



United Bible
Societies

Scripture Distribution Statistics Report 2025



Image courtesy of the Bible Society of Ghana



United Bible
Societies

25 Billion Scriptures

Distributed by Bible Societies
throughout 80 Years

Since first gathering in Elfinsward, UK, in 1946, the United Bible Societies (UBS) Fellowship has grown to include 156 Bible Societies ministering in over 240 countries and territories.

The Fellowship has collectively distributed 25 billion Scriptures throughout the 80 years since 1946, including 1.1 billion full Bibles. Since 2016, 2.3 billion Scriptures have been distributed, including 264.9 million full Bibles.

The Bible can only be read, heard, and lived if it is within reach in an accessible form. For this reason, Bible distribution is at the heart of the mission of Bible Societies around the world. Distribution connects Bible translation and engagement - two essential elements of our global integrated Bible ministry - enabling everyone to encounter God's Word. A translation cannot change lives if it does not reach people's hands and hearts.



Scripture Distribution in 2025

In 2025, UBS tracked the global movement of Scripture through the member Bible Societies of the Fellowship, measuring how the Bible - in full and in portions - is shared worldwide in every form. This movement of Scripture includes both paid and free distribution.

Throughout the year, the Bible Societies within the UBS Fellowship ¹ distributed **148.3 million printed Scriptures**, including **22.4 million printed full Bibles**, **10 million printed New Testaments**, **115.9 million printed Scripture portions and selections** ².

In digital formats, digital Bibles and Scripture texts provided by member Bible Societies of the UBS Fellowship were downloaded 26.4 million times – a 1.9% increase on 2024. Throughout 2025, there were 32.2 billion views of Bible chapters – a 13.8% increase on 2024. 1.4 billion audio plays of Bible translations provided by Bible Societies were accessed in 2025 – a 2.6% increase on 2024. Digital distribution figures for 2025 were sourced from Bible Societies, UBS's BibleBooster ³ websites and mobile applications, UBS's partners at YouVersion (creators of the popular 'Bible' mobile application), and Hosanna/Faith Comes By Hearing.

UBS Secretary General, Rev. Dirk Gevers reflected on the significance of eight decades of global Bible distribution:

"For 80 years, Bible Societies have worked together with a shared conviction: that everyone should have the opportunity to encounter God's Word in a language and format they understand. The distribution of 25 billion Scripture texts across UBS's 80 years is a remarkable testament to God's faithfulness, and the dedication of Bible Society staff, volunteers, and donors from around the world."

"The 2025 statistics demonstrate both continuity and change in Bible ministry. While printed Scriptures continue to reach hundreds of millions of people each year, digital engagement is growing, opening new opportunities to connect with the Bible through mobile devices and online platforms. Regardless of the format, our mission remains the same. Every Bible distributed, every chapter viewed, and every audio file listened to represents an opportunity for a life to be transformed by God's Word. Together as a Fellowship, we continue to bring the Bible to the world and help people engage with its message of hope, truth, and salvation."

1. Figures compiled from the printed distribution data reported by Bible Societies in 2025. 94% of Bible Societies provided data, and estimates were used for the remaining 6%.

2. Portions are at least one complete book of the Bible or 24 pages of Scripture text. Selections are Scripture verses grouped by theme or at least one section as defined by section headings in the Bible. Also includes Children's Bibles and storybooks.

3. BibleBooster is an initiative, owned by the Bible Society for the Netherlands and Flanders and the Bible Society of Germany, in partnership with UBS, to provide tools and support to Bible Societies' digital engagement strategies. The ready-to-adapt websites and apps are currently used by over 40 Bible Societies.



