

Eastern Slovak Romani; Slovakia/Czech Republic



Slovakia's & Czech Republic's Fast Facts

Number of people:

5,397,000 / 10,562,000

Main language:

Slovak / Czech

Main religion:

Christianity / Non-religious

of languages:

14 / 26

of languages ...

without any of the Bible: **1 / 2**

with part of the Bible: **2 / 2**

with a New Testament: **1 / 2**

with a whole Bible: **10 / 20**

Did you know?

Slovakia and the Czech Republic used to be one country! At the end of World War I, the Czechs and Slovaks made one big country called Czechoslovakia. But then at the beginning of World War II, Nazi Germany moved into the area that is now the Czech Republic, and Slovakia became an independent state. To make things even more confusing, at the end of World War II the two countries were once again made into Czechoslovakia. It stayed that way until 1993, when the two countries were once again made into their own separate countries.

Whew, that's a lot of history in only a few sentences! But anyway, you can now understand why Eastern Slovak Romani is spoken in both countries — because they used to be one big country! Also, did you know that people who speak different types of Romani are often known as gypsies? In fact, most Romani people (they're also called Roma) first came from India, so they were likely Hindu (that's the

main religion in India). But over the years, as they moved all around the world, they started believing other religions too, like Islam and Christianity.

Because the Romani people moved so much, you can find people who speak different kinds of Romani everywhere! But since they live all over the world, many Romani speakers don't know that the Bible is being translated into their language. As more people find out (like the 600,000 people who speak Eastern Slovak Romani), they can help spread the word so that one day, everyone who speaks different kinds of Romani will be able to have the Bible in their own language.

You can pray ...

It's pretty cool that with today's technology, the Bible can be shared electronically! The New Testament in Eastern Slovak Romani has a digital version for people to download and a recording so people can listen online. This recording is really important, because Romani people are known for their storytelling. It's one of the ways that they shared things for many years, and they still use storytelling today. They also printed several hundred copies of the New Testament and dedicated them last fall. You can pray that more and more people would learn about the Bible in their language and that they'd read it and understand how much God loves them! The translation team wants to start working on the Old Testament, so you can pray for that too!

Romani couple

