



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE  
**BOLLETTINO**

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIÈGE PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLS  
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE SALA DE IMPRENSA DA SANTA SÉ  
BIURO PRASOWE STOLICY APOSTOLSKIEJ دار الصحافة التابعة للكرسي الرسولي

N. 210302b

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**Apostolic Journey of His Holiness Francis in Iraq (5-8 March 2021) - Statistics**

**Statistics of the Catholic Church in Iraq as of 31 December 2019 (from the Central Office for Church Statistics)**

Table 1 – Population and ecclesiastical structure

Table 2 – People engaged in activities of the apostolate

Table 3 – Indicators of pastoral workload

Table 4 – Priestly vocations

Table 5 – Educational centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious

Table 6 – Charitable and social centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious

**Table 1 – Population and ecclesiastical structure**

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Area (km <sup>2</sup> )                | 438,317 |
| Population (in thousands)              | 38,836  |
| Density (inhabitants/km <sup>2</sup> ) | 89      |
| Catholics (in thousands)               | 590     |
| Catholics per 100 inhabitants          | 1.5     |
| Ecclesiastical circumscriptions        | 17      |
| Parishes                               | 122     |

|                               |       |   |
|-------------------------------|-------|---|
| Other pastoral centres        | 12    | 2 |
| Catholics per pastoral centre | 4,406 |   |

**Table 2 – People engaged in activities of the apostolate**

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Bishops <sup>1</sup>               | 19  |
| Diocesan priests                   | 113 |
| Religious priests                  | 40  |
| Total priests                      | 153 |
| Permanent deacons                  | 20  |
| Men religious (other than priests) | 8   |
| Professed women religious          | 365 |
| Members of secular Institutes      | -   |
| Lay missionaries                   | 4   |
| Catechists                         | 632 |

[1] Situation on 31.12.2020

**Table 3 – Indicators of pastoral workload**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Catholics per priest   | 3,856 |
| Catholics per pastoral worker                                  | 491   |
| Priests per pastoral centre                                    | 1.14  |
| Priests per 100 people engaged in activities of the apostolate | 14.3  |

**Table 4 – Priestly vocations**

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Minor seminarians                         | 11   |
| Major seminarians                         | 32   |
| Major seminarians per 100,000 inhabitants | 0.08 |
| Major seminarians per 100,000 Catholics   | 5.4  |
| Major seminarians per 100 priests         | 20.9 |

**Table 5 – Educational centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious**

**Schools:**

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Pre-school and primary     | 55 |
| Lower middle and secondary | 4  |
| Higher and university      | 9  |

**Students in:**

|                                    |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Pre-school and primary schools     | 5,464 |
| Lower middle and secondary schools | 770   |
| Higher and university institutes   | 378   |

**Table 6 – Charitable and social centres owned / managed by ecclesiastics or religious**

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Hospitals   | 7  |
| Clinics   | 6  |
| Leper colonies  | -  |
| Homes for the elderly and disabled                    | 5  |
| Orphanages and nurseries                              | 10 |
| Family consultation centres                           | 1  |
| Special centres of social education or rehabilitation | 1  |
| Other institutions                                    | 5  |

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