At a Glance

Image courtesy of
the Laos Bible Society

DECADE

Over the last decade (2016-2025), the UBS Fellowship distributed 2.3 billion printed Scripture texts. Included within this total:

264.9 million full Bibles	99.3 million New Testaments	2.0 billion Portions and Selections
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PRINT

In 2025, the UBS Fellowship distributed 148.3 million printed Scripture texts, consisting of:

22.4 million full Bibles	10 million New Testaments	115.9 million Scripture Portions and Selections
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DIGITAL

In 2025, digital Bibles and Scripture texts provided by member Bible Societies of the UBS Fellowship were downloaded and accessed in the following quantities:

26.4 million Bible Downloads	32.2 billion Chapter Views	1.4 billion Audio Plays
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Print



Image courtesy of the Bible Society of Jordan

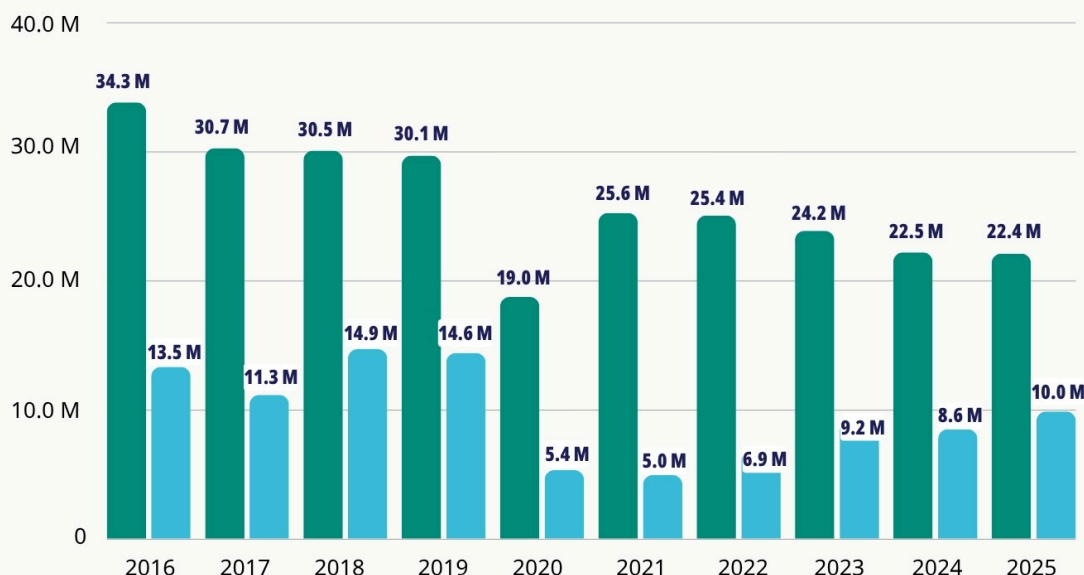
For millennia, Scripture has been shared through text - handwritten, printed, and through technology. This tradition continues today and remains an integral part of the UBS Fellowship's ministry worldwide.

Distribution over the Last Decade

Over the last decade (2016-2025), the UBS Fellowship distributed 2.3 billion printed Scripture texts. Included within this total are 264.9 million full Bibles, 99.3 million New Testaments, and 2.0 billion Portions and Selections.

The collective volume of the UBS Fellowship's global Scripture distribution is an incredible achievement and represents a passionate commitment by Bible Societies to see everyone have access to God's Word.

Printed Bibles and New Testaments Distribution 2016 – 2025



Over the last decade (2016-2025), the UBS Fellowship distributed 2.3 billion print Scripture texts, including 364.2 million Full Bibles and New Testaments.

 **264.9 Million**
Full Bibles

 **99.3 Million**
New Testaments

Challenges Prompting Continued Decline in Distribution of Printed Scriptures

Among the factors contributing to an ongoing decline in print distribution are:

- **Rising costs**

As inflation remains a global concern, Bible printing and distribution are still affected by rising costs. For Bible distribution, the costs for printing, importation, and international freight continue to rise. In some nations and territories of the world, these costs have risen sharply. This puts greater financial strain on Bible Societies' funding distribution in their region.

- **Continued growth in digital access**

With an ever-increasing number of digital Bible resources available, individuals can access Scripture on mobile devices already at their fingertips, rather than relying on access to a physical printed Bible. Despite posing a challenge to traditional forms of print distribution, digital distribution presents an opportunity. The digital distribution statistics (*available from Page 9*) demonstrate how Bible Societies are seeking to make the Bible accessible through digital formats and resources.

Image courtesy of the Bible Society of Kenya



Regional Distribution in 2025

Bible Societies distributed 148.3 million printed Scriptures in 2025, consisting of 22.4 million full Bibles, 10 million New Testaments, and 115.9 million Portions and Selections.

