

THE ZARATHUSHTI WORLD

a 2012 demographic picture

Compiled by Roshan Rivetna

Presenting a 2012 demographics picture of Zarathushtis around the world, and comparison with a similar study done in 2004.

DISCLAIMER. While every effort has been made in good faith, to seek out reliable sources for each country, state and province for the data presented here, it should be noted that this compilation is a “magazine survey” and not an official, statistically correct census. The data received may be inconsistent, inaccurate and incomplete, and our estimates may be incorrect. We present the raw data here, as received, to get a flavor of the Zarathushti world, and leave it to the demographers and statisticians to determine its credibility and level of confidence.

Population. Table 1 shows a compilation of the best estimates for Zarathushti population for each country as provided by the sources shown, for 2004 and 2012..

Table 1. Zarathushti population by country - 2004 and 2012

Country	Population 2004	Population 2012	Population Growth or Decline	Percentage Growth or Decline	Source of data
Iran	24,000	15,000 or 25,271			2004: <i>Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary</i> , based on Statistical Center of Iran figures. 2012: <i>Esfandiar Ekhtiyari and Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary</i> estimate is 15,000. <i>SCI</i> gives 25,271.
India	69,601	61,000	-8,601	-12.4%	2004: Armaity Desai based on GOI census. 2012: Projections by Armaity Desai and S. Siva Raju pending GOI 2011 census results.
USA	10,794	14,405	3,611	33.5%	Survey of 50 US states. 2004: <i>Roshan Rivetna</i> and <i>Noshir Jesung</i> . 2012: <i>Roshan Rivetna</i> and <i>Zenobia Damania</i> .
Canada	5,975	6,442	467	7.8%	Survey of 10 Canadian provinces. 2004: <i>Roshan Rivetna</i> and <i>Noshir Jesung</i> . 2012: <i>Roshan Rivetna</i> and <i>Zenobia Damania</i> .
Gr. Britain	5,000	5500	500	10.0%	2004 and 2012: <i>Rusi Dalal</i> .
Australia	2,601	2,577	-24	-0.9%	Survey of 7 Australian states. 2004: <i>Sam Kerr</i> . 2012. <i>Arnavaz Chubb</i> .
Gulf region	2,200	1900	-300	-13.6%	Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and UAE. 2004 and 2012: <i>Meher Bhesania</i> .
Pakistan	2,121	1,675	-446	-21.0%	2004 and 2012: <i>Toxy Cowasjee</i> .
N. Zealand	900	1,231	331	36.8%	2004 and 2012: <i>Tehmus Mistry</i> .
Europe & Cen. Asia	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%	2004 and 2012: <i>Dolly Dastoor</i> .
Singapore	162	372	210	129.6%	2004: <i>Russi Ghadialy</i> and <i>Nelly Doctor</i> . 2012: <i>Homiyar Vasania</i> .

orHong Kong	210	204	-6	-2.9%	2004: Jal Shroff and Yazdi Viraf Parekh . 2012: Yazdi Viraf Parekh ..
S. Africa	114	134	20	17.5%	2004 and 2012: Solly Shapurji .
E. Africa	78	37	-41	-52.6%	2004: Rusi Dalal . 2012: Vistasp Nariman Vatchha .
Sri Lanka	66	37	-29	-43.9%	2004 and 2012: Jamsheed Choksy .
Malaysia	30	43	13	43.3%	2004: Nelly Doctor . 2012: Hootoksi Tyabji .
Japan	30	21	-9	-30.0%	2004 and 2012: Yazdi Viraf Parekh .
Seychelles	21	21	0	0.0%	2004 and 2012: Soona Oliaji .
China	20	21	1	5.0%	2004 and 2012: Yazdi Viraf Parekh .
Thailand, Viet Nam	0	16	16		2004 and 2012: Yazdi Viraf Parekh .
Phillipines	0	15	15		2004 and 2012: Yazdi Viraf Parekh .
Ireland	10	10	0		2004 and 2012: Rusi Dalal
S. America	10	10	0		2004 and 2012: Roshan Rivetna ..
Mexico, C. America & the Islands	10	10	0		2004 and 2012: Roshan Rivetna .
Korea	0	5	5		2004 and 2012: Yazdi Viraf Parekh .
Indonesia	0	5	5		2004 and 2012: Yazdi Viraf Parekh .
TOTAL World	124,953	111,691 or 121,962	-13,262	-10.6%	Total world Population and growth/decline (See Note 1)

Note 1. Total World Zoroastrian Population is 111,691 if we use best estimated population for Iran. If we use the 2011 census figures for Iran, the Total World Population is 121,962 Zoroastrians.

Source:

Roshan Rivetna, “*The Zarathushti World, a 2012 Demographic Picture*,” FEZANA Journal, Fall 2013. www.fezana.org.