our missionaries entered the country in the early 1890s, a few decades after Japan opened its doors to the outside world. They settled in western Japan and began evangelizing and training Japanese believers to reach their countrymen with the good news. Our Japan missionary force reached a peak of 16 missionaries in the early 1900s but withdrew from the country in 1937. In 1952, the C&MA resumed ministry there.

## [Asia/Pacific](http://www.cmalliance.org/region/asia)

* [Cambodia](http://www.cmalliance.org/field/cambodia)
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Today, Japan is among the least-reached nations of the world, even though it is one of the easiest countries for missionaries to enter. Despite tremendous challenges, our workers and their national partners are laboring faithfully to see Christ’s Church firmly established in this land dotted with Shinto shrines and dominated by ancestor worship. Some of the creative approaches employed by our Alliance team include sports evangelism, teaching English, music outreaches, friendship ministries to university students, and outreaches to young mothers.

Despite relatively slow growth, 42 Alliance churches have been established in Japan with a total membership of about 3,000. In addition, the Japan Alliance church is sending cross-cultural workers to other parts of the world.

Hope House was launched by C&MA missionaries to reach blue collar workers and their families in the Hiroshima region of western Japan. Its focus is on ministering practically to families of patients in the regional medical center and to Higashi Hiroshima Medical Center personnel. Our workers envision Hope House as a place of rest for families who have loved ones in the hospital as well as a venue for providing help and education, including the teaching of medical English, to hospital personnel.

## National Church

Japan Alliance Church: 35 organized churches, 7 unorganized groups, 38 ordained ministers, 3,113 baptized members, and 3,500 inclusive members

## Team Initiatives

* Assist existing churches in reaching new areas.
* Provide encouragement to churches in youth and family ministries and missions mobilization through resources, seminars, and events.
* Impact new geographic areas and people groups using existing relationship networks.

## International Workers in Japan

### [Photo of David KindervaterDavid Kindervater](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/kindervater-david-evangeline)

### [Photo of Evangeline KindervaterEvangeline Kindervater](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/kindervater-david-evangeline)

### [Photo of Alan KroppAlan Kropp](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/kropp-alan-jill)

### [Photo of Jill KroppJill Kropp](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/kropp-alan-jill)

### [Photo of Don SchaefferDon Schaeffer](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/schaeffer-don-hazel)

### [Photo of Hazel SchaefferHazel Schaeffer](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/schaeffer-don-hazel)

### [Photo of Jessica TranJessica Tran](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/tran-nghi-jessica)

### [Photo of Nghi TranNghi Tran](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/tran-nghi-jessica)

### [Photo of Stephen WoernerStephen Woerner](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/woerner-stephen-yire)

### [Photo of Yire WoernerYire Woerner](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/woerner-stephen-yire)

### [Photo of Kathy YoungKathy Young](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/young-ken-kathy)

### [Photo of Ken YoungKen Young](http://www.cmalliance.org/worker/young-ken-kathy)

### The Alliance at Work in Japan

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#### [8 Photos of Christmas Around the World](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2016/12/21/8-photos-of-christmas-around-the-world/)

See how Christ’s birth is celebrated in various Alliance fields around the world.

[read more](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2016/12/21/8-photos-of-christmas-around-the-world/)

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#### [Two Deadly Quakes Hit Japan](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2016/04/15/two-deadly-quakes-hit-japan/)

A series of of powerful earthquakes and after-shocks strike the southern island of Kyushu.

[read more](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2016/04/15/two-deadly-quakes-hit-japan/)

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#### [“I Have to Talk about Jesus”](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2015/12/28/i-have-to-talk-about-jesus/)

Mrs. A, a Buddhist, insisted, “If I don’t talk about Jesus, there is nothing to say.”

[read more](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2015/12/28/i-have-to-talk-about-jesus/)

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#### [Basketball Camp Provides Gospel Access to Japanese Children](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2015/10/25/basketball-camp-provides-gospel-access-to-japanese-children/)

For most of these children, this was undoubtedly their first encounter with the Bible.

[read more](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2015/10/25/basketball-camp-provides-gospel-access-to-japanese-children/)

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#### [Heart-Care Workshop Ministers to Emotional, Spiritual Needs in Japan](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2015/06/03/heart-care-workshop-ministers-to-emotional-spiritual-needs-in-japan/)

The event will be offered in two locations in Ishinomaki—the epicenter of the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

[read more](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/2015/06/03/heart-care-workshop-ministers-to-emotional-spiritual-needs-in-japan/)

[Read more stories](http://www.cmalliance.org/news/tags/japan/)

## Demographics

**Population**

Population—127,417,244

Infant mortality rate—3.3/1,000

Life expectancy—81.2

**Capital City**

Tokyo (31,139,900) pop.

**Geography**

About the size of Montana, Japan (145,882 sq. mi.) is an archipelago consisting of four main islands--Honshuy, Hokkaido, Kyushu, Shikoku. The terrain is mountainous with mostly inactive volcanoes.

**Languages**

Japanese

**Ethnicity/Race**

Japanese—99%

other (mostly Korean)—1%

**Economy**

Per capita income—$29,400

Inflation—0.1%

Unemployment—4.7%

Literacy rate—99% (1995 est.)

**Government/Political Climate**

Constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary government. Japan remains a major economic power, both in Asia and globally.

**Religion**

Shintoist, Buddhist—84%

other (including Christian 0.7%)—16%

## Support the Mission

Alliance ministry in Japan is primarily funded through the Great Commission Fund. Help fulfill Jesus’ [Great Commission](http://www.cmalliance.org/about/beliefs/great-commission) and make a gift to the GCF today.

Top of Form

Select an amount                                                                                                                                                                       

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## Give to Special Projects

These field-approved projects are funded by donations in addition to the GCF. Click and give today.

### Japan Team

* [Sengendai Church Land](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-01010&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Sengendai%20Church%20Land)
* [Kawaguchi Church Land](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-01013&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Kawaguchi%20Church%20Land)
* [Yachiyo Church Land](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-01014&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Yachiyo%20Church%20Land)
* [Church Property Revolving Fund](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-01016&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Church%20Property%20Revolving%20Fund)
* [Church Planting/Japan](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-01017&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Church%20Planting/Japan)
* [Tohoku Outreach](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-01020&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Tohoku%20Outreach)
* [Ishinomaki Counseling Center Japan](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-01022&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Ishinomaki%20Counseling%20Center%20Japan)
* [Literature Publication](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-04001&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Literature%20Publication)
* [Leadership Development](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-09000&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Leadership%20Development)
* [Japan Mission Building Renovation](http://www.cmalliance.org/give/online-giving?project=1-47200-46-85-09001&projectName=Approved%20Special&projectDesc=Japan%20Mission%20Building%20Renovation)
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