Central and South America recorded the highest overall distribution figures, accounting for almost 98.5 million Portions and Selections. For full Bible distribution, Asia and Africa were second and third, respectively. Asia was also second for New Testament and Portion/Selection distribution.

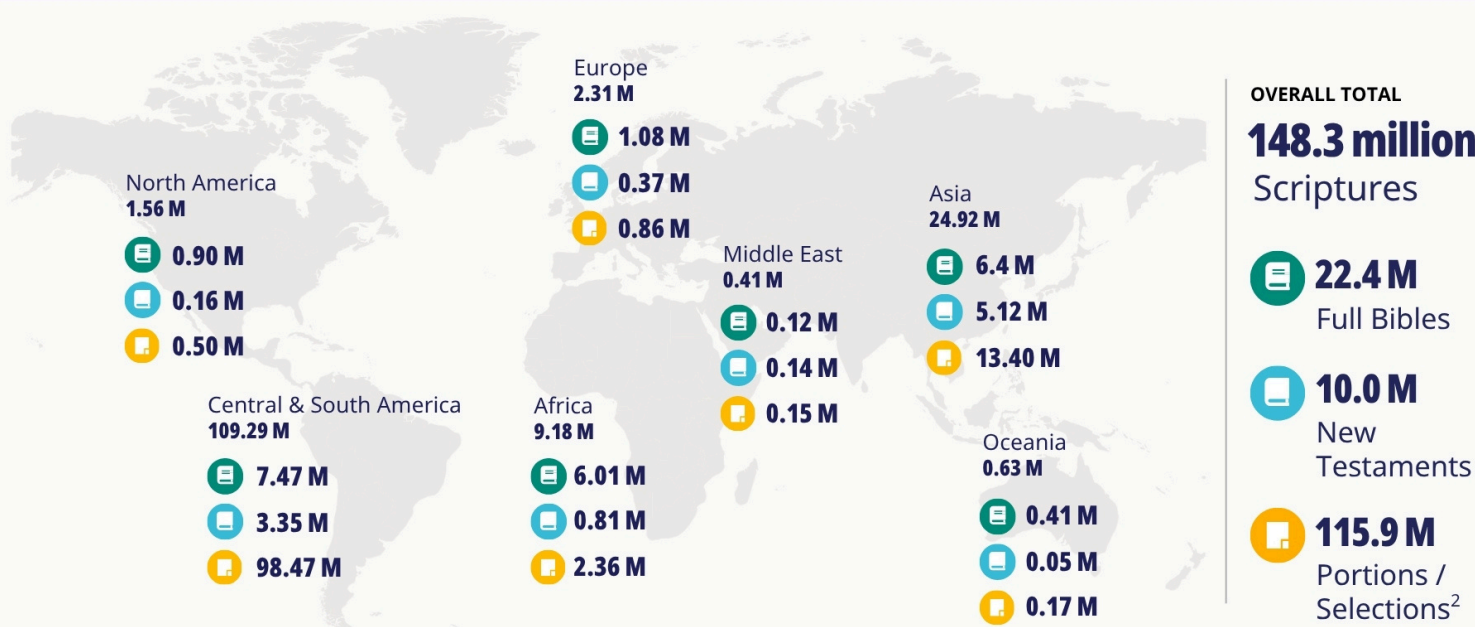
Central and South America's high Portion and Selection distribution suggests continued success in community engagement programmes. Within the *Patmos Initiative* research, delivered by the British and Foreign Bible Society in partnership with UBS, people in Central and South America say they believe in God, that religion is important to them, and they are warm towards the Bible. This affirms and explains the continued high distribution volume.

Distribution of New Testaments within Asia indicates sustained demand for accessible, introductory Scripture formats across diverse cultural contexts. Additionally, the *Patmos Initiative* research describes Asia as a region with a diverse religious context, low awareness of the Bible, and a stable Christian minority. This also explains the sustained demand for accessible, introductory Scripture formats, evident in the 2025 Scripture Distribution statistics.

Africa demonstrated balanced growth in Bible distribution. North America, Europe, the Middle East, and Oceania accounted for comparatively smaller volumes, suggesting that Bible engagement strategies in these regions may increasingly rely on digital access rather than print distribution.

