

# Palembang

## INDONESIA



POPULATION  
**1,669,000**



Palembang, capital of Indonesia's South Sumatra province, is a port city on the Musi River. The Ampera bridge connects the two city regions separated by the river. Seberang Ilir (north) is the main economic and political centre, and Seberang Ulu (south) is undergoing significant development.

It is an ancient city – the oldest continually inhabited city in Indonesia. It was the capital of Srivijaya, a Buddhist kingdom that ruled much of the western Indonesian Archipelago between the 7th and 12th century AD. It controlled many maritime trade routes, including the Straits of Malacca, which garnered wealth and power for the rulers.



### Language

The indigenous population of Palembang are Malay people heavily influenced by Javanese culture. The local language of Palembang is Musi (Baso Palembang). It is considered a dialect of Malay with a significant portion being Javanese loanwords. The national language of Indonesia is Bahasa Indonesia.

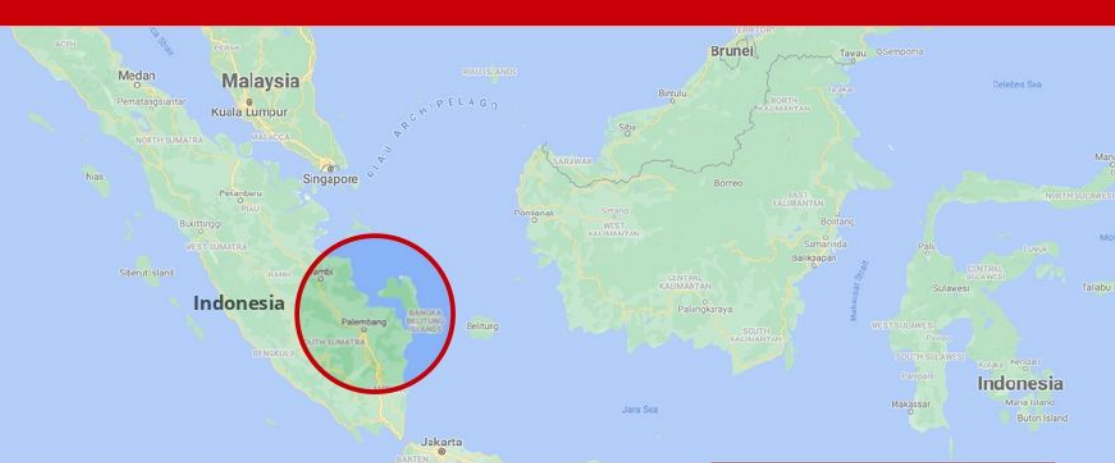
### Religion

Palembang officially recognizes six religious faiths, but the most widely held is Islam (93%). Muslims in Palembang are mainly from the Shafi'i school of Sunni Islam. There are several mosques with considerable heritage and historical significance in Palembang. The Great Mosque is the largest mosque in South Sumatra.

### Economy

The city of Palembang sits on the banks of the Musi River on the eastern lowland of southern Sumatra. It has developed its culture and economy as a river city. Houses are built anticipating floods; rice is grown in harmony with the river and the seasons.





*For there is one God, and there is one mediator  
between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*

[1 Timothy 2:5]

## OPPORTUNITIES

As an education centre for the region, Palembang offers opportunities to study and teach. Work visas are possible for foreign language teachers with certificates. A Master's Degree is helpful, but not necessary.

If you have an undergraduate degree and a desire to learn, one can apply to study a graduate programme offered at one of the local universities.

There is also need for agricultural and small business consultants. Working with farmers in developing their land management and crop selection can be a great way to contribute and get to know people.

## Language Learning

Workers wishing to enter Palembang for the long term need to learn Bahasa Indonesian. Language schools are available in Bandung (West Java) and Surabaya (East Java). This will provide a visa for up to two years.

- English Teachers: *international school and ESOL*
- Students: *study and build friendships at the university*
- Agriculturalists: *land management & crop selection*
- Business Consultants: *businesses strategy & marketing*

## PRAY

- More teams are needed for Palembang. Pray for people to receive a call to the city.
- Ask the Lord to raise up people of peace in the business community who will receive the gospel and share it with their colleagues.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal Christ to the Muslims of Palembang in dreams and visions.
- Ask God to raise up prayer teams to intercede for the city.
- Pray that the university will become a place the name of Jesus the Messiah is boldly shared and accepted.