Global Printed Scripture Distribution by Bible Societies¹

2025



1. Figures compiled from the printed distribution data reported by Bible Societies in 2025. 94% of Bible Societies provided data and estimates were used for the remaining 6%.

2. Portions are at least one complete book of the Bible or 24 pages of Scripture text. Selections are Scripture verses grouped by theme or at least one section as defined by section headings in the Bible. Also includes Children's Bibles and story books.



Image courtesy of Bible Society Vietnam

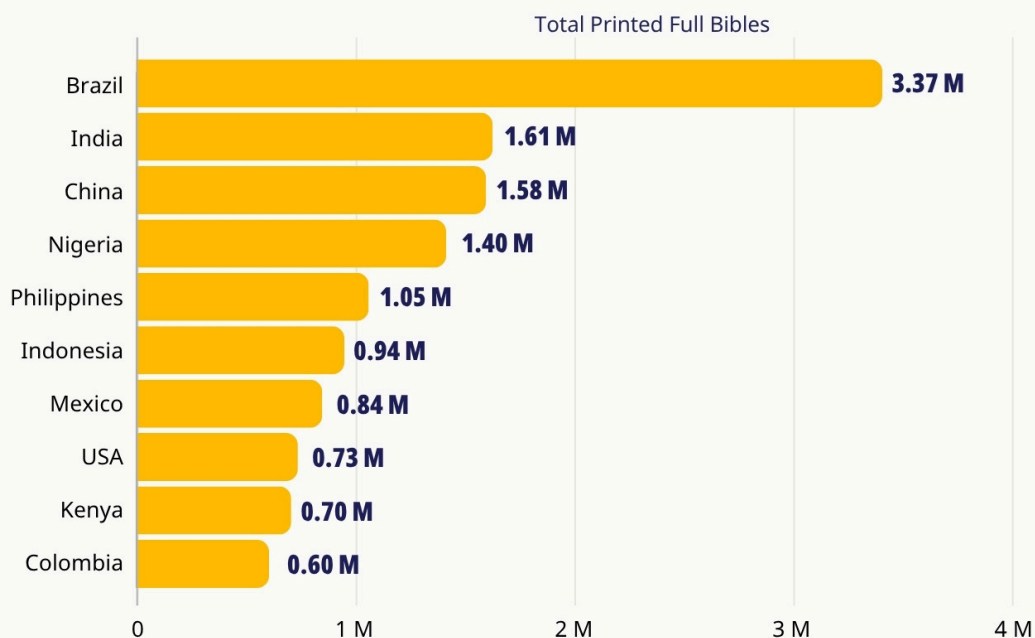
Top 10 Countries

The top 10 countries for printed full Bible distribution in 2025 remained largely consistent when compared to 2024. However, the order of countries shifted slightly from the top 10 distribution in 2024, particularly among the United States, Indonesia, Mexico, Kenya, and Colombia.

Together, the top 10 countries accounted for 57.2% of all full Bible distribution, a slight decrease from 60.3% in 2024, indicating a gradual broadening of Bible distribution activity across a wider range of countries. This reduction in concentration among the top 10 countries may suggest increasing distribution capacity and participation from emerging Bible Societies.

Printed Full Bible Distribution: Top 10 Countries

2025



57.2%

Top 10 countries

10 countries accounted for 57.2% of full Bibles distributed by the UBS Fellowship in 2025.

42.8%

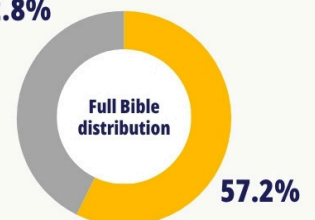




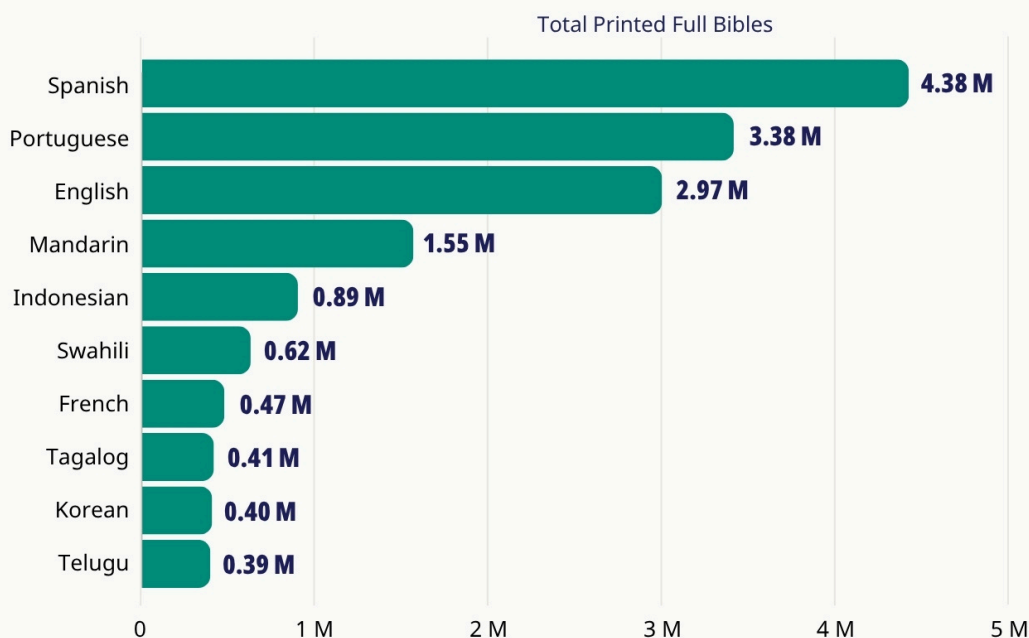
Image courtesy of the Bible Society of Jordan

Top 10 Languages

The leading languages for printed full Bible distribution in 2025 remained highly consistent with previous years. Spanish, Portuguese, English, Mandarin, and Indonesian continued as the top five languages, reflecting both population size and active Bible engagement initiatives in those linguistic communities. Swahili, French, Tagalog, and Telugu also retained their positions within the top 10, while Korean replaced Arabic in 2025. Collectively, the top 10 languages represented 69% of global full Bible distribution, slightly lower than 71.8% in 2024.

Printed Full Bible Distribution: Top 10 Languages

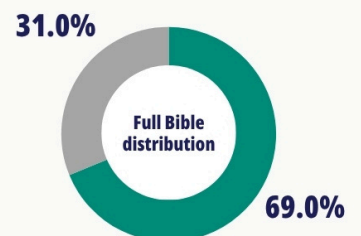
2025



69.0%

Top 10 languages

10 languages accounted for 69.0% of full Bibles distributed by the UBS Fellowship in 2025.



Digital



Image courtesy of the Finnish Bible Society

In the 21st century, the Bible is available at the touch of a button, wherever and whenever a person wants to access it. This expanded digital access removes physical barriers present in print distribution.

Digital Scripture Distribution in 2025

Digital distribution continued to grow in 2025, demonstrating the importance of digital Bible access within global Bible ministry.

Digital Bibles and Scripture texts provided by member Bible Societies of the UBS Fellowship were downloaded **26.4 million times**, representing a 1.9% increase on 2024. Chapter views grew to **32.2 billion**, a substantial 13.8% increase, year-on-year. Audio plays reached **1.4 billion**, up 2.6% from 2024. These figures show that digital platforms remain a rapidly growing avenue for Bible distribution worldwide, particularly for ongoing Bible reading and listening habits.

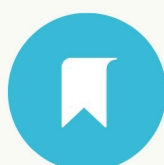
Digital distribution figures for 2025 were sourced from Bible Societies, BibleBooster websites and mobile applications ¹, Global.Bible, UBS's partners at YouVersion (creators of the popular 'Bible' mobile application), and Hosanna/Faith Comes By Hearing. While these statistics are encouraging, many Bible Societies are still in the early stages of measuring their digital impact; therefore, the figures reported here likely underreport the UBS Fellowship's overall digital impact. Incomplete reporting rates suggest that the actual scale of digital engagement may be significantly higher than currently captured.

Total Digital Bible Distribution

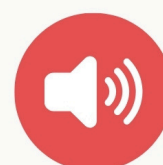
2025



26.4 Million
Downloads



32.2 Billion
Chapter Views¹



1.4 Billion
Audio Plays

¹The number of chapters that were viewed of digital Bible translations provided by Bible Societies. A chapter view occurs any time a chapter is accessed via a mobile application or online platform.

1. BibleBooster is an initiative, owned by the Bible Society for the Netherlands and Flanders and the Bible Society of Germany, in partnership with UBS, to provide tools and support to Bible Societies' digital engagement strategies. The ready-to-adapt websites and apps are currently used by over 40 Bible Societies.

Regional Distribution

Central and South America recorded the largest share of digital Scripture downloads in 2025, with 19.16 million downloads, representing 72.6% of all tracked downloads globally. The region also generated almost 11 billion chapter views.

Asia and Africa followed with strong levels of activity, recording 2.77 million and 2.59 million downloads respectively, alongside billions of chapter views. Europe and North America maintained significant chapter view figures despite comparatively lower download totals.

These regional trends reveal differing patterns of digital engagement across the world. Latin America's distribution statistics suggest an active culture of mobile Bible engagement, supported by widespread smartphone usage and strong church participation. Asia's growing digital presence highlights the importance of digital Scripture access in densely populated, digitised societies. Digital distribution throughout Africa demonstrates the growing role of mobile-first ministry approaches in expanding Bible access. North America and Europe appear to have more developed digital environments, where people prefer to regularly view Bible chapters online, rather than download separate Bible apps or resources.

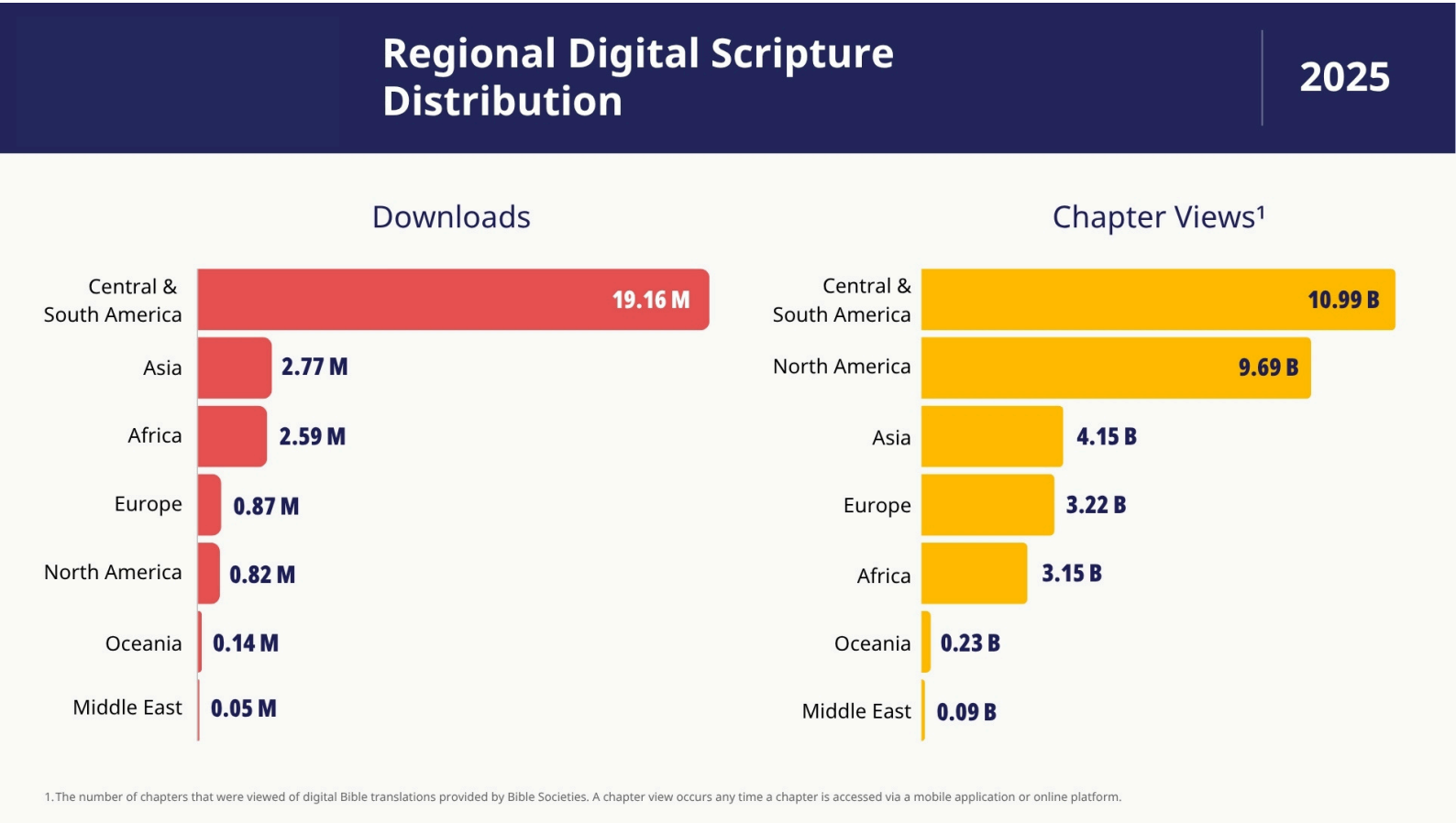




Image courtesy of the Bible Society of Kenya

Top 10 Countries

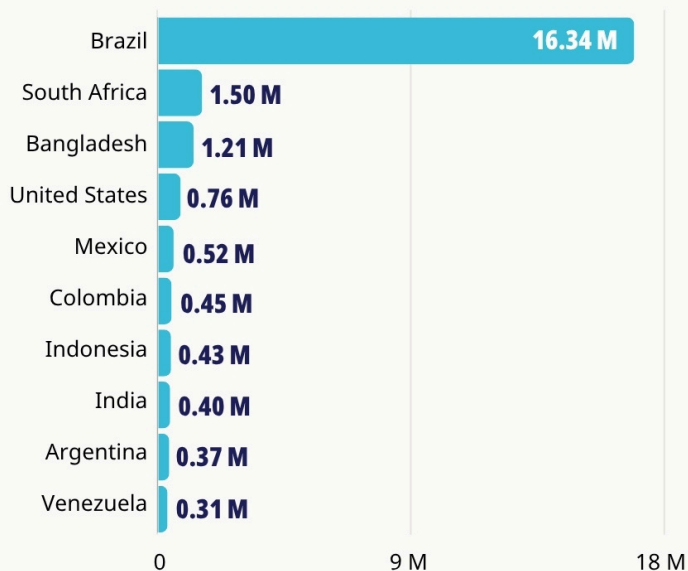
Brazil accounted for the most digital Bible downloads in 2025, with 16.34 million - almost 62% of the total digital Bible downloads. After Brazil, the countries which comprise the remainder of the top five are South Africa, Bangladesh, the United States and Mexico.

While ranking fourth in digital Bible downloads with 16.34 million, the United States accounts for the most chapter views - a total of 9.29 billion chapter views, which is 28.9% of all chapter views globally. Brazil is second with 4.71 billion chapter views, followed by Mexico, Indonesia, India, and Colombia.

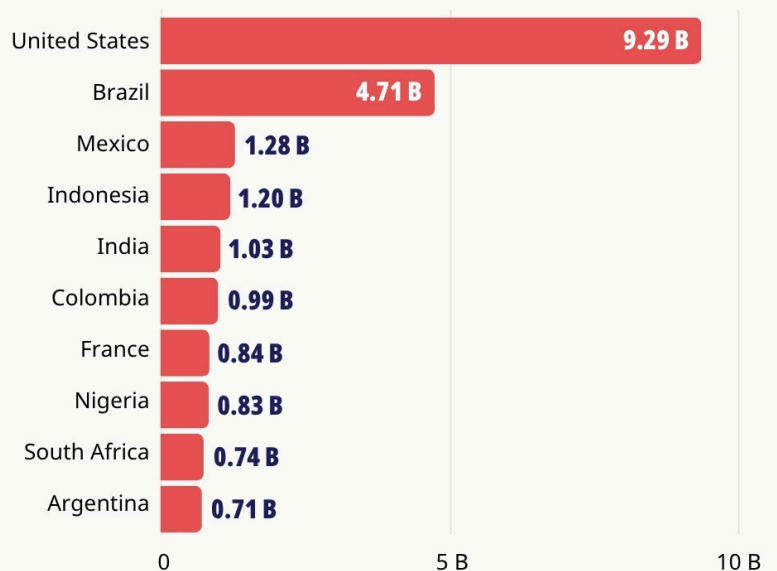
Digital Scripture Distribution: Top 10 Countries

2025

Top 10 Downloads



Top 10 Chapter Views¹



¹The number of chapters that were viewed of digital Bible translations provided by Bible Societies. A chapter view occurs any time a chapter is accessed via a mobile application or online platform.



Image courtesy of Bible Society Vietnam

Top 10 Languages

English and Spanish are the top two languages for digital Bible chapter views in 2025, with almost equal shares. Within digital Bible downloads, Spanish and English rank second and third, respectively, while Portuguese leads with 62.7% of total downloads.

Portuguese is third behind English and Spanish in chapter views, with approximately 5.50 billion, or 17.1% of the total globally. French, Indonesian, and Chinese also remained major languages for digital distribution, reflecting both large language populations and strong digital Bible usage. For audio plays, Spanish and Portuguese led globally, together accounting for nearly three-fourths (72.9%) of all top language audio activity, followed by French and English.

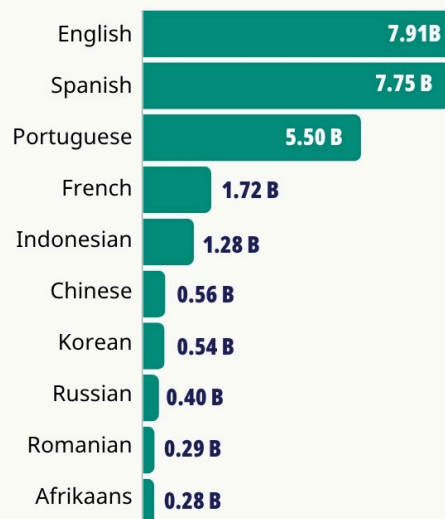
Digital Scripture Distribution: Top 10 Languages

2025

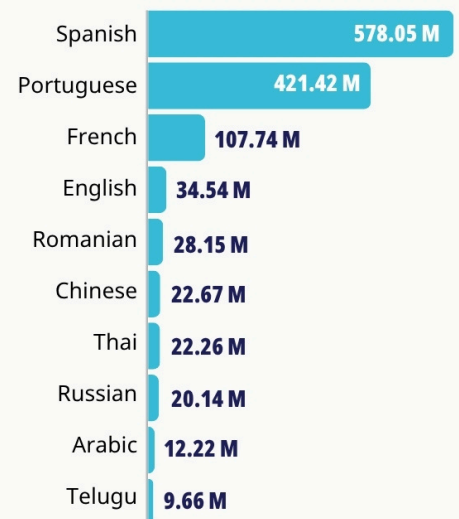
Top 10 Downloads



Top 10 Chapter Views¹



Top 10 Audio Plays



¹The number of chapters that were viewed of digital Bible translations provided by Bible Societies. A chapter view occurs any time a chapter is accessed via a mobile application or online platform.

Eight Decades of Distribution

Scripture distribution across the UBS Fellowship is a story of faithful collaboration, perseverance, and hope. For over 80 years, Bible Societies have worked together to ensure that people everywhere can engage with God's Word in a language and format they understand. This has resulted in the distribution of 25 billion Scriptures since 1946, when United Bible Societies was established.

While print distribution trends continue to evolve due to rising costs, changing technologies, and shifting engagement, the UBS Fellowship remains committed to making the Bible accessible in both modern and traditional formats.

The 2025 statistics demonstrate that Bible ministry continues to adapt to a changing world. Print distribution remains a vital ministry component in many regions, while growing digital distribution creates opportunities to reach people through mobile devices, online platforms, and audio Bibles.

Collectively, these figures demonstrate lives being touched, communities being strengthened, and the sustained commitment of Bible Societies to ensure everyone has an opportunity to read and hear God's Word through access to Scripture.

Image courtesy of Bangladesh Bible Society





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The UBS Fellowship is an Unincorporated Association of independent Bible Societies worldwide, operating under the governance of the UBS Fellowship Agreement. Its affairs are administered on its behalf by the United Bible Societies Association (UBSA), from its registered office at UBS UK Hub, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon SN5 7PJ, England. UBSA is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (No. 2264875). Registered charity (No. 800058).